



## **WCHA WEEKEND PREVIEW: NOV. 28-30, 2014**

### ***News and notes for the upcoming weekend of WCHA hockey***

- The WCHA has an NCAA-best four teams in both the USCHO.com and *USA Today/USA Hockey Magazine* national rankings. Minnesota and Wisconsin are Nos. 2 and 3, respectively, in both polls. Minnesota Duluth is ninth/eighth in the two polls, while Bemidji State is 10th/ninth. North Dakota is receiving votes in the *USA Today/USA Hockey Magazine* ledger.
- WCHA teams own four of the nation's top 10 winning percentages: Minnesota (3rd at .867, 12-1-2), Wisconsin (4th at .844, 13-2-1), Minnesota Duluth (8th at .688, 10-4-2) and Bemidji State (10th at .625, 7-4-1).
- Six of the eight WCHA teams are in the PairWise rankings following the Thanksgiving holiday: No. 2 Minnesota, No. 4 Wisconsin, No. 8 (tied) Bemidji State and Minnesota Duluth, No. 13 Ohio State and No. 16 North Dakota.
- The WCHA is an NCAA-best 19-7-1 (.722) in non-conference play.
- Four teams will face off in league play this weekend:
  - No. 9/8 Minnesota Duluth visits No. 10/9 Bemidji State in the first-ever series between the schools when both are ranked
- North Dakota hosts St. Cloud State at the Ralph.
- Three WCHA teams head east for non-conference contests:
  - Wisconsin looks to extend its program-record 22-game road unbeaten run this weekend with a non-conference set at New Hampshire on Friday and Saturday.
  - Minnesota plays a two-game series at Princeton on Saturday and Sunday.
  - Ohio State plays a lone contest at Robert Morris on Friday evening.
- For the full WCHA weekly release, visit: [wcha.com/women/pres1415/201411/nov18wcv.php](http://wcha.com/women/pres1415/201411/nov18wcv.php).

***-Series previews begin on the next page-***

All rankings listed by USCHO.com poll first, followed by USA Today / USA Hockey Magazine poll

## WCHA

### No. 9/8 Minnesota Duluth (5-4-1-1, 17 pts. / 10-4-2) at No. 10/9 Bemidji State (3-4-1-1, 11 pts. / 7-4-1) Sanford Center (Bemidji, Minn.)

Friday, Nov. 28 and Saturday, Nov. 29 (2:07 p.m. CT both days)

- No. 9/8 Minnesota Duluth visits No. 10/9 Bemidji State in the first-ever meeting between the Minnesota schools in which both teams are ranked.
- UMD owns a commanding 59-4-2 lead in the all-time series, including a 3-1-0 mark last season.
- UMD is riding a nine-game winning streak, the longest by a Bulldogs team since a 10-game run Jan. 28-Feb. 26, 2011 and the third-longest current run in the nation.
- Bulldogs' junior G **Kayla Black** posted her fifth shutout of the season last weekend, second-most among all NCAA netminders and her own single-season career high (tied).
- UMD sophomore F **Ashleigh Brykaliuk** is riding a career-long eight-game point streak (7g, 7a), while senior F **Jenna McParland** is on a seven-game run (3g, 6a).
- BSU's 7-4-1 start is the second-best in program history, behind the last ranked Beavers' team, the 2011-12 squad that opened 7-3-2.
- Behind the play of sophomore G **Brittini Mowat** and freshman G **Erin Deters**, BSU has allowed the second-fewest goals (13) in the WCHA and ranks seventh nationally for scoring defense (1.58gpg).

### St. Cloud State (2-5-1-1, 8 pts. / 5-9-1) at North Dakota (4-6-2-1, 15 pts. / 5-7-2)

Saturday, Nov. 29 and Sunday, Nov. 30 (2:07 p.m. CT both days)

- St. Cloud State visits North Dakota for a Saturday-Sunday series. UND leads the all-time series 24-19-5, while holding a 13-8-3 edge in Grand Forks.
- Huskies' junior F **Molly Illikainen** leads the team with eight goals, good for a tie for sixth in the WCHA.
- UND junior D **Tanja Eisenschmid** is riding a career-best four-game point streak (1g, 3a).
- All of UND's 19 skaters have recorded a point, including 14 goal scorers. Junior F **Becca Kohler** leads the team in four major scoring categories: points (14), goals (6), assists (98) and power-play goals (3).

## NON-CONFERENCE

### No. 2 Minnesota (9-1-2-0, 29 pts. WCHA / 12-1-2) at Princeton (4-3-0, 8 pts. ECAC / 6-4-1) Hobey Baker Rink (Princeton, New Jersey)

Saturday, Nov. 29 and Sunday, Nov. 30 (2:00 p.m. ET both days)

- No. 2 Minnesota visits Princeton for a Saturday-Sunday series. The Gophers lead the all-time series 6-0-1, including a two-game sweep last season at Ridder Arena.
- Nine Gophers are in double-figures for scoring, led by junior F **Hannah Brandt** (12g, 12a), sophomore F **Dani Cameranesi** (14g, 7a) and senior F **Rachael Bona** (3g, 13a). Brandt and Cameranesi lead the WCHA and rank among the nation's top-10 scorers with 1.71 and 1.50 points per game, respectfully.
- Minnesota has the nation's second-ranked power play unit at 34.4 percent (21-of-61). Cameranesi and junior D **Milica McMillen** are tied for the national lead with five power-play goals each.
- Junior G **Amanda Leveille** leads the WCHA and ranks sixth in the nation with a 1.36 goals against average.

**No. 3 Wisconsin (11-2-1-0, 34 pts. WCHA / 13-2-1) at New Hampshire (1-7-0, 2 pts. HEA / 3-11-1)  
Whittemore Center (Durham, New Hampshire)**

**Friday, Nov. 28 at 7:00 p.m. ET and Saturday, Nov. 29 at 2:00 p.m. ET**

- No. 3 Wisconsin, riding a program-record 22-game road unbeaten streak, travels to New Hampshire for a two-game series against the Wildcats.
- The Badgers have won the last four meetings, but trail the all-time series 4-6-1. The teams have not met since the 2012-13 season.
- Wisconsin is riding an eight-game winning streak, the fourth-longest active run in the nation. Senior F **Brittany Ammerman** leads the offense during the run with five goals and eight assists.
- Sophomore G **Ann-Renée Desbiens**, who posted back-to-back shutouts last season, ranks sixth nationally with an .808 winning percentage (10-2-1).
- The Badgers lead the nation with 579 shots on goal and 41.36 shots per game, while ranking fourth nationally by yielding just 19.86 shots per contest.

**Ohio State (5-6-1-1, 17 pts. WCHA / 7-7-1) at Robert Morris (1-3-2, 4 pts. CHA / 4-9-3)  
84 Lumber Arena (Moon Township, Pa.)**

**Friday, Nov. 28 at 7:05 p.m. ET**

- Ohio State travels to Pennsylvania for a single game against Robert Morris.
- The Buckeyes have won four of the five all-time meetings, but dropped a 2-1 decision last year in Columbus.
- OSU senior F **Taylor Kuehl** has scored four goals in the last four games. 19 Buckeye skaters have recorded a point this year, while team captain **Sara Schmitt**, a senior defenseman, leads the team with 12 points (3g, 9a).
- Freshman G **Kassidy Sauve** ranks second nationally among freshman goalies with 279 saves. She also stands fourth among her peers in save percentage (.912) and goals against average (2.32).

**IDLE**

- Minnesota State

***About Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA)***

The women's Western Collegiate Hockey Association has won a record 14 national championships in 15 years since its inception in 1999, while producing six Patty Kazmaier Award winners, 70 All-Americans and numerous Olympic and international team members. The eight-team Division I conference consists of: Bemidji State University (Beavers), the University of Minnesota (Golden Gophers), the University of Minnesota Duluth (Bulldogs), Minnesota State University (Mavericks), the University of North Dakota, Ohio State University (Buckeyes), St. Cloud State University (Huskies) and the University of Wisconsin (Badgers).

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