



Tri-City Storm Booster Club

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2011-2012 Storm Season Achievement Awards

The annual Achievement Awards presentations were made following the last Storm home game of the season, April 7. Originally the Booster Club had planned to hold the annual Achievement Dinner on April 15 following the last game of the regular season. The unknown factors when that date was set were whether we would be in the playoffs and what the playoff schedule was.

Then we learned the Storm would be in the playoffs and the first round would begin Monday, April 16. Since the Storm was in sixth place, they played the third place team at their arena. The Storm would not return home after the April 14th game in Sioux Falls but would go directly to the playoff site in Waterloo. Holding a dinner without the honored guests did not seem like a good idea.

The alternative plan was to bring the awards to the team as they met with their families and host families after that last home game. So that is what we did. At least we got pictures so you can see who was recognized.

Unless otherwise labeled, these photos were taken by Todd Gottula.



Nick Lappin
Offensive Player of the Year



John Hrabovsky
Defensive Player of the Year
Most Improved Player



Trevor Moore
Offensive Rookie of the Year
[photo by Kyle Means]



Dylan Maller
Defensive Rookie of the Year
[photo by Ed Anderson]



Brian Ward
Most Inspirational Player



Kenny Brooks
Unsung Hero

A new award was presented this year to the player who was outstanding in representing the team in school and other community appearances.

Kyle Means presented that Community Award to J.D. Peterson.



Fan Favorite defensive and forward players were voted on by Storm fans at the two weekend games, March 23rd and 24th. The trophies were presented by possibly the Storm's #1 fan, Brooke Peterson.



Adam Wilcox
Fan Favorite Defenseman



Kenny Brooks
Fan Favorite Forward



Skip Berry awarded his Grinder of the Year Award. This year it went to forward, Tim Bonner.



Adam Wilcox
Most Valuable Player of the Season



Team Headlines

Goalie of the Week

After practicing with the team for two months and suiting up for game after game as the backup goalie, Christian Frey finally had his 120 minutes of fame during the last two games of the regular season. He played two inspired games making, as the coach has been known to say, “all of the saves he should and a couple he shouldn’t.” As a result Christian was named the USHL Goalie of the Week. Based on that performance, the prospects for next season look very good.

NHL Draft

On June 22 the NHL will hold its Entry Draft. All season long scouts have been watching prospective draft candidates and drawing up lists of prospects. Two Storm players were on the latest list to be published. They are forward Grant Opperman, who is ranked 190, and defenseman Eli May, who is ranked 207.

Storm Prospect, Will Merchant, is also on that list, ranked at 130. But Will has committed to the University of Maine and will play there next fall instead of joining the Storm.

Former Storm player, forward Daniil Zharkov, is also on that list, ranked at 32. He is currently playing for Belleville in the Ontario Hockey League.

Peterson Commits

When receiving his Community Award after the last home game, J. D. Peterson announced that he has committed to the University of Alaska at Fairbanks. He will join the Fairbanks Nanooks next fall. J. D. said he will probably major in business while he is there.

Seven Storm Players in Frozen Four

The NCAA Division I hockey Frozen Four tournament was played the first weekend in April. In the semi-finals Ferris State won the game against Union College and in the finals Ferris State lost to Boston College.

The Ferris state roster included six former Storm players: defensemen Brett Wysopal (2006-07), Jason Binkley (2010-11), Simon Denis (2010-11) and forwards T.J. Schlueter (2009-10) and Dominic Panetta (2010-11) along with Justin DeMartino, who was the Storm’s #1 draft pick in 2009 but was traded to Waterloo after the preseason competition that season.

The Union College roster included former Storm player Ryan Forgaard (2008-09).

Affiliates\Prospects Called Up

The Storm called up four players from the Affiliate/Prospect List to join Eli May and Nolan Gluchowski for the last weekend of regular season games. They played in these games so some of our regular players could prepare for the playoffs. Those “reserve” players were Chase Rey, Chase Berger, Joel L’Esperance, and Connor Hutchins. Chase Rey, however, was not able to come for the weekend because of an injury.

Players on the Storm’s Affiliate/Prospects List could play up to six games this season. Here is the list with the number of games they played. How they were acquired is listed in parenthesis.

Affiliate/Prospect List

Cutler Martin (entry draft) – played 6 games

Eli May (entry draft) – played 6 games

Nolan Gluchowski – (acquired in trade with Fargo) – played 6 games

Connor Hutchins (futures draft) – played 4 games

Kyle Eastman (futures draft) – played 2 games

Chase Berger (entry draft) – played 2 games

Joel L’Esperance – (acquired in trade with Des Moines) – played 2 game

Chase Rey – (acquired in trade with Des Moines) – called for last weekend but was not able to play

Talon Miller (entry draft) – was not called up

Dan Labosky (futures draft) – was not called up

Garrett Cecere –(acquired in trade with Dubuque) – was not called up

Will Merchant (entry draft) – was not called up, will probably play for U of Maine next season

No longer on the list

Griffin Foulk (futures draft) – joined Storm team in January 2012

Gage Quinney (futures draft) – traded to Des Moines in February 2012

Corey Petrash (entry draft) - traded to Cedar Rapids in December 2011

Help Wanted

Would you like to attend Storm games free next season?

The Tri-Storm Booster Club is looking for someone to operate the Booster Club booth before home games and during both intermissions in exchange for a free ticket to each game you work. Interest persons can contact Mardi Anderson at cottonmill@charter.net.

Storm Booster Club

stormboosterclub.com

Official Booster Club of the Tri-City Storm

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