



NORTH AMERICAN HOCKEY LEAGUE WEEKLY RELEASE

For Immediate Release • October 15, 2007

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STANDINGS

North Division

TEAM	GP	W-L-OTL	PTS	PCT	GF	GA
St. Louis	11	9-2-0	18	.818	48	28
USNTDP	13	8-4-1	17	.654	48	33
Alpena	11	6-4-1	13	.591	37	34
Mahoning Valley	10	6-3-1	13	.650	31	33
Traverse City	11	5-3-3	13	.591	32	29
Marquette	11	6-5-0	12	.545	42	42

South Division

TEAM	GP	W-L-OTL	PTS	PCT	GF	GA
Wichita Falls	10	8-1-1	17	.850	39	24
Fairbanks	12	6-5-1	13	.542	35	34
Topeka	10	5-3-2	12	.600	30	27
Texas	10	4-6-0	8	.400	30	34
Alaska	11	3-7-1	7	.318	26	50
Kenai River	11	1-9-1	3	.136	24	51

Central Division

TEAM	GP	W-L-OTL	PTS	PCT	GF	GA
North Iowa	8	6-1-1	13	.813	27	13
Fargo-Moorhead	10	6-3-1	13	.650	43	33
Springfield	11	6-4-1	13	.591	42	35
So. Minnesota	10	5-3-2	12	.600	35	34
Bismarck	10	2-7-1	5	.250	22	46
Alexandria	8	2-6-0	4	.250	21	32

LEADING SCORERS

PLAYER	TEAM	P	GP	G	A	PTS
Cardwell, Adam	WIC	F	10	7	12	19
Everett, Grant	WIC	F	10	5	12	17
Salazar, Luke	WIC	F	10	8	8	16
Peterson, Erik	ALP	F	11	5	11	16
McCabe, Andrew	FBX	F	12	4	12	16
Jendras, Corey	TPK	F	10	8	7	15
Rowe, Darren	SPR	D	11	4	11	15
OKane, Kyle	STL	F	11	6	8	14
Warda, Ben	STL	F	11	4	10	14
Graham, Derek	MVY	F	10	4	10	14

LEADING GOALTENDERS

PLAYER	TEAM	GPI	MINS	W-L-OTL	GAA	SPCT
Moss, Robby	NIO	6	366:52	5-0-1	1.31	.948
Jarboe, Mike	WIC	9	523:50	6-1-1	2.18	.932
Merriam, Bryce	TPK	9	545:30	4-3-2	2.20	.911
Callaghan, Thomas	TXS	5	300	3-2-0	2.20	.929
Graves, Nick	SME	5	293:17	2-1-2	2.25	.930

GOALS

PLAYER	TEAM	P	GP	G
Salazar, Luke	WIC	F	10	8
Jendras, Corey	TPK	F	10	8
Moser, Scott	MVY	F	10	8

ASSISTS

PLAYER	TEAM	POS	GP	A
Cardwell, Adam	WIC	F	10	12
Everett, Grant	WIC	F	10	12
McCabe, Andrew	FBX	F	12	12

PLUS/MINUS

PLAYER	TEAM	POS	GP	+/-
Merrifield, Mike	STL	F	11	+12

Alpena silences Stars

Pellegrino sparkles in victories over Traverse City

It's only October, but with just six points separating the first- and sixth-place teams in the NAHL's North Division, the Alpena IceDiggers aren't discounting the importance of their two wins over the Traverse City North Stars last weekend.

"For us to be able to pick up four points was huge because our division is so tight right now," said IceDiggers coach-GM **Kenny Miller**, whose team improved to 6-4-1. "You can't afford to give away points or you'll find yourself playing catch-up."

On Friday, goaltender **Nate Pellegrino** turned aside all 30 shots as the IceDiggers blanked the North Stars, 1-0. **Jimmy McCusker** scored the only goal of the game in the second period, with assists going to **Erik Peterson** and **Isaac Viau**.



Erik Peterson

The next night, four different IceDiggers struck for goals in a 4-1 win over Traverse City. Defenseman **Ryan Sell** netted the game-winner, while **Jon Puskar** and **Viau** each added a goal and an assist. Between the pipes, Pellegrino made 33 saves.

"For being a young team, I'm happy with the way we've started," said Miller, whose team has 13 points after 11 games, tied with Mahoning Valley and Traverse City. "We compete every night and, as a coach, that's all you can ask for."

The IceDiggers couldn't ask much more of Pellegrino. With five straight periods of shutout hockey last weekend – Traverse City's only goal came in the third period on Saturday – the 19-year-old from Woodlyn, Pa., has fueled Alpena's recent success.

"When we picked him up, this is the type of play we thought we would get from him," said Miller, who acquired Pellegrino in a trade with Alaska in the offseason. "Nate was the difference last weekend. When we needed the save, we got it, and that allowed us to win both nights."

On the offensive end, veterans Peterson, who leads team in scoring with 16 points (five goals) after 11 games, and McCusker (four goals for 11 points) have also lived up to early expectations.

"Erik and Jimmy put up numbers last year for us, too, and we knew we'd need scoring from them this year in order to have success and they've come through so far," said Miller. "They need to continue to be a force for us every time they go out on the ice."

One pleasant surprise has been the offensive production from the first-year Puskar, an 18-year-old who ranks second on the IceDiggers' scoring chart with 13 points (five goals).

Story continued at nahl.com...



LAST WEEK'S SCORES/HIGHLIGHTS

NORTH PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Alpena goaltender **Nate Pellegrino** backstopped the Ice-Diggers to a pair of wins over Traverse City last weekend, turning aside 63 of 64 shots. On Friday, the 19-year-old made all 30 saves as Alpena blanked the North Stars, 1-0. The next night, the Woodlyn, Pa., native stopped 33 shots in a 4-1 IceDiggers win.



HONORABLE MENTION: Mahoning Valley forward **Brent Dexter**; Team USA forward **Kyle Palmieri**

SOUTH PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Alaska defenseman **Kent Dettelfson** notched four goals and two assists last weekend as the Avalanche split a pair of games with Alexandria. On Friday, the 20-year-old tallied a goal and an assist in a 6-3 loss. The next night, the Lakeville, Minn., native recorded a hat trick and assisted on **Larry Kincaid's** game-winning goal as Alaska trumped the Blizzard, 4-1.



HONORABLE MENTION: Topeka defenseman **Aaron Gens**; Wichita Falls forward **Luke Salazar**

CENTRAL PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Southern Minnesota forward **Brandon Brodhag** scored four goals last weekend as the Express skated to a pair of wins over Bismarck. On Friday, the 19-year-old struck twice in a 6-3 triumph. The next night, the Brooklyn Park, Minn., native notched two more goals, including the game-winner, in the Express' 5-4 win over the Bobcats. He was also a plus-4 on the weekend.



HONORABLE MENTION: Bismarck forward **Kyle Maggard** and defenseman **Andy Keough**; Fargo-Moorhead forward **Roman Krivda** and defenseman **Mark Johnson**

THE WEEK AHEAD

all times local

Tuesday, October 16

Wichita Falls @ Kenai River, 7:00 pm

Thursday, October 18

Alexandria @ Fargo-Moorhead, 7:35 pm

Wichita Falls @ Kenai River, 7:00 pm

Friday, October 19

Wichita Falls @ Alaska, 7:00 pm

Marquette @ Alexandria, 7:00 pm

Mahoning Valley @ Alpena, 7:00 pm

Texas @ Fairbanks, 7:30 pm

Bismarck @ Fargo-Moorhead, 7:35 pm

Springfield @ North Iowa, 7:30 pm

Topeka @ St. Louis, 7:15 pm

Saturday, October 20

Wichita Falls @ Alaska, 7:00 pm

Marquette @ Alexandria, 7:00 pm

Mahoning Valley @ Alpena, 7:00 pm

Texas @ Fairbanks, 7:30 pm

Southern Minnesota @ Fargo-Moorhead, 7:05 pm

Springfield @ North Iowa, 7:30 pm

Topeka @ St. Louis, 7:15 pm

Sunday, October 21

Texas @ Fairbanks, 5:00 pm

Tuesday, October 9

Springfield 2 @ St. Louis 5 (STL: Brooks, 3A, +2)

Friday, October 12

Alaska 3 @ Alexandria 6 (ALX: Kaiser, 3A)

Traverse City 0 @ Alpena 1 (ALP: Pellegrino, 30 saves)

Wichita Falls 4 @ Fairbanks 3 (SO) (WF: Salazar, G, SOG)

Fargo-Moorhead 5 @ Marquette 4 (FM: Benedict, 2A, +1)

Bismarck 3 @ Southern Minnesota 6 (SM: Spalding, G, GWG)

St. Louis 1 @ Springfield 5 (SPR: Greco, G, 2A)

Texas 2 @ Topeka 5 (TOP: Hartmann, G, A)

Mahoning Valley 3 @ USNTDP 4 (SO) (USA: Palmieri, 2G, +1)

Saturday, October 13

Alaska 4 @ Alexandria 1 (ALK: Dettelfson, 3G, A, +2)

Wichita Falls 5 @ Fairbanks 4 (WF: Cardwell, GWG, A)

Fargo-Moorhead 5 @ Marquette 6 (MAR: Macari, 2G)

Bismarck 4 @ Southern Minnesota 5 (SM: Brodhag, G, GWG, +1)

Springfield 1 @ St. Louis 5 (STL: Warda, G, 2A, +3)

Texas 5 @ Topeka 4 (SO) (TEX: Miller, G, SOG, +1)

Alpena 4 @ Traverse City 1 (ALP: Viau, G, A, +2)

Mahoning Valley 3 @ USNTDP 2 (MV: Boeckman, 2A)

AROUND THE NAHL

MIDGET SHOWCASE FIELD ANNOUNCED: The 22-team field for the second tournament of this season's NAHL Midget Showcase Series, which will be held Dec. 13-16 at The Summit Center in Chesterfield, Mo., home of the St. Louis Bandits, has been announced and can be viewed at nahl.com.

IN THE CLUTCH: Mahoning Valley forward **Brent Dexter**, 20, tallied two clutch goals last weekend as the Phantoms fashioned a 1-0-1 record against the U.S. Under-17 Team, including the third-period game-winner in Saturday's 3-2 triumph. "Dex has shown in the past the ability to score big goals for us, and that's what he did again," said Phantoms assistant coach **Curtis Carr**.

KRIVDA FINDING GROOVE: Ukrainian forward **Roman Krivda**, 20, broke through with two goals last weekend for Fargo-Moorhead as the Jets split a pair of games in Marquette. "Roman's points (four after nine games) don't indicate his play so far," said Jets coach **Chad Johnson**. "He's had many opportunities and it was good to see him cash in."

GOAL GETTER: U.S. Under-17 Team forward **Kyle Palmieri**, 16, scored four of Team USA's five goals in two games against Mahoning Valley last weekend. "Kyle was a catalyst for our offense against a very tough Mahoning Valley team," said U.S. coach **Ron Rolston**. "Not only did he score four goals, but three of them were highlight-reel goals."

COOL HAND LUKE: Wichita Falls forward **Luke Salazar**, who turns 19 next week, notched two goals and two assists in the Wildcats' two-game sweep of Fairbanks last weekend. He also scored a shootout goal in Friday's 4-3 triumph.

POWER RANGER: Marquette forward **Josh Bussell**, 18, scored two goals and an assist last weekend as the Rangers went 1-1 against Fargo-Moorhead. He leads the team in goals (six) and is tied for the team lead in points (12) with **Nick Condon**, 20.

MAGGARD SHINES: Despite two losses to Southern Minnesota last weekend, Bismarck forward **Kyle Maggard**, 19, rang up two goals.