



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **UW'S CLARK, UND'S AMSLEY-BENZIE AND MSU'S SCHAMMEL NAMED WCHA PLAYERS OF THE WEEK FOR GAMES OF JAN. 30-FEB. 2, 2015**

EDINA, Minn. – Feb. 3, 2015 – A pair of goal-scoring freshman and the nation's hottest goaltender highlight the women's Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA) Players of the Week for games of Jan. 30-Feb. 2, 2015. The honorees are: Wisconsin freshman forward **Emily Clark** (Offensive Player of the Week), North Dakota junior goaltender **Shelby Amsley-Benzie** (Defensive Player of the Week), and Minnesota State freshman forward **Nicole Schammel** (Rookie of the Week).

### **WCHA Offensive Player of the Week**

#### **Emily Clark, Fr., F, Wisconsin (Saskatoon, Saskatchewan)**

Clark, a freshman from Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, had a four-point weekend to pace No. 3 Wisconsin to a WCHA road series sweep at Minnesota State. The rookie played a role in all three Badger goals during Friday's 3-0 victory, scoring twice while assisting on the game-winning score. Clark also had an assist on Jenny Ryan's game-tying goal Saturday, sparking Wisconsin's rally to a 5-1 triumph. She finished the weekend with a +4 rating and nine shots on goal.

*Also nominated:* Zoe Hickel, Sr. F, Minnesota Duluth; Josefine Jakobsen, Sr., F, North Dakota; Taylor Kuehl, Sr., F, Ohio State; Kathleen Rogan, Sr., F, Minnesota State

### **WCHA Defensive Player of the Week**

#### **Shelby Amsley-Benzie, Jr., G, North Dakota (Warroad, Minn.)**

Amsley-Benzie continued her run of stellar play, backstopping North Dakota to a five-point weekend at No. 6 Minnesota Duluth. The junior from Warroad, Minn. recorded her fourth shutout of the season – third against a nationally-ranked opponent – when she stopped all 30 shots faced Friday in a 1-0 victory. She then followed up her shutout performance with a 25-save effort Saturday, helping UND to a 2-2 tie and shootout victory. North Dakota's netminder helped her team's penalty kill go a perfect 6-for-6 on the weekend, stopping 10 shots while short-handed. Amsley-Benzie currently leads the nation with a .949 save percentage. Since Jan. 1, she tops the country with both a .971 save percentage and 0.71 goals against average.

*Also nominated:* Ann-Renée Desbiens, So., G, Wisconsin

– MORE –

## **WCHA Rookie of the Week**

### **Nicole Schammel, F, Minnesota State (Red Wing, Minn.)**

Schammel recorded her first career hat trick and added an assist to lead Minnesota State to a 5-1, Monday night victory over St. Cloud State – the Mavericks' first WCHA win this season. The freshman from Red Wing, Minn. scored a pair of even-strength goals – including the game-winner – in the first period, before adding a power-play strike and an assist in the second. She becomes the first Maverick to record a hat trick since senior teammate Kathleen Rogan on Jan. 2, 2013, and the first Minnesota State freshman with three goals in a game since Rogan accomplished the feat Oct. 22, 2010. Schammel ranks fourth among WCHA freshman with 17 points in 27 games this season (7 goals, 10 assists).

*Also nominated:* Kelly Pannek, F, Minnesota

### **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 1 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).

### **MEDIA CONTACT**

Matt Hodson

Associate Commissioner for Public Relations

E: [mhodson@wcha.com](mailto:mhodson@wcha.com)

O: 952.818.8872

M: 612.801.2808

### **MORE INFORMATION**

Website: [wcha.com](http://wcha.com)

Twitter: [@wcha\\_whoockey](https://twitter.com/wcha_whoockey)

Facebook: [facebook.com/wchawomenshockey](https://facebook.com/wchawomenshockey)

– WCHA –