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WCHA Women's League

Bemidji State University
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Minnesota State University
University of North Dakota
Ohio State University
St. Cloud State University
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November 2, 2011/For Immediate Release

Minnesota Duluth's Wilson, Ohio State's Steffes, Bemidji State's Kelly Named WCHA Women's Players of the Week

WCHA Offensive Player of the Week

Katherine Wilson • Junior, Forward, University of Minnesota Duluth

MADISON, Wis. – University of Minnesota Duluth center Katherine Wilson, who recorded four points and her second collegiate hat trick to help propel the host and No. 7-ranked Bulldogs to a five-point weekend against league rival and No. 6-ranked North Dakota, has been named the WCHA Offensive Player of the Week for November 2.

A junior from Winnipeg, Manitoba, Wilson scored three goals in the two-game series opener last Saturday (Oct. 29) as Minnesota Duluth powered past the visiting Sioux, 6-1, at AMSOIL Arena. Wilson netted the first goal of the game 1:19 into the second period and then extended UMD's lead to 5-0 on her second goal 5:10 into the third. She connected again on the power-play at 14:21 to close the scoring. Last Sunday (Oct. 30), Wilson completed her four-point weekend with an assist on the Bulldogs' first goal of the game as the two clubs skated to a 2-2 overtime tie before UMD prevailed in a 1-0 shootout for the extra point. In addition to her four points in the series, Wilson put five shots on goal in each game and finished with a +3 plus/minus rating. Wilson now has 10 points in eight games this season with six goals and four assists.

Also nominated: Sadie Lundquist, F, BSU; Jen Schoullis, F, UM; Hokey Langan, F, OSU; Brianna Decker, F, UW.

WCHA Defensive Player of the Week

Lisa Steffes • Sophomore, Goaltender, Ohio State University

MADISON, Wis. – Goaltender Lisa Steffes, who allowed just one power-play goal while backstopping her Ohio State University Buckeyes to a two-game conference road sweep at Minnesota State last weekend, has been named the WCHA Defensive Player of the Week for November 2.

A sophomore from Amherstburg, Ont., Steffes produced five shutout periods while picking up a pair of one-goal WCHA victories for the visiting Buckeyes at MSU. Last Friday (Oct. 28), Steffes tallied 21 saves in a 2-1 win over the Mavericks, yielding just a power-play goal at 4:40 of the first period. Then last Saturday (Oct. 29), Steffes earned her first collegiate shutout with a 23-save, 1-0, triumph.

The pair of victories improved Steffes' record to 4-1-0 on the season with a 2.15 goals-against average and .917 saves percentage in 279:09 minutes played. Both marks are among the Top 20 in the nation.

Also nominated: Zuzana Tomcikova, G, BSU; and Alex Rigsby, G, UW.

WCHA Rookie of the Week

Rachael Kelly • Freshman, Forward, Bemidji State University

MADISON, Wis. – Bemidji State University left winger Rachael Kelly, who scored the game's first goal to help the host Beavers to a 2-1 league win over No. 2-ranked Minnesota last Saturday and a split of their weekend series, has been honored as the WCHA Rookie of the Week for November 2.

A freshman from Rosemount, Minn., Kelly tallied her fourth goal of the season at 5:36 of the second period on October 29 to give Bemidji State a 1-0 advantage over the visiting Golden Gophers en route to a 2-1 triumph that marked the Beavers' fourth-ever victory over Minnesota. Along with her goal, Kelly also fired five shots on goal in the series, including four in the win.

In 10 games played so far this season, Kelly has six points (4g, 2a) to rank sixth in scoring among first-year players in the WCHA.

Also nominated: Josefine Jakobsen, F, UND; Blayre Turnbull, F, UW.