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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 NINE CONSECUTIVE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TEAMS

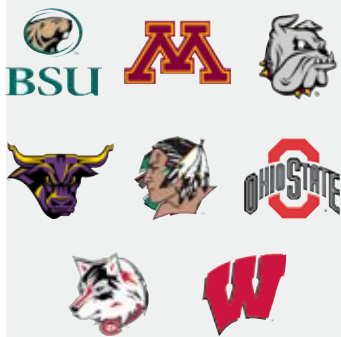
2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005,
2006, 2007, 2008

2009 WCHA FINAL FACE-OFF

March 7-8 • Ridder Arena
Minneapolis, MN

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March 5, 2009/For Immediate Release

UW'S KNIGHT LEADS WCHA AWARD WINNERS FOR 2008-09 MINNESOTA TRIO, WISCONSIN PAIR AND PLAYER FROM MINNESOTA DULUTH MAKE ALL- WCHA FIRST TEAM; UW'S KNIGHT IS PLAYER OF YEAR; MINNESOTA'S GAGNON NAMED WCHA DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR AND TEAMMATE MARVIN IS TURFER WCHA OUTSTANDING STUDENT-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR; MINNESOTA'S MONIQUE LAMOUREUX IS WCHA ROOKIE OF YEAR; UM'S FROST, UW'S JOHNSON SHARE WCHA COACH OF THE YEAR HONOR

MADISON, Wis. – League champion University of Minnesota placed three players on the Western Collegiate Hockey Association women's all-conference first team for 2008-09, it was announced Thursday (March 5) and runner-up University of Wisconsin placed a pair of players on the first team, including sophomore forward Hilary Knight who was also named the WCHA Player of the Year.

Knight, a sophomore from Hanover, N.H., has scored a nation-leading 39 goals this season and was a unanimous selection to the all-conference first team. She has 67 points on the season and was one of five WCHA players named earlier this week as a finalist for the Patty Kazmaier Memorial Award, presented annually to the best women's college hockey player.

Knight is joined on the first all-star squad by WCHA Defensive Player of the Year Melanie Gagnon, a senior defenseman from Minnesota, WCHA Rookie of the Year Monique Lamoureux, a forward from Minnesota, and Monique's twin sister, Minnesota forward Jocelyne Lamoureux. The other first teamers are University of Minnesota Duluth sophomore defenseman Jocelyne Larocque and Wisconsin senior goaltender Jessie Vetter.

Last season Vetter, a senior from Cottage Grove Wis., shared a first team goalie slot with UMD's Kim Martin. She was all-conference first team as a sophomore and is the all-time NCAA leader in career shut-outs with 36 and career victories with 86. She has a goals-against average of 1.29, a save percentage of .938 and is a finalist for the Patty Kazmaier Award.

The Lamoureux twins are freshmen from Grand Forks, N.D. Monique led the conference in scoring and was the runaway winner of the conference rookie of the year honor. She has 36 goals and 71 points and was also named a finalist for the Kazmaier Award. Jocelyne played on the same line as her sister and had 26 goals. The Lamoureux twins join Wisconsin forward Brooke Ammerman, Bemidji State University goalie Zuzana Tomcikova, Minnesota defender Anne Schleper and Wisconsin defender Brittany Haverstock on the league's all-rookie team.

Gagnon, a senior from St. Adolphe, Manitoba, and Larocque, a sophomore from Winnipeg, Manitoba, are the all-league first team defenders. Gagnon, a co-captain for the Golden Gophers, had four goals and 22 assists while Larocque averages over a point per game with four goals, 31 assists and 35 points.

Gigi Marvin, Minnesota's forward, was also honored as the Turfer WCHA Outstanding Student-Athlete of the Year for 2008-09. A senior from Warroad, Minn., Marvin is a captain for the Gophers and a former league rookie of the year, first team all-conference performer and All-American. She had 25 goals with 24 assists for 49 points and was a second team all-conference player this season. She is also a finalist for the Kazmaier Award for the second straight year. Marvin is a three-time All-WCHA Academic Team member.

The WCHA Coach of the Year Award for 2008-09 is shared by Minnesota's Brad Frost and Wisconsin's Mark Johnson. Frost, the WCHA Coach of the Year last year in his first season with the Golden Gophers, led the team to its first conference title since 2005 and a 30-3-3 overall record heading into the WCHA FINAL FACE-OFF this weekend. Johnson, who was named the head coach of the women's 2010 U.S. Olympic Hockey Team last month, led the Badgers to a second place finish, just one point behind the Gophers. Johnson, who has been the national coach of the year twice, has led Wisconsin to a 29-2-5 overall record heading into the FINAL FACE-OFF.

In addition to the individual award winners and all-league teams announced Thursday, the WCHA also released the 2008-09 All-WCHA Academic Team. Composed of 76 outstanding student-athletes

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**HILARY KNIGHT, WISCONSIN
WCHA PLAYER OF THE YEAR**



**GIGI MARVIN, MINNESOTA - TURFER WCHA
OUTSTANDING STUDENT-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR**



**MELANIE GAGNON, MINNESOTA
WCHA DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

representing all eight women's WCHA-member institutions, the group includes 43 who are repeat honorees. 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.

The conference head coaches, assistant coaches and sports information directors 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.

2008-09 WCHA PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Hilary Knight, Sophomore, Forward, Wisconsin

2008-09 TURFER WCHA OUTSTANDING STUDENT-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Gigi Marvin, Senior, Forward, Minnesota

2008-09 WCHA DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Melanie Gagnon, Senior, Defenseman, Minnesota

2008-09 WCHA ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

Monique Lamoureux, Freshman, Forward, Minnesota

2008-09 WCHA CO-COACH OF THE YEAR

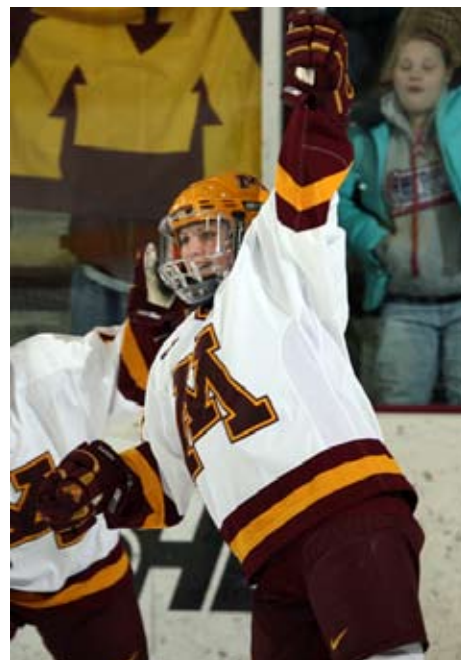
Brad Frost, Head Coach, Minnesota and Mark Johnson, Head Coach, Wisconsin

2008-09 WCHA SCORING CHAMPION

Monique Lamoureux, Freshman, Forward, Minnesota

2008-09 WCHA GOALTENDING CHAMPION

Alyssa Grogan, Freshman, Goaltender, Minnesota



**MONIQUE LAMOUREUX, MINNESOTA
WCHA ROOKIE OF THE YEAR**

2008-09 ALL-WCHA FIRST TEAM

Forwards	Hilary Knight, So., F, Wisconsin (Hanover, NH) Monique Lamoureux, Fr., F, Minnesota (Grand Forks, ND) Jocelyne Lamoureux, Fr., F, Minnesota (Grand Forks, ND)
Defense	Melanie Gagnon, Sr., D, Minnesota (St. Adolphe, MB) Jocelyne Larocque, So., D, Minnesota Duluth (Winnipeg, MB)
Goaltender	Jessie Vetter, Sr., G, Wisconsin (Cottage Grove, WI)

2008-09 ALL-WCHA SECOND TEAM

Forwards	Gigi Marvin, Sr., F, Minnesota (Warroad, MN) Erika Lawler, Sr., F, Wisconsin (Fitchburg, MA) Elin Holmlov, Jr., F, Minnesota Duluth (Knivsta, Sweden)
Defense	Rachael Drazan, Sr., D, Minnesota (Orono, MN) Anne Schleper, Fr., D, Minnesota (St. Cloud, MN)
Goaltender	Zuzana Tomcikova, Fr., Bemidji State (Bratislava, Slovakia)

2008-09 ALL-WCHA THIRD TEAM

Forwards	Meghan Duggan, Jr., F, Wisconsin (Danvers, MA) Haley Irwin, So., F, Minnesota Duluth (Thunder Bay, ON) Brooke Ammerman, Fr., F, Wisconsin (River Vale, NJ)
Defense	Alycia Matthews, Sr., F, Wisconsin (Castlegar, BC) Jaime Rasmussen, Jr., F, Minnesota Duluth (Garden Grove, CA)
Goaltender	Kim Martin, Jr., G, Minnesota Duluth (Stockholm, Sweden)

2008-09 ALL-WCHA ROOKIE TEAM

Forwards	Monique Lamoureux, Fr., F, Minnesota (Grand Forks, ND) Jocelyne Lamoureux, Fr., F, Minnesota (Grand Forks, ND) Brooke Ammerman, Fr., F, Wisconsin (River Vale, NJ)
Defense	Anne Schleper, Fr., D, Minnesota (St. Cloud, MN) Brittany Haverstock, Fr., D, Wisconsin (Halifax, NS)
Goaltender	Zuzana Tomcikova, Fr., G, Bemidji State (Bratislava, Slovakia)

2008-09 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 2008-09 All-WCHA Academic Team, by member institution and in alphabetical order, are:

Bemidji State University: Annie Bauerfeld (So., F, Woodbury, MN); Erin Cody (So., F, Roseville, MN); *Brooke Collins (Sr., D, Pilot Mound, MB); *Frances Dorr (Jr., F, Roseville, MN); *Monica Rawlings (Sr., F, Maplewood, MN); Jackie Robertson (Jr., D, Inver Grove Heights, MN).

University of Minnesota: *Kelli Blankenship (Jr., F, Lusby, MD); *Rachael Drazan (Sr., D, Orono, MN); Brittany Francis (Jr., F, Thunder Bay, ON); *Melanie Gagnon (Sr., D, St. Adolphe, MB); *Gigi Marvin (Sr., F, Warroad, MN); *Michelle Maunu (Jr., D, Esko, MN); Terra Rasmussen (So., F, Coon Rapids, MN); *Dagney Willey (Sr., D, Maple Grove, MN); *Alexandra Zebro (Jr., D, Oak Grove, MN).

University of Minnesota Duluth: *Emmanuelle Blais (Jr., F, Lasalle, QC); Johanna Ellison (Sr., G, Cloquet, MN); Laura Fridfinnson (So., F, Arborg, MB); Jocelyne Larocque (So., D, Winnipeg, MB); *Tawni Mattila (Sr., F, Duluth, MN); Amie Meyer (Sr., G, Aitkin, MN); *Sarah Murray (Jr., D, Fairbault, MN); *Heidi Pelttari (Jr., F/D, Tampere, Finland); *Jaime Rasmussen (Jr., D/F, Garden Grove, CA); *Myriam Trepanier (Sr., D, St-Michel-de-Bellechase, QC); Saara Tuominen (Jr., F, Ylojarvi, Finland).

Minnesota State University, Mankato: Ashley Bliaskowski (So., D, East Bethel, MN); *Kala Buganski (Jr., F, Anoka, MN); *Ida Clark (Jr., D, Vallentuna, Sweden); Kristi Ellis (So., D, Rogers, MN); Maggie Fisher (Sr., F, South St. Paul, MN); *Jenna Hewitt (Jr., F, Anoka, MN); Christina Lee (Jr., F, Maple Plain, MN); *Kathleen Rosso (Jr., D, Rogers, MN); *Holly Snyder (Jr., D, Kenosha, WI); Paige Thunder (So., G, Cloquet, MN); Nina Tikkinen (So., F, Salo, Finland); Amy Udvig (So., D, New Brighton, MN); *Ashley Young (Jr., F, South St. Paul, MN).

University of North Dakota: *Cassandra Flanagan (Jr., D, Great Falls, MB); Kelsey Fletcher (Sr., D, St. Paul, MN); *Casie Hanson (Sr., F, St. Peter, MN); Nikki Hebert (So., F, Lakeville, MN); *Brittany Kirkham (Jr., G, Ottawa, ON); Kelly Lewis (So., D, Forest Lake, MN); Stephanie Roy (So., F, Grand Digue, NB); *Samantha Turner (Jr., D, Hudson, WI).

Ohio State University: *Olivia Antognoli (Sr., F, Granite City, IL); Teal Bishop (So., D, Fairbanks, AK); *Liana Bonanno (Sr., G, Mount Sinai, NY); *Rachel Davis (Jr., D, Horton, MI); *Megan Hostasek (Sr., D, Kimberley, BC); Jennifer Kilpatrick (So., F, New Prague, MN); *Raelyn LaRocque (Jr., F, The Pas, MB); Christina Mancuso (So., F, Toronto, ON).

St. Cloud State University: Amy Currier (Sr., F, Fargo, ND); *Jenaca Fredheim (Jr., D, Campbell River, BC); *Danielle Hirsch (Jr., D, Bloomington, MN); *Caitlin Hogan (Jr., F, Oakdale, MN); Courtney Josefsen (So., F, Bemidji, MN); Diana Karouzos (So., D, Chicago, IL); *Kelly Meierhofer (Jr., D, Sauk Rapids, MN); *Michelle Moen (Sr., F, Rogers, MN); Ashley Nixon (So., G, Blaine, MN); *Samantha Nixon (Sr., F, Blaine, MN); *Holly Roberts (Jr., F, St. Cloud, MN); *Brita Schroeder (Sr., D, Monticello, MN).

University of Wisconsin: *Rachel Bible (Sr., F, Black River Falls, WI); Mallory Deluce (So., F, London, ON); Meghan Duggan (Jr., F, Danvers, MA); *Maria Evans (So., F, Chanhassen, MN); Kayla Hagen (Sr., F, Crosslake, MN); *Angie Keseley (Sr., F, St. Louis Park, MN); Erika Lawler (Sr., F, Fitchburg, MA); Alycia Matthews (Sr., D, Castlegar, BC); *Jessie Vetter (Sr., G, Cottage Grove, WI).