



# Tri-City Storm Booster Club

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Vol. 11, No. 6

PO Box 2101, Kearney, NE 68848

February 2012



Three Storm players are turning 19.

Michael Vecchione's birthday was Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>. He celebrated with two assists in the game that night.

Thomas Nykopp's birthday is March 6.

John Hrabovsky celebrates his birthday on March 19<sup>th</sup>.

## Treats

Given any thought lately to where the money goes that is earned at the Booster Club Button Booth? It goes toward the purchase of the Storm player's bus treats.

Cindy and Rachelle Rademacher go on periodic shopping trips to purchase granola bars, pudding cups, dried and fresh fruit. For holidays such as Christmas or Valentine's Day they may slip in a little holiday candy but otherwise it is all nutritionally wholesome food.

They have a system set up for filling the sacks with a certain number of treats depending on how long the road trip will be. The bags for the week end in Fargo held much more than an evening trip to Lincoln. Each bag holds the same assortment unless a player has some special dietary requirements – like the season we had a player who was lactose intolerant and could not eat the pudding.

## Storm Headlines

### Mr. Hockey

Grant Opperman, who will be joining the Storm after the Minnesota State Tournament, and Will Merchant, Storm Entry Draft and player prospect, have both been nominated for the Minnesota Mr. Hockey Award.

### Hat trick

Kenny Brooks scored the second hat trick of the season and the first one at home on Feb 18 in the 8-3 win over Lincoln. #13 Brooks is the 13<sup>th</sup> player

### USHL Player of the Week Awards

Kenny Brooks was named Forward of the Week by the USHL for the 21<sup>st</sup> week of the regular season. Besides his hat trick against Lincoln on Feb. 18th, Brooks also had an assist the night before against the Sioux Falls Stampede.

J D Peterson shared Defenseman of the Week honors with Chicago Steel and former Storm player, Chris Joyeau. He had a record of 1 goal and 2 assists for the weekend. His goal was the game winning goal in the game against Lincoln. This was his second USHL career game winning goal.

### Season Expanded

The 2012-113 USHL season has been expanded to 64 games with two more home games and two more away games. It will begin on Friday, September 28, 2012 and end no later than Saturday, April 20, 2013.



# Roster Changes

## No Longer Here

Tyler Amburgey – traded to Dubuque  
Desmond Bergin – traded to Dubuque  
Pheonix Copley – traded to Des Moines  
Trevor Gorsuch – traded to Des Moines

## Added

Garrett Cecere –  
Prospect defense, from Dubuque  
Christian Frey –  
Goalie from the Des Moines Buccaneers  
Chase Rey –  
Prospect forward, from the Des Moines  
Buccaneers  
Joel L'Esperance –  
Prospect forward, from the Des Moines  
Buccaneers  
Grant Opperman

## Storm on the Road



Here is a recent Skip Berry Twitter with accompanying photo:

Road trip to Fargo takes place with traditional treat bag trades. Trevor Moore the mastermind.

# New Player Profiles



## Christian Frey

G, 6', 185, 6/12/1993

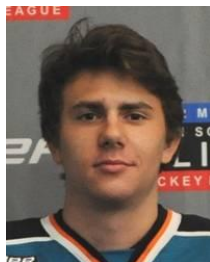
Christian is from Arlington, Texas. Last season he played on the Dallas Stars' Major Midget U18 team and the season before on their U16 team. After at least a season on

the Des Moines Prospect list, Christian started this season as backup goalie for the Buccaneers. He came to the Storm in a trade that sent goalies Copley and Gorsuch to the Buccaneers.

## Grant Opperman

F, 5'11.5", 180, 11/15/1993

Grant is currently a senior at Breck High School in Golden Valley, a Minneapolis suburb. A newspaper reporter there has said regarding his



speed that he has an extra gear on open ice. He is a Mr. Hockey candidate in Minnesota this year and has committed to Dartmouth University in 2013

Grant will join the Storm team after the Minnesota State Hockey Tournament ends on March 11.



## Garrett Cecere

D, 5'9", 170, 1/5/1995

Garrett comes from West Des Moines, Iowa. In 2009, at age 14 he enrolled at Shattuck/St. Mary's. Last season he played on their U16 team. . In last spring's Futures Draft Garrett was

selected by the Dubuque Fighting Saints.

August was a busy month for Garrett. Early in the month he participated in the Five Nations Tournament as a member of the USA U17 Select Team which won the gold medal. Later in the month he committed to Colorado College.

Garret is spending the 2011-2012 season playing for the Janesville Jets in the NAHL. On February 2 he was traded to the Storm for Amburgey and Bergin and has been added to the Storm's protected list

Garrett's older brother Nick played for the Lincoln Stars last season and is now at Michigan Tech.

\* \* \*

**Cutler Martin** was drafted by the Storm last spring. He was profiled in the August newsletter. He came from East Lansing, Michigan, to join the team for the February 17-18 weekend



### **Chase Rey**

F, 5'10", 4/10/1994

Chase is a prospect acquired from Des Moines in the trade which also brought Christian Fry to the team. He is a junior at Francis Howell Central

High School in St. Charles County in suburban St. Louis, MO. He is currently playing on the Midget Minor U18 team for the St. Louis Blues.

Chase started out as a roller hockey player.

### **Joel L'Esperance**

F, 6', 175, 8/18/1995

Joel comes from Brighton, Michigan. He was another player acquired by the Storm from Des Moines in the goalie trade. He was a Buccaneer Futures Draft.

Joel started playing hockey in the Kensington Valley Hockey Association as a Mini-Mite and played through Bantam A before going to the Compuware U16 team. This season he is on their U18 team.

Joel has committed to Michigan Tech in 2013.

#### **Storm Booster Club**

stormboosterclub.com

Official Booster Club of the Tri-City Storm

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