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WCHA WOMEN'S LEAGUE

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SCSU'S ROBERTS, UM'S SCHLEPER, UMD'S POSA NAMED WCHA WOMEN'S PLAYERS OF THE WEEK FOR NOV. 18-24

MADISON, Wis. – The Western Collegiate Hockey Association today announced the women's players of the week for Nov. 18-24, 2009. They are St. Cloud State University forward **Holly Roberts** on offense, University of Minnesota blueliner **Anne Schleper** on defense, and defenseman **Mariia Posa** of the University of Minnesota Duluth as rookie.

WCHA OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK

HOLLY ROBERTS SR., F, ST. CLOUD STATE

St. Cloud State University captain Holly Roberts, a senior forward from St. Cloud, Minn., scored a three-goal hat trick on Saturday, Nov. 14, helping the visiting Huskies earn a 5-2 victory and a weekend split with WCHA-rival Bemidji State.

After contributing four shots on goal in a 1-0 setback to the host Beavers last Friday (Nov. 13), Roberts came back with eight more shots on goal on Saturday (Nov. 14), notching a hat trick that included a game-winner, two power-play tallies and a shorthander, to propel the Huskies on to the win.

She gave SCSU their second lead of the weekend at 2-1 early in the second period with a power-play goal, her third of the year. Later in the period, Roberts added her second power-play goal, the eventual game-winner, giving the Huskies a 3-1 advantage. Roberts would net her third and final goal – a shorthander – at 17:33 of the third period. The hat trick was the second of Roberts' collegiate career, coming almost three years to the date of her first three-goal game against Vermont on Nov. 4, 2006.

Through 12 games played this season, Roberts has 11 points (5g, 6a).

Also nominated this week were: Erin Cody, F, BSU; Emily West, F, UM; Emmanuelle Blais, F, UMD; Emmi Leinonen, F, MSU; and Brooke Ammerman, F, UW.

WCHA DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK

ANNE SCHLEPER SO., D, MINNESOTA

Anne Schleper, a sophomore defenseman at the University of Minnesota from St. Cloud, Minn., produced three scoring points and contributed to a strong defensive effort, to aid the visiting Golden Gophers to a four-point series against league rival Minnesota State, Mankato last weekend.

Last Friday (Nov. 13), Schleper scored the power-play, game-winning goal at 17:07 in the second period to help the Gophers to a 4-1 win over the host Mavericks. She also added an assist on Emily West's goal at 19:06 in the second for a two-point game.

On Saturday (Nov. 14), Schleper was the only Gopher to find the back of the net when she scored a power-play, game-tying goal at 11:31 in the third. After tying the game at 1-1 and forcing it into overtime, Schleper scored the only goal of the shootout in the fourth round as UM gained the extra point. In addition to her three points, Schleper also put seven shots on goal in the series and helped limit MSU to just 1-of-12 on the power-play.

On the season, Schleper is second in scoring among league defensemen overall with 10 points (6g, 4a) in 12 games.

Also nominated for the award this week were: Zuzana Tomcikova, G, BSU; Alli Altmann, G, MSU; Ashley Nixon, G, SCSU; and Saige Pacholok, D, UW.

WCHA ROOKIE OF THE WEEK

MARIIA POSA FR., D, MINNESOTA DULUTH

University of Minnesota Duluth defenseman Mariia Posa, a freshman from Helsinki, Finland, dished out three assists last weekend in the visiting Bulldogs' two-game sweep of WCHA opponent Ohio State.

Just one week after suiting up for Team Finland in the 2009 Four Nations Cup, Posa had assists in the Bulldogs' first two goals in last Friday (Nov. 13) night's 3-2 overtime win over the host Buckeyes. It was a career-high for the blue liner and Posa was also a +3 in the plus/minus department.

Posa then dished an assist on national teammate Saara Tuominen's second period goal in last Saturday (Nov. 14) evening's 5-3 triumph over Ohio State, giving the Bulldogs a four-point road series.

Through her first 12 UMD skates this season, Posa has five points (1g, 4a).

Also nominated for the award this week were: Sadie Lundquist, F, BSU; Noora Rätty, G, UM; Hokey Langan, F, OSU; and Stefanie McKeough, D, UW.