



U.S. NATIONAL TEAM DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

NTDP WEEKLY NOTES | NOVEMBER 17-23, 2014

MEDIA CONTACTS: JAKE WESOLEK (JakeW@usahockey.org) & ZACK FRIEDLI (ZackF@usahockey.org) | OFFICIAL WEBSITE: USANTDP.com | SOCIAL MEDIA: @USANTDP (TWITTER/INSTAGRAM) | USA HOCKEY'S NTDP (FACEBOOK)

DATE	GAME	LOCATION	TIME*	BROADCAST INFO
Fri., Nov. 21	U17 vs. Cedar Rapids	Ann Arbor, Mich.	7:00 p.m.	FASTHockey.com
	U18 at University of Minnesota	Minneapolis, Minn.	8:00 p.m.	N/A
Sat., Nov. 22	U17 vs. Cedar Rapids	Ann Arbor, Mich.	7:00 p.m.	FASTHockey.com
	U18 at Augsburg College	Minneapolis, Minn.	8:30 p.m.	Athletics.Augsburg.edu

* All times are ET

U17 vs. CEDAR RAPIDS ROUGHRIDERS

GAME INFO: The U.S. National Under-17 Team returns from hiatus with a two-game United States Hockey League series against Cedar Rapids. Both games are scheduled for 7 p.m. ET at the Ann Arbor Ice Cube and can be viewed live on FASTHockey.com



ALL-TIME RECORD: Cedar Rapids leads, 14-9-3

2014-15 SERIES: The U.S. National Under-18 Team scored 10 goals in a 10-5 win over the RoughRiders at the USHL Fall Classic East in Green Bay, Wis., on Sept. 16.

TEAM USA PLAYERS TO WATCH: F Clayton Keller leads the U17s with six points (2-4) in six USHL outings ... Keller is tied for the team lead in goals during league play with F Joey Anderson, F William Lockwood and F Nick Pastujov ... D Chad Kryz has a team-best three helpers during USHL competition ... G Jake Oettinger and G Joseph Wolf have a .947 and .915 save percentage in their last four games, respectively.

QUICK FACTS: The U17s and Cedar Rapids will play four times this winter, as the younger NTDP group travels to Iowa for a two-game weekend against the RoughRiders in January ... The U18s don't play Cedar Rapids again in 2014-15.

U18 at UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

GAME INFO: The U18s travel to Minneapolis to play the No. 4-ranked University of Minnesota Golden Gophers Friday (Nov. 21). The puck drops at 7 p.m. CT and there are no video or audio streaming options available for the contest.



ALL-TIME RECORD: Minnesota leads, 4-0-1

MOST RECENT MEETING: The U.S. National Under-18 Team skated to a 2-2 tie with the Gophers on Oct. 26, 2012, in Minneapolis.

TEAM USA PLAYERS TO WATCH: F Jeremy Bracco has a team-best 10 points (3-7) against NCAA teams this season ... F Auston Matthews paces all U.S. skaters with four goals against college foes in 2014-15 ... F Matthew Tkachuk has seven points (2-5) in six games against NCAA squads ... Two of D Casey Fitzgerald's three goals this winter have come against college teams.

QUICK FACTS: The NTDP has produced 26 players who have gone on to play for the University of Minnesota. Just two programs - Michigan (36) and Notre Dame (32) - have had more National Team Development Program alumni ... Five current Gophers played their pre-collegiate puck in Ann Arbor, including Travis Boyd (2009-11), Ryan Collins (2012-14), Hudson Fasching (2011-13), Jack Glover (2012-14) and Brady Skjei (2010-12) ... Just one current member of the National Team Development Program is committed to Minnesota - D Ryan Lindgren of the Under-17 squad.

U18 at AUGSBURG COLLEGE

GAME INFO: The U.S. National Under-18 Team wraps up a two-game swing to Minnesota with a Saturday showdown against NCAA Division III Augsburg College. Puck-drop is slated for 7:30 p.m. CT and the game can be viewed live on the official athletics website of the school, Athletics.Augsburg.edu.



ALL-TIME RECORD: First-ever meeting.

TEAM USA PLAYERS TO WATCH: F Jack Roslovic is currently riding a five-game point streak, on which he's tallied four goals and seven assists ... G Michael Lackey has won each of his last four games ... D Christian Evers has found the score sheet in three consecutive contests ... G Luke Opilka is 3-0-0 in his last three outings.

QUICK FACTS: This is the second of five games the U.S. National Under-18 Team will play against NCAA Division III opponents. The U18s will play two DIII squads next weekend in Ann Arbor, with Neumann University visiting the Ann Arbor Ice Cube Saturday (Nov. 29) before the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point takes the ice against the elder NTDP team Sunday (Nov. 30). The U.S. closes its NCAA Division III schedule with an outdoor game against Adrian College on Dec. 31 at Fifth Third Field in Toledo, Ohio. Team USA fell to Oswego State, 5-3, on Oct. 25, in the team's first DIII match up of the year.

NTDP NEWS AND NOTES

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.

U17S EARN SECOND PLACE AT WORLD U17 CHALLENGE

The U.S. National Under-17 Team took home second-place honors at the World Under-17 Challenge from Nov. 2-8 in Sarnia and Lambton Shores, Ont. Team USA compiled a 5-0-0-0 record before falling to Russia, 2-1, in the championship game. The second-place finish marked the ninth consecutive finish in the top-three at the event by the United States. Team USA has won four titles in the tournament, including 2001, 2002, 2010 and 2014 (Jan.). F Max Jones, F Clayton Keller and D Chad Kryz were named to the All-Tournament Team.

U18S WIN FOUR NATIONS TOURNAMENT IN SWEDEN

The U.S. National Under-18 Team was in Sweden last week competing with Finland, Switzerland and Sweden for the U18 Four Nations Tournament title. Team USA stormed past Finland (8-1) and Switzerland (7-1) before knocking off the Swedes, 6-4, in the championship game. The three wins and a 4-3 triumph over Sweden in a pre-tournament contest ups the 1997 NTDP group's overall international record to 19-0-0. The group won all three of its international events last season.

BRACCO CLOSING IN ON NTDP ALL-TIME ASSIST RECORD

U18 Team F Jeremy Bracco is one assist away from tying the all-time NTDP career assist record, which is 88 and currently shared by J.D. Forrest (1997-2000) - an assistant coach with the Under-18 Team - and Patrick Kane (2004-06). Last season, Bracco notched the single-season assist record with 58.

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.

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.

