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MINNESOTA STATE IS COLLEGE HOCKEY'S NEW NO. 1 TEAM

Mavericks ascend to top spot in both national polls, while Bowling Green makes top-10 debut; three WCHA teams ranked

EDINA, Minn. – Jan. 12, 2014 – Minnesota State, which leads the nation with both 16 wins and a .786 winning percentage (16-4-1), is now the nation's top-ranked team for the first time in program history. The Mavericks ascended to the top spot in both the USCHO.com and *USA Today/USA Hockey Magazine* polls after a sweep last weekend and an 11-1-1 stretch since Nov. 7.

The Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA) has three teams in the nation's top 20. Bowling Green is No. 7/8 for the highest ranking in program annals; the Falcons also have the nation's longest current unbeaten streak at nine games (6-0-3) and are third nationally with a .750 winning percentage (13-3-4). Michigan Tech, which is tied for second nationally with 15 wins, is ranked 11th in both polls.

Those three teams are also faring well in the latest PairWise rankings. Minnesota State leads those standings, while Bowling Green ranks fifth and Michigan Tech is 14th.

Finally, a fourth WCHA team – Northern Michigan – which has posted two ties and a win in its last three games (all against Minnesota State and Michigan Tech) is receiving votes in both national polls and is 23rd in the PairWise.

The full USCHO.com and *USA Today/USA Hockey Magazine* national polls can be viewed at wcha.com/men/polls.php.

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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