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## WCHA WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Bemidji State University  
University of Minnesota  
University of Minnesota Duluth  
Minnesota State University  
University of North Dakota  
Ohio State University  
St. Cloud State University  
University of Wisconsin

## HOME OF A RECORD 10 CONSECUTIVE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TEAMS

2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004,  
2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009

## 2010 WCHA FINAL FACE-OFF

March 6-7 • Ridder Arena • Minneapolis



WCHA.COM



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## SCSU'S NELSON, BSU'S TOMCIKOVA NAMED CO-PLAYERS OF THE YEAR TO HIGHLIGHT 2009-10 WCHA WOMEN'S AWARDS ST. CLOUD STATE'S HOGAN IS OUTSTANDING STUDENT-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR; MINNESOTA PLACES TRIO AND MINNESOTA DULUTH PAIR ON ALL-WCHA FIRST TEAM; COACHES VOTE UM'S SCHLEPER DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR; OHIO STATE'S LANGAN NAMED ROOKIE OF THE YEAR; BEMIDJI STATE'S SERTICH IS WCHA COACH OF THE YEAR

MADISON, Wis. – It was a season of balance and unpredictability and that trend was reflected in the 2009-10 post-season women's honors announced by the Western Collegiate Hockey Association today.

Three members of WCHA regular season co-champion Minnesota and a pair of players from co-champ Minnesota Duluth lead the All-WCHA First Team selected by coaches. But the coaches also selected two members of the All-WCHA Second Team, Bemidji State goaltender Zuzana Tomcikova and St. Cloud State forward Felicia Nelson, as co-players of the year.

The first team All-WCHA squad is led by Minnesota Duluth forward Emmanuelle Blais, a senior from Lasalle, Que., who had 26 goals and 53 points heading into the WCHA FINAL FACE-OFF March 6-7 at Ridder Arena in Minneapolis, Minn. Blais is one of three WCHA players who are among the ten finalists for this year's Patty Kazmaier Memorial Award, which goes to the best women's college player in the country.

The first team also includes Ohio State forward Natalie Spooner, a sophomore from Scarborough, Ont., who has scored 21 goals and 42 points, and Minnesota forward Emily West, a junior from Colorado Springs, Colo., who had 20 goals and 40 points. The all-league first team defense features Minnesota Duluth's Jaime Rasmussen, a senior from Garden Grove, Calif., who had six goals and 24 points, and Minnesota's Anne Schleper, a sophomore from St. Cloud, Minn.

Schleper scored 11 goals and added 19 assists for 30 points, the top point total among defensemen, and also was voted the WCHA Defensive Player of the Year. She was an All-WCHA Second Team defender a year ago (2008-09).

Minnesota's Noora Rätty, a freshman from Espoo, Finland, edged out Tomcikova in a battle of Olympic goaltenders for all-league goalie. Rätty, who helped Team Finland to the bronze medal at the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver, B.C., was the league's goaltending champion with a 1.06 goals-against average and a saves percentage of .958. Rätty also is a finalist for the Kazmaier Award, which will be presented in Minneapolis March 20 during the NCAA Frozen Four.

Tomcikova, a sophomore from Bratislava, Slovakia, is on the All-WCHA Second Team for the second straight year. She played for Team Slovakia in the Olympics and faced more shots than any goaltender at the Games. She is joined on the second team by co-player of the year and Kazmaier finalist Nelson, the St. Cloud State senior who led the country with 31 goals. The second team also has WCHA Rookie of the Year Hokey Langan, who scored 25 goals and 51 points for Ohio State, St. Cloud State senior Holly Roberts and Minnesota Duluth junior Laura Fridfinnson. The defense pair is Minnesota freshman Megan Bozek and Ohio State senior Rachel Davis.

St. Cloud State's Caitlin Hogan, a senior forward from Oakdale, Minn., was named the Turfer WCHA Outstanding Student-Athlete of the Year. Hogan scored 16 goals and had 27 assists for 43 points, the seventh best total in the league.

The WCHA Coach of the Year Award goes to Bemidji State's Steve Sertich. It is the first time Sertich has been honored. The Virginia, Minn., native led the Beavers to their first ever WCHA FINAL FACE-OFF appearance and BSU finished 9-12-7-3 and tied for fifth in the WCHA, the best finish ever for the school. Awards are nothing new to the Sertich family. Steve's brother Mike, is a four-time men's WCHA Coach of the Year and Spencer Penrose winner as national coach of the year in 1984 when he was at Minnesota Duluth and Sertich's son, Marty, won the Hobey Baker Memorial Award in 2005.

In addition to the individual awards announced today, the WCHA also released the 2009-10 All-WCHA

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WCHA CO-PLAYERS OF THE YEAR (FROM LEFT): ST. CLOUD STATE'S FELICIA NELSON AND BEMIDJI STATE'S ZUZANA TOMCIKOVA.



SCSU'S CAITLIN HOGAN, THE TURFER WCHA OUTSTANDING STUDENT-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Academic Team (see page 3).

The conference head coaches and assistant coaches vote for the WCHA award winners. The WCHA Defensive Player of the Year Award was chosen by the head coaches, while the Turfer WCHA Outstanding Student-Athlete of the Year was selected by the institutional faculty representatives.

**2009-10 WCHA CO-PLAYERS OF THE YEAR**

Felicia Nelson, Sr., F, St. Cloud State (St. Paul, MN)  
Zuzana Tomcikova, So., G, Bemidji State (Bratislava, Slovakia)

**2009-10 TURFER WCHA OUTSTANDING STUDENT-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR**

Caitlin Hogan, Sr., F, St. Cloud State (Oakdale, MN)

**2009-10 WCHA DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

Anne Schleper, So., D, Minnesota (St. Cloud, MN)

**2009-10 WCHA ROOKIE OF THE YEAR**

Hokey Langan, Fr., F, Ohio State (Chatham, ON)

**2009-10 WCHA COACH OF THE YEAR**

Steve Sertich, Head Coach, Bemidji State

**2009-10 WCHA SCORING CHAMPION**

Hokey Langan, Fr., F, Ohio State (Chatham, ON)

**2009-10 WCHA GOALTENDING CHAMPION**

Noora Rätty, Fr., G, Minnesota (Espoo, Finland)

**2009-10 ALL-WCHA FIRST TEAM**

- Forward: Natalie Spooner, So., F, Ohio State (Scarborough, ON)  
Emmanuelle Blais, Sr., F, Minnesota Duluth (Lasalle, QC)  
Emily West, Jr., F, Minnesota (Colorado Springs, CO)
- Defense: Anne Schleper, So., D, Minnesota (St. Cloud, MN)  
Jaime Rasmussen, Sr., D, Minnesota Duluth (Garden Grove, CA)
- Goaltender: Noora Rätty, Fr., G, Minnesota (Espoo, Finland)



MINNESOTA'S ANNE SCHLEPER, WCHA DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR



OHIO STATE'S HOKEY LANGAN, WCHA ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

**2009-10 ALL-WCHA SECOND TEAM**

Forward: Felicia Nelson, Sr., F, St. Cloud State (St. Paul, MN)  
 Hokey Langan, Fr., F, Ohio State (Chatham, ON)  
 (tie) Holly Roberts, Sr., F, St. Cloud State (St. Cloud, MN)  
 (tie) Laura Fridfinnson, Jr., F, Minnesota Duluth (Arborg, MB)

Defense: Megan Bozek, Fr., D, Minnesota (Buffalo Grove, IL)  
 Rachel Davis, Sr., D, Ohio State (Horton, MI)

Goaltender: Zuzana Tomcikova, So., Bemidji State (Bratislava, Slovakia)

**2009-10 ALL-WCHA THIRD TEAM**

Forward: Brooke Ammerman, So., F, Wisconsin (River Vale, NJ)  
 Caitlin Hogan, Sr., F, St. Cloud State (Oakdale, MN)

Defense: Montana Vichorek, So., D, Bemidji State (Moose Lake, MN)  
 Stefanie McKeough, Fr., D, Wisconsin (Carlsbad Springs, ON)

Goaltender: Jennifer Harss, Fr., G, Minnesota Duluth (Rieden, Germany)

**2009-10 ALL-WCHA ROOKIE TEAM**

Forward: Hokey Langan, Fr., F, Ohio State (Chatham, ON)  
 Katherine Wilson, Fr., F, Minnesota Duluth (Winnipeg, MB)  
 Brianna Decker, Fr., F, Wisconsin (Dousman, WI)

Defense: Megan Bozek, Fr., D, Minnesota (Buffalo Grove, IL)  
 Stefanie McKeough, Fr., D, Wisconsin (Carlsbad Springs, ON)

Goaltender: Noora Rätty, Fr., G, Minnesota (Espoo, Finland)

**2009-10 ALL-WCHA ACADEMIC TEAM**

To qualify for the All-WCHA Academic Team, student-athletes must have completed one year of eligibility at present institution, prior to the current academic year, and have a grade point average of at least 3.0 for the previous two semesters or three quarters.

Members of the 2009-10 All-WCHA Academic Team, by member institution and in alphabetical order, are:

**Bemidji State University:** Annie Bauerfeld\* (Sr., F, Woodbury, MN); Erin Cody\* (Jr., F, Roseville, MN); Frances Dorr\* (Sr., F, Roseville, MN); Emily Erickson (So., F, Coleraine, MN); Alana McElhinney (So., G, Calgary, AB); Jackie Robertson\* (Sr., D, Inver Grove Heights, MN); Zuzana Tomcikova (So., G, Bratislava, Slovakia); Montana Vichorek (So., D, Moose Lake, MN); Marlee Wheelhouse (So., D/F, Crookston, MN); Lauren Williams (So., F, Eagan, MN).

**University of Minnesota:** Kelli Blankenship\* (Sr., F, Lusby, MD); Brittany Francis\* (Sr., F, Thunder Bay, ON); Alyssa Grogan (So., G, Eagan, MN); Chelsey Jones (Sr., F, Lake Elmo, MN); Nikki Ludwigson (So., F, Bloomington, MN); Michelle Maunu\* (Sr., D, Esko, MN); Anne Schleper (So., D, St. Cloud, MN); Alexandra Zebro\* (Sr., D, Oak Grove, MN).

**University of Minnesota Duluth:** Emmanuelle Blais\* (Sr., F, Lasalle, QC); Laura Fridfinnson\* (Jr., F, Arborg, MB); Kirsti Hakala (Sr., D, Cloquet, MN); Sarah Murray\* (Sr., D, Fairbault, MN); Heidi Pelttari\* (Sr., F/D, Tampere, Finland); Jaime Rasmussen\* (Sr., D, Garden Grove, CA); Lana Steck (So., G, Winnipeg, MB); Saara Tuominen\* (Sr., F, Ylojarvi, Finland).

**Minnesota State University, Mankato:** Allison Altmann (So., G, Eagan, MN); Kala Buganski\* (Sr., F, Anoka, MN); Ida Clark\* (Sr., D, Vallentuna, Sweden); Jenna Hewitt\* (Sr., F, Anoka, MN); Christina Lee\* (Sr., F, Maple Plain, MN); Emmi Leinonen (So., F, Valkeakoski, Finland); Ariel Mackley (So., F, Burnsville, MN); Moira O'Connor (So., F, Chicago, IL); Jacquelyn Otto (So., D, Lake Zurich, IL); Kathleen Rosso\* (Sr., D, Rogers, MN); Holly Snyder\* (Sr., D, Kenosha, WI); Paige Thunder\* (Jr., G, Cloquet, MN); Nina Tikkinen\* (Jr., F, Salo, Finland); Amy Udvig\* (Jr., D, New Brighton, MN); Ashley Young\* (Sr., F, South St. Paul, MN).

**University of North Dakota:** Sara Dagenais-Everell (So., F, Montreal, QC); Jorid Dagfinrud (So., G, Sarpsborg, Norway); Cassandra Flanagan\* (Sr., D, Great Falls, MB); Margot Miller (So., F, West Bloomfield, MI); Stephanie Roy\* (Jr., F, Grand Digue, NB); Alyssa Wiebe (So., F, Saskatoon, SK).

**Ohio State University:** Barb Bilko (So., G, Coldwater, MI); Teal Bishop\* (Jr., D, Fairbanks, AK); Brittany Carlson (So., D, Hudson, WI); Rachel Davis\* (Sr., D, Horton, MI); Deidre Facklis (Jr., G, Wilmette, IL); Melissa Feste (So., F, Bloomington, MN); Jenna Kilpatrick\* (Jr., F, New Prague, MN); Raelyn LaRocque\* (Sr., F, The Pas, MB); Sandy Nelson (Jr., D, Blaine, MN); Shannon Reilly (Jr., D, Chanhassen, MN); Natalie Spooner (So., F, Scarborough, ON); Michelle Tonnessen (Sr., F, Gahanna, OH); Kelly Wild (So., D, Mendota Heights, MN).

**St. Cloud State University:** Anna Donlan (So., G, Hillsboro, WI); Jenaca Fredheim\* (Sr., D, Campbell River, BC); Danielle Hirsch\* (Sr., D, Bloomington, MN); Caitlin Hogan\* (Sr., F, Oakdale, MN); Courtney Josefson\* (Jr., F, Bemidji, MN); Diana Karouzos\* (Jr., D, Chicago, IL); Katie Kemmerer (Sr., F, Anchorage, AK); Ashlan Lambert (Jr., D, Eden Prairie, MN); Kelly Meierhofer\* (Sr., D, Sauk Rapids, MN); Felicia Nelson (Sr., F, St. Paul, MN); Holly Roberts\* (Sr., F, St. Cloud, MN); Brittany Toor (So., F, Hartland, MI).

**University of Wisconsin:** Maria Evans\* (Jr., F, Chanhassen, MN); Carla Pentimone (Jr., F, Chicago, IL); Carlyne Prévost (So., F, Sarnia, ON); Kyla Sanders (Sr., F, Parrish, FL).

\*repeat honoree