



FAYETTEVILLE MARKSMEN

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SCHEDULE/RESULTS

Date	Opponent	Time/Res.
10.21	Roanoke	L 4-2
10.22	ROANOKE	W 5-1
10.28	Knoxville	L 5-2
11.04	Roanoke	W 4-2
11.05	MACON	L 4-0
11.06	ROANOKE	W 3-2 SO
11.10	Birmingham	L 5-2
11.11	Pensacola	W 6-4
11.12	Pensacola	L 6-2
11.18	VERMILION CO.	L 4-3 OT
11.19	VERMILION CO.	W 4-1
11.23	MACON	W 5-1
11.25	Roanoke	L 5-2
11.26	Macon	L 4-2
12.02	ROANOKE	L 6-2
12.03	ROANOKE	L 3-2 OT
12.04	KNOXVILLE	W 3-0
12.09	Macon	W 3-2
12.16	Birmingham	L 5-1
12.17	Birmingham	W 6-1
12.23	Roanoke	L 2-1
12.27	ROANOKE	W 5-3
12.30	Macon	W 6-4
12.31	QUAD CITY	W 3-2 SO
01.05	Quad City	W 6-3
01.06	Quad City	W 2-0
01.07	Quad City	W 4-2
01.13	ROANOKE	L 3-2
01.14	ROANOKE	L 3-2
01.19	Knoxville	L 5-2
01.20	Huntsville	L 3-2
01.21	Huntsville	L 4-2
01.27	PEORIA	L 3-2
01.28	PEORIA	L 4-1
01.29	PEORIA	L 4-3 OT
02.03	Evansville	L 4-3 OT
02.04	Evansville	L 4-3
02.09	Roanoke	W 4-3
02.10	MACON	W 3-2
02.11	MACON	L 3-2 OT
02.18	Knoxville	L 3-2 OT
02.19	Huntsville	L 6-1
02.24	HUNTSVILLE	W 1-0
02.25	HUNTSVILLE	L 2-1 OT
02.26	HUNTSVILLE	L 4-3 OT
03.10	Birmingham	L 5-2
03.11	Birmingham	L 5-1
03.16	PENSACOLA	W 3-2 SO
03.17	PENSACOLA	W 5-2
03.18	PENSACOLA	W 2-0
03.24	Roanoke	L 3-1
03.25	Roanoke	W 2-1 SO
03.31	QUAD CITY	W 3-0
04.01	QUAD CITY	W 4-2
04.07	MACON	W 5-2
04.08	MACON	W 3-2
04.13	BIRMINGHAM	W 3-2 OT
04.15	Birmingham	8:00 p.m.
04.16	Birmingham*	7:00 p.m.

HOME GAMES IN BOLD ALL CAPS

MEDIA INQUIRIES

Please contact Director of Communication, Drew Blevins at dblevins@marksmenhockey.com for all media inquiries.

2023 SPHL PLAYOFFS - ROUND 1



April 13 – Fayetteville, N.C. – 7:15 p.m.

April 15 – Pelham, Ala. – 8:00 p.m.

April 16 – Pelham, Ala. – 7:00 p.m.

Crown Coliseum

Pelham Civic Complex

2) Birmingham (37-16-4)

vs.

7) Fayetteville (26-22-8)



MARKSMEN BATTLE BULLS IN PLAYOFF OPENING ROUND

For the second straight season under head coach Cory Melkert, the Marksmen have cracked the top-eight and are in the postseason. Fayetteville overcame a stretch of 0-8-2 in the middle of the year to win their final five regular season games to secure a playoff spot.

Birmingham returns to the playoffs after finishing outside the postseason picture last year. The Bulls are the league's most improved team boasting a 37 win record.

OLD SEASON, NEW SEASON

In the regular season, the Bulls hosted the Marksmen in Pelham for every one of the team's five meetings. The Bulls went 4-1-0 against the Marksmen this season, scoring five goals in every win over Fayetteville this year.

SOME YOUNG STARS

During the week, both Austin Alger (FAY) and Taylor Brierly (BHM) were named to the SPHL All-Rookie Team. Brierly would go on to secure second team All-SPHL honors while Bulls forward Michael Gillespie was named a top-team All-SPHL forward.

HOME SWEET HOME

The Fayetteville Marksmen played 22 games at the Crown Coliseum where they gained at least a standings point this season. Meanwhile, Birmingham owns the league's best home record with 21 wins in Pelham this season.

A QUICK NOTE ON OVERTIME

The Marksmen had been 0-8 in overtimes this season until Carson Vance's game one OT winner on Thursday night. Fayetteville had not won an overtime game since April 8, 2022 when Don Olivieri defeated Roanoke in the last weekend of the regular season at the Crown Coliseum.

REGULAR SEASON STATISTICS

FAYETTEVILLE	RECORD HEAD-TO-HEAD	BIRMINGHAM
26-22-8 1-4-0		37-16-4 4-1-0
155	GOALS	217
166	GOALS AGAINST	162
-11	GOAL DIFF.	+55
39/185 21.1%	PPG / PPOP / PCT	43/206 20.9%
31/156 80.1%	PPGA / PKA / PCT	47/191 75.4%



MARKSMEN WHEN...

Leading after 1:	13-6-4
Trailing after 1:	4-11-2
Tied after 1:	9-5-2
Leading after 2:	22-3-3
Trailing after 2:	0-16-0
Tied after 2:	4-3-5
When scoring first:	17-7-6
When not scoring first:	9-15-2
In overtime:	0-8
In shootout:	4-0
Wearing white:	8-11-1
Wearing black:	5-5-2
Wearing blackout:	6-3-0
Wearing green:	2-0-2
Wearing specialty:	5-4-3
On Tuesday:	1-0-0
On Wednesday:	1-0-0
On Thursday:	2-2-0
On Friday:	10-9-2
On Saturday:	9-10-2
On Sunday:	3-0-3

In Central time zone: 5-8-2
In Eastern time zone: 21-14-6

In October:	1-2-0
In November:	5-4-1
In December:	6-4-1
In January:	3-7-1
In February:	3-2-5
In March:	5-3-0
In April:	3-0-0

vs. Birmingham:	1-4-0
vs. Evansville:	0-1-1
vs. Huntsville:	1-3-2
vs. Knoxville:	1-2-1
vs. Macon:	6-2-1
vs. Pensacola:	4-1-0
vs. Peoria:	0-2-1
vs. Quad City	6-0-0
vs. Roanoke:	6-7-1
vs. Vermilion Co.	1-0-1

ALL REGULAR SEASON SPLITS

2022-23 FAYETTEVILLE MARKSMEN PLAYOFF ROSTER

#	Name	Pron.	Ht	Wt	Pos.	Hometown
2	Nick Parody	PAIR-oh-dee	6-3	200	D	Harrisburg, Penn.
3	Matt Araujo	uh-ROO-zhoe	6-2	196	D	Brookhaven, N.Y.
5	Carson Vance	VANTZ	5-11	165	D	Tempe, Ariz.
6	Ryan Lieth	LEETH	6-1	180	D	Warwick, N.Y.
7	Jarret Kup	CUP	6-0	185	D	Rosseau, Ont.
9	Taylor McCloy	MUH-cloy	6-1	200	F	Keswick, Ont.
10	Carter Shinkaruk	shin-CARE-uck	5-10	185	F/D	Langley, B.C.
11	Grant Loven	LOVE-vin	5-10	185	F	East Grand Forks, Minn.
13	Jack Patterson	PAT-ter-sun	6-3	190	F	Bedford, N.S.
14	Andrew Lane	LANE	5-10	185	D	Brighton, Mich.
16	John Moncovich	MON-koe-vitch	6-2	195	F	Wilmington, N.C.
17	Austin Alger	AL(like pal)-jerr	6-0	180	F	Livonia, Mich.
18	Drake Glover	GLUV-ver	6-1	185	F	Anchorage, Alaska
19	Connor Fries	FRYS (like French fries)	5-10	174	F	Centerville, Mass.
20	Matt McNair	mick-NARE	5-9	185	F	Calgary, Alb.
21	Dalton Hunter	HUN-turr	6-3	209	F	Greensburg, Penn.
22	Shane Bednard	BED-nard	5-10	179	F	Macomb, Mich.
23	Nick Mangone	MAN-goan	5-10	185	F	Massapequa Park, N.Y.
30	Jason Pawloski	puh-LAW-skee	6-0	200	G	Omaha, Neb.
35	Conor O'Brien	OH-bry-in	6-2	210	G	Pinellas Park, Fla.

2022-23 FAYETTEVILLE MARKMSEN HOCKEY OPERATIONS STAFF

Head Coach:	Cory Melkert / 2 nd Season
Coaching Assistant:	Thomas Clayton / 1 st Season
Equipment Manager:	Ryan Parent / 1 st Season
Athletic Trainer:	Kyle Sherrill / 15 th Season

2021-22 FAYETTEVILLE MARKMSEN FRONT OFFICE STAFF

Owner and CEO:	Chuck Norris / 5 th Season
President:	Alex Wall / 3 rd Season
Director of Communication, PxP Voice:	Drew Blevins / 2 nd Season
Senior Account Executive:	Joey Huot / 2 nd Season
Account Executive:	Karl Lowe / 2 nd Season
Account Executive:	Shawn Rose / 1 st Season
DJ / Game Day Coordinator:	Scott Cline / 5 th Season
Merchandise Manager:	Denise Cline / 5 th Season

Director of Fun, Mascot: Marky Marksmen

BLACKOUT PLAYOFFS

All playoffs, the Marksmen will be wearing their blackout alternate sweater at home! You can follow along with all the action using the following hashtags:

#OperationChampionship
#FearTheFox

INJURED RESERVE LIST

Date	Player	Length
04.08	Tanner Nagel	21-day

VIDEO, INTERVIEW, AND MATERIAL REQUEST

There will be a written recap distributed to all local media outlets at the conclusion of every game in the playoffs. If you would like video highlights, interview sound, or to have access to players at coaches, please submit a written request to dblevins@marksmenhockey.com



TALKING POINTS

PAINTING IT BLACK AND ORANGE

Fayetteville ended the regular season 8-2-0 in their last ten games, the best mark over the final ten in the league. The second hottest team to finish the season was Birmingham at 7-2-1 over their last ten. The Marksmen have not faced the Bulls since March 12 of this year.

PLAYOFF PAWLOSKI

After missing two months with an injury, G Jason Pawloski has returned for the Marksmen. Winning both games in the last weekend of the season, Pawloski finished this year 11-12-1 with a .913 save percentage.

"He's going to give us the chance to win games every night and he's one of the best if not the best when he's on," said head coach Cory Melkert.

Until Thursday, Pawloski had not seen playoff action since 2019.

ALL-ROOKIE ALGER AND MORE

Austin Alger logged 51 points this season (21g, 30a) and secured first team all-rookie honors for the Marksmen. He becomes the second Fayetteville forward in as many years to be recognized for outstanding play (Taylor Best '22). Also making names for themselves are Grant Loven (Canisius) who scored three points (2g, 1a) in his first three pro games, Dalton Hunter (Mercyhurst) who had three goals in three games to end the regular season, and John Moncovich (Utica) who has four goals in six pro games.

THE WRONG KIND OF HIGH FIVE

Birmingham finished the season with 217 goals, tied for second in total offense with Peoria and just four goals back of Knoxville.

The Bulls have scored five goals in each of their four wins over the Marksmen during the regular season. They won each by a margin of at least three.

BOX OUT

The Marksmen finished the regular season with the league's third rated penalty kill (80.1%). Aiding in the effort for the Marksmen is the fact they been short-handed the fewest times of anyone as the least penalized team in the league. The kill has improved 12 percent points since November.

GETTING TO THE FINISH LINE

The Marksmen have made the postseason twice prior to this season, losing both of their opening rounds in three-game series after winning game one. The Marksmen have not won a playoff series in team history.

Season	Opponent	Game 1 score	Res.
2019-20	Birmingham	4-0 FAY	L 2-1
2021-22	Quad City	3-2 FAY	L 2-1
2022-23	Birmingham	3-2 FAY (OT)	?

HOME SWEET HOME

With their win on Thursday, the Marksmen have secure 17 wins at the Crown Coliseum this year (regular season and playoffs). On the road, the Marksmen are 10-16-2 and have only five road wins since the new year (three at Quad City, two at Roanoke).

Birmingham boasts the best home record in the SPHL this season with 21 wins in Pelham.

TAMING THE BULL

Since suffering back-to-back losses vs. Birmingham on March 11 and 12 the Marksmen have not lost back-to-back games, winning nine of their last ten including the playoffs.

"We feel as though everyone is taking us lightly, and we like that. I don't think we're getting respect from many people including our opponent and that's what we want," said Cory Melkert Thursday.

Birmingham's last loss to the Marksmen at home came on December 18 by a final of 6-1.

CROWN COLISEUM

"Home of the Largest Crowd in SPHL History"

Opened: October 23, 1997

Capacity: 9,500

Address: 1960 Coliseum Drive, Fayetteville, N.C. 28306

SPHL Attendance Record: 9,500 (March 16, 2023)

Marksmen Attendance Record: 9,500 (March 16, 2023)

Hosted hockey since: 1997

The Crown Coliseum has hosted multiple notable events including Disney on Ice, Stars and Guitars, and WWE shows. In 2011, TNA iMPACT! filmed at the Crown for only the second time outside of its Orlando Studios. Also in 2011, WWE taped its Tribute to the Troops at the Coliseum. In 2015, rapper J. Cole recorded his album Forest Hills Drive: Live at the Coliseum in front of a hometown audience.

The Marksmen set their attendance record on March 17, 2022 during the team's annual School Day Game.



MARKSMEN REGULAR SEASON LEADERS

GOALS	ASSISTS	POINTS	SAVE PCT.	WINS
A. Alger 21	A. Alger 30	A. Alger 51	M. Herring 955	J. Pawloski 11
D. Glover 20	B. Bowen 23	B. Bowen 43	C. O'Brien 917	C. O'Brien 9
B. Bowen 17	A. Lane 22	D. Glover 36		
GW GOALS	+/-	PIMS	GAA	<i>Italics denotes player is on call-up</i>
T. McCloy 5	C. Vance +7	B. Moore 99	M. Herring 1.33	<i>* denotes player is on I.R.</i>
D. Glover 3	D. Glover +4	C. Shinkaruk 83	C. O'Brien 2.70	
B. Bowen 3	R. Lieth +4	C. Fries 80		

REGULAR SEASON FIGHTS TRACKER

Date	Player	Opponent
10.22	Bryan Moore	RNK/Sean Leonard
10.28	Nick Mangone	KNX/Kyler Matthews
11.05	Bryan Moore	MAC/David Nippard
11.12	Drake Glover	PEN/Ivan Bondarenko
11.12	Chris Jones	PEN/Malik Johnson
11.23	Nick Mangone	MAC/Dave Nippard
12.02	Bryan Moore	RNK/Sean Leonard
12.09	Vincenzo Renda	MAC/Timothy Faulkner
12.31	Bryan Moore	QC/Alec Carlson
12.31	Nick Mangone	QC/Mathias Ahman
01.06	Troy Murray	QC/Taylor Pryce
01.06	Tucker Scantlebury	QC/Alexis Girard
01.06	Troy Murray	QC/Mike Moran
01.13	Tanner Nagel	RNK/Sean Leonard
01.13	Bryan Moore	RNK/Dominicks Marcinkevics
01.20	Tanner Nagel	HSV/Kasey Kulczycki
01.28	Connor Fries	PEO/J.M. Piotrowski
01.28	Troy Murray	PEO/Mitchel McPherson
01.28	Tanner Nagel	PEO/Alexandre Carrier
01.29	Connor Fries	PEO/Ben Assad
02.03	Matt McNair	EVV/Matthew Hobbs
02.04	Troy Murray	EVV/Brendan Harrogate
03.17	Tanner Nagel	PEN/Sean Gulka
04.01	Nick Mangone	QC/Trevor Momot
04.07	Tanner Nagel	MAC/Rhett Kingston
04.08	Shane Bednard	MAC/Aaron Aragon
04.08	Nick Mangone	MAC/Sacha Roy
TOTAL:	25	

HAT TRICK TRACKER

Date	Player	Opponent	Result
12.17	Nick Mangone	@Birmingham	6-1 W
12.30	Matt McNair	@Macon	6-4 W

THE LAST TIME IT HAPPENED...

Overtime Win:	April 13, 2023	vs. Birmingham	3-2	Carson Vance GWG *Playoffs Rd. 1, Gm.1*
Shootout Win:	March 25, 2023	at Roanoke	2-1	
Overtime Loss:	February 26, 2023	vs. Huntsville	3-2	Jacob Barber GWG
Shootout Loss:	March 19, 2022	vs. Birmingham	5-4	
Powerplay Goal Scored:	April 13, 2023	vs. Birmingham		Matt McNair *Playoffs Rd. 1, Gm.1*
Powerplay Goal Allowed:	April 13, 2023	vs. Birmingham		Michael Gillespie *Playoffs Rd. 1, Gm.1*
Shorthanded Goal Scored:	April 7, 2023	vs. Macon		Grant Loven
Shorthanded Goal Allowed:	March 12, 2023	at Birmingham		Taylor Brierly
Shutout an Opponent:	March 31, 2023	vs. Quad City		Conor O'Brien
Were Shutout by an Opponent:	November 5, 2022	vs. Macon	4-0	Josh Benson
Scored a Hat Trick:	December 30, 2022	at Macon		Matt McNair

Winning Streak / Season Long: 6 games (into Playoffs) / 6 games (Dec. 27- Jan. 6)

Losing Streak / Season Long: N/A / 10 games (Jan. 13 - Feb. 4)

MARKSMEN STREAK VS. BIRMINGHAM - W1



2023 SPHL PLAYOFFS MARKSMEN TEAM LEADERS

Goals	Assists	Points	+/-	PIMS
M. McNair – 2	T. McCloy – 1	M. McNair – 2	C. Fries +2	M. Araujo - 2
C. Vance – 1	C. Shinkaruk – 1	Several tied at 1	M. McNair +2	D. Hunter - 2
	A. Alger – 1		Several tied at +1	T. McCloy - 2
	C. Fries – 1			M. McNair - 2

2023 SPHL PLAYOFFS MARKSMEN GOALIE LEADERS

Save Pct.	GAA	Wins	Saves	SO
J. Pawloski - .923	J. Pawloski – 1.92	J. Pawloski – 1	J. Pawloski – 24	N/A

GAME-BY-GAME SUMMARIES

ROUND 1 – GAME 1 2) BIRMINGHAM (BHM) @ 7) FAYETTEVILLE (FAY) 4/13/23

FAY 3 – 2 BHM (OT)

Scoring Summary

FAY – 9:59, 3rd – G: M. McNair (1), A: T. McCloy (1)
 FAY – 10:59, 3rd – G: M. McNair (2) A: C. Shinkaruk (1) (PP)
 BHM – 11:16, 3rd – S. Donahue (1), A: J. Pappalardo (1)
 BHM – 17:26, 3rd – M. Gillespie (1), A: A. Terchiyev (1), C. Rose (1) (PP)
 FAY – 2:37, OT – C. Vance (1), A: A. Alger (1), C. Fries (1)

TEAM STATS

	FAY	BHM
Shots	18	26
PP	1/2	1/4
PK	3/4	1/2

Attendance: 2003
 Venue: Crown Coliseum



OWNER AND PRESIDENT, CHUCK NORRIS

Chuck Norris, the owner and president of the Fayetteville Marksmen, purchased the franchise in April 2017.

Wanting to connect the team with the city of Fayetteville and the community around the Sandhills of North Carolina, Norris rebranded the team as "the Marksmen," a nod to the many soldiers and veterans in the Ft Bragg area.

A former U.S. Army Paratrooper himself, Norris served in the 3rd Special Forces Group (Airborne) from 1989-1993 and is a veteran of Operation Desert Storm.

In July 1993, Norris began his post-military life as the owner and operator of SUBS Car Audio and later added a retail furniture store known as Furniture Express, Inc.

Norris established Charles Norris Construction, Inc. in 1998. Since then, Norris Construction has developed 8 different residential neighborhoods, consisting of 300+ homes in Cumberland, Hoke, and Harnett Counties.

Today, Norris resides in Weddington, N.C. with his wife, Lanai, and their three children Chucky, Lilly, and Khloe.



HEAD COACH, CORY MELKERT

Cory Melkert was hired as the fifth head coach in Fayetteville Marksmen history in July 2020. Melkert had previously served as the team's assistant coach the prior season. He now holds the team record for wins, surpassing Jesse Kallechy on February 10 in a 3-2 win over Macon.

A native of Kenmore, Ont., Melkert was a well-respected defenseman with the OJHL's Trenton Golden Hawks. After logging 38 points in 45 games with Trenton, Melkert began his collegiate career with SUNY-Fredonia (NCAA D-III).

Melkert played 90 games with the Blue Devils and served as the team captain his senior season.

After graduation, Melkert played in Germany's third-tier league with EHC Timmendorfer Strand before returning to the U.S. in 2016-17 with the SPHL's Roanoke Rail Yard Dawgs.

Melkert would go on to play 152 games in the SPHL, 81 of them coming with the Evansville Thunderbolts. He would receive one call-up to the ECHL's Wichita Thunder in 2017-18.

The final stop in Melkert's playing career was with the Marksmen where both ownership and the then-current coaching staff recognized his ability as a potential coach and leader.

Melkert enjoys golfing and traveling with his wife Paxton away from the rink.

AS A PLAYER

'Yr.	Team	Gms.	G-A-P
16-17	RNK	20	1-2-3
	EVV	31	2-8-10
17-18	EVV	50	2-20-22
	WIC	5	0-0-0
18-19	PEN	25	2-2-4
	FAY	26	1-6-7

PRE-PRO CAREER

Melkert started his hockey career in the OJHL with the Gloucester Rangers and finished with the Trenton Golden Hawks. He played college hockey for SUNY-Fredonia, logging 10 points in 90 games for the Blue Devils. He served as the school's captain in 2014-15, his senior season.