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## FSU'S MACKIN, UAH'S LAROSE AND LSSU'S TORREL NAMED WCHA PLAYERS OF THE WEEK FOR FEB. 8-14, 2016

EDINA, Minn. – Feb. 15, 2016 – For their efforts in helping their respective teams earn crucial league points last weekend, the men's Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA) Players of the Week for Feb. 8-14, 2016 are: Ferris State freshman forward **Corey Mackin** (Offensive Player of the Week), Alabama Huntsville junior goaltender **Matt Larose** (Defensive Player of the Week) and Lake Superior State freshman forward **Gage Torrel** (Rookie of the Week).

### WCHA Offensive Player of the Week

#### **Corey Mackin, Fr., F, Ferris State (Philadelphia, Pa.)**

Mackin achieved the rare honor of earning Offensive Player of the Week accolades as a freshman, as he led the WCHA with four points in Ferris State's split against Northern Michigan in front of consecutive sellout crowds at the Ewingleben Ice Arena. The rookie from Philadelphia, Pa. picked up the primary assist on three-consecutive Bulldog goals in the second period of a decisive, 5-1 victory Friday night that enabled Ferris State to clinch a spot in the 2016 WCHA playoffs. He then came back with the lead helper on a power-play goal Saturday as FSU jumped out to a 2-0 lead. Mackin totaled four shots on goal and a +2 rating for the weekend. This is Mackin's third career WCHA weekly award, as he has also earned a pair of Rookie of the Week nods this season.

**Also nominated:** Brendan Harms, Jr., F, Bemidji State (*netted the tie-breaking, third-period game-winner to lift BSU to a 2-1 win Friday at Lake Superior State*); Matt Salhany, Jr., F, Alabama Huntsville (*his short-handed goal with 1:03 remaining lifted UAH to a 1-1 tie Saturday vs. No. 17 Minnesota State*); Dominik Shine, Jr., F, Northern Michigan (*had three assists, including on Darren Nowick's third-period game-winner Saturday, as NMU earned a road split at Ferris State*).

### WCHA Defensive Player of the Week

#### **Matt Larose, Jr., G, Alabama Huntsville (Nainaimo, British Columbia)**

Larose turned in a stellar weekend in the Alabama Huntsville net, leading the Chargers to a pair of ties against nationally-ranked and league-leading Minnesota State, despite being outshot 87-38. The junior from Nainaimo, British Columbia led the WCHA and ranked third nationally with 83 saves – including 13 in the two overtimes alone – and finished the weekend with a .954 save percentage. Larose's 49 saves in a 1-1 draw Saturday were the most in a game by a WCHA netminder this season, as he stopped 16 shots in the first period, 15 in the second, 12 in the third and six more in the extra session. He also added 27 saves in the series opener, a 3-3 deadlock. This is Larose's first career WCHA weekly award.

**Also nominated:** Brandon Anselmini, Sr., D, Ferris State (*had two assists and a WCHA-high +4 rating as FSU split with Northern Michigan*); Michael Bitzer, So., G, Bemidji State (*went 2-1-0 with 71 saves, a .959 save percentage and 1.01 goals-against average as BSU earned wins at Minnesota Duluth and Lake Superior State*); Gordon Defiel, So., G, Lake Superior State (*posted a 30-save shutout in LSSU's 3-0 win Saturday over Bemidji State, while leading the WCHA with a .965 save percentage last week*).

## **WCHA Rookie of the Week**

### **Gage Torrel, Fr., F, Lake Superior State (Monticello, Minn.)**

Torrel helped Lake Superior State snap a six-game losing streak, factoring in two goals as the Lakers posted a 3-0 victory Saturday against a hot Bemidji State team. The freshman from Monticello, Minn. set up the game-winning goal, collecting the primary assist on J.T. Henke's power-play strike that snapped a scoreless tie deep into the third period. He later added an empty-net goal to help seal the win, while he finished the weekend with seven shots on goal, a +1 rating and an .800 winning percentage in the face-off circle (4-for-5). This is the second WCHA weekly award of Torrel's freshman campaign.

**Also nominated:** Dan Billett, Fr., D, Bemidji State (*logged a team-high six blocked shots in BSU's split at Lake Superior State*); Madison Dunn, Fr., F, Alabama Huntsville (*posted his first collegiate goal and multi-goal performance in UAH's 3-3 tie against No. 17 Minnesota State on Friday*).

### **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 64<sup>th</sup> season of men's competition in 2015-16. 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](http://wcha.com).

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