



# NORTH AMERICAN HOCKEY LEAGUE WEEKLY RELEASE

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## STANDINGS

### North Division

TEAM	GP	W-L-OTL	PTS	PCT	GF	GA
St. Louis	13	11-2-0	22	.846	53	31
USNTDP	13	8-4-1	17	.654	48	33
Marquette	13	8-5-0	16	.615	52	47
Mahoning Valley	12	7-4-1	15	.625	39	38
Alpena	13	7-5-1	15	.577	42	42
Traverse City	11	5-3-3	13	.591	32	29

### South Division

TEAM	GP	W-L-OTL	PTS	PCT	GF	GA
Wichita Falls	14	11-2-1	23	.821	56	36
Fairbanks	15	8-6-1	17	.567	42	39
Topeka	12	5-4-3	13	.542	33	32
Texas	13	5-7-1	11	.423	35	41
Alaska	13	3-9-1	7	.269	29	58
Kenai River	13	2-10-1	5	.192	33	60

### Central Division

TEAM	GP	W-L-OTL	PTS	PCT	GF	GA
North Iowa	10	8-1-1	17	.850	35	18
Fargo-Moorhead	12	7-4-1	15	.625	52	40
Springfield	13	6-6-1	13	.500	47	43
So. Minnesota	10	5-3-2	12	.600	35	34
Bismarck	11	3-7-1	7	.318	27	50
Alexandria	11	2-9-0	4	.182	28	47

## LEADING SCORERS

PLAYER	TEAM	P	GP	G	A	PTS
Salazar, Luke	WIC	F	14	14	10	24
Cardwell, Adam	WIC	F	14	8	16	24
Everett, Grant	WIC	F	14	6	15	21
McCabe, Andrew	FBX	F	15	6	13	19
Graham, Derek	MVY	F	12	7	10	17
Jendras, Corey	TPK	F	12	9	7	16
Walters, Shea	NIO	F	10	8	8	16
OKane, Kyle	STL	F	13	7	9	16
Rowe, Darren	SPR	D	13	5	11	16
Peterson, Erik	ALP	F	13	4	12	16
Warda, Ben	STL	F	13	4	12	16

## LEADING GOALTENDERS

PLAYER	TEAM	GPI	MINS	W-L-OTL	GAA	SPCT
Moss, Robby	NIO	8	486:52	7-0-1	1.60	.941
Bartus, Garrett	MVY	5	305	3-1-1	2.16	.939
Callaghan, Thomas	TXS	5	300	3-2-0	2.20	.929
Merriam, Bryce	TPK	11	665:38	4-4-3	2.25	.908
Graves, Nick	SME	5	293:17	2-1-2	2.25	.930

## GOALS

PLAYER	TEAM	P	GP	G
Salazar, Luke	WIC	F	14	14
Jendras, Corey	TPK	F	12	9

(five players tied with 8)

## ASSISTS

PLAYER	TEAM	POS	GP	A
Cardwell, Adam	WIC	F	14	16
Everett, Grant	WIC	F	14	15
McCabe, Andrew	FBX	F	15	13

## PLUS/MINUS

PLAYER	TEAM	POS	GP	+/-
Merrifield, Mike	STL	F	13	+11

## Road Warriors

Wichita Falls wins 5 of 6 games in Alaska

Never an easy task picking up points in Alaska, the Wichita Falls Wildcats completed their two-week swing through the Last Frontier with an impressive 5-1 mark.

"I give a lot of credit to any team that can make that trip and come out on the winning end against those the three teams, and we had a great trip in regards to our win-loss record," said Wildcats coach-GM **John Bowkus**.

With a two-game sweep of Fairbanks the weekend of Oct. 12-13, the Wildcats headed south last week where they fashioned a 3-1 record against the Kenai River Brown Bears (1-1) and the Alaska Avalanche (2-0).

After falling to Kenai River on Tuesday, 5-3, the Wildcats rebounded to win their next three games, starting with a 6-4 triumph over the Brown Bears on Thursday. **Luke Salazar** notched two goals in that contest, while goaltender **Mike Jarboe** turned aside 35 shots.

The next night, Wichita Falls doubled up Alaska, 4-2. **Sean McKenzie** was credited with game-winning goal, while **Adam Sponseller** chipped in three assists. Jarboe made 23 saves between the pipes.

The Wildcats wrapped up their Alaskan odyssey with a 4-1 win over the Avalanche on Saturday. Salazar struck for two more goals, while **Adam Cardwell** added a goal and an assist. **Kyle McMahon** got the start in net and made 22 saves to pick up the victory.

"You find out a lot about the type of team you have on an extended trip like this," said Bowkus, whose team improved to 11-2-1 on the season. "With only a handful of veteran players who've made that trip in the past, I give lots of credit to our first-year guys for the effort they put into our success."

Despite failing to make the playoffs last year, Bowkus, in his first season behind the Wildcats' bench, isn't surprised to see his team sitting atop the NAHL's South Division a month into the 2007-08 campaign.

"We have such good character on this team, from the veterans who are really helping in the development of our younger players to the 23rd-25th guy who knows they have such an important role on this team," said the coach.

"We look like a team and we play like a team. We've bonded well and the guys are playing hard knowing that if anything happens to them, someone on the team has their back. It makes it easier for everyone to do their job out on the ice."

Story continued at [nahl.com](http://nahl.com)...



Grant Everett



## LAST WEEK'S SCORES/HIGHLIGHTS

### Tuesday, October 16

Wichita Falls 3 @ Kenai River 5 (KEN: Kevin Harris, 2G, +2)

### Thursday, October 18

Alexandria 2 @ Fargo-Moorhead 5 (FM: Trottier, GWG, A)

Wichita Falls 6 @ Kenai River 4 (WF: Salazar, 2G, +2)

### Friday, October 19

Wichita Falls 4 @ Alaska 2 (WF: Sponseller, 3A, +1)

Marquette 5 @ Alexandria 4 (MAR: Aaron Pietila, G, 2A)

Mahoning Valley 6 @ Alpena 1 (MV: Bartus, 30 saves)

Texas 1 @ Fairbanks 4 (FBX: McCabe, 2G)

Bismarck 5 @ Fargo-Moorhead 4 (BIS: Lewis, 2G, GWG, +3)

Springfield 2 @ North Iowa 4 (NI: Walters, G, A, +2)

Topeka 3 @ St. Louis 4 (STL: Leone, GWG, A, +1)

### Saturday, October 20

Wichita Falls 4 @ Alaska 1 (WF: Cardwell, GWG, 2A, +2)

Marquette 5 @ Alexandria 1 (MAR: Bussell, GWG, A, +1)

Mahoning Valley 2 @ Alpena 4 (ALP: Pason, 35 saves)

Texas 2 @ Fairbanks 0 (TEX: Zacharias, 50 saves)

So. Minnesota 5 @ Fargo-Moorhead 4 (SM: Unklesbay, G, A, +1)

Springfield 3 @ North Iowa 4 (NI: Harcharik, GWG, 2A)

Topeka 0 @ St. Louis 1 (OT) (STL: Johnson, 21 saves)

### Sunday, October 21

Texas 2 @ Fairbanks 3 (SO) (FBX: Kraft, 2G, +2)

## NORTH PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Marquette forward **Aaron Pietila** struck for a goal and three assists last weekend as the Rangers skated to a pair of wins over Alexandria. On Friday, the 19-year-old scored a goal and two assists in a 5-4 triumph. The next night, the Brighton, Mich., native recorded an assist as the Rangers downed the Blizzard, 5-1.



**HONORABLE MENTION:** Alpena forward **Russ Anderson**; Mahoning Valley forward **Derek Graham**; St. Louis goaltender **Mike Johnson**; U.S. Under-17 Team forward **Ryan Bourque**

## SOUTH PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Wichita Falls forward **Luke Salazar** rang up six goals and two assists last week as the Wildcats skated to a 3-1 record. On Tuesday, Salazar, who turns 19 this week, scored a goal and an assist in a 5-3 loss to Kenai River. The Denver native then scored two goals in the Wildcats' 6-4 win over the Brown Bears on Thursday. The next night, Salazar potted another goal and an assist as Wichita Falls doubled up Alaska, 4-2, before wrapping up his week with two more markers in a 4-1 victory over the Avalanche on Saturday. He was also a plus-6 on the week.



## CENTRAL PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Fargo-Moorhead forward **Robby Philipp** tallied three goals and two assists last week as the Jets fashioned a 1-2 record. On Thursday, the 19-year-old recorded two assists in a 5-2 win over Alexandria. The next night, the Thief River Falls, Minn., native scored two goals in the Jets' 5-4 loss to Bismarck. On Sunday, Philipp scored another goal as Fargo-Moorhead fell to Southern Minnesota, 5-4.



**HONORABLE MENTION:** Bismarck forward **Tye Lewis** and defenseman **Ryan Kayfes**; Fargo-Moorhead defenseman **Erick Galt**; North Iowa forward **Shea Walters**; Southern Minnesota forward **Vince Unklesbay**

## THE WEEK AHEAD

all times local

### Thursday, October 25

Texas @ Kenai River, 7:00 pm

Alpena @ Marquette, 7:00 pm

### Friday, October 26

North Iowa @ Alexandria, 7:00 pm

Marquette @ Alpena, 7:00 pm

Texas @ Kenai River, 7:00 pm

Fargo-Moorhead @ Southern Minnesota, 7:00 pm

Bismarck @ Springfield, 7:30 pm

USNTDP @ St. Louis, 7:15 pm

Mahoning Valley @ Traverse City, 7:05 pm

Topeka @ Wichita Falls, 7:00 pm

Texas @ Alaska, 7:00 pm

### Saturday, October 27

Alexandria @ North Iowa, 7:30 pm

Fargo-Moorhead @ Southern Minnesota, 7:00 pm

Bismarck @ Springfield, 7:00 pm

USNTDP @ St. Louis, 7:15 pm

Mahoning Valley @ Traverse City, 7:05 pm

Topeka @ Wichita Falls, 7:00 pm

### Sunday, October 28

Kenai River @ Alaska, 4:00 pm

## AROUND THE NAHL

**CENTURY CLUB:** North Iowa's 4-2 win over Springfield on Friday marked coach **Dave Boitz's** 100th career victory behind an NAHL bench. Now in his fourth season with the Outlaws, Boitz guided Alexandria for one year prior to joining North Iowa.

**ICEDIGGERS ADD ROSS:** In his first game with Alpena since being acquired from St. Louis last week, forward **Bryan Ross**, 19, recorded an assist in the IceDiggers' 4-2 win over Mahoning Valley on Saturday. "Bryan is the type of player we feel can step in and add scoring to our lineup," said IceDiggers coach-GM **Kenny Miller**.

**GOLDEN GRAHAM:** Mahoning Valley's leading scorer, **Derek Graham**, 19, tallied three goals last weekend as the Phantoms split a pair of games in Alpena. "Because of his offensive ability, a lot of times Derek's defensive side is overlooked," said Phantoms coach-GM **Bob Mainhardt**. "He's a well-rounded centerman who plays both sides of the puck."

**ON THE RIGHT TRACK:** Southern Minnesota forward **Vince Unklesbay**, 20, who was acquired earlier this season from Bismarck, scored a goal and an assist in the Express' 5-4 win over Fargo-Moorhead on Saturday. "Vince has been a huge addition to our team," said Southern Minnesota coach-GM **Matt Romaniski**.

**WALTERS EXTENDS STREAK:** North Iowa forward **Shea Walters**, 19, extended his scoring streak to eight games with three goals and an assist in two wins over Springfield last weekend. "He's not a cookie-cutter player," said Outlaws coach **Dave Boitz**. "He does things his way and is creative and very explosive."

**TYE-BREAKER:** Bismarck forward **Tye Lewis**, 18, who was picked up from North Iowa earlier this season, recorded a hat trick, including the third-period game-winner, in the Bobcats' 5-4 victory over Fargo-Moorhead on Friday.