



# This Week In The USHL

## October 6, 2008

USHL Images



Omaha's (L-R) Matt White, Dakota Eveland, Ben Arnt and Jake Hauswirth, the team's four returning players from a year ago, unfurl the championship banners from the 2007-08 season at their home opener on Friday night.

### 2008-09 USHL STANDINGS

#### EAST DIVISION

Team	GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF	GA
Cedar Rapids	1	1	0	0	2	4	2
Des Moines	1	1	0	0	2	8	2
Green Bay	1	1	0	0	2	3	2
Chicago	1	0	1	1	0	3	5
Indiana	1	0	1	1	0	2	4
Waterloo	1	0	1	1	0	2	3

#### WEST DIVISION

Team	GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF	GA
Sioux City	1	1	0	0	2	5	3
Sioux Falls	1	1	0	0	2	3	2
Fargo	2	1	1	0	2	6	5
Lincoln	2	1	1	0	2	6	5
Tri-City	2	1	1	0	2	7	10
Omaha	2	0	2	0	0	3	7

### RECENT RESULTS

#### Saturday, October 4, 2008

Cedar Rapids 4 Indiana 2  
 Des Moines 8 Tri-City 2  
 Green Bay 3 Waterloo 2  
 Lincoln 3 Omaha 1  
 Sioux City 5 Chicago 3  
 Sioux Falls 3 Fargo 2

#### Friday, October 3, 2008

Fargo 4 Omaha 2  
 Tri-City 5 Lincoln 2

#### Pre-Season

#### Saturday, September 27, 2008

Omaha 4 Sioux City 1  
 Des Moines 4 Sioux Falls 2  
 Cedar Rapids 5 Tri-City 3  
 Lincoln 4 Waterloo 2  
 Green Bay 5 Fargo 1  
 Chicago 4 Indiana 1

#### Friday, September 26, 2008

Cedar Rapids 10 Omaha 6  
 Tri-City 5 Green Bay 4  
 Indiana 6 Fargo 3  
 Lincoln 4 Chicago 3  
 Sioux Falls 2 Waterloo 1, SO  
 Des Moines 5 Sioux City 1

### UPCOMING SCHEDULE

#### Friday, October 10, 2008

Fargo at Indiana  
 Sioux City at Tri-City  
 Cedar Rapids at Chicago  
 Des Moines at Omaha  
 Sioux Falls at Lincoln

#### Saturday, October 11, 2008

Fargo at Indiana  
 Sioux Falls at Des Moines  
 Waterloo at Cedar Rapids  
 Lincoln at Sioux City  
 Tri-City at Omaha  
 Green Bay at Chicago

#### Monday, October 13, 2008

Omaha at Tri-City

#### Friday, October 17, 2008

Waterloo at Indiana  
 Chicago at Sioux City  
 Green Bay at Tri-City  
 Cedar Rapids at Sioux Falls  
 Fargo at Lincoln  
 Omaha at Des Moines

### SCORING LEADERS

Player	Team	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM
Josh Balch	DM	1	1	3	4	2
Mike Cichy	TC	2	2	1	3	0
Chris Knowlton	DM	1	2	1	3	0
Donnie Hallmark	SC	1	2	1	3	0
Richard Manley	LIN	2	1	2	3	4
Victor Anilane	SF	1	1	2	3	0
Andrew Miller	CHI	1	1	2	3	0
Eli Zuck	TC	2	0	3	3	2
Stepahne Vigier	SC	1	0	3	3	0

Several tied with 2 points

### GOALTENDING LEADERS

Player	TM	GP	W-L-SOL	GAA	SV%	SO
Kevin Murdock	LIN	1	1-0-0	1.00	.973	0
Eric Hartzell	SF	1	1-0-0	2.00	.905	0
Aaron Crandall	DM	1	1-0-0	2.00	.935	0
Reid Ellingson	GB	1	1-0-0	2.00	.920	0
Mike Johnson	CR	1	1-0-0	2.00	.895	0

### QUOTABLE

"Any kind of win would have been a good win. We don't win in the pre-season, and you start to wonder what it takes to win."

*Fargo Head Coach Dean Blais to the Fargo Forum on his team's 4-2 win over Omaha on Friday night, the first win in Fargo Force history.*

# The USHL at 30 Years



The Hennepin Nordiques played just one season in the USHL, but they made the most of their time. The team, based out of Minnesota's Twin Cities, claimed the first Anderson Cup of the all-junior era, besting the Bloomington Junior Stars by two points to claim the title. The Nordiques also won the Clark Cup and the first all-junior playoff championship, under the guidance of Head Coach Dan Austin.

After that first season, the Nordiques league membership and their roster were moved to Waterloo. In a business deal to save two teams and bring a new market into the league, the roster and membership of the Waterloo Black Hawks were moved to Dubuque, where they would become the Fighting Saints. The Nordiques were then shifted to Waterloo, a move that kept the USHL alive in Waterloo.

## USHL INSIDER

**Keep The Pucks:** Several USHL head coaches got wins in their first games with their new teams, including Dean Blais (Fargo), J.P. Parise (Des Moines), Jon Cooper (Green Bay), Tom Rudrud (Tri-City) and Todd Knott (Sioux City).

**All-Time Winners:** With Friday's win over Lincoln, the Tri-City Storm won the 800th game in franchise history. The team originated in Minnesota and was known as the St. Paul Vulcans and later the Twin Cities Vulcans before moving to Kearney in 2000.

**Fargo's First:** The first goal in Fargo Force history came courtesy of Andy Taranto. Taranto gave the Force a 1-0 lead over Omaha at 9:13 of the first period on Friday. Taranto, a former Lancer, played 22 games for Omaha in 2006-07.

**It Only Takes One This Year:** Sioux Falls wasted no time getting their first win of 2008-09, beating Fargo 3-2 on Saturday. Last season, the Stampede didn't get their first win of the season until October 27, as they started the season 0-6.

**Movin' On Up:** USHL linesmen Jim Scarpace and Judson Ritter worked their first games in the American Hockey League on Friday and Saturday, respectively.

**For Starters:** Lincoln fell to Tri-City 5-2 on Friday night, marking the first time in six years that the Stars have lost their home opener.

**Open The Gates:** 22,550 fans watched USHL action in the season's first weekend, including a crowd of 4,692 in Lincoln on Friday night.

**First Impressions:** Defending league champion Omaha had 14 skaters in the lineup on Friday making their USHL debuts.

**B-U-C-S BUCS! BUCS! BUCS!:** Des Moines erupted for eight goals in their season-opening win over Tri-City on Saturday, the most goals they'd scored since scoring eight in an 8-1 win over Indiana on November 23, 2005.

## LATEST COLLEGE COMMITMENTS

Victor Anilane (SF) - Bemidji State  
Alec Rush (TC) - Princeton  
Eric Meland (Lin) - Princeton  
Cody Murphy (CR) - Miami  
Josh Balch (DM) - Yale  
Joe Howe (Wat) - Colorado College  
Seth Ambroz (Oma) - Minnesota  
Keegan Meuer (Wat) - Wisconsin  
Mike Walsh (Chi) - Air Force  
Stephane Vigier (SC) - Northern Michigan  
Garrett Peterson (Lin) - Notre Dame  
Sean Escobedo (TC) - Boston University

## STAT OF THE WEEK

Last year, Lincoln didn't score their first power play goal until game three, going 0 for their first 11 chances. This season, they got their first power play goal on their fifth chance with the man advantage.

## SPECIAL TEAMS REPORT

*totals are team's percentages*

Team	PP	PK	Total
Cedar Rapids	28.57	100.00	128.57
Des Moines	60.00	66.67	126.67
Chicago	20.00	100.00	120.00
Fargo	23.08	92.86	115.94
Green Bay	9.09	90.91	100.00
Waterloo	9.09	90.91	100.00
Tri-City	29.41	66.67	96.08
Lincoln	8.33	83.33	91.66
Sioux Falls	0.00	87.50	87.50
Omaha	7.14	76.92	84.06
Sioux City	0.00	80.00	80.00
Indiana	0.00	71.43	71.43



**Above:** There will be no shortage of USHL talent in Durham, N.H. this year, as 13 former USHLers will suit up for at the University of New Hampshire. **Pictured (L-R):** Matthew DiGirolamo (Waterloo), Dan Dries (Cedar Rapids), Mike Borisenok (Green Bay), Nick Krates (Omaha), Mike Beck (Sioux City), Greg Collins (Cedar Rapids), Alan Thompson (Chicago), Phil DeSimone (Sioux City), Mike Sislo (Green Bay), Thomas Fortney (Waterloo), Joe Charlebois (Sioux City), Blake Kessel (Waterloo) and Brian Foster (Des Moines).

*Photo by Mike Silverwood and courtesy of UNH Athletics*

### COLLEGE ALUMNI NEWS

**Nick Bailen** (Indiana) scored the fifth and final goal as Bowling Green defeated Wilfrid Laurier (Ontario) 5-1 on Friday.

**Patrick Wiercioch** (Omaha) made the most of his first game with Denver, scoring the game-winning goal and assisting on two others as the Pioneers defeated the University of Alberta 5-4 Saturday.

**Chad Langlais** (Lincoln) and **Aaron Palushaj** (Des Moines) each had a pair of assists as Michigan beat the U.S. NTDP U-18 team 4-1 Saturday.

**Alex Stalock** (Cedar Rapids) made ten saves in the first two periods and **Brady Hjelle** (Cedar Rapids) made 10 saves in the third period, combining for the shutout as Minnesota-Duluth defeated Lakehead (Ontario) 6-0.

**Dennis Urban** (Ohio) had three assists in Robert Morris' 9-0 win over Ryerson University (Ontario)

### USHL ALUMNI IN THE NHL as of October 6, 2008

- |                               |            |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| Matt Carle (Omaha)            | Tampa Bay  |
| Mark Eaton (Waterloo)         | Pittsburgh |
| Ruslan Fedotenko (Sioux City) | Pittsburgh |
| Alex Goligoski (Sioux Falls)  | Pittsburgh |
| Brian Lee (Lincoln)           | Ottawa     |
| Ryan Malone (Omaha)           | Tampa Bay  |
| Jeff Taffe (Rochester)        | Pittsburgh |
| Bill Thomas (Tri-City)        | Pittsburgh |



### PRO ALUMNI NEWS

Eight USHL alumni made their season debuts in the NHL over the weekend as part of the series' played in Europe. The New York Rangers played Tampa Bay in the Czech Republic while Pittsburgh played Ottawa in Sweden. They are the only four teams to play games for real thus far, with the rest of the NHL getting underway this week.

**Alex Goligoski** (Sioux Falls) was the first USHL alum to score during the NHL regular season, potting the Penguins lone goal in a 3-1 loss to Ottawa Sunday. It was the first NHL goal for Goligoski, who was playing in his fourth game.

**Max Pacioretty** (Sioux City), who has been the subject of much speculation in Canada regarding his status with the Montreal Canadiens during a great rookie pre-season, was part of the latest round of cuts for the team and will start the season with their AHL team in Hamilton, Ontario.

The Buffalo Sabres have sent both **Tim Kennedy** (Sioux City) and **Nathan Gerbe** (Omaha) to start the season in the AHL. Kennedy, who was drafted by the Washington Capitals in the 6th round in 2005, left Michigan State early while Gerbe, the Sabres 5th round pick that same year, left Boston College with a year to go.

**Matt Carle** (Omaha) got a change of scenery this off-season with his trade from San Jose to Tampa Bay. In the first two games of the regular season, Carle is averaging 26:13 of ice time, the second highest average on the Lightning and third highest total in the NHL.

**Chad Anderson** (Tri-City) scored the game-winning goal in overtime as Hamilton defeated Toronto 4-3 in AHL pre-season action.