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Home of a Record 36 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

Conference Members

University of Alaska Anchorage
Bemidji State University
Colorado College
University of Denver
Michigan Tech University
University of Minnesota
University of Minnesota Duluth
Minnesota State University
University of Nebraska Omaha
University of North Dakota
St. Cloud State University
University of Wisconsin

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WCHA Final Five

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October 4, 2010/For Immediate Release

Regular Season Play Gets Underway in WCHA

Eleven of League's 12 Member Teams in Action this Week; Addition of Bemidji State, Nebraska Omaha for 2010-11 Brings League Membership to 12 Teams; WCHA to Host Media Teleconference with Head Coaches on Tuesday, Oct. 5; North Dakota is Pre-Season Favorite in WCHA Coaches' Media Polls; Six WCHA Teams Ranked in USA Today/USA Hockey Magazine Pre-Season Div. 1 Men's Hockey Poll; 168-Game Conference Schedule Opens Oct. 15; Denver is Defending WCHA Champion; BSU to Open All-New Bemidji Regional Event Center Oct. 15 vs UND, Minnesota Duluth to Open New AMSOIL Arena Dec. 30; 2011 Red Baron WCHA Final Five March 17-19 at Xcel Energy Center in Saint Paul ... Championship to Feature New Format, NHL Game on Saturday; UND is Defending WCHA Playoff Champion; Michigan Tech to Host 2011, 2012 NCAA Midwest Regionals in Green Bay; Minnesota Hosts 2011 NCAA Men's Frozen Four April 7-9 at Xcel Energy Center

MADISON, Wis. – The first regular season games of the 2010-11 campaign for Western Collegiate Hockey Association men's member teams will occur over the upcoming weekend of Friday, Oct. 8 thru Sunday, Oct. 10 as eleven of the league's 12 clubs hit the ice in a mixture of non-conference series and tournaments.

Alaska Anchorage will host fellow WCHA-member North Dakota along with Air Force (AHA) and Alaska Fairbanks (CCHA) in the Kendall Hockey Classic at Sullivan Ice Arena on Friday and Saturday, with two games each day. Colorado College will host Rensselaer (ECAC) at Colorado Springs World Arena, Denver travels east to take on Vermont (HEA) and Michigan Tech plays at Northern Michigan (CCHA) and Lake Superior State (CCHA) in Superior Showcase matchups. Minnesota will engage visiting Massachusetts (HEA) at Mariucci Arena while Minnesota Duluth will skate at Lake Superior State (CCHA) on Friday and at Northern Michigan (CCHA) Saturday in two more Superior Showcase encounters. Minnesota State, after hosting the Univ. of British Columbia in exhibition play Monday (Oct. 4) evening, will remain at home to take on St. Lawrence (ECAC) Oct. 8-9 at Verizon Wireless Center. New WCHA-member Nebraska Omaha welcomes WCHA-member St. Cloud State, Clarkson (ECAC) and RIT (AHA) to the Qwest Center for the Mutual of Omaha Stampede while Wisconsin will head to St. Louis for the Ice Breaker Tournament. At Scottrade Center in St. Louis, the Badgers join Boston University (HEA), Holy Cross (AHA) and Notre Dame (CCHA) for the Friday-Sunday event.

The only team not in action this week is new men's league-member Bemidji State, with the Beavers opening both their regular and conference seasons on Oct. 15-16 (vs North Dakota) in the new Bemidji

2010-11 WCHA Men's Standings

	Pts	Conference Only					Overall				
		GP	Record	Win%	GF-	GA	GP	Record	Win%	GF-	GA
1 Alaska Anchorage	0	0	0- 0- 0	----	0- 0	0	0- 0- 0	----	0- 0	0	
Bemidji State	0	0	0- 0- 0	----	0- 0	0	0- 0- 0	----	0- 0	0	
Colorado College	0	0	0- 0- 0	----	0- 0	0	0- 0- 0	----	0- 0	0	
Denver	0	0	0- 0- 0	----	0- 0	0	0- 0- 0	----	0- 0	0	
Michigan Tech	0	0	0- 0- 0	----	0- 0	0	0- 0- 0	----	0- 0	0	
Minnesota	0	0	0- 0- 0	----	0- 0	0	0- 0- 0	----	0- 0	0	
Minnesota Duluth	0	0	0- 0- 0	----	0- 0	0	0- 0- 0	----	0- 0	0	
Minnesota State	0	0	0- 0- 0	----	0- 0	0	0- 0- 0	----	0- 0	0	
Nebraska-Omaha	0	0	0- 0- 0	----	0- 0	0	0- 0- 0	----	0- 0	0	
North Dakota	0	0	0- 0- 0	----	0- 0	0	0- 0- 0	----	0- 0	0	
St. Cloud State	0	0	0- 0- 0	----	0- 0	0	0- 0- 0	----	0- 0	0	
Wisconsin	0	0	0- 0- 0	----	0- 0	0	0- 0- 0	----	0- 0	0	

WCHA Men – Upcoming Games

Monday, October 4

Univ. of British Columbia at Minnesota State (EX), 7:37 pm CT.

Friday, October 8

* RIT vs St. Cloud State (NC), 4:37 pm

Denver at Vermont (NC), 7:05 pm ET

Minnesota Duluth at Lake Superior (NC), 7:05 pm ET

Massachusetts at Minnesota (NC), 7:07 pm CT

Michigan Tech at Northern Michigan (NC), 7:35 pm ET

* Clarkson at Nebraska Omaha (NC), 7:37 pm CT

Rensselaer at Colorado College (NC), 7:37 pm MT

St. Lawrence at Minnesota State (NC), 7:37 pm CT

& North Dakota at Alaska Anchorage (NC), 8:07 pm AT

% Boston University vs Wisconsin (NC), 8:30 pm CT

* *Maverick Stampede (Omaha, NE); # Superior Showcase; & Kendall Hockey Classic (Anchorage, AK); % IceBreaker Tournament (St. Louis, MO)*

Saturday, October 9

* Clarkson vs St. Cloud State (NC), 4:07 pm CT

North Dakota vs Alaska (NC), 4:07 pm AT

Denver at Vermont (NC), 7:05 pm ET

& Michigan Tech at Lake Superior (NC), 7:05 pm ET

* RIT at Nebraska Omaha (NC), 7:07 pm CT

Air Force at Alaska Anchorage (NC), 7:07 pm AT

Rensselaer at Colorado College (NC), 7:07 pm MT

Massachusetts at Minnesota (NC), 7:07 pm CT

St. Lawrence at Minnesota State (NC), 7:07 pm CT

& Minnesota Duluth at Northern Michigan (NC), 7:35 pm ET

* *Maverick Stampede (Omaha, NE); # Kendall Hockey Classic (Anchorage, AK); & Superior Showcase*

Sunday, October 10

* Holy Cross/Notre Dame vs Wisconsin (NC), 12:00 pm/3:00 pm CT

* *IceBreaker Tournament (St. Louis, MO)*

Tuesday, October 12

Northern Michigan at Michigan Tech (NC), 7:07 pm ET

WCHA Men – Recent Results

Saturday, October 2

* Univ. of Windsor 1 at Alaska Anchorage 4 (EX)

Lethbridge Univ. 1 at Colorado College 5 (EX)

USA Under-18 Team 1 at Denver 8 (EX)

Nipissing Univ. 3 at Michigan Tech 5 (EX)

Univ. of British Columbia 1 at Nebraska Omaha 6 (EX)

Univ. of Manitoba 4 at St. Cloud State 7 (EX)

* *Soldotna, AK*

Sunday, October 3

USA Under-18 Team 1 at Colorado College 7 (EX)

Lethbridge Univ. 5 at Denver 2 (EX)

Univ. of Manitoba 2 at North Dakota 5 (EX)

Univ. of British Columbia 0 at Minnesota 6 (EX)

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Regional Event Center.

Home to a record 36 national championship teams since it's founding in 1951, the WCHA marks it's 59th season of on-ice competition in 2010-11 with 12 men's member teams. Joining the Association family beginning this season are Bemidji State University (already a member of the women's WCHA) and the University of Nebraska Omaha.

WCHA to Host Media Teleconference with Men's Head Coaches on Tuesday, Oct. 5

The Western Collegiate Hockey Association will conduct a 2010-11 season-opening teleconference with Commissioner Bruce McLeod and the 12 conference-member men's head coaches on Tuesday, October 5 at 11:00 am CT (12 Noon ET, 10 am MT, 8 am AT).

The teleconference will begin with remarks from the Commissioner, an update from the Supervisor of Officials, and then a question and answer session with the men's head coaches. The coaches portion of the teleconference will proceed east to west to best accommodate the five time zones. Each coach will give a brief synopsis of the upcoming season, followed by questions from attending media.

The tentative schedule (times are approximate) for the Oct. 5 media teleconference is as follows:

11:00 am CT: Welcome; Commissioner Bruce McLeod, Supervisor of Officials Greg Shepherd

11:08 am CT: Michigan Tech coach Jamie Russell

11:16 am CT: Wisconsin Head coach Mike Eaves

11:24 am CT: Minnesota Duluth coach Scott Sandelin

11:32 am CT: Minnesota coach Don Lucia

11:40 am CT: St. Cloud State coach Bob Motzko

11:48 am CT: Minnesota State coach Troy Jutting

11:56 am CT: Bemidji State coach Tom Serratore

12:04 am CT: Nebraska Omaha coach Dean Blais

12:12 am CT: North Dakota coach Dave Hakstol

12:20 am CT: Denver coach George Gwozdecky

12:28 am CT: Colorado College coach Scott Owens

12:36 am CT: Alaska Anchorage coach Dave Shiyak

WCHA member team head coaches and staff should phone in to the Tuesday, Oct. 5 teleconference by 10:59 am CT. Coaches and staff call-in number is: 1 888-245-7014. Passcode is 729388#.

The call-in number for the media on Tuesday, Oct. 5 is: 973 935-2025. Passcode is 729388#.

Visit Us at the All-New WCHA.com

League's Official Website Features New Look, New Features

The Western Collegiate Hockey Association's official website – WCHA.com – is all-new for 2010-11! The WCHA has teamed up with Sport-Designs.com to provide visitors with a full-service experience that features a significant number of upgrades, including new game-day live scoreboards and fully-functional mobile pages, a host of new features, and an all-new on-line store – TheWCHAShop.com.

Included in the all-new WCHA.com are new game-day live scoreboards, fully functional mobile pages that include press releases, game stories, box scores, team and league stats and live game box scores, a more seamless integration of schedules, rosters, standings, live box scores, and statistics in conjunction with collegehockeystats.net, and a new 'campus news' section that features the latest press releases from both men's and women's member teams.

In addition, the upgrades include:

- Easy access to standings and statistics right from the home page.
- A Live Game Day Scoreboard – with links to live box scores that will appear on the home page on any day there is a game.
- A Live Mobile Scoreboard – box scores via www.wcha.com/mobile. This is a fully functional mobile website that also includes game stories, statistics, etc.
- Game story integration with game stories posted from all games to make the all-new WCHA.com a place fans want to visit more regularly. For example, on Saturday morning fans can read what happened in all Friday night games in one cohesive location.
- An Upgraded Standings Page – includes information on head-to-head records within the league.
- New Sortable Team Statistic Pages – can be sorted by category at the top of the table.
- A New WCHA Against the Rest Page – with records for each WCHA team against teams from other leagues.
- New WCHA-member team pages that feature direct links to each school's website, tickets, and audio and/or video broadcasts.

Some of the new technology employed in the design of the all-new TheWCHAShop.com are upgraded photo zooming on the product pages, the ability for people to share product pages through places like Facebook and Twitter for added exposure, new TheWCHAShop.com Gift Certificates, and a new checkout process upgraded to a one-page checkout to make it easier for customers to shop. Additionally, TheWCHAShop.com is developing a mobile commerce website to allow for purchases from Smart Phones.

As a 'work in progress', the all-new WCHA.com will continue to evolve over the coming months as we build and integrate the history of the men's and women's leagues into the archives. Also in future plans for the all-new WCHA.com are Individual Player Pages which would include current season statistics, year-by-year stats and game-by-game stats.

September 29, 2010

North Dakota is Favorite in 40th Annual Grand Forks Herald WCHA Coaches' Poll

by Brad Elliott Schlossman, Grand Forks Herald

Earlier this decade, there was a four-year stretch where the preseason favorite in the Western Collegiate Hockey Association finished fourth or lower.

The UND men's hockey team is probably glad the fortunes have recently changed.

The league's coaches have pegged the Sioux as the overwhelming favorite to win the league in the 40th annual Grand Forks Herald coaches poll. UND registered 10 of 12 first-place votes and easily finished ahead of St. Cloud State, which received the other two.

Minnesota Duluth was picked to finish third, followed by Denver, Minnesota, Colorado College and Wisconsin.

Newcomers Nebraska Omaha and Bemidji State are picked to finish eighth and ninth, respectively. Minnesota State, Mankato, Alaska Anchorage and Michigan Tech round out the bottom of the poll.

"I don't think any of the veterans on our team are going to duck some of the expectations that we have to have a good season," UND coach Dave Hakstol said. "More importantly, I expect they'll pay attention to the work and details that go into having a good start to the season. I expect they'll forget about the entirety of a season for the time being and concentrate on having a good start. The first 10 games are going to be very important."

Although the coaches typically make fun of their predicting ability,

they've correctly guessed the winner in three of the last five years.

Prior to that, the preseason favorite finished sixth, fourth, seventh and fourth, prompting some coaches to call it a curse.

UND has been picked to win the league five times since 1997. The Sioux ended up winning it three of those times and finished second the other two, most recently in 2007-08.

Player honors

Minnesota Duluth junior forward Jack Connolly is the preseason player of the year. Connolly, who tallied 49 points last season, received five votes, narrowly edging UND defenseman Chay Genoway, who received four. St. Cloud State's Garrett Roe got the other three votes.

Colorado College forward Jaden Schwartz is the preseason rookie of the year in the league, getting nine of 12 first-place votes. Minnesota's Nick Bjugstad, Wisconsin's Tyler Barnes and Nebraska Omaha's Matt White each received one vote. Schwartz was the first college player selected in the NHL draft in June.

40th Annual Grand Forks Herald WCHA Coaches' Poll

Rk	Team (1st place votes)	Points
1	North Dakota (10 first-place votes)	120
2	St. Cloud State (2)	105
3	Minnesota Duluth	100
4	Denver	88
5	Minnesota	82
6	Colorado College	67
7	Wisconsin	64
8	Nebraska Omaha	55
9	Bemidji State	46
10	Minnesota State	31
11	Alaska Anchorage	19
12	Michigan Tech	15

Player of the Year: Jack Connolly, UMD (5); Chay Genoway, UND (4); Garrett Roe, SCSU (3).

Rookie of the Year: Jaden Schwartz, CC (9); Nick Bjugstad, UM (1), Tyler Barnes, UW (1), Matt White, UNO (1).

September 29, 2010

North Dakota Dominates 94X WCHA Media Poll

The University of North Dakota Fighting Sioux – last year's WCHA Final Five Champion – are the overwhelming pick to win the league's regular season championship in 2010-11, according to the 94X WCHA Media Poll.

Twenty-nine (29) media members around the WCHA took part in the third annual media poll, with the results released today. Senior defenseman Chay Genoway, returning to the team after having his 2009-10 season ruined by injury, was the winner in voting for the league's preseason Player of the Year.

North Dakota received 28 of a possible 29 first-place votes, and their 347 total points put them far ahead of second-place Minnesota Duluth. UMD, which won 20 games last season and qualified for the WCHA Final Five, got 300 points.

St. Cloud State, off a season in which they won an NCAA Tournament game for the first time in school history, picked up a first-place vote but finished five points behind UMD in the overall voting.

The top three were greatly separated from the rest of the league, with fourth-place Denver totaling 242 points, 53 behind St. Cloud State. Wisconsin (218) and Minnesota (203) finished fifth and sixth, respectively, claiming the final two home-ice playoff positions according to the voting media.

After seventh-place Colorado College, the league's two newcomers settle in at eighth and ninth. Bemidji State, which made the 2008 NCAA Men's Frozen Four and qualified for a second straight NCAA Tournament last year, finished eighth. Nebraska Omaha, new to the league out of the CCHA, came in ninth. Minnesota State, Alaska Anchorage, and Michigan Tech finished 10th, 11th, and 12th, respectively.

Colorado College freshman forward Jaden Schwartz, a first-round pick of the St. Louis Blues, was chosen as the league's preseason Rookie of the Year.

94X WCHA Media Poll

(courtesy of Bruce Ciskie, Sports Director)

Predicted Order of Finish (1st place votes)	Points
1 North Dakota (28)	347
2 Minnesota Duluth	300
3 St. Cloud State (1)	295
4 Denver	242
5 Wisconsin	218
6 Minnesota	203
7 Colorado College	182
8 Bemidji State	156
9 Nebraska Omaha	125
10 Minnesota State	97
11 Alaska Anchorage	51
12 Michigan Tech	46

Preseason WCHA Player of the Year: Chay Genoway, UND (10); Garrett Roe, SCSU (5); Justin Fontaine, UMD (4); Jack Connolly, UMD (3); Jason Gregoire, UND (2); Mike Connolly, UMD (1); Matt Read, BSU (1); Evan Trupp, UND (1).

Preseason WCHA Rookie of the Year: Jaden Schwartz, CC (10); Derek Forbort, UND (6); Beau Bennett, DU (4); Nick Bjugstad, UM (2); Tyler Barnes, UW (1); J.T. Brown, UMD (1); Rob Gunderson, UAA (1); Radoslav Illo, BSU (1); Jason Zucker, DU (1)

Voting panel: Dave Ahlers, KKAR/University of Nebraska Omaha; Roman Augustoviz, Minneapolis Star Tribune; Andy Baggot, Wisconsin State Journal; Mike Chambers, Denver Post; Bruce Ciskie, 94X/Red Rock Radio; Chris Dilks, Western College Hockey; Shane Frederick, Mankato Free Press; John Gilbert, WCHA.com; Kurt Haider, KENI Radio; Mick Hatten, St. Cloud Times; Dirk Hembroff, WKMJ Radio; Tim Hennessy, KQHT Radio; Ken Landau, 103.9 FM The Eagle; Don Lyons, KNSI Radio; Todd Milewski, USCHO.com; Dan Myers, College Hockey News; Jess Myers, Inside College Hockey; Joe Paisley, Colorado Springs Gazette; Kevin Pates, Duluth News Tribune; Brian Posick, WIBA/WTSO Radio; Chad Purcell, Omaha World Herald; Brad Elliott Schlossman, Grand Forks Herald; Brian Schultz, KKB Radio; Theresa Spisak, USCHO.com; Jay Stickney, 87.7 The Ticket; Eric Stromgren, Bemidji Pioneer; Mike Sullivan, KTOE Radio; Brandon Veale, Daily Mining Gazette; Doyle Woody, Anchorage Daily News.

Note: 94X is the broadcast home of UMD Bulldog men's hockey. The full 35-game schedule, plus playoffs, can be heard on KZIO-FM, which is 94.1 in the Twin Ports, and 104.3 FM in the surrounding area. All games will also be broadcast on KBAJ 105.5 in the Grand Rapids area, and KAOD 106.7 FM in Babbitt. Red Rock Radio operates eight radio stations in Northern Minnesota including KQDS-FM, KQDS-AM, KZIO, WWAX, KBAJ (105.5 FM Grand Rapids), KFGI (101.5 FM Brainerd), WXXZ (95.3 FM in Grand Marais), and KAOD (106.7 FM in Babbitt).

USCHO.com Division 1 Men's Ice Hockey Poll

Minneapolis, Minn./October 4, 2010

Rk	Team (First Place)	Record	Pts	Last Year
1	Boston College (45)	29-10-3	993	3
2	North Dakota (3)	25-13-5	935	4
3	Miami (2)	29-8-7	892	1
4	St. Cloud State	24-14-5	749	7
5	Michigan	26-18-1	741	11
6	Yale	21-10-3	719	8
7	Maine	19-17-3	639	18
8	Minnesota Duluth	22-17-1	618	14
9	Denver	27-10-4	534	2
10	New Hampshire	18-14-7	510	12
11	Cornell	21-9-4	509	6
12	Alaska	18-12-9	435	17
13	Wisconsin	28-11-4	295	5
14	Boston University	18-17-3	280	NR
15	Minnesota	18-19-2	271	NR
16	Michigan State	19-13-6	191	19
17	Notre Dame	13-17-8	156	NR
18	RIT	28-12-1	152	20
19	Union	21-12-6	136	16
20	Colorado College	19-17-3	127	NR

others receiving votes: Vermont 105, **Bemidji State** 101, Northern Michigan 96, Ferris State 83, **Nebraska Omaha** 49, Northeastern 39, Rensselaer 32, Mercyhurst 31, Quinnipiac 18, Merrimack 15, Ohio State 13, Colgate 9, St. Lawrence 5, Air Force 4, Mass.-Lowell 2, Robert Morris 1.

The USCHO.com Poll consists of 50 voters, including 28 coaches from the Div. 1 conferences and 22 beat writers and sports professionals from across the country. The poll, published weekly by the Associated Press, is a production of USCHO.com, which provides in-depth coverage of college sports, including hockey, lacrosse, soccer and others.

September 27, 2010

Six WCHA member Teams Ranked in USA Today/ USA Hockey Magazine Men's Pre-Season College Hockey Poll; North Dakota No. 2, SCSU #6, UMD #9, DU #11, UW #13, UM #15 BSU, CC, UNO Also Receive Votes

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. – Defending NCAA men's ice hockey national champion Boston College will enter the 2010-11 season with the preseason No. 1 ranking in the USA Today/USA Hockey Magazine Men's College Hockey Poll. The Eagles collected 504 points, including 28-of-34 first-place votes, to claim the top spot.

The University of North Dakota ranks second after accumulating 462 points and four first-place votes, while Miami University sits in the No. 3 spot with 437 points and two first-place votes. The University of Michigan (383) and Yale University (334) round out the top five.

Notes: The USA Today/USA Hockey Magazine Men's College Hockey Poll will take a one-week hiatus before returning Oct. 11 ... The WCHA leads all conferences with six ranked teams. The Hockey East Association boasts four ranked programs while the Central Collegiate Hockey Association has three ranked teams and ECAC Hockey has two ... A total of 28 teams received votes.

About the Poll: The 16th annual USA Today/USA Hockey Magazine Men's College Hockey Poll is conducted each week in conjunction with

the American Hockey Coaches Association. The poll includes input from coaches and journalists representing each of the five NCAA Div. 1 ice hockey conferences, as well as composite votes from officers of the AHCA and USA Hockey Magazine, the most widely distributed hockey magazine in the world.

USA Today/USA Hockey Magazine Men's College Hockey Poll September 27, 2010

No.	Team	Points	2009-10 Record	2009-10 Final Rank
1	Boston College	504 (28)	29-10-3	1
2	North Dakota	462 (4)	25-13-5	7
3	Miami	437 (2)	29-8-7	3
4	Michigan	383	26-18-1	8
5	Yale	334	21-10-3	6
6	St. Cloud State	308	24-14-5	5
7	Maine	281	19-17-3	NR
8	New Hampshire	206	18-14-7	11
9	Minnesota Duluth	195	22-17-1	NR
10	Cornell	162	21-9-4	9
11	Denver	146	27-10-4	4
12	Alaska	125	18-12-9	15
13	Wisconsin	115	28-11-14	2
14	Boston University	69	18-17-3	NR
15	Minnesota	50	18-19-2	NR

others receiving votes: Notre Dame, 43; Rochester Institute of Technology, 38; **Bemidji State**, 36; Ferris State, 36; Union College, 34; Vermont, 28; Michigan State, 21; Northern Michigan, 18; Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, 16; **Colorado College**, 14; Northeastern, 14; **Nebraska Omaha**, 3; Merrimack College, 2.

2010-11 WCHA Men's Schedule Highlights

The Western Collegiate Hockey Association, marking its 59th season of on-ice competition and owning a record 36 NCAA Men's Frozen Four titles since its founding in 1951, released its 2010-11 men's composite schedule in mid-August, highlighted by the addition of new league member teams Bemidji State University and the University of Nebraska at Omaha, a new format for the highly-successful Red Baron™ WCHA Final Five, and the appearance of both the Final Five and the 2011 NCAA Men's Frozen Four at Xcel Energy Center in Saint Paul, Minn.

In addition, league members Bemidji State and the University of Minnesota Duluth will unveil new arenas this season while Michigan Technological University will serve as host school for both the 2011 (and 2012) NCAA Midwest Regionals at Resch Center in Green Bay, Wis. Bemidji State will open the Robert H. Peters Rink at the Bemidji Regional Event Center on Oct. 15 vs North Dakota while Minnesota Duluth will open the new AMSOIL Arena in Duluth against the Sioux on Dec. 30 in the non-conference U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame Game.

"It's going to be a tremendously exciting season ... no doubt about it," said WCHA Commissioner Bruce M. McLeod. "The addition of Bemidji State and Nebraska at Omaha are going to make an already great WCHA even better. If you thought we were good at 10 teams just wait until you see us at 12.

"We are also looking forward with great enthusiasm and anticipation to our new-look Red Baron WCHA Final Five at Xcel Energy Center in Saint Paul," added McLeod. "Having six first round playoff series, bringing those six winning teams to the Final Five, and also the addition of an NHL game featuring the Minnesota Wild on our championship Saturday gives us a real shot in the arm. We could not be more pleased with how things have turned out."

Under Commissioner McLeod, who has built a thriving partnership between the WCHA, Xcel Energy Center and the NHL's Minnesota Wild, the annual Red Baron WCHA Final Five has developed into college hockey's most prosperous conference tournament.

The 2011 edition of the Red Baron™ WCHA Final Five will mark the event's 11th consecutive season at Xcel Energy Center, where the playoff championship has drawn 792,791 fans in 10 previous appearances – an average of 79,279 per tournament and an average crowd of 15,856 per game.

"The Association is extremely fortunate to have such a special relationship with both Xcel Energy Center, the Minnesota Wild, and the City of Saint Paul" said McLeod. "Our on-going success has been a direct result of this close relationship and we owe a debt of gratitude to Xcel Energy Center Vice-President and General Manager Jack Larson and his staff, Minnesota Wild Owner and Governor Craig Leipold, former Owner Bob Naegele, Jr., and Vice-President for Communications and Broadcasting Bill Robertson and their staffs. They have been a fixture throughout what is an unparalleled decade of success for the Association and the Final Five. We couldn't be more excited about this unique partnership."

"Another part of our success in marketing the Final Five has been our decade-long exclusive television partnership with Fox Sports North and our many sponsors. We want to take this time to thank Mike Diamond and his staff at FS North and to also sincerely thank Red Baron® as our on-going Final Five title sponsor."

The 2010-11 campaign will be a historic one for the WCHA, as it marks the expansion of the league from 10 to 12 member teams. On June 26, 2009, the WCHA membership voted to admit both Bemidji State and Nebraska at Omaha into the Association family.

The first regular season action, all non-conference matchups, will occur Oct. 8-10. Denver opens at Vermont, Minnesota Duluth and Michigan Tech alternate at Lake Superior State and Northern Michigan in the Superior Showcase, Minnesota hosts Massachusetts, Minnesota State entertains St. Lawrence, Nebraska at Omaha hosts St. Cloud State, RIT and Clarkson in the Mutual of Omaha Stampede, Alaska Anchorage hosts North Dakota, Air Force and Alaska Fairbanks in the Kendall Hockey Classic, Wisconsin joins Holy Cross, Notre Dame and Boston University at the Ice Breaker Tournament in St. Louis (Saturday/Sunday), and Colorado College hosts Rensselaer.

The race for the WCHA regular season championship, a 168-game schedule which consists of 28 league games for each of the 12 teams, will get underway Oct. 15-16 with new members Bemidji State and Nebraska at Omaha both playing their first league series. The Beavers will entertain North Dakota and the Mavericks will travel to Minnesota while Michigan Tech plays host to Minnesota State. Other WCHA series openers, by member team, are: Alaska Anchorage (Oct. 22-23 at Minnesota Duluth), Colorado College (Oct. 22-23 at Minnesota State), defending WCHA champion Denver (Oct. 22-23 vs Wisconsin), Minnesota Duluth (Oct. 22-23 vs Alaska Anchorage), St. Cloud State (Oct. 22-23 at Minnesota), and Wisconsin (Oct. 22-23 at Denver). During the course of the 168-game conference schedule there will be eight weekends featuring all league play – Nov. 5-6 (UAA and MTU are idle), Nov. 19-20 (CC and MSU are idle), Dec. 3-4, Dec. 9-11, Feb. 4-5 (UND and UW are idle), Feb. 11-12, Feb. 18-19 and March 4-5.

Over the course of the season, WCHA-member teams will also be either hosting or playing in a number of tournaments and special events. Those include: Michigan Tech and Minnesota Duluth in Superior Showcase games vs Lake Superior State and Northern Michigan (Oct. 8-9), Nebraska at Omaha hosting the Mutual of Omaha Stampede (Oct. 8-9), Alaska Anchorage hosting the Kendall Hockey Classic (Oct. 8-9), Wisconsin in the Ice Breaker Tournament in St. Louis (Oct. 8 & 10), the UAA Seawolves and Colorado College playing in the Brice Alaska Goal Rush in Fairbanks (Oct. 15-16), North Dakota hosting Notre

Dame in the Subway Holiday Classic (Nov. 26-27), the Denver Pioneers hosting the Denver Cup Classic (Nov. 26-27), St. Cloud State playing in the Florida College Classic in Estero, Fla. (Dec. 29-30), Michigan Tech hosting and CC playing in the Great Lakes Invitational in Detroit (Dec. 29-30), Minnesota hosting and Bemidji State playing in the Dodge Holiday Classic (Dec. 31-Jan. 1), and Minnesota State playing in the Shillelagh Tournament in Hoffman Estates, Ill. (Jan. 1-2).

Other non-conference matchups in 2010-11 include the likes of Alaska Anchorage playing Alaska Fairbanks for the Alaska Airlines Governor's Cup (Feb. 25-26), Bemidji State hosting Northern Michigan (Nov. 26-27), Colorado College playing at Air Force and hosting Yale (Nov. 12-13), Denver hosting defending NCAA Frozen Four champion Boston College (Oct. 15-16), Michigan Tech entertaining St. Lawrence (Jan. 14-15), Minnesota hosting Michigan State and Michigan (Nov. 26 & 28), Minnesota Duluth hosting Providence College (Oct. 15-16) and traveling to Clarkson (Jan. 3-4), Minnesota State entertaining St. Lawrence (Oct. 8-9) and traveling to Massachusetts-Lowell (Nov. 26-27), Nebraska at Omaha playing at Michigan (Oct. 22-23) and Quinnipiac (Dec. 30-31), North Dakota playing at Maine (Oct. 22-23), St. Cloud State hosting Miami (Oct. 15-16) and Quinnipiac (Oct. 29-30), and Wisconsin hosting Michigan and Michigan State (Nov. 26-27) and Massachusetts (Dec. 30-31).

The pursuit of the WCHA Playoff Championship and the Broadmoor Trophy will get underway the weekend of March 11-13 and feature a new format as six first round conference playoff series will include all 12 member teams. The top six ranked teams in the final regular season standings will all host best-of-three playoff series, with the No. 12 seed at the No. 1 seed, No. 11 at No. 2, No. 10 at No. 3, No. 9 at No. 4, the No. 8 seed at the No. 5 seed, and No. 7 at No. 6.

Those six-round playoff winners will then be re-seeded (according to their regular season finish) and advance to the 2011 Red Baron™ WCHA Final Five, which is set for March 17-19 at Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul, Minn. North Dakota is the defending WCHA playoff and Broadmoor Trophy champion. The six teams at the Final Five is one of the exciting new development for the league's showcase event, which will also feature a regular season National Hockey League game featuring the host Minnesota Wild and the Columbus Blue Jackets on Saturday afternoon at 1:00 pm. There will be two Final Five games contested on Thursday at 4:07 pm CT and 7:37 pm CT as the No. 5 seed will play the No. 4 seed and the No. 6 seed will play the No. 2 seed. The No. 1 and No. 2 seeded teams for the Final Five will receive byes on Thursday. There will then be two semi-final matchups on Friday, at 2:07 pm CT and 7:07 pm CT, followed by the Broadmoor Trophy championship game on Saturday at 7:07 pm CT.

At the announcement of the new format last March, Commissioner McLeod said, "We are very excited to announce what we will feel will be a very positive evolution in the long and successful history of our WCHA Final Five beginning next season. A tremendous amount of work has gone into this process and numerous ideas and concepts were discussed. But ultimately our goal was to preserve the tremendously popular event we have now, continue to build on that success and add a couple of intriguing new twists."

"The Red Baron WCHA Final Five has become a perennial favorite in Saint Paul," said Xcel Energy Center Vice President and General Manager Jack Larson. "The new format will make it even better. We are very proud to host this tournament and honored to play a part in this exciting new era for the WCHA."

The WCHA also unveiled a all-new Broadmoor Trophy at last season's Final Five. The new bronze cast trophy, created by Blue Ribbon Trophies & Awards of Colorado Springs, Colo., is a recreation of the famous Broadmoor Hotel, host to numerous past national championships.

"The development of a new Broadmoor Trophy has been in works for a couple of years," said McLeod. "We have been working closely with

Steve Bartlett of the Broadmoor Hotel and Bill and Karen Busobusky of Blue Ribbon Trophies & Awards and could not be more pleased with how the project has come to fruition. Our MacNaughton Cup, which goes to our regular season champion, has long been recognized as one of the most impressive trophies in all of intercollegiate athletics and we know that this spectacular new Broadmoor Trophy will take a back seat to none. We are greatly indebted to the Broadmoor Hotel and want to recognize their long and significant relationship with the WCHA and college hockey in general."

There are three Broadmoor Trophies in all. The largest will be on permanent display at the Xcel Energy Center in Saint Paul in conjunction with the WCHA Final Five, one will be a traveling trophy, and one will be given to the winning team each year as a permanent addition to their display case.

Following the WCHA Final Five, four NCAA Men's Div. 1 Regionals will be contested the weekend of March 25-27. On Friday and Saturday, the NCAA West Regional will be played at Scottrade Center in St. Louis (hosted by CCHA) and the NCAA East Regional will be played at Arena at Harbor Yard in Bridgeport, Conn. (hosted by Yale Univ. and Fairfield Univ.). On Saturday and Sunday (March 26-27), the NCAA Midwest Regional will be contested at Resch Center in Green Bay, Wis. (hosted by Michigan Tech Univ.) and the NCAA Northeast Regional will be held at Verizon Wireless Arena in Manchester, N.H. (hosted by Univ. of New Hampshire).

The four NCAA regional winners will then advance to the 2011 NCAA Men's Frozen Four, set for April 7-9 at Xcel Energy Center in Saint Paul.

2010-11 WCHA Men's Member Team Season Previews

Alaska Anchorage Seawolves

The Seawolves and head coach Dave Shyiak return 15 letterwinners, including 73% of their point production from a year ago, while 10 newcomers (six forwards, two defensemen and two goaltenders) were also added to the 2010-11 roster ... the senior class returns six skaters from a year ago and it will be on their shoulders to lead the Seawolves to victory, on and off the ice ... leading the pack will be senior co-captains Tommy Grant and Craig Parkinson ... Grant, from North Vancouver, BC, returns as UAA's top scorer from last season with 9-17=26 totals, while Parkinson (Victoria, BC) contributed six goals and five assists for 11 points ... joining the British Columbia duo on the offensive attack are senior forwards Sean Wiles (Beloit, WI) and Nick Haddad (Fairbanks, AK), with seniors Kane Lafranchise (Edmonton, AB) and Luka Vidmar (Ljubljana, Slovenia) patrolling the blueline ... also sporting the assistant-captain emblem are junior Brad Gorham and sophomore Chris Crowell ... the Seawolves will strive to win both tournaments (Kendall Hockey Classic and Brice Alaska Goal Rush), take back the title in the Alaska Airlines Governor's Cup and gain home-ice for the WCHA playoffs.

Player Notes: In addition to then-senior Kevin Clark's outstanding season, multiple other Seawolves recorded their best seasons ... junior forward Tommy Grant tallied one more point than his sophomore season ... Grant led UAA in assists with 17, while finishing second in goals (9), points (26) and shots (98) ... he also recorded three power-play goals ... junior forward Sean Wiles (9-8=17) produced more points than he did during his first two seasons with the Green & Gold, including tripling his goal production ... junior defenseman Kane Lafranchise (3-12=15), UAA's leader from the blueline, recorded five more points than he did during his sophomore year ... sophomore forward/defenseman Curtis Leinweber (4g, 8a) tied his point production from his rookie campaign with 12 points ... junior defenseman Luka Vidmar (2-10=12) registered more points than his freshman and sophomore seasons combined ... junior forward Nick Haddad tied his best season (2008-09) with 10 points (5g, 5a) ... sophomore forward Jade Portwood (3-2=5) posted one more point than his rookie season ... altogether, Alaska Anchorage had 13 skaters with 10+ points in 2009-10.

Bemidji State Beavers

A look at the historical timeline of the Bemidji State University men's ice hockey program will provide plenty of high points. In 54 years, the Beavers have piled up 13 national championships, 22 conference titles, 30 national tournament appearances and have earned 82 All-America selections. More recently, the Beavers found a spot on the national grid as the first No. 16 seed to win an NCAA Regional Tournament, earning a berth into the 2009 Frozen Four. But with all that said, there may be no time more momentous for the Beaver Hockey program than the 2010-11 season.

There is nothing ordinary about this fall in Bemidji, Minn. Bemidji State is set to usher in a new era of Beaver Hockey. In its 12th year at the NCAA Div. 1 level, BSU is making a move to the Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA) in addition to opening play in its brand new hockey home, the \$90 million, state-of-the-art Bemidji Regional Event Center.

The Beavers have worked their way through the ranks, winning NAIA, NCAA Division II and Division III championships along the way, and have landed in one of the premier conferences is all of collegiate sport.

"We have been waiting for this for a long time," said BSU head coach Tom Serratore. "The long-term goal of this program has been to get into the WCHA and we were fortunate enough to be accepted into the league last year."

Now according Serratore, who enters his tenth season as head coach of the Beavers, the challenge ahead is to prove they belong.

"The WCHA schedule is a difficult road," he added. "You have 28 league games so you have to be ready for high-end competition on a night-in-night-out basis."

One thing that comforts Serratore is the experienced team he has in place.

Up front, the team returns its top scoring line from a year ago – a line that features Second-Team RBK All-America pick Matt Read. The senior captain has led the Beavers in point production in each of his first three years in the green and white and is coming off back-to-back 40-point seasons. He will be flanked by Ian Lowe, a 2010 Second-Team All-College Hockey America selection, who shifted his game into overdrive as a junior to post a team-high 21 goals and 31 total points (a 21-point increase from his sophomore campaign). Add to that line the playmaking ability of 2010 CHA Rookie of the Year Jordan George, who finished second only to Read on the team in scoring with 13-21=34 points. In all, the trio of Read, Lowe and George accounted for 33% of the Beavers' scoring in 2009-10 leaving Serratore with plenty of potential firepower as the team transitions to a new league.

"To have players like Matt Read, Jordan George and Ian Lowe back, it eases the uncertainty," commented Serratore. "We know we have some players that can generate some offense at the WCHA level."

In addition, the Beavers retain the services of several battle-tested veterans. Ryan Cramer, who posted a career-high 21 points as a junior and showed a knack for finding the net when it mattered matching Read and Lowe with a team-leading four game-winners, headlines the group. Ben Kinne also pitched in a career season in 2009-10 (10-14=24) and was one of the Beavers' most productive players on special teams potting five power-play goals. In addition, Jamie MacQueen (8-9=17), Shea Walters (3-12=15) and Darcy Findlay (6-2=8) elevated their games as sophomores and will be looked to take the next step in 2010-11.

Defensively, Bemidji State is due for some retooling after losing two blueline regulars to graduation. Despite the need for some players to grow into more predominant roles, the Beavers return a solid defensive corps. Two-time All-CHA pick Brad Hunt will be looked at to lead the unit. Hunt, a junior offensive defenseman and anchor of the BSU power-play has delivered 16-49=65 points in his first two seasons at the collegiate level and ranked third on the team last winter with 7-26=33 points. Senior alternate captain Ryan Adams (1-6=7) is a tough defender who will make it hard on opposing forwards this season. Very much like Adams, Jake Areshenko (0-3=3) is a shutdown defender and will find himself logging minutes on the penalty-kill unit plenty as a sophomore. In addition, Dan MacIntyre (1-5=6), one of two seniors on the blueline, brings size and experience to the defensive zone, while Brady Wacker (1-9=10) and Matt Carlson (0-1=1) will be looked at to transition into more prominent roles on the defense.

Bemidji State returns both of its goaltenders from a year ago in Dan Bakala and Mathieu Dugas, setting up healthy competition for playing time in 2010-11. Bakala, a junior, served as the Beavers' primary goaltender a year ago and piled up a 19-8-3 record, 2.33 GAA, .917 save percentage and three shutouts en route to leading BSU to the NCAA Tournament. Meanwhile, Mathieu Dugas made the most of his nine games played as a freshman besting Bakala's GAA (1.93) and save percentage (.918) marks, posting a 4-2-1 record. Travis Bosch joins the trio after transitioning to collegiate hockey last year as a redshirt.

A promising ensemble of new faces will also step into the fold for the Beavers in 2010-11, most notable of which is Drew Fisher, a junior transfer from the University of Minnesota that brings much-needed size and WCHA experience to the line up. In addition, Radoslav Illo (Tri-City/USHL), fifth round 2009 entry draft pick of the National Hockey League's (NHL) Anaheim Ducks (136th overall), Jeff Jubinville (Wenatchee/NAHL) and Garrett Ladd (Marquette/NAHL) will look to provide a splash on Bemidji State forward lines, while Kyle Brodie (Wenatchee/NAHL), Anton Racklin (Frolunda J20/Sweedens) and Sam Rendle (Bismarck/NAHL) will compete

for time on the BSU blueline.

The 2010-11 season is one that comes with much anticipation. In addition to the excitement of changing teams, changing rivals and changing venues, there is also a level of uncertainty in the transition into a new league. When that league is one of the elite in college sport, there is no exception.

"When we got accepted into the WCHA we realized what was in store for us. There is never an easy weekend ... there is never a reprieve," said Serratore. "If you take a look at our schedule, our first three series are against teams picked to finish among the top three in the league, so we are thrown into the fire right away.

"It is going to be interesting to see where everything unfolds for us in the WCHA," Serratore added. "Obviously we were the preseason pick to finish ninth, and that is probably justified, but I think we need to worry about ourselves, make sure we are ready to play a tough, 28-game WCHA schedule and try to be as consistent as we possibly can with our game."

Colorado College Tigers

When Scott Owens says Colorado College will be "a little young" in 2010-11, he means it. Of the 26 players on CC's roster, no fewer than 16 are either freshmen or sophomores.

Proven upperclassmen return and highly touted recruits arrive at every position, however, as the team tries to recover from graduation losses that provided nearly half of its offensive production last season.

At the defensive end of the ice, head coach Owens is encouraged by the return of workhorse Joe Howe in goal, along with Ryan Lowery and junior Gabe Guentzel anchoring the blue-line corps.

Howe, who posted a 17-15-3 record and .907 saves percentage in 2009-10, started all 28 league games while logging the most minutes of any WCHA goaltender in conference play. Not only was he voted to the All-WCHA Rookie Team, he also was one of six Div. 1 players in the country named to the College Hockey News All-Rookie Team and earned Freshman All-America accolades from Inside College Hockey.

Lowery and Guentzel, meanwhile, were among 15 CC veterans last season to establish career highs for points. Both factored in on three game-winning goals.

"Good depth," Owens says in reference to his defense corps. "We're going to need a guy or two to make a step. It's going to be a work in progress but I think there's enough there to work with."

The situation is similar up front, where CC has brought in six freshmen.

Headlining the list of newcomers is Jaden Schwartz, whose brother Rylan joined Howe on the '09-10 All-WCHA Rookie Team after collecting 28 points (6g, 22a) his first season with Colorado College. The younger Schwartz was named Forward of the Year in the United States Hockey League last season after winning the USHL scoring title with 83 points (33g, 50a) in 60 games. In June, the St. Louis Blues selected him in the first round of the NHL Draft, 14th overall.

Five more newcomers – Jeff Collett, Dakota Eveland, Alexander Krushelnyski, Michael Morin and Archie Skalbeck – look to battle with nine or 10 veterans for ice time on the attack. Assessing the forward position as a whole, Owens sees plenty of talent and quality depth – albeit very young with 10 freshmen and sophomores combined. Tyler Johnson, who lit the lamp 14 times as a junior in 2009-10, is the team's top returning goal scorer.

After wins in two exhibitions with Lethbridge Univ. and the United States Under-18 Team on Oct. 2 and 3, Colorado College officially opens its 2010-11 campaign this coming weekend with a two-game non-conference series at the World Arena against Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI).

Denver Pioneers

The 2010-11 season presents new challenges for the defending WCHA regular-season champion Denver Pioneers, who return 23 letterwinners from last year's team that posted an impressive 27-10-4 record. Star players Marc Cheverie, Rhett Rakhshani, Joe Colborne and Patrick Wiercioch have moved on to the professional ranks, but DU returns plenty of fire power and welcomes a highly-regarded recruiting class to this year's team.

Senior forwards Kyle Ostrow (Calgary, AB), Anthony Maiani (Shelby Township, MI) and Jesse Martin (Edmonton, AB), and defensemen Chris Nutini (Centennial, CO) and Matt Donovan (Edmond, OK) lead the Pioneers into action this season. Ostrow will serve as team captain, while Martin, Nutini and redshirt junior Dustin Jackson (Omaha, NE) will serve as alternate captains. Ostrow, Martin and Maiani, DU's top three returning scorers, combined for 82 points last season. Donovan is one of the top two-way defensemen in college hockey, while Nutini has established himself as DU's best defensive blueliner.

The main question for DU this season is who will replace All-American and Hobey Baker Memorial Award finalist Cheverie at goaltender. Sophomore Adam Murray (Anchorage, AK) and freshman Sam Brittain (Calgary, AB) will battle for the No. 1 goaltender position left vacant by Cheverie, who led the WCHA with 24 wins, six shutouts, a .932 save percentage and 2.08 goals-against average in 2009-10. Murray posted a 3-4-1 record with a 3.81 goals-against average and .874 save percentage in eight games as a freshman. Brittain was drafted in the fourth round of the 2010 NHL Entry Draft by Florida after posting a 23-19-8 record with a 3.27 goals-against average, .897 save percentage and two shutouts in 52 games for Canmore of the Alberta Junior Hockey League last season.

DU welcomes one of the best recruiting classes in the nation, led by forwards Beau Bennett (Gardena, CA), Jason Zucker (Las Vegas, NV) and Nick Shore (Denver, CO), defenseman David Makowski (Wildwood, MO) and goaltender Brittain. Bennett became DU's third first round draft pick in school history when Pittsburgh selected the talented forward 20th overall in the 2010 NHL Entry Draft. USA Hockey standouts Zucker and Nick Shore are elite forwards and proven winners, while Makowski was named the United States Hockey League Defenseman of the Year in 2010.

The goals for Coach Gwozdecky and the Pioneers remain the same – become a team, secure home ice for the WCHA Playoffs, advance to the WCHA Final Five and make their fourth consecutive NCAA Tournament appearance. Maintaining possession of the Gold Pan Trophy for the second consecutive season is also a priority for DU. Last season, the Pioneers reclaimed the coveted trophy from in-state rival Colorado College for the first time in three seasons.

Forwards: In addition to senior trio of Kyle Ostrow, Maiani and Martin, the Pioneers return sophomore Drew Shore (Denver, CO) and redshirt Jackson at forward. Shore tallied 5-14=19 and added 142 hits during his freshman campaign, while Jackson returns to the lineup after missing last season with a broken right leg. Jackson's physical two-way forward role was missed last season.

Newcomers Bennett, Zucker and Nick Shore will step into the DU lineup immediately and be counted on for important two-way roles. Bennett tied for the BCHL scoring lead with 120 points on 41 goals and 79 assists and was named Interior Conference Rookie of the Year after helping the Penticton Vees to a 48-8 second-place record. Zucker registered 43 points on 24 goals and 19 assists in 51 games for the U.S. National-Under 18 Team in 2009-10 and is one of two U.S. born players to earn three gold medals at IIHF events. Nick Shore tallied 45 points on 16 goals and 29 assists in all 56 games for the U.S. National Under-18 Team last season and is projected to be a first-round selection in the 2011 NHL Entry Draft.

Juniors Luke Salazar (Thornton, CO) and Nate Dewhurst (Johnston, IA), sophomores Chris Knowlton (Colorado Springs, CO) and Shawn Ostrow (Calgary, AB), and freshmen Jarrod Mermis (Alton, IL), Dan Olszewski (Janesville, WI) and Justin Jones (Dallas, TX) provide depth and competition for the remaining forward positions.

Defenseman: The depth, experience and skill on the blueline is Denver's

top strength in 2010-11. John Lee (Moorhead, MN), William Wrenn (Anchorage, AK), Paul Phillips (Darien, IL), John Ryder (Colorado Springs, CO) and Makowski join Donovan and Nutini on defense for the Pioneers.

Donovan was named to the Inside College Hockey and All-WCHA rookie teams after netting 7-14=21 as a dynamic two-way freshman blueliner. Nutini is DU's heart and soul and hardest working player, while Makowski is ready for the national scene after an outstanding junior career.

Lee was the lone blueliner to play in all 41 games last season and Ryder led the team with 246 hits. Wrenn's freshman season came to a halt with an injury, while Phillips showed steady improvement all season.

Seniors Jon Cook (Denver, CO) and Joey Brehm (Edina, MN) provide depth and experience for the defensive corps.

Goaltenders: For the first time since the 2006-07 season, DU enters the season without a No. 1 goaltender. Gwozdecky plans on starting the season with a goaltender rotation of Murray and Brittain. The goaltender rotation has proved to be successful in years past with Wade Dubielewicz and Adam Berkhoel, and Peter Mannino and Glenn Fisher. Murray showed flashes of excellence last season, but must be more consistent to win the No. 1 job from Brittain, who played in the Canadian Junior Hockey League's Prospects and AJHL All-Star games. Josh Rosenholtz (Ridgefield, CT) replaces Lars Paulgaard as the No. 3 goaltender this season.

Schedule: The seven-time NCAA champion Denver hockey team opens its 2010-11 season at Vermont before hosting 2010 NCAA champion Boston College and NCAA runner-up Wisconsin. DU will play 22 home games, including two exhibition contests and 12 games against 2010 NCAA Tournament participants. The Pioneers battle in-state rival Colorado College four times and play two-game series against new WCHA members Bemidji State and Nebraska Omaha.

Michigan Tech Huskies

Michigan Tech will have a very young team during the 2010-11 season with eight freshman joining the Huskies. The team will add some quality experience to this youth with three of its top four scorers returning from a year ago.

"We will look to build on our experience in Europe this August to hit the ground with some momentum and get out of the gates with a fast start," said head coach Jamie Russell, who enters his eighth season behind the Michigan Tech bench. "Although young, we will be an aggressive team that is hard to play against. We will enjoy the development of our returning players as they continue to grow and take steps with expanded roles. "We will blend in our large freshman class as they adapt to the college game."

Forwards: Junior Brett Olson, who will also serve as team captain along with fellow senior defenseman Deron Cousens, is poised for another high scoring year after tying for the team lead last season with 30 points, including a team-high 18 goals. The Superior, Wis., native has the ability to score when it counts accounting for more than half of the team's game-winning goals.

Joining Olson at forward are a trio of talented seniors. Jordan Baker enters his final season for the Huskies with a team-best 54 career points (28g, 26a). Last season he finished fourth on the team with 18 points (9g, 9a) and was a major threat on the power-play tying for the team lead with six PPGs. The Chestermere, Alberta, native will also serve as an assistant captain for the second straight season.

Bennett Royer (Calgary, AB) is coming off a break out season which saw him record 10 (4g, 6a) of his 24 career points.

Eric Kattelus (Houghton, MI) made a strong return to the lineup in 2009-10 after suffering a season-ending shoulder injury in 2008-09. He scored 2-8=10 in 23 games.

Junior Alex MacLeod (Nelson, BC) and sophomore Aaron Pietila (Brighton, MI) are each expected to take on expanded roles this season. MacLeod will again be a staple on the power-play with six of his eight career goals coming on the man-advantage while Pietila will look to improve upon his five assists.

Freshman Milos Gordic will give the Huskies a large option at winger

after suffering a season-ending injury eight games into last season.

Sophomores Anthony Schooley and Mikael Lickteig each blossomed offensively during MTU's tour this summer to Germany and Austria.

Junior Bryce Reddick and sophomore Evan Witt will also provide depth at forward for the Black and Gold.

Dennis Rix joins the Huskies after spending the previous four seasons with Grande Prairie (AJHL). He averaged nearly one point a game during his career finishing with 211 points (71g, 140a) in 217 games.

The team welcomes a pair of forwards, Ryan Furne and Patrick McCadden, who won both the Clark and Anderson Cups with Green Bay (USHL). Furne is a big forward and proven scorer (41g, 50a) that will be given the opportunity to compete for top-line action. McCadden is a proven leader and a gritty defensive forward who will earn time on the penalty-kill.

Daniel Holmberg brings an international flair after coming to Tech from the Swedish Junior Elite League where he skated for Linkoping.

Jacob Johnstone is a quick versatile forward who developed a well rounded game playing with Sioux Falls and Green Bay of the USHL.

Blake Hietala (Houghton, MI) is a skilled forward with great passion for the game and Michigan Tech.

"We will have a nice mix of experience, size, skill, tenacity and youthful exuberance with our group of forwards," said Russell. "We will need a good balance of offense and defensive responsibility. As we assess our freshmen, roles will evolve and we will move ahead to improve our scoring and special teams play."

Defense: Senior Deron Cousens will lead Tech's defenders this season. The Georgetown, Ont., native, who will serve as team captain, leads all defenseman with 31 points (7g, 24a) in 95 career games.

Joining Cousens on the blue line is Steven Seigo (Edenwold, SK) who enjoyed one of the best freshman campaigns by a Husky in a number of years. He ranked seventh in the nation last year in points among freshmen defenders with 19 (4g, 15a), was third on the team in points and was also the only player to appear in all 36 games.

The defense will employ some size with four players over 6-3. Sophomore Carl Nielsen (Lorain, OH) and junior Ricky Doriot (Blaine, MN) will each provide a physical presence not only on even-strength play but on the penalty-kill as well. The two also contributed eight points of offense. Daniel Sova (Cottage Grove, MN) and Bradley Stebner (Fort McMurray, AB) will add some additional size on the blue line. Sova, 6-3, 210, is a leader not only defensively but offensively as well. The two-time assistant captain finished with 65 career points in 115 games during his two-year career in Waterloo (USHL). Stebner, 6-4, 205, has a high hockey IQ but will need to adjust quickly to the fast pace of the college game. Last season he recorded 87 points (13g, 69a) in 166 games with Fort McMurray (AJHL).

Also providing depth on defense are a pair of sophomores, Tommy Brown and Pete Heinonen, who appeared in a combined 20 games.

"We have some great options on our back end," said Russell. "We will strive to be a team that can play any style. We want to move the puck well with superior decision making from our D core. We will look to Deron and Steven to be very involved in jumping into the rush. We have some big bodies that will make life difficult for opposing forwards in our end."

Goalies" Junior Josh Robinson and sophomore Kevin Genoe will rotate time in net this season for the Huskies.

Robinson (Frankenmuth, MI) has started 28 of the 36 games he has appeared in with one career shutout.

Genoe (Qualicum Beach, BC) saw action in 27 of the teams 36 games and ended the year with a .903 save percentage.

Junior Corson Cramer (Colorado Springs, CO) will provide depth at the goalie position for the Huskies.

"Our staff feels very confident in the growth in our goaltenders from a year ago, said Russell. "Last year saw a sophomore and freshman between the pipes. Josh had an excellent second half and gave us great play in the playoffs. Kevin now has the experience and he possesses the work ethic to be outstanding."

Minnesota Golden Gophers

• Coach Don Lucia was diagnosed with sarcoidosis in January 2009 and was forced to miss four games. After receiving treatment and medication, Lucia enters the 2010-11 season fully healthy after receiving a clean bill of health from his doctors in July.

• Jay Barriball returns to the lineup after missing all but five games last season because of an injury. The senior captain had two goals and two assists last year before suffering a season-ending knee injury in practice on Nov. 3, 2009. Barriball, who was granted a medical redshirt for this season, became the 78th player in school history to reach 100 career points last year. He has 102 career points (39g, 63a) in 124 games.

• Jacob Cepis, a transfer from Bowling Green, will be with the Gophers for the entire season. He joined UM's lineup at mid-season last year and skated in all 21 games during the second half of the year. Cepis, who finished fifth on the team in scoring (7g, 12a), had a 10-game point streak (team's longest streak of the season) and received the team's Unsung Hero award.

• There will be plenty of new faces in Mariucci Arena as 10 freshman join the Golden Gophers. The talented class includes Mark Alt, Minnesota's Mr. Hockey Nick Bjugstad, Nate Condon, Max Gardiner, Erik Haula, Justin Holl, Jared Larson, Jake Parenteau, Nate Schmidt and Tom Serratore.

• Freshman Erik Haula, who hails from Pori, Finland, will become the first European-born player to play for the Gophers since Thomas Vanek (Graz, Austria) in 2003-04. Haula joins Vanek as the only European to play for UM under coach Don Lucia. Haula, who played for Shattuck-St. Mary's High School in Faribault, Minn., had 28-44=72 in 56 games for Omaha (USHL) in the 2009-10 season. The Minnesota Wild selected Haula in the 7th round of the 2009 NHL Entry Draft with the 182nd overall pick.

• The Gophers will play 26 of their 34 regular-season games in the State of Hockey this season. Minnesota does not have consecutive road trips this year and does not travel to Alaska. The Gophers leave the state only four times all season to play WCHA road contests at Colorado College, Michigan Tech, North Dakota and Wisconsin.

• For the first time in 46 years, Minnesota will open the season with six straight home games. It also will be the first time since 2005-06 that the Gophers will play their first game of the season at Mariucci Arena. The Gophers were 10-8-1 at Mariucci last season and were 7-2-1 at home after Jan. 1.

• Minnesota will host the 2011 NCAA Men's Frozen Four from April 7-9 at Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul. The last time the Frozen Four was held in Minnesota was 2002, when current Gopher assistant coach Grant Potulny scored the overtime game-winning goal against Maine to give Minnesota its first national championship since 1979. Minnesota will also host the 2012 West Regional at Xcel Energy Center, which will be the fourth straight year that the Twin Cities will play host to the NCAA's premier hockey event.

• Teams from four of the five major ice hockey conferences will visit Mariucci Arena this season. In addition to 14 WCHA home games, Minnesota will host Massachusetts of Hockey East, Union of the ECAC and the CCHA's Michigan State, Michigan and Ferris State.

• The Gophers look to finish the season with a winning record after ending last year with an 18-19-2 mark. It was Minnesota's first losing season 1997-98 and only the 16th losing season in the 89-year history of the program. Minnesota also aims to return to the NCAA tournament for the first time since 2007-08. The Gophers have missed the last two NCAA tournaments and have not missed three straight tournaments since 1997-2000.

• Alex Kangas enters his senior season third all-time in program history for games played by a goaltender. He played 33 games last year and has guarded the crease in 100 career games for UM. Kangas has a chance to pass Kellen Briggs (132 career games) and move into second place on the list if given a heavy workload. Even if Kangas played every game this year he cannot break Adam Houser's record of 151 games played. Kangas is also third on the Gophers' career saves list with 2,571 but should move into second this year. Briggs is second on the career list with 2,968 saves

while Houser is first with 3,777 saves.

• With the additions of freshmen Nate Condon (Wausau, WI), Tom Serratore (Colorado Springs, CO) and Erik Haula (Pori, Finland), the Gophers now have four players (joining senior Jacob Cepis (Parma, OH) from outside the state of Minnesota). The last time Minnesota's roster featured at least four players from outside the state was during the 2005-06 season when six non-Minnesotans played for the Gophers.

• Minnesota will play Bemidji State and Nebraska Omaha for the first time in WCHA play this season. In 2003, the Gophers beat Nebraska Omaha 7-3 in the only meeting between the two schools when the Mavericks were a member of the CCHA. Minnesota holds a 7-1 all-time record against former College Hockey America power BSU, with its only loss to the Beavers coming last season in the second game of a weekend series at Mariucci Arena. The Gophers will host Nebraska Omaha in October in the Mavericks' first-ever WCHA series and will travel to Bemidji State's brand new Regional Event Center for the teams' final conference series of the season in March.

• The Gophers roster includes 19 players who have been drafted by NHL teams. The junior and freshman class each have six draftees, the senior class has five and both of the team's sophomores have been drafted. Incoming freshmen Nick Bjugstad, Mark Alt, Justin Holl, and Max Gardiner were selected in the 2010 NHL Entry Draft, with each of them going in the first three rounds (and top 74 picks overall). Other than Bjugstad, senior Patrick White (No. 22 in 2007) is the only other Gopher taken in the first round.

• Many of the Gophers' wins and losses last season were contingent on how well they did at keeping the puck out of their own net. Minnesota was 16-1 when allowing two goals or less and 2-18-2 when allowing three or more goals. Two of the outliers came in a series at Alaska Anchorage where the Gophers took the first game 7-4 and fell the next day 2-1. Both ties were 3-3 stalemates with North Dakota.

Minnesota Duluth Bulldogs

As the University of Minnesota Duluth prepares to kick off the most highly-anticipated hockey season in recent memory, head coach Scott Sandelin and his staff have plenty of reasons to be excited about what lies ahead. The Bulldogs return the nucleus (some 20 letterwinners in all) from last winter's club that went 22-17-1 overall and 16-11-1 in Western Collegiate Hockey Association play, and will christen their new home – the \$70 million AMSOIL Arena – on Dec. 30. UMD, which also added a slew of talented newcomers to its veteran-laden roster, has played its home games at the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center (DECC) since 1966.

High expectations for UMD in 2010-11 are running nationwide, as the Bulldogs checked in at No. 9 in the annual USA Today/USA Hockey Magazine Preseason Poll and were tabbed to finish third in the WCHA by league coaches. UMD brings back five 20-plus point scorers, including junior center Jack Connolly, who was WCHA bench bosses' choice as the league's preseason Player of the Year. Connolly led UMD in points with 49 (18g, 31a) and a plus-minus rating at +8 a year ago en route to earning All-America second team and All-WCHA first team acclaim. He will open the season centering what the folks at insidecollegehockey.com called the "FCC" line (they can't be regulated) featuring senior Justin Fontaine at the right wing and junior Mike Connolly on his left side. Fontaine, a two-time All-WCHA second team selection, topped the 2009-10 Bulldogs in goals with 21 to go with 25 assists and, for the second year in a row, came within two points of winning the WCHA scoring race. Connolly, meanwhile, became just the second Bulldog since a fellow named Brett Hull (1984-86) to begin his collegiate career with two back-to-back 40-point seasons, racking up 14 goals and 26 assists. Other holdovers forwards UMD returns include senior Kyle Schmidt (11-2=13) and Cody Danberg, who will be out until at least Christmas after undergoing offseason knee surgery, junior Travis Oleksuk (10-14=24) and David Grun (6-5=11), and sophomores Mike Seidel, Keegan Flaherty, Jake Hendrickson, and Dan Delisle. In addition, the rookie forward trio of Joe Basaraba (Shattuck-St.

Mary's), J.T. Brown (Waterloo of the United States Hockey League) and Max Tardy (Tri-City/USHL) all could have immediate impacts.

Senior team captain Mike Montgomery and junior Brady Lamb, two of the more underrated defensemen in the WCHA last season, anchor a blueline crew which is long on grit, experience and talent. Lamb quarterbacked the potent Bulldog power-play unit as a sophomore, tallying six times from the point with the man-advantage and collecting a career-high 24 points overall. Montgomery likewise attained a personal-best in the scoring department last winter (17 points on 2g and 15a). Joining the tandem will be the likes of fifth-year senior Trent Palm, who received a medical hardship in 2009-10 (hip), senior Chad Huttel, junior Scott Kishel, and sophomores Wade Bergman, Dylan Olsen and Drew Olson. The addition of rookies Justin Faulk, a second-round NHL draft pick last summer and who starred with U.S. Under-18 National Team in 2009-10 and Luke McManus (Tri-City) should only make the Bulldogs' last line of defense that much deeper.

The Bulldogs' recipe for success has always included proficiency between the pipes and that's exactly what Kenny Reiter delivered last year following basically two full seasons of game-day inactivity. The junior from Pittsburgh, Pa., posted a 13-10-0 record in 25 appearances and placed fourth among his WCHA goaltending brethren in overall goals-against average (2.58), third in shutouts (3) and sixth in saves percentage (.912). He'll be backed up by a pair of skilled, but untested commodities in redshirted freshman Aaron Crandall and rookie Christian Gaffy (Forest Lake HS).

Minnesota State Mavericks

Minnesota State returns 18 letterwinners and is hoping to improve on last year's 16-20-3 result.

The Mavericks made a bit of a leap defensively last year – after tying for 46th in the nation in defense (3.21 goals-against average per game) in 2008-09, MSU jumped to 26th with a 2.87 goals-against average mark in 2009-10.

With six returning defenseman and two returning netminders, the Mavericks will look to team defense as a strength this year. And, in fact, in seniors Ben Youds (Maple Grove, MN) and Kurt Davis (Plymouth, MN), Minnesota State boasts two blue liners that have led the team in scoring the last two seasons.

Youds crafted career-highs with 3-23=26 in 2009-10 and Davis was an All-WCHA Third Team pick as a sophomore when he put up 6-25=31.

The other senior, Channing Boe (Bemidji, MN) (3-12=15 in 93 career games), is of the shut-down variety.

"I think with the defensemen we have coming back, three seniors, a junior and two sophomores, we have six defensemen that have played a lot at this level, including two that have led us in scoring the last two years," said head coach Troy Jutting. "I think our goaltending and defensemen should be a strong suit of this year's team. This points to us being one of the better defensive teams in the WCHA this year."

Sophomore goaltender Phil Cook (Wheaton, IL), who posted a 8-6-2 record, a 2.59 goals-against average and a .908 save percentage, was a two-time WCHA Rookie of the Week last year. He, along with junior Austin Lee (Bloomington, MN) (7-11-0, 2.85, .907), gives MSU two experienced goaltenders.

"Obviously, we feel a lot more comfortable here now than we did heading into last year," said Jutting. "Phil (Cook) and Austin (Lee) have shown they can play at this level. We're going from a team with no experience in this area to a situation where we have two proven guys. And in Evan (Karambelas), we've got an experienced junior goaltender who is a nice addition to our roster."

Offensively, gone from last year's team are five of the top eight scorers with the departures of seniors Kael Mouillierat (13-13=25), Jerad Stewart (13-12=25), Zach Harrison (8-16=24), Geoff Irwin (8-16=24) and sophomore-to-be Tyler Pitlick (11-8=19).

Senior forward Rylan Galiardi (Calgary, AB) (11-14=25) is the top-scoring returning forward and more offensive responsibilities will fall to the

likes of juniors Mike Louwerse (Brooklyn Park, MN) (7-6=13) and Michael Dorr (Roseville, MN) (5-11=16), sophomore Eriah Hayes (LaCrescent, MN) (8-6=14) and senior Andrew Sackrison (St. Louis Park, MN) (3-2=5). Dorr saw action in 22 games after sitting out due to transfer rules and Sackrison endured an injury-plagued junior season that saw him play 21 games.

New faces on the roster include five forwards in J.P. Burkemper (St. Louis, MO), Chase Grant (Oklahoma City, OK), Zach Lehrke (Park Rapids, MN), Corey Leivermann (Mankato, MN) and John McInnis (Boston, MA), two defensemen in Danny Heath (Glendale, AZ) and Josh Nelson (Wisconsin Rapids, WI) and a goaltender in Evan Karambelas (Fort St. John, BC).

"We're very excited about our freshman class," said Jutting. "The group of forwards have scored a lot as junior and high school hockey players. They've all enjoyed success and we're looking forward to having them make the transition to the collegiate level. Our two defensemen (Heath and Nelson) are 20-year olds with junior experience – they're older and wiser and more mature than your average freshman. Both of them can skate and have a great feel for the game. We're excited about their ability to contribute right away. And we expect Evan (Karambelas) to come in and push for playing time as a freshman goaltender."

Minnesota State opens 2010-11 with an exhibition game vs. British Columbia on Monday, Oct. 4 before hosting St. Lawrence in a pair of non-conference games this Friday and Saturday, Oct. 8-9.

Nebraska Omaha Mavericks

In the last year, change has been the one constant surrounding the University of Nebraska at Omaha hockey team. Prior to the 2009-10 season, the Mavericks got a new head coach, their first since the start of the program in 1997. This season, UNO gets a new league as it enters the Western Collegiate Hockey Association following 11 years in the Central Collegiate Hockey Association.

The Mavericks went 20-16-6 last season, the fourth 20-win campaign in their history and the first since 2005-06. This season, the Mavs will welcome 11 new players in total including six forwards, four defensemen and a goaltender. Ten of those players will be true freshmen.

Forwards: Seniors Rich Purslow and Joey Martin are UNO's top returners up front, finishing with career-high totals of 27 and 26 points respectively last year. Purslow tied with junior Alex Hudson for second in team goals with 14. Like Purslow and Martin, Hudson will be looked upon to build on a strong campaign in 2009-10 after scoring a career-best 25 points. Senior Matt Ambroz supplies depth and scoring touch up front, scoring a career-high 24 points while finishing second with six power-play goals in 2009-10.

Sophomore Terry Broadhurst played a prominent role for the Mavericks as a freshman. He led all first-year players in points with 24, a total which included 13 goals with seven on the power-play to lead the team.

The Mavericks will have six freshman forwards in their lineup this season. Matt White will haul his gear just eight blocks east after finishing an outstanding career with the Omaha Lancers of the United States Hockey League. White was named the Dave Tyler Junior Player of the Year by USA Hockey and the USHL's Player of the Year after scoring 35 goals and 82 points last season.

Fellow USHLer Brock Montpetit comes to UNO off a career year with the Waterloo Blackhawks where he had 28 goals and 69 points, tying for eighth in league scoring. Freshman Johnnie Searfoss has already played for Blais in Fargo. Last year, he had 21 goals and 40 points for the Force, helping them to the Clark Cup Finals. Ryan Walters played for Des Moines (USHL) before joining the Mavericks. He, too, is a member of the 20-goal club with 21 goals and 61 points last year. He was the Most Valuable Player of the USHL All-Star Game after scoring a hat trick.

Zahn Raubenheimer is UNO's only new forward from north of the border. Born in South Africa, Raubenheimer, from Smoky Lake, Alberta, had 47 goals and 107 points as captain for the Grand Prairie Storm of the Alberta Junior Hockey League.

Defense: Senior Eric Olimb is UNO's top scorer among returners on defense. He had two goals and a career-best 18 assists. Fellow seniors

Nick Von Bokern and Pasko Skarica played primarily a defensive role in 2009-10 while appearing in 28 games each. Juniors Kyle Ensign and Matt Smith round out the corps of returning defensemen.

Among the newcomers this season, Bryce Aneloski was the leading scorer among USHL defensemen with 15 goals and 39 assists for Cedar Rapids. He was drafted in the seventh round by the Ottawa Senators in the 2010 NHL Entry Draft. After playing 16 games with Providence College, he returned to junior hockey and comes to UNO as a sophomore. Michael Young brings similarly impressive offensive numbers to Omaha. He put up 13 goals and 46 points for the Flin Flon Bombers of the Saskatchewan Junior Hockey League. Andrei Sustr will be UNO's tallest player at 6-8. He had a goal and 19 points in 50 games for Youngstown of the USHL.

Goaltending: John Faulkner takes over as the clear-cut veteran in goal for the Mavericks following the graduation of four-year starter Jeremie Dupont. In his first season last year, Faulkner posted a record of 13-10-4 and a team-leading goals-against average of 2.60. He led the team in games played (29) and minutes (1,567:23).

Faulkner may have to carry most of the load himself in the early going with two inexperienced backups in redshirt freshman Fredrik Bergman and true freshman Mike Taffe.

The Schedule: It's a brave new world for the Mavericks as they begin play in the WCHA this season. They will play in a schedule grouping with North Dakota, St. Cloud State and Bemidji State with four games head-to-head. The Mavs got a good warm-up for WCHA play last season with two games each against Bemidji State and Minnesota State and a single game with Denver. They were 2-2-1 in those games.

UNO has never played North Dakota so many a calendar will be circled on Nov. 19 and 20 when the Sioux make their first ever appearance in Omaha. Grand Forks is sure to be abuzz when Blais returns to the school where he won two national titles. He'll be on the opposing bench when the Mavs play at North Dakota on Jan. 21 and 22.

The Mavericks have a rather limited history against WCHA teams. They've played less than ten games against Alaska Anchorage (1), Bemidji State (6), Colorado College (1), Denver (9), Michigan Tech (4), Minnesota (1), Minnesota Duluth (5), St. Cloud State (4) and Wisconsin (5). The Mavs' only lengthy rivalry is with Minnesota State against whom they have squared off nearly every year in the battle for the "Spirit of the Maverick" trophy. UNO's all-time record against current WCHA teams is 18-37-7.

North Dakota Fighting Sioux

North Dakota head coach Dave Hakstol, now in his seventh year behind the Sioux bench, knows full well how much of a grind the college hockey season is. With 30 post-season wins over the last six years, Hakstol and the Sioux have repeatedly demonstrated the ability to keep the highs and lows in perspective during the course of the season.

Entering the 2010-11 season, however, Hakstol is quick to point to UND's first 10 games as vital to the team's development.

During that stretch, the defending WCHA Final Five champion Sioux will sandwich lengthy road trips to Alaska and Maine around a trip to Bemidji State, where the Beavers will open their new arena.

Following that six-game road trip, UND will open the WCHA season at home against fierce rivals Denver and Minnesota Duluth.

"If you break down the entire schedule," Hakstol said, "that first 10 games is as tough as it gets. In saying that, I think it's the right challenge for this team. We have to embrace the fact that we're a veteran team. We'll probably get our noses bloody and learn a lot about ourselves, but in terms of the people we have in our locker room, we will do what we need to do to meet the challenge."

What Hakstol has in the locker room is an experienced group that returns 80 percent of its goal-scoring production, including 20-goal scorer Jason Gregoire (Winnipeg, MB) and 2009-10 WCHA Rookie of the Year Danny Kristo (Eden Prairie, MN). Senior forwards Matt Frattin (Edmonton, AB) and Evan Trupp (Anchorage, AK) are capable of leading the team in scoring, while junior Brett Hextall (Manhattan Beach, CA) emerged as arguably UND's most indispensable power-play weapon last season.

The Sioux will also receive a boost from the return to health of All-America defenseman and Hobey Baker Memorial Award candidate Chay Genoway (Morden, MB), the team's captain who missed all but nine games last season due to post-concussion syndrome. The dynamic Genoway will anchor a deep and talented blueline that boasts experience and high-end talent.

Genoway is UND's only three-time recipient of the program's Archie Krum Memorial Athletic Scholarship, which is awarded annually to the player who best exemplifies leadership qualities, high academic standards and athletic excellence. He leads all active WCHA defensemen with 90 career points and is on the verge of becoming only the ninth Sioux defenseman in program history to reach the 100-point plateau. Despite missing most of last season, Genoway was voted to the All-WCHA third team by the league's coaches, players and media. In 2008-09, Genoway was named a third-team All-American by the American Hockey Coaches Association (AHCA) and was selected the WCHA Defensive Player of the Year. He was also named to the ESPN the Magazine Academic All-America team. Genoway is UND's first repeat captain since Dane Litke in 1995-96 and 1996-97. Litke led UND to an NCAA championship as a senior in 1997.

Senior defensemen Derrick LaPoint (Eau Claire, WI) and Jake Marto (Grand Forks, ND) have been named assistant captains. Each is a two-time All-WCHA Academic selection and a 2009-10 WCHA Scholar-Athlete. LaPoint led all UND defensemen in scoring with a career-high 22 points last season, while Marto led the team with a career-best +18.

After becoming the first Sioux goalie to appear in at least 40 games in each of his first two seasons, junior Brad Eidsness (Chestermere, AB) has cemented himself as one of the top netminders in college hockey. A workhorse who won 24 games for the second straight year and led the nation in minutes, Eidsness is undoubtedly battle-tested.

Four highly-touted freshmen, including 2010 first-round NHL draft picks Derek Forbort and Brock Nelson, will also be in the hunt for significant playing time.

In all, UND's 2010-11 roster includes 16 players who have been drafted by NHL teams. The group includes goalie Brad Eidsness (Buffalo), defensemen Ben Blood (Ottawa), Derek Forbort (Los Angeles), Joe Gleason (Chicago) Derrick LaPoint (Florida) and Andrew MacWilliam (Toronto), and forwards Brett Bruneteau (Washington), Mike Cichy (Montreal), Matt Frattin (Toronto), Jason Gregoire (New York Islanders), Brett Hextall (Phoenix), Corban Knight (Florida), Danny Kristo (Montreal), Brad Malone (Colorado), Brock Nelson (New York Islanders) and Derek Rodwell (New Jersey).

"Everyone will get opportunities to prove what they can bring to the table," Hakstol said. "Depth will hopefully be a real strength of our team. The players will decide who ends up in what role."

St. Cloud State Huskies

Success has been a trademark of the men's hockey program at St. Cloud State University since the Huskies made the move to the NCAA Division I level in 1987-88.

In recent years, the Huskies have enjoyed five consecutive winning records and last year they placed third in the WCHA with a 24-14-5 overall record and a 15-9-4 record in the league. Last winter, SCSU made a run to second place in the WCHA Final Five and also gained an NCAA tournament bid – the Huskies' third bid under the leadership of sixth-year head coach Bob Motzko. To cap the season, SCSU earned a big first round win over Northern Michigan at the NCAA West Regional and advanced to the quarterfinals of the 2010 NCAA championships.

The Huskies appear to be poised for continued success in 2010-11, as SCSU will bring back eight of their top 10 point leaders from 2009-10. The Huskies will also return both of its starting goaltenders and the bulk of their blueliners from last winter.

On offense, senior Garrett Roe will return after sharing the team's point lead (20g, 29a) along with departed career point leader Ryan Lasch. Roe already has 142 career points, and is within shot of breaking Lasch's record

of 183 career points set in 2009-10.

Roe will be joined on the offensive front line by senior forward Tony Mosey, who hit a career-high with 14g and 26a in 2009-10. Senior Aaron Marvin will also be back after posting 5g and 11a in 2009-10. Marvin will serve as the team's captain this winter while alternate captains are Roe and defender Chris Hepp.

Junior forward Drew LeBlanc (6g, 25a), junior forward Jared Festler (11g, 13a), junior forward Travis Novak (11g, 5a), junior Jordy Christian (2g, 9a), sophomore Ben Hanowski (9g, 10a), and senior Brian Volepi (4g, 1a) will be other names to watch on the SCSU scoresheet in 2009-10.

On defense, Hepp is a physical force on the blueline group that helped the Huskies out score their opponents 138 to 122 in 2009-10. At 6-6, junior defender Oliver Lauridsen is the tallest player in team Div. 1 history. Last year, Lauridsen made big strides with 6g and 6a to his credit for SCSU.

SCSU's blueline group will also be boosted by the return of junior Sam Zabkowicz (12a), sophomore Taylor Johnson (2g, 10a) and senior Brett Barta (1g, 4a).

The goaltending duties should be in solid hands for SCSU in 2010-11. Senior Dan Dunn, an All-WCHA selection last year, will be back after posting a 12-5-2 record last winter. He tallied a 2.58 GAA and a .915 save rate for the Huskies as a junior.

Dunn shared netminding duties along with sophomore Mike Lee last year. Lee helped Team USA gain the gold medal at the 2010 World Junior Championships and also earned two shutouts for the Huskies in his rookie campaign. Lee posted a 2.80 GAA and a .917 save rate last year while going 12-9-3.

To bolster their ranks, the Huskies added eight blue chip recruits over the past summer. NHL draftees in the group of new players include defender Kevin Gravel (LAK), defender Nick Jensen (DET), forward Cam Reid (NASH) and forward Nic Dowd (LAK). Of note, Gravel is a second-generation Husky as his Dad (Jim Gravel) played for the Huskies from 1977 to 1981 with 51g and 50a to his credit as a collegiate player.

SCSU will kickoff the regular season on Oct. 8-9 with a trip to the Nebraska Omaha tournament for games against RIT and Clarkson. SCSU will continue their tough early season schedule with a pair of home dates against NCAA power Miami (Ohio) on Oct. 15-16 at the NHC.

In addition to the Huskies' rugged WCHA schedule, St. Cloud State will also host non-conference rival Quinnipiac this season along with another journey south to participate in the Florida College Hockey Classic in Estero, Fla., on Dec. 29-30.

Wisconsin Badgers

The Wisconsin men's hockey team starts the 2010-11 season with a clean slate. After reaching the NCAA championship game in 2010, UW replaces two assistant coaches, seven seniors and four early departures who left after signing NHL contracts.

The 2009-10 Badgers were an upperclass team for the first time since the 2006 NCAA title team, but while this year's version of Wisconsin will see 18 of its 26 players coming from the freshman or sophomore classes, the age of this year's team is just three months younger, on average.

Despite the massive turnover in student-athletes and staff, Wisconsin returns a healthy dose of talent and welcomes an intriguing group of newcomers to the Badger family.

Starting in goal, Scott Gudmandson ranked second among returning NCAA goaltenders in winning percentage last season with his 20-5-4 mark, while his 2.33 goals-against average ranked 13th last year and his .913 save percentage was good for 27th in the nation. Gudmandson won the starting job for the Badgers down the stretch last season, but the Badgers still have fellow senior Brett Bennett to battle for playing time. Bennett went 8-6-0 in 14 games played in 2009-10.

UW's vaunted defensive corps last season lost three members to the NHL, but it should still rank among the nation's elite groups. With a pair of past WCHA All-Rookie Team rear guards in swift-skating junior Jake Gardiner and poised sophomore Justin Schultz, the offensive side of UW's defense should continue to excel. World Junior Championship gold med-

alist John Ramage, the third of UW's four NHL-drafted defenders, helps lock down the UW defensive end of the ice. USA Hockey National Team Development Program product Frankie Simonelli and New Jersey Devils draft pick Joe Faust will attempt to ease the burden of UW's departures, as will veterans Craig Johnson and Eric Springer, along with newcomer Chase Drake.

Wisconsin lost four 50-point scorers from last year's team, something nearly impossible to replace, however winger Craig Smith returns for his sophomore campaign as the team's leading returning scorer after posting eight goals and 33 points during his WCHA All-Rookie Team season. Smith is one of just three returning Badgers who ranked among the team's top 13 scorers for a season ago.

The Badgers will then look to players like junior forward Jordy Murray, whose 12 goals last season are the most among UW's returners, for increased scoring. Senior Patrick Johnson posted eight goals and 21 points as a frosh and may be needed to return to his offensive ways, while senior Sean Dolan will also be called upon to step up from his 11 career goals and 30 career points. Senior Podge Turnbull will get a chance to showcase his wealth of offensive ability, as will sophomore center Derek Lee and incoming forwards Mark Zengerle and Jason Clark. Zengerle shared for the BCHL scoring lead last year and ranked second in that league's scoring race in 2008-09. Clark, a power forward, was chosen last summer by the New York Islanders in the third round of the NHL draft and so enters the season as Wisconsin's highest drafted forward.

In addition, Tyler Barnes makes his UW debut after ranking among the USHL's top 10 scorers, as does Michael Mersch, UW's second addition from USA's National Team Development Program.

Returning forward and Madison, Wis., native Keegan Meuer also returns looking for playing time, while newcomers Gavin Hartzog, Jefferson Dahl and Ryan Little's brother, Sean, hope to earn a spot in UW's nightly lineup.

The Badgers total 10 new student-athletes, but also assistant coaches Bill Butters and Gary Shuchuck. Butters returns to collegiate coaching as UW's new defensive guru after 10 years at Minnesota in the 1980s and 1990s. He helped the Gophers to six Frozen Fours and 10 top-three WCHA finishes during his time. Shuchuck is a former Badger All-American whose scoring led the Badgers to the 1990 NCAA title. Both bring NHL playing experience to their positions.

Wisconsin opens its season with the Ice Breaker Tournament against Boston University in St. Louis on Oct. 8. They hope to end it again at the Frozen Four on April 9 at the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul, Minn.

2010-11 WCHA Men's Composite Schedule

October

Date	Game	Time
Sat/2	Nipissing Univ. 3 @ Michigan Tech 5 (x)	7:07 pm ET
	Univ. of Manitoba 4 @ St. Cloud State 7 (x)	7:07 pm CT
	Univ. of British Columbia 1 @ Nebraska Omaha 6 (x)	7:07 pm CT
	U.S. Under-18 Team 1 @ Denver 8 (x)	7:07 pm MT
	Lethbridge Univ. 1 @ Colorado College 5 (x)	7:07 pm MT
	Univ. of Windsor 1 @ Alaska Anchorage 4 (x) (@ Soldotna, AK)	7:07 pm AT
Sun/3	Univ. of British Columbia 0 @ Minnesota 6 (x)	7:07 pm CT
	Univ. of Manitoba 2 @ North Dakota 5 (x)	6:07 pm CT
	Lethbridge Univ. 5 @ Denver 2 (x)	6:07 pm MT
	U.S. Under-18 Team 1 @ Colorado College 7 (x)	6:07 pm MT
Mon/4	Univ. of British Columbia @ Minnesota State (x)	7:37 pm CT
Fri/8	Denver @ Vermont (nc)	7:05 pm ET
	Superior Showcase	
	Minnesota Duluth @ Lake Superior St. (nc)	7:05 pm ET
	Michigan Tech @ Northern Michigan (nc)	7:30 pm ET
	Massachusetts @ Minnesota (nc)	7:07 pm CT
	St. Lawrence @ Minnesota State (nc)	7:37 pm CT
	Ice Breaker Tournament	
	@ Scottrade Center, St. Louis, MO	
	Holy Cross vs Notre Dame (nc)	5:30 pm CT
	Boston Univ. vs Wisconsin (nc)	8:30 pm CT
	Mutual of Omaha Stamped	
	@ Qwest Center Omaha, Omaha, NE	
	RIT vs St. Cloud State (nc)	4:37 pm CT
	Clarkson @ Nebraska Omaha (nc)	7:37 pm CT
	Rensselaer @ Colorado College (nc)	7:37 pm MT
	Kendall Hockey Classic	
	@ Sullivan Arena, Anchorage, AK	
	Air Force vs Alaska Fairbanks (nc)	5:07 pm AT
	North Dakota vs Alaska Anchorage (nc)	8:07 pm AT
Sat/9	Denver @ Vermont (nc)	7:05 pm ET
	Superior Showcase	
	Michigan Tech @ Lake Superior State (nc)	7:00 pm ET
	Minnesota Duluth @ Northern Michigan (nc)	7:30 pm ET
	Massachusetts @ Minnesota (nc)	7:07 pm CT
	St. Lawrence @ Minnesota State (nc)	7:07 pm CT
	Mutual of Omaha Stamped	
	@ Qwest Center Omaha, Omaha, NE	
	Clarkson vs St. Cloud State (nc)	4:07 pm CT
	RIT @ Nebraska Omaha (nc)	7:07 pm CT
	Rensselaer @ Colorado College (nc)	7:07 pm MT
	Kendall Hockey Classic	
	@ Sullivan Arena, Anchorage, AK	
	North Dakota vs Alaska Fairbanks (nc)	4:07 pm AT
	Air Force vs Alaska Anchorage (nc)	7:07 pm AT
Sun/10	Ice Breaker Tournament	
	@ Scottrade Center, St. Louis, MO	
	Third Place Game (nc)	12 Noon CT
	Championship Game (nc)	3:00 pm CT
Tue/12	Northern Michigan @ Michigan Tech (nc)	7:07 pm ET
Fri/15	Minnesota State @ Michigan Tech (WCHA)	7:07 pm ET
	Alabama-Huntsville @ Wisconsin (nc)	7:07 pm CT
	Nebraska Omaha @ Minnesota (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Providence College @ Minnesota Duluth (nc)	7:07 pm CT
	Miami Univ. @ St. Cloud State (nc)	7:07 pm CT
	North Dakota @ Bemidji State (WCHA)	7:37 pm CT
	Boston College @ Denver (nc)	7:37 pm MT
	Brice Alaska Goal Rush	
	@ Carlson Center, Fairbanks, AK	
	Colorado College vs Alaska Anchorage (nc)	5:05 pm AT
	Union College vs Alaska Fairbanks (nc)	8:05 pm AT

Date	Game	Time
Sat/16	Minnesota State @ Michigan Tech (WCHA)	7:07 pm ET
	Nebraska Omaha @ Minnesota (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Providence College @ Minnesota Duluth (nc)	7:07 pm CT
	Miami Univ. @ St. Cloud State (nc)	7:07 pm CT
	North Dakota @ Bemidji State (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Boston College @ Denver (nc)	7:07 pm MT
	Brice Alaska Goal Rush	
	@ Carlson Center, Fairbanks, AK	
	Union College vs Alaska Anchorage (nc)	4:05 pm AT
	Colorado College vs Alaska Fairbanks (nc)	7:05 pm AT
Sun/17	Alabama-Huntsville @ Wisconsin (nc)	1:07 pm CT
Fri/22	North Dakota @ Maine (nc)	7:00 pm ET
	Nebraska Omaha @ Michigan (nc)	7:35 pm ET
	St. Cloud State @ Minnesota (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Alaska Anchorage @ Minnesota Duluth (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Colorado College @ Minnesota State (WCHA)	7:37 pm CT
	Wisconsin @ Denver (WCHA)	7:37 pm MT
Sat/23	North Dakota @ Maine (nc)	7:00 pm ET
	Nebraska Omaha @ Michigan (nc)	7:35 pm ET
	St. Cloud State @ Minnesota (WCHA)	8:07 pm CT
	Alaska Anchorage @ Minnesota Duluth (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Colorado College @ Minnesota State (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Wisconsin @ Denver (WCHA)	7:07 pm MT
Fri/29	Michigan Tech @ Wisconsin (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Quinnipiac @ St. Cloud State (nc)	7:07 pm CT
	Minnesota Duluth @ Bemidji State (WCHA)	7:37 pm CT
	Denver @ North Dakota (WCHA)	7:37 pm CT
	Minnesota @ Colorado College (WCHA)	7:37 pm CT
	Minnesota State @ Alaska Anchorage (WCHA)	7:07 pm AT
Sat/30	Michigan Tech @ Wisconsin (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Quinnipiac @ St. Cloud State (nc)	7:07 pm CT
	Minnesota Duluth @ Bemidji State (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Denver @ North Dakota (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Minnesota @ Colorado College (WCHA)	7:07 pm MT
	Minnesota State @ Alaska Anchorage (WCHA)	7:07 pm AT

November

Date	Game	Time
Fri/5	Wisconsin @ Minnesota (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Bemidji State @ St. Cloud State (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Minnesota Duluth @ North Dakota (WCHA)	7:37 pm CT
	Minnesota State @ Nebraska Omaha (WCHA)	7:37 pm CT
	Colorado College @ Denver (WCHA)	7:37 pm MT
Sat/6	Wisconsin @ Minnesota (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Bemidji State @ St. Cloud State (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Minnesota Duluth @ North Dakota (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Minnesota State @ Nebraska Omaha (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Denver @ Colorado College (WCHA)	7:07 pm MT
Fri/12	North Dakota @ Wisconsin (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Michigan Tech @ Minnesota Duluth (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Nebraska Omaha @ St. Cloud State (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Alaska Anchorage @ Bemidji State (WCHA)	7:37 pm CT
	Minnesota State @ Denver (WCHA)	7:37 pm MT
	Colorado College @ Air Force (nc)	7:05 pm MT
Sat/13	North Dakota @ Wisconsin (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Michigan Tech @ Minnesota Duluth (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Nebraska Omaha @ St. Cloud State (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Alaska Anchorage @ Bemidji State (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Minnesota State @ Denver (WCHA)	7:07 pm MT
	Yale @ Colorado College (nc)	7:07 pm MT
Fri/19	Minnesota @ Michigan Tech (WCHA)	7:07 pm ET
	Minnesota Duluth @ Wisconsin (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	North Dakota @ Nebraska Omaha (WCHA)	7:37 pm CT
	Bemidji State @ Denver (WCHA)	7:37 pm MT
	St. Cloud State @ Alaska Anchorage (WCHA)	7:07 pm AT
Sat/20	Minnesota @ Michigan Tech (WCHA)	7:07 pm ET
	Minnesota Duluth @ Wisconsin (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	North Dakota @ Nebraska Omaha (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Bemidji State @ Denver (WCHA)	7:07 pm MT
	St. Cloud State @ Alaska Anchorage (WCHA)	7:07 pm AT

2010-11 Schedule con't

Date	Game	Time
Fri/26	Minnesota State @ Massachusetts-Lowell (nc)	7:00 pm ET
	College Hockey Showcase	
	Michigan @ Wisconsin (nc)	7:07 pm CT
	Michigan State @ Minnesota (nc)	7:07 pm CT
	Northern Michigan @ Bemidji State (nc)	7:37 pm CT
	Subway Holiday Classic	
	@ Ralph Engelstad Arena, Grand Forks, ND	
	Notre Dame @ North Dakota (nc)	7:37 pm CT
	Alaska Anchorage @ Colorado College (WCHA)	7:37 pm MT
	Denver Cup Classic @ Magness Arena, Denver, CO	
	Air Force vs Clarkson (nc)	4:37 pm MT
	Lake Superior State vs Denver (nc)	7:37 pm MT
Sat/27	Minnesota State @ Massachusetts-Lowell (nc)	4:00 pm ET
	College Hockey Showcase	
	Michigan State @ Wisconsin (nc)	7:07 pm CT
	Northern Michigan @ Bemidji State (nc)	7:07 pm CT
	Subway Holiday Classic	
	@ Ralph Engelstad Arena, Grand Forks, ND	
	Notre Dame @ North Dakota (nc)	7:07 pm CT
	Alaska Anchorage @ Colorado College (WCHA)	7:07 pm MT
	Denver Cup Classic @ Magness Arena, Denver CO	
	Clarkson vs Lake Superior State (nc)	4:07 pm MT
	Air Force vs Denver (nc)	7:07 pm MT
Sun/28	College Hockey Showcase	
	Michigan @ Minnesota (nc)	4:37 pm CT

December

Date	Game	Time
Fri/3	Colorado College @ Michigan Tech (WCHA)	7:07 pm ET
	Denver @ Minnesota Duluth (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Nebraska Omaha @ Bemidji State (WCHA)	7:37 pm CT
	Minnesota @ Minnesota State (WCHA)	7:37 pm CT
	St. Cloud State @ North Dakota (WCHA)	7:37 pm CT
	Wisconsin @ Alaska Anchorage (WCHA)	7:07 pm AT
Sat/4	Colorado College @ Michigan Tech (WCHA)	7:07 pm ET
	Denver @ Minnesota Duluth (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Nebraska Omaha @ Bemidji State (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Minnesota @ Minnesota State (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	St. Cloud State @ North Dakota (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Wisconsin @ Alaska Anchorage (WCHA)	7:07 pm AT
Thu/9	Michigan Tech @ Nebraska Omaha (WCHA)	7:37 pm CT
Fri/10	Bemidji State @ Wisconsin (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Minnesota Duluth @ Minnesota (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Colorado College @ St. Cloud State (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	North Dakota @ Minnesota State (WCHA)	7:37 pm CT
	Michigan Tech @ Nebraska Omaha (WCHA)	7:37 pm CT
	Denver @ Alaska Anchorage (WCHA)	7:07 pm AT
Sat/11	Bemidji State @ Wisconsin (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Minnesota Duluth @ Minnesota (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Colorado College @ St. Cloud State (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	North Dakota @ Minnesota State (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Denver @ Alaska Anchorage (WCHA)	7:07 pm AT
Fri/17	Michigan Tech @ Northern Michigan (nc)	7:35 pm ET
Sat/18	Nebraska Omaha @ Colorado College (WCHA)	7:07 pm MT
	U.S. Under-18 Team @ North Dakota (x)	7:07 pm CT
Sun/19	Nebraska Omaha @ Colorado College (WCHA)	6:07 pm MT
Wed/29	Florida College Classic @ Germain Arena, Estero, FL	
	St. Cloud State vs Cornell (nc)	4:05 pm ET
	Maine vs Miami Univ. (nc)	7:35 pm ET
	Great Lakes Invitational @ Joe Louis Arena, Detroit, MI	
	Colorado College vs Michigan State (nc)	4:06 pm ET
	Michigan vs Michigan Tech (nc)	7:36 pm ET
Thu/30	Nebraska Omaha @ Quinnipiac (nc)	7:30 pm ET
	Florida College Classic @ Germain Arena, Estero, FL	
	Third Place Game (nc)	4:05 pm ET
	Championship Game(nc)	7:35 pm ET
	Great Lakes Invitational @ Joe Louis Arena, Detroit, MI	
	Third Place Game (nc)	4:06 pm ET
	Championship Game (nc)	7:36 pm ET
	Massachusetts @ Wisconsin (nc)	7:07 pm CT
	North Dakota @ Minnesota Duluth (nc)	7:37 pm CT
	(U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame Game)	

Date	Game	Time
Fri/31	Nebraska Omaha @ Quinnipiac (nc)	12 Noon ET
	Massachusetts @ Wisconsin (nc)	7:07 pm CT
	Dodge Holiday Classic	
	@ Mariucci Arena, Minneapolis, MN	
	Ferris State vs Bemidji State (nc)	3:07 pm CT
	Union College vs Minnesota (nc)	6:07 pm CT
	Northern Michigan @ Denver (nc)	6:07 pm MT

January

Date	Game	Time
Sat/1	Shillelagh Tournament	
	@ Sears Centre Arena, Hoffman Estates, IL	
	Brown vs Boston Univ. (nc)	3:05 pm ET
	Minnesota State vs Notre Dame (nc)	6:05 pm ET
	Dodge Holiday Classic	
	@ Mariucci Arena, Minneapolis, MN	
	Union College vs Bemidji State (nc)	4:07 pm CT
	Ferris State vs Minnesota (nc)	7:07 pm CT
	Northern Michigan @ Denver (nc)	7:07 pm MT
Sun/2	Shillelagh Tournament	
	@ Sears Centre Arena, Hoffman Estates, IL	
	Minnesota State vs Boston Univ./Brown (nc)	2:05 pm ET
	Boston Univ./Brown vs Notre Dame (nc)	5:05 pm ET
Mon/3	Minnesota Duluth @ Clarkson (nc)	7:00 pm ET
Tue/4	Minnesota Duluth @ Clarkson (nc)	7:00 pm ET
Fri/7	Bemidji State @ Alabama-Huntsville (nc)	7:05 pm CT
	Canisius College @ Wisconsin (nc)	7:07 pm CT
	Michigan Tech @ St. Cloud State (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	American International @ Minnesota State (nc)	7:37 pm CT
	Robert Morris @ North Dakota (nc)	7:37 pm CT
	U.S. Under-18 Team @ Minnesota (x)	7:07 pm CT
Sat/8	Bemidji State @ Alabama-Huntsville (nc)	3:05 pm CT
	Canisius College @ Wisconsin (nc)	7:07 pm CT
	Michigan Tech @ St. Cloud State (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	American International @ Minnesota State (nc)	7:07 pm CT
	Robert Morris @ North Dakota (nc)	7:07 pm CT
	U.S. Under-18 Team @ Minnesota Duluth (x)	7:07 pm CT
Fri/14	St. Lawrence @ Michigan Tech (nc)	7:07 pm ET
	Wisconsin @ Minnesota Duluth (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Denver @ Minnesota State (WCHA)	7:37 pm CT
	Minnesota @ North Dakota (WCHA)	7:37 pm CT
	Bemidji State @ Nebraska Omaha (WCHA)	7:37 pm CT
	Colorado College @ Alaska Anchorage (WCHA)	7:07 pm AT
Sat/15	St. Lawrence @ Michigan Tech (nc)	5:07 pm ET
	Wisconsin @ Minnesota Duluth (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Denver @ Minnesota State (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Minnesota @ North Dakota (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Bemidji State @ Nebraska Omaha (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Colorado College @ Alaska Anchorage (WCHA)	7:07 pm AT
Fri/21	Minnesota Duluth @ Michigan Tech (WCHA)	7:07 pm ET
	Minnesota State @ Wisconsin (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	St. Cloud State @ Bemidji State (WCHA)	7:37 pm CT
	Nebraska Omaha @ North Dakota (WCHA)	7:37 pm CT
	Alaska Anchorage @ Denver (WCHA)	7:37 pm MT
	Alabama-Huntsville @ Colorado College (nc)	7:37 pm MT
Sat/22	Minnesota Duluth @ Michigan Tech (WCHA)	7:07 pm ET
	Minnesota State @ Wisconsin (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	St. Cloud State @ Bemidji State (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Nebraska Omaha @ North Dakota (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Alaska Anchorage @ Denver (WCHA)	7:07 pm MT
	Alabama-Huntsville @ Colorado College (nc)	7:07 pm MT
Fri/28	Wisconsin @ Michigan Tech (WCHA)	7:07 pm ET
	Alaska Anchorage @ Minnesota (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Minnesota State @ St. Cloud State (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Alabama-Huntsville @ Nebraska Omaha (nc)	7:37 pm CT
	North Dakota @ Colorado College (WCHA)	8:07 pm MT
Sat/29	Wisconsin @ Michigan Tech (WCHA)	7:07 pm ET
	Alaska Anchorage @ Minnesota (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Minnesota State @ St. Cloud State (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Alabama-Huntsville @ Nebraska Omaha (nc)	7:07 pm CT
	North Dakota @ Colorado College (WCHA)	7:07 pm MT

2010-11 Schedule con't

February

Date	Game	Time
Fri/4	Minnesota @ Minnesota Duluth (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Bemidji State @ Minnesota State (WCHA)	7:37 pm CT
	St. Cloud State @ Nebraska Omaha (WCHA)	7:37 pm CT
	Denver @ Colorado College (WCHA)	8:07 pm MT
Sat/5	Michigan Tech @ Alaska Anchorage (WCHA)	7:07 pm AT
	Minnesota @ Minnesota Duluth (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Bemidji State @ Minnesota State (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	St. Cloud State @ Nebraska Omaha (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
Fri/11	Colorado College @ Denver (WCHA)	7:07 pm MT
	Michigan Tech @ Alaska Anchorage (WCHA)	7:07 pm AT
	Bemidji State @ Michigan Tech (WCHA) (Winter Carnival)	7:07 pm ET
	Denver @ Minnesota (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
Sat/12	St. Cloud State @ Minnesota Duluth (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Alaska Anchorage @ North Dakota (WCHA)	7:37 pm CT
	Wisconsin @ Nebraska Omaha (WCHA)	7:37 pm CT
	Minnesota State @ Colorado College (WCHA)	7:37 pm MT
Fri/18	Bemidji State @ Michigan Tech (WCHA) (Winter Carnival)	5:07 pm ET
	Denver @ Minnesota (WCHA)	5:07 pm CT
	St. Cloud State @ Minnesota Duluth (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Alaska Anchorage @ North Dakota (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
Sat/19	Wisconsin @ Nebraska Omaha (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Minnesota State @ Colorado College (WCHA)	7:07 pm MT
	Minnesota @ Wisconsin (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	North Dakota @ St. Cloud State (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
Fri/25	Colorado College @ Bemidji State (WCHA)	7:37 pm CT
	Minnesota Duluth @ Minnesota State (WCHA)	7:37 pm CT
	Michigan Tech @ Denver (WCHA)	7:37 pm MT
	Nebraska Omaha @ Alaska Anchorage (WCHA)	7:07 pm AT
Sat/26	Minnesota @ Wisconsin (WCHA)	8:07 pm CT
	North Dakota @ St. Cloud State (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Colorado College @ Bemidji State (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Minnesota Duluth @ Minnesota State (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
Fri/27	Michigan Tech @ Denver (WCHA)	7:07 pm MT
	Nebraska Omaha @ Alaska Anchorage (WCHA)	7:07 pm AT
	Wisconsin @ St. Cloud State (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Denver @ Nebraska Omaha (WCHA)	7:37 pm CT
Sat/27	Minnesota Duluth @ Colorado College (WCHA)	7:37 pm MT
	Alaska Airlines Governor's Cup	
	Alaska Anchorage @ Alaska Fairbanks (nc)	7:05 pm AT
	Michigan Tech @ Minnesota (WCHA)	7:37 pm CT
Sun/27	Wisconsin @ St. Cloud State (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Denver @ Nebraska Omaha (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Bemidji State @ North Dakota (WCHA)	3:37 pm CT
	Minnesota Duluth @ Colorado College (WCHA)	7:07 pm MT
Sun/27	Alaska Airlines Governor's Cup	
	Alaska Fairbanks @ Alaska Anchorage (nc)	7:07 pm AT
	Bemidji State @ North Dakota (WCHA)	3:37 pm CT

March

Date	Game	Time
Fri/4	North Dakota @ Michigan Tech (WCHA)	7:07 pm ET
	Colorado College @ Wisconsin (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Nebraska Omaha @ Minnesota Duluth (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Minnesota @ Bemidji State (WCHA)	7:37 pm CT
Sat/5	Alaska Anchorage @ Minnesota State (WCHA)	7:37 pm CT
	St. Cloud State @ Denver (WCHA)	7:37 pm MT
	North Dakota @ Michigan Tech (WCHA)	5:07 pm ET
	Colorado College @ Wisconsin (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
Sat/12	Nebraska Omaha @ Minnesota Duluth (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Minnesota @ Bemidji State (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	Alaska Anchorage @ Minnesota State (WCHA)	7:07 pm CT
	St. Cloud State @ Denver (WCHA)	7:07 pm MT

• end of regular season •

Date	Game	Time
Fri/11	2011 WCHA Playoffs • 1st Round • Best-of-Three	
	#12 Rank @ #1 Rank	TBA
	#11 Rank @ #2 Rank	TBA
	#10 Rank @ #3 Rank	TBA
	#9 Rank @ #4 Rank	TBA
	#8 Rank @ #5 Rank	TBA
Sat/12	2011 WCHA Playoffs • 1st Round • Best-of-Three	
	#7 Rank @ #6 Rank	TBA
	#12 Rank @ #1 Rank	TBA
	#11 Rank @ #2 Rank	TBA
	#10 Rank @ #3 Rank	TBA
	#9 Rank @ #4 Rank	TBA
Sun/13	2011 WCHA Playoffs • 1st Round (if necessary)	
	#8 Rank @ #5 Rank	TBA
	#7 Rank @ #6 Rank	TBA
	#12 Rank @ #1 Rank	TBA
	#11 Rank @ #2 Rank	TBA
	#10 Rank @ #3 Rank	TBA
Thu/17	2011 Red Baron™ WCHA Final Five	
	@ Xcel Energy Center, Saint Paul, MN	
	#5 Seed vs #4 Seed	4:07 pm CT
	#6 Seed vs #3 Seed	7:37 pm CT
	#9 Rank @ #4 Rank	TBA
	#8 Rank @ #5 Rank	TBA
Fri/18	2011 Red Baron™ WCHA Final Five	
	@ Xcel Energy Center, Saint Paul, MN	
	Semi-Final #1: TBA vs TBA	2:07 pm CT
	Semi-Final #2: TBA vs TBA	7:07 pm CT
Sat/19	2011 Red Baron™ WCHA Final Five	
	@ Xcel Energy Center, Saint Paul, MN	
	Broadmoor Trophy Championship Game	7:07 pm CT
	2011 NCAA East Regional @ Arena at Harbor Yard, Bridgeport, CT (hosts - Yale Univ. & Fairfield Univ.)	
Fri/25	Semi-Final #1	TBA pm ET
	Semi-Final #2	TBA pm ET
	2011 NCAA West Regional	
	@ Scottrade Center, St. Louis, MO (host - CCHA)	
Sat/26	Semi-Final #1	TBA pm CT
	Semi-Final #2	TBA pm CT
	2011 NCAA East Regional	
	@ Arena at Harbor Yard, Bridgeport, CT	
Sun/27	Championship Game	TBA pm ET
	2011 NCAA West Regional	
	@ Scottrade Center, St. Louis, MO	
	Championship Game	TBA pm CT
Sun/27	2011 NCAA Northeast Regional @ Verizon Wireless Arena, Manchester, NH (host - Univ. of New Hampshire)	
	Semi-Final #1	TBA pm ET
	Semi-Final #2	TBA pm ET
	2011 NCAA Midwest Regional @ Resch Center, Green Bay, WI (host - Michigan Tech Univ.)	
Sun/27	Semi-Final #1	TBA pm ET
	Semi-Final #2	TBA pm ET
	NCAA Northeast Regional	
	@ Verizon Wireless Arena, Manchester, NH	
Sun/27	Championship Game	TBA pm ET
	NCAA Midwest Regional @ Resch Center, Green Bay, WI	
Sun/27	Championship Game	TBA pm ET

April

Date	Game	Time
Thu/7	2011 NCAA Men's Frozen Four @ Xcel Energy Center, St. Paul, MN (host - Univ. of Minnesota)	
	Semi-Final #1	TBA pm CT
	Semi-Final #2	TBA pm CT
	2011 NCAA Men's Frozen Four	
Sat/9	@ Xcel Energy Center, St. Paul, MN	
	National Championship Game	TBA pm CT

Schedule Key

Association-member home games faceoff at either :07 or :37 after the hour; (nc) non-conference; (x) exhibition; tournaments/special events in bold.