

Western Collegiate Hockey Association

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Women's Teams

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

Home of a Record 14 Consecutive National Championship Teams

2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013

2014 WCHA FINAL FACE-OFF

March 7-8
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January 15, 2014/For Immediate Release

UMD's Hickel, SCSU's Friend, UM's Cameranesi Named WCHA Women's Players of the Week

WCHA Offensive Player of the Week Zoe Hickel, F Minnesota Duluth

MADISON, Wis. – University of Minnesota Duluth forward Zoe Hickel, a junior from Anchorage, Alaska, has been named the WCHA Women's Offensive Player of the Week for Jan. 15, 2014.

Hickel had a hand in five of the seven goals the Bulldogs scored in last weekend's 3-1, 4-2 WCHA sweep of Minnesota State, and was named the First Star of both contests.

She jump-started the Bulldogs' scoring last Friday (Jan. 10) night with a power-play goal, shoveling it past the MSU goaltender 2:33 into the second period to tie the game at 1-1. Hickel then threaded the puck from the right circle to the slot to find teammate Tea Villila for the game-winning PPG goal at 11:39 of the second period. Hickel also had a team-high 10 shots in the 3-1 win.

Then on Saturday (Jan. 11) Hickel again drew UMD even with MSU in the second period, ripping a wrist shot from the right circle that found the back of the net to make the score 2-2. Hickel also had an assist on the game-winning goal again, this time at the 3:05 mark of the third period, and then scored an empty-netter with :57 seconds left to ice the game. She had four shots and was +2.

Overall, Hickel had three goals and two assists for five points, 12 shots on goal and was +2 in the series. She ranks fourth for UMD in scoring this season with 18 points (8g, 10a).

Also nominated: Rachel Kelly, F, BSU; Hannah Brandt, F, UM; Michelle Karvinen, F, UND; Abby Ness, F, SCSU; Blayne Turnbull, F, UW.

WCHA Defensive Player of the Week Julie Friend, G St. Cloud State

MADISON, Wis. – St. Cloud State University goaltender Julie Friend, a junior from Minnetonka, Minn., has been named the WCHA Women's Defensive Player of the Week for Jan. 15, 2014.

Friend recorded double duty between the pipes this past weekend in the Huskies' two-game WCHA set at Bemidji State, backstopping her team to a road split. She stopped 82 of 85 shots on goal in the series for a .965 save percentage, surrendered just two even-strength goals, and posted four shutout periods. SCSU was outshot 45-31 in game one and 40-27 in game two.

Last Friday (Jan. 10), Friend turned aside 44 of 45 shots on goal and was named the Second Star while leading the Huskies to a 3-1 victory over the Beavers. She then followed up that effort with 38 more saves on Saturday (Jan. 11) – including 23 in the third period – in a one-goal, 2-1 setback. Her 44 stops in the series opener, with 15 saves in the first period, 14 in the second and 15 more in the third period, goes down as her third most saves in a game this season.

Friend, who ranks fourth among league goaltenders overall in save percentage at .935, is also ranked nationally in a few categories. She is tied for eighth nationally in save percentage (.935) and is ranked 27th among Div. 1 netminders with a 2.45 goals-against average.

Also nominated: Amanda Leveille, G, UM, Lexie Shaw, G, UND.

WCHA Rookie of the Week Dani Cameranesi, F Minnesota

MADISON, Wis. – University of Minnesota's Dani Cameranesi, a freshman forward from Plymouth, Minn., has been named the WCHA Women's Rookie of the Week for Jan. 15, 2014.

Cameranesi recorded a three-point series against WCHA-rival Ohio State last weekend in Minneapolis in a 6-0 win and 2-2 overtime tie, contributing two goals and an assist, firing eight shots on goal and earning a +2 plus/minus rating.

She scored two goals and had one assist in No. 1-ranked Minnesota's 6-0 shutout win over the Buckeyes in the series opener at Ridder Arena last Friday (Jan. 10). Cameranesi scored her first goal of the game at 7:09 of the first period to put the Gophers up 2-0, assisted on teammate Hannah Brandt's hat trick goal at 3:01 of the second period, then notched her own second tally of the contest at 11:40 of the second. She was a +3 for the game and had six shots on goal.

She finished the weekend with two goals and one assist, had eight shots on goal, one blocked shot and was +2 for the series.

Cameranesi, who has played in all 22 games for two-time defending national champion Minnesota, currently ranks first in scoring among WCHA rookies overall with 20 points (12g, 8a). She is also second nationally in total points by a rookie and fifth in points per game among rookies at 0.91.

Also nominated: Susanna Tapani, F, UND.