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1982, 1983, 1987, 1990, 1991, 1997,
2000, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006

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November 2, 2010/For Immediate Release

Minnesota's Matson and Condon, Denver's Brittain Named Red Baron® WCHA Players of the Week

Red Baron® WCHA Offensive Player of the Week Taylor Matson • Jr., F, University of Minnesota

MADISON, Wis. – University of Minnesota center iceman Taylor Matson, who scored three goals, including a game-winner, while helping the Golden Gophers to a two-game conference road sweep at Colorado College last weekend, is the Red Baron® WCHA Offensive Player of the Week for Nov. 2, 2010.

A 6-0, 185-pound junior from Mound, Minn., Matson entered the 2010-11 season with two career goals in 32 games. He scored three even-strength goals, fired seven shots on goal and had three blocked shots last weekend as Minnesota swept the host Tigers, 4-1 and 9-4. Matson scored twice last Friday, which included the game-winning goal and the Gophers' third goal at the 16:59 mark of the third period to give Minnesota a 3-1 lead and seal the victory. He was also named the First Star of the Game. Then last Saturday, Matson won 13 of 20 faceoffs and gave UM a 2-1 lead with his third goal of the weekend at the 14:02 mark of the first period.

A draftee of the National Hockey League's Vancouver Canucks, Matson now has more career goals (six) than career penalties (four) and more career points (10) than career penalty minutes (eight).

Also nominated: Emil Billberg, F, BSU; Drew Shore, F, DU; Corban Knight, F, UND; Patrick Johnson, F, UW.

Red Baron® WCHA Defensive Player of the Week Sam Brittain • Fr., G, University of Denver

MADISON, Wis. – University of Denver goaltender Sam Brittain, who posted his first collegiate shutout and recorded a .937 save percentage in a conference road series split at North Dakota last weekend, is the Red Baron® WCHA Defensive Player of the Week for Nov. 2, 2010. He was named the league's rookie of the week on Oct. 26.

A 6-3, 210-pound freshman from Calgary, Alberta, Brittain stopped all 33 shots on goal last Saturday (Oct. 30) night en route to backstopping the visiting Pioneers to a 3-0 WCHA victory over the Fighting Sioux in Grand Forks. Named the First Star of the Game for his performance, he also led a DU penalty-kill that turned in a perfect 4-of-4 effort.

A draftee of the National Hockey League's Florida Panthers, Brittain also got the start in goal in the series opener at UND last Friday (Oct. 29) and stopped 26 of 30 shots on goal in a 4-3 setback. In the two games, he recorded 59 saves on 63 shots on goal for a .937 save percentage.

Also nominated: Mathieu Dugas, G, BSU; Cade Fairchild, D, UM; Jake Gardiner, D, UW.

Red Baron® WCHA Rookie of the Week Nate Condon • Fr., F, University of Minnesota

MADISON, Wis. – Nate Condon, a freshman forward at the University of Minnesota, has been named the Red Baron® WCHA Rookie of the Week for Nov. 2, 2010 as a result of his outstanding performance in a pair of conference road victories at Colorado College last weekend.

A 5-11, 195-pound freshman from Wausau, Wis., and a draftee of the NHL's Colorado Avalanche, Condon was held off the scoresheet last Friday (Oct. 29) in the Golden Gophers' 4-1 win at CC. But last Saturday (Oct. 30) was a different story. Condon scored twice, added three assists, had five points and was a +5 (plus/minus) while being named the First Star of the Game in Minnesota's 9-4 triumph over the Tigers.

Condon is the first Gopher to record five points in a game since Ryan Potulny accomplished the feat (4g, 1a) against St. Cloud State on March 17, 2006 in the WCHA Final Five. The last Gopher (and freshman) to score five points in a regular-season game was Phil Kessel (1g-4a). He accomplished the rare feat on Nov. 11, 2006, in a 9-0 win over Alaska Anchorage.

Also nominated: Jason Zucker, F, DU; Dillon Simpson, D, UND; Cam Reid, F, SCSU; Michael Mersch, F, UW.