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January 6, 2010/For Immediate Release

SCSU'S NELSON, OSU'S KNAPP, UND'S LOKEN NAMED WCHA WOMEN'S PLAYERS OF THE WEEK FOR JAN. 6, 2010

MADISON, Wis. – The Western Collegiate Hockey Association today announced the women's players of the week for Jan. 6, 2010. They are St. Cloud State University forward **Felicia Nelson** on offense, Ohio State University goaltender **Chelsea Knapp** on defense, and University of North Dakota forward **Mary Loken** as rookie of the week.

WCHA OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK **FELICIA NELSON SR., F, ST. CLOUD STATE**

St. Cloud State team captain Felicia Nelson, a senior from St. Paul, Minn., erupted for seven points (6g, 1a) in two games at the Easton Holiday Showcase over the New Year's weekend, including two key game-tying goals and two power-play scores.

Last Saturday (Jan. 2) at the National Hockey Center, Nelson netted all four Husky goals against Providence – one in the first period, two in the second and one in the third – in the 4-4 overtime tie and was named the First Star of the Game. Her four goals were the most ever in a game for her and rank second all-time at St. Cloud State. Nelson is also the third Husky this season to garner a hat trick.

Then against No. 1-ranked Mercyhurst last Sunday (Jan. 3), Nelson came back to score two more goals and also add an assist in the Huskies' 4-4 overtime tie. She was again named First Star of the Game.

In addition to her six scoring points, Nelson also led SCSU with 14 shots on the weekend and earned a +4 rating.

In 19 games played this season, Nelson has amassed 23 points (18g, 5a) and leads the country (Div. 1) in goal scoring with 18. Over her SCSU career, she has produced 83 points (51g, 32a) in 116 games.

Also nominated for the award this week were: Melissa Feste, F, OSU.

WCHA DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK **CHELSEA KNAPP FR., G, OHIO STATE**

Ohio State freshman goaltender Chelsea Knapp had two solid performances in net over the New Year's holiday weekend, backstopping the Buckeyes to a two-game non-conference sweep of Robert Morris at the OSU Ice Rink.

Knapp allowed just one goal in each game of the series for three-consecutive games with just a single goal allowed. Knapp, from York, N.Y., finished the series with a .947 saves percentage and four shutout periods while helping the Buckeyes to their second sweep of the season with 3-1 and 6-1 victories over the visiting Colonials.

Knapp has improved her first-year winning percentage to .500 at 7-7-4 overall for the No. 10-ranked Buckeyes, and she sports a 2.89 goals-against average and .892 saves percentage over 1,060 minutes of action.

Also nominated for the award this week were: Jorid Dagfinrud, G, UND; and Ashley Nixon, G, SCSU.

WCHA ROOKIE OF THE WEEK **MARY LOKEN FR., F, NORTH DAKOTA**

North Dakota's Mary Loken, a freshman forward from Roseau, Minn., scored two goals, fired 11 shots on goal and was a +2 in the Fighting Sioux's 5-0 shutout road victory against Union College last Sunday.

After a scoreless first period of play, Loken got North Dakota on the board first, scoring what proved to be the eventual game-winning goal at 15:03 of period two. She later added the first goal of the third period, scoring at the 3:02 mark, as UND built a 3-0 advantage enroute to the 5-0 win.

As a rookie, Loken has played in all of UND's 18 games so far this 2009-10 season and ranks second in scoring among her teammates with 12 points on six goals and six assists. She has two power-play goals, one game-winner and one game-tying tally to her credit.

Also nominated for the award this week were: Paige Semenza, F, OSU; and Katie Allen, D, SCSU.