

USBWA NATIONAL PLAYERS OF THE WEEK (Jan. 31, 2017)

MEN: JOHN MOON, Oklahoma Christian University (Heartland Conference), 7-0, Sr., C, Crescent, Okla.

John Moon has been selected the U.S. Basketball Writers Association Division II Men's Basketball Player of the Week after the 7-foot center averaged 30.5 points and 9.0 rebounds to lead Oklahoma Christian to a pair of Heartland Conference victories last week.

Moon started the week with his sixth double-double of the year with 17 points and 12 rebounds in a 76-74 win over Newman, and he added five blocks to help OCU snap a seven-game losing streak. Two days later, Moon recorded the third 40-plus-point outing of his career, pouring in 44 points (on 16-of-19 shooting) to lift the Eagles past Oklahoma Panhandle State, 84-81, in overtime. It was the fifth-highest single-game scoring total in Heartland history, giving Moon three of the top-10 scoring games in Heartland history, and it moved him into third place on the Heartland's career scoring list with 1,745 points.

WOMEN: KIARA ETHERIDGE, St. Mary's University (Heartland Conference), 5-11, Sr., F, San Antonio, Texas

Kiara Etheridge of St. Mary's (Texas) University has been named the U.S. Basketball Writers Association Women's Division II National Player of the Week for the week ending January 29.

Etheridge, a 5-11 senior forward from San Antonio, Texas, was named the Heartland Conference Player of the Week after averaging 24.5 points and 12.0 rebounds per game as the Rattlers pushed their win streak to six games with road victories at Arkansas-Fort Smith and Rogers State.

She scored a season-high 28 points in the 84-66 win at UAFS, while also collecting 14 rebounds and dishing out a season-high six assists. The victory in Fort Smith was the Rattlers' first since 2013.

Etheridge then posted her 10th double-double of the season with 21 points and 10 rebounds in a 71-57 victory at Rogers State.

She is 22 rebounds shy of becoming St. Mary's all-time leading rebounding and is 56 rebounds away from becoming the first player in Heartland Conference history to register 1,000 career boards.

Etheridge has helped St. Mary's to a 17-3 overall record, including a 9-1 mark in conference.

2016-17 USBWA National Players of Week:

Nov. 15: C.J. Carr, Missouri Southern (Men); Hailey Tucker, Southwestern Oklahoma State (Women)

Nov. 22: Michael Mallory, Southern Connecticut State (Men); McKayla Roberts, Le Moyne (Women)

Nov. 29: Michael Smith, California Baptist (Men); Laney Lewis, Ursuline (Women)

Dec. 6: Phil Taylor, Shorter (Men); Madison Rowland, Queens, N.Y. (Women)

Dec. 13: Petar Kutlesic, Azusa Pacific (Men); Dana Watts, American International (Women)

Dec. 20: Braxton Reeves, East Central (Men); Kayla Gabor, Lake Erie (Women)

Jan. 3: Marc Matthews, Montana State Billings (Men); Andi Daugherty, Ashland (Women)

Jan. 10: Will Vorhees, Notre Dame, Ohio (Men); Miki Glenn, California, Pa. (Women)

Jan. 17: Devin Schmidt, Delta State (Men); Cassidy Mihalko, California Baptist (Women)

Jan. 24: Charles Clark, Carson-Newman (Men); Taylor Peacocke, Western Washington (Women)

Jan. 31: John Moon, Oklahoma Christian (Men); Kiara Etheridge, St.Mary's (Women)