



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TWENTY-EIGHT PLAYERS WITH WCHA TIES TO PARTICIPATE IN 4 NATIONS CUP

Eleven current and 17 former WCHA athletes will represent their home countries in Kamloops, British Columbia from Nov. 4-8

EDINA, Minn. – Nov. 4, 2014 – The Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA) will be represented by 28 current or former athletes at the 4 Nations Cup, a four-team tournament involving the best women’s hockey players in the world, beginning today through Saturday, Nov. 8 in Kamloops, British Columbia.

Six of the eight WCHA member institutions will be represented on the rosters for the United States, host Canada, Finland and Sweden. Eleven current student-athletes are competing, along with 17 league alumni.

The quartet of current WCHA student-athletes selected to wear the Team USA sweater are: **Hannah Brandt** (Jr., F, Minnesota), **Dani Cameranesi** (So., F, Minnesota), **Annie Pankowski** (Fr., F, Wisconsin) and **Lee Stecklein** (So., D, Minnesota). Six former WCHA standouts were also selected to the 23-player roster: **Megan Bozek** (D, Minnesota), **Brianna Decker** (F, Wisconsin), **Hilary Knight** (F, Wisconsin), **Monique Lamoreaux** (D, North Dakota) and **Alex Rigsby** (G, Wisconsin).

Three current WCHA athletes were selected to help Canada defend its 4 Nations Cup title on home soil. They are: **Emily Clark** (F, Wisconsin), **Halli Kryzaniak** (So., D, North Dakota) and **Blayre Turnbull** (Sr., F, Wisconsin). They will be joined by former WCHA stars **Haley Irwin** (F, Minnesota Duluth), **Jocelyne Larocque** (D, Minnesota Duluth), **Natalie Spooner** (F, Ohio State) and **Kelly Terry** (F, Minnesota).

Finland’s roster includes **Tea Villilä** (Sr., D, Minnesota Duluth) and former WCHA standouts **Mira Jalosuo** (D, Minnesota), **Michelle Karvinen** (F, North Dakota), **Susanna Tapani** (F, North Dakota) and **Minnamari Tuominen** (D, Ohio State).

Sweden’s roster features a trio of current WCHA student-athletes: **Linnea Hedin** (Fr., D, Minnesota Duluth), **Elin Johansson** (Fr., F, Minnesota State) and **Michelle Löwenhielm** (Fr., F, Minnesota Duluth). They will be joined by past WCHA stars **Emilia Andersson** (D, Minnesota State), **Kim Marti’n Hasson** (G, Minnesota Duluth), **Annie Svedin** (D, Ohio State) and **Pernilla Windberg** (F, Minnesota Duluth).

“We are thrilled to see this level of WCHA representation at the Four Nations Cup, as it is indicative of the league’s continued success at the sport’s highest levels,” said Commissioner Aaron Kemp. “It is a tremendous honor for these players to compete on behalf of their respective countries. We look forward to watching the tournament over the next five days!”

Pool play is set for today (Tuesday, Nov. 4), Wednesday, Nov. 5 and Friday, Nov. 7. The third place and championship games will be held Saturday, Nov. 8 at 5 p.m. and 10 p.m. ET, respectively. A full schedule can be found at http://stats.hockeycanada.ca/schedule/league_instance/17230?subseason=145822.

About Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA)

The women's Western Collegiate Hockey Association has won a record 14 national championships in 15 years since its inception in 1999, while producing six Patty Kazmaier Award winners, 70 All-Americans and numerous Olympic and international team members. The eight-team Division I conference consists of: Bemidji State University (Beavers), the University of Minnesota (Golden Gophers), the University of Minnesota Duluth (Bulldogs), Minnesota State University (Mavericks), the University of North Dakota, Ohio State University (Buckeyes), St. Cloud State University (Huskies) and the University of Wisconsin (Badgers).

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