



# NORTH AMERICAN HOCKEY LEAGUE WEEKLY RELEASE

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## FINAL STANDINGS

### North Division

TEAM	GP	W-L-OTL	PTS	PCT	GF	GA
zSt. Louis	58	47-9-2	96	.828	250	149
xMahoning Valley	58	36-18-4	76	.655	227	173
xAlpena	58	30-23-5	65	.560	184	177
xUSNTDP	58	28-26-4	60	.517	177	186
Traverse City	58	23-23-12	58	.500	176	203
Marquette	58	26-29-3	55	.474	186	216

### South Division

TEAM	GP	W-L-OTL	PTS	PCT	GF	GA
yTopeka	58	39-11-8	86	.741	242	137
xFairbanks	58	39-15-4	82	.707	183	129
xWichita Falls	58	38-18-2	78	.672	221	181
xTexas	58	20-33-5	45	.388	165	201
Alaska	58	16-38-4	36	.310	158	270
Kenai River	58	12-38-8	32	.276	144	257

### Central Division

TEAM	GP	W-L-OTL	PTS	PCT	GF	GA
yNorth Iowa	58	38-16-4	80	.690	195	137
xSo. Minnesota	58	29-21-8	66	.569	203	229
xAlexandria	58	29-25-4	62	.534	222	223
xSpringfield	58	27-26-5	59	.509	190	190
Fargo-Moorhead	58	25-30-3	53	.457	201	199
Bismarck	58	20-32-6	46	.397	148	215

x - clinched playoff berth y - clinched division title z - clinched league title

## LEADING SCORERS

PLAYER	TEAM	P	GP	G	A	PTS
Cardwell, Adam	WIC	F	56	32	59	91
Salazar, Luke	WIC	F	58	41	46	87
Walters, Shea	NIO	F	57	24	60	84
Nesper, Luke	ALX	F	57	26	55	81
Lickteig, Mikael	ALX	F	58	34	40	74
Warda, Ben	STL	F	58	31	43	74
Graham, Derek	MVY	F	57	30	42	72
Peterson, Erik	ALP	F	56	24	47	71

(three players tied with 69)

## LEADING GOALTENDERS

PLAYER	TEAM	GPI	MINS	W-L-OTL	GAA	SPCT
Moss, Robby	NIO	41	2389:57	28-7-4	1.91	.940
Reichard, Cody	FBX	51	2991:05	33-15-2	2.05	.935
Merriam, Bryce	TPK	44	2662:22	26-11-7	2.23	.900
Heeter, Cal	STL	34	1972:00	25-6-1	2.43	.917
Johnson, Mike	STL	26	1522:57	21-3-1	2.56	.909

## GOALS

PLAYER	TEAM	P	GP	G
Salazar, Luke	WIC	F	58	41
O'Kane, Kyle	STL	F	52	40

## ASSISTS

PLAYER	TEAM	POS	GP	A
Walters, Shea	NIO	F	57	60
Cardwell, Adam	WIC	F	56	59

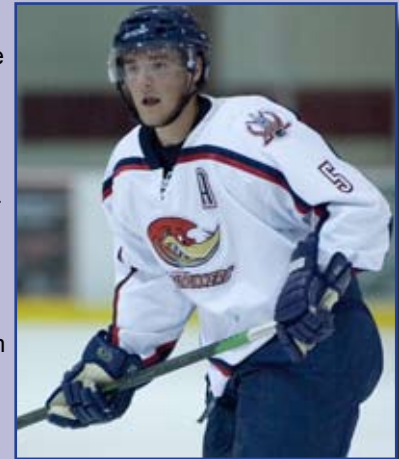
## PLUS/MINUS

PLAYER	TEAM	POS	GP	+/-
Gens, Aaron	TPK	D	53	+41
Nesper, Luke	ALX	F	57	+34

# Topeka Takes South

## RoadRunners cruise into postseason

The feel-good storylines continue to resonate out of Topeka, as the RoadRunners, who moved to Kansas' capital this season after playing three seasons in Santa Fe, N.M., locked up their first-ever NAHL South Division regular-season title last weekend.



Aaron Gens

"The growth and development of this year's team has been fun to watch," said RoadRunners coach-GM **Scott Langer**, whose club finished the regular season with a 39-11-8 mark. "We started this season on a bit of a roller coaster and ended as the winningest team in franchise history."

Topeka wrapped up its regular season with a pair of wins in Texas, starting with a 5-3 triumph over the Tornado on Friday. **Reed**

**Seckel** tallied two goals and an assist in the win, while **Corey Jendras** added a goal and two assists. Between the pipes, goaltender **Bryce Merriam** made 18 saves.

**Eriah Hayes'** third hat trick of the season lifted the RoadRunners to a 4-1 win over the Wichita Falls Wildcats on Saturday. **Josh Kamrass** connected for the other Topeka marker, and goaltender **Lyle Rocker** steered aside 27 shots.

"We lost a lot of key players from last year's team, and to have the first-year players and veteran leadership that we do is what's taken us a long way," said Langer.

So has the local support. With a 22-4-1 mark at the Kansas Expoentre this season and an average attendance of over 1,500 a game, there's no question the fans have played a major role in the team's good fortunes.

"The local fan base has been phenomenal," said RoadRunners director of media relations-broadcasting **Arch Ecker**. "Our guys get a measurable charge out of playing for this town. The fans have really been a seventh man when we play at home."

Langer recalls a late October weekend as a turning point in the season. After dropping a frustrating 3-2 decision to the Wildcats on a Friday, Topeka rebounded with a 2-1 win the next night, kicking off a six-game winning streak.

"That night I truly believe was the point in the season where this group never looked back," said Langer. "These players have been on a mission ever since and now we're looking forward to heading into the playoffs."

"There's no doubt we know the playoffs are a whole new beast, but if we continue to battle and work the way we ended the year, success will follow." *Story continued at nahl.com...*



## LAST WEEK'S SCORES/HIGHLIGHTS

**Tuesday, March 25**

Springfield 1 @ St. Louis 4 (STL: Warda, GWG, A, +2)

**Friday, March 28**

North Iowa 2 @ Alexandria 3 (ALX: Nesper-Lickteig, G, A, +1)  
Springfield 1 @ Bismarck 2 (SO) (BIS: Grogan, 31 saves)  
Alaska 2 @ Fairbanks 5 (FBX: Carlson, G, 2A)  
Southern Minnesota 0 @ Fargo-Moorhead 8 (FM: Buegler, 29 saves)  
USNTDP 2 @ Mahoning Valley 3 (MV: Winter, G, GWG)  
Traverse City 2 @ Marquette 1 (TC: Paliafito, 24 saves)  
Topeka 5 @ Texas 3 (TOP; Seckel, 2G, A)

**Saturday, March 29**

North Iowa 4 @ Alexandria 3 (SO) (NI: Harcharik, SOG, A)  
Springfield 0 @ Bismarck 1 (BIS: Kremer 49 saves)  
Alaska 2 @ Fairbanks 5 (FBX: Kavaya, G, 2A, +3)  
Southern Minnesota 4 @ Fargo-Moorhead 6 (FM: Harrison, G, A)  
USNTDP 2 @ Mahoning Valley 5 (MV: Moser, G, A)  
Traverse City 7 @ Marquette 5 (TC: Bonis, G, GWG, A, +3)  
Topeka 4 @ Wichita Falls 1 (TOP: Hayes, 2G, GWG, +3)

**Sunday, March 30**

Fargo-Moorhead 4 @ Alexandria 6 (ALX: Kincaid, G, GWG, +1)

## NORTH PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Traverse City forward **Kory Kaunisto** struck for three goals and an assist last weekend as the North Stars skated to a two-game sweep over Marquette. On Friday, the 18-year-old notched a goal in a 2-1 triumph. The next night, the Northern Michigan University recruit from Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., tallied two more goals and assisted on **Kyle Bonis'** game-winner in a 7-5 victory over the Rangers. With the wins, the North Stars claimed the Smith-Barney Challenge Cup, awarded to the Traverse City-Marquette season-series winner.

## SOUTH PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Fairbanks defenseman **Peter Kavaya** rang up a goal and three assists last weekend as the Ice Dogs wrapped up their regular season with two wins over Alaska. On Friday, the 21-year-old recorded an assist in a 5-2 triumph. The next night, the Western Michigan University recruit from San Clemente, Calif., connected for a goal and two assists in another 5-2 Ice Dogs win. He was also a plus-3 for the weekend.

## CENTRAL PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Alexandria forward **Mikael Lickteig** tallied two goals and three assists last weekend as the Blizzard skated to a 2-0-1 record. On Friday, the 20-year-old scored a goal and an assist in a 3-2 victory over North Iowa. The next night, the Little Falls, Minn., native recorded an assist as the Blizzard fell to the Outlaws in a shootout, 4-3. Lickteig ended his week with a one-goal, one-assist

## ROBERTSON CUP PLAYOFFS SCHEDULE

### U.S. Under-17 Team vs. St. Louis Bandits

Game 1: Friday, April 4 @ St. Louis, 7:15 p.m.  
Game 2: Saturday, April 5 @ St. Louis, 7:15 p.m.  
Game 3: Sunday, April 6 @ St. Louis, 5 p.m.  
Game 4: Saturday, April 12 @ USA, 7 p.m.\*  
Game 5: Sunday, April 13 @ USA, TBD\*

### Alpena IceDiggers vs. Mahoning Valley Phantoms

Game 1: Friday, April 4 @ Mahoning Valley, 7:15 p.m.  
Game 2: Saturday, April 5 @ Mahoning Valley, 7:15 p.m.  
Game 3: Thursday, April 10 @ Alpena, 7 p.m.  
Game 4: Friday, April 11 @ Alpena, 7 p.m.\*  
Game 5: Sunday, April 13 @ Mahoning Valley, 6 p.m.\*

### Springfield Jr. Blues vs. North Iowa Outlaws

Game 1: Friday, April 4 @ North Iowa, 7:30 p.m.  
Game 2: Saturday, April 5 @ North Iowa, 7:30 p.m.  
Game 3: Friday, April 11 @ Springfield, 7:30 p.m.  
Game 4: Saturday, April 12 @ Springfield, 7:30 p.m.\*  
Game 5: Sunday, April 13 @ North Iowa, 7 p.m.\*

### Alexandria Blizzard vs. Southern Minnesota Express

Game 1: Saturday, April 5 @ Southern Minnesota, 7:30 p.m.#  
Game 2: Sunday, April 6 @ Southern Minnesota, 7:30 p.m.#  
Game 3: Friday, April 11 @ Alexandria, 7 p.m.  
Game 4: Saturday, April 12 @ Alexandria, 7 p.m.\*  
Game 5: Sunday, April 13 @ Southern Minnesota, TBA#\*

### Texas Tornado vs. Topeka RoadRunners

Game 1: Saturday, April 5 @ Topeka, 7:05 p.m.  
Game 2: Sunday, April 6 @ Topeka, 5:05 p.m.  
Game 3: Friday, April 11 @ Texas, 8 p.m.  
Game 4: Saturday, April 12 @ Texas, 2 p.m.\*  
Game 5: @ Topeka, TBA\*

### Wichita Falls Wildcats vs. Fairbanks Ice Dogs

Game 1: Friday, April 4 @ Fairbanks, 7:30 p.m.  
Game 2: Saturday, April 5 @ Fairbanks, 7:30 p.m.  
Game 3: Friday, April 11 @ Wichita Falls, 7:05 p.m.  
Game 4: Saturday, April 12 @ Wichita Falls, 7:05 p.m.\*  
Game 5: Sunday, April 13 @ Wichita Falls, 3:30 p.m.&\*

\* if necessary

# Kasson, MN

& Home game for Fairbanks

All Times Local

## AROUND THE NAHL

**PLAYOFF SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED:** The NAHL has announced the schedule of the best-of-five divisional semifinals series of the Robertson Cup Playoffs. See the complete schedule at [nahl.com](http://nahl.com).

**KAVAYA HEADED TO WESTERN MICHIGAN:** Fairbanks defenseman **Peter Kavaya**, 21, has committed to Western Michigan University (CCHA) for next year. Now in his third NAHL season, Kavaya, from San Clemente, Calif., finished the regular season with six goals for 27 points in 56 games.

**MOSS TIES NAHL RECORD:** North Iowa goaltender **Robby Moss**, 20, tied an NAHL record for highest save percentage in a regular season (.940). Bozeman Icedogs netminder **Matt Dalton** fashioned the same mark in 2005-06.

**BIG WEEKEND FOR BONNETT:** Mahoning Valley defenseman **Trent Bonnett**, 20, picked up three assists last weekend as the Phantoms ended their regular season with a two-game sweep over the U.S. Under-17 Team. "Trent continues to come up huge for us defensively," said Phantoms assistant coach **Curtis Carr**. "We always put him up against the opponent's top line and he excels. He's a big part of our team."

**NAHL, SHERWOOD EXTEND AGREEMENT:** The NAHL has agreed to a two-year contract extension with Sherwood Hockey, the Official Equipment Supplier of the NAHL. As part of the agreement, Sherwood will be recognized as the title sponsor of the NAHL Showcase, Top Prospects Tournament and Futures events. It will also continue to sponsor the NAHL Player of the Week awards.

**STRONG FINISH FOR KRAMER:** Bismarck goaltender **Jake Kramer**, 19, ended his season with a 49-save shutout over Springfield on Saturday (1-0).

**COOL HAND LUKE:** Alexandria forward **Luke Nesper**, 20, has recorded points in his last 12 games (22). The Blizzard is 9-2-1 during that stretch.

**AT IT A GENS:** Topeka's **Aaron Gens**, 21, finished as the NAHL's top-scoring defenseman this year with 58 points.