

April, 2002

We are at the season finale and many fans like to discuss their "indoctrination" into the game of hockey. Many never liked hockey until the Storm blew into the area. Many have loved the sport for a long time. In my case, the real love came from that first Storm game. We have created a short period of small, but very loyal fan base, people who border on fanaticism all the way to the "take it or leave it fan". Ever wonder where you score on hardcore? This is just a fun format of questions I have discussed with many fans showing their support in different ways. These are things I have observed. While reading, perhaps something will tickle your fancy or sound like fun to the point you will experience a NEW activity in the world of hockey fandom! This is just to point out the many ways fans support hockey. Maybe you have missed something that could be fun! Remember, these are just observations of good fan behavior. Some is fun, some is hockey etiquette. Turn to page 5 to see how you score. I hope in this list one thing comes apparent to everyone this team not only plays great hockey, but they contribute in many fun and exciting ways in our community. I was not aware that so much else is happening in our area concerning this team. I hope you will see something here that sounds fun, worthwhile, and educational. If you see something you didn't know existed or would like to know more about, contact our Booster Club. I hope in this "little test", we can all become better fan's and friend's for the sake of supporting our Storm team. This sport and team has enriched many people's lives and spirits. So please, with the next season, let us give a little back. I want to wish all my fellow Booster Club members a sincere thank you from the board for all you do for our Storm! for all you do for our Storm!

Randie May
Co-Vice President

Happy Birthday

To You..

Scott Foyt	April 6th
Christian Toll	April 13th
Wade Harstad	April 14th
Matt Scherer	April 19th
Bille Luger	April 30th
Joe Schuman	May 25th

Board Election

We have been busy with preparation for electing a new board. The elections will take place at our monthly meeting on May 7th. A Nomination committee has been established, comprised of 3 general members in good standing.

Those who are currently on the board and seeking re-election include: Randie May, Kurt Schmidt, Denise Anderson, Pat Budler, Stuart Pesek, and Jeff Labrie. Other members seeking an elective office include Rich Abraham, Kathy Knapp, Jenny Olson, and Lisa Rowe.

Good Luck to everyone!

Board of Directors: President-Mike Hendrickson, Vice-President-Jeanne Mettenbrink, Co-Vice President-Randie May, Secretary-Paula Grupe, Treasurer-Kurt Schmidt, Newsletter Editor- Stephanie Weir, Sergeant-At-Arms-Denise Anderson, Members-At-Large-Pat Budler, Stu Pesek, and Jeff Labrie.

2nd Annual Awards Banquet

The Tri-City Storm Chaser's Booster Club hosted the 2nd annual awards banquet on Friday, March 22nd at the Kearney Holiday Inn.

Jeanne Mettenbrink started the evening by welcoming everyone. Kelly Warnken did an outstanding job as the MC for the night. He introduced the players and their family members who were in attendance. Thank you to the parents and family members for sharing these fine young men with us. Thank you also to the host families for opening your homes and lives up to these young men.

Dennis Gilhousen gave an entertaining invocation that included "staying seated while the prayer was in play" and thanking God for making water and giving us the ability to freeze it. Thank you Dennis for the magnificent job!

After a delicious 3 meat buffet, Coach Jim Hillman addressed the group. He provided information on the upcoming shift to Tier I status and explained some of the changes that will take place within the Storm organization with this shift. Thank you Coach Hillman for taking time to speak.

Following Coach Hillman's address, he presented the player awards which were voted on by the team. **Most Inspirational:** Bobby Robbins; **Most Improved:** Scott Foyt; **Rookie of the Year:** David Boguslawski; **Best Defenseman:** Scott Romfo; and **Best Forward:** Konrad Reeder. Kurt Foster of Foster Family Foods in Elm Creek then presented the **Affiliated Foods Most Valuable Player** award to Konrad Reeder. Jason Porter, Director of Media Relations for the Tri-City Storm, then presented the **Volunteer of the Year** award to Rex Rodehorst.

Congratulations

Elizabeth Marie Brisbin
Born to Whitney Budler and Wes Brisbin
January 12, 2002
8 pounds, 13 ounces long
20 inches long

Zachary Warren Warnken
Born to Kelly and Dawn Warnken
February 10, 2002
8 pounds, 1 ounce
21 inches long

Congratulations to all of the award winners and thank you to the presenters.

Following the announcement of the awards, Kelly Warnken presented a highlight video that he created from some of this seasons most memorable moments, both on and off of the ice. Some of the players were a little surprised to find out how often Kelly filmed their crazy antics. Thanks Kelly for a great video record of the year.

Anyone interested in purchasing a copy of this video needs to send a check or money order in the amount of \$10.00 plus \$2.00 shipping to Kelly Warnken, 1319 E. 45th Street-D12, Kearney, NE 68847. You can avoid the shipping fee by picking your video up at the May Booster Club meeting. Please include your name, address, and phone number when you send in your order.

Pat Budler wrapped up the evening by giving out the door prizes including autographed T-shirts, an autographed goalie stick, large decorated cookies and the gorgeous floral arrangements on the head table. Congratulations to all of the winners.

Now for the THANK YOU's!! To the players, you all deserve an award for always taking the time to sign autographs and talking to people when you really don't feel like being bothered. Thank you for being a part of our lives and giving us your best. To the coaches, trainer, Storm staff and arena staff, thank you for a job well done. Thank you to Jeanne Mettenbrink for being the chairperson of the banquet committee. Thank you to Pat Budler, Jeff and Sharlene LaBrie, Leisa Rowe, Carla Nunnenkamp, Josie Atkins, Butch and Kathy Knapp, Michelle Lewis, Deb Hendrickson, Leeann Clouse, Joan E. Mickelson, Cindy Houlden, Jenny Olsen, and Vicki Aten for volunteering your time for the Award's Banquet Committee. You did a fantastic job!

Please keep a lookout for the new location of the Storm Chaser Booster Club monthly meetings for the 2002-2003 season. Location to be announced.

We need your ideas, your thoughts and your feedback!

The Storm Chasers now have one season under their belt, so it is time to start thinking ahead and planning some of the events for the 2002-2003 Storm season. As a valued member, it is important for your Storm Chasers Board to know what events, fundraisers, bus trips, and ideas the members have. Your Board would like to ask you to take a few minutes to fill out and return this questionnaire to us before May 1st. This will give the 2002-2003 Storm Chasers Board a jumpstart on planning some exciting events for the members of the Club. Thank you for your help with these suggestions.

What events would you like to see the Storm Chasers sponsor for the members?

Are there any events you would like to see planned that would include the members AND the players?

Do you have any ideas for a new fundraiser to take the place, or in addition to, the Player Buttons?

What improvements would you like to see made to the Newsletter?

Do you have any suggestions for Newsletter articles?

When you consider going on a bus trip, what is the greatest influence in your decision? (i.e. distance, cost, location)

What arenas would you like to see a bus trip planned for next season?

How often do you view the Storm Chasers online site for updates and information?

If you have any other ideas, comments or suggestions you would like to share with the Board, please feel free to include them below.

Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts and ideas with us.

Some Parting Words*by Kathy Knapp***What have you liked best about the Tri-City area and what is your best memory?**

- Bobby Robbins:** "The friendly atmosphere between the fans and the players. Hearing the fans go crazy after my fight."
Clayton Carson: "The fan support. The fans."
Bille Luger: "The Tri-City people have been very kind and generous to me. My best memory was the inaugural season. I will miss all of the friendships."
Scott Romfo: "The atmosphere created by our great fans. My best memory was scoring the game winning goal against Des Moines last year in the last game of the season."
Joe Schuman: "The best part is the wonderful, down-to-earth, people here. The best memory is the excitement and enjoyment the fans express for the team."
Loren Havemeier: "I liked everything about the Storm. There isn't one thing I can single out. My best memory would be getting the chance to play here and be a part of the Storm organization."
Kyle Worner: "What I liked best was the atmosphere and the fans in it. They are behind us 100%. My best memory was scoring the overtime goal vs. Green Bay in the playoffs."
Konrad Reeder: "Milder winter (2nd year), unbelievable support from the fans, the treatment from the Storm organization, my housing family and most of all, the rest of the guys and the friendships made."
Brian Schmidt: "Has good golf courses and the people were all really nice. Best memory was just getting to know my house families."

How do you think the USHL has benefited you?

- Bobby Robbins:** "This league has taught me that consistency is the way to success in hockey. You have to show up to play every game throughout the year."
Clayton Carson: "Made me a better player."
Bille Luger: "I believe the league has helped me mature as a man and a player. It also allowed me to achieve my dream of earning a scholarship."
Scott Romfo: "It has given me time to develop as a hockey player and as a person. Playing 60+ games a year has improved my skills. The two years I have spent in Kearney helped me mature as a young man."
Joe Schuman: "The USHL has given me a chance to display my talents to college coaches and other people. Hopefully, I will get to play college hockey again."
Loren Havemeier: "It has helped me out tremendously. It has made me a lot better player and a person."
Kyle Worner: "It has helped me develop into a better and more mature hockey player, as well as a person."
Konrad Reeder: "I owe everything to the USHL and the Storm. Without both, I would have never had the opportunity to become a Division I athlete, especially in the WCHA."
Brian Schmidt: "It has made me a better player, developed my skills and knowledge of the game. Hopefully it will help me to go to college hockey."

What are your future plans?

- Bobby Robbins:** "To play hockey and see if pro hockey is an option for me, and if not, get a good job out of college."
Clayton Carson: "Who knows!! Get a 9 to 5 job!"
Bille Luger: "To excel at the college level both academically and in hockey."
Scott Romfo: "To play college hockey and finish college majoring in medicine. I am not sure where yet, but have a few choices. If possible, I would like to continue my hockey career, but we will have to wait and see."
Joe Schuman: "Hopefully, back to college hockey at a great school."
Loren Havemeier: "My future plans are to get a Gustavus Aldophus in St. Peter, MN and play football and hockey while getting my four year degree in Health and Exercise Science."
Kyle Worner: "Hopefully, play college hockey and get my degree."
Konrad Reeder: "My future plans are to play four years at St. Cloud and then see if there is any more of a future in hockey, and if not, move on with my life."
Brian Schmidt: "Nothing specific, just hopefully go to a school that will help my future in hockey and life."

Are You A True Hockey Fan?

(cont. Randie May)

How do you score?

1. Do you wait for the puck to stop play before you leave or enter your seat?
2. Do you go to every home game?
3. Do you go to other arenas?
4. Do you watch pre-game warm-ups?
5. Are you in your seat at 7:05 pm (faceoff)?
6. Do you know what a faceoff is?
7. Do you buy a program?
8. Do you wear Storm attire to the games?
9. Do you fill your seats if you can't attend?
10. Do you have a sign you bring to the games, perhaps in support of a player?
11. Do you have a noisemaker? (i.e. cowbell, jug of change, duckcall, etc.)
12. Do you have a player button?
13. Do you help educate "new fans" in the basics of the sport if you bring them so they don't feel out of place?
14. Do you have a Storm Logo anywhere at your home or office?
15. Do you stay until the game is over and wait for the "Sticktap" when the players win or lose thanking the crowd for their support?
16. Do you drive some miles to see a Storm game?
17. Do you yell at the referees when they make a bad call?
18. Do you know the FIRST name of every Storm player?
19. Do you recognize the Storm players with their helmets off?
20. Do you know about "Stormy's Kid's Club"?
21. Do you know about "Take School By Storm"?
22. Did you know the players make individual appearances for many community events, including charities?
23. Do you know what a tough job "houseparenting" is?
24. Do you attend Booster Club meetings?
25. Have you provided "road snacks" for the player's?
26. Do you yell LOUD for the team during a game?
27. Do you refuse to "DO THE WAVE" so you don't block the view of the ice?
28. Have you ever caught a puck?
29. Have you experienced a "shootout"?
30. Do you ever miss the players when they leave?
31. Do you realize what a tough job the coaches have?
32. Do you wear some goofy headwear to show support of your team (sorry, couldn't resist)?
33. Have you ever ice skated just to see how tough it is?
34. Do you clap when ANY player gets injured?
35. Do people just sitting there not cheering the team irritate you a little?
36. Are you thankful these guys came to Nebraska to play hockey when most had other options elsewhere?
37. Have you ever talked with a player's parent?
38. Do you have a player's autograph?
39. Have you been to a "Hockey Talk" radio show yet?
40. Do you listen to away games on the radio?
41. Have you been on a bus trip yet?
42. Have you visited the Storm Report E-Z board to see what other fans talk about (a link on the Storm Hockey website)?
43. Do you join in chants at the games in support of the players?
44. Do you YMCA with Stu?
45. Have you ever stayed after a game to congratulate or console the players as they come upstairs?
46. Do you register at Storm Central for the various drawings?

Dates to Remember

- May 7th** **Board Election**
Monthly meeting, 7pm
1st Inn Gold, I-80, S. 2nd Ave
- June 4th** Monthly meeting, 7pm
Location TBA
- July 2nd** Monthly meeting, 7pm
Location TBA

Total Memberships To Date: 165

Newsletter Committee :

Stephanie Weir, editor	Butch & Kathy Knapp
Tonya Kelliher	Josie Atkins
Brad Skiles	Lanni & Stacy Lipp
Kelly Warnken	Joan Mickelsen