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WCHA ANNOUNCES 2016-17 ALL-LEAGUE TEAMS

All-WCHA and All-Academic teams honored

EDINA, Minn. – March 9, 2017 – Before the league’s “Battle for the Broadmoor” continues with this weekend’s playoff semifinals, the men’s Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA) is pausing to recognize the 26 student-athletes represented on its 2016-17 all-league teams, along with 143 All-Academic honorees, as announced today by WCHA President and Men’s League Commissioner **Bill Robertson**.

Bemidji State, Michigan Tech, Minnesota State and Bowling Green – the four teams participating in this weekend’s semifinal round of the 2017 WCHA Playoffs – lead the way with a combined 18 selections, including five of six spots on the All-WCHA First Team. Minnesota State freshman forward **Marc Michaelis**, who enters the weekend tied for third among NCAA first-year skaters with a WCHA-best 36 points, is the first rookie to land on the All-WCHA First Team under the league’s current configuration.

The 2016-17 WCHA Player, Defensive Player, Rookie, Student-Athlete and Coach of the Year, respectively, will all be announced next week.

All-WCHA First Team

Michaelis is joined on the 2016-17 All-WCHA First Team forward line by Ferris State senior **Gerald Mayhew** and Bowling Green junior **Mitch McLain**. A native of Mannheim, Germany, Michaelis ranked second in the league scoring race with 28 points in 28 WCHA games, while pacing circuit rookies with 13 goals and 28 points. Mayhew was a unanimous first-team selection; the Wyandotte, Mich. native concluded an outstanding career by earning the WCHA scoring title with 30 points (15 goals and 15 assists) in 26 league games. McLain matched Mayhew with 15 goals in league play, while adding nine assists for 24 points; the Baxter, Minn. native has set career highs with 17 goals, 15 assists and 32 points overall, while he is one of seven NCAA players with multiple hat tricks this season.

The first-team defensemen are Minnesota State sophomore **Daniel Brickley** (Sandy, Utah) and Michigan Tech junior **Matt Roy** (Canton, Mich.). Despite missing six league games (and eight overall) due to injury, Brickley paced WCHA blue-liners with 19 assists, 26 points (third among all WCHA skaters) and 14 power-play points in just 22 league contests, while ranking second with 55 blocked shots. He also enters this weekend’s semifinals ranked second nationally among defensemen with an average of 1.07 points per game (30, on eight goals and 22 assists, in 28 games). Roy, a Los Angeles Kings prospect, tallied 16 points (5g-11a) in 25 WCHA games, while he has helped anchor a Michigan Tech defense that allows the fewest shots per game in the country.

Hobey Baker Award candidate **Michael Bitzer** from Bemidji State is the unanimous choice as first-team goaltender. The junior from Moorhead, Minn. set a league record with his 1.40 goals-against average in

WCHA games, while he also paced the league with a .940 save percentage, 20 wins, a .778 winning percentage (20-5-2), five shutouts (tied) and 1625:40 in net. He enters the WCHA semifinals with an NCAA-best 1.65 overall GAA and six shutouts, while he ranks fourth nationally with a .933 save percentage.

All-WCHA Second Team

With a tie in voting, there is a quartet of forwards on the 2016-17 All-WCHA Second Team: Minnesota State junior **C.J. Franklin** (Forest Lake, Minn.), Lake Superior State sophomore **Mitch Hults** (Stoughton, Wis.), Bemidji State senior **Phillip Marinaccio** (Nobleton, Ontario) and Ferris State sophomore **Corey Mackin** (Philadelphia, Pa). Franklin, a Winnipeg Jets draftee, and Hults, the Lakers' top scorer, each tied for fourth in WCHA play with identical statistical lines of nine goals, 15 assists and 24 points in 28 games. After recording 10 goals and 28 points in his first three collegiate seasons, Marinaccio has scored 10 times as a senior and leads the Beavers with 28 points heading into the semifinals (he had seven goals and 14 assists in 28 WCHA contests). Mackin followed up his 2015-16 WCHA Rookie of the Year campaign with a 26-point sophomore season (13g-13a), including 21 points in league games (11g-10a).

A pair of seniors man the second-team blue line in Michigan Tech's **Shane Hanna** (Salmon Arm, British Columbia) and Bowling Green's **Sean Walker** (Keswick, Ontario). Hanna contributed five goals (two game-winners), 11 assists and 39 blocked shots in 28 league games; one of Tech's assistant captains, he is third on the team with 23 points (7g-16a) entering the semifinals. Walker, who wears the "C" for Bowling Green, led WCHA defensemen with 98 shots on goal in league games; he has contributed 24 points overall (10g-14a) heading into the semis.

The second-team goaltender is Northern Michigan sophomore **Atte Tolvanen**, who backstopped the Wildcats to the WCHA playoffs with a record-setting second half. The native of Vihti, Finland established the WCHA record, and matched the all-time NCAA Division I men's mark, with five-straight shutouts between Jan. 21 and Feb. 11; he also set a league standard with a 339:05 scoreless streak (the second-longest in NCAA men's history). Tolvanen ranked second nationally with a .939 save percentage after Jan. 1; he was 12th with a 2.05 goals-against average in that span, as NMU went 9-6-2 over its final 17 games.

All-WCHA Third Team

The forwards on the 2016-17 All-WCHA Third Team are Minnesota State's **Brad McClure**, a junior from Stratford, Ontario; Northern Michigan's **Dominik Shine**, a senior from Pinckney, Mich.; and, Bemidji State's **Gerry Fitzgerald**, a junior from Port Alberni, British Columbia. McClure tied for eighth in the WCHA scoring race with 22 points (11g-11a) in 28 league games, while he enters the semifinals in the top-20 nationally with 129 shots on goal to date. Shine became the first Northern Michigan skater since future NHL player Mark Olver in 2007-08 to score 20 goals in a season, hitting that number exactly to tie for 10th nationally – despite missing the first six games of the year. Fitzgerald scored all 12 of his goals in WCHA games to rank seventh in the league; his league-best eight power-play goals are tied for 13th nationally heading into the semifinal weekend.

The third-team defensemen are Bowling Green junior **Mark Friedman** (Toronto, Ontario) and Alabama Huntsville sophomore **Kurt Gosselin** (Brighton, Mich.). Friedman, a Philadelphia Flyers prospect, is fourth on the team in scoring with 25 points (8g-17a) heading into the Falcons' semifinal round series; he also tied for the WCHA blue-liner lead with two game-winning goals in league games. Gosselin becomes the first Charger to earn a spot on an All-WCHA First, Second or Third Team, while he joins teammate Max McHugh (2014-15 All-Rookie selection) as the two UAH league honorees. He led WCHA defensemen with nine goals in just 24 league games, while he added nine conference assists to tie for fourth with 18 points.

Ferris State freshman **Justin Kapelmaster** is the third-team goaltender. The native of Coral Springs, Fla.

played in 16 WCHA games (14 starts), and was second in the league with a .924 save percentage and .714 winning percentage (9-3-2). His rookie season ended with a .930 overall save percentage, which currently ranks fifth nationally.

WCHA All-Rookie Team

Michaelis headlines the 2016-17 WCHA All-Rookie Team forwards, along with Northern Michigan's **Darien Craighead** (Surrey, British Columbia) and Lake Superior State's **Max Humitz** (Livonia, Mich.). Craighead finished second in the WCHA freshman scoring race with 20 points in 28 league games, while he tied for the league rookie lead with 16 assists (his 18 helpers overall are currently tied for ninth among NCAA rookies). Humitz scored 13 goals overall, currently tied for 10th nationally by a freshman, including 10 in WCHA games to rank second among circuit rookies (he also added seven assists for 17 league points).

A rare three-way tie in voting gives the All-Rookie team four defensemen. Leading the way is Minnesota State's **Ian Scheid**; the Coon Rapids, Minn. native led all WCHA skaters with a +14 rating in league play, while his 19 conference points (7g-12a) tied for the league lead among freshmen blue-liners (tied for second overall for defensemen). Scheid's 23 points overall (7g-16a) entering the weekend is tied for third nationally by a freshman defenseman. Joining Scheid is Bowling Green's **Alec Rauhauser** (Bismark, N.D.), who tallied 16 points (2g-14a) in WCHA games; Michigan Tech's **Mitch Reinke** (Stillwater, Minn.), who scored five goals with 12 assists for 17 points during league play; and, Bemidji State's **Zach Whitecloud** (Brandon, Manitoba), a special teams standout who led all WCHA skaters with 11 power-play assists in conference action.

Michigan Tech's **Angus Redmond**, who has backstopped the Huskies to this weekend's WCHA semifinals, is the all-rookie goaltender. Beginning with a shutout victory in his first start Oct. 28, the Langley, British Columbia native ranked second in the WCHA with 14 wins and a 1.94 goals-against average in 25 league games (24 starts). He enters the league semifinals ranked third nationally with an overall 1.85 GAA, while he is tied for seventh with four shutouts and tied for 10th with 19 wins.

About the 2016-17 WCHA Awards

League member team head coaches vote for the All-WCHA selections. Points for all-league teams are awarded on a five-point (First Team vote), three-point (Second Team vote), and one-point (Third Team vote) basis, while the all-rookie team is determined by total votes received.

2016-17 ALL-WCHA TEAMS

FIRST TEAM

PLAYER (YEAR / HOMETOWN)	POSITION	SCHOOL
Gerald Mayhew (Sr. / Wyandotte, Mich.)	Forward	Ferris State University
Mitch McLain (Jr. / Baxter, Minn.)	Forward	Bowling Green State University
Marc Michaelis (Fr. / Mannheim, Germany)	Forward	Minnesota State University
Daniel Brickley (So. / Sandy, Utah)	Defenseman	Minnesota State University
Matt Roy (Jr. / Canton, Mich.)	Defenseman	Michigan Technological University
Michael Bitzer (Jr. / Moorhead, Minn.)	Goaltender	Bemidji State University

SECOND TEAM

PLAYER (YEAR / HOMETOWN)	POSITION	SCHOOL
C.J. Franklin (Jr. / Forest Lake, Minn.)	Forward	Minnesota State University
Mitch Hults (So. / Stoughton, Wis.)	Forward	Lake Superior State University
Phillip Marinaccio (Sr. / Nobleton, Ontario)	Forward	Bemidji State University
Corey Mackin (So. / Philadelphia, Pa.)	Forward	Ferris State University
Shane Hanna (Sr. / Salmon Arm, British Columbia)	Defenseman	Michigan Technological University
Sean Walker (Sr. / Keswick, Ontario)	Defenseman	Bowling Green State University
Atte Tolvanen (So. / Vihti, Finland)	Goaltender	Northern Michigan University

THIRD TEAM

PLAYER (YEAR / HOMETOWN)	POSITION	SCHOOL
Brad McClure (Jr. / Stratford, Ontario)	Forward	Minnesota State University
Dominik Shine (Sr. / Pinckney, Mich.)	Forward	Northern Michigan University
Gerry Fitzgerald (Jr. / Port Alberni, British Columbia)	Forward	Bemidji State University
Mark Friedman (Jr. / Toronto, Ontario)	Defenseman	Bowling Green State University
Kurt Gosselin (So. / Brighton, Mich.)	Defenseman	University of Alabama in Huntsville
Justin Kapelmaster (Fr. / Coral Springs, Fla.)	Goaltender	Ferris State University

ALL-ROOKIE TEAM

PLAYER (YEAR / HOMETOWN)	POSITION	SCHOOL
Marc Michaelis (Fr. / Mannheim, Germany)	Forward	Minnesota State University
Darien Craighead (Fr. / Surrey, British Columbia)	Forward	Northern Michigan University
Max Humitz (Fr. / Livonia, Mich.)	Forward	Lake Superior State University
Ian Scheid (Fr. / Coon Rapids, Minn.)	Defenseman	Minnesota State University
Alec Rauhauser (Fr. / Bismark, N.D.)	Defenseman	Bowling Green State University
Mitch Reinke (Fr. / Stillwater, Minn.)	Defenseman	Michigan Technological University
Zach Whitecloud (Fr. / Brandon, Manitoba)	Defenseman	Bemidji State University
Angus Redmond (Fr. / Langley, British Columbia)	Goaltender	Michigan Technological University

2016-17 WCHA All-Academic Team

A total of 143 student-athletes, representing all 10 member institutions, have earned distinction as members of the men's 2016-17 WCHA All-Academic Team. To earn recognition as a member of the WCHA All-Academic Team, student-athletes must have completed one year of eligibility at their present institution prior to the current academic year, have a grade-point average of at least 3.0 (4.0 scale) for the previous two semesters or three quarters, or may qualify if overall GPA is at least 3.0 for all terms at the present institution.

Following, by member institution, are the men's 2016-17 WCHA All-Academic Team honorees:

University of Alabama in Huntsville

Hunter Anderson (So., F, Savage, Minn.); Richard Buri (Jr., D, Nitra, Slovakia); Cody Champagne (Jr., D, Brookfield, Conn.); Madison Dunn (So., F, Calgary, Alberta); Brent Fletcher (Sr., F, New Westminster, British Columbia); Hans Gorowsky (So., F, Lino Lakes, Minn.); Kurt Gosselin (So., D, Brighton, Mich.); Jetlan Houcher (So., F, Paradise Valley, Alberta); Josh Kestner (Jr., F, Huntsville, Ala.); Cam Knight (So., D, North Reading, Mass.); Matt Larose (Sr., G, Nanaimo, British Columbia); Max McHugh (Jr., F, Seattle, Wash.); Brandon Parker (Jr., D, Fairbault, Minn.); Brandon Salerno (Fr., F, Toronto, Ontario); Matt Salhany (Sr., F, Warwick, R.I.); Regan Soquila (Sr., F, Maple Ridge, British Columbia); John Teets (So., D, Fairbanks, Alaska); Jordan Uhelski (Jr., G, Flint, Mich.); Adam Wilcox (So., F, Alpharetta, Ga.)

University of Alaska Anchorage

Cam Amantea (So., F, Calgary, Alberta); Matt Anholt (Jr., F, Prince Albert, Saskatchewan); Austin Azurdia (Jr., F, Wenatchee, Wash.); Jarrett Brown (Jr., D, Beaumont, Alberta); Brad Duwe (Sr., F, Soldotna, Alaska); Nicolas Erb-Ekholm (So., F, Malmo, Sweden); Dylan Hubbs (Sr. F, Beaumont, Alberta); Alex Jackstadt (So., F, Anchorage, Alaska); Tad Kozun (Jr., F, Nipawin, Saskatchewan); Olivier Mantha (Jr., G, La Turque, Quebec); Mason Mitchell (So., F, Calgary, Alberta); Jonah Renouf (So., F, Mississauga, Ontario); Nathan Renouf (So., F, Mississauga, Ontario); Eric Roberts (So., D, Abbotsford, British Columbia); Chase Van Allen (Sr., D, Anchorage, Alaska)

University of Alaska

Jordan Burns (So., D, Vernon, British Columbia); Josh Erickson (Sr., F, Roseau, Minn.); Zach Frye (So., D, Spokane, Wash.); Nick Hinz (Jr., D, Oakdale, Minn.); Davis Jones (Sr., G, St. Albert, Alberta); Nikolas Koberstein (So., D, Barrhead, Alberta); Ryker Leer (So., F, Red Deer, Alberta); Brandon Morley (Sr., F, Burnaby, British Columbia); John Mullally (So., F, Timberlea, Nova Scotia); Tayler Munson (Jr., F,

Fairbanks, Alaska); Chad Staley (So., F, Kennewick, Wash.); Jack Weiss (So., D, Bloomington, Minn.)

Bemidji State University

Nate Arentz (Sr., F, Lakeville, Minn.); Justin Baudry (So., D, LaBroquerie, Manitoba); Kyle Bauman (Jr., F, Apopka, Fla.); Brett Beauvais (Jr., D, Summerside, Prince Edward Island); Dan Billett (So., D, Highlands Ranch, Colo.); Michael Bitzer (Jr., G, Moorhead, Minn.); Dillon Eichstadt (So., D, Bemidji, Minn.); Gerry Fitzgerald (Jr., F, Port Alberni, British Columbia); Leo Fitzgerald (Jr., F, Port Alberni, British Columbia); Myles Fitzgerald (Jr., F, Port Alberni, British Columbia); Brendan Harms (Sr., F, Steinbach, Manitoba); Jordan Heller (Jr., F, Bemidji, Minn.); Ian Janco (So., D, Bloomington, Minn.); Adam Lovick (So., F, Lino Lakes, Minn.); Reid Mimmack (Sr., G, Brainerd, Minn.); Charlie O'Connor (Sr., F, Elk Grove Village, Ill.); Taylor Roo (So., F, Champlin, Minn.); Michael Soucier (So., F, Caledon, Ontario); Carter Struthers (Sr., D, Weyburn, Saskatchewan); Jesse Wilkins (Jr., G, Calgary, Alberta)

Bowling Green State University

Shane Bednard (So., F, Macomb, Mich.); Kevin Dufour (Sr., F, Quebec City, Quebec); Mitch McLain (Jr., F, Baxter, Minn.); Joe McKeown (So., F, Campbellford, Ontario); Pierre-Luc Marcier (Sr. F, Montreal, Quebec); Chris Pohlkamp (So., D, Baxter, Minn.); Matt Pohlkamp (Sr., F, Baxter, Minn.); Jakob Reichert (Jr., F, Langley, British Columbia); John Schilling (So., F, Oswego, Ill.); Tomas Sholl (Sr., G, Hermosa Beach, Calif.); Adam Smith (So., D, Sharon, Ontario); Tyler Spezia (Jr., F, Clinton Township, Mich.); Sean Walker (Sr., D, Keswick, Ontario)

Ferris State University

Tyler Andrew (Jr., F, Bethel Park, Pa.); Andrew Dorantes (Jr., F, Waterford, Mich.); Tyler Dorantes (Jr., F, Waterford, Mich.); Jacob Hetz (So., F, Glenshaw, Pa.); Ryker Killins (So., D, Wawa, Ontario); Ryan Lowney (Sr., D, Redford, Mich.); Mitch Maloney (Jr., F, Macomb, Mich.); Andrew Mayer (Jr., F, Troy, Mich.); Chad McDonald (Sr., F, Battle Creek, Mich.); Craig Pefley (Fr., F, St. Clair, Mich.); Trace Pennock (Jr., G, Big Rapids, Mich.); Trevor Recktenwald (So., F, Venetia, Pa.); Darren Smith (So., G, Barrie, Ontario); Zach Szanjer (Jr., F, White Lake, Mich.); Zac Tierney (So., D, London, Ontario); Jared VanWormer (Sr., F, Traverse City, Mich.)

Lake Superior State University

Kyle Chatham (Jr., D, Belleville, Ill.); Gus Correale (Sr., F, Prince George, British Columbia); Diego Cuglietta (So., F, Kamloops, British Columbia); Gordon Defiel (Jr., G, Stillwater, Minn.); Christopher Hayes (So., F, Margate, Fla.); Mitch Hults (So., F, Stoughton, Wis.); Nick Kossoff (So., G, West Des Moines, Iowa); Brendan McKay (Fr., F, Toronto, Ontario); Ryan Renz (Jr., D, Castlegar, British Columbia); James Roll (Jr., D, West Seneca, N.Y.); Gage Torrel (So., F, Monticello, Minn.); Aidan Wright (Jr., D, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario)

Michigan Technological University

Brent Baltus (Sr., F, Nanaimo, British Columbia); Thomas Beretta (Fr., F, Orangeville, Ontario); Devin Kero (So., G, Hancock, Mich.); Chris Leibinger (Sr., D, Saginaw, Mich.); Dylan Steman (Jr., F, Hanover, Minn.); Reid Sturos (Sr., F, Brighton, Mich.); Cliff Watson (Sr., D, Appleton, Wis.); Matt Wintjes (Sr., G, Holland Landing, Ontario)

Minnesota State University, Mankato

Daniel Brickley (So., D, Sandy, Utah); Max Coatta (So., F, Minnetonka, Minn.); Steen Cooper (So., F, Duncan, British Columbia); Sean Flanagan (Sr., D, Kindersly, Saskatchewan); Carter Foguth (Sr., D, Fenton, Mich.); Cole Huggins (Sr., G, Centennial, Colo.); Chandler Madry (So., F, Bakersfield, Calif.); Aaron Nelson (Jr., G, Bismark, N.D.); Jordan Nelson (Sr., F, Williston, N.D.); Jason Pawloski (So., G, Omaha, Neb.); Ryan Schwalbe (So. F, Anchorage, Alaska); Zach Stepan (Sr., F, Hastings, Minn.) Alec Vanko (So., D, Oregon, Wis.)

Northern Michigan University

Ryan Black (So., D, Stillwater, Minn.); Mathias Israelsson (So., G, Ytterby, Sweden); Zach Diamantoni (Jr., F, Boca Raton, Fla.); Gerard Hanson (Sr., F, Lidingo, Sweden); Brendan Jacques (So., F, Calumet, Mich.); Jesse Juntilla (So., D, Calumet, Mich.); Jordan Klimek (Jr., D, Langley, British Columbia); Brock Maschmeyer (Sr., D, Bruederheim, Alberta); Anthony Paskaruk (So., F, Airdrie, Alberta); Robbie Payne (Jr., F, Gaylord, Mich.); Denver Pierce (So., F, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.); Sami Salminen (Sr., F, Helsinki, Finland); Filip Starzynski (Jr., F, Warsaw, Poland); Atte Tolvanen (So., G, Vihti, Finland); James Vermeulen (So., D, Stony Plain, Alberta)

About the Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA)

The Western Collegiate Hockey Association, among the most historic, tradition-rich and successful conferences in all of collegiate athletics, is proudly marking its 65th season of men's competition in 2016-17. 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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