Men's Hockey Receives Five All-Academic Selections

Posted: Thursday, February 26, 2009

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. - Five UW-Eau Claire men's hockey players received recognition on the Northern Collegiate Hockey Association (NCHA) All-Academic team, league sports information director Brian Monahan announced today.

Receiving honors for the second year in a row were goalie **Tyler Brigl** *(Jr.-Eagan, Minn.)*, defenseman **DJ Clark** *(Jr.-Blaine, Minn./Spring Lake Park)*, forward **Andrew Johnson** *(Sr.-Andover, Minn./Anoka)* and forward **Nate Smith** *(Jr.-Clayton, Wis.)*. Defenseman **Nicholas Kuqali** *(Jr.-Pittsburgh, Pa./Mount Lebanon)* was selected to the first time in his career.

Brigl, an accounting major with a 3.24 grade point average, started 24 games, playing 1,418 minutes between the pipes for Eau Claire. He finished the season with 536 saves and a .901 save percentage, allowing 59 goals for a goals-against-average of 2.50.

Clark, a kinesiology major with a 3.69 GPA, recorded 16 points for Eau Claire this year coming from seven goals and nine assists. Kuqali, a business/economics major with a 3.78 GPA, picked up five points from one goal and four assists. Along with Clark, Kuqali was part of a defense that allowed only 661 shots on the season while the Blugolds finished with 964.

Johnson, a health care administration major with a 3.67 GPA, scored 12 points this season. He scored four goals, three on a power-play, and picked up eight assists. Smith, a pre-med and business major with a 3.43 GPA, played in 22 games this season and picked up three assists.

River Falls' Derek Hansberry earned the conference's scholar-athlete award.

NCHA All-Academic Team

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