



2018-19 WCHA WEEKLY RELEASE

WEEK ONE (GAMES OF OCT. 5-6, 2018) / wcha.com



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WESTERN COLLEGIATE HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

• FOUNDED 1951 •

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MEMBER TEAMS

University of Alabama in Huntsville
University of Alaska Anchorage
University of Alaska Fairbanks
Bemidji State University
Bowling Green State University
Ferris State University
Lake Superior State University
Michigan Technological University
Minnesota State University
Northern Michigan University

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2018-19 IMPORTANT DATES

DATE	EVENT
Oct. 6-7	Opening Weekend
Oct. 26-27	1st WCHA league games
Dec. 7-8	1st weekend of five (5) WCHA league series
Dec. 17-27	Holiday Break
Late-Dec./ Early-Jan.	In-season tournaments <i>Desert Hockey Classic</i> <i>Great Lakes Invitational</i> <i>TD Bank Catamount Cup</i>
March 1-2	Final reg. season games
March 8-10	WCHA Quarterfinals <i>Host sites; seeds 1-4</i>
March 15-17	2019 WCHA Semifinals <i>Host sites; top 2 seeds</i>
March 23	WCHA Championship <i>Host site; top seed</i>
March 29-31	2019 NCAA Regionals <i>Four sites</i>
April 11-13	2019 NCAA Frozen Four <i>KeyBank Center</i> <i>Buffalo, N.Y.</i>

FLOHOCKEY.TV

In partnership with FloSports, the innovator in live digital sports and original content, FloHockey.tv - the official online streaming platform of the WCHA - will provide fans with live and archived broadcasts of WCHA hockey via iOS, Roku or Apple TV 4.

Featuring each of the 10 WCHA member institutions, every league game - home and away - will be streamed live, along with all nonconference home games, select nonconference road contests and the 2019 WCHA Tournament.



OPENING FACEOFF

- **Tradition Starts Here:** The Men's League of the Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA) proudly drops the puck on its 67th season this weekend.
 - The WCHA is coming off a 2017-18 campaign that saw it send two teams to the NCAA regionals (Minnesota State and Michigan Tech), join Hockey East as one of two conferences to produce a quartet of 20-win teams (MSU, Northern Michigan, Bowling Green and MTU), land three teams in the final national polls (No. 9 MSU, No. 16 MTU and No. 20 NMU), produce three All-Americans (MSU's **C.J. Suess**, NMU's **Philip Beaulieu** and BGSU's **Alec Rauhauser**) and have 24 players (from all 10 schools) sign professional contracts.
- **Among the Best:** Four (4) of the nation's top-20 winningest teams since the 2013-14 realignment play in the WCHA, including three in the top-15.
 - Minnesota State has gone 127-58-16 (.672) to lead all NCAA Division I men's hockey programs in victories over the last five seasons.
 - Michigan Tech (111-70-26, .599) is tied with Notre Dame for 10th, Bowling Green (107-70-25, .592) is tied with Air Force and Robert Morris for 14th, and Ferris State (94-88-17, .515) is tied with Clarkston for 20th.
- **Mavericks Open as Favorites:** The highly-competitive WCHA has seen four teams win the MacNaughton Cup in its first five seasons with current membership, but defending regular season champion Minnesota State is picked to repeat by the league's coaches and media.
 - The Mavericks also open at No. 10 in the USCHO.com and *USA Today/USA Hockey Magazine* polls, followed by No. 18 Michigan Tech and No. 20 Northern Michigan (Bowling Green is receiving votes).
- **Taking the Reins in The Last Frontier:** The WCHA is excited to welcome two new head coaches for the 2018-19 season, as **Matt Curley** takes charge in Alaska Anchorage and **Erik Largen** ascends to the top role at Alaska.
 - **Largen** (31 years old) and **Curley** (35) will be the second- and third-youngest head coaches, respectively, in NCAA Division I men's hockey.
- **FloHockey.tv:** The WCHA is proud to launch a new, multiyear partnership with FloSports, the innovator in live digital sports and original content, to stream every game hosted by a WCHA member institution live and on-demand exclusively on FloHockey.tv.
 - More than 180 WCHA games, from opening night through the WCHA Championship, along with original programming, studio shows and other hockey content, are available via a monthly or annual PRO pass to FloSports and can be viewed live (or on-demand) on iOS, Roku or Apple TV 4.

THE WEEK AHEAD

- **Nonconference Tests:** Five (5) WCHA teams open their season with nonconference games this weekend.
 - A pair of teams skate against NCHC opponents, as Alabama Huntsville travels to Ohio to face Miami on Saturday-Sunday, while Alaska Anchorage welcomes Colorado College for a two-game set on FloHockey.tv.
 - Bowling Green plays a single contest Saturday at Mercyhurst (Atlantic Hockey), while Lake Superior State has a pair of games at Merrimack (Hockey East). Alaska is also on the road, opening at Arizona State.
- **Exhibitions:** Another three WCHA programs host exhibition games.
 - Ferris State plays the U.S. Under-18 Team on Saturday and Lethbridge on Sunday, while Bemidji State (vs. Lakehead) and Minnesota State (vs. Mount Royal) skate Saturday evening. The last four are on FloHockey.tv.

FINAL 2017-18 WCHA STANDINGS

Rk	[Natl Rank] Team	Pts	GP	Conference						% GF	GA	Overall					
				W	L	T	3/SW	OT	SH			W	L	T	OT	SH	
1	[9/8] Minnesota State	67	28	22	5	1	0	.804	116	58	40	29	10	1	.738	153	84
2	[20] Northern Michigan	61	28	19	7	2	2	.714	85	64	43	25	15	3	.616	130	108
3	Bowling Green	58	28	17	6	5	2	.696	87	63	41	23	12	6	.634	122	100
4	Bemidji State	49	28	13	9	6	4	.571	77	63	38	16	14	8	.526	103	95
5	[16/15] Michigan Tech	43	28	12	11	5	2	.518	82	75	44	22	17	5	.557	134	117
6	Ferris State	34	28	11	16	1	0	.411	68	86	38	14	23	1	.382	87	122
7	Alabama Huntsville	33	28	10	16	2	1	.393	69	86	37	12	23	2	.351	84	121
8	Alaska	30	28	9	17	2	1	.357	74	85	36	11	22	3	.347	97	118
9	Lake Superior State	27	28	8	17	3	0	.339	59	90	36	10	22	4	.333	76	121
10	Alaska Anchorage	18	28	4	21	3	3	.196	55	102	34	4	26	4	.176	65	124

(3 points for win in regulation or 5-on-5 OT; 1 point for tie after regulation and 5-on-5 OT; 1 point for win in 3-on-3 OT or shootout; rankings listed by USCHO.com first, followed by USA Today/USA Hockey Magazine)

THIS WEEK IN THE WCHA (ALL TIMES LOCAL)

SATURDAY, OCT. 6

[EXH] U.S. Under-18 Team at **Ferris State**, 5:07 p.m. ET
[NC] **Lake Superior State** at Merrimack, 7:00 p.m. ET
[NC] **Bowling Green** at Mercyhurst, 7:05 p.m. ET
[NC] **Alabama Huntsville** at Miami, 7:05 p.m. ET
[EXH] Lakehead at **Bemidji State**, 6:07 p.m. CT*
[EXH] Mount Royal at **[10] Minnesota State**, 7:07 p.m. CT*
[NC] **Alaska** at Arizona State, 7:05 p.m. MT
[NC] Colorado College at **Alaska Anchorage**, 7:07 p.m. AT*

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7

[NC] **Alabama Huntsville** at Miami, 3:05 p.m. ET
[EXH] Lethbridge at **Ferris State**, 3:07 p.m. ET*
[NC] **Lake Superior State** at Merrimack, 4:00 p.m. ET
[NC] **Alaska** at Arizona State, 3:00 p.m. MT
[NC] Colorado College at **Alaska Anchorage**, 7:07 p.m. AT*

* denotes streaming live on FloHockey.tv; [EXH] denotes exhibition game; [NC] denotes nonconference game (WCHA teams in bold); Rankings listed by USCHO.com poll first, followed by USA Today/USA Hockey Magazine poll (if different)

MINNESOTA STATE PICKED TO REPEAT AS WCHA REGULAR SEASON CHAMPION

Defending regular season champion Minnesota State was picked to once again hoist the MacNaughton Cup in 2018-19, according to polls of the men's Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA) coaches and media. Northern Michigan forwards **Adam Rockwood** and **Troy Loggins** split the coaches' and media's votes, respectively, as WCHA Preseason Player of the Year, while Ferris State defenseman **Cooper Zech** was the coaches' choice as WCHA Preseason Rookie of the Year.

Minnesota State, which has won an NCAA-best 151 games over the last six seasons and has captured at least a share of the WCHA regular season title in three of the last four campaigns, received seven of 10 first-place votes (88 points overall) in the sixth annual Mankato Free Press WCHA Preseason Coaches' Poll. The Mavericks took 13 of 19 first-place votes (182 points overall) in the second annual UAHockey.com WCHA Preseason Media Poll.

Last season's runner-up, Northern Michigan, received two first-place nods and was picked second in the coaches' poll following its first 25-win campaign since 2001-02. Bowling Green, which has four consecutive 20-win seasons, was picked third, while back-to-back WCHA playoff champion Michigan Tech received one first-place vote and was tabbed fourth. Bemidji State was picked fifth with 54 points, followed by Ferris State in sixth with 49 points. Rounding out the list were Lake Superior State (seventh place, 40 points), Alaska (eighth, 36), Alabama Huntsville (ninth, 35) and Alaska Anchorage (10th, 18).

The media poll reversed the Falcons (second place) and Wildcats (third); however, Northern Michigan received five first-place votes to Bowling Green's one. Michigan Tech, Bemidji State and Ferris State were identical (fourth through sixth), but the media's WCHA Playoffs field included Alabama Huntsville (seventh place) and Lake Superior State (eighth). Alaska (ninth) and Alaska Anchorage (10th) rounded out the poll.

Rockwood, a senior from Coquitlam, British Columbia and the coaches' choice as WCHA Preseason Player of the Year, led the league in overall-game scoring last year with 48 points for the Wildcats, including an NCAA-best 40 assists. **Loggins**, a senior from Huntington Beach, Calif., earned the media nod after setting career highs in 2017-18 with 23 goals (including an NCAA-best five short-handed strikes), 24 assists and 47 points.

Zech, a blue-liner from South Lyon, Mich., was voted WCHA Preseason Rookie of the Year by the league's coaches. The Ferris State freshman played for the Wenatchee Wild of the British Columbia Hockey League last season where he was the BCHL's Defenseman of the Year, leading the league with 58 assists and scoring 69 points in 58 games. He also had 23 points, including 19 assists in 20 playoff games as the Wild won the RBC Cup.

Rockwood was one of four Northern Michigan players voted to the coaches' Preseason All-WCHA Team. He was joined by **Loggins**, junior defenseman **Philip Beaulieu** (a second-team All-American in 2017-18) and senior goaltender **Atte Tolvanen** (the reigning WCHA Goaltender of the Year). Others on the team were: Minnesota State junior forward **Marc Michaelis** and Bowling Green junior defenseman **Alec Rauhauser** (last season's WCHA Defenseman of the Year and a second-team All-American).

The media's Preseason All-WCHA First Team consisted of **Loggins**, **Michaelis** and 2017-18 WCHA Rookie of the Year **Jake Jaremko** (Minnesota State) as forwards, along with defensemen **Rauhauser** and **Beaulieu**, and goaltender **Tolvanen**.

2018-19 MANKATO FREE PRESS WCHA PRESEASON COACHES' POLL

Rank	Team (1st Place Votes)	Points
1.	Minnesota State (7)	88
2.	Northern Michigan (2)	80
3.	Bowling Green	76
4.	Michigan Tech (1)	64
5.	Bemidji State	54
6.	Ferris State	49
7.	Lake Superior State	40
8.	Alaska	36
9.	Alabama Huntsville	35
10.	Alaska Anchorage	18

Predicted order of finish. Based on a 10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1 scale. Coaches could not vote for their own teams.

WCHA PRESEASON PLAYER OF THE YEAR (VOTES)

Adam Rockwood, Sr., F, Northern Michigan (4)

Others receiving votes: Jake Jaremko, So., F, Minnesota State (3); Marc Michaelis, Jr., F, Minnesota State (2); Troy Loggins, Sr. F, Northern Michigan (1)

WCHA PRESEASON ROOKIE OF THE YEAR (VOTES)

Cooper Zech, D, Ferris State (5)

Others receiving votes: Dryden McKay, G, Minnesota State (2); Griffin Loughran, F, Northern Michigan (1); Tim Theocharidis, D, Bowling Green (1); Chris Van Os-Shaw, F, Minnesota State (1)

PRESEASON ALL-WCHA TEAM

Forwards

Adam Rockwood, Sr., Northern Michigan; Marc Michaelis, So., Minnesota State; Troy Loggins, Sr., Northern Michigan

Defensemen

Alec Rauhauser, Jr., Bowling Green; Philip Beaulieu, Jr., Northern Michigan

Goaltender

Atte Tolvanen, Sr., Northern Michigan

2018-19 UAHOCKEY.COM WCHA PRESEASON MEDIA POLL

Rank	Team (1st Place Votes)	Points
1.	Minnesota State (13)	182
2.	Bowling Green (1)	159
3.	Northern Michigan (5)	150
4.	Michigan Tech	133
5.	Bemidji State	110
6.	Ferris State	102
7.	Alabama Huntsville	69
8.	Lake Superior State	57
9.	Alaska	47
10.	Alaska Anchorage	28

Predicted order of finish. Based on a 10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1 scale.

WCHA PRESEASON PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Troy Loggins, Sr., F, Northern Michigan

Others receiving votes: Jake Jaremko, So., F, Minnesota State; Marc Michaelis, Jr., F, Minnesota State; Adam Rockwood, Sr., F, Northern Michigan; Atte Tolvanen, Sr., G, Northern Michigan.

PRESEASON ALL-WCHA FIRST TEAM

Forwards

Marc Michaelis, Jr., Minnesota State; Jake Jaremko, Fr., Minnesota State; Troy Loggins, Sr., Northern Michigan

Defensemen

Alec Rauhauser, Jr., D, Bowling Green; Philip Beaulieu, Jr., D, Northern Michigan

Goaltender

Atte Tolvanen, Sr., Northern Michigan

PRESEASON ALL-WCHA SECOND TEAM

Forwards

Adam Rockwood, Sr., Northern Michigan; Jake Lucchini, Sr., Michigan Tech; Darien Craighead, Jr., Northern Michigan (tie); Brandon Kruse, So., Bowling Green (tie); Parker Tuomie, Jr., Minnesota State (tie)

Defensemen

Ian Scheid, Jr., Minnesota State; Chris Pohlkamp, Sr., Bowling Green

Goaltender

Ryan Bednard, Jr., Bowling Green

ONCE AROUND THE RINK

- **UAH:** Just four years removed from a two-win season, the Chargers (who have improved their winning percentage each campaign under head coach **Mike Corbett**) won 12 games (their most since 2009-10) and captured their first-ever WCHA playoff victory, while **Josh Kestner** earned the highest All-WCHA Team recognition in program history (second-team honors).
- **UAA:** The Seawolves' season-ending road sweep in Fairbanks was sparked by 76 saves from senior goaltender **Olivier Mantha**, who departs as the program's all-time leader in saves (3,449), save percentage (.908) and minutes played (6973:22).
- **UAF:** The Nanooks won their sixth-straight Alaska Airlines Governor's Cup against rival Alaska Anchorage, qualified once again for the WCHA Playoffs and landed a pair of All-WCHA selections -- including first-team defenseman **Zach Frye**.
- **BSU:** The Beavers opened the season with a win and tie against eventual national champion Minnesota Duluth, ranked among the top-20 nationally for regular season wins and saw freshman forward **Charlie Combs** score 13 goals -- the most by a BSU rookie since the 2009-10 season.
- **BGSU:** The Falcons captured their first-ever Great Lakes Invitational championship (including a victory over eventual Frozen Four participant Michigan) and won a league postseason series for an NCAA-best eighth-straight season (all under head coach **Chris Bergeron**).
- **FSU:** The Bulldogs dealt Frozen Four-bound Michigan one of its only five home losses on the season, while qualifying for their conference postseason tournament for the 21st-consecutive campaign.
- **LSSU:** The Lakers nearly rallied themselves back into the WCHA Playoffs with consecutive February road sweeps -- LSSU's first four-game road winning streak since 2011 (including back-to-back shutouts Feb. 2-3 at Bemidji State, the first time in eight years the Lakers held a team scoreless for an entire weekend series).
- **MTU:** The Huskies went from league tournament fifth seed to back-to-back WCHA playoff champs, a fitting send-off for a senior class that became the first Tech group since 1978 to have a winning record all four seasons, ranked fifth nationally with 97 victories, snapped a 34-year NCAA tournament drought with three appearances and hoisted three league trophies (the MacNaughton Cup as 2015-16 regular season co-champs, the Broadmoor Trophy as 2017 playoff champs and the Jeff Sauer WCHA Championship Trophy as 2018 playoff winners).
- **MSU:** The Mavericks' third MacNaughton Cup in four seasons capped a tremendous run by its 2017-18 senior class, which also won the 2015 Broadmoor Trophy as league playoff champions, made a pair of NCAA tournament appearances and tied for second nationally with 101 victories (matching North Dakota, four behind Denver).
- **NMU:** While **Philip Beaulieu** became the Wildcats' first All-American since 2010, the team's six All-WCHA honorees were the most in a single-season in program history (Beaulieu, **Darien Craighead**, **Troy Loggins**, **Robbie Payne**, **Adam Rockwood** and WCHA Goaltender of the Year **Atte Tolvanen**).

2018 WCHA POSTSEASON TOURNAMENT

- **Bringing Playoff Hockey Home:** "Hockey is the best sport there is, playoff hockey is the best of the best, and winning a championship in your home arena -- or coming together as a team to win on the road -- is one of the greatest feelings a player or coach can have." Those words, spoken by esteemed Ferris State Head Coach **Bob Daniels**, have proven true in the last two seasons, with the WCHA's on-campus league postseason tournament bringing the singular intensity and passion of playoff college hockey directly to its member institution fans.
- **2018 WCHA Playoffs -- Quarterfinals:** The best-of-three quarterfinals saw No. 2 seed Northern Michigan outlast No. 7 Alabama Huntsville in three games, along with a trio of sweeps (No. 5 Michigan Tech upset host and No. 4 seed Bemidji State, while No. 1 Minnesota State toppled No. 8 Alaska and No. 3 Bowling Green eliminated No. 6 Ferris State).
 - Memorable moments included NMU's first home playoff games since 2012 (in the CCHA); UAH's first-ever WCHA postseason victory, courtesy of a late goal by senior forward and Huntsville native **Josh Kestner** in Game 2; MTU's rally from 3-1 down to win, 5-3, in Game 1; a pair of four-goal periods by MSU; and, a school-record 62 saves by FSU junior goaltender **Darren Smith** in Game 1, before BGSU freshman **Brandon Kruse** scored the overtime winner.

2018 WCHA POSTSEASON TOURNAMENT (CONT.)

- **2018 WCHA Playoffs -- Semifinals:** The best-of-three semifinals featured all four WCHA 20-win teams, while both series were settled by an overtime goal in the decisive Game 3. Northern Michigan outlasted Bowling Green and earned the right to host the WCHA Championship after Michigan Tech upset Minnesota State later that same evening.
 - Tech twice staved off a season-ending defeat behind goaltender **Patrick Munson**, winning Games 2 and 3 in Mankato, the latter on **Jake Jackson's** second goal of the game, the OT winner in a 2-1 triumph.
 - A matchup of nationally-ranked teams did not disappoint -- especially in a thrilling Game 3 that saw BGSU tie the game with eight seconds left in regulation on a goal by senior captain **Mitch McLain**, before NMU's **Troy Loggins** sent the Wildcats to the title game with a goal at 15:53 of OT.
- **2018 WCHA Championship:** In an all-Upper Peninsula title game, Michigan Tech captured its second-straight league playoff crown and hoisted the inaugural Jeff Sauer WCHA Championship Trophy, Presented by Anderson's Pure Maple Syrup. The Huskies won their fifth road game of the tournament, defeating Northern Michigan, 2-0, in front of a sold-out, standing room-only crowd of 4,260 at the Berry Events Center in Marquette.
 - **Munson** was the difference, capping a remarkable three-game tournament run with a 21-save shutout to earn WCHA Championship First Star and Most Outstanding Player honors. His spectacular, sliding armpit save with 2:20 left in the second period stopped a 2-on-1 opportunity for the Wildcats and preserved a 1-0 Tech lead.
 - MTU freshman **Greyson Reitmeier** opened the scoring 5:56 into the second period with the eventual game-winner, while **Joel L'Esperance** sealed the outcome with an empty-net strike at 19:13 of the third.

MORE FROM THE 2017-18 SEASON

- **Horns Up:** Minnesota State led all NCAA Division I teams in 10 categories: Wins (29), goals scored (153), goals per game (3.83), goal margin (+69), goal margin per game (+1.73), power-play goals (52), power-play goals per game (1.30), shots on goal per game (22.00), shots on goal margin (+509) and shots on goal margin per game (+12.72).
 - The Mavericks joined Frozen Four participant Ohio State as the only two teams to rank among the top-10 nationally in scoring offense (first at 3.83 goals per game), scoring defense (sixth at 2.10 goals allowed per game), power-play success rate (third at 27.4 percent, 52-for-190) and penalty-kill efficiency (sixth at 85.5 percent, 148-for-173).
 - For the first time in the program's D-I era, Minnesota State had six players with at least 30 points (**C.J. Suess** - 43; **Zeb Knutson** - 43; **Marc Michaelis** - 40; **Jake Jaremko** - 39; **Parker Tuomie** - 37; and, **Daniel Brickley** - 35).
- **Marquette Magic:** In his first year as a NCAA Division I bench boss, WCHA Coach of the Year **Grant Potulny** engineered the finest Northern Michigan season in over a decade. The Wildcats tied for fourth nationally in victories with their first 25-win season (25-15-3) since 2001-02, while reaching 20 wins for the first time since the 2009-10 campaign.
 - After going 8-8-0 through their first 16 games, the Wildcats were undefeated in 20 of their final 27 contests (17-7-3).
 - NMU led the country with 17 home wins, while the Wildcats were fourth with a .773 winning percentage at the Berry Events Center (17-5-0).
 - Despite being picked to finish seventh in the WCHA preseason coaches' and media polls, the Wildcats challenged for the MacNaughton Cup and finished second in the league standings.
- **Helping Hand:** In his first season with Northern Michigan, junior forward **Adam Rockwood** led the country with 40 assists -- the most by a WCHA skater since Minnesota Duluth's Jack Connolly also had 40 during his 2011-12 Hobey Baker Award-winning season.
 - A transfer from Wisconsin, he also scored eight goals to lead the WCHA with 48 points overall. His 0.93 assists per game ranked second nationally.





MORE FROM THE 2017-18 SEASON (CONT.)

- **Lighting the Lamp:** For the first time since the 2013-14 season, the WCHA featured a quartet of 20-goal scorers.
 - A pair of seniors -- Alabama Huntsville's **Josh Kestner** and Northern Michigan's **Robbie Payne** -- led the WCHA and tied for sixth nationally with 24 goals apiece. Kestner, a Huntsville native, matched UAH's D-I era single-season record.
 - Northern Michigan junior **Troy Loggins**, who finished second in the WCHA's overall scoring race with 47 points, was third in the league (and tied for ninth nationally) with 23 goals.
 - Minnesota State senior **C.J. Suess** (43 points overall) was fourth in the WCHA and tied for 12th nationally with 22 goals.
 - **Kestner** (fifth at 0.65), **Payne** (13th at 0.56), **Suess** (14th at 0.55), **Loggins** (15th at 0.53) and Minnesota State sophomore **Marc Michaelis** (tied for 24th at 0.50) all ranked among the top-25 nationally for goals per game.
- **Offensive Defensemen:** The WCHA skated four of the NCAA's top-10 defenseman scoring leaders.
 - Second-team All-American **Philip Beaulieu**, a sophomore at Northern Michigan, was second nationally with 0.98 points per game, while his 42 points overall (11g-31a) were tops among NCAA blueliners.
 - Alaska senior **Zach Frye** was fourth at 0.97 (11g-23a--34pts), while WCHA Defenseman of the Year and second-team All-American **Alec Rauhauser** (Bowling Green sophomore) was second overall with 39 points (9g-30a) and sixth at 0.95 points per game.
 - Minnesota State junior **Daniel Brickley**, who would tally an assist in his NHL debut for the Los Angeles Kings on April 5, was tied for ninth at 0.88 points per game (10g-25a--35pts).
- **Youth is Served:** Five of the NCAA's top-20 freshman scoring leaders were WCHA rookies, with each wearing either a Minnesota State or Bowling Green uniform.
 - The Mavericks' **Jake Jaremko**, the second-consecutive WCHA Rookie of the Year from Minnesota State, ranked second nationally with 0.97 points per game. His 39 total points (15g-24a) were also second-most by a NCAA rookie and the most by a freshman in Minnesota State's D-I era (surpassing future NHL All-Star **David Backes'** 37-point output in 2003-04).
 - **Reggie Lutz**, a teammate of **Jaremko's** at Elk River (Minn.) High School, with Chicago in the USHL and at Minnesota State, was 13th nationally with 0.77 points per game (7g-20a--27pts).
 - Bowling Green's high-scoring rookie trio included: **Brandon Kruse**, who was ninth nationally at 0.80 points per game (8g-25a--33pts); **Max Johnson**, who tied for 18th at 0.73 (13-17--30); and, **Cameron Wright**, who finished 20th at 0.69 (9-16--25).
 - The Mavericks' freshman group ranked third in the NCAA overall with 3.17 points per game (41g-86a--127pts), while the Falcons' rookies were fourth at 3.00 (42g-81a--123pts).
- **Special Teams Prowess:** Northern Michigan's **Troy Loggins** was a special-teams dynamo, leading the country with five short-handed goals and tying for eighth with nine power-play strikes.
 - Minnesota State's **Marc Michaelis** and Bemidji State senior **Kyle Bauman** both tied for second nationally with three short-handed goals apiece.
 - Bowling Green's **Max Johnson** paced NCAA rookies and was seventh overall with 10 power-play goals. UAH's **Josh Kestner** matched **Loggins** with nine power-play markers, tied for eighth-most nationally.
- **Clutch 'Cats:** Northern Michigan sophomore forward **Darien Craighead** led the NCAA with six game-winning goals, while teammate **Troy Loggins** was tied for second with five.
 - Five of the duo's combined 11 game-winners snapped a third-period tie and stood as the final goal of the contest, including one in the final second of regulation (**Craighead** on Oct. 14 vs. Ferris State) and one in overtime (**Loggins** against Bowling Green in Game 3 of the WCHA semifinals).

MORE FROM THE 2017-18 SEASON (CONT.)

- **Between the Pipes:** Led by Bemidji State senior **Michael Bitzer** (who set the league's all-time shutout mark), the WCHA again had a stable of outstanding netminders.
 - WCHA Goaltender of the Year **Atte Tolvanen** won 23 games (tied for fourth nationally), made 736 saves, ranked sixth in the NCAA with a .691 winning percentage (23-10-1) and was 17th with a 2.22 goals-against average.
 - Minnesota State senior **Connor LaCouvee**, a transfer from Boston University, took charge in the Mavericks' net and led the WCHA with a 1.80 goals-against average (third nationally), 23 wins (tied for fourth) and a .783 winning percentage (second, at 23-6-1). He also ranked second in the WCHA with a .914 save percentage.
 - **Bitzer** tied for fifth in the country with a WCHA-best five shutouts, while he was 18th with a 2.24 goals-against average.
- **League Scoring Ticks Up:** An average of 5.51 goals were scored per WCHA regular season league game in 2017-18 (772 total), up 5.6 percent from 2016-17 (5.22 goals-per-game / 731 total) and 10.8 percent from the 2015-16 campaign (4.98 gpg / 697 total).
- **Another Thrilling Playoff Chase:** Befitting the highly-competitive nature that is a WCHA hallmark, the league entered the final weekend of the regular season with the MacNaughton Cup winner undetermined, six of eight playoff seeds up for grabs and four teams battling for the final three postseason slots.
 - Minnesota State needed every bit of its' 11-game unbeaten streak to end the regular season (10-0-1), holding off second-half charges from Northern Michigan (10-3-1 after Jan. 1) and Bowling Green (12-4-0) to win the MacNaughton Cup. The Mavericks clinched their third title in four seasons with a 2-1 home victory over Bemidji State on the final Friday night.
 - By splitting with Michigan Tech on the regular season's final weekend, Northern Michigan held on to the No. 2 seed over Bowling Green (thereby giving the Wildcats home ice when they faced the Falcons in the semifinal round of the WCHA Playoffs).
 - Alabama Huntsville's Friday-night win over Bowling Green clinched the Chargers' first WCHA postseason berth since 2014-15.
 - In a head-to-head matchup for the final open slot in the WCHA Playoffs, Ferris State -- which began the weekend with a one-point lead over ninth-place Lake Superior State -- swept the visiting Lakers to vault all the way up to the No. 6 seed (and eliminate LSSU).

IN THE CLASSROOM AND IN THE COMMUNITY

- **Google Cloud Academic All-American:** **Olivier Mantha**, the 2017-18 WCHA Outstanding Student-Athlete of the Year, became the first Alaska Anchorage hockey player ever to be named a Google Cloud Academic All-American. The senior goaltender was a first-team honoree for the Division I Men's At-Large team, as selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA).
 - Alabama Huntsville junior defenseman **John Teets** joined Mantha as a Google Cloud Academic All-District honoree.
- **Krampade All American Scholars:** Fifty-one (51) student-athletes, representing all 10 WCHA Men's League member institutions, were honored as Krampade All American Scholars, as announced by the American Hockey Coaches Association (AHCA). These outstanding players attained a 3.6 GPA each semester and participated in 40 percent of their school's games during the 2017-18 season.
- **Doing It With CLASS:** Bemidji State goaltender **Michael Bitzer** and Bowling Green forward **Mitch McLain** were among the top-10 finalists for the 2017-18 Senior CLASS Award®, while Ferris State forward **Andrew Dorantes** was among the top-20 candidates.
- **Scholar-Athletes:** Eighty-one (81) student-athletes, representing all 10 Men's League member institutions, earned WCHA Scholar-Athlete Award status for maintaining a GPA of 3.50 or above.
- **All-Academic Team:** One hundred and fifty-one (151) student-athletes, representing all 10 Men's League member institutions, earned a spot on the WCHA All-Academic Team for maintaining a GPA of 3.00 or above.



THE NEXT LEVEL

- **Member-Institution Alumni in the NHL:** Twenty-two (22) alumni, representing all 10 current WCHA member institutions, played in the NHL in 2017-18.
 - Alaska Anchorage alumnus **Jay Beagle** became the first player in history to win the Kelly Cup (ECHL), Calder Cup (AHL) and Stanley Cup (NHL) when he and the Washington Capitals captured their first-ever title.
 - **Beagle**, who played in 23 of 24 postseason contests, while contributing eight points (2g-6a) and a plus-7 rating, was joined on the Caps by backup goaltender **Pheonix Copley** (Michigan Tech), goaltending coach **Scott Murray** (Lake Superior State), associate coach **Todd Reirden** (Bowling Green) and general manager **Brian MacLellan** (BGSU).
 - The Western Conference Champion Vegas Golden Knights received 14 points (9g-5a) in 36 regular season games from midseason waiver pickup **Ryan Carpenter**, then another five points (5a) and a plus-5 rating in postseason play from the Bowling Green alumnus.
 - Ferris State legend **Chris Kunitz** fell just short in his quest to play for an incredible fifth-straight Stanley Cup, as a successful first season with the Tampa Bay Lightning (13g-17a--30pts, while playing in all 99 games) ended in the Eastern Conference Final.
 - Battling back from both illness and injury, veteran forward **David Backes** (Minnesota State) still contributed 33 points (14g-19a) in 57 regular season games for the Boston Bruins.
 - Among other WCHA member-institution alumni, **Cam Talbot** (Alabama Huntsville) made 67 starts in the Edmonton net, while Oilers teammate **Jujhar Khaira** (Michigan Tech) set career highs with 69 games played, 11 goals, 10 assists and 21 points.
 - Three of the last four WCHA Defensive Players of the Year saw NHL ice last season: Alaska alumnus **Colton Parayko**, a two-time winner (2014 and 2015), played in all 82 games for the St. Louis Blues and matched his career high with 35 points, while 2016 honoree **Casey Nelson** (Minnesota State) skated in 37 contests with the Buffalo Sabres and former Mavericks teammate (and 2017 winner) **Daniel Brickley** picked up an assist in his NHL debut April 5 with the Los Angeles Kings.
- **Pro Signings:** As previously mentioned, 24 players -- representing all 10 WCHA programs -- signed professional contracts after the 2017-18 college season.
 - Five (5) players signed NHL entry-level contracts: Bemidji State's **Zach Whitecloud** (Vegas), Michigan Tech's **Dane Birks** (Pittsburgh) and **Mitch Reinke** (St. Louis), and Minnesota State's **Daniel Brickley** (Los Angeles) and **C.J. Suess** (Winnipeg).
 - **Whitecloud, Reinke** and **Brickley** were all undrafted free agents -- and all three made their NHL debuts.

DEVELOPING TALENT

Twenty-four (24) players who participated in 2018 NHL Development Camps are slated to play in the WCHA during the 2018-19 season:

Player, 2018-19 Class, Pos.	School	NHL Development Camp
Stephen Baylis, Sr., F	Bowling Green	Boston Bruins
Ryan Bednard, Jr., G	Bowling Green	Florida Panthers
Lukas Craggs, Jr., F	Bowling Green	Winnipeg Jets
Brandon Kruse, So., F	Bowling Green	Vegas Golden Knights
Alec Rauhauser, Jr., D	Bowling Green	Los Angeles Kings
Adam Smith, Sr., D	Bowling Green	Nashville Predators
Tim Theochardis, Fr., D	Bowling Green	Columbus Blue Jackets
Cooper Zech, Fr., D	Ferris State	Washington Capitals
Matthew Barnaby, Fr., F	Lake Superior State	Toronto Maple Leafs
Steven Ruggiero, Jr., D	Lake Superior State	Anaheim Ducks
Thomas Beretta, Jr., F	Michigan Tech	Toronto Maple Leafs
Jake Jackson, Sr., F	Michigan Tech	San Jose Sharks
Jake Lucchini, Sr., F	Michigan Tech	Pittsburgh Penguins
Cooper Watson, So., D	Michigan Tech	Dallas Stars
Jake Jaremko, So. F	Minnesota State	Nashville Predators
Connor Mackey, So., D	Minnesota State	Buffalo Sabres
Ian Scheid, Jr., D	Minnesota State	Ottawa Senators
Nathan Smith, Fr., F	Minnesota State	Winnipeg Jets
Chris Van Os-Shaw, Fr., F	Minnesota State	Toronto Maple Leafs
Phillip Beaulieu, Jr., D	Northern Michigan	Boston Bruins
Darien Craighead, Jr., F	Northern Michigan	New York Islanders
Troy Loggins, Sr., F	Northern Michigan	Arizona Coyotes
Adam Rockwood, Sr., F	Northern Michigan	Vancouver Canucks
Adam Roeder, So., D	Northern Michigan	St. Louis Blues

THE NEXT LEVEL (CONT.)

- **2018 NHL Draft:** The two opponents from this past spring's Western Conference Final of the Stanley Cup Playoffs each chose forwards with WCHA connections in the 2018 NHL Draft, as Minnesota State commit **Nathan Smith** was a third-round pick of the Winnipeg Jets (91st overall) and Bowling Green rising sophomore **Brandon Kruse** was grabbed by the defending conference champion Vegas Golden Knights in the fifth round (135th overall).
- **NHL Development Camps:** Thirty-seven (37) players with ties to WCHA programs -- including 24 slated to skate in the league this upcoming season -- were invited to participate in 2018 NHL Development Camps.
 - The 24 players on 2018-19 WCHA rosters feature 10 underclassmen (five incoming freshmen and five sophomores), along with eight juniors and six seniors.
 - Bowling Green, which has produced four-straight 20-win seasons, led the WCHA with nine current, former and incoming players. Back-to-back WCHA Postseason Tournament champion Michigan Tech and defending MacNaughton Cup winner Minnesota State were tied for second with seven players apiece, while Northern Michigan had six players from its 25-win, WCHA tournament runner-up squad earn invites.
- **International Competition:** The international season was highlighted by the 2018 Winter Olympic Games in Pyeongchang, South Korea. Five players from current WCHA institutions competed: Alaska Anchorage's **Mat Robinson** (Canada) and **Luka Vidmar** (Slovenia), Bemidji State's **Matt Dalton** (Korea), Ferris State's **Chad Billins** (United States) and Northern Michigan's **Erik Gustafsson** (Sweden).
 - Four players participated in the 2018 IIHF World Championship, held in Denmark: Alaska's **Colton Parayko** (Canada), Bemidji State's **Dalton** (Korea), Bowling Green's **Ralfs Freibergs** (Latvia) and Minnesota State's **Marc Michaelis** (Germany). Also, Team USA was led by a pair of former Ferris State players in head coach **Jeff Blashill** and assistant **Seth Appert**.
 - Minnesota State bench boss and two-time WCHA Coach of the Year **Mike Hastings** has been named head coach for the 2019 U.S. National Junior Team. Originally selected as an assistant coach for the squad, Hastings was elevated by USA Hockey to the head role in May.
 - Bowling Green rising sophomore **Brandon Kruse** was invited to the 2018 World Junior Summer Showcase, held July 28-Aug. 4.

TRADITION STARTS HERE

- **Among the Best:** Four (4) of the nation's top-20 winningest teams since 2013-14 play in the WCHA, including three in the top-15.
 - Minnesota State has gone 127-58-16 (.672) to lead all NCAA Division I hockey programs in victories over the last five seasons, while Michigan Tech (111-70-26, .599) is tied with Notre Dame for 10th, Bowling Green (107-70-25, .592) is tied with Air Force and Robert Morris for 14th, and Ferris State (94-88-17, .515) is tied with Clarkston for 20th.
- **Horns Up:** No team in the country has won more games over the last six seasons than Minnesota State, which is 151-72-19 (.663) under head coach **Mike Hastings**. The Mavericks have recorded a program-record six-consecutive 20-win seasons, while making three NCAA tournament appearances, winning three MacNaughton Cups and capturing two WCHA Postseason Tournament titles.
- **20-20-20-20:** Bowling Green (23-12-6) and Michigan Tech (22-17-5) both reached the 20-win plateau for the fourth-consecutive season in 2017-18. The Falcons last achieved that feat during a nine-year stretch under legendary head coach **Jerry York** between 1981-82 and 1989-90; the Huskies, not since Hall of Fame bench boss **John MacInnes** led Tech to 118 victories between the 1972-73 and 1975-76 campaigns, a run that included two WCHA regular season titles and three-straight NCAA Frozen Four appearances (including the 1975 national championship).
 - Michigan Tech is fifth nationally with 97 wins over the last four seasons (97-51-19, .638), while Bowling Green is 12th at 89-55-19 (.604).
 - Minnesota State is tied with North Dakota for second over that same span with 101 wins (101-44-15, .678).

USCHO.COM

Sept. 24, 2018 (PRESEASON)

Rk	Team (1st Place Votes)	Record	Points	Last Poll
1	Minnesota Duluth (44)	25-16-3	982	1
2	Notre Dame (2)	28-10-2	857	2
3	Ohio State (2)	26-10-5	835	3
4	Michigan (2)	22-15-3	790	4
5	Providence	24-12-4	698	7
6	St. Cloud State	25-9-6	697	6
7	Cornell	25-6-2	676	8
8	Boston University	22-14-4	597	10
9	Denver	23-10-8	552	5
10	Minnesota State	29-10-1	488	9
11	North Dakota	17-13-10	437	17
12	Boston College	20-14-3	398	19
13	Minnesota	19-17-2	387	18
14	Princeton	19-13-4	357	15
15	Northeastern	23-10-5	345	11
16	Penn State	18-15-5	302	13
17	Clarkson	23-11-6	299	12
18	Michigan Tech	22-17-5	115	16
19	Western Michigan	15-19-2	109	NR
20	Northern Michigan	25-15-3	98	20

Others receiving votes: Air Force 94, Union 90, **Bowling Green 62**, Harvard 58, Massachusetts 35, Wisconsin 27, Colorado College 23, UMass Lowell 20, Maine 18, Omaha 17, Canisius 14, Mercyhurst 11, Quinnipiac 8, Miami 2, Brown 1, Connecticut 1.

USA TODAY/USA HOCKEY MAGAZINE

Oct. 1, 2018 (PRESEASON)

Rank	Team, Points (1st place)	Last Poll	Record	Top 15
1.	Minnesota Duluth, 505 (30)	3	25-16-3	1
2.	Ohio State, 456 (3)	2	26-10-5	1
3.	Notre Dame, 431	1	28-10-2	1
4.	St. Cloud State, 379 (1)	6	25-9-6	1
5.	Providence, 369	8	24-12-4	1
6.	Michigan, 355	4	22-15-3	1
7.	Cornell, 296	7	25-6-2	1
8.	Boston University, 243	11	22-14-4	1
9.	Boston College, 233	--	20-14-3	1
10.	Minnesota State, 189	9	29-10-1	1
11.	Denver, 153	5	23-10-8	1
12.	North Dakota, 147	--	17-13-10	1
13.	Minnesota, 100	--	19-17-2	1
14.	Princeton, 72	--	19-13-4	1
15.	Penn State, 45	13	18-15-5	1

Also receiving votes: Northeastern, 44; Western Michigan, 24; Clarkson, 22; **Michigan Tech, 7**; Massachusetts, 6; **Northern Michigan, 3**; Harvard, 2; Air Force, 2; Union, 1.

WCHA AGAINST THE REST (FINAL 2017-18)

By Team	vs AHA	vs B10	vs ECAC	vs HEA	vs NCHC	vs. Ind.	Total
Alabama Huntsville	0-0-0	0-2-0	0-2-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	1-1-0	1-5-0
Alaska Anchorage	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-3-1	0-0-0	0-3-1
Alaska	0-1-1	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-2-0	0-0-0	0-3-1
Bemidji State	1-1-0	0-0-0	1-1-0	0-0-0	1-1-2	0-0-0	3-3-2
Bowling Green	0-0-0	2-1-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-3-1	0-0-0	2-4-1
Ferris State	1-1-0	1-3-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	1-1-0	0-0-0	3-5-0
Lake Superior State	0-1-0	0-2-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-1-1	1-0-0	1-4-1
Michigan Tech	0-0-0	1-2-0	1-0-0	1-0-0	1-0-0	1-2-0	5-4-0
Minnesota State	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	2-0-0	2-3-0	0-0-0	4-3-0
Northern Michigan	0-0-0	1-1-0	0-0-0	0-0-1	0-2-0	0-1-0	1-4-1
TOTALS:	2-4-1	5-11-0	2-3-0	3-0-1	5-16-5	3-4-0	20-38-7
	 [.357]	 [.313]	 [.400]	 [.875]	 [.288]	 [.429]	 [.362]

By Site	vs AHA	vs B10	vs ECAC	vs HEA	vs NCHC	vs. Ind	Total
Home	1-2-1	1-1-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	3-5-2	1-1-0	6-9-3
Away	1-1-0	1-8-0	1-3-0	2-0-0	2-10-3	1-1-0	8-23-3
Neutral	0-1-0	3-2-0	1-0-0	1-0-1	0-1-0	1-2-0	6-6-1
TOTALS:	2-4-1	5-11-0	2-3-0	3-0-1	5-16-5	3-4-0	20-38-7
	 [.357]	 [.313]	 [.400]	 [.875]	 [.288]	 [.429]	 [.362]

WCHA HEAD-TO-HEAD (FINAL 2017-18 REGULAR SEASON, LEAGUE GAMES)

	UAH (pts)	UAA (pts)	UAF (pts)	BSU (pts)	BGSU (pts)	FSU (pts)	LSSU (pts)	MTU (pts)	MSU (pts)	NMU (pts)	W-L-T-3/SW (pts)
UAH	----	2-1-1-0 (7/12)	1-1-0-0 (3/6)	1-3-0-0 (3/12)	1-2-1-1 (5/12)	1-1-0-0 (3/6)	1-1-0-0 (3/6)	1-1-0-0 (3/6)	0-4-0-0 (0/12)	2-2-0-0 (6/12)	10-16-2-1 (33)
UAA	1-2-1-1 (5/12)	----	2-2-0-0 (6/12)	0-2-0-0 (0/6)	0-4-0-0 (0/12)	0-2-0-0 (0/6)	1-3-0-0 (3/12)	0-0-2-2 (4/6)	0-4-0-0 (0/12)	0-2-0-0 (0/6)	4-21-3-3 (18)
UAF	1-1-0-0 (3/6)	2-2-0-0 (6/12)	----	1-2-1-0 (4/12)	0-1-1-1 (2/6)	2-2-0-0 (6/12)	1-1-0-0 (3/6)	0-4-0-0 (0/12)	1-1-0-0 (3/6)	1-3-0-0 (3/12)	9-17-2-1 (30)
BSU	3-1-0-0 (9/12)	2-0-0-0 (6/6)	2-1-1-1 (8/12)	----	0-1-1-1 (2/6)	3-0-1-1 (11/12)	2-2-0-0 (6/12)	1-1-0-0 (3/6)	0-3-1-1 (2/12)	0-0-2-0 (2/6)	13-9-6-4 (49)
BGSU	2-1-1-0 (7/12)	4-0-0-0 (12/12)	1-0-1-0 (4/6)	1-0-1-0 (4/6)	----	2-0-0-0 (6/6)	3-0-1-1 (11/12)	2-1-1-1 (8/12)	2-2-0-0 (6/12)	0-2-0-0 (0/6)	17-6-5-2 (58)
FSU	1-1-0-0 (3/6)	2-0-0-0 (6/6)	2-2-0-0 (6/12)	0-3-1-0 (1/12)	0-2-0-0 (0/6)	----	3-1-0-0 (9/12)	3-1-0-0 (9/12)	0-2-0-0 (0/6)	0-4-0-0 (0/6)	11-16-1-0 (34)
LSSU	1-1-0-0 (3/6)	3-1-0-0 (9/12)	1-1-0-0 (3/6)	2-2-0-0 (6/12)	0-3-1-0 (1/6)	1-3-0-0 (3/12)	----	0-2-2-0 (2/12)	0-2-0-0 (0/6)	0-2-0-0 (0/6)	8-17-3-0 (27)
MTU	1-1-0-0 (3/6)	0-0-2-0 (2/6)	4-0-0-0 (12/12)	1-1-0-0 (3/6)	1-2-1-0 (4/12)	1-3-0-0 (3/12)	2-0-2-1 (10/12)	----	0-2-0-0 (0/6)	2-2-0-0 (6/12)	12-11-5-2 (43)
MSU	4-0-0-0 (12/12)	4-0-0-0 (12/12)	1-1-0-0 (3/6)	3-0-1-0 (10/12)	2-2-0-0 (6/12)	2-0-0-0 (6/6)	2-0-0-0 (6/6)	2-0-0-0 (6/6)	----	2-2-0-0 (6/12)	22-5-1-0 (67)
NMU	2-2-0-0 (6/12)	2-0-0-0 (6/6)	3-1-0-0 (9/12)	0-0-2-2 (4/6)	2-0-0-0 (6/6)	4-0-0-0 (12/12)	2-0-0-0 (6/6)	2-2-0-0 (6/12)	2-2-0-0 (6/12)	0-0-0-0 (0/0)	19-7-2-2 (61)





Head Coach: Mike Corbett (6th season)
Record at UAH/Overall: 38-127-16
2017-18 Overall Record: 12-23-2 (10-16-2-1)
2018-19 Overall Record: 0-0-0 (0-0-0-0)

CHARGERS

UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA IN HUNTSVILLE

- UAH embarks on its sixth season as a member of the Western Collegiate Hockey Association this weekend, as the Chargers head to Oxford, Ohio, for a two-game nonconference series against Miami on Saturday and Sunday at the Goggin Ice Center. This weekend's series will be the Chargers first action at Miami since Feb. 10-11 in the 2011-12 campaign.
- The Chargers had their most successful season as members of the WCHA last season when the squad put together a 12-23-2 overall record and a 10-16-2 record within the league, which helped UAH to its first WCHA playoff berth since 2014-15. UAH's offense in 2017-18 was led by departed senior and Huntsville native **Josh Kestner** – who was an All-WCHA honoree – as he boasted 32 points on 24 goals and eight assists.
- Sixth-year head coach **Mike Corbett** has a bevy of new faces on the roster with a total of 10 newcomers including eight freshmen and a pair of graduate transfers in seniors **Jesper Öhrvall** and **Jake Theut**. The Chargers eight freshmen include **Drew Lennon**, **Simon Chen**, **Bauer Neudecker**, **Ben Allen**, **Bailey Newton**, **Dayne Finson**, **Tyr Thompson** and **Jack Jeffers**.
- Senior **Kurt Gosselin** led the Chargers defensemen in his junior season in 2017-18 with 16 points on five goals and a career-high 11 assists while appearing in all 37 of UAH's contests. Entering the season, Gosselin boasts 43 career points from 16 goals and 27 assists.
- **Christian Rajic** enjoyed a strong start to his collegiate career last season as he led all UAH freshmen and rated fourth on the squad with 15 points from nine goals and six assists. Rajic was one of seven WCHA freshmen to record at least nine goals in 2017-18.
- **Mark Sinclair** is the lone returning goalie that saw action in a game last season, with the netminder totaling a 3.67 goals against average and an .876 save percentage over seven appearances in goal. Sinclair registered 25 or more saves in four of his seven appearances.
- UAH has travelled to Miami – the closest Division I hockey program to Huntsville – for six games in the team's history, with the RedHawks taking all six matchups in Oxford. Overall, UAH is 1-8-0 all-time when playing against Miami.
- Despite a wealth of newcomers to the roster for 2018-19, UAH can also rely on a class of six returning seniors for this season as **Madison Dunn**, **Hans Gorowsky**, **Gosselin**, **Cam Knight**, **John Teets** and **Adam Wilcox** enter the year with a combined 527 contests in their first three seasons with the Chargers. Gosselin leads all seniors in career production with 43 points on 16 goals and 27 assists.
- UAH has a total of 16 home games at the Von Braun Center this season with 14 of those contests being WCHA matchups. The Chargers open the home slate on Oct. 19-20 as Arizona State visits for the first time in program history to start a three-series homestand.



Head Coach: Matt Curley (1st season)
Record at UAA/Overall: 0-0-0
2017-18 Overall Record: 4-26-4 (4-21-3-3)
2018-19 Overall Record: 0-0-0 (0-0-0-0)

SEAWOLVES

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA ANCHORAGE

- Alaska Anchorage will open the 2018-19 season at home against former WCHA rival Colorado College this weekend. The Tigers lead the all-time series 56-18-5.
- **Matt Curley** makes his collegiate head coaching debut for Alaska Anchorage. Curley spent the last three seasons coaching the EC Red Bulls in Salzburg, Austria, an under-20 development team that competes against professional squads in the Alps Hockey League. Curley had other coaching stops at Bentley (NCAA), Indiana Ice (USHL) and the US National Development Program (USHL).
- Joining coach **Curley** are a pair of new assistant coaches, **Mark Phalon** and **Matt Bruneteau**. Phalon comes to UAA after a three-year stint at Hobart, and Bruneteau spent the last two seasons at Stevenson.
- Alaska Anchorage opens the season on a two-game winning streak, the second longest in the nation. Defending national champion Minnesota Duluth has the longest at four games.
- UAA welcomes a trio of transfers with Div. I experience to this year's squad. Senior forward **Malcom Hayes** joins the team after playing three seasons at the University of Maine. Junior defenseman **Carmine Buono** played two seasons at UMass, and goalie **Kris Carlson** spent one year at Providence.
- Sophomore **Brody Claeys** leads a trio of players in goal this season for the Seawolves. The St. Rose, Manitoba, native appeared in seven games for the Seawolves in 2017-18 finishing with a .898 save percentage and a 3.34 goals against average. Freshman **Kristian Stead** returns after missing last season due to injury, and **Kris Carlson** comes to UAA after spending one season at Providence.
- Alaska Anchorage will have two weeks off before traveling to Ferris State Oct. 26-27.





Head Coach: Erik Largen (1st season)
Record at UAF/Overall: 1st season
2017-18 Overall Record: 11-22-3 (9-17-2-1)
2018-19 Overall Record: 0-0-0 (0-0-0-0)

NANOOKS

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS

- The Alaska Nanooks kick-off the 2018-19 season under the direction of first-year head coach **Erik Largen**. Largen, a native of Fairbanks and Alaska Nanooks hockey alumni, served as the team's assistant coach for the past two seasons under Dallas Ferguson (2016-17) and Lance West (2017-18).
- Also new to the University of Alaska Fairbanks hockey staff this year is assistant coaches **Karlis Zirnīs** and **Joe Howe**, volunteer assistant coach **Dylan Blankenship**, student volunteer assistant coach **Eric Yancey**, equipment manager **Tom Carroll** and athletic trainer **Dave Boyd**.
- Last week, the WCHA announced the 2018-19 preseason polls, which ranked Alaska eighth in the Mankato Free Press Coaches' Poll, while the UAHockey.com Preseason Media Poll ranked Alaska ninth.
- Two weeks ago, **Largen** named senior defenseman **Nikolas Koberstein** the team captain for the upcoming season, taking the reins from former Nanook **Justin Woods**. Koberstein will be assisted by senior forward **Ryker Leer** and junior forward **Kyle Marino**.
- The Nanooks return 18 players from last year's roster and welcome 10 newcomers to the program. Alaska's 2018-19 team will consist of four seniors, nine juniors, five sophomores and 10 freshmen. Positionally, Alaska is made up of 15 forwards, nine defensemen and four goaltenders.
- Last season, the Alaska Nanooks hockey team completed the 2017-18 season with an overall record of 11-22-3 and had an 9-17-2-1 mark within conference play. The Nooks finished the regular season placing eighth in the league standings, qualifying them for the 2018 WCHA Playoffs.
- The Nanooks return two of their top-three scorers from last season in sophomore forward **Steven Jandric** (4G, 19A – 23 pts.) and junior forward **Colton Leiter** (9G, 11A – 20 pts.). Jandric was an All-WCHA Rookie team selection last season.
- Last weekend, the Alaska Nanooks defeated the Simon Fraser Clan (Burnaby, B.C.) 13-1 in an exhibition matchup at the Carlson Center. Ten Nanooks collected multi-point nights, led by **Koberstein**, who registered one goal and five assists for a six-point night. In net, freshman netminder **Gustavs Grigals** led his teammates with 11 saves in 20 minutes in goal.
- The Alaska Nanooks kick-off the 2018-19 season this weekend on the road with a two-game nonconference series in the desert against the Arizona State University Sun Devils. Alaska and Arizona State have only met on one other occasion, which resulted in a 2-1 loss for the Nanooks on Oct. 15, 2015 at the Kendall Classic in Anchorage, Alaska.
- Only three Nanooks have appeared in a game against the Sun Devils, including seniors **Leer**, **Chad Staley** and **Jack Weiss**. Weiss is the only Alaska player to produce a point against ASU, an assist.
- The Nooks will take the ice against ASU on Saturday, Oct. 6 and Sunday, Oct. 7 at the Oceanside Arena in Tempe, Arizona. Puck-drop on Saturday is scheduled for 6pm AKT, while Sunday's game is slated for 2pm AKT.



Head Coach: Tom Serratore (18th season)
Record at BSU/Overall: 282-270-78
2017-18 Overall Record: 16-14-8 (13-9-6-4)
2018-19 Overall Record: 0-0-0 (0-0-0-0)

BEAVERS

BEMIDJI STATE UNIVERSITY

- Bemidji State capped the 2017-18 season at 16-14-8 overall and 13-9-6-4 in WCHA play to place fourth in the standings (49 pts).
- The fourth-seeded Beavers were swept by the No. 5 seed Michigan Tech in the opening round of the WCHA Playoffs, 5-3 and 5-4, at Sanford Center, March 2-3.
- Head Coach **Tom Serratore** finished his 17th season at BSU with an overall record of 282-270-78 (.510).
- It was the Beavers ninth straight WCHA Playoff Appearance — Third straight winning season — Fourth straight season of at least 16 wins.
- Captains for 2018-19 are: **Dillon Eichstadt** and **Justin Baudry**; Alternate Captains: **Jay Dickman**, **Adam Brady** and **Tommy Muck**.
- The 2018-19 Beavers have 10 new faces on the roster. There are six new forwards, three new defensemen and a new goaltender.
- Letterwinners lost: 9 (6 F / 2 D / 1 G) — Lost 43% of scoring (40% of goals scoring (41) , 45 % of assist scoring (76).
- Dickman's** team-and career-high 15 goals in 2017-18 was the largest goal total of any BSU player since **Jordan George** netted 19 in 2011-12. His 2017-18 performance ranked ninth for goals scored during a junior campaign at BSU.
- Dickman** was tied for eighth in the WCHA with 12 goals scored in league play.
- Charlie Combs'** 13 goals in 2017-18 was the largest goal total for a BSU freshman since **George** netted 13 in 2019-10. He ranked second on the team behind Dickman.
- Baudry's** 19 points (9g-10a) stands as the most by a BSU defender since **Graeme McCormack** logged 22 in 2015-16.
- Brady** and **Gerry Fitzgerald** led the Beavers in 2017-18 with eight multi-point games a piece. Brady's seven multi-helper nights was tops.
- Brady** burst onto the college hockey scene, scoring a goal in the Beavers' opener (Oct. 13) and didn't slow down. He netted 26 points (8g-18a) to rank second on the team in scoring.
- The BSU penalty-kill unit was 115-of-133 in 2017-18. The Beavers finished the season fifth in the nation in PK efficiency at .865. At 87-of-98 (.888), the Beavers led the WCHA.
- BSU's 2017-18 PP percentage of .217 (31/143) was good for tops at BSU since moving to Division I for the 1999-00 season.
- BSU was third in the WCHA on the power play at 23-for-111 (.207).
- Brady** had 14 power-play points (4g-10a) last season to lead all BSU players.
- Combs** led all Beavers with five power-play goals. It was the most by a BSU rookie since **G. Fitzgerald** in 2014-15.
- BSU's 2.71 goals per game in 2017-18 was the program's best scoring average since 2009-10 when it averaged 3.46 goals per game en route to the Frozen Four.



Head Coach: Chris Bergeron (9th season)
Record at BGSU/Overall: 146-143-39
2017-18 Overall Record: 23-12-6 (17-6-5-2)
2018-19 Overall Record: 0-0-0 (0-0-0-0)

FALCONS

BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY

- The Bowling Green State University hockey team will open the 2018-19 season with two away games in a four day period. The Falcons will open their season against Mercyhurst on Saturday, October 6 at 7:00 pm.
- The Falcons will then travel to Kalamazoo to take on Western Michigan on Tuesday, October 9 for a 7:00 pm puck drop.
- This will be just the fifth Bowling Green and Mercyhurst will meet. The all-time series between the Falcons and Lakers is tied at 2-2-0.
- Their most recent matchup saw the Falcons defeat the Lakers 3-0 on February 11, 2016. Mercyhurst visited Bowling Green as part of the Slater Family Ice Arena's 50 Year Anniversary celebration.
- All-time, the Falcons hold a 71-60-8 advantage over Western Michigan. The Falcons most recent win over Western Michigan came on Jan. 18, 2013 in a 3-2 conference victory in the final season of the CCHA.
- The Oct. 9 matchup is the first of a home-and-home series between Bowling Green and Western Michigan, as the Broncos will travel to Bowling Green later this season on Oct. 23.
- Bowling Green was voted to finish second overall in the UAHockey.com WCHA Media preseason poll, and third in the 2018 Mankato Free Press preseason poll.
- Junior Falcon defenseman **Alec Rauhauser** was voted First Team All-WCHA by both the media and the coaches. Rauhauser's contributions to the 2017-18 campaign included leading the squad with 39 points by nine goals and a team-leading 30 assists. The 39 points marked the most by a single Falcon since the 2008-09 season.
- Three more Falcons were voted Second Team All-WCHA by the media. Sophomore forward **Brandon Kruse**, senior defenseman **Chris Pohlkamp** and junior goaltender **Ryan Bednard** all made the cut.
- For the upcoming season, the Falcons will look to return 12 of 16 forwards, all seven defensemen, and all three goaltenders from the 2017-18 campaign that saw the Falcons claim a Great Lakes Invitational Championship.
- Bowling Green garnered 159 points in the media preseason poll, and 76 points in the coaches'. The Falcons also had one vote for the top finish on the year in the media preseason poll.
- With an overall record of 23-12-6 in 2017-18, it marked the Falcons' fourth consecutive 20+ win season and fifth straight winning season. Bowling Green had records 21-18-2 in the 2016-17 campaign, 22-14-6 in the 2015-16 campaign, and a 23-11-5 record in the 2014-15 season. Last year was the 22nd season that the Falcons have tallied a 20-plus win season.
- By competing in the WCHA Championship at the end of the 2016-17 season, it marked Bowling Green's first conference championship appearance since 1988.



Head Coach: Bob Daniels (27th season)
Record at FSU/Overall: 444-466-101
2017-18 Overall Record: 14-23-1 (11-16-1-0)
2018-19 Overall Record: 0-0-0 (0-0-0-0)

BULLDOGS

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

- To open the 2018-19 Regular Season, Ferris State will play 10 of their first 12 games (two exhibition) inside the friendly confines of Ewingleben Ice Arena. Of their two road games, they will not travel farther from home than East Lansing, Michigan to take on the Michigan State Spartans on Nov. 2.
- Ferris State will play six of those 12 games in non-conference action (two vs. Western Michigan, Michigan State, and Mercyhurst). Of the 38-game schedule (two exhibition games included), 20 will be played at Ewingleben Ice Arena with 16 on the road. The 20 home dates represents the most in 10 seasons for the Bulldogs. Prior to the holiday break, Ferris State will play 12 home games (seven road).
- The Broncos and Bulldogs will battle for the 144th and 145th times in program history next weekend. The Broncos hold the all-time edge at 77-52-14, and are 7-1-2 in the last ten meetings, dating back to Dec. 7, 2012. The Western Michigan and Ferris State rivalry spans the history of the programs. This is one of the few series in which Coach **Bob Daniels** has been behind the pine for less than 60 percent of the all-time match ups between Ferris State and any opposing team (83 of 143, 58 percent).
- While bringing in a pair of Scandinavian players, the Bulldogs secured the largest world map footprint in program history. Represented are four countries, and eight states, stretching an end-to-end span of 5,645 air miles. **Oskar Andren** (Daneryd, Sweden) and **Roni Salmenkangas** (Tampere, Finland) represent the European delegation for the Bulldogs. Across North America, Ferris State goes coast-to-coast. **Nate Kallen** hails from San Diego, California, while **Justin Kapelmaster**, from Coral Springs, Florida. Other states represented include Missouri (St. Louis), Illinois (Rockford, Crystal Lake), Ohio (West Chester), and Georgia (Woodstock). Four Bulldogs hail from Pennsylvania, and 12 from Michigan, and three more hail from Canada (all in Ontario). Canadian home towns include Wawa, Windsor, and London, while Pennsylvania home towns include Glenshaw, Venetia and Philadelphia.
- Ferris State's newest group of Bulldog hockey players includes seven members of the class of 2022: WCHA Preseason Rookie of the Year pick **Cooper Zech** comes to Big Rapids having been the top defenseman in the British Columbia Hockey League (BCHL) with the Wenatchee Wild, as he potted 11 goals and 58 assists for 69 points in 58 games. Forward **Hunter Wendt** (NAHL All-First Team, Fairbanks) and defenseman Justin Smith (Topeka, NAHL) are both second generation Bulldogs. Wendt's father, Tim, played in from 1981-85, while Smith's uncle Doug played a pair of seasons under Coach Daniels in his first two seasons (1992-94). Forwards **Jake Transit** (Dubuque, USHL), **Ethan Stewart** (Springfield, NAHL), and **Justin Michaelian** (Victoria, BCHL), round out the forward group. Goaltender **Roni Salmenkangas** (Tampere, Finland) posted a .930 save percentage with a 1.58 goals against average with HPK U-20 in Jr. A SM-IIiga. Salmenkangas is the first born and trained Finnish player in program history.
- The Bulldogs cap their nine-man incoming crew with a pair of non-freshmen. Redshirt junior **Oskar Andren** transferred to Ferris State from Boston University last season and becomes eligible. NAHL leading goal scorer of 2016-17 **Frankie Melton** opens with Ferris State as a sophomore this season after potting 35 goals and being named the South Division MVP with Shreveport in 2016-17.





Head Coach: Damon Whitten (5th season)
Record at LSSU/Overall: 43-90-18
2017-18 Overall Record: 10-22-4 (8-17-3-0)
2018-19 Overall Record: 0-0-0 (0-0-0-0)

LAKERS

LAKE SUPERIOR STATE UNIVERSITY

- The Lake Superior State hockey team will hit the road this weekend to open the season against non-conference Merrimack.
- Last season, LSSU finished 9th in the WCHA after going 10-22-4 overall, with a 8-17-3 record against onference opponents.
- Out of returning players, junior **Max Humitz** led the Lakers in scoring with 13 goals in 36 games. Senior **Anthony Nellis** was next up with 12.
- In total points, **Humitz** is tied with senior **Diego Cuglietta** to lead all returners with 23.
- Senior goaltender **Nick Kossoff** was the leader between the pipes last season, securing a 7-12-2 record along with a .911 SV% and a 2.99 GAA.
- The Lakers introduce a total of eight incoming freshmen this season, consisting of five forwards and three defensemen.



Head Coach: Joe Shawhan (2nd season)
Record at MTU/Overall: 22-17-5
2017-18 Overall Record: 22-17-5 (12-11-5-2)
2018-19 Overall Record: 0-0-0 (0-0-0-0)

HUSKIES

MICHIGAN TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

- Two-time defending WCHA Playoff champion Michigan Tech, ranked No. 18 in the preseason USCHO.com poll, opens the 2018-19 season Oct. 12-13 against preseason No. 1 and defending national champion Minnesota Duluth.
- The Huskies will hit the ice this Saturday, Oct. 6 for its annual intrasquad game at the John MacInnes Student Ice Arena.
- Tech was picked fourth in both WCHA preseason polls, while senior captain **Jake Lucchini** was named to the media's All-WCHA Preseason Second Team.
- **Lucchini** and senior defenseman **Dylan Steman** are the Huskies' co-captains. Senior forward **Jake Jackson** will serve as the alternate captain.
- **Lucchini** returns after leading MTU with 39 points last season (16g-23a). Junior **Gavin Gould** (14-15--29) was third on the squad a year ago, while **Jackson** (13-13--26) was fifth.
- All three of Tech's goaltenders from 2017-18 return: seniors **Patrick Munson** (24 games/21 starts) and **Devin Kero** (16/14), and sophomore **Robbie Beydoun** (11/9).
- The Huskies welcome 11 newcomers, including 10 freshmen and junior goaltender **Matt Jurusik**, who joins the program from the University of Wisconsin via Sioux City (USHL).





Head Coach: Mike Hastings (7th season)
Record at MSU/Overall: 151-72-19
2017-18 Overall Record: 29-10-1 (22-5-1-0)
2018-19 Overall Record: 0-0-0 (0-0-0-0)

MAVERICKS

MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

- Ranked #10 by USCHO.com and *USA Today/USA Hockey Magazine* in 2018-19 preseason polls, Minnesota State starts the season Saturday with an exhibition game vs. Mount Royal (Calgary, Alta.). This is the first meeting between the Mavericks and the Cougars. Minnesota State owns an all-time record of 13-3-0 vs. Canadian schools.
- The Mavericks officially open the season Oct. 12-13 when #8 Boston University visits Mankato for a pair of nonconference contests. Minnesota State picked up two wins (6-3 and 3-0) vs. the Terriers last year in a road trip that took place in Boston Oct. 13-14, 2017.
- This year Minnesota State will potentially face four teams that played in the 2017-18 NCAA postseason tournament in Boston University, Michigan Tech, Minnesota Duluth and Clarkson.
- Minnesota State won the MacNaughton Cup as 2017-18 WCHA regular season champions (third time in the last six years). The Mavericks have made four trips to the NCAA postseason tournament in the last six years.
- Minnesota State lost in overtime in the first round of the 2017-18 NCAA tournament to Minnesota Duluth. The Bulldogs went on to win the national championship.
- Minnesota State has gone 151-72-19 in six seasons under the guidance of head coach **Mike Hastings**. No team in the nation has won more games (151) during that span. Hastings is serving as the head coach of the U.S. national team that will compete at the World Junior Championship in Vancouver/Victoria Dec. 26, 2018 - Jan. 5, 2019.
- Junior forward **Marc Michaelis** (18-22--40) is Minnesota State's top-returning scorer. He is a two-time First Team All-WCHA pick and has tallied 32-44--76 in 75 career games with the Mavericks.
- Sophomore forward **Jake Jaremko**, who is coming off a season in which he was named 2017-18 WCHA Rookie of the Year, ranked second in the country in freshmen scoring and his 39 points on the season rank as the most-ever by a Minnesota State freshman player for the program's NCAA DI-era, surpassing the previous high of 37 points established by **David Backes** in 2003-04.
- With the departure of all three netminders from last year's team that went 29-10-1, the Mavericks have three new goaltenders on the roster in freshmen **Jacob Berger** and **Dryden McKay** and senior **Mathias Israelsson**, who is a graduate transfer from Northern Michigan.
- The 2018-19 season marks the 50th season of men's hockey for Minnesota State. The Mavericks enter the year owning an all-time record of 887-645-153 (.572).



Head Coach: Grant Potulny (2nd season)
Record at NMU/Overall: 25-15-3
2017-18 Overall Record: 25-15-3 (19-7-2-2)
2018-19 Overall Record: 0-0-0 (0-0-0-0)

WILDCATS

NORTHERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

- NMU completed last season with a 25-15-3 overall record, amassing 25 wins for the first time since the 2001-02 season. Additionally, NMU entered the national rankings for the first time since the 2014-15, reaching as high as No. 16 in the USCHO.com Poll.
- Despite being picked to finish seventh in both preseason polls, the Wildcats finished the year with a 19-7-2-2 mark in Western Collegiate Hockey Association action to earn the second seed in the WCHA Playoffs. After a pair of postseason series wins that went three games, NMU advanced to the conference championship game for the first time since 2010.
- The Wildcats were chosen to finish second in the WCHA Preseason Coaches' Poll and third in the UAHockey.com Preseason Media Poll.
- A trio of Wildcats were named captains for the 2018-19 season. Senior forward **Denver Pierce** (Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan) will be the captains for this year's campaign. Senior forward **Adam Rockwood** (Coquitlam, British Columbia) and junior defenseman **Philip Beaulieu** (Duluth, Minnesota) were named alternate captains.
- NMU will return five all-conference honorees, league goaltender of the year, and an All-American. The Wildcats will also return their top-four point scorers from last season and nearly 75-percent of their goal scoring production.
- Rockwood** led the Wildcats with 48 points a season ago, while his 40 assists were the most in the NCAA Division I. Not far behind, senior forward **Troy Loggins** (Huntington Beach, California) recorded 47 points and is the top returning goal scorer after netting 23 goals last season. **Beaulieu** and junior forward **Darien Craighead** (Surrey, British Columbia) round out last season's top-four point scorers after they earned 42 and 34, respectively.
- A total of 15 All-Americans, the most ever, return to college hockey for the 2018-19 season. The Wildcats are lucky enough to have one of those 15 skaters in **Beaulieu**. He was named Second-Team All-American after leading NCAA Division I defensemen in points with 42 and assists with 31. Beaulieu was named a WCHA Defensive Player of the Week on three occasions in 2017-18 and was named Second-Team All-WCHA after the regular season.
- Already firmly cemented in the Wildcat record book, senior goaltender **Atte Tolvanen** (Vihti, Finland) returns for his final season in a Wildcat jersey. He is in the top-10 of each career goaltender category in the NMU record book. Last season, he was named First-Team All-WCHA at the end of the season after recording a 23-10-1 record which were the fourth-most wins in the NCAA. As a sophomore, Tolvanen set an NCAA record for consecutive shutout victories with five spanning from January 21 through February 11 of 2017.
- Grant Potulny** enters his second season at the helm of the Wildcats after leading a program turnaround in 2017-18. In his first season, the Wildcats advanced to the WCHA Championship game and finished the year with a 25-15-3 overall record. Prior to NMU, Potulny was an eight-year assistant at his alma mater, the University of Minnesota.
- NMU's series vs. Michigan State will mark the first time the two teams have met since 2015, when NMU earned a 2-1 overtime victory at the Great Lakes Invitation. The Spartans lead the all-time series with a 30-35-4 record, but the Wildcats have had the upper hand in recent memory with a 12-6-2 mark in the last 20 meetings.

