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UAF'S LEITER AND JANDRIC, UAH'S GOSSELIN AND LSSU'S KOSSOFF NAMED WCHA PLAYERS OF THE WEEK FOR GAMES OF OCT. 20-21, 2017

BLOOMINGTON, Minn. – Oct. 23, 2017 – High-scoring efforts from a pair of teammates, an historic goaltending performance and the leader behind a program first highlight the men's Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA) Players of the Week for games of Oct. 20-21, 2017. The honorees are: Alaska sophomore **Colton Leiter** (Offensive), Alabama Huntsville junior **Kurt Gosselin** (Defensive), Lake Superior State junior **Nick Kossoff** (Goaltender) and Alaska freshman forward **Cameron Wright** (Rookie).

WCHA Offensive Player of the Week

Colton Leiter, So., F, Alaska (Edmonton, Alberta)

Leiter tied teammate Steven Jandric with a WCHA-best four points, helping the Nanooks land the opening salvo in the Alaska Airlines Governor's Cup with a home-and-home sweep of Alaska Anchorage. The sophomore from Edmonton, Alberta factored in both game-winning goals, assisting on Friday night's deciding marker before scoring himself in Saturday's 3-2 triumph. Leiter enjoyed a career-best, three-point night in Alaska's 6-2, series-opening win, with a pair of helpers and the night's final goal. He was on the ice for five of UAF's nine goals on the weekend, matching four teammates for the WCHA lead with a plus-5 rating. This is Leiter's first career WCHA weekly award.

Honorable Mention: Kyle Bauman, Sr., F, Bemidji State (scored a pair of special-teams goals, including a short-handed marker and the game-winner, in the Beavers' 4-1 win over No. 20 Air Force on Friday); **Josh Kestner, Sr., F, Alabama Huntsville** (scored in both games, while notching a goal and assist Saturday as the Chargers won at No. 15 Michigan Tech for their first-ever victory over the Huskies); **Zeb Knutson, Sr., F, Minnesota State** (scored each night, including the game-winner Friday, as the No. 14/12 Mavericks opened WCHA play with a split at Bowling Green); **Jake Lucchini, Jr., F, Michigan Tech** (had two assists and the tie-breaking, third-period game-winning goal as the No. 15 Huskies rallied to win, 5-4 over UAH on Friday); **Dominic Lutz, So., F, Ferris State** (scored twice Friday, including the third-period game-winner, as the Bulldogs earned a 3-2 nonconference road win at Mercyhurst).

WCHA Defensive Player of the Week

Kurt Gosselin, Jr., D, Alabama Huntsville (Brighton, Mich.)

Gosselin tied for tops among WCHA defenseman with three points, while tying for third with six blocked shots (just one off the leaders), to help Alabama Huntsville to a road split at then-No. 15 Michigan Tech. The junior from Brighton, Mich. scored the tying goal on the power play in Saturday's 4-2 Charger win, the first in program history over the Huskies (UAH had been 0-13-2 in 15 prior contests). He also added a pair of assists in Friday's 5-4 setback, while he compiled a league-high 11 shots on goal. This is Gosselin's

first WCHA weekly award of the 2017-18 season and his fourth career honor, including one Rookie of the Week accolade.

Honorable Mention: Philip Beaulieu, So., D, Northern Michigan (assisted on the overtime game-winner Friday as the Wildcats upset No. 6/5 Wisconsin, while also adding a goal, another assist and a blocked shot in the 5-4 triumph); **Dan Billett, Jr., D, Bemidji State** (recorded an assist in the Beavers' 4-1 victory over No. 20 Air Force on Friday, while finishing the series with a team-high three blocked shots); **Mitch Reinke, So., D, Michigan Tech** (had a goal and an assist in the No. 15 Huskies' 5-4 comeback win Friday over Alabama Huntsville); **Justin Woods, Sr., D, Alaska** (tied for the WCHA defenseman scoring lead with three points on two goals – including Friday's game-winner – and an assist, while tying for the league lead with a plus-5 rating in the Nanooks' sweep of UAA); **Zach Yoder, Jr., D, Ferris State** (notched his first goal in a Bulldog uniform, while finishing Ferris State's road split at Mercyhurst with a plus-2 rating).

WCHA Goaltender of the Week

Nick Kossoff, Jr., G, Lake Superior State (West Des Moines, Iowa)

Kossoff was simply sensational in his lone game, making 63 saves – the 10th-highest single-game total in 66 seasons of WCHA hockey – to almost single-handedly lift Lake Superior State to a 3-3 tie at defending national champion and top-ranked Denver. Despite being outshot 66-17 for the game, the Lakers led 1-0 after the first period, 2-1 after the second and escaped with the draw – mostly thanks to Kossoff. The junior from West Des Moines, Iowa made 17 saves in the first period, 18 in the second, and incredible 26 in the third and two more in overtime. Despite playing in just the one game, Kossoff tied for fifth nationally in saves. This is Kossoff's first career WCHA weekly award.

Honorable Mention: Anton Martinsson, So., G, Alaska (earned the first two wins of his collegiate career, making 37 saves in the Nanooks' sweep of Alaska Anchorage); **Darren Smith, Jr., G, Ferris State** (stopped 28-of-30 shots, including 13 in the third period, as the Bulldogs earned a 3-2 road win Friday at Mercyhurst); **Jordan Uhleski, Sr., G, Alabama Huntsville** (led the NCAA with 74 saves last week, including 41 in the Chargers' 4-2 victory Saturday at No. 15 Michigan Tech).

WCHA Rookie of the Week

Steven Jandric, Fr., F, Alaska (Prince George, British Columbia)

Jandric led WCHA rookies, tied for tops among all NCAA first-year skaters and matched teammate Colton Leiter for the overall league lead with four points in the Nanooks' sweep of in-state rival Alaska Anchorage. The freshman from Prince George, British Columbia had his first career three-point game in Friday's 6-2 UAF win, tallying a goal and two assists. He then set up Leiter for the game-winning goal in a 3-2 triumph Saturday. Jandric's plus-5 rating led NCAA rookies and matched four teammates for the best mark in the WCHA. This is the first WCHA weekly award of Jandric's freshman season.

Honorable Mention: Brendan Harris, Fr., F, Bemidji State (posted his first collegiate multi-point game, assisting on the game-tying and game-winning goals as the Beavers defeated No. 20 Air Force, 4-1, on Friday); **Christian Rajic, Fr., F, Alabama Huntsville** (scored his first career goal Friday, part of a three-point weekend as the Chargers earned a road split at No. 15 Michigan Tech); **Cameron Wright, Fr., F, Bowling Green** (tallied a goal and two assists, including both helpers Saturday for his first collegiate multi-point game in the Falcons' 5-2 victory over No. 14/12 Minnesota State).

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, will proudly mark its 66th season of men's competition in 2017-18. 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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