



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MTU'S HEINONEN, FSU'S MOTTE AND UAF'S MUNSON NAMED WCHA PLAYERS OF THE WEEK FOR GAMES OF MARCH 6-7, 2015

EDINA, Minn. – March 9, 2015 – After helping their teams to a trio of final-weekend league sweeps (including five road victories), the men's Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA) Players of the Week for games of March 6-7, 2015 are: Michigan Tech sophomore forward **Tyler Heinonen** (Offensive Player of the Week), Ferris State senior goaltender **CJ Motte** (Defensive Player of the Week) and Alaska forward **Taylor Munson** (Rookie of the Week).

WCHA Offensive Player of the Week

Tyler Heinonen, So., F, Michigan Tech (Delano, Minn.)

Heinonen helped keep the identity of the WCHA regular season champion in doubt until the final game of the 2014-15 campaign, scoring three goals in Michigan Tech's sweep of Northern Michigan in a home-and-home set. The sophomore from Delano, Minn. scored the Huskies' third and fifth goals in a 5-1 home victory Friday night. Saturday night, he scored a power-play goal to open the scoring in Tech's 3-1 road win – a victory that put the Huskies into first place and required Minnesota State to earn a road win. Heinonen's three goals on the weekend tied for the league lead, while he finished with a +2 rating.

Also nominated: Bryce Gervais, Jr., F, Minnesota State; Gerald Mayhew, So., F, Ferris State; Max McHugh, Fr., F, Alabama Huntsville; John Parker, Jr., F, Bemidji State

WCHA Defensive Player of the Week

CJ Motte, Sr., G, Ferris State (St. Clair, Mich.)

Motte had a big weekend and reached an impressive career milestone as Ferris State swept Lake Superior State on the road to secure the fifth seed for the upcoming WCHA playoffs. Motte posted back-to-back wins and became the school's all-time winningest goaltender with Saturday's victory, surpassing former FSU All-American Mike Brown's all-time mark by winning his 64th career game. The senior from St. Clair, Mich. made 22 saves on Friday night and did not give up a goal in the final 56-plus minutes as FSU topped LSSU by a 4-1 score. The Bulldogs' captain then came back in Saturday's regular-season to finish with 24 saves while recording his active NCAA career-leading 15th shutout in a 3-0 triumph.

Also nominated: Trevor Campbell, Sr., D, Alaska; Mark Friedman, Fr., D, Bowling Green; Jamie Phillips, Jr., G, Michigan Tech; Matt Prapavessis, Sr., D, Bemidji State

WCHA Rookie of the Week

Taylor Munson, F, Alaska (Fairbanks, Alaska)

Munson led the Nanooks with three points and a +3 rating over the weekend, as Alaska clinched the Alaska Airlines Governor's Cup with a road sweep at Alaska Anchorage. Munson scored the game-winning and lone goal in Alaska's 1-0 win on Friday and scored the first on Saturday, a shorthanded tally. The freshman from Fairbanks also assisted on Alaska's second goal in an eventual 3-2 Nanooks win.

Also nominated: Gordon Defiel, G, Lake Superior State; Brandon Hawkins, F, Bowling Green; Brandon Parker, D, Alabama Huntsville; Zach Szajner, F, Ferris 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). For more information, visit wcha.com.

MEDIA CONTACT

Matt Hodson

Associate Commissioner for Public Relations

E: mhodson@wcha.com

O: 952.818.8872

M: 612.801.2808

MORE INFORMATION

Website: wcha.com

Twitter: [@wcha_mhockey](https://twitter.com/wcha_mhockey)

Facebook: facebook.com/wchahockey

WCHA.tv: wcha.com/men/tv.php

– WCHA –