

# Men's basketball battles St. John's in MIAC opener

**Hailey Durand-Christianson**  
hdurandchrist@css.edu

The CSS men's basketball team had their first ever Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) game on Saturday, Nov. 20. The Saints took on the St. Johns Johnnies, which is their first matchup since 2017.

The Johnnies led the game in scoring early in the first half, 22-12. The Saints battled back and got the lead down to 6 points, the score being 37-31 heading into the locker room at halftime. CSS struggled in the second half, being outscored by 17 points. Nick Carlson led the team in scoring with 15 points total. Noah Winesett was the second leading scorer with a total of 10 points in the game. Despite the great battle of their first MIAC debut, the Saints lost 74-51 making their overall record 1-2 and MIAC record 0-1.

The Script corresponded with Yohanes Addiss Gebeyehu, a junior biology major who plays point guard on the men's basketball team. Gebeyehu on the transition to the MIAC said, "You can definitely feel it. There is a skill difference in MIAC teams, they seem to be more competitive. But it makes it more fun and for more interesting games and pushes you to go harder."

The Script also corresponded with forward Quinn Fischer, a senior exercise physiology major, on hopes for the season.

# Indoor track and field prepares to hit season running

**Scarlet Pantlin**  
spantlin@css.edu

With winter coming soon, the track and field team is preparing to start their indoor season. The Script sat down with head coach Todd Bouchie and senior athlete Anna Becker to find out how their season is going and what is to be expected this season from the track and field team.

Both Bouchie and Becker have been a part of the track team before and during the COVID-19 pandemic. Bouchie has worked at St. Scholastica since Jan. 2005 and has been the head coach at St. Scholastica for six years. Becker, a global culture and language studies and peace and justice studies major with a political science and art minor, has competed in track throughout her whole college career despite inconveniences, such as

injuries and Covid affecting her seasons.

Bouchie and Becker each had different perspectives on how Covid had affected the team. Bouchie began with how Covid affected coaching. Bouchie said, "Well two years ago in 19-20, it had a major effect, because all of our spring sports were completely cancelled. Last year was better, we had both our indoor and our outdoor season, but there were just a lot of protocols and logistical stuff that the whole team had to deal with."

Bouchie went on to talk about how COVID-19 affected the team's roster. He said that it decreased the team by at least ten people. Bouchie also said that COVID-19 really affected the team in regards to ensuring their well-being, whether it was mentally or physically.

# Women's basketball falls to St. Ben's in MIAC opener

**Hailey Durand-Christianson**  
hdurandchrist@css.edu

The CSS women's basketball team had their first ever Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) appearance in program history on Saturday, Nov. 20. The Reif Gymnasium was filled with people as the Saints battled against the Bennies of the College of St. Benedict.

Sophomore Megan Hurley started off the game with a layup and went on to record a career high of 16 points. Sophomore and guard Miranda Broberg also scored a career high of 15 points for the Saints. Despite their best efforts, CSS was defeated by St. Ben's 61-49, making their overall record 0-3 and MIAC record 0-1.

Then Becker discussed how Covid has affected the team from an athlete's perspective. Becker said, "It was really frustrating. It was hard not being with my team and not being with my teammates and having to practice at home. It made it difficult to really just practice at home, test at home and commute to meets. I'm really grateful because Todd has been on top of things as far as testing so that we haven't had to quarantine. We're trying to go as full speed as we can, and that has been nice especially for my senior year."

Next, Bouchie talked about how this season has gone so far. Bouchie said, "We started Nov. 1 this year and we won't have our first competition until Dec. 4, so we have more than a month. Then Dec. 11 we have our first meet here, at St. Scholastica actually, where we have a majority of the people on the team who will be competing in one capacity or another. We have already seen a lot of progress. So far it's been going quite well, and the Covid stuff being much less onerous than it was last year has been a big help so far."

Bouchie then discussed how they expect the season to go. "Where we were more dominant in our previous conference, the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference has been much tougher and much higher level. But we have a number of individuals on the team, including Anna, who I think will do very well and potentially be all conference team members. I think we're going to do quite well on

Teammates Emma Schmidt (senior forward) and Amelia Zmuda (junior guard) corresponded with The Script on the transition into the MIAC and hopes for the season. Zmuda said, "The transition to the MIAC has been a bit challenging

is starting to play really well together which is exciting."

Another exciting aspect of this year's women's basketball season is gaining a new coach. Jason Schmitz is the new head women's basketball coach. Schmidt said, "As a team, we are

all doing good with the transition to a new coach. It has been fun and exciting to be a part of a different coaching style and we are ready to see where this season will go!" Zmuda said, "I think we've

finally started to understand how Jason operates and we all really like his style of coaching."

The Saints will continue to battle for their first win of the season next Tuesday, Nov. 23 in St. Paul versus St. Catherine's University.



The tip off. Script photo/ Hailey Durand-Christianson



Amelia Zmuda and Emma Schmidt. Script photo/Hailey Durand-Christianson

because we are competing against teams with a much higher skill level.

Regardless, the team has done a good job, considering we gave St. Ben's a run for their money in our MIAC debut." Talking about hopes for the season, Schmidt said, "So far the season is off to a pretty good start. Our team

an individual basis with a number of people on our team, but as a team we're not going to get the kind of results that we were used to in our previous conference."

While talking about MIAC, Bouchie and Becker explained how the transition from UMAC to MIAC has gone. Becker said, "I mean, as far as an athlete's perspective, it's going to be very different going from the UMAC to the MIAC. As far as the UMAC goes, it was easy to succeed and really build each other up, and it was nice seeing ourselves at the top for multiple years."

Bouchie continued, "It's a higher level of competition for every one of our athletic teams. People are excited that we are in a tougher conference. I've had feedback from people that it is more enticing to them and they're excited to be a part of it. When we earn those kinds of things, it's going to be a much bigger accomplishment and really so much more exciting. It really gives us something to work towards and to be excited about, so it's very different. In my opinion, it's different in all good ways."

Becker had more to add once Bouchie finished talking about the transition. Becker said, "As an individual team sport, it really encourages athletes to push that much harder, because we are so capable. It's just about applying ourselves in new ways and pushing to get those numbers that we want in this new conference, and really make a name for ourselves."

Finally, Bouchie and Becker discussed the

team and individual goals they have for this season. Bouchie said, "Really it's all individual based. The simple overriding goal that I always have for everybody is that every individual on the team just does what they can to improve as much as they can throughout the year, including the coaches. The reason it's simple like that is because if enough people do that, our team will do really well."

Becker discussed her individual goals that she has to better herself for the team. Becker said, "As an individual athlete, my goals are ultimately to obviously compete to the best of my ability and to shatter previous records that I have set for myself. But ultimately another goal that I have is to maintain my health throughout the season, and that's a goal for a lot of the athletes."

Becker concluded her statement by saying, "Furthermore, just to be the best upperclassmen that I can be and set a good role for my underclassmen, to encourage them to really work as hard as they can both athletically and academically, and to be the best student and athlete that they can be."