## **Bob Schabert honored with Mike Augustin Award**

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St. Paul, Minn. – Long-time St. Paul journalist Bob Schabert has been named the 2007 recipient of the Mike Augustin Award. The award is presented annually, to recognize outstanding contributions to Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) athletic programs and their student-athletes. Recipients of the award are chosen by MIAC Sports Information Directors.



Schabert's family will receive the award in his honor during a ceremony prior to the start of the Gustavus vs. Saint John's football game this Saturday, October 13 at 1 p.m. in St. Peter, Minn.

Schabert was a sportswriter for the St. Paul Dispatch & Pioneer Press for 38 years, and was one of the biggest media supporters of the MIAC and its member institutions throughout his career. He used his forum with the newspaper to advance the league, its coaches and student-athletes every chance he could. Schabert developed lifelong friendships and associations with many coaches and administrators.

For nearly 40 years, Bob Schabert had a tremendous impact on the MIAC, and the perception of the league in the public's eye. He was known for his coverage of "small college" programs in Minnesota and western Wisconsin. Schabert logged thousands of miles across the state to personally visit every MIAC school to tell their stories. In 1963, he established a system to rank schools in the MIAC according to the overall success of their men's sports programs, creating the MIAC All-Sports Trophy. The MIAC All-Sports Trophy continues today, 45 years later, in the same format that Schabert created.

Schabert and Mike Augustin were close friends, as well as colleagues at the Pioneer Press. When Schabert retired, his assignment to cover the MIAC went to Augustin, who carried on many of the traditions originally established by Schabert. Both men shared a similar passion for the MIAC, its coaches and student-athletes.

Augustin was an articulate friend, follower and advocate of the MIAC. He respected Division III institutions, student-athletes and coaches. Augustin passed away after a sudden illness in December of 1997. Past recipients of the award include: Jay Osmundson, Jon Roe, Mike Morrissey, Jerry Pyle, Gregg Wong, and Dave Wright.

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