

**For Immediate Release**

**Thursday, March 1, 2001**

## **Warriors host Niagara in final conference match-up**

### **This Week's Opponent -**

The Warriors will host Niagara University this Friday and Saturday, March 2 and 3, at 7:05 p.m. at the Fraser Ice Arena. This is Wayne State's last regular season conference games of the 2000-2001 season. Next week, the Warriors will compete in the CHA conference tournament held in Huntsville, Alabama.

### **Game Information -**

Wayne State brings a 14-14-3 overall and 6-9-3 conference record into this weekend's play. The Warriors have been winless in their last seven games as they post a 0-5-2 record in the last seven games. Niagara brings a 13-16-5 overall and a 10-5-3 conference record into the weekend. The Purple Eagles are 0-3-2 in their last five games.

### **Series Record -**

This is the third and fourth meeting between the two teams with Wayne State leading the series 2-0. Earlier this season these two teams met in Buffalo, NY, when Niagara was the top team in the league. The Warriors went in and swept the series with a 9-6 and 4-3 win.

### **Conference Race -**

The Warriors are currently in fifth place in the CHA standings and have secured a spot in the CHA post-season tournament. The questions remaining for the season is what place will the Warriors finish and when will they play.

Should the Warriors finish in fourth or fifth place, they will play on Thursday, March 8, in a single-elimination game against the other team that finishes in fourth or fifth place. The winner of that fourth vs. fifth place game will continue in the tournament while the other team is finished for the year. If the Warriors finish in third place or higher, they would play on Friday, March 9. The CHA tournament will be held at the University of Alabama-Huntsville.

The Warriors have two league games remaining and can finish as high as third place in the CHA standings.

### **Last Week -**

After being off for over 13 days, the Warriors lost to Bemidji State the first night, 2-1, and tied the second night 1-1.

In Friday's loss, sophomore Jason Durbin scored WSU's only goal of the game (his 14th goal of the season) at the 4:45 mark in the third period. Sophomore Tyler Kindle added the assist. BSU scored one goal in the first and third periods to mark the 2-1 win.

In Saturday's tie, sophomore Jack Redwood scored at 14:02 in the second period (freshman Chris Vail added the assist) in the Warriors only goal. BSU scored in the third period to tie the game and then both teams held each other scoreless for the 1-1 tie.

In goal both nights was sophomore David Guerrero. On Friday, Guerrero made 23 saves and on Saturday he made 28.

### **CHA Team Leaders -**

Sophomore Jasobn Durbin is second in point scoring with 20. Sophomore Dustin Kingston is tied for 15th with 15. Freshman Chris Vail is tied for 19th with 13.

Durbin is tied for third in goals scored with 11, Kingston is tied for sixth with ten, as Vail is tied for 13th with seven.

Sophomore Tyler Kindle is tied for seventh in assists with 11, sophomore Keith Stanich is tied for tenth with ten and Durbin is tied for 14th with nine.

Kindle is third in defenseman scoring with 13 and Stanich is tied for fourth with ten.

Vail is third in freshman scoring with 14 points.

Sophomore goalie, David Guerrero, is fourth in winning percentage (.433), and is seventh in goals against average (3.25).

### **Team Leaders -**

Durbin has moved into first place in points for Wayne State as he has recorded 27 points in 31 games. Kingston, Renfrew and Vail are tied for second with 23 points. Kingston and Durbin are first in goals scored with 14 as Stanich is first in assists with 16.

In goal, David Guerrero is first in wins (9) and saves (515). Carlson is second in wins (5) and saves (216).

### **2000-2001 Captains -**

Sophomores Jason Durbin and Keith Stanich have been elected this year's team captains by their teammates. This is the second year in a row that Durbin has been named captain.

### **CHA Honors -**

Wayne State has won nine CHA awards this season and have swept the week's award (January 22) once this year. Freshmen Jackson Wilson (October 23) Jack Redwood (November 5) and Chris Vail (December 11, January 15, January 22) were named CHA "Rookie of the Week" and sophomore Maxim Starchenko (January 1) and sophomore Jason Durbin (January 15, January 22) were named "Offensive Player of the Week." Guerrero has received WSU's only "Defensive Player of the Week" as he was named on January 22.

### **Head Coach Bill Wilkinson -**

Head Coach Bill Wilkinson begins his second year with the Warriors. Last season, he led WSU in its inaugural season to a 6-23-1 record. This season he is 14-14-3.

Wilkinson is no stranger to hockey as he coached at Western Michigan for 17 seasons.

Wilkinson now posts a 334-338-57 record in 18 years of coaching (17 at WMU, 1 at WSU). He is also the chairman of the NCAA Men's Hockey championship selection committee.

Wilkinson is assisted by Danny Brooks, Willie Mitchell and Cal McGowan.

### **The CHA -**

College Hockey America (CHA) is in its second year of existence. Members include Air Force, Alabama-Huntsville, Bemidji State, Findlay, Niagara and Wayne State.

Last season, Niagara won the CHA with a perfect 15-0 conference and a 29-7 overall record. Alabama-Huntsville was second with a 12-5 conference and 17-10 overall record, and Bemidji State was third with a 8-8 conference and 13-20 overall record. WSU was not eligible to compete for the conference title last season as the Warriors were an affiliate member only.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Opponent</b>	<b>Time/ Results</b>
10/13	@LSSU	L, 1-2
10/14	@LSSU	L, 3-6
10/17	@Notre Dame	L, 1-2 ot
10/20	CANISIUS	W, 7-4
10/21	CANISIUS	L, 1-2 ot
10/27	@Iona	L, 0-1
10/28	@Iona	W, 4-3
11/3	FAIRFIELD	W, 8-3
11/4	FAIRFIELD	W, 6-5 ot
11/10	FINDLAY*	L, 3-2 ot
11/11	@Findlay*	T, 3-3 ot
11/17	AIR FORCE*	L, 3-4
11/18	AIR FORCE*	W, 5-2
11/24	@Bemidji State*	W, 5-4 ot
11/25	@Bemidji State*	L, 1-8
12/1	@Mercyhurst*	W, 4-1
12/8	AMERICAN INTER.	W, 7-0
12/9	AMERICAN INTER.	W, 1-0
12/29	vs. Queens at UCONN	W, 5-2
12/30	@UCONN	W, 5-4 ot
1/5	ALABAMA-HUNTSVILLE*	L, 5-0
1/6	ALABAMA-HUNTSVILLE*	L, 4-2
1/12	@Niagara*	W, 9-6
1/13	@Niagara*	W, 4-3
1/19	@Findlay*	W, 5-2
1/20	FINDLAY*	W, 3-1
1/25	USA 17 UNDER TEAM (exh)	L, 3-4
2/3	@Air Force*	T, 1-1
2/4	@Air Force*	L, 1-2
2/9	@Alabama-Huntsville*	L, 5-8
2/10	@Alabama-Huntsville*	L, 3-6
2/23	BEMIDJI STATE*	L, 1-2
2/24	BEMIDJI STATE*	T, 1-1
3/2	NIAGARA*	7:05 PM
3/3	NIAGARA*	7:05 PM

### **Breaking it Down - The Warriors this Season**

At Home	6-6-1
On the Road	6-10-2
Game One of Series	8-7-1
Game Two of Series	7-6-2
When Leading After 1st Period	7-0-1
When Trailing After 1st Period	3-8-0
When Tied After 1st Period	6-4-2
When Leading After 2nd Period	10-1-2
When Trailing After 2nd Period	1-11-1
When Tied After 2nd Period	4-1-0
When Scoring First	10-2-2
When Opponent Scores First	5-11-1
When Outshooting Opponent	12-6-2
When Outshot by Opponent	3-8-1
In Overtime	3-3-3
One Game Meeting	3-1-0

**Wayne State announces its new  
athletic web site**  
**For updated information, statistics, ticket information and more on all of the WSU athletic teams visit:**  
[www.wsuathletics.com](http://www.wsuathletics.com)

\*CHA game

HOME GAMES IN CAPS and to be played at Fraser Ice Arena