



Newsletter

Volume 2

August 2003

From a Fan's Perspective: Storm 2003 Try Out Camp

Minnesota Highlights

Denise Anderson

Newsletter Editor

I asked some of those fans that made the trip to Minnesota to include their thoughts and highlights about their trip. Michelle Lewis enjoyed seeing the Veteran players and meeting the new guys as well as the parents. I asked Michelle to share some of her thoughts, "I would have to say meeting the guys at the airport was one of my favorite parts of the tryout camp, since we made the signs with their name on them! The guys thought it was really neat too!! Since it was my first experience at the airport I thought it was a great learning experience as well!"

I would have to say meeting the guys at the airport was one of my favorite parts of the tryout camp, since we made the signs with their name on them! --- Michelle Lewis

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Tri-City Storm 2003-04 Protected List

The Ever-Changing List

Denise Anderson

Newsletter Editor

On May 7, 2003 the USHL had their draft. Tri-City Storm picked 5 defensemen and 6 forwards in the draft. These eleven players were added to the goalie, forward and defenseman/forward that were tendered by the Tri-City Storm. Fourteen new players were added to sixteen Storm veterans to make up the Tri-City Storm protected list. From May 7th until May 21st the protected lists were frozen. NO drops, NO adds until after May 21st. The Tri-City Storm had 30 names on that protected list. All 30 of those players attended the 2003-2004 Tri-City Storm tryout camp in Blaine, Minnesota. At that camp there were about 75 hockey players split into 4 teams that were trying for 23 roster spots. After the first cut the remaining 43 players were split into 2 teams. Then two All-Star teams were formed with 34 players to finish up the tryout camp. Less than a week later Coach Bliss Littler had announced his 23 man roster. On July 1, 2003 the USHL teams had to have the 30 man protected lists honed down to a 23 man roster. The season has not yet started and more changes may be in the future. The homeopener will be Friday, September 26th against Sioux City and then a second game on Saturday, September 27th against Sioux Falls. Only time will tell if the list of players on the protected list will be the same ones listed in the program that opening

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Coach Littler said the signs were the talk of the locker room and he thanked us fans for making them. Apparently we made a very positive impression on the players and their families who were in attendance.

A Talk with a Scout

Karen Heun
Sergeant-At-Arms

Tryouts were a unique experience. I don't have a lot to compare it to - since the only other tryout camp I've been part of was last year in Kearney. It was great to see the veteran players - I'm sure most were surprised to see how many traveled from Kearney for the tryout camp. We met several new players trying out - some made the team, others didn't. We had a great time visiting with parents and friends of those trying out. We also met several scouts. One that I visited with several times was John from Colorado. He was there to recruit the best of those that would not make the first cut. As a team supporter, I was there to watch the best; whereas John was watching others. It was fun getting his opinion of various players. We met other scouts that came towards the end of tryout camp. They were evaluating those that did not make the final cut. The coaching staff took the time to acknowledge those of us there and spent time visiting with us. For the players that did not make the final cut, the coaching staff was committed to finding them a place to play. In all, it was a great experience and worth the time we spent in Minnesota.

No, I'm Just a Storm Fan

Mardi Anderson
Storm Fan

"Do you have someone trying out?"
"No"
"A son... grandson.... nephew?"
"No, I'm just a fan."
"You came all the way from **Kearney** just to watch the tryouts!?"

"Yes, I **like** hockey."

That is the way the conversation went several times as we watched the tryout games. The folks I talked to were there to watch a son/grandson/nephew. They found it hard to believe that Storm Hockey has such support that fans would go all the way to Blaine, MN to watch the try outs. But they believe it now.

I watched most of the games through the windows at the end of the rink since long exposure to low temperatures is not a good thing for me. While it was not as good as inside on the bleachers to really watch how each player was displaying his talent, it did provide the opportunity to get acquainted with several parents, some grandparents and even an aunt who we now know will be making a trip or two to Kearney during the coming season.

As an informal chamber of commerce, I tried to answer questions about Kearney, to give them an idea of the type of community and atmosphere their player would be coming to. You know, schools, host families, part-time jobs, the many autographs to be signed, fan support and attendance at home games, the kids who look up to them as heroes. And, yes, I even warned them about "puck bunnies". One player will not be buying a cowboy hat in preparation for coming here. Sam Kilburg did her part in helping parents also as she described the motel/restaurant layout and what are the best highways to take from the Minneapolis area to Kearney.

Watch for the Obermeyers and Liningers, Jakes parents and grandparents. Warren Lininger says Jake's mother is his favorite daughter. Then he admitted his other three children are boys. Jake gave his grandpa a Michigan Tech shirt. Of course we know that is where Jake is headed after spending a year or two here in the USHL.

Another prospective Storm player in the making is

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Little Jacob Dingle, who frequently accompanied Mom and Dad Boguslawski, and sometimes brought his own mom along, to watch David play. He is walking (running) now so he gets to start ice skating lessons this winter.

The retired Bloomington civil engineer gave me a private lesson, at my request, on the proper pronunciation of the last name of our assistant coach, who happens to be his son. It's [Rud'-rude] and it is Norwegian. He also said he was the engineer when the Mall of America was built which meant the razing of a hockey arena. Not a popular move, for which he took a lot of flak. But then a new arena was built – where the Wild play – so people are not mad at him any more.

Although we stayed at the motel where the out of town players stayed, we did not see much of them. They skated, ate and crashed to get as much sleep as they could. Conversations with players were mostly limited to trips to and from the airport. Let me tell you, we have a goalie who is so pumped about coming to play for the Storm, I just hope we can live up to his expectations. He likes the spotlight shining on the opposing goalie when our team scores and really likes the crowd chant after we score.

What a vacation! How many days until the season starts?? ❖

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

STORM CHASERS BOOSTER CLUB MEETING

HOLIDAY INN KEARNEY, NE
7:00PM

For more information about the Booster club and contact information check out:

<http://www.tricitystormchasers.com>

**For information about Tri-City Storm
Check out the Storm web site**

<http://www.stormhockey.com/>

weekend. Here is the Tri-City Storm protected list as of July 1, 2003



Tri-City Storm Players 2003-2004

	Eric Aarnio	G	White Bear Lake, MN
	David Boguslawski	F	Cottage Grove, MN
	Jace Buzek	F	Greensburg, PA
	Johnny Dingle	F	Shaker Heights, OH
	Ryan Dingle	F	Steamboat Springs, CO
	Blake Friesen	D	Excelsior, MN
	Christian Hanson	F	Venetia, PA
	Ben Hendrick	F	Andover, MM
	Jack Hillen	D	Minnetonka, MN
	Brian Kilburg	D	Mendota Heights, MN
	Kyle Kuk	D	Monroe, MI
	Luke Lucyk	D	Fox Point, WI
	Tim Madsen	F	Elk River, MN
	Peter Mannino	G	Farmington Hills, MI
	Jacob Obermeyer	D	Chanhassen, MN
	Tony Parrish	D	Brainerd, MN
	Scott Parse	F	Portage, MI
	Tom Pohl	F	Red Wing, MN
	Bill Thomas	F	Pittsburgh, PA
	Mark VanGuilder	F	Roseville, MN
	Garrett Vassel	F	Oyster Bay Cove, NY
	Steve Wagner	D	Grand Rapids, MN
	Chris Zarb	D	Waterford, MI

STORM BIRTHDAYS

BELETED BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

BLAKE FRIESEN 6/5/85

BILL THOMAS 6/20/83

AUGUST BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

TIM MADSEN 8/14/84



Storm Trivia

1. Who was the first player to be drafted by newly formed Tri-City Storm 2000-2001?
2. On what date did the Tri-City Storm have it's first HOME game scheduled?
3. What Twin-City Vulcan player holds the record for most penalty minutes in a season?
HINT: He later came back to be part of the Tri-City Storm as a member of the coaching staff.
4. What Tri-City STORM player holds the record for most penalty minutes in a season?
Interesting fact: this player's total PIM is higher then the total PIM of the 2002-2003 team.
Total PIM for 2002-2003 was 111 minutes.

A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM THE STORM CHASERS:



TRI-CITY ARENA

THE TRI-CITY ARENA HAS DONATED SPACE ON THE CONCOURSE FOR THE

TRI-CITY STORM CHASERS BOOSTER CLUB TABLE. SOME THINGS AT OUR TABLE:

- **PLAYER BUTTONS**
- **INFORMATION ABOUT UPCOMING EVENTS**
- **STORM CHASER BOOSTER CLUB MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION**

Tri- City Arena Business Office

Tri-City Arena
609 Platte Rd
Kearney, NE 68845
Phone: 308-338-8144
Fax: 308-338-8148

Tri-City Arena Ticket Club

Tri-City Arena
609 Platte Rd
Kearney, NE 68845
Phone: 308-338-8011
Fax: 308-338-8148

E-mail:
tickets@tricityarena.com

For information about Tri-City Arena Check out the arena web site

<http://www.tricityarena.com/>

Answers to Storm Trivia:

- [1] Kyle Worner, drafted by Tri-City Storm in the USHL draft May 2000.
- [2] November 10, 2000 vs Omaha was the first scheduled game of the 2000-01 season
- [3] Dave Larsen 296 PIM (1990-91season) Dave played as a Twin City Vulcan, then returned to the organization as an Assistant Coach for the 2001-02 season.
- [4] Bobby Robbins 176 PIM (2001-02) The total for the team 2002-03 season was 111 PIM