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MINNESOTA STATE'S MIKE HASTINGS NAMED STX/AHCA MEN'S DIVISION I COACH OF THE YEAR

Mavericks' coach honored with Spencer Penrose Award after leading his team to 29-8-3 season

EDINA, Minn. – April 8, 2015 – After leading his team to a 29-8-3 season that included both the Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA) regular season and tournament titles, along with the top seed for the 2015 NCAA tournament, Minnesota State's Mike Hastings has been chosen winner of the 2015 Spencer Penrose Award as Division I Men's Ice Hockey STX/AHCA Coach of the Year.

Hastings will receive his award on Saturday evening, May 2, during the American Hockey Coaches Association annual convention in Naples, Fla.

Minnesota State's 2014-15 season included the first MacNaughton Cup trophy in school history as WCHA regular season champion, as Hastings guided the Mavericks to an .804 conference winning percentage (21-4-3) – the third-best mark in WCHA history for a 28-game league season. Hastings and the Mavericks then went on a 4-0 run through the league playoffs to successfully defend their Broadmoor Trophy title as Final Five champions.

The Mavericks also ascended to the top of the national opinion polls for the first time in program annals, spending five weeks at No. 1 in the USCHO.com and *USA Today/USA Hockey Magazine* rankings (Jan. 12, Jan. 19, Feb. 2, Feb. 9 and March 23).

A two-time WCHA Coach of the Year (2013 and 2015) honoree, Hastings is 79-36-7 over his first three years at Minnesota State – the most wins of any DI program in the country since 2012.

Hastings becomes the 16th coach (18th occurrence) in WCHA history to earn the Spencer Penrose Award.

WCHA Winners of the Spencer Penrose Award (Division I Coach of the Year)

1952 – Cheddy Thompson, Colorado College

1953 – John Mariucci, Minnesota

1954 – Vic Heyliger, Michigan

1961 – Murray Armstrong, Denver

1963 – Tony Frasca, Colorado College

1966 – Amo Bessone, Michigan State

1970 – John MacInnes, Michigan Tech

1976 – John MacInnes, Michigan Tech

1984 – Mike Sertich, Minnesota Duluth
1986 – Ralph Backstrom, Denver
1987 – John “Gino” Gasparini, North Dakota
1991 – Rick Comley, Northern Michigan
1994 – Don Lucia, Colorado College
1997 – Dean Blais, North Dakota
2001 – Dean Blais, North Dakota
2004 – Scott Sandelin, Minnesota Duluth
2005 – George Gwozdecky, Denver

- For the full release from the American Hockey Coaches Association, click [here](#).
- For the full release from Minnesota State, click [here](#).

About Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA)

The Western Collegiate Hockey Association, among the most historic, tradition-rich and successful conferences in all of collegiate athletics, proudly marks its 63rd season of men’s competition in 2014-15. Covering five time zones and more than 4,200 miles, 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 (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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