



# NORTH AMERICAN HOCKEY LEAGUE WEEKLY RELEASE

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## STANDINGS

### Central Division

TEAM	GP	W-L-OTL	PTS	PCT	GF	GA
Bismarck	37	24-12-1	49	.662	112	80
North Iowa	38	22-13-3	47	.618	139	114
Owatonna	38	20-17-1	41	.539	142	131
Alexandria	36	19-14-3	41	.569	120	118
Albert Lea	36	2-30-4	8	.111	74	177

### North Division

TEAM	GP	W-L-OTL	PTS	PCT	GF	GA
Mahoning Valley	37	24-10-3	51	.689	132	113
Traverse City	36	22-9-5	49	.681	120	102
Alpena	38	20-13-5	45	.592	102	108
USNTDP	33	20-11-2	42	.636	135	91
Marquette	42	18-19-5	41	.488	112	122
Motor City	36	6-29-1	13	.181	79	150

### South Division

TEAM	GP	W-L-OTL	PTS	PCT	GF	GA
Topeka	42	33-5-4	70	.833	157	92
St. Louis	43	31-7-5	67	.779	170	97
Wichita Falls	37	16-14-7	39	.527	106	132
Springfield	38	11-22-5	27	.355	107	139

### West Division

TEAM	GP	W-L-OTL	PTS	PCT	GF	GA
Fairbanks	38	24-9-5	53	.697	146	104
Wenatchee	31	16-13-2	34	.548	90	107
Alaska	33	14-18-1	29	.439	111	132
Kenai River	39	12-23-4	28	.359	116	161

## LEADING SCORERS

PLAYER	TEAM	P	GP	G	A	PTS
George, Jordan	TPK	F	42	23	31	54
Hamburg, Andrew	STL	F	36	11	38	49
Gorczyca, Grant	STL	F	41	23	24	47
Shafer, Steve	TPK	F	41	15	30	45
Block, Austin	FBX	F	38	18	25	43
Paul, Jack	NIO	F	36	17	26	43
Bourbonais, Clinton	STL	F	42	14	29	43
Bonis, Kyle	TNS	F	35	21	20	41
Kirchhevel, Justin	STL	F	41	13	28	41

(three players tied with 40)

## LEADING GOALTENDERS

PLAYER	TEAM	GPI	MINS	W-L-OTL	GAA	SPCT
Merriam, Bryce	TPK	22	1240:01	16-2-3	1.79	.928
Bosner, David	BIS	24	1417:15	16-6-1	1.82	.935
Kinkaid, Keith	STL	30	1783:52	22-4-3	1.95	.927
Yanakeff, Will	USA	13	785:20	8-4-1	2.14	.905
Phillippi, Joseph	FBX	15	728:22	8-1-2	2.22	.934

## GOALS

PLAYER	TEAM	P	GP	G
(three players tied with 23)				

## ASSISTS

PLAYER	TEAM	POS	GP	A
Hamburg, Andrew	STL	F	36	38
George, Jordan	TPK	F	42	31

## PLUS/MINUS

PLAYER	TEAM	POS	GP	+/-
Reinthal, Kris	STL	D	39	+28
Kirchhevel, Justin	STL	F	41	+25

## Stars Shining Bright

### Traverse City continues its North Division surge

Amid the best season in the program's four-year history, the Traverse City North Stars continue to pile up the wins, locking down two more last weekend over the Marquette Rangers to extend their winning streak to four games.

"Anytime you can take two from an divisional opponent, I think it's big," said North Stars head coach **Anthony Palumbo**, whose team improved to 22-9-5 on the season. "Our division is so tight right now that any win at this time of the year is big."

"That and we have a long stretch of road games coming up, so it was important to take care of business at home last weekend."

Traverse City opened with a 3-1 triumph on Friday. **Kyle Bonis** connected for two goals, including the game-winner, with **Sean Burke** supplying the third North Stars marker. Between the pipes, **C.J. Motte** turned back 23 shots.



Phil Wendecker

Motte made all 19 saves the next night as Traverse City blanked the Rangers, 2-0. Bonis struck for the game-winning goal shorthanded, and **Josh Miller** added the insurance marker.

"Our success lately has come as a result of improved team play," said Palumbo. "We're not trying to do too much individually, but trusting each other to do our jobs. Because of that, I think we're getting contributions from everyone on the team which ultimately has led to success for us."

Bonis continues to solidify himself as one of the league's premier players. With his three goals against the Rangers, the Lindsay, Ontario, native who turns 20 next month now ranks tied for eighth in league scoring with 41 points.

"On top of being a natural goal-scorer, Kyle continues to work so hard and is being rewarded," Palumbo said. "He's scored some big goals for us this year and last weekend was no different."

A Top Prospects Tournament participant, Bonis should be able to parlay this season's success into a fruitful career at a top Division I college, according to Palumbo.

"Kyle is a kid who's getting interest and he can play at the next level," the coach said of the second-year forward. "He's scored at every level he's played at I think he'll continue to score for whichever program gives him the opportunity."

At the other end of the ice, Motte has been nothing short of superb. The 17-year-old from St. Clair, Mich., has won his last four starts allowing only four goals against along the way.

"C.J. had a great weekend and he's been good since he got back from Christmas break," said Palumbo. "He's very focused right now and playing with a lot of confidence."

"Our goaltending has been very good the last eight games, which includes good efforts from **Brandon Stephenson**. That always makes you a better hockey club."

Story continued at NAHL.com

## sherwood central player of the week

Owatonna forward **Dan Cecka** rang up three goals and three assists as the Express fashioned a 1-1 record. On Friday, the Woodbury, Minn., native put home a goal and three assists in a 6-4 win over the Alexandria Blizzard. The next night, the 19-year-old scored two more goals as the Express fell to the Bismarck Bobcats, 6-4. He was also a plus-1 on the weekend.



## sherwood north player of the week

Traverse City forward **Kyle Bonis** struck for three goals as the North Stars skated to a two-game sweep over Marquette. On Friday, the Lindsay, Ontario, native recorded two goals, including the game-winner, in a 3-1 triumph. The next night, the 19-year-old potted another game-winning goal, this time shorthanded, as the North Stars blanked the Rangers, 2-0. He was also a plus-3 on the weekend.



## sherwood south player of the week

Topeka forward **Andy Inderieden** connected for two goals and an assist as the RoadRunners celebrated a two-game sweep over Fairbanks. On Friday, the Maple Grove, Minn., native potted a pair of goals and assisted on **Jordan George's** game-winning in a 5-3 victory. The next night, the 20-year-old scored the first goal of the shootout as the RoadRunners bested the Ice Dogs, 2-1.



## sherwood west player of the week

Alaska forward **Robb Haider** potted two goals and two assists as the Avalanche skated to a two-game sweep over Kenai River. On Saturday, the Anchorage native tallied a goal and assisted on **Justin Giles'** game-winning marker in a 6-5 victory. The next day, the 19-year-old put home another goal and an assist as the Avalanche bested the Brown Bears, 5-4. He was also a plus-2 on the weekend.



## gdi goaltender of the week

Traverse City goaltender **C.J. Motte** backstopped the North Stars to a two-game sweep over Marquette, turning aside 42 of 43 shots. On Friday, the St. Clair, Mich., native made 23 saves in a 3-1 triumph. The next night, the 17-year-old stopped all 19 shots as the North Stars blanked the Rangers, 2-0.



## the week ahead *all times local*

**Wednesday, January 28**  
Fairbanks @ Wenatchee

### Friday, January 30

Fairbanks @ Wenatchee, 7:05 pm  
Motor City @ Traverse City, 7:05 pm  
St. Louis @ Topeka, 7:05 pm  
Alexandria @ Owatonna, 7:00 pm  
Springfield @ North Iowa, 7:30 pm  
USNTDP @ Marquette, 8:30 pm  
Albert Lea @ Bismarck, 7:30 pm  
Mahoning Valley @ Alpena, 7:00 pm  
Wichita Falls @ Alaska, 7:15 pm

### Saturday, January 31

Fairbanks @ Wenatchee, 7:05 pm  
Motor City @ Traverse City, 7:05 pm  
St. Louis @ Topeka, 7:05 pm  
Alexandria @ Owatonna, 7:00 pm  
Springfield @ North Iowa, 7:30 pm  
USNTDP @ Marquette, 7:30 pm  
Albert Lea @ Bismarck, 7:00 pm  
Mahoning Valley @ Alpena, 7:00 pm  
Wichita Falls @ Alaska, 7:00 pm

## around the nahl

**ALASKA AVALANCHE:** **Thomas Erlacher**, who started the season in Wichita Falls, connected for a goal and three assists in the Avalanche's 6-5 win over Kenai River on Saturday.

**ALBERT LEA THUNDER:** **Zach Lewis** tallied two goals as the Thunder dropped a pair of games last weekend. The Illinois product now has points in his last four contests (three goals, assist).

**ALEXANDRIA BLIZZARD:** Texas native **Kyle Clement** recorded a hat trick in the Blizzard's 6-4 loss to Owatonna on Friday.

**ALPENA ICEDIGGERS:** **Sam Cheraso** and **Tyler Pilmore** each recorded a goal and two assists in a pair of losses to the U.S. Under-17 Team.

**BISMARCK BOBCATS:** In his first weekend with the team, defenseman **Alex Gerke** recorded a goal and five assists as the Bobcats skated to three victories. "Alex adds a whole new element our club," said head coach **Byron Pool** of the University of Connecticut recruit who was acquired in a trade with the USHL's Tri-City Storm. "He's the offensive-defenseman every team needs to quarterback the power play."

**FAIRBANKS ICE DOGS:** University of Nebraska-Omaha-bound **Andrew McCabe** rang up a pair of goals in the Ice Dogs' 5-3 loss to Topeka on Friday.

**KENAI RIVER BROWN BEARS:** **Ryan Lemke** added two his team-lead-ing point totals with a goal and four assists in a pair of losses to Alaska.

**MAHONING VALLEY PHANTOMS:** **Cole Schneider** registered four goals as the Phantoms skated a 2-1 record. "It felt pretty good to come away from a tough weekend with four goals, but I give a lot of credit to my linemates out there for helping to set me up, too," he said.

**MARQUETTE RANGERS:** University of Connecticut recruit **James Gal-lagher** struck for the Rangers' only goal last weekend in two losses to Traverse City.

**MOTOR CITY MACHINE:** Second-year defenseman **Trevor John**, from Grosse Pointe, Mich., has committed to Tufts University (NESCAC) for next season.

**NORTH IOWA OUTLAWS:** Outlaws players will use purple sticks through-out Friday night's home game against Springfield. A live auction will follow with proceeds benefiting the American Cancer Society.

**OWATONNA EXPRESS:** **John Kruse** registered five assists as the Ex-press finished the weekend with a 1-1 mark. He now has points in his last six games (two goals, 10 assists).

**SPRINGFIELD JR. BLUES:** Ukrainian defenseman **Denys Petrukhno** connected for a goal and three assists as the Jr. Blues dropped a pair of games to St. Louis.

**ST. LOUIS BANDITS:** Colorado College recruit **Andrew Hamburg** tallied two goals, including the game-winner, in the Bandits' 4-2 win over Spring-field on Friday.

**TOPEKA ROADRUNNERS:** **Lyle Rocker** backstopped the RoadRun-ners to a pair of wins over Fairbanks, turning aside 43 of 47 shots and all five in the shootout in Saturday's 2-1 victory. "Lyle's numbers speak for themselves," said head coach **Scott Langer**. "He consistently finds a way to win hockey games."

**TRAVERSE CITY NORTH STARS:** Head coach **Anthony Palumbo** was impressed with his team's effort in its two-game sweep over Marquette. "It was our most solid and consistent weekend in a great while," he said.

**TEAM USA:** **Jason Zucker** recorded a hat trick in the U.S. Under-17 Team's 6-4 win over Alpena on Friday.

**WENATCHEE WILD:** **Corbin Brown**, from Las Vegas, assisted on **Dun-can McKellar's** goal and netted the game-winning marker in the shootout as the Wild downed Wichita Falls on Saturday, 2-1.

**WICHITA FALLS WILDCATS:** Goaltender **Phillip Graveline** stopped all 19 shots in the Wildcats' 4-0 triumph over Wenatchee on Friday, marking his first shutout of the season.