

## Western Collegiate Hockey Association

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### Home of a Record 37 Men's National Championship Teams Since 1951

1952, 1953, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1968, 1969, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1987, 1990, 1991, 1997, 2000, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2011

### Men's Conference Members

University of Alaska Anchorage

Bemidji State University

Colorado College

University of Denver

Michigan Technological University

University of Minnesota

University of Minnesota Duluth

Minnesota State University

University of Nebraska Omaha

University of North Dakota

St. Cloud State University

University of Wisconsin

### 2012 Red Baron™

#### WCHA Final Five

March 15-17 • Xcel Energy Center

Saint Paul, MN

## WCHA.com



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## Denver's Shore and Olkinuora, North Dakota's Gaarder Named Red Baron® WCHA Men's Players of the Week

### Red Baron® WCHA Offensive Player of the Week

#### Drew Shore • Junior, Forward, University of Denver

MADISON, Wis. – University of Denver centerman Drew Shore, who topped all conference players with five points while leading his team to back-to-back non-conference victories last weekend, has been named the Red Baron® WCHA Offensive Player of the Week for Jan. 4. This marks the second offensive player of the week for Shore this season, with his first coming on Oct. 25 after a league sweep of Minnesota State.

A 6-2, 195-pound junior from Denver, Colo., Shore led the Pioneers with three goals, two assists and five points as Denver defeated No. 10-ranked Union College 3-1 at Magness Arena on Dec. 30 and Air Force 7-1 on the road on Dec. 31. A draftee of the NHL's Florida Panthers, Shore tallied the first goal of the game against Union last Friday night and then matched a career-high with four points (2g, 2a), including a team-leading fifth game-winner, in the victory at Air Force last Saturday evening. All three of his goals came on the power-play, as DU went 5-for-8 with the man-advantage in the two contests.

Tied for first in the WCHA in overall scoring this season with 29 points (12g, 17a), Shore also had eight shots on goal in the two games, earned a +3 rating, won 59% of his faceoffs and had six hits.

Also nominated: Shea Walters, F, BSU; Brent Gwidt, F, UNO; Connor Gaardner, F, UND.

### Red Baron® WCHA Defensive Player of the Week

#### Juho Olkinuora • Freshman, Goaltender, University of Denver

MADISON, Wis. – Goaltender Juho Olkinuora, who yielded just one even-strength goal and stopped 70 of 72 shots on goal in wins over Union College and Air Force last weekend, has been honored as the Red Baron® WCHA Defensive Player of the Week for Jan. 4. Olkinuora also earned the league's rookie of the week on Nov. 29 (vs Princeton and Miami).

A 6-2, 200-pound freshman from Helsinki, Finland, Olkinuora recorded a career-high 42 saves and two shutout periods in Denver's 3-1 win over No. 10-ranked Union last Friday night at Magness Arena, with the lone goal he allowed coming on a first period power-play. He then added 28 more saves and two more shutout periods in a 7-1 road victory over Air Force last Saturday, which included stopping a 6x3 Falcon advantage during the final period. His saves percentage for the two games was .972.

Through 12 games played this season, Olkinuora has fashioned a 5-5-2 record with a 2.20 goals-against average and a .925 saves percentage in relief of injured Sam Brittain and Adam Murray.

Also nominated: Andrew Walsh, G, BSU; Mike Boivin, D, CC; Josh Robinson, G, MTU; Nick Mattson, D, UND; Nick Jensen, D, SCSU.

### Red Baron® WCHA Rookie of the Week

#### Connor Gaardner • Freshman, Forward, University of North Dakota

MADISON, Wis. – University of North Dakota right winger Connor Gaardner, who contributed two goals and four scoring points to lead his club to a non-conference victory and tie against visiting Harvard last weekend, has been named the Red Baron® WCHA Rookie of the Week for Jan. 4.

A 5-10, 183-pound freshman from Edina, Minn., Gaardner netted his first collegiate goal at 12:51 of the second period last Friday at Ralph Engelstad Arena in Grand Forks, giving North Dakota a 4-2 lead over Harvard in an eventual 4-4 overtime draw. He then came back last Saturday night with his first collegiate three-point game, scoring a first period power-play goal to give UND a 2-1 lead and adding assists on two other scores as North Dakota skated to a 7-3 triumph over the Crimson. In addition to his four points in the series, Gaardner also earned a +3 plus/minus rating and fired six shots on goal.

After launching his UND career with one point in his first six games, Gaardner now has six points (2g, 4a) in his last five contests.

Also nominated: Matt Prapavessis, F, BSU; Joey LaLeggia, D, DU; Jayson Megna, F, UNO; Ryan Faragher, G, SCSU.