



Tri-City Storm Booster Club

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Player Buttons

Beads

Bells

All for Sale

Proceeds used to buy bus treats for the players going to
away games



Coach Schoneck had a few comments about the draft which brought us some players with speed and good character.

Captains named

In a surprise move at the preseason press conference, Coach Drew Schoneck named the captains of this year's team. Kenny Brooks will be captain during home games. Nick Lappin will be captain during away games. Assistant captains will be named later.

Lappin said his leadership style would be both vocal and by example. He also said that there are more forwards who can score this year so they should not have to depend on just one or two.

Brooks noted that this is his third year with the Storm and that he is 25 pounds heavier and 2" taller than when he first arrived. He also said that just as some of the returning players took him under their wing and mentored him, he plans to do the same with new players this year.



Captains Kenny Brooks (left) and Nick Lappin (right) with Storm owner, Kirk Brooks

Storm Birthdays

We begin our birthday greetings

to new team members this season. Four of them had August birthdays and they all turned 19.

Greg Johnson celebrated his birthday on August 5th.

Dalton Spicer's birthday was August 11th.

Brian Sinz celebrated his on August 18th.

Tim Bonner's birthday was August 19th.

There are no September birthdays.

Some Team Members

During the preseason camp there have been 30 players vying for the 23 positions on the team. Many of them were profiled here when they first joined the team or were drafted in past Futures and Entry Drafts. There are eight others we have not met yet. They have been here working hard during practices, playing in the exhibition games. Maybe some of them are gone already; some will be cut after the Classic; some will be staying. Here they are.

Pheonix Copley

G, 6'3", 175, 1/18/1992

Pheonix (note the spelling) Copley is from North Pole, Alaska, on the outskirts of Fairbanks. Following his junior year in High school, Pheonix went to Simi Valley, California, in the Los Angeles metropolitan area, to skate with the California Titans, during his senior year. This is a U18 team in the North America Prospects Hockey League.

At the end of the season he returned home to graduate with his North Pole High School class. His next stop was with the Corpus Christi IceRays in the NAHL last season. Now he is with the Storm and has played one exhibition game.

Pheonix is not the only hockey player in his family. When he played for the Titans, a teammate was his stepbrother, Matt Sanford. Part of last season with the IceRays his teammate was his older brother, Navarone.

J D Peterson

D, 5'11", 184, 10/12/1991

J D is from Orange, California. He played last season for the Des Moines Buccaneers. Besides possibly playing for the Storm this season, J D was also drafted by the Kenai River Brown Bears in the NAHL.



Sean Murphy

F, 5'8", 170, 4/6/1992

Sean comes from Cary, North Carolina, a suburb of Raleigh. He started last season in Austin, MN, playing for the Austin Bruins in the NAHL. Then he moved to Michigan to play the majority of the season for the Traverse City North Stars also in the NAHL. He is currently on their roster for this season. So is Dean Bruggrabe.

Jacob Meyers

G, 6', 175, 1/12/1992

Jacob Meyers is from Minnetonka, MN. He attended Benilde-St. Margaret's High School in Minneapolis. During his junior year there he was selected in the Futures Draft by the Cedar Rapids RoughRiders.



Following graduation he played last season for the Alexandria Blizzard in the NAHL. They were apparently planning on him playing for them again this season.

Heikki Liedes

(Hey-key Lee-dis)

F, 6'3", 185, 1/12/1993

Heikki is from Helsinki, Finland. Over the past four years he has been skating for the HPK Finnish Jr. U16-U20 teams. The HPK is the professional hockey team in Helsinki. In the past three years Heikki was a member of the Finnish U16, U17, and U18 International teams.

The March 29, 2011 issue of *The Hockey News* had the following paragraph about Heikki Liedes: "A big, tough winger with a great attitude and an aggressive demeanor, Liedes tore up the under-18 ranks and was quickly promoted to HPK's under-20 team. The 6-foot-2 Finn plays right on the edge and has also done a lot of work killing penalties this season. *Draft eligible in 2011.*"

It would appear he has grown another inch since this was written.

Sean O'Rourke

D, 5'9", 180, 4/8/1991

Sean is from Alta Loma, California. For the last two seasons he has been in Alaska playing for the Fairbanks Ice Dogs. He was part of the NAHL championship team last season.



Leo Guillemain

(GEE-ah-mon)
D, 6'3", 210, 3/2/1992

Leo is from Rouen, France where at age 15 he was playing for

the Rouen U18 team. During the following two seasons he continued to play for the U18 Team as well as the U22 team and the France U18 team. Last season he played for the Rouen U22 and the France U20 teams.



Dalton Spicer

D, 5'11", 170, 8/11/1992

Dalton came from Grand Forks, North Dakota, to spend his senior year in high school in Omaha while skating for the AAA Hockey

Program there. Then he moved on to play last season for the Bismarck Bobcats in the NAHL. This season he was slated to be playing for the Janesville Jets in Janesville, Wisconsin. But maybe he will be playing for the Storm instead.

Where Are They Now?

After looking to the future and some possible members of the team for the coming season, now let's look back at some former players. This month we will finish our focus on the 2001-02 team and next month move on to look for members of the team ten seasons ago in 2002-03.

But first, an update. Last month we focused on Chris Nathe and ended his story with his college experiences. While Chris was here he met a girl, Danielle Price. They continued to stay in contact after he left, and on August 7, 2010 he was back in Kearney for their wedding.



Noah in 2011

Noah Ruden

Noah Ruden, is from Bloomfield Hills, MI, where he played for Detroit's AAA Belle Tire. He came to the Storm from the Tulsa Crude shortly after the 2001-2 season began.

This was his second year in the USHL. He had played the previous season for the Dubuque Fighting Saints. Noah's record of 184:35 consecutive shutout minutes still stands.

After playing one season for the Storm, Noah went to the University of Michigan, his choice of schools because of family tradition. Not having a scholarship, he joined the hockey program as a walk on. At this time the coach was relying on just one goalie, very seldom using the backup goalies. As a result Noah played only 10 games during his first three years there.

In his senior year he and another goalie shared goal tending responsibilities. While at Michigan, Noah majored in communications. He was named to the Big Ten Academic All-Conference Team his junior and senior years.

Noah stayed in hockey for only one more season. He spent the 2006-7 season playing for the Port Huron Flags, a minor pro team in the United Hockey League, again sharing goalie duties. Following that season Noah retired. The team moved down to the junior level last season and joined the NAHL as the Fighting Falcons.

In July 2007 the first ever Jewish World Ice Hockey Championship Tournament was held in Metulla, Israel. Teams of Jewish players from Israel, US, France, and Canada participated. Two members of the US team were former Storm players Noah Ruden and Zach Cohen. In the first game of that tournament the US played France winning 9-2. The second US goal of the game was made by Noah Ruden (who apparently was not the goalie in that game).

The first weekend in August every year the U of Michigan hockey alumni hold a reunion. Here is part of the account of their game in 2008: "With the final alumni game featuring the 35-and-under players tied at 7-7, goalies L.J. Scarpace and Noah Ruden turned away numerous extra-session shootout attempts [before Scarpace let one in].... Neither goalie hardly ever straps on the pads any more."

Noah was working in Chicago at that time and is still there.



2001
←
2004
→



Jake Schuman

Goalie, Jake Schuman came from Bloomington, MN, where he attended high school at Benilde-St. Margaret's. He still holds the school records for career wins (51) and single season wins (21). Following graduation he joined the Tri-City Storm for the 2001-2 season. He and Larry Sterling were back-up goalies for Noah Ruden.

The next season he went to Alexandria, MN, in the center of the state, to play for the Minnesota Blizzard in the NAHL. From there Jake joined the Dubuque Thundercats in the Minnesota Junior Hockey League for a season. Then he enrolled at the University of Wisconsin/Stout for the 2004-5 season.

The latest information available about Jake came from a Booster Club member in March 2010. At that time it was reported that he was married, had a son, and was trying to get back into medical school.



← 2001
2002 →

You can tell they are brothers, can't you.



Joe Schuman

Joe Schuman grew up in Bloomington, MN, a suburb of Minneapolis. He attended Benilde-St. Margaret's High School where he had such an outstanding hockey career that his #7 jersey was retired. In fact his traveling jersey hangs in the rafters of the Excel Center where the Wild play.

After graduation Joe went to Boston College. He missed most of his first season (2000-01) due to a leg injury. At the end of the first semester of his sophomore year he withdrew and came to Kearney to join his brother as a member of the Tri-City Storm.

The following fall Joe joined the U of Connecticut team but at the end of the semester again withdrew and finished the rest of the 2002-3 season with the Sioux Falls Stampede. At that point we lose track of him.



Two other players were here only long enough to have their pictures taken for the Storm program. They were gone by the time the first regular season game was played.

← Dan Holmgren came from Blaine, Minnesota

Petr Prochazka came from Zlin, Czech Republic and had skated for the Saskatoon Blades in Canada the season before. →



Storm Booster Club

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