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**Great Falls Americans Press Release**

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**Top Prospects Tournament: Three-goal second period lifts Team Krampade by Team Bauer, 5-3**

By Kevin Scott

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<b>Team K1 vs. Team Apex</b>			
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ST. PETERS, MO., April 18, 2021 — This year, in conjunction with the 2021 NA3HL Fraser Cup (National) Tournament, the 2021 North American Tier 3 Hockey League’s Top Prospect Tournament (TPT) took place in the same venue as the Fraser Cup Tournament. St. Peters, Missouri’s [St. Peters Rec Plex](#) played host to both tournaments this year. (Due to COVID-19 cancellations from the regular season, the Top Prospects was moved from February to April).

This year, the teams were not comprised of the five divisions that make up the NA3HL like in years past rather they had four teams with the following names with mixed rosters: Team Krampade, Team K1, Team Apex, and Team Bauer. Each of the TPT teams (88 players and eight coaches total) will each play two games over two days with each squad having 22 players (13 forwards, 7 defensemen, and 2 goaltenders) along with a head coach and an assistant coach. Respective head coaches nominated any players that were considered for the prestigious event. The two-day Top Prospects Tournament took place on April 18-19<sup>th</sup>. [Click here](#) for the full two-day tournament schedule and results.

The [2021 NA3HL Top Prospects Tournament](#) provided an opportunity for the NA3HL to showcase their best hockey players in front of coaches and scouts from the North American Hockey League (NAHL), the American Collegiate Hockey Association (ACHA) and the NCAA college levels.

The Frontier Division will have a total 22 players spread throughout the four teams competing in the ‘all-star like’ event including five from the Great Falls Americans, four from the Gillette (WY) Wild (Carson Kuche, Tristan Baker, Brock Trbojevich, Declan Young), three each from the Missoula Junior Bruins (Kieran Christianson, Jacob Saenger, Mi-Kwan Tallman), Helena Bighorns (Harlan Wojtusik, Andrew Deskin, Anthony Adleman), and the Bozeman Ice Dogs (Kadyn Fennell, Tanner Klockzo, Blake Nerney), two each from the Butte Cobras (Nick Bradshaw and Luke Schlensner) and the Yellowstone Quake (Dylan Rumpke and Austin Lawless).

The Great Falls Americans, second in the Frontier Division this season behind the Sheridan (WY) Hawks, finished with a 30-13-3-0 record this season, sent goaltender [Trevor Mellen](#), forwards [Henry Chavez](#) and [Alex Jackson](#) and defensemen, [Tommy Janes](#) and [Tyler Lorrington](#) to Missouri. Janes and Jackson

were on Team Krampade coached by Peoria Mustangs head coach Steve Ortman, Lorrington and Chavez were teammates on Team Apex coached by Willmar WarHawks head mentor Kirk Olimb and Trever Mellen was on Americans head coach Greg Sears' squad on Team Bauer.

The #1 Frontier Division team, the Sheridan (WY) Hawks, were one of six teams (Northeast Generals, Texas Brahmas, Rochester Grizzlies, North Iowa Bulls, and Oklahoma City Blazers) not having any players represented on any of the four Top Prospect squads due to them playing in the Fraser Cup (National) Tournament this week.

The NA3HL's Frontier Division was represented by two coaches including Great Falls Americans head coach Greg Sears, who was the head coach of Team Bauer and former Great Falls Americans Assistant Coach and current head coach of the Gillette (WY) Wild, Ethan Hayes was assisting El Paso Rhinos Head Coach Vinny Bohn on Team K1. To view the full list of coaches and the schedule, please [click here](#).

Tony Andrews (St. Louis Jr. Blues), Josh Hrip (Louisiana Drillers) and Nikolai Rajala (Alexandria Blizzard) each scored and dished out one assist while Peoria Mustangs' goaltender Andrew Doran stopped 22 shots to lead NA3HL's Team Krampade past Team Bauer, 5-3 during the first day of the 2021 Top Prospects Tournament in St. Peters, Missouri on Saturday night.

Both squads accumulated one goal to open the first period. A pair of teammates from the New Jersey Titans helped give Team Bauer the early lead. Philippe Doucette's pass to Bret Bell 9:34 into the contest was successful. Team Krampade's deficit lasted 76 seconds when their offense took over and evened up the contest, 1-1 thanks to a goal by El Paso Rhinos defenseman Cooper Anderson, who lit up the lamp. Nikolai Rajala (Alexandria Blizzard) and Josh Hrip (Louisiana Drillers) earned the assists. Just 14 total shots were administered during the first twenty minutes.

The second stanza saw Team Krampade's offense take over and score three unanswered goals to give them a 4-1 advantage after two periods. Zach Maillette (New Ulm Steel), Nikolai Rajala (Alexandria Blizzard) and Josh Hrip (Louisiana Drillers) all completed successful scoring drives. Maillette's teammate from the New Ulm Steel, Nate Looft recorded an assist as did St. Louis Jr. Blues forward Tony Andrews and Great Falls Americans' standout Alex Jackson. Team Bauer held a 20-19 shots-on-goal advantage before the second intermission.

Cole Schneider from the El Paso Rhinos single-handedly kept Team Bauer in the contest by scoring both goals in the third frame 12 seconds apart to cut the deficit to 4-3. Gillette Wild's Declan Young, New Jersey Titan's TJ Stone each picked up one assist while Teddy Marion from the Milwaukee Power assisted on both scoring tries. The score would remain that way until the final ten seconds when Tony Andrews of the St. Louis Junior Blues scored on the unassisted play for Team Krampade to ensure the victory.

The sixty-minute contest saw a ten-shot difference (38-28) in favor of Team Bauer despite their setback. Bauer accumulated 32 shots in the second and third periods.

The game saw two penalty-free periods and one minor penalty for cross-checking by Team Krampade in the final period. No power plays were reported.

Each squad utilized both of their goaltenders for a period and a half. Owen Carlson started the game for Krampade and stopped 13 of 14 shots before being replaced by winning netminder Andrew Doran (Peoria Mustangs) who had 22 saves and allowed two goals. Team Bauer had a Frontier Division connection in the net as Great Falls Americans goalie Trever Mellen played the first 31 minutes and

gathered nine saves. The loss went to Anthony Adleman of the Helena Bighorns but not before making 14 saves.

Great Falls Americans standouts Tommy Janes and Alex Jackson each saw action for Team Krampade while netminder Trever Mellen appeared in the net for Americans coach Greg Sears' Team Bauer.

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### **Team K1 scores the game-winning goal in overtime to slip by Team Apex, 5-4**

ST. PETERS, MO., April 18, 2021 — Cody Dias of the Granite City Lumberjacks scored the game-winning goal in the extra period to help Team K1 come from behind to defeat Team Apex, 5-4 in the nightcap of the 2021 Top Prospects Tournament on Sunday evening. Jonah Jangula (Willmar WarHawks) was one goal short of a hat trick (two goals) while winning netminder Cole Carver (Oregon Tradesman) went a perfect 18-for-18 during the final thirty minutes of the contest.

Team K1 outscored Team Apex 2-1 before the first intermission. Jonah Jangula scored the first of his two goals midway through the period. Gillette Wild forward Tristan Baker and Long Beach Sharks forward Aleksandr Gamzatov from Russia dished out the assists. The other goal for K1 went to El Paso Rhino standout Colin Kerchoff whose goal with 7:35 remaining went unassisted. With 39 seconds remaining, Team Apex's Nikita Kovalev (Danbury Jr. Hat Tricks) tallied the lone goal for his team with assists going to Abraham Arifi (Peoria Mustangs) and Alex Kupka (Willmar WarHawks).

Texas RoadRunners forward Tim Marsico scored early in the period for K1. Marsico's team from the RoadRunners Jaron Ketterman picked up the assist to increase the lead for K1 to 3-1 2:43 into the middle stanza. Apex scored three goals in five minutes to pull ahead 4-3. Ethan Chesney (Peoria Mustangs), Nikita Kovalev (Danbury Jr. Hat Tricks), and Jake Minch from the Wausau RiverWolves answered with goals of their own. Kadyn Fennell from the Bozeman Ice Dogs assisted on Chesney's scoring drive four minutes into the period. Kovalev scored his second goal in as many periods with Ethan Cumming (Wausau RiverWolves) and Misha Mshar (Danbury Jr. Hat Tricks) while Minch's score went unassisted. Only 15 seconds came off the clock after Minch's score before K1 quickly tied the contest. Tristin Maestas (El Paso Rhinos) pass to Jonah Jangula (Willmar WarHawks) helped K1 send the game to overtime.

Early in the extra five-minute overtime, Cody Dias (Granite City Lumberjacks) secured the winning score for K1 with no assistance.

Team K1 took 30 of their 36 total shots before the second intermission. Team Apex finished with 37 with 14 coming in the second period.

Five minor penalties were awarded between the two squads with ten minutes spent in the sin bin. No power plays were necessary.

Oregon Tradesman goaltender Cole Garver was sensational in the net for K1 redirecting all 18 shot sent his way. Bailey Huber (Granite City Lumberjacks) got the start and added 15 saves. Nathan Hadley from the Danbury Jr. Hat Tricks took the loss. The Minnesota netminder ended the game with 12 saves. Will Pinney (Willmar WarHawks) played the first 29 minutes and amassed 19 saves.

Americans defenseman Tyler Lorrington and forward Henry Chavez both appeared in the game for Team Apex.

**TOURNAMENT NOTES:** Fans can also follow the action live at [HockeyTV](#) and see the stats updated live on the [NA3HL Top Prospects Tournament Scoreboard](#). View the first day of action (box scores/game recaps) by [clicking here](#) for the NA3HL article.

Also, the 2021 NA3HL Draft, which will also be shown live on [HockeyTV](#) and online on the NA3HL website ([www.na3hl.com](http://www.na3hl.com)) will be conducted on Wednesday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM (MST).

Click on the links below (or the Roster Link above) for a full roster list (printable PDF version) from each of the four teams.

[Team Apex](#)

[Team Bauer](#)

[Team K1](#)

[Team Krampade](#)

[Click here](#) to view the NA3HL Press Release with rosters, coaches, and schedule and information for the 2021 Top Prospects Tournament.

The following links are articles relating to the 2021 Top Prospects Tournament.

April 12, 2021: [NA3HL News: NA3HL announces 2021 Fraser Cup and Top Prospects Schedule](#)

February 8, 2021: [NA3HL News: NA3HL announces 2021 Fraser Cup, Top Prospects and Draft](#)

To view more information about the 2021 Top Prospects Tournament, please visit the tournament webpage: <http://na3hl.com/tpt/>

**NEXT CONTEST:** The 2021 Top Prospects Tournament will conclude after their second and final day of competition on Monday, April 19<sup>th</sup> with each team playing one game. Team Apex will play against Team Krampade at 9:00AM (MST) followed by Team Bauer challenging Team K1 at 11:30AM (MST).

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