



# Booster Club

Vol. 5, No. 10

June 2006



## Tuesday, June 27, 2006

7:00 p.m. – Kearney Event Center – Second Floor

**Who are the new officers?? Come and find out – Help plan activities - Add your suggestions  
See samples of button styles for next season and get your vote in for the one you like the best**

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## Tryout Camp

Four Storm Chasers – Karen Heun, Kim Clark, Cindy Rademacher and Rochelle Rademacher – attended tryout camp this year in Bloomington, MN. Karen, who attended last year also, said that once a Storm fan attends tryout camp, they will be hooked. [Editor’s Note: This was the first year – other than the inaugural year when no one attended – that I did not attend. I don’t intend for that to happen again, barring a severe downturn in health or finances, of course.]

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Rochelle Rademacher says they had lots of fun but did not get to see much hockey on Saturday. The Chasers had two cars and seven players to transport between the motel and the Ice Gardens. Of course the boys did not all play at the same time and they wanted to rest between games so that meant multiple trips. Five of those seven players were cut after the Saturday games. They took the hotel shuttle to the airport so Rochelle and Cindy got to watch the Sunday games. Their evaluation is that there are some great players coming. Parents and players they visited with had questions about Kearney, one player wanting to know what Kearney is like, what the housing arrangements are. You see why the Chasers become ambassadors for Kearney. And, yes, Rochelle says she wants to go back again.

A final roster of 21 forwards, 13 defensemen and three goalies was published at the end of the camp. But the trimming began almost immediately because the Storm office has announced its list consists of 16 forwards and 12 defensemen along with the three goalies. A roster of 25 will be announced July 1.

So far all we know for sure is that the nine players from last year on the protected list will probably be back along with one Futures draft, Patrick White, who will play a split season while he stays with his high school team.



**Storm Chasers Booster Club**  
Official Booster Club of the Tri-City Storm  
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The following are excerpts  
from a USHL news release



## USHL moves towards more open style of play

June 9, 2006

GRAND FORKS, ND – In what seems to be sweeping premier hockey leagues around North America, an effort is being made to allow for the effective showcasing of talent by top players. The United States Hockey League (USHL) followed suit today as it announced it will be implementing a more strict playing rules enforcement policy for the 2006-07 season, much like that of the National Hockey League (NHL). The decision, which was approved unanimously during the USHL Spring Meetings, is a step in the right direction according to USHL President Gino Gasparini, who is an advocate of greater fusion between the USHL and the NHL in terms of rules enforcement....

While such rules changes seem to be with the league's best interest in mind, the success

or failure of such a change rests heavily on the shoulders of the USHL officiating crew....

"Our crew will continue the strict stick standard banning the aggressive use of the stick for slashing, cross-checking, high-sticking, spearing, and butt-ending; furthermore, any infractions to the head, checking from behind, and contact during icing will also be in the forefront of our refereeing agenda," [USHL Hockey Operations Director Scott] Brand explained. "There will obviously be a learning curve for the entire league as we shift towards a new brand of hockey...." ...Such a learning curve for the eleven (11) established teams and the new expansion franchise in Columbus, OH will begin on October 6, as the puck drops for another electrifying season of Tier 1 junior hockey.

Quotes from USA Hockey.com



COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. -- USA Hockey's four-day Annual Congress concluded last Sunday (June 11) in Colorado Springs, highlighted by its Board of Directors' unanimous endorsement of a new standard of play and rule emphasis beginning with the 2006-07 season.

The policy...focuses on five principles:

\* The use of the stick will be limited to only playing the puck.

\*The stick will not be allowed to in any way impede a player's progress.

\*The use of a free hand/arm will not be allowed to grab or impede a player's progress.



\*Players who use their physical skills and/or anticipation and have a positional advantage shall not lose that advantage as a result of illegal acts by the opponent.

\* Players will be held accountable for acts of an intimidating or dangerous nature.

Another significant change came with the Board of Directors' vote requiring all ice hockey coaches and instructors of registered USA Hockey youth/high school, disabled, girls'/women's 19 & under and below programs properly wear an ice hockey helmet during all on-ice sessions, including practices, controlled scrimmages and coach and referee clinics (seminars).



## 2006-07 Season Schedule

This year's hockey season starts later than previously. October 6 is the starting date for regular season play. That's a week later than we have started in the past. The later start date affects several other Storm hockey related activities.

Team members – those not in high school or taking college courses – will be arriving a week later than in the past.

The players will start their team practices a week or so later.

The Storm Chasers annual barbeque for the team will be sometime a week or so after Labor Day instead of the day after.

The Buc Bowl will be later. No date has been announced for that yet.

Of course, at the other end, the regular season will be ending in the first part of April instead of the end of March. It will probably be mid-April before play-offs begin. It may be the middle of May before we take our Clark Cup and go home.



## Waterloo to host 2007 Prospects/All-Star Game

This season's All-Star game will be played on Tuesday, January 30 at Young Arena in Waterloo. The last time they hosted this game was in the 1996-7 season. Other activities will include a banquet with a featured speaker from the world of hockey on the eve of the game, and a skills competition during the day of the game.

Last year the game was played at the Tyson Arena in Sioux City. Storm participants were Zach Cohen, Jaroslav Markovic and Jordan Willert. The players were divided according to division with the East playing the West.

Participants are selected by the USHL working with the NHL's Central Scouting Service. As a result many scouts attend this game, both collegiate and professional.

This year some thought is being given to organizing an old-timer's game or a Waterloo Warriors high school game in connection with the All-Star festivities.

## Storm Ownership Changes

A press conference was held on May 3 at the Kearney Event Center. Besides the expected media representatives, some Storm fans had also been invited to attend. The rumor which had been floating around for a few days was verified. Ted Baer had sold the Storm to Joel Wiens. Now the Storm and the Event Center will be combined under one ownership.

The announcement was made by Geof Cook, general manager of the Kearney Event Center. Then he turned the press conference over to Scott Trautman, director of media relations for the Storm. Joel Wiens was also in attendance via telephone. He said he sees this merger as a way to increase the efficiency in operating the two closely related organizations.

Greg Shea will still be the Storm's vice president of operations and Geof Cook will still be

general manager of the Kearney Event Center. They will be working together to promote both the Storm and the Event Center. When a reporter asked what their job titles would be, Mr. Wiens referred to them as the "Greg & Geof Show" and called for suggestions for titles.

The first order of business for the Storm was to get the season ticket renewal letters out. Then they had to start packing in preparation for their move from offices in north Kearney to the Event Center. At the time of the press conference they were not sure exactly where the offices would be located in the building, but had discussed the idea of locating next to the Crane office on second floor and also using one suite temporarily during the summer. They had to be moved by June 1.

## USHL Adds Twelfth Team

On May 3 the USHL announced that approval had been given to start a twelfth team in the league. The franchise will be located in Columbus, Ohio and the team will begin playing in the upcoming 2006-07 season. The Goebel family of Cleveland will lead Ohio Junior Hockey, Inc., the organization which will operate the franchise. They were represented by Thomas Goebel at the press conference announcing the team. Games will be played in Nationwide Arena, home of the Columbus Blue Jackets (NHL), who will manage games and arena operations for the new franchise.

Details like a team name, a coach, a team logo, and ticket information have not been announced yet. Nor has a team website been put up yet. Don Harkins is the director of hockey operations currently. He handled the draft selections on May 4 and the try-out camp in early June. As staff is hired he will continue in some sort of management position.

The Columbus team will be in the East Division. The Des Moines Buccaneers will move to the West to make six teams in each division.



## Player Birthdays

These two players were on the team last year and will be returning again next season. They both have celebrated June birthdays.

Sean Wiles turned 19 on June 15<sup>th</sup>.

Mario Lamoureux turned 18 on the 18<sup>th</sup> of June.