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2000, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006

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February 22, 2011/For Immediate Release

UM's Cepis, UND's Hextall, MSU's Lee, MTU's Furne Named Red Baron® WCHA Players of the Week

Red Baron® WCHA co-Offensive Players of the Week

Jacob Cepis • Senior • Forward, University of Minnesota

Brett Hextall • Junior, Forward, University of North Dakota

MADISON, Wis. – Two veteran forwards who led their respective teams to three points in conference road series last weekend – Jacob Cepis of the University of Minnesota and Brett Hextall of the University of North Dakota – have been named Red Baron® WCHA co-Offensive Players of the Week for Feb. 22, 2011.

Cepis, a 5-8, 175-pound senior left winger from Parma, Ohio, tallied two goals and one assist as Minnesota took three of four points from host Wisconsin with a 5-2 win and 3-3 (ot) tie. With Jay Barriball out of the lineup with an injury, Cepis stepped up his game and took on an offensive role. Last Friday (Feb. 18), he tied for the team lead in shots with four and scored a critical four-on-four goal that put the Gophers up 2-1 just 1:42 into the second period. The goal also came :70 seconds after the UW tied the game 1-1 and quelled any momentum the Badgers had gained. Last Saturday (Feb. 19), Cepis had the primary assist on Jake Hansen's second period goal that tied the game 2-2, then put UM ahead 3-2 with a breakaway goal just :44 seconds into the third period. Cepis was also +2 for the weekend and did not take any penalties. Through 30 games, he leads the Gophers in points with 26 (10g, 16a).

Hextall, a 5-11, 195-pound junior right winger from Manhattan Beach, Calif., scored three critical goals to lead North Dakota to a three-point weekend at St. Cloud State. All three of his goals in the series gave the Sioux the lead. He scored a game-winning power-play goal in third period last Saturday to give UND a 3-2 win, after having earlier provided UND a 2-1 lead with an even-strength goal late in the second. He was named the No. 1 star of the game. Hextall also scored the opening goal late in the first period of last Friday's 3-3 (tie) at SCSU, earned a +2 rating in the series and had five shots on goal. In the midst of a five-game point streak, Hextall has 17 points (8g, 9a) in 28 games this season. He is a draftee of the NHL's Phoenix Coyotes.

Also nominated this week: Jamie MacQueen, F, Bemidji State; Drew Shore, F, DU.

Red Baron® WCHA Defensive Player of the Week

Austin Lee • Junior, Goaltender, Minnesota State University

MADISON, Wis. – Minnesota State University goaltender Austin Lee, who stopped 40 of 41 shots to lead the host Mavericks to a 3-1 league victory over No. 5-ranked Minnesota Duluth last weekend, has been named the Red Baron® WCHA Defensive Player of the Week for Feb. 22, 2011.

A 6-3, 200-pound junior from Bloomington, Minn., Lee's stellar performance saw him stop 40 of 41 shots, including 28 in a scoreless third period, blank the Bulldogs scoreless on all four of their power-play chances (and nine power-play shots), and post two shutout periods. He was named the No. 2 star of the game.

In his last five appearances between the pipes for the Mavericks, Lee is 3-2-0 with a 1.61 goals-against average and a .946 save percentage. For the season, he stands 4-3-2 with a 2.37 GAA and .918 save percentage.

Also nominated this week: Brad Hunt, D, BSU; Adam Murray, G, DU; Derek Forbort, D, UND.

Red Baron® WCHA Rookie of the Week

Ryan Furne • Freshman, Forward, Michigan Technological University

MADISON, Wis. – Left winger Ryan Furne, who scored a pair of goals and fired 10 shots on goal as visiting Michigan Technological University earned a two-game league series split with No. 4-ranked Denver last weekend, has been named the Red Baron® WCHA Rookie of the Week for Feb. 22, 2011.

A 6-2, 200-pound freshman from Oakdale, Minn., Furne scored the game-winning goal shorthanded at 8:38 of the second period in the Huskies' 3-2 upset of host Denver last Friday (Feb. 18). He also scored Michigan Tech's lone goal and took a team-high six shots in a 5-1 setback at DU last Saturday. In addition to his two goals, Furne finished earned a +1 plus/minus rating in the series and had a team-high 10 shots on the weekend.

Furne, who has played in all 32 games this season, is second in scoring for MTU with 18 points (10g, 8a).

Also nominated this week: Jeff Jubinville, F, BSU; Jaden Schwartz, F, CC; David Makowski, D, DU; Justin Faulk, D, UMD; Derek Forbort, D, UND.