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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

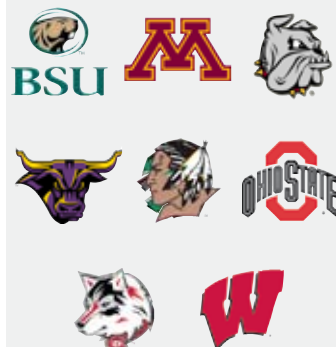
2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004,
2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009

2010 WCHA FINAL FACE-OFF

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September 9, 2009/For Immediate Release

WCHA ANNOUNCES WOMEN'S ALL-STAR TEAM FOR UPCOMING GAME VS U.S. NATIONAL TEAM

WCHA ALL-STARS TO TAKE ON U.S. WOMEN'S NATIONAL TEAM FRIDAY, SEPT. 25 AT XCEL ENERGY CENTER IN SAINT PAUL; TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW

MADISON, Wis. – Four players from defending national (NCAA Women's Frozen Four) champion University of Wisconsin and four post-season honorees from the Western Collegiate Hockey Association's all-league teams are among the 22 players who have been named to the WCHA Women's All-Star Team which will face the 2009-10 U.S. Women's National Team in St. Paul, Minn. later this month.

The game marks the opening of the Qwest Tour which will feature the 2009-10 U.S. Women's National Team playing 10 games throughout the United States in preparation for the 2010 Olympic Winter Games, set for Feb. 12-28 in Vancouver, British Columbia. The tour kicks off at Xcel Energy Center on Friday, Sept. 25 at 7:00 pm CT with a showdown between Team USA and the Western Collegiate Hockey Association Women's All-Stars.

The WCHA All-Star Team, being coached by St. Cloud State head coach Jeff Giesen, features Zuzana Tomcikova, a sophomore from Bemidji State University who was an All-WCHA Second Team goaltender in 2008-09, and Anne Schleper, a sophomore defenseman from the University of Minnesota who also was a second team all-conference player. Third team All-WCHA honorees from last season who have been named to the WCHA All-Star Team include Brooke Ammerman, a sophomore forward from Wisconsin, and Jaime Rasmussen, a junior defenseman from the University of Minnesota Duluth.

Ammerman is among four Wisconsin players on the team, along with sophomore defenseman Brittany Haverstock and forwards Mallory Deluce, a sophomore, and Jasmine Giles, a senior, from the defending NCAA champs. St. Cloud State also has four players on the roster – junior goaltender Ashley Nixon, senior defenseman Danielle Hirsch and senior forwards Holly Roberts and Caitlin Hogan.

Minnesota has three WCHA all-stars – sophomore goalie Alyssa Grogan, Schleper and junior forward Emily West – and Minnesota Duluth is represented by the trio of Rasmussen and forwards Emmanuelle Blais, a senior, and Laura Fridfinnson, a junior. Ohio State University's three all-stars are junior defensemen Shannon Reilly and sophomore forwards Laura McIntosh and Natalie Spooner. The University of North Dakota has two all-stars in junior defenseman Kelly Lewis and sophomore forward Alyssa Wiebe while Minnesota State University, Mankato is represented by senior defenseman Holly Snyder and senior forward Christina Lee.

The U.S. National Team is being coached by Wisconsin coach and former 1980 U.S. men's Olympic gold medalist Mark Johnson and includes 15 current and former WCHA players on its 22-women roster, including former Patty Kazmaier Memorial Award winner Jesse Vetter, a goaltender from Wisconsin.

more

THE 2009-10 WCHA ALL-STAR TEAM

PLAYERS

(Note: players listed with name, year, WCHA team (hometown)
(2008-09 statistics for all games)

Goaltenders: **Alyssa Grogan**, So., Minnesota (Eagan, MN) (16-2-2, 1.67 gaa, .923 sv%); **Ashley Nixon**, Jr., St. Cloud State (Blaine, MN) (11-14-3, 2.85 gaa, .909 sv%); **Zuzana Tomcikova**, So., Bemidji State (Bratislava, Slovakia) (5-22-4, 3.09 gaa, .917 sv%).

Defensemen: **Brittany Haverstock**, So., Wisconsin (Halifax, Nova Scotia) (39 gp, 2-15-17); **Danielle Hirsch**, Sr., St. Cloud State (Bloomington, MN) (34 gp, 2-18-20); **Kelly Lewis**, Jr., North Dakota (Forest Lake, MN) (36 gp, 7-12-19); **Jaime Rasmussen**, Sr., Minnesota Duluth (Garden Grove, CA) (38 gp, 9-12-21); **Shannon Reilly**, Jr., Ohio State (Chanhausen, MN) (35 gp, 5-14-19); **Anne Schleper**, So., Minnesota (St. Cloud, MN) (40 gp, 7-19-26); **Holly Snyder**, Sr., Minnesota State (Kenosha, WI) (36 gp, 6-13-19).

Forwards: **Brooke Ammerman**, So., Wisconsin (River Vale, NJ) (40 gp, 27-27-54); **Emmanuelle Blais**, Sr., Minnesota Duluth (Lasalle, Quebec) (33 gp, 10-4-14); **Mallory Deluce**, Jr., Wisconsin (London, Ontario) (41 gp, 12-20-32); **Laura Fridfinnson**, Jr., Minnesota Duluth (Arborg, Manitoba) (39 gp, 20-14-34); **Jasmine Giles**, Sr., Wisconsin (Ottawa, Ontario) (41 gp, 16-29-45); **Caitlin Hogan**, Sr., St. Cloud State (Oakdale, MN) (37 gp, 14-17-31); **Christina Lee**, Sr., Minnesota State (Maple Plain, MN) (36 gp, 14-19-33); **Laura McIntosh**, So., Ohio State (Waterloo, Ontario) (36 gp, 11-28-39); **Holly Roberts**, Sr., St. Cloud State (St. Cloud, MN) (37 gp, 9-11-20); **Natalie Spooner**, So., Ohio State (Scarborough, Ontario) (30 gp, 21-9-30); **Emily West**, Jr., Minnesota (Colorado Springs, CO) (40 gp, 19-21-40); **Alyssa Wiebe**, So., North Dakota (Saskatoon, Saskatchewan) (36 gp, 13-15-28).

TEAM STAFF

Head Coach: **Jeff Giesen**, St. Cloud State.

Assistant Coaches: **Maria Lewis**, North Dakota; **Heather Farrell**, Bemidji State.

Athletic Trainer: **Stef Arndt**, St. Cloud State.

Equipment Manager: **Paul Hickman**, Wisconsin.

Public Relations: **Celest Stang**, St. Cloud State.

TICKET INFORMATION

WCHA ALL-STARS VS U.S. WOMEN'S NATIONAL TEAM
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 7:00 PM CT
XCEL ENERGY CENTER, ST. PAUL, MN
<http://www.xcelenergycenter.com/index2.jsp>

Tickets for the game between the WCHA All-Stars and the U.S. Women's National Team on Friday, Sept. 25 at 7:00 pm CT are available now via the Xcel Energy Center's official web site and box office.

To visit the Xcel Energy Center's official web site go to:
<http://www.xcelenergycenter.com/index2.jsp>. Then click on the Sept. 25 Qwest Tour link in the schedule of events.

Group tickets (10+) for the event are available by calling 651-312-3486.

Xcel Energy Center will also host the final pre-Olympic matchup between the U.S. Women's National Team and archrival Canada at 7:00 pm CT on Wednesday, Dec. 30.

This will be the third time Xcel Energy Center has hosted the U.S. Women's National Hockey Team in preparation for the Olympics. Against the same opponents, Team USA played in Saint Paul on Sept. 30, 2005 and Dec. 30, 2005, respectively, as part of their training for the 2006 Olympic Winter Games in Torino, Italy. On Oct. 6, 2001, they faced off against the WCHA All-Stars in preparation for the Winter Games in Salt Lake City.

Xcel Energy Center is located at: 199 Kellogg Blvd, Saint Paul, MN 55102.