



NORTH AMERICAN HOCKEY LEAGUE WEEKLY RELEASE

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STANDINGS

Central Division

TEAM	GP	W-L-OTL	PTS	PCT	GF	GA
Owatonna	13	9-3-1	19	.731	44	41
North Iowa	13	7-5-1	15	.577	43	48
Bismarck	16	6-7-3	15	.469	41	46
Alexandria	12	4-5-3	11	.458	30	39
Albert Lea	14	2-12-0	4	.143	29	69

North Division

TEAM	GP	W-L-OTL	PTS	PCT	GF	GA
Traverse City	15	10-4-1	21	.700	65	49
Marquette	14	10-4-0	20	.714	37	32
Janesville	15	7-8-0	14	.467	49	48
Motor City	13	5-5-3	13	.500	39	38
Alpena	15	4-11-0	8	.267	38	51

South Division

TEAM	GP	W-L-OTL	PTS	PCT	GF	GA
Topeka	15	11-2-2	24	.800	63	33
St. Louis	13	11-1-1	23	.885	50	33
Springfield	16	7-7-2	16	.500	57	50
Texas	14	6-6-2	14	.500	36	46
Wichita Falls	14	4-8-2	10	.357	42	57

West Division

TEAM	GP	W-L-OTL	PTS	PCT	GF	GA
Wenatchee	21	17-4-0	34	.810	68	44
Alaska	16	10-3-3	23	.719	58	38
Fairbanks	17	9-7-1	19	.559	64	52
Kenai River	20	5-14-1	11	.275	46	77

LEADING SCORERS

PLAYER	TEAM	P	GP	G	A	PTS
Pustin, Mark	FBX	F	16	12	13	25
Curry, Nick	SPR	F	16	9	14	23
Juola, Michael	FBX	F	17	5	18	23
Jubenville, Jeff	WNE	F	21	9	11	20
Rickord, Jared	SPR	F	16	7	13	20
Larson, Jared	FBX	F	16	11	8	19
Mingo, Dajon	KRB	F	20	8	11	19
McLintock, Eric	TNS	F	15	8	9	17
Pauly, Shawn	WNE	F	16	7	10	17

(seven players tied with 16)

LEADING GOALTENDERS

PLAYER	TEAM	GPI	MINS	W-L-OTL	GAA	SPCT
Jaeger, Brandon	WNE	9	465:47	7-0-0	1.67	.937
Robertson, Kale	ALK	8	452:08	5-2-1	1.73	.932
Kissaw, Kevin	MAR	13	764:23	9-4-0	1.96	.945
Peterson, Landon	ALK	6	338:10	3-0-2	2.13	.931
Kamal, Chris	ALX	5	309:42	2-1-2	2.13	.925

GOALS

PLAYER	TEAM	P	GP	G
Pustin, Mark	FBX	F	16	12
Huff, Andy	TNS	F	15	12

ASSISTS

PLAYER	TEAM	POS	GP	A
Juola, Michael	FBX	F	17	18
Curry, Nick	SPR	F	16	14

PLUS/MINUS

PLAYER	TEAM	POS	GP	+/-
(three players tied at +15)				

North Stars Flying High

Balanced attack leads to sweep over Marquette

With splits in their previous three series, the Traverse City North Stars celebrated a sweep last weekend knocking off the Marquette Rangers twice to take possession of first place in the North Division standings.

"We have a lot of respect for Marquette, and any time you take two from a divisional opponent it's significant," said North Stars head coach **Anthony Palumbo**, whose team improved to 10-4-1 on the season. "I'm pleased with our start, but I think there's room for improvement."

Eric McLintock unleashed for a hat trick and two assists, including one on **Kyle Jean's** game-winning marker, in the North Stars' 7-2 triumph on Saturday. **Josh Miller** and defenseman **Curtis Heinz** each added a goal and an assist, and goaltender Drew Strandberg turned aside 15 shots.



Andy Huff

The following afternoon, Strandberg stopped all 16 shots he faced as Traverse City blanked the Rangers, 4-0. Jean connected for a pair of goals in the victory, including the game-winner, and linemates **Doug Clifford** (three assists) and **Nick Shkrelji** (goal, two assists) each fashioned three-point games.

"We've been relying on too many individual efforts to be successful, but last weekend I saw us play a better team game," said Palumbo. "I like the fact, too, that we don't rely on one person or line to score; I like our balance."

Palumbo is also high on his team's veteran leadership, which includes McLintock and Jean, a Lake Superior State University (CCHA) recruit who returned to the lineup recently after recovering from an offseason injury. Both third-year forwards are proving their worth, on and off the ice.

"Eric has skill and provides us with a physical presence, and Kyle is a very dynamic kid and his impact has been immediate," said Palumbo. "It's good to see those guys grow into leaders after being here for a couple of years."

The same can be said for defenseman **Travis White**. Another North Star in his third NAHL season, the 19-year-old captain from Sterling Heights, Mich., is logging a ton of minutes on the blue line in all key situations.

"Travis is the consummate team player and always puts the team first," said Palumbo.

Of the newcomers, forward **Andy Huff** has wasted no time making his presence felt. Tied for the league lead in goals with 12, the 17-year-old sharpshooter from Howell, Mich., was tabbed by NHL Central Scouting on its "Watch List" for 2010 draft-eligibles released last week.

"He's been an impact player for us from Day 1," Palumbo said of the Honey-baked Midget Major product. "He has the ability to shoot the puck from all areas of the ice and score."

"With his size (6-foot-2, 210 pounds) and skill, I can see why people regard him so highly. Andy definitely has the ability to continue to be a consistent scorer in our league and at the next level."

Story continued at NAHL.com

sherwood central player of the week

North Iowa forward **John O'Neill** struck for four goals, including a natural hat trick in the second period, as the Outlaws skated to a 7-4 victory over Owatonna on Friday. The 19-year-old from Anoka, Minn., who missed much of Saturday's game against the Express due to injury (a 4-3 shootout loss), was also a plus-2.



sherwood north player of the week

Traverse City forward **Eric McLintock** connected for three goals and two assists, including one on **Kyle Jean's** game-winning marker, in the North Stars' 7-2 win over Marquette on Saturday. The 20-year-old from Traverse City, who was held scoreless the next afternoon against the Rangers (a 4-0 victory), was also a plus-4 on the weekend.



sherwood south player of the week

Topeka forward **Ryan White** rang up two goals and eight assists as the RoadRunners skated to a three-game sweep over Albert Lea. On Thursday, the Parker, Colo., native set up two goals in a 5-1 triumph. The next night, the 18-year-old tallied a goal and an assist in another 5-1 win. White potted a goal and assisted on three others, including one on **Edgars Lipsbergs** game-winning marker, as the Roadrunners blanked the Thunder on Saturday, 10-0. He was also a plus-6 on the weekend.



sherwood west player of the week

Fairbanks defenseman **Josh Nelson** registered three assists as the Ice Dogs skated to a two-game sweep over Wichita Falls. On Friday, the Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., native tallied a pair of assists in a 5-2 victory. The next night, the 20-year-old assisted on **Kyle Politz's** game-winning goal as the Ice Dogs downed the Wildcats, 7-2. He was also a plus-4 on the weekend.



goaltender of the week

Bismarck goaltender **Ryan Faragher** backstopped the Bobcats to a two-game sweep over Alexandria, turning aside 45 of 47 shots. On Friday, the Fort Frances, Ontario, native made 19 saves in a 4-2 victory. The next night, the 19-year-old stopped all 26 shots as the Bobcats blanked the Blizzard, 2-0.



the week ahead *all times local*

Thursday, October 29
Springfield @ Texas, 7:00 pm

Friday, October 30
Fairbanks @ Alaska, 7:00 pm
Motor City @ Alpena, 7:00 pm
Marquette @ Janesville, 7:00 pm
North Iowa @ Owatonna, 7:00 pm
Topeka @ St. Louis, 7:05 pm
Wichita Falls @ Wenatchee, 7:05 pm
Albert Lea @ Bismarck, 7:15 pm
Springfield @ Texas, 7:30 pm

Saturday, October 31
Fairbanks @ Alaska, 7:00 pm
Motor City @ Alpena, 7:00 pm
Marquette @ Janesville, 7:00 pm
Topeka @ St. Louis, 2:00 pm
Albert Lea @ Bismarck, 7:15 pm
Wichita Falls @ Wenatchee, 7:45 pm

Sunday, November 1
Topeka @ St. Louis, 2:00 pm

around the nahl

ALASKA AVALANCHE: As part of his four-point weekend, forward **Nardo Nagtzaam** (Netherlands) recorded a hat trick in the Avalanche's 8-1 victory over Kenai River on Saturday.

ALBERT LEA THUNDER: **Chuck Linkenheld** has been named the Thunder's new head coach. A graduate of Merrimack College, Linkenheld has over 20 years of coaching experience.

ALEXANDRIA BLIZZARD: The Blizzard will host the U.S. Women's National Team on Wednesday, October 28, at Alexandria's Runestone Community Center (7 p.m).

ALPENA ICEDIGGERS: Third-year forward **Ryan Timar** (Novi, Mich.) has committed to the Air Force Academy (Atlantic Hockey) for next season. He is the seventh current NAHL player to commit to Air Force.

BISMARCK BOBCATS: Forward **Dominic Panetta** (Grand Rapids, Mich.) connected for a goal and three assists, including one on **Nick Jensen's** (Denmark) game-winning goal in a 4-2 win on Friday, as the Bobcats celebrated a two-game sweep over Alexandria.

FAIRBANKS ICE DOGS: Forward **Mark Pustin** (Northridge, Calif.), the NAHL's leading scorer, totaled two goals and three assists in the Ice Dogs' two-game sweep over Wichita Falls.

JANESVILLE JETS: Goaltender **Matt Wichorek** (Anchorage), who played last season with Springfield, made all 26 saves in the Jets' 6-0 victory over Alpena on Friday.

KENAI RIVER BROWN BEARS: Defenseman **Braden Kinnebrew** (Anchorage) tallied a goal in regulation and one in the shootout as the Brown Bears bested Alaska on Friday, 3-2.

MARQUETTE RANGERS: **Josh Bussell** (Detroit) and **Bobby Bodette** (Garden, Mich.) scored the Rangers' goals in their two losses to Traverse City.

MOTOR CITY MACHINE: Forward **R.J. Kleiman** (Dewitt, Mich.) recorded a hat trick, including the game-winning goal, in the Machine's 5-2 triumph over Springfield on Friday.

NORTH IOWA OUTLAWS: Forwards **Tyler Klein** (Fargo, N.D.) and **Ryan Bohrer** (St. Paul) each potted a goal and three assists as the Outlaws went 1-0-1 against Owatonna.

OWATONNA EXPRESS: Forward **Zach Vierling** (Coon Rapids, Minn.) racked up three assists as the Express skated to a two-game split against North Iowa.

SPRINGFIELD JR. BLUES: Goaltender **Tanner Milliron** (New Richmond, Wis.) turned aside all 21 shots in the Jr. Blues' 4-0 triumph over Motor City on Saturday.

ST. LOUIS BANDITS: Goaltender **Garrett Bartus** (St. Charles, Ill.) backstopped the Bandits to a pair of victories last weekend, making 34 saves on 35 shots. "Garrett has been excellent for us this season, making a big save every time we need it," said head coach **Jeff Brown**.

TEXAS TORNADO: Forward **James Howard** (Canfield, Ohio) notched a pair of goals, including the game-tying marker with 17 seconds left in regulation, in Texas' 3-2 shootout win over St. Louis on Saturday.

TOPEKA ROADRUNNERS: Goaltender **Cooper Frederick** (Tulsa, Okla.) picked up two wins over Albert Lea allowing only one goal against, including a 13-save shutout on Saturday (10-0). "Coop is playing with confidence and poise," said head coach **Scott Langer**.

TRAVERSE CITY NORTH STARS: Pleased with the Stars' start, head coach **Anthony Palumbo** still wants to sure up his club's team defense. "We've been giving up way too many shots early in the season, and that must improve," he said.

WENATCHEE WILD: Idle last weekend, the Wild will host Wichita Falls for a two-game set on Friday and Saturday.

WICHITA FALLS WILDCATS: Defenseman **Zach Ledford** (Folsom, Calif.) has committed to Bentley University (Atlantic Hockey) for next season.