WESTERN COLLEGIATE HOCKEY ASSOCIATION • Founded 1999 •

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ACHA

October 7, 2014/For Immediate Release Ohio State's Kepler. Minneso

Ohio State's Kepler, Minnesota's Stecklein and Wisconsin's Clark Named WCHA Players of the Week

Trio honored for games of Oct. 3-5, 2014

WCHA Offensive Player of the Week Claudia Kepler, F Ohio State

Ohio State forward Claudia Kepler, a sophomore from Verona, Wis., tallied the game-winning goals in both games of the Buckeyes' sweep of New Hampshire. In Saturday's series finale, she found the back of the net with 31.1 seconds remaining in regulation to lift OSU to a 4-3 win and series sweep.

Kepler also scored Ohio State's lone goal in a 1-0, shutout victory in Friday night's series opener. The game-winners vs. UNH marked the first and second of her Buckeye career.

Also nominated: Megan Lushanko, Jr., F, Bemidji State; Becca Kohler, Jr., F, North Dakota; Sarah Nurse, So., F, Wisconsin, and Meghan Lorence, Sr., F, Minnesota

WCHA Defensive Player of the Week Lee Stecklein, D Minnesota

In her first two games for Minnesota since March 2013 after playing in the 2014 Winter Olympic Games with Team USA, sophomore defenseman Lee Stecklein was tied for the team lead with four points on four assists in Minnesota's wins over Penn State and No. 6 Boston University at Ridder Arena.

A sophomore from Roseville, Minn., Stecklein picked up two assists in each game, had a plus-4 rating for the weekend, logged three blocked shots and was on the ice for eight of Minnesota's 13 goals in the series. Thus far on the young season, she ranks third in the nation among blueliners (tied for eighth overall) and leads WCHA defensemen with 2.00 points per game.

Also nominated: Ivana Bilic, Jr., D, BemidjiState;ShelbyAmsley-Benzie, Jr., G, North Dakota; Ann-Renée Desbiens, So., G, Wisconsin

WCHA Rookie of the Week Emily Clark, F Wisconsin

Emily Clark, a freshman forward from Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, made the most of her Wisconsin debut on Friday night after missing the Badgers' opening series while attending Hockey Canada's Fall Festival. Clark scored twice, including a short-handed game-winner early in the third period to help Wisconsin defeat UMD, 4-1, on Friday.

Clark also had an assist in UW's 6-2 triumph on Saturday, helping the Badgers to their third-ever sweep of the Bulldogs in Duluth.

Also nominated: Erin Deters, G, Bemidji State; Kassidy Sauve, G, Ohio State, and Cara Piazza, F, Minnesota