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WCHA WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Bemidji State University

University of Minnesota

University of Minnesota Duluth

Minnesota State University

University of North Dakota

Ohio State University

St. Cloud State University

University of Wisconsin

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December 12, 2012/For Immediate Release

SCSU'S SCHMID, UW'S RIGSBY, UM'S BRANDT NAMED WCHA WOMEN'S PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

WCHA OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK

HAYLEA SCHMID • SENIOR, FORWARD, ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY

MADISON, Wis. – St. Cloud State University forward Haylea Schmid, who had five scoring points in a conference series split with visiting Minnesota State last weekend, has been named the WCHA Women's Offensive Player of the Week for December 12.

A senior center from Oak Grove, Minn., Schmid helped the Huskies to a 5-2 victory over Minnesota State last Saturday (Dec. 8) by recording two goals and two assists for four points to earn First Star of the Game honors. She netted the only goal of the first period, assisted on both of her club's second period tallies for a 3-0 lead, and then scored her second goal of the game at 6:09 of the third after the Mavericks had closed to within one. In the series opener last Friday (Dec. 7), a 2-1 loss to the Mavericks, Schmid drew an assist on Mollie Mott's first period power-play goal that gave SCSU a 1-0 lead. In addition to her five points in the series, Schmid also had six shots on goal and earned a +2 plus/minus rating.

Playing in all 20 of St. Cloud State's games this season, Schmid now is co-leading the Huskies in points with 17. She has eight goals, nine assists and three power-play goals.

Also nominated: Amanda Kessel, F, UM; Ally Tarr, F, OSU; Brianna Decker, F, UW.

WCHA DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK

ALEX RIGSBY • JUNIOR, GOALTENDER, UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

MADISON, Wis. – University of Wisconsin goaltender Alex Rigsby, who stopped 59 of 62 shots and surrendered just one even-strength goal in the host Badgers' two-game series sweep over league rival North Dakota last weekend, has been named the WCHA Women's Defensive Player of the Week for December 12. This marks the third such award for Rigsby this season (also on Oct. 31 and Nov. 7).

A junior from Delafield, Wis., Rigsby was a key in Wisconsin's 3-2 and 3-1 victories over No. 8-ranked North Dakota, posting a .952 save percentage with two of the three goals she yielded coming on the power-play. She set a season best for most saves in a win, making 33 against UND on Saturday, Dec. 8 as the Badgers won despite being outshot 35-26. Then on Sunday (Dec. 9), Rigsby came back with 26 saves on 27 shots on goal as the UW won 3-1.

Rigsby, who stands 12-6-2 on the season, leads the nation in minutes played among goaltenders with 1197:54, her 479 saves ranks fifth, and her .939 save percentage ranks third among those with at least 200 total saves. She is second among WCHA netminders overall with a 1.55 goals-against average and .939 save percentage.

Also nominated: Noora Rätty, G, UM; Brigette Lacquette, D, UMD; Shelby Moteyunas, D, MSU.

WCHA ROOKIE OF THE WEEK

HANNAH BRANDT • FRESHMAN, FORWARD, UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

MADISON, Wis. – The WCHA Women's Rookie of the Week for December 12 is University of Minnesota forward Hannah Brandt, who had three points last weekend as the unbeaten and top-rated Golden Gophers beat conference opponent Bemidji State twice on the road. Brandt also earned the weekly honor on Oct. 3, Oct. 24, Nov. 7 and Nov. 20.

A freshman center from Vadnais Heights, Minn., Brandt scored the first goal of the game last Friday (Dec. 7) at 10:22 of the second period to break a 0-0 tie in Minnesota's 5-1 victory over the host Beavers, and then had assists on two of teammate Amanda Kessel's three goals last Saturday (Dec. 8) in a 5-0 triumph as the Gophers stretched their season-opening winning streak to 20 straight. Brandt, who had seven shots on goal and was a +3 on the plus/minus against BSU, is the top scoring freshman in the country with 48 points (19g, 29a).

Also nominated: Julia McKinnon, F, OSU, Meghan Dufault, F, UND; Courtney Burke, D, UW.