

Western Collegiate Hockey Association

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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 Member Teams

University of Alabama in Huntsville
University of Alaska Anchorage
University of Alaska Fairbanks
Bemidji State University
Bowling Green State University
Ferris State University
Lake Superior State University
Michigan Technological University
Minnesota State University
Northern Michigan University

2014 WCHA Final Five Playoff Championship Friday, March 21 & Saturday, March 22 Van Andel Arena, Grand Rapids, MI

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February 11, 2014/For Immediate Release

MTU's Pietila, FSU's Motte, MSU's Flanagan Named WCHA Men's Players of the Week

WCHA Offensive Player of the Week Blake Pietila, F Michigan Tech

Michigan Technological University forward Blake Pietila, who topped all conference players with four goals, six points and 12 shots on goal while earning Winter Carnival MVP honors last weekend, is the WCHA Men's Offensive Player of the Week for Feb. 11, 2014.

A 5-11, 190-pound junior captain from Brighton, Mich., Pietila led the Huskies to a pair of Feb. 7-8 victories over Alabama Huntsville at John MacInnes Ice Arena in Houghton, giving his club their second consecutive WCHA sweep and moving them up into third place in the league race.

Pietila scored a pair of goals and had seven shots on goal in Michigan Tech's 4-1 win over the Chargers last Friday, then added two more goals and two assists for a four-point game and put five more shots on net in a 10-4 victory on Saturday. He also scored the game-opening goal both nights and earned a +3 series plus/minus rating en route to being named Winter Carnival MVP for his performance.

The six-point series moved Pietila into the team scoring lead with 24 points (8g, 16a) in 31 games played this season.

Winners of four straight and standing 5-1 over their last six games, Michigan Tech is looking for the program's first WCHA home playoff berth since 1993.

Also nominated: Jack Prince, F, UAH; Andrew Pettitt, F, UAA; Cory Kane, F, FSU; Matt Leitner, F, MSU.

WCHA Defensive Player of the Week C.J. Motte, G Ferris State

Ferris State University goaltender C.J. Motte, who yielded just one even-strength goal while backstopping the Bulldogs to a home-ice sweep over league rival Northern Michigan last weekend, has been named the WCHA Men's Defensive Player of the Week for Feb. 11, 2014.

A 6-0, 190-pound junior from St. Clair, Michigan, Motte turned aside 58 of 60 shots on goal for a .967 series save percentage, posted four shutout periods, and blanked the Wildcats on eight of their nine power-play opportunities.

In a 7-1 Ferris State victory at Ewingleben Sports Arena in Big Rapids last Friday (Feb. 7) evening, Motte had 29 saves while surrendering only a first period power-play goal. He also earned his third assist of the season on his team's sixth tally in the third period.

Then last Saturday (Feb. 8) night, Motte came back with another 29-save outing before a sellout crowd of 2,490 as the Bulldogs prevailed 2-1 over NMU despite being outshot 30-28. The two wins allowed No. 4 Ferris State (20-6-3) to remain in sole possession of first place in the WCHA standings and move up to third overall in the national Pairwise rankings.

Motte, who tops all league goaltenders with a 19-4-3 overall record and .788 winning percentage this season, is also second in overall save percentage at .927 and fourth in overall goals-against average at 2.25.

Also nominated: Matt Prapavessis, D, BSU.

WCHA Rookie of the Week Sean Flanagan, D Minnesota State

Defenseman Sean Flanagan, who played a prominent role at both ends of the ice to help host Minnesota State University to a league sweep over Bemidji State last weekend, is the WCHA Men's Rookie of the Week for Feb. 11, 2014.

A 6-1, 180-pound freshman from Kindersly, Saskatchewan, Flanagan scored a game-winning goal, had six blocked shots, earned a +2 plus/minus rating and had four shots on goal as the Mavericks defeated the Beavers twice at Verizon Wireless Center in Mankato. He also helped MSU blank BSU on all 11 series power-play chances.

Flanagan opened the two-game series on Friday (Feb. 7) night with two blocked shots, two shots on goal, and a +1 rating in MSU's 5-2 victory. Then last Saturday (Feb. 8) evening, he came back to score the game-winning goal at 9:07 of the third period, had four more blocked shots, put two more shots on goal, and was again a +1 as the Mavericks gained a 3-2 triumph. For his efforts, he was named the Second Star of the Game.

Flanagan, who has five points in the last five games with one goal and four assists, has contributed 4-7=11 in 22 games in his inaugural collegiate campaign.

The two wins keep second place Minnesota State within two points of league-leading Ferris State with a month to go in the regular season.

Also nominated: Brendan Harms, F, BSU; Jared VanWormer, F, FSU; Alex Globke, F, LSSU; Reid Sturos, F, MTU.