



# WOMEN'S SOCCER

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## 2018 MVC Women's Soccer All-Conference Teams Announced

CHICAGO, IL. – Regular-season champ Loyola has claimed the majority of the league's top individual honors, with senior forward Jenna Szczesny taking the league's Player of the Year honors. While her freshman teammate, Abby Swanson has been tabbed the Valley's Freshman of the Year. Drake's Elaine Gorom and Loyola's Madison Laudeman share the Defensive Player of the Year Title. Missouri State goalkeeper Kaitlin Maxwell was named Goalkeeper of the Year. The five headline a list of 32 student-athletes named to the 2018 MVC All-Conference teams, selected by the coaches, and announced by the league office Thursday.

Loyola's senior forward, Jenna Szczesny, leads the Ramblers in goals (9), overall points (24), shots (56) and shots on goal (26). Szczesny is currently second all-time at Loyola with 30 goals and 79 career points. Her current career points total also ranks her in the top 15 All-Time in the Valley record books. She is a four-time All-MVC honoree, who made second team in her freshman and sophomore seasons and first team in 2017. Szczesny is the first Loyola player to win the Valley's top honor in program history.

Drake's Elaine Gorom and Loyola's Madison Laudeman have both earned the honor of 2018 MVC Defensive Player of the Year. Senior Elaine Gorom started in every game for the Bulldogs. The Drake defense, with Gorom's help, only allowed four goals during conference play and 17 the entire season, the lowest in the Valley this season. Junior defender, Madison Laudeman has been a fixture in the Loyola lineup, starting in all 16 games this season. Laudeman contributed to five shutouts, including four in MVC play. In addition to her contributions on defense, Laudeman tallied eight points after finding the back of the goal twice and adding four assists.

The MVC Goalkeeper of the year is Missouri State's Kaitlin Maxwell. The sophomore was a force to be reckoned with in cage, totaling 114 saves during the season. The total ranked her second in the conference and is currently fifth nationally. Her single season save efforts tie for fourth best in program history alongside Jackie Jasper in 2006. Maxwell tallied six shutouts and logged double-digit saves four times. Her efforts earned her MVC defensive player of the week honors after collecting 10 grabs and shutting-out Northern Iowa. Maxwell's goals against average is third best in MVC and is sixth best in Bears' history.

The 2018 Freshman of the Year – Abby Swanson of Loyola – played in 15 matches in her first season. Swanson had nine points, scoring four times, including one game-winner, and added one assist. Swanson was part of a much-improved Loyola defensive unit that boasted an impressive 0.86 goals against average during Valley play.

Loyola's coaching staff has earned the MVC's Coaching Staff of the Year honor. Loyola won the league with a 6-1 record, two points ahead of second-place Drake. The Ramblers lead the league with 35 goals in 16 games. Loyola head coach Barry Bimbi is in his eighth season at helm. He's assisted by Franky Pelaez, Katie Berkopec, and Chris Brown.

Northern Iowa earned the Valley's Fair Play Award, which is structured after the FIFA Fair Play honor. It is awarded to the Valley squad(s) that have the fewest penalty cards during all MVC matches. Northern Iowa did not receive a single card during league play. This is the second season in a row that the Panthers earned this nod.

All the award winners were recognized this evening at an awards reception in Chicago, Ill., prior to the semifinal games on Friday.



# MISSOURI VALLEY CONFERENCE

## 2018 Women's Soccer All-Conference

### FIRST TEAM

| Name              | School         | Pos. | Yr.   | Hometown (Previous School)                  |
|-------------------|----------------|------|-------|---------------------------------------------|
| Katie Wells       | Indiana State  | F    | Sr.   | Indianapolis, Ind. (Warren Central HS)      |
| Jenna Szczesny    | Loyola         | F    | Sr.   | Hoffman Estates, Ill. (Barrington)          |
| Cory Griffith     | Valparaiso     | F    | Sr.   | Lemont, Ill. (Providence Catholic)          |
| Cassie Rohan      | Drake          | MF   | Jr.   | Palatine, Ill. (William Fremd)              |
| Abby Basler       | Illinois State | MF   | R-So. | St. Louis, Mo. (Ursuline Academy)           |
| Kate Del Fava     | Illinois State | MF   | Jr.   | Kenosha, Wis. (St. Joseph Catholic Academy) |
| Kelsey Yarrow     | Northern Iowa  | MF   | Sr.   | Ankeny, Iowa (Ankeny)                       |
| Elaine Gorom      | Drake          | D    | Sr.   | O'Fallon, Ill. (O'Fallon Township)          |
| Madison Laudeman  | Loyola         | D    | Jr.   | Chesterfield, Mo. (Lafayette)               |
| Brittney Robinson | Missouri State | D    | Jr.   | Ballwin, Mo. (Eureka High)                  |
| Kaitlin Maxwell   | Missouri State | GK   | So.   | Lincoln, Neb. (Lincoln Southeast High)      |

### SECOND TEAM

| Name             | School         | Pos. | Yr.   | Hometown (Previous School)                |
|------------------|----------------|------|-------|-------------------------------------------|
| Shelley Lyjak    | Drake          | F    | Jr.   | Bartlett, Ill. (Bartlett)                 |
| Madison Kimball  | Loyola         | F    | Sr.   | Fair Oaks, Calif. (St. Francis Catholic)  |
| Brynell Yount    | Northern Iowa  | F    | Sr.   | Aurora, Colo. (Smoky Hill)                |
| Emily Wolak      | Evansville     | MF   | Fr.   | Rochester, N.Y. (The Aquinas Institute)   |
| Kiley Czerwinski | Illinois State | MF   | Sr.   | Naperville, Ill. (Neuqua Valley HS)       |
| Abby Swanson     | Loyola         | MF   | Fr.   | Downers Grove, Ill. (Downers Grove North) |
| Vanessa Kavan    | Drake          | D    | R-Jr. | Lincoln, Neb. (Lincoln Southwest)         |
| Danielle Varner  | Indiana State  | D    | So.   | Henderson, Nev. (Green Valley HS)         |
| Jacqueline Baetz | Missouri State | D    | So.   | St. Louis, Mo. (Webster Grove High)       |
| Kelsey Jahn      | Valparaiso     | D    | Sr.   | Oregon, Wis. (Orgeon)                     |
| Kelsie Stone     | Drake          | GK   | So.   | Hoffman Estates, Ill. (William Fremd)     |

**HONORABLE MENTION:** *Alison Walls, F (Drake); Mikayla Unger, F (Illinois State); Jordan Eickelman, F (Missouri State); Alyssa Brand, MF (Drake); Ashley Santos, MF (Illinois State); Sienna Cruz, MF (Loyola); Sydney Hayden, MF (Northern Iowa); Hannah McDevitt (Northern Iowa); Aly Kilburg, D (Loyola); Michaela Till, GK (Evansville)*

### ALL-FRESHMAN TEAM

| Name            | School         | Pos. | Hometown (Previous School)                 |
|-----------------|----------------|------|--------------------------------------------|
| Libby Helverson | Drake          | F    | West Des Moines, Iowa (Valley HS)          |
| Alison Walls    | Drake          | F    | Kansas City, Mo. (Park Hill)               |
| Abby Phelps     | Evansville     | D    | Waterloo, Ill. (Gibault Catholic HS)       |
| Emily Wolak     | Evansville     | MF   | Rochester, N.Y. (The Aquinas Institute)    |
| Shaina Dudas    | Illinois State | MF   | Elk Grove Village, Ill. (Naperville North) |
| Sidney Ewing    | Indiana State  | F    | Liberty, Mo. (Liberty North HS)            |
| Aly Kilburg     | Loyola         | D    | Park Ridge, Ill. (Maine South)             |
| Abby Swanson    | Loyola         | MF   | Downers Grove, Ill. (Downers Grove North)  |
| Anna Durnin     | Missouri State | F    | Wentzville, Mo. (Fort Zumwalt North High)  |
| Kennady Orlick  | Missouri State | F    | Raymore, Mo. (Raymore-Peculiar High)       |
| Morgen Metzger  | Valparaiso     | MF   | Grand Blanc, Mich. (Grand Blanc)           |

**PLAYER OF THE YEAR:** Jenna Szczesny, Loyola

**CO-DEFENSIVE PLAYERS OF THE YEAR:** Elaine Gorom, Drake & Madison Laudeman, Loyola

**GOALKEEPER OF THE YEAR:** Kaitlin Maxwell, Missouri State

**FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR:** Abby Swanson, Loyola

**COACHING STAFF OF THE YEAR:** Loyola (Barry Bimbi, Franky Pelaez, Katie Berkopec, and Chris Brown)

**MVC FAIR PLAY AWARD (fewest penalty cards in league games):** Northern Iowa