



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**Great Falls Americans Press Release**

**Contact: Kevin Scott, GF Americans Public Relations Coordinator**

**Phone: (406) 403-8146**

**Orwig and Lang score hat tricks in 7-1 win over the Butte Irish**

**By Kevin Scott**

<a href="#">Box Score</a>	<a href="#">Score Sheet</a>	<a href="#">League Scoreboard</a>	<a href="#">Americans Team Statistics</a>
---------------------------	-----------------------------	-----------------------------------	---



GREAT FALLS, Mont., November 23, 2024 — The North American 3 Hockey League (NA3HL) is already in their third month of the 2024-25 junior hockey season.

The Great Falls Americans (14-6-1-0), ranked third currently behind the Helena Bighorns (18-2-0-0) and the Sheridan (WY) Hawks (15-5-2-0), have played tonight's opponent, the #6 Butte Irish (9-11-1-0) just twice so far in a home-and-away series with each squad taking a win.

During the home game with the Irish on October 25<sup>th</sup>, the Americans pulled away with a 4-2 decision. Ty O'Bey scored two goals in the third frame as Great Falls trailed 2-0 early in the game before scoring four straight goals. Kaden Rhyder had 24 saves for his ninth win. Dylon Harildstad and Loghan Weber chipped in goals for Butte. Butte's Manny Pantow added 45 saves in the loss ([game story](#)).

The following evening on October 26<sup>th</sup>, both teams met at the Butte Community Ice Center, where the Irish scored twice in the first and third periods to down the Americans, 5-4 to end the Americans five game win streak. Loghan Weber (Butte) and Ty O'Bey (Great Falls) registered two goals apiece for their respective teams. Manny Pantow gathered his first win against Great Falls by stopping 44 of the 48 shots sent his way. Kaden Rhyder had 41 in the loss ([game story](#)).

Since their late October encounter, the Irish have gone 3-3-1-0 while Great Falls is 3-1-1-0.

Great Falls Americans forwards Zac Orwig and John Lang each recorded hat tricks to help the #3 Great Falls Americans power past the #6 Butte Irish, 7-1 during Saturday's NA3HL junior hockey action at the Great Falls Ice Plex.

The Americans took advantage of the Irish penalty five minutes into the first period as Zac Orwig scored his 12<sup>th</sup> goal with an assist from Ty O'Bey, who collected his fifteenth and from Fisher Hannesson, who made his eighth assist. The Irish needed eight minutes after Orwig's scoring drive to get a goal of their own. Kazden Stineff evened the score with assistance from Weston Villers and Easton Langemo. Villers score came with the Americans in the sin bin with 1:40 left in the period. The Americans responded quickly (23 seconds later) as John Lang tossed in his seventh score with assistance from Ty O'Bey and Keegan Hanson to give the Americans back the lead (2-1) before intermission.

Great Falls raced out to a 3-1 lead 63 seconds into the second stanza. Zac Orwig slapshot lit up the lamp for the second time tonight. Jurzy Allard and Garren Narvaez accumulated the assists. John Lang capitalized on the Irish miscue and scored his second lamplighter off the stick of Cal Laggis and Ty O'Bey for the Americans fourth goal. Zac Orwig answered for the third time (hat trick) 97 seconds after Lang's score. John Lang's tenth assist with the Americans increased the advantage for the host team, 5-1. Garren Narvaez, the team assist leader, created his 23<sup>rd</sup> assist. While Butte was down a man (penalty), Great Falls' John Lang also scored his third goal of the game off a dish by Ty O'Bey and Fisher Hannesson for a five-goal lead (6-1). Gavin Denis also put in a goal during the Americans five-goal outburst. His third goal came with a helper from Jace Troyer and Fisher Hannesson. Great Falls' offense attempted 37 shots while holding Butte to 14 after two periods of play.

Despite many attempts, neither team was able to put any scoring drives together in the third period.

John Lang led the team with three goals and one assist, Zac Orwig also finished with three goals, while Ty O'Bey and Fisher Hannesson registered four assists and three assists, respectively for the Americans. Kazden Stineff scored the lone goal for Butte with assists from Weston Villers and Easton Langemo.

Great Falls took half of their shots in the second period (22) to end with 40. Butte had nine of their 21 in second stanza.

Great Falls scored two of their seven goals while the Irish were in the sin bin (2-for-7 on the power play) and Butte scored once on the power play (1-for-6). Both teams combined for 13 minor infractions.

Patrick Forsythe (2-0-1-0), one of five Canadians suiting up for the Americans, added his second win of the season to his resume. Forsythe had 20 saves while allowing one first period goal. The Irish utilized two goaltenders to try to slow down the Americans. Tim Nanson (5-5-1-0) got the start and stopped 13 shots in 28 minutes. Logan Hunter replaced Nanson in the second stanza swatted away 20 shots.

#### **FRONTIER DIVISION UPDATE:**

Austin Uecker scored the first of his two goals in the first period to lead the #1 Helena Bighorns win their 17<sup>th</sup> game (17-2-0-0) by posting a 5-2 decision over the #5 Bozeman Ice Dogs (10-8-1-1) on Saturday night in Bozeman, Montana. In addition to Uecker's two goals, the Bighorns received scores from Kade Pareja, Finn Theriault, and Jason Hammett. Reid Wilkinson and Lex Steckelberg scored for the Ice Dogs. Tyler Miller is now 6-2-0-0 on the season with both blemishes coming from Great Falls. Miller had 26 saves for one of the top teams in the NA3HL. San Jose, California netminder Brett DeVincent was busy in the net deflecting 41 shots for his fourth loss (6-4-0-0) ([Box Score](#)).

Sheridan standouts Josh Serino (3 goals) and Logan Hume (2 goals) combined for five goals as the #2 Sheridan (WY) Hawks (15-5-2-0) picked up the weekend sweep against in-state rival, #7 Gillette (WY) Wild (9-12-1-0) with an 8-4 win in Gillette, Wyoming. On Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, the Hawks won 8-3 in Sheridan, Wyoming. Riley Schmidt scored two goals and teammate Chase Borene had one for the Wild. Sheridan's John Simon outdueled his counterpart, Tate Cothern from Gillette, in the goal. Simon is 8-3-0-0 on the season by swatting away 33 shots. Tate Cothern accrued 29 saves in his fifth regulation loss (4-5-0-0) in ten appearances ([Box Score](#)).

When the #5 Badlands (SD) Sabres (10-9-2-1) and the #8 Yellowstone (WY) Quake (0-21-1-0) played on Friday night, the game went into overtime with the Sabres winning 3-2. On Saturday, the Sabres held a 5-3 lead after the first period before the visiting Sabres scored nine unanswered goals over the final two periods for a 14-3 romp over the Quake. Cole Schneider led the way with three goals for the South Dakota NA3HL team while three teammates, Zach Vockler, Kyran Jahner and Thayne Coston each scored twice. The three first period goals for Yellowstone were scored by Logan Nichols, Jordan Murray and Max Goulden. Hunter Oger (Badlands) went 2-0 this weekend by improving his record to 4-2-1-0 by stopping all 25 shots in 45 minutes in the goal. Jackson Roethler started for the Sabres allowing three goals and picking up four saves. Hayden Laforet (0-2-1-0) took the loss with 29 saves and Matthew Neeser ended the game with 26 saves ([Box Score](#)).

**NOTES:** The Americans celebrated “Military Appreciation Weekend” this weekend by honoring those who served are currently serving in the military. Tickets were sold for all current and retired military for \$5.00 each night and there were discounts on beer and (25%-30% off) merchandise as well. The Malmstrom Air Force Base Color Guard presented the colors on both nights.

On Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup>, the Americans players continued their community involvement by helping the Great Falls Optimist Club with their annual Christmas Tree sale at Montana ExpoPark. The team members helped unload and set up the tree displays.

Read about all the Americans hockey action in print through the Great Falls Gazette, a newspaper that is published on Sunday, Tuesday, and Friday each week with game recaps written by Kevin Scott, the Great Falls Americans Public Relations/Media Coordinator. [Click here](#) for more information on how to subscribe.

**UPCOMING EVENTS: Sunday, December 1:** The Great Falls Americans will have their Christmas Party hosted by the Americans Booster Club.

Season Two of the “**Americans Podcast with Jim Quick**” premiered on September 5, 2024, with his first guest of the season, Cole Molaski, a forward from Suamico, Wisconsin, who is in his first season with Great Falls. Other players featured this season include Ty O’Bey, Easton and Aiden Kennedy, Sebe Perez, Mercer Twomey, Zac Orwig, Cal Laggis and Blayne Juszczak. [Click here](#) to learn more about Blayne Juszczak on the official podcast of the Great Falls Americans. Each podcast will feature one American player as we get to know the team this season. Jim completed 13 episodes during his first season. Fans can listen to the full podcasts from Seasons One and Two by [clicking here](#).

**560AM KMON Weekly Radio Interview with Coach Greg Sears:** Join KMON Radio Sports Director “Baker Bob” McNamee every Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday mornings during the 2024-25 season with Great Falls Americans Head Coach and General Manager, Greg Sears as he talks about the Americans. The Weekly Radio interview on 560AM KMON in Great Falls can be heard locally every Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday mornings during the Hourly Sports Report (6:15AM (MST), 7:15AM (MST), and 8:15AM (MST) live. [Click here](#) to listen to the current and previous radio interviews.

**AMERICANS PHOTOGRAPHER:** Look for game photos from all of the home games from Michael Noel, the Americans Official Photographer by [clicking here](#).

**AMERICANS E-NEWSLETTERS:** The Americans have two email newsletters for fans to receive in their inbox this season. Kevin Scott, the Americans Media Coordinator, has an **Americans E-Newsletter** that you can get on Sunday’s during the regular season filled with game summaries, press releases, links, schedule, etc. [Click here](#) to subscribe (if you haven’t already).

Americans Owner Matt Leaf creates and sends out a weekly email called “**Baldy’s Puck Drop**” that features team news, player profile, sponsor information and lots of other tidbits relating to Americans hockey that is published on Thursday mornings. [Click here](#) to receive the weekly newsletter (if you haven’t already).



**NA3HL MOBILE APP:** If you haven’t already, download the NA3HL App available at the App Store and Google Play. Fans can set your favorite team to the Great Falls Americans today and stay up to date with the NA3HL. [Click here](#) to download from the App Store (Apple) or [click here](#) to download from the Google Play Store (Android).

**2024-25 PHOTOS:** Check out all the Americans photos throughout the season including some taken by Americans photographer, Michael Noel and Gentle Thug Media's Tim Ljunggren. [Click here](#) to view all the photos from the 2024-25 season.



**AMERICANS TEAM STORE:** [Click here](#) to view the Americans online team store that features a variety of different souvenirs to purchase. A store is available at all home games. **AMERICANS GAME TICKETS ONLINE:** Fans can also buy game day tickets on the website prior to the game by [clicking here](#).

Please check out the Americans website at [www.greatfallsamericans.com](http://www.greatfallsamericans.com) for all your updated news, game summaries, rosters, photo galleries, etc.

**NEXT CONTEST:** Great Falls will host the #2 Sheridan (WY) Hawks on Friday and Saturday, November 29-30 at the Great Falls Ice Plex. Both contests will start at 7:05PM (MST) and can be seen live on [NAHLTV](#). The Americans will be on the road after their November dates until Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup> when the Butte Irish make a return trip to Great Falls for a 6:05PM (MST) showdown.

**NOTE:** The NA3HL's official streaming service will have a FREE PREVIEW from November 27-30 for all hockey fans that are not current subscribers. [Click here](#) to see the details.

[P. Gibson's Sports Grill and Casino](#) (1600 Fox Farm Road) is the place to be after Friday and Saturday night home games where the Americans invite their fans and supporters to their post-game dinner.

[Buffalo Wild Wings](#), located at 17 Northwest Bypass in Great Falls, hosts the "Americans Watch Party" this season when the Americans are on the road. Fans are invited to get food and drinks and watch the game.

[NAHLTV](#) is the NA3HL's new streaming platform and is the place to catch all the action for fans that are unable to attend the home and away games this season. [Click here](#) to learn more about how to view any of the Americans home and away contests.

[Click here](#) for the 2024-25 Great Falls Americans schedule and results.

#### CONTACT:

Greg Sears  
Great Falls Americans Head Coach/General Manager  
Cell Phone: 715-566-2811  
Email: [gsears@gfamericans.com](mailto:gsears@gfamericans.com)

Visit our website: <http://www.greatfallsamericans.com>  
Join Us on Facebook:  
<https://www.facebook.com/greatfalls.americanshockey>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/@gfamericans>  
North American 3 Hockey League: <http://www.na3hl.com/>

