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BGSU'S L. CRAGGS, NMU'S BEAULIEU, UAH'S SINCLAIR AND BSU'S ARMOUR NAMED WCHA PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

Quintet honored for games of Dec. 14-15, 2018

BLOOMINGTON, Minn. – Dec. 17, 2018 – Following Week 11 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 Dec. 14-15, 2018 are: Bowling Green State University junior **Lukas Craggs** (Forward), Northern Michigan University junior **Philip Beaulieu** (Defenseman), University of Alabama in Huntsville sophomore **Marc Sinclair** (Goaltender) and Bemidji State University freshman forward **Ross Armour** (Rookie).

WCHA Forward of the Week

Lukas Craggs, Jr. Bowling Green (Elmhurst, Ill.)

Craggs celebrated his 100th collegiate game in style, scoring a pair of goals Saturday – including the game-winner – to help now-No. 9 Bowling Green complete a WCHA home sweep of then-No. 3 Minnesota State. With the host Falcons already up 1-0 in the series finale, Craggs scored twice in a span of 5:39 of game action to give BGSU a 3-0 lead en route to a second-consecutive 4-1 victory. Both goals were even-strength markers, with Craggs' first coming at 17:57 of the first period and standing as the game-winner, with the second at 3:36 of the second stanza. The junior from Elmhurst, Ill. tied for the WCHA goal-scoring lead this last weekend (and now has a league-best 12 this season), while adding eight shots on goal, two blocked shots and a plus-3 rating against the Mavericks. This is Craggs' first WCHA weekly award of the 2018-19 season and his second career honor.

Honorable Mention: **Troy Loggins, Sr., Northern Michigan** (tied Friday's game with a goal and assisted on Saturday's game-winner, helping the Wildcats to a sweep of Ferris State); **Corey Mackin, Sr., Ferris State** (continued his recent surge with a goal and an assist in Saturday night's game at Northern Michigan); **Aaron Miller, So., Bemidji State** (posted a career-best four points in the Beavers' 5-1, Friday night victory over UAA with two goals and two assists – including setting up the game-winner); **Greyson Reitmeier, So., Michigan Tech** (factored in both Huskies goals in a 2-1 win Saturday vs. Alabama Huntsville, assisting on the tying goal in the third period and scoring the overtime winner).

WCHA Defenseman of the Week

Philip Beaulieu, Jr., Northern Michigan (Duluth, Minn.)

Beaulieu tied for the WCHA scoring lead among defensemen with three points, while tying for tops among all league skaters with three assists and a plus-4 rating during Northern Michigan's league sweep of Ferris State. The junior from Duluth, Minn. did his offensive damage in Friday's 4-1 victory, as after the visiting Bulldogs took a 1-0 lead, Beaulieu set up the first three Wildcats goals. He also added his second-straight plus-2 effort in Saturday's 4-2 triumph, helping NMU win for the third time in its last four games. Beaulieu's assists and plus/minus rating were also tied for the best nationally last weekend. This is Beaulieu's first WCHA weekly award of the 2018-19 season and his fourth career honor.

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Honorable Mention: **Dillon Eichstadt, Sr., Bemidji State** [scored his first collegiate game-winning goal Friday in the Beavers' 5-1 victory over Alaska Anchorage, while posting a team-best five blocked shots and tying for the WCHA and NCAA lead with a plus-4 rating]; **Alec Rauhauser, Jr., Bowling Green** [had a pair of assists Friday, including on the game-winning goal, as now-No. 9 Bowling Green opened its sweep of then-No. 3 Minnesota State with a 4-1 victory].

WCHA Goaltender of the Week

Marc Sinclair, So., Alabama Huntsville (Dundas, Ontario)

Sinclair was outstanding all weekend for Alabama Huntsville, leading the nation with 74 saves and ranking second with a WCHA-best .974 save percentage as the Chargers earned a road split at league-leading Michigan Tech. The sophomore from Dundas, Ontario turned in one of UAH's top goaltending efforts in several years during Friday's 1-0 victory, recording his first career shutout with a 39-save performance. Sinclair made Bailey Newton's first period goal stand up with nine saves in the opening stanza, 18 in the second and 12 more in the third, helping the Chargers win despite being outshot by a 39-17 margin. His 39 saves were the most by a Charger in a shutout since Scott Monroe also had 39 stops against Robert Morris on Feb. 26, 2005. Sinclair then blanked Tech for the first 43:15 of Saturday's series finale, finishing with 35 stops in a 2-1 overtime loss to the first-place Huskies. This is Sinclair's second career WCHA weekly award, both of which have come during the 2018-19 season [also on Nov. 19, following Week Seven].

Honorable Mention: **Ryan Bednard, Jr., Bowling Green** [Florida Panthers prospect backstopped now-No. 9 Bowling Green to a sweep of then-No. 3 Minnesota State, posting 48 saves, a .960 save percentage and a 1.00 goals-against average]; **Robbie Beydoun, So., Michigan Tech** [stopped 30-of-32 shots in the Huskies' split with Alabama Huntsville, recording a 1.01 goals-against average and a .938 save percentage]; **Henry Johnson, So., Bemidji State** [in his first back-to-back starting opportunity of the season, made 31 saves with a 1.46 goals-against average and a .932 save percentage in the Beavers' split with Alaska Anchorage]; **Atte Tolvanen, Sr., Northern Michigan** [helped the Wildcats sweep visiting Ferris State with a 1.56 goals-against average, a .933 save percentage, 42 stops and one assist, as he set up Denver Pierce's power-play goal Friday].

WCHA Rookie of the Week

Ross Armour, F, Bemidji State (Trail, British Columbia)

Armour tied for the WCHA rookie scoring lead with three points and paced the league's first-year skaters with a plus-3 rating, helping Bemidji State to a league split with Alaska Anchorage. The freshman from Trail, British Columbia enjoyed a career night Friday, netting three assists in the Beavers' 5-1 victory. Armour more than double his rookie point total [to five] in a single game, as he set up BSU's game-winning goal, along with two others. He added three shots on goal and 17 faceoff wins, while his plus-3 rating was second among NCAA rookies last weekend. This is Armour's first WCHA weekly award of his freshman season.

Honorable Mention: **Griffin Loughran, F, Northern Michigan** [set a career high with three points Saturday, tying for the WCHA rookie scoring lead following his one-goal, two-assist effort in the Wildcats' 4-2, sweep-clinching win over Ferris State]; **Bailey Newton, D, Alabama Huntsville** [notched his first career point by scoring the game-winning goal in the Chargers' 1-0 victory Friday at Michigan Tech, while helping UAH kill off seven-of-eight penalties on the weekend]; **Tim Theocharidis, D, Bowling Green** [scored the game's first goal Saturday, helping now-No. 9 Bowling Green to a 4-1, sweep-clinching victory over then-No. 3 Minnesota State].



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About the Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA) Men's League

The Western Collegiate Hockey Association, among the most historic, tradition-rich and successful conferences in all of collegiate athletics, will proudly mark its 67th season of men's competition in 2018-19. The 10-team Division 1 conference consists of the University of Alabama in Huntsville (Chargers), the University of Alaska Anchorage (Seawolves), the University of Alaska Fairbanks (Nanooks), Bemidji State University (Beavers), Bowling Green State University (Falcons), Ferris State University (Bulldogs), Lake Superior State University (Lakers), Michigan Technological University (Huskies), Minnesota State University (Mavericks) and Northern Michigan University (Wildcats). For more information, visit wcha.com.

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