



SPORTS NEWS

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Saint Mary's Softball dominates post-season MIAA honors

The Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA) announced their post-season softball awards today and the Belles, who just won the Conference Tournament, dominated the awards.

Earning the **Most Valuable Offensive Player** award was senior, and co-captain Erin Sullivan (Schaumburg, Ill./James B. Conant HS). Sullivan was the 2004 MIAA Batting Champion, and by virtue of her 5-12, 2 RBI performance at the tournament was named Co-Player-of-the-Week for the final week in the season.

Another senior and co-captain, Katrina Tebbe (Tipton, Ind./Tipton HS) was named the **Most Valuable Defensive Player** in the MIAA. Playing first base for the Belles, Tebbe led the league in both number of chances (132) and putouts (124).

Making **All-MIAA 1st Team** honors were Sullivan and sophomore pitcher/left fielder Kate Sajewich (Orland Park, Ill./Stagg HS). Sajewich led the Belles with a 12-6 pitching record (5-3 MIAA record), 2 saves, a 2.24 overall ERA (1.48 MIAA), and 12 complete games. At the tournament, she was the winning pitcher in two games and got a save in another, and with these statistics earned the season's final Pitcher-of-the-Week honor.

Named to the **All-MIAA 2nd Team** were Tebbe and freshman Angie Ellison (Park Forest, Ill./Marian Catholic HS). Ellison was the regular third baseman for Saint Mary's and batted .356 on the season, 9th best in the conference. She led the league in runs scored and was 7th in total hits.

Catcher Jean Downes, (Fr., Chicago, Ill./Loyola Academy), right fielder Audrey Gajor (So., Galesburg, Mich./Gull Lake HS), designated hitter Laura Heline (Fr., South Bend, Ind./Riley HS), shortstop Marnie Walsh (Sr., Oak Lawn, Ill./Harold L. Richards HS), and pitcher Libby Wilhelmy (Sr., Mendota Heights, Minn./Visitation HS) all were named **Coaches Honorable Mention**.

With so many players earning post-season honors, and managing the #3 seed team to the Tournament title over nationally 3rd ranked Alma College, it is no surprise that Head Coach Anna Welsh, and Assistant Coaches Don Miller and Jeff Welsh were named the 2004 **MIAA Coaching-Staff-of-the-Year**.

Saint Mary's College finished the year 20-19 overall and 12-6 in the MIAA including Tournament games. The Belles entered the tournament the #3 seed and with their Tournament title ended the season second in the MIAA, the highest the team has ever finished in its history within the league.

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