



BALDY'S PUCK DROP

Weekly E-Newsletter October 15th, 2026

Dear Great Falls Americans Enthusiast:

The Americans came away with their first sweep of the weekend with a 2-0 win at Butte Friday night and then followed that up with a 7-1 win on Saturday at home. Friday's effort workmanlike as they took the lead mid-way through the first period and did a great job of locking it down while adding an empty net goal at the end the game. It might be one of the easier shutouts JD Stephens will have as he faced 29 shots with very few from a dangerous area.

Saturday was a tight game for the first 50 minutes with the Americans adding a goal in the 1st period and two more in the 2nd period before giving up a power play goal mid-way through the 3rd period. The Americans then stepped on the gas scoring 4 goals in the final six minutes to seal the deal. The biggest positive on the weekend is that we showed our depth as nine different players scored a goal on the weekend and 14 players recorded points. Another good sign is that the young squad is picking up some wins while still learning to play at the Junior Level and having areas where it is clear they still need some work. The best is yet to come. JD Stephens backstopped both games and with 73 saves and one goal allowed, earned the NA3HL Frontier Division's 1st Star of the week honors.



The Americans travel to Helena on Friday night for a 7:05 PM puck drop and you can catch all the action at our official watch party location **Buffalo Wild Wings**. The Americans host Bozeman on Saturday on **Toyota Night** with a 7:05 PM start. It will also be your last chance to pre-order your special edition "Think Pink" merchandise so you have it to wear during our "Think Pink" Breast Cancer Awareness Weekend on October 23rd and 24th. Pre-order your T-Shirt or Hoodie now and you'll have it in your hands for the special weekend. We will also have limited edition "Think Pink" Beanies, **Rowdy Mood** Hats and Tumblers

from **Triangle Graphics** available that weekend. You can place your pre-order at the game this weekend or online at:

www.greatfallsamericans.shop



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The Americans will be hosting Gillette during “**Think Pink**” weekend presented by **Benefis Health-Sletten Cancer**



Institute. This is the fourth year hosting a “**Think Pink**” weekend and we have raised a little over \$12,000 for Breast Cancer causes during the first three events. We are proud to welcome a very special skating exhibition from the Great Falls Figure Skating Club on Friday night and the Great Falls Junior Americans 6U players on Saturday. I’ll provide more information on all of the activities during this special weekend in next week’s edition, but in the meantime don’t forget to activate with **DASH** (Scan QR Code) so you can participate in the upcoming “**Think Pink**” Jersey auction with proceeds

going to the **Benefis Health-Sletten Cancer Institute.**

The Fall session of sled hockey is underway as we partner with **Eagle Mount Therapeutic Recreation** to provide an opportunity for these special athletes to play the game we love. Our players are awesome in playing with the sled players and look forward to sharing the ice with them for the next several weeks. Participating this week are Zaile, Kevin, Weston, Jake and Steve. A very special thank you goes out to Great Falls Youth Hockey and the 6U squad for sharing the ice with the Sled players and The Eagle Mount staff and volunteers who make this happen. The



partnership with Great Falls Amateur Hockey has never been stronger as we work hand-in-hand in promoting the game and utilizing the resources available, including our off-ice skill center and our players helping with practices when needed. We look forward to some exciting youth hockey tournaments coming up and recognizing the local youth hockey players throughout the season. Stay tuned for more info as the youth hockey season is now in full swing.

As we are looking to finalize the design for our special edition Rodeo/Rancher Jersey that we will wear in January, now is the time to submit any brands that you would like to be included. If you are a rancher, or know someone who is, and would like their brand included, you can reach out to Marcus Ivey from our staff or Matt Leaf to get more information and get the ball rolling. The more local brands we can get involved, the more creative we can get with the design and honor those who play such a critical role in Montana culture.

Finally, I want to bring a special fundraiser currently taking place at the Ice Plex to your attention. Silas Chambers is a local High School hockey player who is working toward earning the rank of **Eagle Scout** and for his Eagle



Scout service project, he has chosen to make a lasting improvement to the Great Falls Ice Plex – **A new Flagpole and American Flag.** This project will give the Ice Plex a permanent place to proudly fly the Stars and Stripes, welcoming the hockey players, skaters, families, veterans and community members who walk through the doors each year. There are flyers all over the Ice Plex where you can get more information on how you can donate or you can scan the QR code to the left to make your contribution. The goal is \$10,000 to provide the concrete base, a high-quality flagpole that can

withstand typical Montana winds and two large Americans flags. 100% of your donation will go towards Silas’ goal, is tax deductible and will help support this future Eagle Scout and community leader make a difference in our facility.



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Player Profile – #2 Xander Troyer (Great Falls, MT 5'7" 155 lbs. FOR– Shoots Right DOB 11/20/2007)

Favorite Team: Colorado Avalanche **Favorite Player:** Gabe Landeskog

Favorite Movie: Miracle **Favorite Actor/Actress:** Jake Gyllenhaal

Favorite Food: Chicken Alfredo **Favorite Pre-Game Meal:** Chicken and Rice

If you were animal: Lion – You are on the top of the food chain

Musical Group You Won't Miss in Concert: George Strait or Chris Stapleton

Pre-Game Hype Music: Rock

One Person to be stuck with on a deserted Island: My Brother Jase

Hobbies other than Hockey: Hunting, Fishing and Golf

Three People you would like to invite to Dinner:

Nathan McKinnon, Toby Keith, Shane Gillis

College/University of Choice: Montana State University

Like Most About Great Falls: The people here and the countryside.

How would you define a successful season: Winning the Frontier Division and going to Fraser Cup Finals!



Here are the upcoming and special dates to add to your calendar:

- October 16th – Away game at Helena. 7:05 PM with Official Watch Party at **Buffalo Wild Wings**.
- October 17th – Home Game versus Bozeman presented by **Toyota**. 7:05 PM
- **October 23rd – October 27th – “Think Pink” Jersey Auction with jerseys signed by respective players and auctioned off after wearing during Breast Cancer Awareness Weekend.**
- October 23rd-24th – “Think Pink” Breast Cancer Awareness Weekend-Presented by **Benefis Health-Sletten Cancer Institute**. 7:05 PM Puck drop both nights versus Gillette.
- October 30th - Away game at Yellowstone. 7:30 PM - Official Watch Party at **Buffalo Wild Wings**.
- October 31st - Away game at Sheridan. 7:30 PM with Official Watch Party at **Buffalo Wild Wings**.
- November 6th-7th 2026 – Military Appreciation Weekend-Presented by **1st Liberty Federal Credit Union**
- November 13th-14th – Away games versus Yellowstone in Sidney, MT. 7:30 PM - Official Watch Party at **Buffalo Wild Wings**.
- December 12th – 2nd Annual **Russell Country Federal Credit Union** “Teddy Bear Toss”.
- December 20th-22nd – NA3HL Showcase, Blaine, MN.
- January 8th and 15th – Rodeo/Rancher Appreciation.
- February 12th and 13th – Local Business Appreciation presented by **Comparion Insurance- Todd Neighbor and Great Falls Chamber of Commerce**.
- March 12th – Home game versus Badlands Sabres – Billet Appreciation presented by **Toyota**.
- March 13th - Home game versus Bozeman – Fan Appreciation presented by **Toyota**.



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Thank you to our corporate partners for their continued support.

Eagle's Club Level



TOYOTA

Diamond Level



Montana



Platinum Level



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NorthWestern[®]
Energy
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HOGLUND'S
WORK AND WESTERN WEAR



Gold, Silver and Bronze Level Partners (*new this season)

3D International Restaurant & Lounge*
Annie's Taphouse
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Central Avenue Meats
Comparion Insurance-Todd Neighbor
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Homestead 1909*
Life in Bloom Floral & Gift Boutique
Murphy Law
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Sip-n-Dip Lounge
Stifel | Finnicum Financial Group
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AJ Concrete*
Beacon IceHouse
Bravera Bank
Central MT Lock & Safe
Craftmaster Cabinets
Eagle Mount Therapeutic Recreation
Fire Pizza
Great Falls Clinics
Jersey Mike's
Montana Club*
Open Door Wellness
Scheels
Slabtek* (Concrete Lifting)
TDS Fiber
Westgate Repair Inc.

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Benski Towing & Recovery
Cascade Electric
Century Gaming
Coca-Cola
Floors & More Abbey Carpets
Hampton Inn & Suites
Kubota-Johnson Distributing
Mountain Title Company
Play It Again Sports
She Bare Wax & Sugar Boutique
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Visit Great Falls

Thank you for being a part of our hockey family!

Matt Leaf

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