



Hockey Commissioners Association

For Immediate Release:
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MINNESOTA'S KENT PATTERSON NAMED NATIONAL COLLEGE HOCKEY PLAYER OF THE MONTH MINNESOTA'S KYLE RAU TABBED AS ROOKIE OF THE MONTH

WAKEFIELD, Mass. – University of Minnesota goaltender Kent Patterson, who posted a 7-1-0 record, a 1.74 goals-against average, a .939 saves percentage and a nation's best four shutouts in eight starts between the pipes, is the Hockey Commissioners' Association National Division I Player of the Month for October.



A 6-1, 196-pound senior from Plymouth, Minn., Patterson began the 2011-12 season with three straight home shutouts, blanking Sacred Heart twice (9-0 and 6-0 on Oct. 7 & 8) and Vermont once (6-0 on Oct. 21). He then picked up his first road shutout on Oct. 28 with a 5-0 triumph at league rival Alaska Anchorage. A perfect 4-0-0 on the road, Patterson's seven victory-month also includes a WCHA sweep at defending national champion Minnesota Duluth on Oct. 14-15 when he posted back-to-back, career-high, 46-save performances. Named WCHA co-Defensive Player of the Week twice in the month, he surrendered just nine even-strength goals in eight games, with five coming on the power-play.



Patterson's four shutouts in October make him the third recorded Minnesota goaltender to shutout an opponent more than three times in the same month by himself, joining Robb Stauber in 1988 and George Clausen in February of 1934. His four shutouts also are one shy of the UM season record of five, set by Stauber in 1987-88 when he won the Hobey Baker Memorial Award.



Kyle Rau, a freshman forward at the University of Minnesota, is the choice as HCA National Rookie of the Month for October.



A 5-8, 172-pound freshman from Eden Prairie, Minn., Rau produced 13 scoring points (7g, 6a) in eight games in the month of October, notching at least one point in seven games. He had six multiple-point games and scored at least one goal in six of those eight games.



Rau, who is the team's first line left wing, leads all freshmen nationally in both scoring and goals, has four power-play goals, three game-winners and is tied for the team lead with a +12 plus/minus rating. He was named the WCHA Rookie of the Month on Oct. 18 after helping the Golden Gophers to a road sweep over defending national champion Minnesota Duluth.

HCA Commissioners' Choice Awards October, 2011

National Player of the Month
Kent Patterson, G, Minnesota, WCHA

National Rookie of the Month
Kyle Rau, F, Minnesota, WCHA

Honorable Mention Player of the Month
Bill Arnold, F, Boston College, HEA
Kyle De Laurell, F, Air Force, AHA
Jeremy Langlois, F, Quinnipiac, ECACH
Anders Lee, F, Notre Dame, CCHA

Honorable Mention Rookie of the Month
Cole Gunner, F, Air Force, AHA
Phil Di Giuseppe, F, Michigan, CCHA
Johnny Gaudreau, F, Boston College, HEA
Matthew Peca, F, Quinnipiac, ECACH

*Bob DeGregorio, Atlantic Hockey • Fred Pletsch, CCHA
Steve Hagwell, ECAC Hockey • Joe Bertagna, Hockey East
Bruce McLeod, WCHA*