



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**BSU'S ARENTZ, MTU'S PHILLIPS AND BGSU'S SPEZIA
NAMED WCHA PLAYERS OF THE WEEK FOR GAMES OF OCT. 31-NOV. 1, 2014**

EDINA, Minn. – Nov. 3, 2014 – A forward with consecutive multi-point performances in a series sweep, the league's first repeat winner of the season and a member of the nation's top-scoring freshman class highlight the Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA) men's Players of the Week for games of Oct. 31-Nov. 1, 2014. The honorees are: Bemidji State forward **Nate Arentz** (Offensive Player of the Week), Michigan Tech junior goaltender **Jamie Phillips** (Defensive Player of the Week) and Bowling Green freshman forward **Tyler Spezia** (Rookie of the Week).

WCHA Offensive Player of the Week

Nate Arentz, So., F, Bemidji State

Arentz led Bemidji State to a home sweep of then-No. 16 Alaska, posting three goals, two assists, a pair of blocked shots and a plus-six rating. The sophomore from Lakeville, Minn. scored the game-winning goal Friday night, added an assist and was on the ice for five of the Beavers' goals in a 6-1 triumph. After scoring twice in regulation Saturday night, Arentz assisted on the overtime game-winner to lift BSU to a 4-3 victory.

Also nominated: Bryce Gervais, Jr., F, Minnesota State; David Johnstone, Sr., F, Michigan Tech; Bryce Schmitt, Jr., F, Lake Superior State; Jared VanWormer, So., F, Ferris State

WCHA Defensive Player of the Week

Jamie Phillips, Jr., G, Michigan Tech

Phillips earned his second consecutive Defensive Player of the Week honor after backstopping Michigan Tech to a sweep of then-No. 15 Michigan. The Winnipeg Jets draft pick stopped 54-of-57 shots (.947), posting 28 saves in a 4-1 victory Friday and 26 stops in a 6-2, Saturday night triumph. Only of only four goalies in college hockey with an unblemished record (6-0-0), the junior from Caledonia, Ontario ranks sixth nationally with a 1.34 goals against average and seventh with a .952 save percentage.

Also nominated: Carmine Guerriero, So., G, Alabama Huntsville; Brock Maschmeyer, So., D, Northern Michigan; CJ Motte, Sr., G, Ferris State; Matt Prapavessis, Sr., D, Bemidji State

WCHA Rookie of the Week

Tyler Spezia, F, Bowling Green

Spezia tallied three goals, five shots and a plus-three rating, while his third-period strike Saturday was the game-winner for Bowling Green in a 3-1 triumph over then-No. 12 Minnesota State. The freshman from Clinton Township, Mich., logged his first career multi-goal game in a losing effort Friday night. On Saturday, he scooped up his own rebound and found the back of the net at the 7:32 mark of the third period to snap a 1-1 tie. Spezia's four goals overall are tied for the national lead among D-I freshmen.

Also nominated: Michael Bitzer, G, Bemidji State; C.J. Franklin, F, Minnesota State; Aidan Wright, D, Lake Superior State

About Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA)

The Western Collegiate Hockey Association, among the most historic, tradition-rich and successful conferences in all of collegiate athletics, proudly marks its 63rd season of men's competition in 2014-15. Covering five time zones and more than 4,200 miles, the 10-team Division 1 conference consists of the University of Alabama in Huntsville (Chargers), the University of Alaska Anchorage (Seawolves), the University of Alaska (Nanooks), Bemidji State University (Beavers), Bowling Green State University (Falcons), Ferris State University (Bulldogs), Lake Superior State University (Lakers), Michigan Technological University (Huskies), Minnesota State University (Mavericks) and Northern Michigan University (Wildcats).

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