

# WESTERN COLLEGIATE HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

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## HOME OF A COLLEGIATE RECORD 37 MEN'S NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TEAMS SINCE 1951

1952, 1953, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1968, 1969, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1987, 1990, 1991, 1997, 2000, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2011

## MEN'S CONFERENCE MEMBERS

University of Alaska Anchorage

Bemidji State University

Colorado College

University of Denver

Michigan Technological University

University of Minnesota

University of Minnesota Duluth

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February 12, 2013/For Immediate Release

## MINNESOTA STATE'S HAYES AND BLUEGER, NORTH DAKOTA'S GOTHBERG NAMED RED BARON WCHA PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

### RED BARON WCHA OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK

#### ERIAH HAYES • SENIOR, FORWARD, MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

MADISON, Wis. – Minnesota State University forward Eriah Hayes, who topped all conference players with four goals and seven scoring points while leading his team to a two-game road sweep at Minnesota Duluth last weekend, is the Red Baron® WCHA Men's Offensive Player of the Week for February 12.

A 6-4, 210-pound senior right winger from La Crescent, Minn., Hayes launched the weekend with a goal and two assists on Friday (Feb. 8), including one on teammate Teddy Blueger's third period game-winner, fired eight shots on goal and earned a +3 plus/minus rating as the visiting Mavericks took game one from UMD, 4-2. Hayes then came back last Saturday (Feb. 9) with a career-high four points, including his second collegiate hat trick with three power-play goals and an assist on Blueger's second game-winner of the weekend, as Minnesota State fashioned a 5-1 triumph over the Bulldogs to improve to 18-9-3 under first-year head coach Mike Hastings. He also had four shots on goal in game two to give him 12 in the series and was a +1.

Seeing action in all 30 games this season, Hayes is second in scoring for Minnesota State with 28 points while his 16 goals are tied for sixth in the nation and his 10 power-play goals lead the nation. His 142-game MSU career totals show 88 points on 48 goals and 40 assists.

Also nominated: Jordan Kwas, F, UAA; Milos Gordic, F, MTU; Erik Haula, F, UM; Danny Kristo, F, UND; Drew LeBlanc, F, SCSU.

### RED BARON WCHA DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK

#### ZANE GOTHBERG • FRESHMAN, GOALTENDER, UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA

MADISON, Wis. – For the second straight week, University of North Dakota goaltender Zane Gothberg has earned a weekly honor, this time as Red Baron® WCHA Men's Defensive Player of the Week for February 12 after he backstopped his team to a pair of road victories at league rival Nebraska Omaha last weekend. One week ago, Gothberg was the Red Baron® WCHA Men's Rookie of the Week (Feb. 5).

A 6-2, 198-pound freshman from Thief River Falls, Minn., Gothberg yielded just three goals (two even-strength) on 65 shots for a .954 series save percentage, recorded four shutout periods and held the Mavericks to just one power-play goal on seven chances. His 1.50 series goals-against average came about after he made 33 saves, including all 14 in the third period, in North Dakota's 2-1 victory last Friday (Feb. 8) night to earn No. 3 Star of the Game honors and then 29 more in UND's 5-2 win over the Mavericks outdoors last Saturday (Feb. 9) at TD Ameritrade Park in Omaha. The two wins moved UND (16-8-6) into second place in the league race.

Gothberg, a draft choice of the NHL's Boston Bruins, is on a career-best four-game unbeaten streak (3-0-1) and has started six of UND's last seven games while losing only once (3-1-2) with a 1.96 goals-against average and a .935 save percentage. His .778 winning percentage during league play leads the WCHA, his .926 save percentage ranks third and his overall save percentage of .918 is the third-lowest by a freshman in UND history.

Also nominated: Joe Marciano, D, CC; Nate Schmidt, D, UM.

### RED BARON WCHA ROOKIE OF THE WEEK

#### TEDDY BLUEGER • FRESHMAN, FORWARD, MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

MADISON, Wis. – Forward Teddy Blueger, who contributed four points and both game-winning goals as Minnesota State University won a pair of league road contests at Minnesota Duluth last weekend, has been named the Red Baron® WCHA Men's Rookie of the Week for February 12.

A 5-11, 165-pound freshman centerman from Riga, Latvia, Blueger scored two game-winning goals and assisted on two others for four points, had three shots on goal and earned a +4 plus/minus rating as the visiting Mavericks earned their first sweep over UMD in Duluth since 2005-06. He had the game-winner in the third period and two assists for three points in MSU's 4-2 victory last Friday (Feb. 8) and then notched his second collegiate game-winner in the first period in last Saturday's 5-1 win.

Blueger, a draft choice of the NHL's Pittsburgh Penguins, has played in 26 of Minnesota State's 30 games this season with 17 points on five goals and 12 assists.

Also nominated: Blake Tatchell, F, UAA; Phil Brewer, F, BSU; Hunter Fejes, F, CC; Alex Petan, F, MTU; Zane Gothberg, G, UND.