



# NORTH AMERICAN HOCKEY LEAGUE WEEKLY RELEASE

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## STANDINGS

### Central Division

TEAM	GP	W-L-OTL	PTS	PCT	GF	GA
Bismarck	41	25-9-7	57	.695	129	101
Owatonna	39	22-13-4	48	.615	123	125
Alexandria	36	16-16-4	36	.500	96	103
North Iowa	39	13-21-5	31	.397	111	158
Albert Lea	38	10-23-5	25	.329	92	150

### North Division

TEAM	GP	W-L-OTL	PTS	PCT	GF	GA
Traverse City	39	24-12-3	51	.654	146	118
Marquette	37	23-14-0	46	.622	121	98
Janesville	36	19-14-3	41	.569	117	110
Motor City	36	16-14-6	38	.528	103	112
Alpena	38	11-26-1	23	.303	97	135

### South Division

TEAM	GP	W-L-OTL	PTS	PCT	GF	GA
Topeka	40	29-7-4	62	.775	168	94
St. Louis	36	30-5-1	61	.847	130	71
Texas	36	16-17-3	35	.486	106	121
Springfield	39	15-19-5	35	.449	114	125
Wichita Falls	40	12-23-5	29	.363	122	176

### West Division

TEAM	GP	W-L-OTL	PTS	PCT	GF	GA
Wenatchee	43	33-7-3	69	.802	146	91
Fairbanks	42	24-16-2	50	.595	158	132
Alaska	37	19-12-6	44	.595	124	110
Kenai River	40	10-28-2	22	.275	92	157

## LEADING SCORERS

PLAYER	TEAM	P	GP	G	A	PTS
Juola, Michael	FBX	F	42	17	41	58
Pustin, Mark	FBX	F	41	21	30	51
Higby, Erik	TPK	F	40	20	31	51
Rickord, Jared	SPR	F	39	18	27	45
Fabian, Jason	BIS	F	41	16	28	44
Sheehan, Brian	WIC	F	40	23	19	42
Larson, Jared	FBX	F	41	20	20	40
Johnson, Bryce	TPK	F	40	14	26	40
Ladd, Garrett	MAR	F	34	14	26	40

(three players tied with 39)

## LEADING GOALTENDERS

PLAYER	TEAM	GPI	MINS	W-L-OTL	GAA	SPCT
Bartus, Garrett	STL	17	880:01	11-4-0	1.91	.925
Jaeger, Brandon	WNE	18	1009:36	13-2-1	1.96	.930
Karambelas, Evan	TPK	16	966:28	12-3-1	1.99	.897
Bruggeman, Tyler	STL	24	1453:18	16-5-2	2.06	.929
Faragher, Ryan	BIS	29	1582:43	16-5-6	2.24	.915

## GOALS

PLAYER	TEAM	P	GP	G
Kero, Tanner	MAR	F	37	24
Sheehan, Brian	WIC	F	40	23

## ASSISTS

PLAYER	TEAM	POS	GP	A
Juola, Michael	FBX	F	42	41
Higby, Erik	TPK	F	40	31

## PLUS/MINUS

PLAYER	TEAM	POS	GP	+/-
Higby, Erik	TPK	F	40	+23
Brodie, Kyle	WNE	D	37	+23

## Top Prospects Brings Exposure

*College, pro scouts set sights on NAHL's best in Ann Arbor*

It's only three years old, but the Sherwood/NAHL Top Prospects Tournament has already firmly solidified its reputation as one of the elite college and professional recruiting showcases of the season.

This year's event, which was held last week the Ice Cube in Ann Arbor, Mich., home of USA Hockey's National Team Development Program, again staged a competitive on-ice environment, and, as a result, attracted a top scouting draw from all over North America.



"Top Prospects has really taken off and turned into something special," said NAHL commissioner

**Mark Frankendorf.**

"All of the feedback I received from scouts and coaches was outstanding, and, because of the exposure, I don't think there's any question a lot of the participating players are going to receive Division I opportunities in the coming weeks."

Close to 30 players who participated in last year's Top Prospects Tournament, which pits the NAHL's Central, North, South and West Divisions in a three-game, round-robin tournament, earned scholarships to Division I schools.

Marquette Rangers head coach **Kenny Miller**, who led the North Division team, along with Janesville Jets head coach **Dane Litke**, to a perfect 3-0 record at the event, including a victory over the previously-undefeated Central Division on the tournament's final day, also labeled Top Prospects a resounding success, especially from a scouting standpoint.

"I was very pleased with the turnout," said Miller. "When I talked to the college guys, they were very happy with the level of play."

Among those in attendance was University of Minnesota assistant coach **John Hill**, who was at the Cube to evaluate the best available prospects the NAHL had to offer.

"We were there looking for players who can be a asset to our program and we believe we found some," said Hill, whose program already has a commitment from Owatonna Express forward **Jake Youso**. "College hockey is filled with productive players who played in the NAHL, and we wanted to see them in a very competitive environment against skilled players who were competing hard to showcase their games."

Forwards **Tyler Klein** (North Iowa Outlaws), **Ross Mauermann** (Janesville) and **Doug Clifford** (Traverse City North Stars) all finished Top Prospects with a tournament-leading five points.

Janesville goaltender **Matt Wichorek**, along with the Bismarck Bobcats' **Ryan Faragher**, was credited with two wins, with Wichorek and **Evan Karambelas** (Topeka RoadRunners) each fashioning 1.34 goals-against averages (Karambelas led all goaltenders with a .963 save percentage).

For University of Alaska-Anchorage assistant coach **Regg Simon**, whose Seawolves have commitments from two NAHL players in Albert Lea Thunder defenseman Derek Docken and Alaska Avalanche forward Matt Friese, Top Prospects is a can't-miss when it comes time to map out his recruiting schedule.

Story continued at NAHL.com

## sherwood central player of the week

Albert Lea forward **Anthony Iaquinto** struck for three goals and an assist as the Thunder skated to a 2-1 record. Held scoreless on Friday - a 5-2 loss to Janesville - the Brighton, Mich., native notched a pair of goals, including the game-winner, and an assist the next night in a 5-1 triumph over the Jets. On Sunday, the 20-year-old scored another goal as the Thunder downed the North Iowa Outlaws, 4-1. He was also a plus-2 on the weekend.



## sherwood north player of the week

Marquette forward **Tanner Kero** rang up three goals and two assists as the Rangers skated to a two-game sweep over Alpena. On Friday, the Hancock, Mich., native scored a pair of goals in a 5-3 victory. The next night, the 17-year-old put home another goal and two assists as the Rangers doubled up the IceDiggers, 4-2. The Michigan Tech University recruit was also a plus-1 for the weekend.



## sherwood south player of the week

Wichita Falls forward **Jason McAloon** potted three goals and an assist as the Wildcats celebrated a two-game sweep over Texas. On Saturday, the Elk Groves, Ill., native notched a goal in a 4-2 victory. The next day, the 19-year-old who played his first two games with the Wildcats since being acquired from the Owatonna Express connected for two more goals and an assist as Wichita Falls outlasted the Tornado, 6-5.



## sherwood west player of the week

Wenatchee forward **Mitch Torrel** connected for three goals as the Wild skated to a two-game sweep over Fairbanks. On Friday, the Monticello, Minn., native tallied the game-winning goal in a 6-2 win. The next night, the 19-year-old Air Force Academy recruit rang up two more goals, including the game-winner, as the Wild bested the Ice Dogs, 5-1.



## sherbrook goalie of the week

Albert Lea goaltender **Joe Rogers** backstopped the Thunder to a pair of wins in his two starts, turning aside 79 of 81 shots. On Saturday, the Marysville, Mich., native made 44 saves in a 5-1 victory over the Janesville Jets. The next night, the 19-year-old Notre Dame University recruit stopped 35 shots as the Thunder downed the North Iowa Outlaws, 4-1.



## the week ahead all times local

### Friday, January 29

Marquette @ Janesville, 7:00 pm  
St. Louis @ Springfield, 7:00 pm  
Texas @ Topeka, 7:05 pm  
Alaska @ Wenatchee, 7:05 pm  
Fairbanks @ Wichita Falls, 7:05 pm  
Albert Lea @ Bismarck, 7:15 pm  
Alexandria @ Owatonna, 8:00 pm

### Saturday, January 30

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

### Sunday, January 31

Motor City @ Traverse City, 1:00 pm

## around the nahl

**ALASKA AVALANCHE:** Forward **Robb Haider** (Anchorage) recorded four assists as the Avalanche celebrated a two-game sweep over Kenai River. He was also a plus-2.

**ALBERT LEA THUNDER:** Defenseman **Patrick Kinkopf** (Seattle) recorded two goals as the Thunder went 2-1 last weekend. He was also a plus-3.

**ALEXANDRIA BLIZZARD:** In his first two games with the Blizzard since being acquired from Alaska, forward **Nardo Nagtzaam** (Netherlands) put home three goals and an assist.

**ALPENA ICEDIGGERS:** **Jimmy McCusker** (Novi, Mich.) rang up a goal and two assists as the IceDiggers dropped a pair of games to Marquette.

**BISMARCK BOBCATS:** Forward **George Malliaras** (Palos Hills, Ill.) registered a goal and an assist in the Bobcats' 5-4 shootout win over North Iowa on Saturday. "George and his linemates (**Bryce Schmitt** and **Trent Johnson**) were our most consistent line the whole weekend," said head coach **Byron Pool**. "They really add depth and energy to our lineup."

**FAIRBANKS ICE DOGS:** Goaltender **Mike Taffe** (Maple Grove, Minn.) has committed to the University of Nebraska-Omaha (CCHA), which will join the WCHA next season.

**JANESVILLE JETS:** Forward **Rui Encarnacao** (White Plains, N.Y.) tallied three goals as the Jets split a pair of games with Albert Lea.

**KENAI RIVER BROWN BEARS:** Forward **Doug Beck** (Plymouth, Mich.) recorded a pair of assists in the Brown Bears' 8-3 loss to Alaska on Friday.

**MARQUETTE RANGERS:** Goaltender **Lukas Hafner** (Toledo, Ohio) stopped 39 shots in the Rangers' 4-2 triumph over Alpena on Saturday. "Lukas played very well for us," said head coach **Kenny Miller**. "He kept us in the game all night, which is what you want your goaltender to do."

**MOTOR CITY METAL JACKETS:** Goaltender **Phil Graveline** (Marshall, Mich.), who was recently acquired from Wichita Falls, split two games with Traverse City, including a 28-save performance in a 4-3 shootout win on Saturday.

**NORTH IOWA OUTLAWS:** In his first three games since being acquired from Janesville, forward **Cam Severson** (Seattle) rang up a goal as the Outlaws went 0-2-1.

**OWATONNA EXPRESS:** Forward **Cory Thorson** (Crystal, Minn.) struck for two goals and an assist as the Express picked up three points in two games.

**SPRINGFIELD JR. BLUES:** With last weekend off, the Jr. Blues return to action this weekend for a two-game set against St. Louis beginning on Friday.

**ST. LOUIS BANDITS:** Forward **Joe Kalisz** (Davison, Mich.), a University of Alaska-Fairbanks recruit, tallied two goals and assisted on **Jordan Bourgonje**'s game-winner on Friday (a 4-1 win) as the Bandits skated to a two-game sweep over Topeka.

**TEXAS TORNADO:** Forward **Rock Einersen** (Chicago) connected for a goal and an assist in the Tornado's 6-5 loss to Wichita Falls on Saturday.

**TOPEKA ROADRUNNERS:** Held scoreless in two games last weekend, forward **Erik Higby** (New Braunfels, Texas) still ranks tied for second in league scoring with 51 points (20 goals) through 40 games.

**TRAVERSE CITY NORTH STARS:** Forward **Dan Radke** (Orinda, Calif.), a Lake Superior State University recruit, registered a hat trick, including the game-winning goal, in the North Stars' 7-1 triumph over Motor City on Friday.

**WENATCHEE WILD:** In his only start last week, goaltender **Brandon Jaeger** (Champlin, Minn.) made 35 saves in the Wild's 5-1 victory over Fairbanks on Saturday.

**WICHITA FALLS WILDCATS:** Forward **J.T. Osborn** (Alpine, Calif.) notched three goals and three assists in the Wildcats' two-game sweep over Texas.