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2000, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006,
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University of Alaska Anchorage

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Colorado College

University of Denver

Michigan Technological University

University of Minnesota

University of Minnesota Duluth

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February 14, 2012/For Immediate Release

Minnesota Duluth's Connolly, Bemidji State's Bakala, Denver's Mayfield Named Red Baron® WCHA Men's Players of the Week

Red Baron® WCHA Offensive Player of the Week

Jack Connolly • Senior, Forward, University of Minnesota Duluth

MADISON, Wis. – University of Minnesota Duluth centerman Jack Connolly, who had a hand in all six of his team's goals – including five in one game – in a conference series split with visiting North Dakota last weekend, has been named the Red Baron® WCHA Offensive Player of the Week for February 14. This marks the second time this season Connolly has been honored with the weekly award (also on Nov. 15).

A 5-8, 170-pound senior from Duluth, Minn., Connolly now ranks second in the nation and in the WCHA in both points with 48 and assists with 31 and has picked up at least a goal and/or an assist in 27 of the Bulldogs' 30 games thus far in 2011-12 and has registered three or more points in eight of those. He was a first team All-American and All-WCHA First Team choice a year ago as a junior.

After setting up his team's lone goal and setting a school record by skating in his 154th consecutive game in a 3-1 setback to No. 15/16 UND last Friday (Feb. 10) night at AMSOIL Arena, Connolly came back to score two goals and set up three others for a five-point night and lead No. 3 Minnesota Duluth to a 5-4 victory, falling just one point shy of the school's single-game record of six points in one game. His second goal of the evening, coming at the 1:46 mark of the third period, was the eventual game-winner. In addition to his six points in the series, Connolly also put eight shots on goal and earned a +1 plus/minus rating.

Also nominated: Aaron McLeod, F, BSU; Nick Shore, F, DU; Carter Rowney, F, UND.

Red Baron® WCHA Defensive Player of the Week

Dan Bakala • Senior, Goaltender, Bemidji State University

MADISON, Wis. – Veteran goaltender Dan Bakala, who yielded just two-even strength goals while backstopping Bemidji State University to a two-game conference sweep over No. 10-ranked Colorado College last weekend, is the Red Baron® WCHA Defensive Player of the Week for February 14.

A 5-11, 185-pound senior from Calgary, Alb., Bakala stopped 52 of 55 shots on goal for a .945 series saves percentage and posted four shutout periods as the Beavers forged 4-2 and 4-1 victories over the visiting Tigers to remain in contention for a top six finish in the WCHA and a first round home playoff berth. Bemidji State is now 3-0-1 over the last four games and 11-4-2 overall since Nov. 19.

Bakala stopped 29 of 31 shots on goal last Friday (Feb. 10) in the 4-2 win over CC at BSU's Sanford Center and then came back with 29 saves, including 15 in the first period, in last Saturday's (Feb. 11) 4-1 triumph as Bemidji State completed the sweep.

Through 20 games played and 1,113:53 of action in nets this season, Bakala owns a 9-7-2 record, a 2.48 goals-against average and a .919 save percentage.

Also nominated: Joey LaLeggia, D, DU; Phil Cook, G, MSU.

Red Baron® WCHA Rookie of the Week

Scott Mayfield • Freshman, Defenseman, University of Denver

MADISON, Wis. – University of Denver defenseman Scott Mayfield, who contributed two assists, four hits and two blocked shots to help the Pioneers to a two-game home-ice sweep over league-leading and No. 1/2-ranked Minnesota last weekend, has been named Red Baron® WCHA Rookie of the Week for February 14.

A 6-4, 200-pound freshman from St. Louis, Mo., and a draftee of the NHL's New York Islanders, Mayfield assisted on teammate Jason Zucker's game-winning power-play goal at 4:02 of the third period last Friday evening (Feb. 10) at Magness Arena as No. 14 Denver collected a 5-3 victory over the Golden Gophers. Then last Saturday (Feb. 11) night, Mayfield earned an assist on Nick Shore's third period tally that evened the game at 3-3 and catapulted DU on to a 4-3 overtime win. He quarterbacked Denver to a 3-for-10 effort on the power-play over the weekend and also fired four shots on goal.

As a rookie, Mayfield has seen action in 29 of the Pioneers' 30 games this season with eight points (2g, 6a).

Also nominated: Tyler Tosunian, F, BSU.