



NORTH IOWA BULLS HOCKEY CLUB

100 S. Washington Ave., Suite 118 | Mason City, IA 50401 | 641-423-GOAL | NorthIowaBulls.com | @NorthIowaBulls

GAME 23 - DECEMBER 4, 2021 (7:00 P.M. at Municipal Athletic Complex – St. Cloud, MN)



NORTH IOWA BULLS

13-7-0-2 (28 pts, .636)

2nd*, Central Division

Head Coach: Todd Sanden

Assistant Coaches: Mark Hicks

ST. CLOUD NORSEMEN

10-9-0-0 (20 pts, .526)

5th, Central Division

Head Coach: Corey Millen

Assistant Coaches: Clark Kuster, Eric Schlie



SCHEDULE

09/15	vs. MN Wilderness	W, 5-1
09/16	vs. Jamestown	L, 4-1
09/17	vs. Amarillo	W, 4-1
09/18	vs. Kenai River	W, 6-2
09/24	ABERDEEN	L, 3-2
09/25	ABERDEEN	W, 6-5
10/01	AUSTIN	SOL, 4-3
10/02	@ Austin	W, 4-2
10/08	@ Minot	W, 3-2
10/09	@ Minot	W, 6-3
10/15	MINOT	W, 3-2
10/16	MINOT	L, 6-1
10/22	@ Aberdeen	L, 5-2
10/23	@ Aberdeen	SOL, 5-4
11/05	BISMARCK	W, 6-4
11/06	BISMARCK	W, 6-3
11/12	@ Austin	SOW, 3-2
11/13	AUSTIN	W, 5-3
11/20	@ St Cloud	W, 7-4
11/26	@ Austin	L, 5-3
11/27	AUSTIN	L, 4-1
12/03	ST CLOUD	L, 4-2
12/04	@ St Cloud	7:00pm
12/10	SPRINGFIELD	7:30pm
12/11	SPRINGFIELD	7:30pm
12/17	@ Bismarck	7:15pm
12/18	@ Bismarck	7:15pm
12/31	@ Austin	7:00pm
01/01	AUSTIN	7:30pm
01/07	ABERDEEN	7:30pm
01/08	ABERDEEN	7:30pm
01/14	@ Minot	7:35pm
01/15	@ Minot	8:05pm
01/21	@ Bismarck	7:15pm
01/22	@ Bismarck	7:15pm
01/27	ST CLOUD	7:30pm
01/28	@ Aberdeen	7:15pm
01/29	@ Aberdeen	7:15pm
02/04	AUSTIN	7:30pm
02/05	@ Austin	7:00pm
02/11	@ Aberdeen	7:15pm
02/12	@ Aberdeen	7:15pm
02/18	BISMARCK	7:30pm
02/19	BISMARCK	7:30pm
02/25	@ Springfield	7:05pm
02/26	@ Springfield	6:05pm
03/04	@ Bismarck	7:15pm
03/05	@ Bismarck	7:15pm
03/11	AUSTIN	7:30pm
03/12	@ Austin	7:00pm
03/18	ABERDEEN	7:30pm
03/19	ABERDEEN	7:30pm
03/25	MINOT	7:30pm
03/26	MINOT	7:30pm
03/30	ST. CLOUD	7:30pm
04/01	@ St Cloud	7:00pm
04/08	BISMARCK	7:30pm
04/09	BISMARCK	7:30pm
04/15	ST. CLOUD	7:30pm
04/16	@ St. Cloud	7:00pm

IN A NUTSHELL:

North Iowa returns to St. Cloud looking to recapture their place in the win column.

ALL-TIME SERIES:

Tied, 1-1-0 (both games have been won by the road team).

LAST TIME OUT:

The second-longest wait in Bulls Teddy Bear Toss history was well worth it Friday night, but after a quick scoring burst that yielded a 2-0 lead, North Iowa never scored again, and the St. Cloud Norsemen reeled off four unanswered goals for a 4-2 win at the Mason City Arena. St. Cloud controlled the pace in the first period for a 13-2 shots-on-goal advantage, but the Bulls struck on their seventh shot, on **Michael Mesic's** wrist shot 4:34 into the second period that sent an arena's worth of bears flying onto the ice. **Dylan Gajewski** added his first goal as a Bull just 84 seconds later for the two-goal margin, but Blake Mesenburg buried chances at 7:56 and 8:36 (the latter coming 11 seconds into a Norsemen power play) to erase the lead. Nik Hong's goal with 3:12 left in the period gave St. Cloud the lead for good, and his shorthanded goal on a 2-on-1 break with 5:21 left in the third iced the first Norsemen victory in their last five tries. Both teams earned their power play goals quickly, with Mesic's coming just 24 seconds into a Bulls power play. **Casey Roepke** and **Andrew Stacey** also earned their first Bulls points, earning assists, while **Hunter Garvey** took the loss for North Iowa with 29 saves.

UPCOMING PROMOTIONS:

North Iowa returns home for the Bulls' annual "Naughty and Nice" weekend December 10 and 11 against the Springfield Jr. Blues, with an ugly sweater contest and an appearance by the Grinch on Friday and appearances by Santa and other beloved holiday characters on Saturday. The Bulls will also wear Busch Light-themed jerseys both nights, with a live auction and postgame skate after Saturday's game.

SEA YOU DOWN THE ROAD:

The Bulls have landed a coach into the highest ranks of college hockey, with Alaska-Anchorage's announcement this week that the Seawolves have hired **Kevin Murdock** as their new assistant coach. Murdock was back in Mason City as the Bulls' Associate Head Coach/General Manager this season after spending two years in Alaska as an NAHL head coach with the Kenai River Brown Bears. He was a vital part of the Bulls' success during his first stint in town from 2016 to 2019, leading the Bulls to 106 regular-season wins, two Fraser Cup tournament appearances and two division championships. UAA is reactivating its hockey program for 2022-23 after a two-year layoff due to financial difficulties, including COVID-related financial fallout.

NOT MES-ING AROUND:

One of North Iowa's top blueliners has been out of the lineup since last Saturday, but not for injury or illness – **Jack Mesic** received a last-minute call-up to the United States Hockey League and the Lincoln Stars just ahead of their game last weekend against the Omaha Lancers. Mesic reunites with Rocky Russo and George Lewis, his coaches last year with the Amarillo Bulls, and became the first Bull to appear in a USHL game since North Iowa's move to the NAHL. He also found himself sharing the ice with the very first Bulls alumnus to play in the USHL, former NA3HL West Division MVP **Lucas Wahlin**.

TIGHTLY CONTESTED:

The Central Division standings are a roller-coaster ride, with no sign of slowing down as the circuit's teams start to pass the season's 40-percent mark. The Bulls' two losses to Austin last week dropped them out of first place in the standings, but with two games in hand on the Bruins, they remain atop the division in terms of winning percentage, and they have three games in hand on the Minot Minotauros, who sit just a point back of North Iowa for third. St. Cloud is looking to shake off a four-game skid in fifth place, while Bismarck has entered the chat just three points behind the Norsemen. Also in the mix are the Aberdeen Wings, whose shutout win at Austin on Friday propelled them to within two points of Minot with two games in hand on the Minotauros.

JUST SAY YES:

North Iowa forward Dylan Gajewski made the most of his first appearance in a North Iowa uniform Friday night, scoring in the second period of his debut game as a Bull. Gajewski has seen the inside of the Mason City Arena plenty of times as a visitor recently, helping to lead the Willmar WarHawks to their first-ever NA3HL West Division Finals against North Iowa last year and tallying five goals and three assists in six visiting appearances. He is also a former Austin Bruin, playing in two of the three Austin road games thus far at Mason City and earning an assist in his November 13 outing.

COVERAGE:

All 60 regular-season North Iowa Bulls games are streamed live at HockeyTV.com. Listen to the Bulls for free, home and away – click the "Listen Live" link at NorthIowaBulls.com, or go directly to the Bulls' audio homepage at mixlr.com/northiowabulls.

CENTRAL DIVISION STANDINGS

Austin	13-8-1-2	29 pts
BULLS	13-7-0-2	28 PTS
Minot	13-11-1-0	27 pts
Aberdeen	12-10-0-1	25 pts
St. Cloud	10-9-0-0	18 pts
Bismarck	7-15-1-0	15 pts



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Roster accurate as of December 3, 2021

FORWARDS (14)

#	NAME	SHOT	HT	WT	D.O.B.	HOMETOWN	LAST TEAM
4	Zach Cline	Left	5'6"	160	04/25/04	Chesterfield, MI	Northeast Generals NAHL
7	Dylan Gajewski	Right	5'10"	165	07/16/01	Woodhaven, MI	Austin Bruins
9	Carter Rapalje	Right	5'9"	170	8/10/01	Burlington, VT	Amarillo Bulls
11	Logan Dombrowsky	Right	6'3"	200	11/02/02	Stevens Point, WI	Amarillo Bulls
12	Max Scott	Left	5'11"	185	10/11/02	San Jose, CA	Amarillo Bulls
14	Justin Mexico	Left	5'9"	165	12/03/03	Madison Heights, MI	Maine Nordiques AAA
16	Brett Morich	Right	6'1"	200	07/09/01	Phoenix, AZ	Jamestown Rebels
18	Jake LaRusso	Right	5'11"	180	03/16/02	Colts Neck, NJ	New Jersey Titans
19	Michael Mesic	Left	5'11"	165	08/15/04	Plymouth, MI	Honeybaked U16 AAA
20	Hunter Bulger	Right	5'8"	170	08/05/02	St Louis, MO	St. Louis Blues AAA
23	Sota Isogai	Left	5'11"	170	02/14/01	Nagano, Japan	Mason City Toros
26	Simone Dadie	Left	6'2"	198	09/18/03	Brunico, Italy	Okanagan Hockey Academy Europe U20
29	Byron Hartley	Right	6'0"	185	05/09/02	Philadelphia, NY	Philadelphia Little Flyers 18U
37	Anthony Domina	Right	6'4"	205	11/24/03	Severna Park, MD	Northern Cyclones

DEFENSEMEN (8)

#	NAME	SHOT	HT	WT	D.O.B.	HOMETOWN	LAST TEAM
2	Greg Japchen	Left	6'3"	195	12/17/01	Doylestown, PA	Amarillo Bulls
6	Joey Potter	Right	5'11"	185	05/09/02	Pittsburgh, PA	Twin City Thunder
8	Joe Sweeney	Right	6'1"	175	04/21/03	San Jose, CA	Chippewa Steel
10	Jack Mesic	Right	5'11"	185	10/18/02	Plymouth, MI	Amarillo Bulls
15	Jack Boxer	Left	6'3"	190	01/30/02	Colorado Springs, CO	Amarillo Bulls
17	Andrew Stacey	Right	6'0"	180	01/14/03	Toledo, OH	Tri-State Spartans 18U
21	Casey Roepke	Left	6'0"	177	05/02/02	Erin, WI	Lincoln Stars
27	Sean Vlasich	Right	5'8"	175	04/20/01	Upper Saddle River, NJ	Amarillo Bulls

GOALTENDERS (3)

#	NAME	HT	WT	D.O.B.	HOMETOWN	LAST TEAM
1	Hunter Garvey	6'1"	160	02/03/02	San Diego, CA	Amarillo Bulls
30	Nathan Dickey	6'0"	175	08/05/03	Butler, PA	Kenai River Brown Bears
31	Carsen Stokes	5'10"	170	02/13/02	Prior Lake, MN	North Iowa Bulls

PRONUNCIATIONS

SEAN VLASICH: VLASS-ick
CARTER RAPALJE: RAP-al-jay
JACK MESIC: MESS-ick
MICHAEL MESIC: MESS-ick
JAKE LaRUSSO: La-ROOS-oh
SOTA ISOGAI: SOH-ta EE-so-guy

CASEY ROEPKE: REP-kee
ANTHONY DOMINA: DOM-inna
SIMONE DADIE: SEE-mo-nay DAH-dee-ay
HUNTER BULGER: BULL-ger
BRETT MORICH: MOR-itck
DYLAN GAJEWSKI: Guy-ESS-kee

TEAM STAFF

HEAD COACH/GM: Todd Sanden
ASSOCIATE HEAD COACH/GM: Mark Hicks

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER: Kathee Corsello
ATHLETIC TRAINER: Austin Kessler
BROADCASTING/MEDIA RELATIONS: Austin Draude

BULLS GAME-BY-GAME (13-7-0-2)

Date	Opponent	Result	GWG	Bulls Goaltender	Opp. Goaltender	Record	Highlights
Sep 15	vs. MN Wilderness	W 5-1	Michael Mesic (1)	Carsen Stokes (1-0-0-0, 23/24)	Jacob Zacharewicz (0-1-0-0, 26/31)	1-0-0-0	Dombrowsky: Bulls' 1 st NAHL goal (10:01, 1 st); Mesic/Coughlin/Scott: 3 pts
Sep 16	vs. Jamestown	L 4-1	Owen West	Jackson Baker (0-1-0-0, 27/31)	Nolan Suggs (1-0-0-0, 33/34)	1-1-0-0	Baker: 1 st junior start; NI: 6-for-6 on penalty kill; West: goal, 2 assists
Sep 17	vs. Amarillo	W 4-1	Logan Dombrowsky (1)	Cullen DeYoung (1-0-0-0, 33/34)	Max Gutjahr (1-1-0-0, 27/31)	2-1-0-0	North Iowa: 3-for-5 on power play; Dombrowsky: 2 goals, assist
Sep 18	vs. Kenai River	W 6-2	Carter Rapalje (1)	Cullen DeYoung (2-0-0-0, 28/30)	Bryant Marks (0-3-0-0, 23/28)	3-1-0-0	Rapalje, Greg Japchen: 2 G each; Ryan Coughlin: 100 th junior game
Sep 24	Aberdeen	L 3-2	Devon Carlstrom	Cullen DeYoung (2-1-0-0, 23/26)	Kyle Kozma (2-1-0-0, 33/35)	3-2-0-0	Chris Carroll: Bulls' 1 st NAHL home goal (1 st , 0:49); combined: 12-12 PK
Sep 25	Aberdeen	W 6-5	Hunter Bulger (1)	Carsen Stokes (2-0-0-0, 25/30)	Kyle Kozma (2-2-0-0, 22/25)	4-2-0-0	ABD comes back from down 3-0 for 4-3 lead (NI: 6-4 lead at 4:15 of 3 rd per)
Oct 1	Austin	SOL 4-3	Gavin Morrissey (SO)	Hunter Garvey (0-0-0-1, 34/37)	Hudson Hodges (4-1-1-0, 27/30)	4-2-0-1	Bulls tie game 3x (Vlasich: GTG w :43 left in 3 rd per.); AUS: 2-3 PP, 4-4 PK
Oct 2	@ Austin	W 4-2	Carter Rapalje (2)	Hunter Garvey (1-0-0-1, 27/29)	Niko Goich (1-1-0-0, 25/29)	5-2-0-1	1 st NI/Austin games since 1985; NI: 5-5 PK (AUS: 1 st game w 0 PPG this yr)
Oct 8	@ Minot	W 3-2	Max Scott (1)	Hunter Garvey (2-0-0-1, 32/34)	Carter Clifton (2-3-1-0, 9/12)	6-2-0-1	MNT backup Zach Sandy: 18-for-18; Scott: 1 st goal as NI Bull (18:51, 1 st)
Oct 9	@ Minot	W 6-3	Carter Rapalje (3)	Hunter Garvey (3-0-0-1, 45/48)	Zach Sandy (0-3-0-0, 9/11)	7-2-0-1	Garvey: most saves by NI G since 2019; NI outshot 48-28 (1 st /2 nd per: 37-9)
Oct 15	Minot	W 3-2	Logan Dombrowsky (2)	Hunter Garvey (4-0-0-1, 30/32)	Zach Sandy (0-4-0-0, 35/38)	8-2-0-1	Byron Hartley, Justin Mexico score 1 st per goals for NI :35 apart (5:02, 5:37)
Oct 16	Minot	L 6-1	Zack Simon	Hunter Garvey (4-1-0-1, 32/38)	Zach Sandy (1-4-0-0, 32/33)	8-3-0-1	Minot scores three in opening 4:23; Dadie PPG breaks 31 PP skid for Bulls
Oct 22	@ Aberdeen	L 5-2	Patrick O'Connell	Hunter Garvey (4-2-0-1, 27/32)	Dominik Wasik (2-1-0-0, 36/38)	8-4-0-1	Wings: 3 straight goals in 1 st period, 2 goals :16 apart in 2 nd ; Max Scott: 2 G
Oct 23	@ Aberdeen	SOL 5-4	Cade Nielson (SO)	Hunter Garvey (4-2-0-2, 12/12)	Dominik Wasik (3-1-0-0, 40/44)	8-4-0-2	Carsen Stokes: 25/29 in 1 st start since 9/25; Carter Rapalje: 2 tying goals
Nov 5	Bismarck	W 6-4	Max Scott (2)	Hunter Garvey (5-2-0-2, 31/35)	Erik Forss (3-6-1-0, 34/40)	9-4-0-2	Carter Rapalje: 4 goals (Bulls' 1 st NAHL hat trick, first home goals w NI)
Nov 6	Bismarck	W 6-3	Michael Mesic (2)	Hunter Garvey (6-2-0-2, 20/23)	Aksel Reid (0-3-0-0, 10/14)	10-4-0-2	11 Bulls tally at least one point; NI: 4 unanswered goals to end game
Nov 12	@ Austin	SOW 3-2	Justin Mexico (SO)	Hunter Garvey (7-2-0-2, 33/35)	Klayton Knapp (2-0-0-1, 23/25)	11-4-0-2	Mexico: 1 st -period goal, SO goal; NI: 7-8 PK, 3-3 PP; Shots: AUS 35, NI 26
Nov 13	Austin	W 5-3	Byron Hartley (1)	Hunter Garvey (8-2-0-2, 31/34)	Hudson Hodges (7-4-1-0, 17/21)	12-4-0-2	Hartley, Carter Rapalje: 2 G each (Hartley: 1 st multi-goal junior game)
Nov 20	@ St. Cloud	W 7-4	Carter Rapalje (4)	Hunter Garvey (9-2-0-2, 38/42)	Tomas Bolo (5-3-0-0, 12/15)	13-4-0-2	E. Dahlmeir (STC): 17/21; S. Vlasich: 4 A (1 st Bull w/ 4 asst since 1/3/20)
Nov 26	@ Austin	L 5-3	Michal Jasenec	Hunter Garvey (9-3-0-2, 17/22)	Hudson Hodges (8-5-1-0, 20/23)	13-5-0-2	Bulls lead 3x (never more than one-goal lead); Jasenec: 2 goals, 2 assists
Nov 27	Austin	L 4-1	Braidan Simmons-Fischer	Hunter Garvey (9-4-0-2, 24/28)	Klayton Knapp (3-1-0-1, 27/28)	13-6-0-2	Carson Riddle (AUS): 2 goals; Carter Rapalje: only Bulls goal (:22, 3 rd per.)
Dec 3	St. Cloud	L 4-2	Nik Hong	Carsen Stokes (2-1-0-0, 29/33)	Tomas Bolo (6-3-0-0, 21/23)	13-7-0-2	D. Gajewski: goal in Bulls debut (A. Stacey, C. Roepke: 1 st pts w NI (asst.))
Dec 4	@ St. Cloud						
Dec 10	Springfield						
Dec 11	Springfield						
Dec 17	@ Bismarck						
Dec 18	@ Bismarck						
Dec 31	@ Austin						
Jan 1	Austin						
Jan 7	Aberdeen						
Jan 8	Aberdeen						
Jan 14	@ Minot						
Jan 15	@ Minot						
Jan 21	@ Bismarck						
Jan 22	@ Bismarck						
Jan 27	St. Cloud						
Jan 28	@ Aberdeen						
Jan 29	@ Aberdeen						
Feb 4	Austin						
Feb 5	@ Austin						
Feb 11	@ Aberdeen						
Feb 12	@ Aberdeen						
Feb 18	Bismarck						
Feb 19	Bismarck						
Feb 25	@ Springfield						
Feb 26	@ Springfield						
Mar 4	@ Bismarck						
Mar 5	@ Bismarck						
Mar 11	Austin						
Mar 12	@ Austin						
Mar 18	Aberdeen						
Mar 19	Aberdeen						
Mar 25	Minot						
Mar 26	Minot						
Mar 30	St. Cloud						
Apr 1	@ St. Cloud						
Apr 8	Bismarck						
Apr 9	Bismarck						
Apr 15	St. Cloud						
Apr 16	@ St. Cloud						