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December 4, 2000/MADISON, Wisc./For Immediate Release

WCHA Offensive Player of the Week Dany Heatley, RW Wisconsin

Dany Heatley, a sophomore winger at the University of Wisconsin, has been honored as the WCHA Offensive Player of the Week for December 4th as a result of his efforts in a two-game conference road sweep over Minnesota-Duluth last weekend.

From Calgary, Alberta, the 6-3, 200-pound Heatley led all conference players over the Dec. 1-2 slate with six scoring points on three goals and three assists.

In a 5-4 Wisconsin victory over the Bulldogs last Friday (Dec. 1) night, Heatley scored a game-tying power-play goal in the first period and then assisted on three of the next four Badger goals, including Matt Doman's game-winner at 17:40 of the third period.

Last Saturday (Dec. 2) evening, Heatley then scored two more game-tying goals, with his third period tally at 19:28 sending the game into overtime, where Wisconsin ultimately won, 4-3.

On the weekend, Heatley owned a +6 plus-minus rating and also had 13 shots on goal. On the 2000-2001 season, the Atlanta Thrashers (NHL) draftee ranks fourth in scoring overall among WCHA players with 10 goals, 15 assists and 25 points in 18 games played.

Other nominees for the weekly offensive award were: Alex Kim, C, CC; Bjorn Engstrom, F, DU; Chris Durno, F, MTU; Jeff Panzer, C, UND; and Jon Cullen, C, SCSU.

WCHA Defensive Player of the Week Wade Dubielewicz, G Denver

University of Denver sophomore goaltender Wade Dubielewicz, who backstopped the host Pioneers to a two-game conference sweep over league-leading Minnesota last weekend, has been selected as the WCHA Defensive Player of the Week for December 4th.

A 5-10, 178-pounder from Invermere, B.C., Dubielewicz surrendered just one goal in the two wins, stopping 61 of 62 shots on goal in the series for a .984 saves percentage and blanking the visiting Golden Gophers in five of six periods. He also factored big in penalty-killing units that blanked the WCHA's top-ranked power-play in all 12 man-advantage opportunities in the series.

In a 4-0 victory last Friday (Dec. 1) night at Magness Arena, Dubielewicz stopped all 33 Minnesota shots on goal – including 15 in the third period – to log his second collegiate shutout. He then came back to make 28 saves in a 4-1 Denver win last Saturday (Dec. 2), surrendering an early first period tally at 3:52 before blanking UM over the final 56:08.

The wins pushed DU's unbeaten streak to five games and gives Dubielewicz a 4-0-1 record, 1.38 goals-against average, and .952 saves percentage during that span. On the 2000-01 season, he currently ranks fourth overall among WCHA goaltenders with a 2.33 GAA and a .916 SV%.

Also nominated were: Mike Colgan, D, CC; Justin Brown, D, MTU; and Andy Kollar, G, UND.

WCHA Rookie of the Week Bob Rangus, F Michigan Tech

Michigan Tech University freshman forward Bob Rangus, who led all nominated first-year players with three scoring points in a Dec. 1-2 conference series against St. Cloud State, has been named the WCHA Rookie of the Week for December 4th.

A 6-2, 200-pounder from Laurium, Mich., Rangus has averaged a point per game with two goals, two assists and four points since getting his first opportunity to play for the Huskies on Nov. 17-18 in Denver.

Last Friday (December 1) night in a 4-3 overtime setback to SCSU at the John MacInnes Student Ice Arena in Houghton, Mich., Rangus set up a key third period tally by teammate Chris Durno at 1:25 that evened the score at 3-3 and ultimately sent the game into an extra session. Tech trailed St. Cloud State, 3-1, midway through the second period.

Then last Saturday (December 2) evening, in another one-goal loss, Rangus helped rally Michigan Tech back from a 3-0 second period deficit with a key assist on the Huskies' second goal by Chris Durno and then scored a game-tying goal himself with less than two minutes to go in regulation at 18:08 of the third period.

Other nominees for the league's weekly award were: Peter Sejna, LW, CC; Matt Weber, F, DU; and Quinn Fylling, RW, UND.