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MTU'S GOULD AND ROCKWELL, AND BSU'S DRISCOLL AND SILLINGER NAMED WCHA PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

Quartet honored for games of Nov. 23-24, 2018

BLOOMINGTON, Minn. – Nov. 26, 2018 – Following Week 8 of the 2018-19 season, the men's Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA) is proud to recognize four student-athletes as its Players of the Week. The honorees for games of Nov. 23-24, 2018 are: Michigan Technological University junior **Gavin Gould** (Forward) and sophomore **Tyler Rockwell** (Defenseman), and Bemidji State University sophomore **Zach Driscoll** (Goaltender) and freshman forward **Owen Sillinger** (Rookie).

WCHA Forward of the Week

Gavin Gould, Jr., Michigan Tech (North Vancouver, British Columbia)

Gould led the WCHA with three goals last week, recording his second career hat trick Saturday against Alaska. The junior from North Vancouver, British Columbia scored the first three goals for Michigan Tech – including the eventual game-winner – in a 7-2 victory, giving the host Huskies a league sweep of the Nanooks. Gould also added a +3 rating of the series, as Tech closed the first quarter of its WCHA schedule at 6-0-0 and in first place with 18 points. This is Gould's first WCHA weekly award of the 2018-19 season and his third career honor.

Honorable Mention: **Nicolas Erb-Ekholm, Sr., Alaska Anchorage** (scored three goals in two games at No. 17 North Dakota, including a pair Saturday); **Troy Loggins, Sr., Northern Michigan** (scored a power-play goal Friday and added an empty-net strike that stood as the game-winner Saturday, helping the Wildcats to a road split at No. 20 Lake Superior State); **Marc Michaelis, Jr., Minnesota State** (had two points, including the game-winning goal Friday, as the No. 3 Mavericks earned a road split at Bemidji State); **Gage Torrel, Sr., Lake Superior State** (scored two goals Friday, including the game-winner, helping the No. 20 Lakers split with visiting Northern Michigan).

WCHA Defenseman of the Week

Tyler Rockwell, So., Michigan Tech (San Jose, Calif.)

Rockwell led WCHA defensemen with three points and topped all skaters with a +4 rating, helping Michigan Tech to a league sweep of Alaska. The sophomore from San Jose, Calif. scored his first career goal Saturday, while adding a pair of assists – including a helper on Gavin Gould's game-winner. Rockwell added two blocked shots for the league-leading Huskies, earning his first career WCHA weekly award.

Honorable Mention: **Dan Billett, Sr., Bemidji State** (blocked six shots and handed out an assist, helping the Beavers split with No. 3 Minnesota State); **Steven Ruggiero, Jr., Lake Superior State** (had a team-best +3 rating on the weekend, blocked three shots and scored a goal Saturday as the No. 20 Lakers split with visiting Northern Michigan); **Eric Sinclair, So., Alaska Anchorage** (scored a power-play goal Saturday, giving the Seawolves a 3-1 lead at No. 17 North Dakota, while adding six blocked shots on the weekend).

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WCHA Goaltender of the Week

Zach Driscoll, So., Bemidji State (Apple Valley, Minn.)

Driscoll, the Beavers' Saturday-night starter thus far, clamped down on a Minnesota State offense that entered the weekend averaging a WCHA-best 4.5 goals a game, making 19 saves in a 4-2 Bemidji State victory. The sophomore from Apple Valley, Minn. did not allow a single five-on-five goal, helping the Beavers to the home win and split with the third-ranked Mavericks. This is the first career WCHA weekly award for Driscoll, who is in his first season at Bemidji State.

Honorable Mention: Gustavs Grigals, Fr., Alaska [made a WCHA-best 73 saves in the Nanooks' series at Michigan Tech, including a career-high 46 in his start Friday night, a narrow 2-1 loss]; **Devin Kero, Sr., Michigan Tech** [stopped 20-of-21 shots Friday in a 2-1 win over Alaska, an emotional "Copper Country Strong" night in which the Huskies honored volunteers who helped in the aftermath of Houghton's Father's Day Flood, and remembered Kero's late cousin, Thatcher Markham, who tragically lost his life]; **Nick Kossoff, Jr., Lake Superior State** [led WCHA goalies with 118:54 played in net and made 40 saves, including 22 on Friday as the No. 20 Lakers earned a 4-2 win over Northern Michigan]; **Atte Tolvanen, Sr., Northern Michigan** [ranked second in the WCHA with 69 saves, making 34 stops Friday and 25 on Saturday, a 2-1 Wildcats road victory at No. 20 Lake Superior State].

WCHA Rookie of the Week

Owen Sillinger, F, Bemidji State (Regina, Saskatchewan)

Sillinger tied for the WCHA rookie scoring lead with two points and paced all freshmen with a +3 rating, helping Bemidji State earn a split with No. 3 Minnesota State. The Regina, Saskatchewan native helped spark a near-comeback in Friday's 3-2 loss, assisting on Ethan Somoza's second-period goal as BSU rallied from 2-0 down to briefly tie the game at 2-2. Saturday, in his 12th collegiate game, Sillinger was elevated to the Beavers' top center spot and added an assist on Bemidji State's goal just 53 seconds into the contest, jump-starting a 4-2 victory. This is Sillinger's first WCHA weekly award of his freshman season.

Honorable Mention: Ashton Calder, F, Lake Superior State [tallied two assists, including one on the game-winning goal, in the No. 20 Lakers' 4-2 win Friday over Northern Michigan]; **Gustavs Grigals, Fr., Alaska** [made a WCHA-best 73 saves in the Nanooks' series at Michigan Tech, including a career-high 46 in his start Friday night, a narrow 2-1 loss]; **Brian Halonen, F, Michigan Tech** [scored in both games, tying for the NCAA lead with two goals as the Huskies swept visiting Alaska]; **Grant Loven, F, Northern Michigan** [scored his first collegiate point with a goal Friday, the Wildcats' second of the contest in a loss at No. 20 Lake Superior State].

MEDIA CONTACT

Matt Hodson

Associate Commissioner, Marketing & Communications

E: mhodson@wcha.com

O: 952.681.7668

M: 612.801.2808

MORE INFORMATION

Website: wcha.com

Twitter: [@wcha_mhockey](https://twitter.com/wcha_mhockey)

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