

Western Collegiate Hockey Association

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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

2011 Red Baron™ WCHA Final Five
March 17-19 • Xcel Energy Center
Saint Paul, Minnesota

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March 13, 2011/For Immediate Release

Colorado College Wins Sunday Night to Join North Dakota, Denver, Minnesota Duluth, Alaska Anchorage and Bemidji State for this Week's 2011 Red Baron™ WCHA Final Five at Xcel Energy Center in Saint Paul

Fighting Sioux are Defending Final Five/Broadmoor Trophy Champions; Tournament Winner to Receive League's Automatic Berth into NCAA Tournament; Final Five Tickets Still Available; WCHA to Hold Media Teleconference Tuesday With Final Five Head Coaches, Commissioner; Final Five to be Telecast by FOX Sports North, Audiocast via WCHA.com; The Microsoft Store WCHA Fan Fest to be Held on Saturday

MADISON, Wis. – Colorado College upended visiting Wisconsin 2-1 in a decisive third game on Sunday night to claim their first round, best-of-three, playoff series two games to one and advance to the Western Collegiate Hockey Association's playoff championship.

The 2011 Red Baron WCHA Final Five, which gets underway at Xcel Energy Center in Saint Paul, Minnesota on Thursday, March 17 and concludes on Saturday, March 19 will feature No. 1 seed and defending Final Five/Broadmoor Trophy champion North Dakota, No. 2 seed Denver, No. 3 seed Minnesota Duluth, No. 4 seed Colorado College, No. 5 seed Alaska Anchorage and No. 6 seed Bemidji State. The Sioux, Pioneers, Bulldogs, Seawolves and Beavers all posted two-game sweeps this past Friday (March 11) and Saturday (March 12) in their first round WCHA playoff series.

For the Final Five tournament, the six first round winners were re-seeded No. 1 thru No. 6 following the first round.

2010-11 WCHA Men's Standings -----

	Pts	Conference Only				Overall			
		GP	Record	Win%	GF- GA	GP	Record	Win%	GF- GA
1 North Dakota !	43	28	21- 6- 1	.768	112- 62	39	28- 8- 3	.756	159- 86
2 Denver	37	28	17- 8- 3	.661	93- 75	38	23-10- 5	.671	124-100
3 Nebraska-Omaha	36	28	17- 9- 2	.643	94- 69	38	21-15- 2	.579	126- 96
4 Minnesota Duluth	35	28	15- 8- 5	.625	91- 73	37	22- 9- 6	.676	127- 97
5 Minnesota	31	28	13-10- 5	.554	91- 78	36	16-14- 6	.528	113-102
6 Colorado College	28	28	13-13- 2	.500	83- 84	41	21-17- 3	.549	127-119
7 Wisconsin	27	28	12-13- 3	.482	75- 72	41	21-16- 4	.561	129- 98
8 Alaska Anchorage	26	28	12-14- 2	.464	62- 78	36	16-17- 3	.486	87-102
St. Cloud State	26	28	11-13- 4	.464	84- 80	38	15-18- 5	.461	112-113
10 Bemidji State	21	28	8-15- 5	.375	62- 78	36	14-17- 5	.458	84- 94
11 Minnesota State	20	28	8-16- 4	.357	67- 90	38	14-18- 6	.447	105-116
12 Michigan Tech	6	28	2-24- 2	.107	49-124	38	4-30- 4	.158	75-169

! MacNaughton Cup champion

This Week in the WCHA • 2011 Red Baron WCHA Final Five Xcel Energy Center • Saint Paul, MN

Games for Thursday, March 17: No. 6 Bemidji State vs No. 3 Minnesota Duluth, 3:37 pm CT (TV - FOX Sports North); No. 5 Alaska Anchorage vs No. 4 Colorado College, 7:07 pm CT (TV - FOX Sports North).

Games for Friday, March 18: Semi-Final: Bemidji State or Minnesota Duluth vs No. 2 Denver, 2:07 pm CT (TV - FOX Sports North); Semi-Final: Alaska Anchorage or Colorado College vs No. 1 North Dakota, 7:07 pm CT (TV - FOX Sports North).

Games for Saturday, March 19: Broadmoor Trophy Championship Game, 7:07 pm CT (TV - FOX Sports North).

round of playoffs based on their regular season finish. North Dakota as the No. 1 seed and Denver as the No. 2 seed receive a bye on Thursday. Thursday's (March 17) two quarterfinal match-ups will have No. 6 seed Bemidji State (14-17-5) vs No. 3 seed Minnesota Duluth (22-9-6) in a 3:37 pm CT face-off. The evening game on Thursday will feature No. 5 seed Alaska Anchorage (16-17-3) against No. 4 seed Colorado College (21-17-3) at 7:07 pm CT.

On Friday (March 18) in Saint Paul, Denver (23-10-5) will play the winner of the Minnesota Duluth vs Bemidji State game at 2:07 pm CT while North Dakota (28-8-3) will play at 7:07 pm CT against Alaska Anchorage or Colorado College.

Then on Saturday (March 19), the Final Five will conclude with the Broadmoor Trophy championship game at 7:07 pm CT. The winner receives the WCHA's automatic berth into the NCAA tournament.

In first round WCHA playoff results, regular season and MacNaughton Cup champion North Dakota won 8-0 and 3-1 over No. 12 seed Michigan Tech on Friday (March 11) and Saturday (March 12). No. 2 seed Denver posted back-to-back first round playoff victories over No. 11 seed Minnesota State, 4-2 and 3-2 (ot). No. 10 seed Bemidji State claimed successive victories at No. 3 seed Nebraska Omaha, 4-2 and 3-2. No. 4 seed Minnesota Duluth upended No. 9 seed St. Cloud State twice, 4-2 and 3-2 (3 ot). No. 8 seed Alaska Anchorage swept at No. 5 seed Minnesota, 4-3 and 2-0. And No. 6 seed Colorado College skated past No. 7 seed Wisconsin in three games, with the Badgers winning 3-1 in the opener last on Friday night and the Tigers coming back for a 4-3 (ot) triumph on Saturday and a 2-1 decision on Sunday.

In head-to-head matchups this season ... North Dakota was 4-0-0 vs Michigan Tech; Denver was 5-0-1 vs Minnesota State; Bemidji State was 5-0-1 vs Nebraska Omaha; Minnesota Duluth was 2-1-1 vs St. Cloud State; Alaska Anchorage was 3-1-0 vs Minnesota; and Colorado College claimed a 3-2 advantage over Wisconsin in five head-to-head meetings.

Tickets Still Available for this Week's 2011 Red Baron™ WCHA Final Five at Xcel Energy Center

Tickets to the 2011 Red Baron™ WCHA Final Five are still available and can be purchased at the Xcel Energy Center Box Office, Ticketmaster Ticket Centers, charge by phone at 800-745-3000 or online at www.ticketmaster.com. To charge by phone using Ticketmaster TDD/TTY, call 800-359-2525. Groups (10+) call 651-312-3486.

Single-session tickets went on sale starting on Monday, March 7. A limited number of all-session ticket packages for the tournament are still available.

WCHA Playoff Results

First Round • Best-of-Three

Results of Friday, March 11: #8 Alaska Anchorage 4 at #5 Minnesota 3 (NC); #9 St. Cloud State 2 at #4 Minnesota Duluth 4 (NC); #7 Wisconsin 3 at #6 Colorado College 1 (NC); #10 Bemidji State 4 at #3 Nebraska-Omaha 2 (NC); #11 Minnesota State 2 at #2 Denver 4 (NC); #12 Michigan Tech 0 at #1 North Dakota 8 (NC).

Results of Saturday, March 12: #7 Wisconsin 3 at #6 Colorado College 4 ot (NC); #8 Alaska Anchorage 2 at #5 Minnesota 0 (NC) (UAA wins series 2-0); #9 St. Cloud State 2 at #4 Minnesota Duluth 3 (3 ot) (NC) (UMD wins series 2-0); #10 Bemidji State 3 at #3 Nebraska-Omaha 2 (NC) (BSU wins series 2-0); #11 Minnesota State 2 at #2 Denver 3 ot (NC) (DU wins series 2-0); #12 Michigan Tech 1 at #1 North Dakota 3 (NC) (UND wins series 2-0).

Results of Sunday, March 13: #7 Wisconsin 1 at #6 Colorado College 2 (NC) (CC wins series 2-1).

WCHA to Conduct Media Teleconference for 2011 Red Baron™ WCHA Final Five with Six Head Coaches, Commissioner on Tuesday, March 15

MADISON, Wis. – The Western Collegiate Hockey Association will conduct a teleconference for the media with the six head coaches whose teams qualify for the 2011 Red Baron™ WCHA Final Five and Commissioner Bruce McLeod on Tuesday, March 15 at 11:00 am CT.

Media members should phone in to the teleconference on March 15 by 10:59 am CT. Phone 1 973 935-2025, and then upon prompt, enter passcode 729388#.

FOX Sports North to Televis 2011 Red Baron™ WCHA Final Five League Playoff Championship Set for March 17-19 at Xcel Energy Center in Saint Paul

SAINT PAUL, Minn. – Xcel Energy Center and FOX Sports North, in conjunction with the Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA), announced today the 2011 Red Baron™ WCHA Final Five will once again be telecast on FOX Sports North and produced by Minnesota Wild Broadcasting. The entities have televised the tournament since 2000.

Anthony LaPanta will handle play-by-play duties for the tournament. Casey Hankinson will serve as color analyst on Thursday and Saturday and Kevin Gorg will partner with LaPanta on Friday. Gorg will report rinkside Thursday and Saturday and Jim Rich will take over those duties on Friday.

"The WCHA is extremely gratified to continue our long-standing television partnership with FOX Sports North, the Minnesota Wild and Xcel Energy Center for what should be one of the best Final Fives ever – and that's saying something," said WCHA Commissioner Bruce McLeod.

The 2011 Red Baron™ WCHA Final Five will be held Thursday-Saturday, March 17-19, at Xcel Energy Center in Saint Paul for the 11th straight year. There will be a new twist on the popular tournament with Bemidji State University and University of Nebraska-Omaha bringing WCHA membership to 12 teams. For the first time, six teams will advance, battling it out over five games for the Broadmoor Trophy and entrance to the NCAA Tournament. The brackets will be pre-set and the top two seeded teams will receive a bye. The third place game has been eliminated.

2011 Red Baron™ WCHA Final Five Television Schedule

Date, Game, Time

Thursday, March 17

Quarterfinal: #6 Bemidji State vs #3 Minnesota Duluth, 3:30 pm CT

Quarterfinal: #5 Alaska Anchorage vs #4 Colorado College, 7:00 pm CT

Friday, March 18

Semifinal 1: Bemidji State or Minnesota Duluth vs #2 Denver, 2:00 pm CT

Semifinal 2: Alaska Anchorage or Colorado College vs #1 North Dakota, 7:00 pm CT

Saturday, March 19

Broadmoor Trophy Championship Game, 7:00 pm CT

FOX Sports North reaches more than 2 million homes throughout Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa and North and South Dakota and telecasts nearly 2,600 hours of locally produced programming per year. For more information on the Emmy Award-winning regional sports network, visit www.foxsportsnorth.com.

Tickets to the 2011 Red Baron™ WCHA Final Five can be purchased at the Xcel Energy Center Box Office, Ticketmaster Ticket Centers, charge by phone at 800-745-3000 or online at www.ticketmaster.com. To charge by phone using Ticketmaster TDD/TTY, call 800-359-2525. Groups (10+) call 651-312-3486. Single-session tickets are on sale starting at 10 a.m. on Monday, March 7. A limited number of all-session ticket packages for the tournament are still available.