



# NORTH AMERICAN HOCKEY LEAGUE WEEKLY RELEASE

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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
St. Louis	43	34-8-1	69	.802	191	116
Mahoning Valley	41	25-12-4	54	.659	163	121
Alpena	43	25-15-3	53	.616	144	126
Marquette	44	22-19-3	47	.534	148	164
USNTDP	41	21-18-2	44	.537	139	142
Traverse City	43	14-19-10	38	.442	124	154

### South Division

TEAM	GP	W-L-OTL	PTS	PCT	GF	GA
Wichita Falls	42	28-12-2	58	.690	160	124
Fairbanks	38	25-11-2	52	.684	110	86
Topeka	38	23-9-6	52	.684	146	95
Texas	45	17-25-3	37	.411	133	152
Alaska	42	15-25-2	32	.381	123	185
Kenai River	41	8-26-7	23	.280	99	181

### Central Division

TEAM	GP	W-L-OTL	PTS	PCT	GF	GA
North Iowa	40	28-10-2	58	.725	147	97
So. Minnesota	39	19-12-8	46	.590	149	153
Springfield	40	19-18-3	41	.513	136	145
Alexandria	35	15-17-3	33	.471	131	148
Bismarck	42	15-24-3	33	.393	111	154
Fargo-Moorhead	39	15-22-2	32	.410	131	142

## LEADING SCORERS

PLAYER	TEAM	P	GP	G	A	PTS
Cardwell, Adam	WIC	F	40	26	44	70
Salazar, Luke	WIC	F	42	32	32	64
Walters, Shea	NIO	F	40	18	46	64
Peterson, Erik	ALP	F	41	18	39	57
Graham, Derek	MVY	F	41	26	30	56
Warda, Ben	STL	F	43	19	37	56
Everett, Grant	WIC	F	41	15	40	55
O'Kane, Kyle	STL	F	38	33	21	54
Leone, Mike	STL	F	40	11	40	51

(two players tied with 47)

## LEADING GOALTENDERS

PLAYER	TEAM	GPI	MINS	W-L-OTL	GAA	SPCT
Moss, Robby	NIO	28	1658:58	20-5-2	2.06	.934
Reichard, Cody	FBX	34	1994:56	22-11-0	2.11	.932
Merriam, Bryce	TPK	30	1822:15	15-9-6	2.30	.896
Graves, Nick	ALP	24	1395:08	15-4-4	2.49	.911
Heeter, Cal	STL	24	1369:10	17-5-0	2.54	.913

## GOALS

PLAYER	TEAM	P	GP	G
O'Kane, Kyle	STL	F	38	33
Salazar, Luke	WIC	F	42	32
Miller, Ben	STL	F	38	27

## ASSISTS

PLAYER	TEAM	POS	GP	A
Walters, Shea	NIO	F	40	46
Cardwell, Adam	WIC	F	40	44

(two players tied with 40)

## PLUS/MINUS

PLAYER	TEAM	POS	GP	+/-
Cardwell, Adam	WIC	F	40	+27
Madden, Jon	MVY	D	30	+27

(two players tied at +26)

## Jets taking flight

### Pair of wins over North Iowa boosts confidence

With two wins over the Central Division-leading North Iowa Outlaws last weekend, the Fargo-Moorhead Jets moved a couple of steps closer to escaping the division's cellar.

"We definitely needed a spark to strengthen our confidence, and we got it last weekend," said Jets assistant coach **Aaron Kinslow**, whose team improved to 15-22-2 on the season. "Beating the top team is an extra incentive, but it doesn't matter who we play; the bottom line is that we need to play with that urgency and confidence every night."



Marc Mihulka

The Jets opened the series with a 3-1 win on Friday. **Mike Schumacher** tallied the game-winning goal and an assist, with **Justin Kirchevel** and **Robby Philipp** ringing up the other Fargo-Moorhead markers. Between the pipes, **Elliot Okland** turned aside 23 shots.

**Marc Mihulka** struck for two goals, including the game-winner, and an assist the next night as the Jets edged the Outlaws, 3-2. **Jordy Trottier** scored the other Fargo-Moorhead goal, while Okland made 26 saves.

"I think we realized how important it is to play a competitive 60-minute game two nights in a row," said Kinslow. "Knowing what it takes mentally night in and night out will make us tough to play against here down the stretch."

Mihulka, the Jets' leading-scorer with 40 points (14 goals) and a Top Prospects Tournament selection, along with Schumacher, both rose to the occasion last weekend with big goals at critical moments.

"Both of those guys came to play last weekend and gave it everything they had," said Kinslow. "Even though they played particularly well, I thought all of our guys came to play each night when they needed each other the most."

Including Okland. Now in his fourth year with the Jets, the 20-year-old netminder who has seen the lion's share of the minutes in goal picked up his 11th and 12th wins of the season. His save percentage of .913 ranks tied for fourth in the entire NAHL.

"Elliot has the athletic ability to be an intimidating goalie to play against," said Kinslow. "When he plays like he did last weekend, it'll only help him and the team to get where they want to be."

Despite their last-place positioning in the Central Division standings, the Jets' spirits are high with a playoff berth still in reach. Fargo-Moorhead sits only one point behind Bismarck and Alexandria for the division's fourth and final playoff spot.

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



## LAST WEEK'S SCORES/HIGHLIGHTS

### NORTH PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Traverse City forward **Matt Hughes** rang up two goals and an assist last week as the North Stars posted a 2-1 record. After being held scoreless in a 3-2 loss to the U.S. Under-17 Team on Tuesday, the 20-year-old tallied a goal and an assist in a 4-2 win over Alpena on Friday. The next night, the Goodrich, Mich., native scored the game-winning goal as the North Stars skated to a 3-1 triumph over the IceDiggers. Hughes was also a plus-2 for the week.



"Matt played a big part in our success last weekend and we expect it to continue," said North Stars coach-GM **Anthony Palumbo**.

**HONORABLE MENTION:** Alpena forward **Erik Peterson**; Mahoning Valley forward **Kyle Bailey**; Marquette forward **Nic Weight**

### SOUTH PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Topeka forward **Corey Jendras** struck for three goals and four assists last week as the RoadRunners skated to a 3-1 record. After notching an assist in a 9-2 win over Alaska on Tuesday, the 20-year-old recorded a hat trick in Topeka's 5-4 loss to Fairbanks on Friday. The next night, the Abingdon, Md., native tallied three assists, including one on **Aaron Gens'** game-winning goal, as the RoadRunners downed the Ice Dogs, 8-2. The University of Connecticut recruit was also a plus-4 for the week.



"Corey is a big-time goal-scorer and a big part of our offense," said RoadRunners coach-GM **Scott Langer**. "He hit a cold spell for a few games, but it's nice to see him firing on all cylinders again."

### CENTRAL PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Fargo-Moorhead goaltender **Elliot Okland** backstopped the Jets to a pair of wins over Central Division-leading North Iowa last weekend, turning aside 49 of 52 shots. On Friday, the 20-year-old made 23 saves in a 3-1 triumph. The next night, the Fargo native stopped 26 shots as the Jets skated past the Outlaws, 3-2.



"Elliot rose to the occasion last weekend with solid all-around play and we couldn't be happier for him," said Jets assistant coach **Aaron Kinslow**.

**HONORABLE MENTION:** Fargo-Moorhead forward **Marc Mihulka**

### THE WEEK AHEAD

*all times local*

#### Thursday, February 7

Fargo-Moorhead @ Bismarck, 7:05 pm

#### Friday, February 8

Springfield @ Alexandria, 7:00 pm

Topeka @ Fairbanks, 7:30 pm

Marquette @ Mahoning Valley, 7:15 pm

Southern Minnesota @ North Iowa, 7:30 pm

St. Louis @ Texas, 7:30 pm

Kenai River @ Wichita Falls, 7:00 pm

#### Saturday, February 9

Alexandria @ Bismarck, 7:05 pm

Topeka @ Fairbanks, 7:30 pm

Marquette @ Mahoning Valley, 7:15 pm

North Iowa @ Southern Minnesota, 7:00 pm

St. Louis @ Texas, 7:30 pm

Kenai River @ Wichita Falls, 7:00 pm

#### Sunday, February 10

Springfield @ Alexandria, 5:00 pm

North Iowa @ Southern Minnesota, 5:00 pm

#### Tuesday, January 29

Alaska 2 @ Topeka 9 (TOP: Sundstedt, 3G, +4)

Traverse City 2 @ USNTDP 3 (USA: Treais, G, A, +1)

#### Wednesday, January 30

Alaska 2 @ Topeka 8 (TOP: Seckel, GWG, A, +4)

#### Thursday, January 31

Kenai River 2 @ Texas 5 (TEX: Puente, 3A, +1)

#### Friday, February 1

So. Minnesota 4 @ Bismarck 5 (SO: Maggard, G, SOG, A)

North Iowa 1 @ Fargo-Moorhead 3 (FM: Schumacher, GWG, A, +2)

St. Louis 1 @ Mahoning Valley 2 (MV: Bailey, GWG, A, +2)

Alexandria 4 @ Marquette 2 (ALX: Swavely, G, 2A, +2)

Fairbanks 5 @ Topeka 4 (FBX: Kraft, GWG, 2A, +3)

Alpena 2 @ Traverse City 4 (TC: Stephenson, 27 saves)

Kenai River 0 @ Wichita Falls 3 (WF: Emery 22 saves)

#### Saturday, February 2

Traverse City 3 @ Alpena 1 (TC: Paliapito, 32 saves)

Southern Minnesota 3 @ Bismarck 4 (OT) (BIS: Olson, GWG, A, +3)

North Iowa 2 @ Fargo-Moorhead 3 (FM: Mihulka, G, GWG, A)

St. Louis 5 @ Mahoning Valley 4 (STL: Rabbani, GWG, A, +1)

Alexandria 4 @ Marquette 6 (MAR: Weight, 2G, GWG, +2)

Kenai River 2 @ Texas 3 (OT) (TEX: Korostin, 2A)

Fairbanks 2 @ Topeka 8 (TOP: Gens, GWG, 2A, +2)

### AROUND THE NAHL

**TOP PROSPECTS ON THE HORIZON:** The NAHL's Top Prospects Tournament is less than two weeks away. For more details on the event, which will be held February 17-19 at the Ann Arbor Ice Cube in Ann Arbor, Mich., visit [nahltopprospects.com](http://nahltopprospects.com).

**KAYFES TO FAIRBANKS:** Bismarck has traded defenseman **Ryan Kayfes**, 20, to Fairbanks for forward **Zach Miller**, 18, and future considerations. Kayfes will skate for the Central Division in the upcoming Top Prospects Tournament.

**ALUM COMMITS TO MERRIMACK:** **Stephane Da Costa** (Texas, 2006-07) has committed to Merrimack College (Hockey East) for next season. The 18-year-old tallied 23 goals for 40 points in 50 games with the Tornado last year.

**PETERSON ROLLING ALONG:** Despite two losses to Traverse City last weekend, Alpena's leading-scorer **Erik Peterson**, 19, tallied two goals and an assist. "Erik has been our most consistent forward all season, and, on a weekend when we weren't very good as a team, he continued to put up numbers for us," said IceDiggers coach-GM **Kenny Miller**.

**BAILEY BREAKS THROUGH:** Mahoning Valley forward **Kyle Bailey**, 19, collected a goal, including the game-winner in Friday night's 2-1 triumph, and three assists as the Phantoms split a weekend set with St. Louis. "Kyle is just getting comfortable. He's keeping things real simple," said Phantoms assistant coach **Curtis Carr**.

**HATS OFF:** Marquette forward **Nic Weight**, 20, struck for a hat trick in the Rangers' 6-4 victory over Alexandria on Saturday. "Nic and his linemates (**Aaron Pietila** and **Mike Macari**) played a major role in that win," said Rangers coach **Randy Enders**.

**EX-ZEBRA RECOGNIZED:** Former NAHL official **Shawn Davis** has been selected to work the OHL All-Star Game on Wednesday, February 6, in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario.