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NCAA DIVISION II NATIONAL PLAYERS OF THE WEEK – Tuesday, January 20, 2026

Derek Moore of the University of Montevallo and Eliana Sheplee of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University have been selected as this week's national players of the week by the NCAA Division II Conference Information Directors of America for the week of Jan. 12-18.

MEN: Derek Moore, 6-7, Sr., Montevallo

Hometown: Birmingham, Alabama

Moore had a record-setting performance for the Falcons (11-6) during a week in which he averaged 36.5 points, seven rebounds, two assists and a steal per game in two contests. After going seven-of-eight from the field as part of a 22-point night while adding six rebounds and two assists in a 101-83 loss at Valdosta State, he exploded for a school record 51 points in a 97-87 win at West Florida 97-87 Saturday to end UWF's nine-game winning streak.

Not only were the 51 points a Montevallo single-game record, so were the 20 made free throws as he was 20-of-22 at the charity stripe. He scored 29 of his 51 points – the most by any player in NCAA Division II this season – in the second half to help his team overcome a two-point halftime deficit. He finished 15-of-25 from the field in the game and was 22-of-33 (66.7 percent) for week, while tacking on eight rebounds, two assists and a blocked shot in the UWF contest. He was selected as Player of the Week in the Gulf South Conference.

WOMEN: Eliana Sheplee, 5-10, R-Fr., Embry-Riddle

Hometown: Rice Lake, Wisconsin

Sheplee led now 14th-ranked Embry-Riddle (13-2) to wins over Florida Southern and Tampa last week with double-double performances in each game while averaging 28 points and shooting over 70 percent from the field along the way. She opened her week with a 24-point, 12-rebound showing in a 79-49 victory over a 12-4 Florida Southern squad, going 13-of-19 from the field and adding two steals and an assist.

On Saturday, Sheplee reached the 30-point mark for the second time this season with 32 points and 11 rebounds as Embry-Riddle edged Tampa 67-65; the 32 points were the second-most of the season and third-most in a game in school history. She scored 15 of her 19 first half points in the second quarter and had four three-pointers in the contest as she would finish with her sixth double-double of the season. Sheplee, who was 24-of-34 (70.6 percent) from the field in the two games, was named as the Sunshine State Conference's Player of the Week for the fourth time this season.