



PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**MINNESOTA STATE'S GERADS AND McMAHAN,
ALASKA'S THOMPSON AND FERRIS STATE'S KAPELMASTER
NAMED WCHA PLAYERS OF THE WEEK**

Quartet honored for games of Jan. 25-26

BLOOMINGTON, Minn. – Jan. 28, 2019 – Following Week 16 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 Jan. 25-26 are: Minnesota State sophomore **Dallas Gerads** (Forward) and freshman **Shane McMahan** (Rookie), Alaska junior **Tristan Thompson** (Defenseman) and Ferris State junior **Justin Kapelmaster** (Goaltender).

WCHA Forward of the Week

Dallas Gerads, So., Minnesota State (Blaine, Minn.)

Gerads had three goals and two assists for five points to help lead Minnesota State to two wins at Northern Michigan last weekend. The sophomore registered six shots on goal and was +2 in the two victories over the Wildcats. He had a goal and an assist for two points in Friday's 3-2 win. Posted two goals and one assist for three points and a +2 rating in Saturday's 8-2 triumph. The Blaine, Minn., native has 12 goals, five assists and 17 points in 26 games this year. His goals and points totals are career highs.

Honorable Mention: **Nick Cardelli, Fr., Bemidji State** (had two goals, including Saturday's game-winner, and 10 shots on goal in Bemidji State's split at Lake Superior State); **Max Johnson, So., Bowling Green** (scored the game winner on a power play in Bowling Green's Friday win over Ferris State and finished the series at +2 with seven shots on goal). **Jake Transit, Fr., Ferris State** (recorded a goal and an assist in Ferris State's 3-0 road win over then-No. 9 Bowling Green); **Brendan McKay, Jr., Lake Superior State** (tied for third in the WCHA on the weekend with three points on a goal and two assists in the Lakers' split with Bemidji State).

WCHA Defenseman of the Week

Tristan Thompson, Jr., Alaska (Canmore, Alberta)

Thompson's offensive efforts helped the Nanooks to a conference road sweep at Alabama Huntsville this past weekend, defeating the Chargers 3-1 on Friday before earning a 5-2 victory on Saturday. Thompson recorded one goal and two assists for three points over the two-game series, which led all WCHA blueliners over the weekend. Each of Thompson's points came on the man advantage with his lone goal eventually becoming the game-winner on Saturday. Thompson ended the weekend with seven shots on goal and a +2 rating.

Honorable Mention: **Collin Saccoman, Jr., Lake Superior State** (posted a goal, three blocked shots and a +2 rating in the Lakers' split with Bemidji State); **Ian Scheid, Jr., Minnesota State** (recorded two assists, five blocked shots and a +1 rating in Minnesota State's sweep of Northern Michigan).

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WCHA Goaltender of the Week**Justin Kapelmaster, Jr., Ferris State (Coral Springs, Fla.)**

Ferris State University junior netminder Justin Kapelmaster had a big weekend for the Bulldogs as FSU earned a road split against then-No. 9 Bowling Green. Kapelmaster had a league-high 76 saves in the weekend series and allowed only two goals while going the distance between the pipes both nights. He notched his first victory and first shutout win of the year on Saturday night while making an impressive 41 saves in FSU's 3-0 triumph over the Falcons. The shutout was the fourth of his collegiate career. Overall, he posted a 1.03 goals against average and .974 save percentage in the two-game weekend set.

Honorable Mention: **Anton Martinsson, Jr., Alaska** (turned away 50 of 53 shots with a .943 save percentage and 1.51 goals against average as Alaska swept Alabama Huntsville); **Kristian Stead, Fr., Alaska Anchorage** (recorded his first career shutout, stopping 32 shots, in the Seawolves' 0-0 tie with Michigan Tech on Saturday); **Eric Dop, So., Bowling Green** (recorded his second consecutive shutout on Friday as Bowling Green blanked Ferris State, 2-0, turning away 22 Bulldog shots); **Nick Kossoff, Sr., Lake Superior State** (finished 1-1 on the weekend with 62 saves as the Lakers split with Bemidji State); **Matt Jurusik, Jr., Michigan Tech** (stopped all 39 shots he faced over the weekend to earn his first two shutouts with Michigan Tech); **Dryden McKay, Fr., Minnesota State** (posted a 2-0-0 record with a 2.00 goals against average and a .931 save percentage in the Mavericks' sweep of Northern Michigan).

WCHA Rookie of the Week**Shane McMahan, F, Minnesota State (Lakewood, Colo.)**

Scored twice and had an assist, with two shots on goal and a +1 rating in helping lead Minnesota State to a pair of road league wins at Northern Michigan. The Lakewood, Colo., native had his first career multiple-point game, tallying two goals and one assist in Saturday's 8-2 victory over the Wildcats.

Honorable Mention: **Tyler Kirkup, F, Bemidji State** (tied for second among WCHA rookies with two points on the weekend); **Jake Transit, F, Ferris State** (recorded a goal and an assist in Ferris State's 3-0 road win over then No. 9-Bowling Green); **Ashton Calder, F, Lake Superior State** (tallied two assists to tie for the WCHA rookie lead on the weekend, including a helper on the game-winning goal in the Lakers' win over Bemidji State on Friday); **Brian Halonen, F, Michigan Tech** (scored a pair of goals in Michigan Tech's win at Alaska Anchorage on Friday).

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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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