



# NORTH AMERICAN HOCKEY LEAGUE WEEKLY RELEASE

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## STANDINGS

### Central Division

TEAM	GP	W-L-OTL	PTS	PCT	GF	GA
xBismarck	46	32-13-1	65	.707	146	96
xNorth Iowa	46	29-14-3	61	.663	181	134
xOwatonna	47	25-20-2	52	.553	181	156
xAlexandria	46	22-19-5	49	.533	151	159
Albert Lea	46	2-40-4	8	.087	83	239

### North Division

TEAM	GP	W-L-OTL	PTS	PCT	GF	GA
xMahoning Valley	47	31-11-5	67	.713	176	136
Traverse City	45	27-12-6	60	.667	144	127
USNTDP	40	24-13-3	51	.638	160	107
Alpena	45	22-18-5	49	.544	121	142
Marquette	49	20-22-7	47	.480	131	145
Motor City	46	10-35-1	21	.228	101	186

### South Division

TEAM	GP	W-L-OTL	PTS	PCT	GF	GA
xSt. Louis	50	36-8-6	78	.780	190	108
xTopeka	46	35-7-4	74	.804	166	106
xWichita Falls	47	19-20-8	46	.489	128	161
xSpringfield	47	16-26-5	37	.394	142	160

### West Division

TEAM	GP	W-L-OTL	PTS	PCT	GF	GA
xFairbanks	47	30-11-6	66	.702	181	124
xWenatchee	44	25-17-2	52	.591	137	148
xAlaska	42	18-22-2	38	.452	136	163
xKenai River	48	14-28-6	34	.354	139	197

x clinched playoff berth

## LEADING SCORERS

PLAYER	TEAM	P	GP	G	A	PTS
Block, Austin	FBX	F	47	24	36	60
George, Jordan	TPK	F	46	23	34	57
Hamburg, Andrew	STL	F	43	12	44	56
Paul, Jack	NIO	F	44	20	32	52
Bourbonais, Clinton	STL	F	49	17	33	50
Gorczyca, Grant	STL	F	46	24	25	49
Brodhag, Brandon	NIO	F	44	24	25	49
Shafer, Steve	TPK	F	45	15	34	49
Freismuth, Jerry	ALX	F	44	14	35	49

## LEADING GOALTENDERS

PLAYER	TEAM	GPI	MINS	W-L-OTL	GAA	SPCT
Kinkaid, Keith	STL	35	2087:52	26-4-4	1.87	.930
Bosner, David	BIS	27	1595:48	18-7-1	1.88	.932
Merriam, Bryce	TPK	25	1422:24	18-3-3	1.94	.921
Grogan, Matt	BIS	21	1184:01	14-6-0	2.08	.932
Yanakeff, Will	USA	15	910:15	9-4-2	2.18	.912

## GOALS

PLAYER	TEAM	P	GP	G
Frey, Trent	SPR	F	47	30

## ASSISTS

PLAYER	TEAM	POS	GP	A
Hamburg, Andrew	STL	F	43	44
Block, Austin	FBX	F	47	36

## PLUS/MINUS

PLAYER	TEAM	POS	GP	+/-
Clark, John	BIS	D	44	+37
Reinthal, Kris	STL	D	46	+29

# No Quit In Motor City

## Machine staying focused as season nears its end

Despite having its playoff hopes already dashed, the Motor City Machine hasn't turned off the engines, posting a 4-2 mark in its last six games, including two more victories last weekend.

"The difference lately is that we've found ways to win games," said Machine head coach **Sean Clark**, whose team improved to 10-35-1 on the season. "When a team struggles so early like we did, you have to learn how to win games."

After opening the week with a 3-1 loss to Mahoning Valley on Thursday, the Machine rebounded the next night with a 3-2 shootout victory over the Phantoms. Defenseman **Alec Thieda** recorded two assists in the win, and goaltender **Joe Moore** turned aside 23 shots in regulation and overtime and three of four in the shootout.



**Nick Taurence**

On Sunday, Army recruit **Jon Bobb** connected for the game-winning goal and an assist as Motor City downed the Alpena IceDiggers, 5-4. **Jared Williams** (goal, assist) and **Nate Taurence** (two assists) also fashioned two-point nights, and Moore made 47 saves.

"Our guys talk about finding a way (to win) every night, and recently we've found a way," said Clark. "Our goal over the last 12 games doesn't change; we want to get better everyday we come to the rink."

Leadership from the team's veterans, among them **Nick Taurence**, **Trevor John** and **Bennett Schneider**, has helped keep the Machine on track.

"They haven't let our focus slip," said Clark. "They've kept our younger players honest during practice and are leading by example on the ice with strong, hard play and discipline."

And Moore has been a savior between the pipes. The 20-year-old from Canton, Mich., who began the season in the Ontario Provincial Junior League has now won his last four starts, helping jumpstart the struggling Machine.

"I'm just happy to see him rewarded for his hard work," Clark said. "Joe's success can be directly linked to his ability to compete on every shot, every rebound and every scoring chance."

**Ryan Misiak**, from Shelby Township, Mich., has been dubbed one of the team's top young players on the offensive end. The 17-year-old NAHL Top Prospects Tournament participant is the team's leading scorer with 11 goals for 29 points after 45 games.

"He has a ton of potential to play at the next level," said Clark. "He's very dynamic with the puck and is an offensive threat every time he touches it."

"The key is keeping Ryan directed; he's a better player when he's involved physically and willing to play tough in tough areas. When he does that, he's one of the top prospects in our league."

Record-wise not the kind of season the Machine anticipated since relocating from Southern Minnesota a year ago, the program is continuing to stress the positives as it heads into the homestretch.

"Our morale has been great," said Clark. "We may have the closest group of young men in the league."

Story continued at NAHL.com

## sherwood central player of the week

Bismarck forward **Cody Keefer** connected for four goals and an assist as the Bobcats skated to a two-game sweep over Alexandria. On Friday, the Big Rapids, Mich., native tallied a pair of goals, including the game-winner, and an assist in a 6-2 victory. The next night, the 20-year-old potted two more goals as the Bobcats downed the Blizzard in overtime, 5-4. He was also a plus-3 on the weekend.



## sherwood north player of the week

Motor City forward **Jon Bobb** tallied two goals and two assists as the Machine put together a 2-1 record. On Thursday, the Phoenix native picked up an assist in a 3-1 loss to Mahoning Valley. The next night, the 20-year-old scored a goal as the Machine bested the Phantoms in a shootout, 3-2. He wrapped up his week by scoring the game-winning goal and an assist in a 5-4 win over Alpena on Sunday.



## sherwood south player of the week

St. Louis defenseman **Kyle Quick** rang up a goal and two assists as the Bandits celebrated a two-game sweep over the U.S. Under-18 Team. On Saturday, the Tonowanda, N.Y., native recorded a goal in a 3-0 triumph. The next day, the 17-year-old collected two assists, including one on **Brooks Bertsch's** game-winning goal, as the Bandits downed Team USA, 3-2. He was also a plus-1 on the weekend.



## sherwood west player of the week

Wenatchee forward **Michael Voran** struck for five goals and two assists as the Wild fashioned a 4-0 record against Kenai River. On Wednesday, the Livonia, Mich., native scored the overtime game-winner in a 3-2 victory. Two nights later, the 18-year-old put home two more goals in a 7-4 triumph. Voran added another goal and assist in each of the Wild's next two wins over the Brown Bears, including the game-winner in Sunday's 6-3 victory.



## gdi goaltender of the week

Motor City goaltender **Joe Moore** backstopped the Machine to a pair of wins in his two starts, turning aside 70 of 76 shots. On Friday, the Canton, Mich., native made 23 saves in regulation and overtime and three of four in the shootout in a 3-2 victory over Mahoning Valley. The next night, the 20-year-old stopped 47 shots as the Machine downed the Alpena IceDiggers, 5-4.



## the week ahead *all times local*

### Tuesday, February 24

USNTDP @ Mahoning Valley, 10:00 am

### Thursday, February 26

Marquette @ Traverse City, 7:05 pm  
Kenai River @ Topeka, 7:05 pm

### Friday, February 27

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

### Saturday, February 28

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

### Sunday, March 1

Alexandria @ Springfield, 2:00 pm

## around the nahl

**ALASKA AVALANCHE:** **Matt Friese** notched the game-winning goal and an assist in the Avs' 4-3 win over Fairbanks on Saturday.

**ALBERT LEA THUNDER:** **Danny Wood** and **Jimmie Perkins** scored for the Thunder as it dropped three games last weekend.

**ALEXANDRIA BLIZZARD:** **Noah Nemgar** connected for two goals and an assist as the Blizzard went 1-0-1 against Bismarck.

**ALPENA ICEDIGGERS:** In three losses last weekend, **Ryan Timar** struck for a goal and three assists.

**BISMARCK BOBCATS:** **Jordan Singer** put home two goals and two assists in the Bobcats' two-game sweep over Alexandria.

**FAIRBANKS ICE DOGS:** Goaltender **Phil Cook** (Minnesota State-Mankato) and defenseman **Brandon Martell** (Ohio State University) have committed to Division I schools for next season. Both played in last month's NAHL Top Prospects Tournament.

**KENAI RIVER BROWN BEARS:** **Kyle Clay** put home two goals and an assist in three losses to Wenatchee last weekend.

**MAHONING VALLEY PHANTOMS:** Thursday's 3-2 win over Motor City marked captain **Johnny Meo's** 179th game in a Phantoms uniform, breaking Mahoning Valley's all-time record for games played. "On the ice, it's been wonderful," he said. "We've had two very successful teams over the past two years and now we're well on our way to our third very successful season. The last three years have been really special to me."

**MARQUETTE RANGERS:** **Ryan McGrath** connected for a goal and two assists in the Rangers' 4-3 overtime loss to Traverse City on Friday.

**MOTOR CITY MACHINE:** Head coach **Sean Clark** has his team concentrating on "small victories" over the last month of the season. "We talk a lot about winning battles, shifts and periods to build successful habits," he said.

**NORTH IOWA OUTLAWS:** **Joe Harcharik** potted a goal and five assists in the Outlaws' two-game sweep over Albert Lea. "That entire line of Joe, (**Brandon**) **Brodhag** and (**Dan**) **Durham** was flying around the ice all weekend," said head coach **Jeff Crouse**. "When they weren't scoring, they were at least generating chances and usually it was Joe who was setting it all up with some excellent passes and vision."

**OWATONNA EXPRESS:** Forward **John Kruse**, from Eden Prairie, Minn., has committed the Air Force Academy (Atlantic Hockey). He will join teammate **Steven Carew** at the Colorado Springs school next season.

**SPRINGFIELD JR. BLUES:** Netminder **C.J. Groh** made all 27 saves as the Jr. Blues blanked Wichita Falls on Friday, 3-0. The Cincinnati native has posted shutouts in three of his last five starts.

**ST. LOUIS BANDITS:** Union College recruit **Keith Kinkaid** picked up his league-leading sixth shutout of the season in the Bandits' 3-0 win over the U.S. Under-18 Team on Saturday (26 saves).

**TOPEKA ROADRUNNERS:** Second-year forward **Steve Shafer**, from Rochester, Mich., has committed to Canisius College (Atlantic Hockey) for next season.

**TRAVERSE CITY NORTH STARS:** **Dan Radke** tallied a goal and assisted on **Kyle Bonis'** game-winner in the North Stars' 2-1 victory over Marquette on Saturday.

**TEAM USA:** **Matt Nieto** scored on a penalty shot and assisted on **Jacob Fallon's** game-winning goal as the Under-17 Team bested Alpena on Saturday, 3-2.

**WENATCHEE WILD:** Forward **Mitch Torrel**, from Monticello, Minn., has committed to the Air Force Academy (Atlantic Hockey) for next season. Torrel, an NAHL Top Prospects Tournament participant, started the season with Albert Lea.

**WICHITA FALLS WILDCATS:** Defenseman **Sean Coffey**, from Boston, rang up the game-winning goal in the Wildcats' 3-1 victory over Springfield on Saturday.