# 2004 MIAC Women's Tennis Tournament

Northfield, Minn. - Gustavus Adolphus College defeated the College of St. Catherine 7-2 to win their 13th consecutive MIAC Women's Tennis Championships title. The Gusties cruised through the tournament, losing only two singles matches in two days.

The Gusties reached the championship game by sweeping St. Olaf College in the semifinal round. St. Catherine reached the finals at the expense of Carleton College, who it defeated 5-4 in the semifinals.

Gustavus' Jamie Gaard lost only four games all tournament long at third singles, helping her team earn its 16<sup>th</sup> MIAC title in 17 years. The Gusties are the top-ranked team in the Central region, and are ranked ninth in the nation. They have not lost a dual match against a MIAC team in 13 years.

Gustavus Coach Jon Carlson was named the MIAC Coach of the Year in balloting by the conference coaches and the Chris Evert Award was won by Anne Sawyer of the College of St. Benedict.

The Knights – Wildcats match was one of the best of the tournament, as it came down to a tiebreak in fourth singles to decide who would go through to the championship match. St. Catherine's Linsey Miller defeated Eryn Koch 4-6, 6-4, (10-6) to send her team to the championship.

Carleton went on to the third place match where it defeated its crosstown rival St. Olaf 7-2 to earn third place for the second consecutive

Genevieve Philp was the only Knight to not lose a match at the tournament, as she went 3-0 in second singles and 3-0 in doubles. Her doubles partner, first-year Abby Beggs lost only one match, to St. Catherine's Briggs Rolfsrud in third singles.

The Knights were dominated by St. Catherine in a dual match five days before the tournament, but had a much better showing in the semifinals, where they came up a tiebreak short of advancing to the finals.

The University of St. Thomas defeated the College of St. Benedict 5-4 in the fifth place match. Three single matches went to tiebreak in the match, with the Tommies winning two of them.

In the ninth place match, Hamline defeated Concordia, 5-4.

The fifth place and seventh place matches were moved inside midway through the singles competition because of rain.

Tournament Schedule (pdf) | Meet Program (pdf)

# **Tournament Schedule/Results**

### Friday, April 23

(rain site: Burnsville Racquet Club, Burnsville, Minn., & Owatonna Tennis & Fitness Center, Owatonna, Minn.)

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9 a.m., First Round: (8) St. Mary's 8, (9) Hamline 1
9 a.m., First Round: (7) Bethel 6, (10) Concordia 3
9 a.m., First Round: (6) St. Benedict 6, (11) Macalester 3
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12 noon, Quarterfinals: (4) St. Thomas 4, (5) St. Olaf 5 12 noon, Quarterfinals: (3) Carleton 8, (6) St. Benedict 1 12 noon, Quarterfinals: (2) St. Catherine 8, (7) Bethel 1

3 p.m., Quarterfinals: (8) St. Mary's 0, (1) Gustavus 9

3 p.m., Consolation semifinals: (10) Concordia 5, (11) Macalester 4

### Saturday, April 24

(rain site: Northwest Athletic Club & 98th St. Racquet Club, Burnsville, Minn.)

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9 a.m., Semifinals: (1) Gustavus 9, (5) St. Olaf 0
9 a.m., Semifinals: (2) St. Catherine 5, (3) Carleton 4
9 a.m., Ninth place match: (9) Hamline 5, (10) Concordia 4
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12 noon, Semifinal playbacks: (4) St. Thomas 6, (8) St. Mary's 3 12 noon, Semifinal playbacks: (6) St. Benedict 6, (7) Bethel 3

1 p.m., Championship match: (1) Gustavus Adolphus 7, (2) St. Catherine 2

3 p.m., Third place match: (3) Carleton 7, (5) St. Olaf 2 3 p.m., Fifth place match: (4) St. Thomas 5, (6) St. Benedict 4

3 p.m., Seventh place match: (8) St. Mary's 9, (7) Bethel 0 (SMU wins by default)

### **Tournament Match-by-Match Results**

#### Saturday, April 24

### Championship Match: Gustavus Adolphus 7, St. Catherine 2

#### **Doubles**

- 1. Tara Houlihan/Lyndsay Palen (GAC) def. Amy Willhite/Linsey Miller 8-4
- 2. Laura Hom/Kara Smiley (GAC) def. Deidre Lindstrom/Shelly Bebler 8-4
- 3. Jamie Gaard/Marla Menne (GAC) def. Briggs Rolfsrud/Jessica Jones 8-2

#### Singles

- 1. Houlihan (GAC) def. Willhite 6-2, 6-1
- 2. Lindstrom (CSC) def. Hom
- 3. Rolfsrud (CSC) def. Marla Menne 6-1, 6-2
- 4. Gaard (GAC) def. Miller 6-3, 6-0
- 5. Smiley (GAC) def. Bebler 7-5, 6-1
- 6. Hawbrick (GAC) def. Jones 6-0, 6-4

# Third Place Match: Carleton 7, St. Olaf 2

### **Doubles**

- 1. Genevieve Philp/Abby Beggs (Car) def. Beth Erie/Kristen Buchta 9-8 (7-3)
- 2. Misaki Kodama/Emily Eggert (StO) def. Diane Danforth/Eryn Koch 9-8 (7-5)
- 3. Meredith Klekotka/Shelley Getzendanner (Car) def. Jamie Brau/Jorie Steffen 8-2

# **Singles**

- 1. Danforth (Car) def. Erie 6-2, 6-3
- 2. Philp (Car) def. Buchta 6-2, 6-4
- 3. Beggs (Car) def. Kodama 6-1. 4-6, (10-4)
- 4. Koch (Car) def. Sarah Pray 6-2, 4-6, (11-9)
- 5. Christina Walker (Car) def. Brau 6-1, 6-2
- 6. Lauren Benson (StO) def. Getzendanner 7-6 (7-4), 6-1

### Fifth Place Match: St. Thomas 5, St. Benedict 4

# **Doubles**

- 1. Christin Tiegs/Laura Fourre (CSB) def. Jodi Dmohoski/Katie Mietunnen 8-5
- 2. Shari Wiebusch/Rachael Frank (UST) def. Angela Sigl/Beth Welle 9-8
- 3. Anne Sawyer/Jen Kling (CSB) def. Cortney Dirks/Nicki Nichols 8-3

#### **Singles**

- 1. Tiegs (CSB) def. Dmohoski 6-4, 2-6 (10-7)
- 2. Mietunnen (UST) def. Welle 6-2, 6-1
- 3. Fourre (CSB) def. Heather Waldschmidt 6-2, 6-3
- 4. Dirks (UST) def. Heidi Waldschmidt 7-5, 7-5
- 5. Michelle Mills (UST) def. Sigl 6-2, 4-6, (10-5)
- 6. Nichols (UST) def. Sawyer 5-7, 6-1 (10-4)

# Seventh Place Match: (8) St. Mary's 9, (7) Bethel 0 (SMU wins by default)

### Ninth Place Match: Hamline 5, Concordia 4

# **Doubles**

- 1. Lindsay Hoaglund/Erica Tollefson (Con) def. Kristen Bothun/Jenna McManus 8-3
- 2. Andrea Styba/Katie Luther (Con) def. Hilary Wilson/Trina Ellis 8-4
- 3. Jena Maki/Kathie Winter (Ham) def. Britta Emmel/Melissa Laumeyer 9-7

#### Singles

- 1. Tollefson (Con) def. Bothun 6-2, 6-4
- 2. Wilson (Ham) def. Luther 6-3, 6-1
- 3. McManus (Ham) def. Hoaglund 6-2, 6-4
- 4. Lauri Munoz (Ham) def. Styba 4-6, 6-4 (10-4)
- 5. Laumeyer (Con) def. Maki 6-2, 6-3
- 6. Andrea Eilertson (Ham) def. Emmel 7-5, 6-4

# **Semifinals**

# Gustavus Adolphus 9, St. Olaf 0

### **Doubles**

- 1. Tara Houlihan/Lyndsay Palen (GAC) def. Beth Erie/Kristen Buchta 8-4
- 2. Laura Hom/Kara Smiley (GAC) def. Misaki Kodama/Emily Eggert 8-1
- 3. Darcy Hawbrick/Hannah Frericks (GAC) def. Jamie Brau/Jorie Steffen 8-1

### **Singles**

- 1. Houlihan (GAC) def. Erie 6-2, 6-1
- 2. Hom (GAC) def. Buchta 6-0, 6-3
- 3. Jamie Gaard (GAC) def. Sarah Pray 6-0. 6-1
- 4. Smiley (GAC) def. Brau 6-2, 6-2
- 5. Hawbrick (GAC) def. Lauren Benson 6-2, 6-2
- 6. Frericks (GAC) def. Eggert 6-0, 6-0

# St. Catherine 5, Carleton 4

### **Doubles**

- 1. Genevieve Philp/Abby Beggs (CAR) def. Amy Willhite/Linsey Miller 8-6
- 2. Deidre Lindstrom/Shelly Bebler (CSC) def. Diane Danforth/Eryn Koch 8-5
- 3. Briggs Rolfsrud/Jessica Jones (CSC) def. Meredith Klekotka/Shelley Getzendanner 8-2

# **Singles**

- 1. Danforth (CAR) def. Willhite 6-3, 6-2
- 2. Philp (CAR) def. Lindstrom 7-5, 6-4
- 3. Rolfsrud (CSC) def. Beggs 6-3, 6-3
- 4. Miller (CSC) def. Koch 4-6, 6-4 (10-6)
- 5. Christina Walker (CAR) def. Bebler 6-3, 6-3
- 6. Jones (CSC) def. Getzendanner 6-3, 6-3

#### Consolation Playbacks

# St. Thomas 6, St. Mary's 3

#### **Doubles**

- 1. Jodi Dmohoski/Katie Miettunen (UST) def. Ashley Meschke/Christina Tobin 8-1
- 2. Rachel Frank/Shari Wiebusch (UST) def. Lisa Thompson/Emily Strom 8-5
- 3. Liz Hilke/Jen Cochrane (SMU) def. Courtney Dirks/Nicki Nichols 8-6

#### **Singles**

- 1. Dmohoski (UST) def. Tobin 6-0, 6-3
- 2. Miettunen (UST) def. Meschke 6-2, 6-3
- 3. Thompson (SMU) def. Heather Waldschmidt 6-0, 6-3
- 4. Hilke (SMU) def. Dirks 6-4, 4-3
- 5. Mills (UST) def. Cochrane 6-2, 6-1
- 6. Nichols (UST) def. Strom 6-1, 4-1

# St. Benedict 6, Bethel 3

# **Doubles**

- 1. Christin Tiegs/Laura Fourre (CSB) def. Jen Kastner/Courtney Kelly 8-3
- 2. Angela Sigl/Beth Welle (CSB) def. Jodi Gustafson/Kari Blair 8-6
- 3. Tasha Reitenour/Lindsey Chapman (BC) def. Anne Sawyer/Jen Kling 8-5

### **Singles**

- 1. Tiegs (CSB) def. Kastner 6-1, 6-4
- 2. Welle (CSB) def. Gustafson 6-4, 4-6, 18-16
- 3. Fourre (CSB) def. Reitenour 4-6, 6-2, 7-1
- 4. Kelly (BC) def. Heidi Waldschmidt 6-4, 3-6, 10-4
- 5. Chapman (BC) def. Sigl 6-4, 3-6, 10-4
- 6. Sawyer (CSB) def. Blair 6-2, 4-6, 10-5

### Friday, April 23

# **Consolation Semifinals**

### Concordia 5, Macalester 4

### **Doubles**

- 1. Erica Tollefson/Beth Meier (Con) def. Sarah Crangle/Christy Hagstrum 8-3
- 2. Erin Case/Chelsea Stinson (Mac) def. Katie Luther/Annie Styba 8-5
- 3. Melissa Laumeyer/Britta Emmel (Con) def. Sayoko Nakamura/Alexis Gerber 8-2

### <u>Singles</u>

- 1. Tollefson (Con) def. Crangle 6-2, 6-3
- 2. Nagstrum (Mac) def. Meier 7-5, 6-2
- 3. Case (Mac) def. Luther 6-2, 6-0
- 4. Stinson (Mac) def. Lindsay Hoaglund 6-3, 6-2
- 5. Styba (Con) def. Nakamura 6-0, 1-6, 10-6
- 6. Laumeyer (Con) def. Gerber 6-2, 7-5

### Quarterfinals

# Gustavus 9, St. Mary's 0

### **Doubles**

- 1. Tara Houlihan/Lyndsey Palen (GAC) def. Lisa Thompson/Christina Tobin 8-3
- 2. Kara Smiley/Lauren Hom (GAC) def. Ashley Meschke/Emily Strom 8-2
- 3. Darcy Hawbrick/Hannah Frericks (GAC) def. Liz Hilke/Jen Cochran 8-4

#### **Singles**

- 1. Houlihan (GAC) def. Meschke 6-1, 6-1
- 2. Hom (GAC) def. Tobin 6-0, 6-4
- 3. Jaime Gaard (GAC) def. Thompson 6-0, 6-0
- 4. Smiley (GAC) def. Hilke 6-3, 6-1
- 5. Hawbrick (GAC) def. Strom 6-2, 6-1
- 6. Frericks (GAC) def. Cochran 6-0, 6-0

### St. Catherine 8, Bethel 1

#### **Doubles**

- 1. Amy Willhite/Linsey Miller (CSC) def. Jen Kastner/Courtney Kelly 8-2
- 2. Deidre Lindstrom/Shelly Bebler (CSC) def. Jodi Gustafson/Kari Blair 8-0
- 3. Briggs Rolfsrud/Jessica Jones (CSC) def. Tasha Reitenour/Lindsey Chapman 8-2

#### **Singles**

- 1. Lindstrom (CSC) def. Kastner 7-5, 6-3
- 2. Willhite (CSC) def. Gustafson 6-4, 6-4
- 3. Rolfsrud (CSC) def. Reitenour 6-0, 6-2
- 4. Miller (CSC) def. Kelly 6-4, 2-6, 10-6
- 5. Chapman (BC) def. Bebler 2-6, 7-6, 12-10
- 6. Jones (CSC) def. Blair 6-2, 6-4

### Carleton 8, St. Benedict 1

### **Doubles**

- 1. Genevieve Philp/Abby Beggs (Car) def. Christin Tiegs/Laura Fourre 8-6
- 2. Diane Danforth/Eryn Koch (Car) def. Angela Sigl/Beth Welle 8-0
- 3. Meredith Klekotka/Shelley Getzendanner (Car) def. Anne Sawyer/Jen Kling 8-4

### <u>Singles</u>

- 1. Tiegs (CSB) def. Danforth 6-0, 6-4
- 2. Beggs (Car) def. Welle 3-6, 6-4, 10-7
- 3. Philp (Car) def. Heidi Waldschmidt 6-1, 6-0
- 4. Koch (Car) def. Fourre 6-3, 6-0
- 5. Christina Walker (Car) def. Sigl 6-2, 6-4
- 6. Getzendanner (Car) def. Sawyer 6-1, 6-3

# St. Olaf 5, St. Thomas 4

# **Doubles**

- 1. Jodi Dmohoski/Katie Miettunen (UST) def. Beth Erie/Kristen Buchta 8-6
- 2. Misaki Kodama/Emily Eggert (StO) def. Rachel Frank/Shari Wiebusch 8-3
- 3. Jamie Brau/Jorie Steffen (StO) def. Cortney Dirks/Nickie Nichols 8-2

#### **Singles**

- 1. Dmohoski (UST) def. Erie 6-3, 6-3
- 2. Miettunen (UST) def. Buchta 6-1, 6-1
- 3. Kodama (StO) def. Heather Waldschmidt 6-2, 6-3
- 4. Michelle Mills (UST) def. Brau 7-6 (3), 6-7 (8), 10-4
- 5. Lauren Benson (StO) def. Dirks 6-1, 6-4
- 6. Eggert (StO) def. Nickie Nichols 7-5, 7-6 (7)

### First Round

### St. Benedict 6, Macalester 3

#### **Doubles**

- 1. Christin Tiegs/Heidi Waldschmidt (CSB) def. Sarah Crangle/Christy Hagstrom 8-4
- 2. Angela Sigl/Beth Welle (CSB) def. Erin Case/Chelseas Stinson 8-1
- 3. Anne Sawyer/Jen Kling (CSB) def. Sayoko Nokomura/Clare Deason 8-3

### **Singles**

- 1. Tiegs (CSB) def. Crangle 6-1, 2-6, 11-9
- 2. Hagstrom (Mac) def. Welle by default
- 3. Case (Mac) def. Case by default
- 4. Sigl (CSB) def. Stinson 6-2, 6-0
- 5. Nokomura (Mac) def. Sawyer by default
- 6. Kling (CSB) def. Alexis Gerber 6-1, 6-1

# St. Mary's 8, Hamline 1

### **Doubles**

- 1. Lisa Thompson/Christina Tobin (SMU) def. Kristen Bothun/Jenna McManus 8-3
- 2. Hilary Wilson/Trina Ellis (HU) def. Ashley Meschke/Emily Strom 8-5
- 3. Liz Hilke/Jennifer Cochran (SMU) def. Jena Maki/Kathie Winter 8-3

### **Singles**

- 1. Meschke (SMU) def. Bothun 6-1, 6-2
- 2. Thompson (SMU) def. Wilson 7-5, 6-2
- 3. Tobin (SMU) def. McManus 6-3, 1-6, 10-7
- 4. Liz Hilke (SMU) def. Lauri Munoz 4-6, 6-0, 10-4
- 5. Strom (SMU) def. Maki 6-3, 6-0
- 6. Cochran (SMU) def. Andrea Eilertson 6-3, 6-4

### Bethel 6, Concordia 3

### **Doubles**

- 1. Jen Kastner/Courtney Kelly (Bethel) def. Erica Tollefson/Beth Meier 8-3
- 2. Jodi Gustafson/Kari Blair (Bethel) def. Katie Luther/Annie Styba 8-1
- 3. Melissa Laumeyer/Lindsey Hoaglund (Concordia) def. Tasha Reitenour/Lindsey Chapman 8-5

# **Singles**

- 1. Kastner (Bethel) def. Tollefson 6-4, 6-1
- 2. Meier (Concordia) def. Gustafson 7-6 (5), 6-3
- 3. Reitneour (Bethel) def. Luther 6-2, 6-3
- 4. Kelly (Bethel) def. Laumeyer 6-0, 6-1
- 5. Chapman (Bethel) def. Hoaglund 6-4, 6-4
- 6. Blair (Bethel) def. Britta Emmel 6-0, 6-4

# **Tournament Preview**

The MIAC Women's Tennis Championship returns to Northfield, Minn., moving into its second season as a more team-oriented event. Rather than the traditional individually flighted event which the conference event used previously, the 2004 championship will be a dual-match format, seeding the teams according to regular season results in an 11-team bracket. Teams will advance in the championship according to team results, culminating in Saturday's championship match.

Gustavus Adolphus College, the top ranked team in the region and ninth in the nation, is the prohibitive favorite, as the Gusties haven't lost a dual match to a MIAC team in 13 years. The race for second place could be very interesting, however, as co-host Carleton College, University of St. Thomas and College of St. Catherine all have outside hopes of qualifying for the NCAA Championships and need a good showing at the MIAC Championships.

Coming into the 2004 season, **Bethel College** was looking to improve on a 2-8 MIAC record from 2003. Although still putting a young team on the court, many of this year's team members received significant match experience in 2003, which the Royals hoped would propel them to a higher MIAC finish in 2004. After posting a 4-6 league record, it is apparent that last year's growing pains paid off this season. In singles play, sophomore Jennifer Kastner, at first singles, has posted a 4-4 record in conference play and fellow sophomore Lindsey Chapman won a team-high five conference matches in the fifth singles spot. In doubles, the sophomore tandem of Kastner and Chapman had an impressive run through the MIAC schedule as they finished 7-2. Lone senior Jodi Gustafson paired with freshman Kari Blair to post a winning record in the conference schedule.

**Carleton College**, currently ranked 10th in the ITA Central Region rankings, has overcome the loss of its All-American doubles team of Sarah Russell (injury) and Amanda Ste. Romana (left school) to post a second-place finish in the MIAC. Led by last year's MIAC Coach of the Year, Sarah Hurst, the Knights possess solid depth in singles play and only four losses in MIAC doubles action. Junior Genevieve Philp and first-year Abby Beggs hold down the top doubles spot and hold a 7-3 mark in MIAC action. The pair is ranked 13th in the latest regional

doubles rankings. Rookies Shelley Getzendanner and Meredith Klekotka have won five of seven conference matches from the third slot. In singles, Beggs and sophomore Eryn Koch have each won eight of 10 conference matches at the second and fourth spots, respectively. Rookie Christina Walker has been a pleasant surprise for the Knights, posting a 7-3 conference mark at fifth singles.

**Concordia College, Moorhead** saved its best for last in 2004. After floundering through the first seven matches in the MIAC season, the Cobbers notched their first victory on the year, and gained a little momentum heading into the conference tournament. The breakout victory came against Macalester, as Concordia was able to hold off the Scots in the singles matches and come away with a 5-4 victory. The Cobbers also went down to the wire against Hamline before falling 5-4. If Concordia can carry their newfound success into championship weekend then they will have a chance to repeat last year's sixth place finish. Leading the way for Concordia in 2004 has been sophomore Beth Meier who has racked up five singles victories at the number two singles spot. She also teams up with number one singles player Erica Tollefson to form the number one doubles team for the Cobbers. They have been the most consistent duo for Coach Paul Thibedeau's crew this season.

**Gustavus** heads into the MIAC Tournament as the top seed after posting a 10-0 mark in conference action this season. The squad has extended its consecutive win streak in MIAC dual match play to 137, dating back to 1991. Coach Jon Carlson's squad will also be looking to claim its 13th consecutive MIAC title. Carlson has molded a young Gustie squad into one of the elite teams in Division III. The top nine players on the team consist of four freshmen, three sophomores and two juniors. Sophomore Tara Houlihan is 12-5 at the top singles slot and freshman Lauren Hom, ranked fifth regionally, is 16-0 in the second position. The rest of the singles line-up consists of sophomore Lyndsey Palen at third, sophomore Marla Menne at fourth, freshman Jaime Gaard at the fifth spot and junior Kara Smiley at the sixth position. Palen and Menne also are ranked in the regional singles rankings, coming in at ninth and 20th, respectively. The Gusties compiled a record of 59-1 in singles play against MIAC opponents this season. In doubles play, Gustavus is led by the tandem of Houlihan and Palen at the top spot, Hom and Smiley at number two and Gaard and Menne at the third position. The Houlihan/Palen combination is the region's top-ranked duo, while Smily/Hom are ranked fourth. The Gusties posted a mark of 30-0 in doubles matches against MIAC opponents this season.

**Hamline University** enters the MIAC Championships with a 5-10 dual match record, 3-7 in the MIAC, under head coach Dan Haertl. The Pipers are led by first-year Kristen Bothun, who Haertl believes is the best player he has coached in his 18 years at Hamline. Bothun immediately stepped in at first singles, posting a record of 6-6. Later, Bothun joined the number one doubles team, going 5-5 in that role.

**Macalester College** took 11th in last year's conference championships and with a mixture of veterans and newcomers is hoping to be more competitive this year. Senior Sarah Crangle tops the singles lineup as a four-year regular at the top of the Scot lineup. Christy Hagstrum and Erin Case have been playing well this season at second and third singles.

**College of St. Benedict** started the 2003-04 season with a bang as junior Christin Tiegs won the ITA regional championship and placed fifth at the ITA Fall National Championships. She enters the conference championships ranked fourth in the region. The traditional spring season saw the Blazers drop some closely-played matches. The team posted a 3-0 mark during its spring break trip to Arizona and are 4-3 since. Tiegs has held down the top singles spot all season and boasts a 14-2 record. The second doubles team of junior Beth Welle and freshman Angela Sigl have been solid all season and senior Anne Sawyer has been a force at the sixth singles spot with a 10-4 mark.

The **College of St. Catherine** returns four All-MIAC athletes from a team that finished 2002-03 ranked 28th in the nation and is currently ranked eighth in the region. Juniors Deidre Lindstrom, Briggs Rolfsrud and Amy Willhite will lead St. Kate's in the top three singles spots this season. Sophomore Linsey Miller will return in the fourth position. First years Shelly Bebler and Jessica Jones will step in to fill out the lineup. The Wildcats had a tough non-conference schedule as they played six teams ranked in their respective regions at some point this season. St. Kate's received an invitation for the second year in a row to the Midwest Invitational in Madison for the top 12 teams in the region.

Despite fielding virtually an entire new team from a year ago, **St. Mary's University** has enjoyed a banner 2004 season. According to coach Jeff Halberg, "The Cardinals don't even know how to spell the word quit. We have had some very strong individual efforts, but the success of this year's team has been a true team effort."

**St. Olaf College** is looking to build this year following a strong performance last year. The Oles will be returning with the bulk of their squad from last year including players captain Jamie Brau, Liz Klein, Beth Erie, Kristen Buchta, Lauren Benson, Libby Douglas and Emily Eggert. In addition, the Oles have added three other talented new players, Misaki Kodama, Jorie Steffen and Sarah Pray. Last year, the Oles finished a strong fifth place in the conference. The Oles will hope to improve on last year's good finish.

The **University of St. Thomas** has won three 5-4 decisions -- over St. Catherine, St. Benedict and St. Olaf -- en route to a 14-3 overall record and second-place tie in the MIAC standings at 8-2. The Tommies graduated four key seniors from a 2003 team that reached the second round of the NCAA Champioships and placed second in the MIAC for the third year in a row. Key returners are junior Jodi Dmohoski (15-2 at first or second singles) and sophomore Katie Miettunen (14-3 at first or second singles). Dmohoski topped Gustavus' Tara Houlihan in a third-set tiebreaker last week -- the lone point the Gusties have surrendured in their 10-0 MIAC record. St. Thomas' three defeats have come against regionally-ranked teams Gustavus (8-1), Kalamazoo (6-3) and Carleton (7-2). Over the last four seasons, St. Thomas is 71-21 in duals (36-7 MIAC). Six of their 11 losses over the last three seasons have come against Gustavus.