

Western Collegiate Hockey Association

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Men's Member Teams

University of Alabama in Huntsville
University of Alaska Anchorage
University of Alaska Fairbanks
Bemidji State University
Bowling Green State University
Ferris State University
Lake Superior State University
Michigan Technological University
Minnesota State University
Northern Michigan University

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November 26, 2013/For Immediate Release

BGSU's Cooper, FSU's Motte, NMU's Dahlstrom Named WCHA Men's Players of the Week

WCHA Offensive Player of the Week Mark Cooper, F Bowling Green

Bowling Green State University forward Mark Cooper, who scored four goals and fired 10 shots on goal in a two-game conference series with Minnesota State last weekend, is the WCHA Men's Offensive Player of the Week for Nov. 26, 2013.

A 6-2, 185-pound sophomore from Toronto, Ontario, Cooper notched his first collegiate three-goal hat trick last Friday night (Nov. 22), including the game-winning goal in overtime to boost the host Falcons over Minnesota State 4-3. With his team trailing 2-0, Cooper's first goal of the game came on a power-play :16 seconds into the second period and cut the deficit to one. He scored his second of the game at 6:47 to knot the score at 2-2. Then in overtime, Cooper completed his hat trick with just :31 seconds remaining.

In the finale last Saturday (Nov. 23), Cooper scored his fourth goal of the weekend, giving Bowling Green a 2-0 lead at 16:03 of the first period in an eventual 3-2 overtime setback. The right-hander also earned a +2 plus/minus rating in the series.

Through 14 games, Cooper is tied for third in scoring for BGSU with 6-3=9 and a +3 rating.

Also nominated: Cody Kunyik, F, Alaska; Cory Ward, F, BSU; Matt Robertson, F, FSU; Tanner Kero, F, MTU; Stephan Vigier, F, NMU.

WCHA Defensive Player of the Week C.J. Motte, G Ferris State

Ferris State University goaltender C.J. Motte, who stretched his season-opening unbeaten streak to 11 games with back-to-back victories over league-rival Alaska last weekend, has been named the WCHA Men's Defensive Player of the Week for Nov. 26, 2013. This marks the second straight week he has received the honor.

A 6-0, 190-pound junior from St. Clair, Mich., Motte pushed his season record to 10-0-1 for the league-leading Bulldogs while amassing 69 saves, posting four shutout periods, holding Alaska to just one power-play goal in nine chances, and adding two assists of his own in 5-3, 4-3 victories at the Ewigleben Ice Arena in Big Rapids.

Motte has played a crucial role as Ferris State completed a six-game WCHA homestand with 11 of a possible 12 points and ran their nation-leading unbeaten streak to nine consecutive games at 8-0-1. FSU was outshot by the Nanooks both nights, but Motte made 41 saves in last Friday's 5-3 victory followed by 28 more in Saturday's 4-3 triumph.

As the nation's winningest goaltender this season, Motte has helped FSU (10-2-1) climb to a No. 6 national ranking this week.

Also nominated: Matt Prapavessis, D, BSU; Mathias Dahlstrom, G, NMU.

WCHA Rookie of the Week Mathias Dahlstrom, G Northern Michigan

Northern Michigan University goaltender Mathias Dahlstrom, who recorded back-to-back shutouts over league rival Alabama Huntsville last weekend, is the WCHA Men's Rookie of the Week for Nov. 26, 2013.

A 6-0, 173-pound redshirt freshman from Smedjebacken, Sweden, Dahlstrom got the victory and the shutout both nights for the Wildcats against the visiting Chargers in Marquette, winning by scores of 3-0 last Friday (Nov. 22) and 4-0 last Saturday (Nov. 23). He stopped all 33 shots on goal in the series for a 1.000 save percentage, had six shutout periods, and blanked UAH on all seven of their power-play chances.

Dahlstrom, who now has three shutouts in his rookie season at NMU, is unbeaten over his last five starts at 4-0-1 as the Wildcats have improved to 6-5-1 overall and moved into fourth place in the league race with a 4-2 mark. He currently ranks second among WCHA goaltenders for all games played with a 1.91 goals-against average over 564:59 of action, is third in saves percentage at .932, and is fifth in winning percentage at .611 on a 5-3-1 record.

Also nominated: Chad McDonald, F, FSU.