



MVC Men's Track Athlete of the Week

Johnny McGluen, So., Southern Illinois (Memphis, Tenn.)

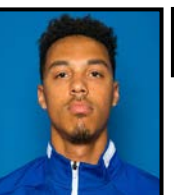
Johnny McGluen won the 400m, took second in the 200m dash and helped SIU to a runner-up finish in the 4x400 relay at the Saluki Fast Start on Dec. 8. McGluen ran 49.83 to win the quarter-mile and later clocked the fastest 200m time in the MVC at 21.70. Not only was his time the fastest in the Valley thus far this season, but it also ranks 13th in the NCAA.



MVC Women's Track Athlete of the Week

Grace Beattie, Jr., Illinois State (Woodstock, Ill.)

A Saturday's Jimmy Grant Invitational, hosted by Iowa, Beattie ran a gutsy race in the mile, getting out to a strong start and finishing it even stronger to win her first race back after redshirting the 2018 cross country season. Beattie clocked in at 4:53.11, a time which currently ranks eighth in the nation and leads the Valley by over five seconds.



MVC Men's Field Athlete of the Week

Dearis Herron, So., Indiana State (Springfield, Ill.)

Dearis Herron began his sophomore campaign with strong performances in the jumps for Indiana State on Saturday. Herron was victorious in the long jump with a personal-best jump of 7.23m (23-08.75), which leads the conference and is 10th in the NCAA. The sophomore also managed to pick up a second-place finish in the triple jump with a mark of 14.18m (46-06.25), which currently sits at second in the Valley.



MVC Women's Field Athlete of the Week

Erin Reese, RS Sr., Indiana State (Mt. Prospect, Ill.)

Redshirt senior Erin Reese picked up right where she left off last season for Indiana State, winning the women's weight throw in dominant fashion at the Indiana State Early Bird on Saturday. Reese recorded a phenomenal toss of 21.81m (71-06.75), which is the second-best throw in school history, trailing only Sycamore legend Felisha Johnson. The Mt. Prospect native now leads both the Valley and the nation in the weight throw. Reese also threw to a second-place finish in the shot put, earning a mark of 14.57m (47-09.75), which is fifth in the conference and 31st nationally.

Upcoming Schedule/Recent Results

Friday, November 30

Blue & Gold Invitational (Valpo)..... NTS

Saturday, December 1

UIndy Season Opener (Evansville)..... NTS

Friday, December 7

GVSU Holiday Open (Loyola)NTS

Saturday, December 8

Jimmy Grant Invite (DU/ILS/UNI)NTS
Indiana State Early Bird (INS) M: 1st; W: 1st

Missouri Holiday Opener (MSU)NTS
Saluki Fast Start (SIU)NTS

HOLIDAY BREAK

Friday, January 11

Graduate Classic (Drake)
Missouri Intercollegiate (Missouri State)
Arkansas Invitational (Missouri State)
Jim Green Invitational (Southern Illinois)

Saturday, January 12

Hawkeye Invitational (BU/LUC/UNI)
Graduate Classic (Drake)
Coughlan/Malloy Cup (ILS/INS)
Jim Green Invitational (Southern Illinois)

► Noteworthy

In addition to the league's Track & Field Athlete of the Week selections, several other notable performances are recognized, and they include:

MEN'S TRACK

Jack Anstey, Illinois State - At Saturday's Jimmy Grant Invitational, hosted by Iowa, Anstey got his season off to a fast start, winning the 1000-meter run with an impressive time of 2:24.25. Anstey poured it on in the final lap of the race, pulling away from the field to win by nearly three seconds. Not only does Anstey's mark rank third all-time in Illinois State history, but it just missed the meet and facility records (2:24.24) by the narrowest of margins.

Matthew Lewis-Banks, Indiana State - Making his collegiate debut, Matthew Lewis-Banks shined for the Sycamores at the Indiana State Early Bird. The freshman raced to victory in the 60-meter hurdles, clocking times of 8.14 and 8.19 in prelims and finals, respectively. His preliminary time of 8.14 leads the Valley and sits at 28th on the national performance list. Lewis-Banks also placed second in the 200-meter dash, crossing the line at 22.77 for the fourth-best time in the conference.

Vince DiVenere, Loyola - Vince DiVenere enjoyed a breakout performance as the Ramblers opened the 2018-19 season at the GVSU Holiday Open in Allendale, Mich. last Friday. The Glen Ellyn, Ill. product earned a runner-up finish in the 400m dash, clocking a time of 48.37 to move to ninth all-time at Loyola in the event. DiVenere also saw action in the 60m dash, placing 25th in 7.14.

Ben Sekuloski, Valparaiso - Sekuloski led the Valpo men in a pair of events during the season opener on Nov. 30 at Notre Dame. The junior led the pack of Valpo runners in the 200 with a time of 23.03 while finishing seventh overall and leading his team in the 400-meter dash at 49.94.

MEN'S FIELD

Francis Ehigbai, Illinois State - At Saturday's Jimmy Grant Invitational, hosted by Iowa, Ehigbai excelled in the high jump, clearing an all-time personal best 2.10m (6-10.75) to win the event. With the mark, Ehigbai opens the season ranked first in the Valley and 10th in the NCAA.

Eric Burns, Loyola - Loyola junior Eric Burns was victorious in the long jump as the Ramblers opened the 2018-19 season at the GVSU Holiday Open in Allendale, Mich. on Friday. Burns, who earned All-Valley honors during both the indoor and outdoor campaigns last season, finished atop the final leaderboard following a leap of 23-07.25 (7.19m). The New Carlisle, Ind. native currently ranks third on Loyola's all-time indoor record board in the long jump.

Ricky Hurley, Southern Illinois - Ricky Hurley opened his 2019 season with a win in the shot put and a runner-up finish in the weight throw at the Saluki Fast Start. The Fox River Grove, Ill. native won the shot with a toss of 58'-10.25" (17.94m). The mark currently ranks first in the Missouri Valley Conference and 11th nationally. Hurley followed up his effort in the shot put with the second-best weight throw mark in the Valley at 58'-7.5" (17.84m) to finish second.

Jake Rasaweher, Valparaiso - Rasaweher started his junior season with a fifth-place finish at the Blue & Gold Invitational hosted by Notre Dame on Nov. 30. He led his team with a toss of 49-8.5.

WOMEN'S TRACK

Ayanna Morgan, Indiana State - Morgan had a productive Saturday on the track for the Sycamores, winning the 60-meter hurdles at the Indiana State Early Bird. The senior was victorious in both the preliminary and final rounds, clocking times of 8.64 and 8.57, respectively. Her time of 8.57 leads the Valley and is 21st in the nation. In addition to winning the 60-meter hurdles, Morgan was also a member of the second place 4x400-meter relay

team which clocked a time of 4:02.51, as well as the victor in the women's long jump.

Molly Reighard, Loyola - Molly Reighard clocked a pair of indoor personal bests in the Ramblers' season-opening trip to Allendale, Mich. for the GVSU Holiday Open. Reighard, a native of Minnetrista, Minn., came across in 7.89 in the 60m dash, the sixth fastest time in program history, en route to taking 18th overall in the event. She also saw action in the 200m dash, finishing 10th in 25.81.

Taryn Smiley, Missouri State - Taryn Smiley placed high in three events at the Missouri Holiday Opener this weekend. The senior took the top spot in the 200-meter dash with a 25.44 time, breaking the meet record and sits at the second best in the conference and 54th in the nation. Smiley finished in second in the 60-meter dash with a 7.70 time, which sits third best in the conference this season. Smiley also asserted in the first-place finish in the 4x400-meter relay (4:04.58).

Tyjuana Eason, Southern Illinois - Tyjuana Eason won the 200m and finished second in the 60m dash at the Saluki Fast Start Saturday. Eason opened with the fastest 60m time in the MVC, and 22nd-best nationally, at 7.58 to narrowly place second. She followed with her first win of the season in the 200m dash in which she ran the fastest time in the MVC at 24.34. The Kankakee, Ill. native not only sits atop the MVC leaderboard in the event but also ranks 11th nationally.

Sierra Fischer, Valparaiso - The junior transfer wasted no time in etching her name on the list of the program's top performances in her Valpo debut on Nov. 30 at the Blue & Gold Invitational hosted by Notre Dame. Fischer immediately entered the program's all-time Top 5 in the 200-meter dash, edging out Patricia Kloth's fifth-place time of 26.37 from 2008 with a 26.32 showing. Fischer became the first Valpo runner to crack the program's Top 5 in that event since 2008. On the day, Fischer turned in a pair of Top 4 finishes, placing third in the 200 while also capturing fourth in the 400 at 1:00.11.

WOMEN'S FIELD

Kameesha Smith, Illinois State - At Saturday's Jimmy Grant Invitational, Smith jumped to new heights, clearing an all-time personal best 1.75m (5-08.75) to win the high jump competition. Not only does Smith's mark improve her to sixth all-time in Redbird track and field history, but it currently ranks sixth in all of Division I.

Oyinlola Akinlosotu, Loyola - Loyola sophomore Oyinlola Akinlosotu impressed in her debut for the Maroon & Gold at the GVSU Holiday Open in Allendale, Mich. this past Friday. A transfer from Washington State, Akinlosotu earned a runner-up finish in the triple jump, notching a top leap of 39-07.25 (12.07m) to move second all-time at Loyola in the event. That marks currently ranks second overall in the Missouri Valley Conference in the event.

Sidne Williamson, Missouri State - Williamson dominated the long jump this weekend at the Missouri Holiday Opener. The senior set a new personal record and broke the meet record with a 5.91-meter leap to take home first in the event. Williamson's long jump mark is the longest so far this season in the conference and 16th best in the nation. Williamson adds a seventh-place finish in the 60-meter dash (8.03), a second-place finish in the 200-meter (25.76) and assisted in the first-place finish in the 4x400-meter relay (4:04.58).

Alexis Roberson, Southern Illinois - Roberson won the weight throw at the Saluki Fast Start with a personal best toss of 67'-6.75" (20.59m). Not only was that the eighth-best toss in program history, but it currently ranks the Jefferson City, Mo. native second in the MVC, and seventh in the NCAA, in the event.

Anne Mou, Valparaiso - Mou led Valpo in a pair of events on Nov. 30 in the season-opening Blue & Gold Invitational at Notre Dame. She placed sixth overall in the long jump with a mark of 15-9.5 while turning in a team-best 34-11 in the triple jump.

► Athletes of the Week

Men's Track

DATE	NAME	SCHOOL
D11	Johnny McGluen	Southern Illinois

Men's Field

DATE	NAME	SCHOOL
D11	Dearis Herron	Indiana State

Women's Track

DATE	NAME	SCHOOL
D11	Grace Beattie	Illinois State

Women's Field

DATE	NAME	SCHOOL
D11	Erin Reese	Indiana State

MVC Track & Field Athletes of the Week are selected each week during the Indoor Track & Field season. The athletes are announced on Tuesday afternoon and appear in a weekly press release. Nominees are provided by each school's sports information contact and voted on by a panel appointed by the league office.

► Championship Info



February 23-24, 2019
Cedar Falls, Iowa
Hosted by UNI