



NORTH AMERICAN HOCKEY LEAGUE WEEKLY RELEASE

For Immediate Release • October 2, 2007

Press Release Prepared By Brian McDonough, NAHL Director of Marketing & Communications
 Phone: (612) 929-2171 • Fax: (214) 975-2250 • bmcdonough@nahl.com • www.nahl.com

STANDINGS

North Division

| TEAM | GP | W-L-OTL | PTS | PCT | GF | GA |
|-----------------|----|---------|-----|------|----|----|
| USNTDP | 10 | 6-3-1 | 13 | .650 | 36 | 24 |
| St. Louis | 6 | 5-1-0 | 10 | .833 | 28 | 18 |
| Traverse City | 6 | 3-0-3 | 9 | .750 | 18 | 13 |
| Marquette | 6 | 4-2-0 | 8 | .667 | 24 | 20 |
| Mahoning Valley | 6 | 4-2-0 | 8 | .667 | 17 | 20 |
| Alpena | 6 | 3-2-1 | 7 | .583 | 23 | 22 |

South Division

| TEAM | GP | W-L-OTL | PTS | PCT | GF | GA |
|---------------|----|---------|-----|------|----|----|
| Fairbanks | 8 | 6-2-0 | 12 | .750 | 26 | 19 |
| Wichita Falls | 6 | 4-1-1 | 9 | .750 | 24 | 14 |
| Topeka | 6 | 4-1-1 | 9 | .750 | 18 | 14 |
| Texas | 6 | 3-3-0 | 6 | .500 | 21 | 16 |
| Alaska | 7 | 1-5-1 | 3 | .214 | 14 | 37 |
| Kenai River | 9 | 1-8-0 | 2 | .111 | 20 | 45 |

Central Division

| TEAM | GP | W-L-OTL | PTS | PCT | GF | GA |
|----------------|----|---------|-----|------|----|----|
| Springfield | 6 | 4-1-1 | 9 | .750 | 27 | 15 |
| North Iowa | 6 | 4-1-1 | 9 | .750 | 21 | 11 |
| Fargo-Moorhead | 6 | 4-2-0 | 8 | .667 | 24 | 16 |
| So. Minnesota | 6 | 2-2-2 | 6 | .500 | 18 | 22 |
| Alexandria | 6 | 1-5-0 | 2 | .167 | 14 | 25 |
| Bismarck | 6 | 0-5-1 | 1 | .083 | 9 | 31 |

LEADING SCORERS

| PLAYER | TEAM | P | GP | G | A | PTS |
|----------------|------|---|----|---|----|-----|
| Cardwell, Adam | WIC | F | 6 | 5 | 9 | 14 |
| Jendras, Corey | TPK | F | 6 | 7 | 5 | 12 |
| Everett, Grant | WIC | F | 6 | 2 | 10 | 12 |
| McCabe, Andrew | FBX | F | 8 | 1 | 11 | 12 |
| Salazar, Luke | WIC | F | 6 | 6 | 5 | 11 |
| Kamrass, Josh | TPK | F | 6 | 2 | 9 | 11 |
| Bussell, Josh | MAR | F | 6 | 4 | 5 | 9 |
| Graham, Derek | MVY | F | 6 | 4 | 5 | 9 |
| Warda, Ben | STL | F | 6 | 3 | 6 | 9 |
| Walters, Shea | NIO | F | 6 | 3 | 6 | 9 |
| Mihulka, Marc | FMH | F | 6 | 1 | 8 | 9 |

LEADING GOALTENDERS

| PLAYER | TEAM | GPI | MINS | W-L-OTL | GAA | SPCT |
|---------------------|------|-----|--------|---------|------|------|
| Maricic, Nick | USA | 3 | 178:47 | 2-1-0 | 0.67 | .975 |
| Cannata, Joe | USA | 2 | 126:40 | 1-0-1 | 1.42 | .939 |
| Moss, Robby | NIO | 4 | 246:52 | 3-0-1 | 1.46 | .942 |
| Stephenson, Brandon | TNS | 3 | 189:11 | 1-0-2 | 1.59 | .944 |
| Jarboe, Mike | WIC | 5 | 305:00 | 3-1-1 | 1.97 | .904 |

GOALS

| PLAYER | TEAM | P | GP | G |
|----------------|------|---|----|---|
| Jendras, Corey | TPK | F | 6 | 7 |
| Salazar, Luke | WIC | F | 6 | 6 |
| Simson, Nick | KRB | F | 9 | 6 |

ASSISTS

| PLAYER | TEAM | POS | GP | A |
|----------------|------|-----|----|----|
| McCabe, Andrew | FBX | F | 8 | 11 |
| Everett, Grant | WIC | F | 6 | 10 |
| Cardwell, Adam | WIC | F | 6 | 9 |
| Kamrass, Josh | TPK | F | 6 | 9 |

No Place Like Home

RoadRunners treat new fans to wins over Alaska

Hockey returned to Topeka, Kan., for the first time in two years last weekend in the form of the RoadRunners, and the NAHL club didn't disappoint the locals in attendance with a pair of wins over the Alaska Avalanche.

"For the fans in the building, they were happy to see a team that was hard-working, able to score goals and that plays with a bit of a chip on their shoulder," said RoadRunners coach-GM **Scott Langer**.

"The wins will go further for us in reaching the fans that *weren't* at the game and missed out on the experience. Word is already spreading like wildfire."



Corey Jendras

On Friday, **Corey Jendras** struck for two goals and an assist as the RoadRunners skated to a 5-1 victory. **John Stoddard** netted the game-winner, while goaltender **Bryce Merriam** turned aside 13 shots.

The next night, Topeka edged the Avs in a shootout, 3-2. **Eric Artman** and Jendras scored in regulation for the RoadRunners, and Merriam made 14 saves.

"There was clearly a sense of electricity in the air," said Langer. "Fans seemed pretty well seasoned with chants, rituals and taunts. They arrived early, bought up piles of merchandise and were extremely vocal in their support."

The RoadRunners drew over 1,700 in attendance on opening night and more than 1,300 on Saturday. Night and day from their dismal 392 average last season in Santa Fe.

"We're fortunate that a lot of fans here in Topeka have already been exposed to hockey, so what was most important for us was to be able to show what a high level of hockey the NAHL has to offer and to banish the misconception that since the players aren't pro, they must somehow be inferior."

Mission accomplished, as the RoadRunners, who opened the season with a 2-1-1 record at the NAHL Showcase Tournament, settled into their new and – at times - intimidating surroundings in short time.

"Some of the players had never played in front of a crowd that size, and some of the veterans were in awe of the amount of support," said Langer. "Nerves may have been a factor early in the game on opening night, but that quickly converted into energy."

Jendras couldn't have asked for a better start to his second NAHL season. The 20-year-old from Abingdon, Md., already has seven goals for 12 points in his first six games.

"Corey is natural goal-scorer," said Langer. "He has truly developed into a big-time scoring threat." *Story continued at nahl.com...*



LAST WEEK'S SCORES/HIGHLIGHTS

NORTH PLAYER OF THE WEEK

In only his third NAHL start, Mahoning Valley goaltender **Garrett Bartus** made all 44 saves as the Phantoms blanked the U.S. Under-18 Team on Saturday, 1-0. The St. Charles, Ill., native, who turns 18 this month, improved to 2-0 on the season with a 2.00 goals-against average and a .939 save percentage.



"It's really good to see Garrett play with the confidence that he did," said Phantoms coach-GM **Bob Mainhardt**. "He was outstanding, and there's no doubt that he was the biggest reason we won that game."

HONORABLE MENTION: Marquette forward **Josh Bussell**

SOUTH PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Fairbanks goaltender **Cody Reichard** backstopped the Ice Dogs to a pair of wins last weekend over Bismarck, turning aside 47 of 50 shots. On Friday, the 20-year-old made 17 saves as the Ice Dogs skated to a 7-1 victory. The next night, the Celina, Ohio, native stopped 30 shots in Fairbanks' 3-2 triumph over the Bobcats.



"He's been outstanding for us so far this season," said Ice Dogs assistant coach **Josh Hauge**. "He gives us a chance to win every night and that's all you can ask from your goaltender."

HONORABLE MENTION: Alaska forward **Kyle Pichler**; Topeka forward **Corey Jendras**; Wichita Falls forward **Adam Cardwell**

CENTRAL PLAYER OF THE WEEK

North Iowa forward **Bryant Skarda** registered four goals and two assists last weekend as the Outlaws skated to two wins over Kenai River. On Friday, the 20-year-old notched two goals, including the game-winner, in a 6-1 victory. The next night, Skarda, an Army recruit from Lake Elmo, Minn., tallied two more markers and two assists as North Iowa upended the Brown Bears, 5-1.



"I thought Bryant had a real solid weekend. He stepped up and scored a couple of big goals," said Outlaws coach **Dave Boitz**. "He showed why he's a Division I player with his speed and skill and the way he produced those points."

HONORABLE MENTION: Fargo-Moorhead goaltender **Elliot Okland**; Southern Minnesota forward **Dustin Skinner**

THE WEEK AHEAD

all times local

Friday, October 5

Marquette @ Alpena, 7:00 pm
Kenai River @ Bismarck, 7:05 pm
Springfield @ Fargo-Moorhead, 7:35 pm
Fairbanks @ North Iowa, 7:30 pm
Texas @ St. Louis, 7:15 pm
Traverse City @ USNTDP, 7:30 pm
Topeka @ Wichita Falls, 7:00 pm

Saturday, October 6

Mahoning Valley @ Alpena, 7:00 pm
Kenai River @ Bismarck, 7:05 pm
Springfield @ Fargo-Moorhead, 7:05 pm
Fairbanks @ North Iowa, 7:30 pm
Alaska @ Southern Minnesota, 7:00 pm
Texas @ St. Louis, 7:15 pm
Marquette @ Traverse City, 7:05 pm
Topeka @ Wichita Falls, 7:00 pm

Sunday, October 7

Mahoning Valley @ Alpena, 5:00 pm
Alaska @ Southern Minnesota, 5:00 pm
Marquette @ Traverse City, 1:00 pm

Friday, September 28

Traverse City 3 @ Alpena 4 (OT) (ALP: Viau, GWG)
Fairbanks 7 @ Bismarck 1 (FBX: McCabe, 3A, +2)
Alexandria 2 @ Fargo-Moorhead 4 (FM: Harrison, GWG, A, +1)
USNTDP 5 @ Marquette 3 (USA: Palmieri, G, A, +1)
Kenai River 1 @ North Iowa 6 (NI: Skarda, G, GWG, +1)
Southern Minnesota 5 @ Springfield 2 (SM: Skinner, G, GWG, +1)
Wichita Falls 4 @ Texas 0 (WIC: Jarboe, 26 saves)
Alaska 1 @ Topeka 5 (TPK: Jendras, 2G, A, +2)
Mahoning Valley 2 @ USNTDP 7 (USA: Lorenz, GWG, +2)

Saturday, September 29

Fairbanks 3 @ Bismarck 2 (FBX: Miller, GWG, +1)
Alexandria 1 @ Fargo-Moorhead 5 (FM: Okland, 54 saves)
USNTDP 4 @ Marquette 6 (MAR: Bussell, G, GWG, A, +1)
Kenai River 1 @ North Iowa 5 (NI: Skarda, 2G, 2A, +1)
Southern Minnesota 4 @ Springfield 3 (SO) (SM: Lipinski, G, A)
Alaska 2 @ Topeka 3 (SO) (TPK: Kamrass, SOG, A)
Alpena 2 @ Traverse City 3 (OT) (TC: Hughes, G, GWG, A)
Mahoning Valley 1 @ USNTDP 0 (MV: Bartus, 44 saves)
Texas 5 @ Wichita Falls 1 (TEX: Bullis, 3A)

AROUND THE NAHL

BUSSELL BREAKS THROUGH: Marquette forward **Josh Bussell**, 18, posted two goals and two assists in two games against the U.S. Under-17 team last weekend, including a three-point effort in the Rangers' 6-4 win on Saturday. "It was great to get that type of contribution from a first-year player this early in the year," said Marquette coach **Randy Enders**.

PICHLER IMPRESSES: Despite two losses at the hands of Topeka, Alaska forward **Kyle Pichler**, 18, contributed offensively to the tune of one goal and one assist against the RoadRunners. "Kyle comes prepared mentally and physically ready to play every weekend," said Avalanche coach-GM **Jamie Smith**.

UP AND ADAM: NAHL Showcase Tournament MVP **Adam Cardwell**, 20, continued his hot offensive hand for Wichita Falls last weekend, scoring two goals and an assist as the Wildcats split two games with Texas. The third-year forward leads the NAHL in scoring with 14 points (five goals).

SKINNER TO WINNER: Southern Minnesota celebrated two victories against NAHL Showcase Tournament champion Springfield, thanks in part to a three-goal weekend from forward **Dustin Skinner**. The 19-year-old notched the game-winner in the Express' 5-2 triumph on Friday.

OKLAND WEATHERS BLIZZARD: Fargo-Moorhead goaltender **Elliot Okland**, who turns 20 next week, backstopped the Jets to a pair of victories over Alexandria last weekend, stopping 98 of 101 shots. The Fargo native made 54 saves in the Jets' 5-1 win over the Blizzard on Saturday.

MARQUETTE FACES OFF AGAINST CANCER: The Rangers have partnered with Marquette General Hospital and the Marquette General Foundation on a fundraiser to benefit the Marquette General Cancer Center. The effort will culminate on Oct. 25 with a "Paint the Place Pink" home game at Lakeview Arena, when the Rangers will wear customized pink jerseys that will be auctioned off after the game.

STAR STRUCK: Traverse City forward **Matt Hughes**, 19, scored two goals, including the OT game-winner, and an assist in the North Stars' 3-2 win over Alpena on Saturday.