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**BOWLING GREEN'S JOHNSON AND RAUHAUSER,  
MINNESOTA STATE'S MCKAY AND LAKE SUPERIOR STATE'S NORDQVIST  
NAMED WCHA PLAYERS OF THE MONTH**  
*Quartet honored for March 2019 performances*

**BLOOMINGTON, Minn. – April 16, 2019** – With the sixth month of the 2018-19 campaign in the books, the men's Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA) is proud to recognize four student-athletes as its WCHA Players of the Month. The honorees for March 2019 are: Bowling Green sophomore **Max Johnson** (Forward) and junior **Alec Rauhauser** (Defenseman), Minnesota State freshman **Dryden McKay** (Goaltender) and Lake Superior State freshman defenseman **Jacob Nordqvist** (Rookie).

**WCHA Forward of the Month (March 2019)**

**Max Johnson, So., Bowling Green (Lakeville, Minn.)**

Bowling Green's **Max Johnson** finished a career month in March, collecting WCHA Forward of the Week honors in consecutive weeks (March 11 and 18). Johnson finished the final month of the season with 14 points on six goals and eight assists. The Lakeville, Minn., native opened the month with a goal and an assist in two consecutive games in BGSU's victories over Alabama Huntsville and Michigan Tech. Johnson then exploded for four points in back-to-back games against Michigan Tech and Northern Michigan. Johnson recorded one assist in both the WCHA Championship Game at Minnesota State and the Falcons' NCAA Midwest Regional game against eventual national champion Minnesota Duluth. Johnson ended the 2018-19 season as Bowling Green's leader in points (43), goals (19) and power play goals (10). His power play goal total shared the national lead. This is Johnson's second Forward of the Month honor this season.

*Honorable Mention:* **Diego Cuglietta, Sr., Lake Superior State** (recorded seven points on five goals and two assists in March along with nine blocked shots, 67 faceoff wins and a +6 rating); **Nick Rivera, Jr., Minnesota State** (propelled the Mavericks to the WCHA postseason title with his overtime game-winning goal in the championship contest against Bowling Green).

**WCHA Defenseman of the Month (March 2019)**

**Alec Rauhauser, Jr., Bowling Green (Bismarck, N.D.)**

Bowling Green's **Alec Rauhauser** led all WCHA defensemen in points with six in March, collecting WCHA Defenseman of the Week honors twice in the process. The junior from Bismarck, N.D. began the month with a power play goal and an assist in Bowling Green's win over Alabama Huntsville. He then had two assists in BGSU's 6-1 win in opening game of its semifinal series with Northern Michigan before scoring another power play goal in the WCHA Championship Game against Minnesota State. Rauhauser also anchored the offense at the blue line putting 21 shots on goal and led all WCHA defensemen in power play goals with two. This is Rauhauser's second Defenseman of the Month honor this season.

*Honorable Mention:* **Collin Saccoman, Jr., Lake Superior State** (led the WCHA in blocked shots with 17 in March and finished the month with a goal and three assists as the Lakers reached the WCHA semifinals).

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## WCHA Goaltender of the Month (March 2019)

**Dryden McKay, Fr., Minnesota State (Downers Grove, Ill.)**

Minnesota State freshman **Dryden McKay** finished March with a 6-1 record as the Mavericks won the WCHA postseason championship and advanced to the NCAA East Regional. The Downers Grove, Ill., native stopped 152 of 163 shots to finish the month with a 1.59 goals against average and a .933 save percentage. He stopped 31 shots in MSU's 2-0 semifinal series clinching victory over Lake Superior State and stopped 17 of 19 shots in the Mavericks' come-from-behind 3-2 overtime win over Bowling Green in the WCHA Championship Game. This is McKay's second consecutive Goaltender of the Month award.

**Honorable Mention:** **Ryan Bednard, Jr., Bowling Green** (stopped 202 of 217 shots in March to help lead the Falcons to their first NCAA tournament appearance in 29 years); **Nick Kossoff, Sr., Lake Superior State** (led the WCHA with a .940 save percentage in March and ranked third in saves with 189 and goals against average at 2.04).

## WCHA Rookie of the Month (March 2019)

**Jacob Nordqvist, F, Lake Superior State (Gothenburg, Sweden)**

Lake Superior State defenseman **Jacob Nordqvist** led all WCHA rookies with nine blocked shots, while ranking second in assists with three, tying for second in plus-minus at +2, tying for third in points with three and tying for fourth in power-play points with one to help Lake Superior State to a 3-3 record in March. Lake Superior State was 2-0 when Nordqvist recorded a point and 3-0 when he recorded a +1 rating. Nordqvist recorded an assist in the Lakers' 5-2 win over Ferris State on March 1 and he tallied two assists, including one on the game-winning goal, in the Lakers' 3-1 WCHA quarterfinal-clinching win over Bemidji State. This is Nordqvist's second Rookie of the Month honor this season.

**Honorable Mention:** None.

## *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, proudly marked its 67<sup>th</sup> season of men's competition in 2018-19. The 10-team Division I 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](http://wcha.com).

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