

U.S. National Team Development Program

NTDP WEEKLY NOTES | OCTOBER 6-12, 2014



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DATE	GAME	LOCATION	TIME*	BROADCAST INFO
Mon., Oct. 6	U18 at University of Michigan	Ann Arbor, Mich.	7:35 p.m.	BTN2Go.com
Fri., Oct. 10	U18 vs. Youngstown	Ann Arbor, Mich.	7:00 p.m.	FASTHockey.com
Sat., Oct. 11	U17 at Minnesota Elite League	Crystal, Minn.	12:30 p.m.	N/A
Sun., Oct. 12	U17 at Minnesota Elite League	Crystal, Minn.	1:00 p.m.	N/A

* All times are ET

U18 at UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

GAME INFO: The U.S. National Under-18 Team plays its second game of the season against NCAA DI competition Monday when it makes the short trip to Yost Ice Arena to play No. 7-ranked Michigan at 7:35 p.m. ET.



ALL-TIME RECORD: Michigan leads, 12-2-0

LAST MEETING: The NTDP knocked off the Wolverines at Yost, 5-4 in overtime, on Jan. 4, 2013. **Alex Tuch** scored the game-winner, while **Jack Eichel**, **Dylan Pavelek**, **Shane Gersich**, and **Ryan Hitchcock** also scored goals.

TEAM USA PLAYERS TO WATCH: G **Luke Opilka** is 5-0-0 this season with a 1.20 GAA and .950 SV%, including 25 saves in a 3-0 win against Miami University Saturday ... F **Auston Matthews** is on a six-game point streak (3-8=11 during that stretch) ... F **Matthew Tkachuk** has points in six straight games and goals in six of eight contests this season ... F **Jeremy Bracco** leads the team with 14 points on four goals and 10 assists ... F **Brendan Warren**, a University of Michigan recruit, is tied for second on the team with five goals.

QUICK FACTS: The Under-18 Team has won two straight games against the Wolverines ... Team USA beat No. 9 Miami University, 3-0, on Saturday (Oct. 4) in Oxford, Ohio. The game was the U18's first against an NCAA Division I opponent this year ... Two members of the Under-18 Team are verbally committed to Michigan - D **Nicholas Boka** and F **Brendan Warren** ... Six current Wolverines played at the NTDP - **Evan Allen** (2011-13), **J.T. Compher** (2011-13), **Andrew Copp** (2010-12), **Dylan Larkin** (2012-14), **Tyler Motte** (2011-13), and **Zach Werenski** (2013-14).

U18 vs. YOUNGSTOWN PHANTOMS

GAME INFO: The U18s return to USHL action against Youngstown Friday at 7 p.m. ET. The game is at the Ann Arbor Ice Cube and can be watched live on FASTHockey.com

ALL-TIME RECORD: Team USA leads, 24-14-3

2014-15 SERIES: The Under-18 Team has played Youngstown twice this season, winning 6-3 on Sept. 17, and 4-2 on Sept. 27. The U17s fell to the Phantoms, 5-2, last Friday (Oct. 3).

TEAM USA PLAYERS TO WATCH: F **Matthew Tkachuk** has three goals in two games against Youngstown this season ... G **Luke Opilka** has played both games against the Phantoms this year and has posted a 2-0-0 record with a .909 SV% ... D **Caleb Jones** has three of his five assists this season in the two outings against Youngstown.

QUICK FACTS: This is the third of six meetings between the U18 Team and Youngstown this year ... The two teams won't meet again until Dec. 5 in Youngstown ... U.S. D **Steven Ruggiero** played for the Phantoms in 2013-14 ... Youngstown F **Kyle Connor** helped the 2014 U.S. Men's National Under-18 Team win the gold medal at the IIHF U18 World Championship last April in Finland.



U17 at MINNESOTA ELITE LEAGUE

GAME INFO: The Under-17 Team travels to Minnesota to play a pair of games against the Minnesota Elite League. The game Saturday is at 12:30 p.m. ET, while the Sunday contest begins at 1:00 p.m. ET. Both games will be played at New Hope Arena.

ALL-TIME RECORD: Team USA leads, 2-0-0

2013-14 SERIES: The Under-17 Team swept a two-game series against the Elite League last season, winning 7-5 and 6-3.

TEAM USA PLAYERS TO WATCH: F **Joey Anderson**, D **Matthew Hellickson**, D **Ryan Lindgren** and G **Jake Oettinger** are all Minnesota natives and will be making their first appearance in the state as members of Team USA ... G **Joseph Woll** leads the U.S. with a .908 SV% this year ... F **Clayton Keller** leads the U17s with three points (2-1) in four outings.

QUICK FACTS: Three members of the U.S. National Under-17 Team played in the H.S. Elite League last season - F **Joey Anderson** (Team Northeast), F **Clayton Keller** (Shattuck-St. Mary's) and D **Ryan Lindgren** (Shattuck-St. Mary's) ... F **Paul Washe** (Troy, Mich.) and D **Matthew Kiersted** (Elk River, Minn.) will suit up for the Under-17 Team this weekend.



NTDP NEWS AND NOTES

FIFTEEN PLAY IN ALL-AMERICAN PROSPECTS GAME

The NTDP had 15 current players in the CCM/USA Hockey All-American Prospects Game Sept. 25 Buffalo, N.Y. The list included goaltenders **Michael Lackey** and **Luke Opilka**; defensemen **Nicholas Boka**, **Christian Evers**, **Casey Fitzgerald**, **Grant Gabriele**, **Caleb Jones** and **Steven Ruggiero**; and forwards **Jeremy Bracco**, **Christian Fischer**, **Jordan Greenway**, **Jack Roslovic**, **Troy Terry**, **Brendan Warren** and **Colin White**. In addition to the current NTDP players, four prospects also skated in the AAPG: D **Noah Hanifin** (Boston College), D **Zach Werenski** (University of Michigan), F **Jack Eichel** (Boston University) and F **Dennis Yan**. Bracco (2-0), Eichel (1-1), and Greenway (0-2) all registered two points while playing on a line together for a majority of the contest, and Lackey (15 saves/16 shots) and Opilka (22 saves/23 shots) started for their respective teams and played 29:48 each. Warren (1-0), Gabriele (0-1), and White (0-1) all had one point. Under-18 Team F **Mike Floodstand** was invited to play in the game, but was unable to participate. Eichel (2011-13) was named Player of the Game. U18 Team coaches **Don Granato** and **Nick Fohr** served as assistant coaches at the event.

TWENTY-ONE ON NHL CENTRAL SCOUTING'S WATCH LIST

Twenty-one players with ties to the NTDP were included on NHL Center Scouting's Preliminary 2015 Players to Watch list, released earlier this week. The current NTDPers on the list are goaltenders **Michael Lackey** and **Luke Opilka**; defensemen **Nicholas Boka**, **Christian Evers**, **Casey Fitzgerald**, **Grant Gabriele**, **Caleb Jones** and **Steven Ruggiero**; and forwards **Jeremy Bracco**, **Christian Fischer**, **Jordan Greenway**, **Jack Roslovic**, **Troy Terry**, **Brendan Warren** and **Colin White**. Six alumni of the National Team Development Program - G **Ed Minney** (Michigan State University); D **Noah Hanifin** (Boston College), D **Zach Werenski** (University of Michigan), F **Jack Eichel** (Boston University), F **Ryan Hitchcock** (Yale University) and F **Dennis Yan** - were also included on the list. Greenway, White, Eichel, Hanifin, and Werenski were each "A" rated prospects, meaning they are projected to be first-round picks in the 2015 NHL Entry Draft.

SUTHERS COMMITS TO WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Under-17 Team F **Keenan Suthers** recently made a verbal commitment to play his college hockey at Western Michigan University of the National Collegiate Hockey Conference. There are now 15 members of the U17 Team committed to play NCAA Division I college hockey.

USA TO HOST 2014 U17 FOUR NATIONS TOURNAMENT

USA Hockey and the National Team Development Program will host the 2014 Four Nations Tournament Dec. 16-20 at the Ann Arbor Ice Cube. The Under-17 Team will play games against Russia, Switzerland and Slovakia in preliminary-round action before the tournament championship and third-place games on Saturday, Dec. 20. Team USA has won the championship five years in a row. For ticket information, call (734) 327-9251, ext. 317.

NTDP OFFICIAL WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

USANTDP.com: The official website of USA Hockey's National Team Development Program provides access to complete team information, including news, rosters, schedules/results, statistics, NTDP history and a PDF media guide, along with other information.

SOCIAL MEDIA: Follow the NTDP on Twitter (@USANTDP) and like on Facebook (USA Hockey NTDP) for the latest news and notes related to the National Team Development Program. Also follow on Instagram (USANTDP) for behind-the-scenes photos and videos.

