



# This Week In The USHL

## January 26, 2009



Mascots "Rusty" (left) and "Big-E-Foot" have an intermission dance-off in front of a big crowd in Chicago on Saturday night.

### 2008-09 USHL STANDINGS

#### EAST DIVISION

Team	GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF	GA
Green Bay	33	24	7	2	50	131	81
Cedar Rapids	34	23	8	3	49	135	75
Indiana	34	23	9	2	48	126	103
Waterloo	34	21	11	2	44	139	108
Chicago	36	18	17	1	37	117	132
Des Moines	32	6	23	3	15	96	148

#### WEST DIVISION

Team	GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF	GA
Lincoln	34	22	11	1	45	108	82
Omaha	35	19	12	4	42	121	114
Fargo	37	17	18	2	36	110	113
Sioux Falls	36	16	18	2	34	112	120
Sioux City	36	13	20	3	29	113	126
Tri-City	35	6	29	0	12	80	186

### RECENT RESULTS

**Sunday, January 25, 2009**  
Cedar Rapids 5 Sioux City 2

**Saturday, January 24, 2009**  
Fargo 6 Des Moines 2  
Waterloo 6 Sioux City 3  
Green Bay 7 Tri-City 0  
Cedar Rapids 2 Lincoln 1  
Omaha 5 Sioux Falls 3  
Indiana 6 Chicago 0

**Friday, January 23, 2009**  
Sioux City 7 Indiana 3  
Omaha 4 Fargo 3, SO  
Sioux Falls 4 Waterloo 3  
Lincoln 4 Des Moines 2  
Green Bay 7 Tri-City 1  
Cedar Rapids 5 Chicago 4

**Wednesday, January 21, 2009**  
Sioux Falls 4 Des Moines 3  
Green Bay 3 Waterloo 2, OT

**Saturday, January 17, 2009**  
Green Bay 8 Indiana 4  
Chicago 4 Des Moines 3  
Waterloo 4 Fargo 1  
Sioux City 4 Cedar Rapids 3, SO  
Sioux Falls 6 Tri-City 1  
Lincoln 5 Omaha 3

### UPCOMING SCHEDULE

**Tuesday, January 27, 2009**  
Tri-City at Omaha

**Wednesday, January 28, 2009**  
Waterloo at Indiana

**Thursday, January 29, 2009**  
Chicago at Des Moines

**Friday, January 30, 2009**  
Green Bay at Indiana  
Des Moines at Sioux City  
Omaha at Fargo  
Chicago at Cedar Rapids  
Lincoln at Tri-City  
Sioux Falls at Waterloo

**Saturday, January 31, 2009**  
Green Bay at Indiana  
Des Moines at Cedar Rapids  
Sioux Falls at Sioux City  
Chicago at Waterloo  
Omaha at Fargo  
Tri-City at Lincoln

**Wednesday, February 4, 2009**  
USHL Prospects/All-Star Game  
at Sioux Falls, S.D.

### SCORING LEADERS

Player	Team	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM
Andrew Miller	CHI	35	22	33	55	51
Craig Smith	WAT	30	19	29	48	71
Mike Seidel	CR	33	18	29	47	20
Kirt Hill	LIN	32	16	27	43	65
Mike Cichy	IND	30	15	26	41	11
Pat Mullane	OMA	33	19	21	40	14
David Eddy	SF	36	15	24	39	44
B. Richardson	IND	30	13	26	39	66
Terry Broadhurst	SF	36	19	18	37	26
Kyle Flanagan	CR	34	11	26	37	16

### GOALTENDING LEADERS

Player	TM	GP	W-L-SOL	GAA	SV%	SO
Troy Grosenick	CR	13	7-2-2	1.81	.927	1
Anthony Borelli	LIN	13	8-3-0	1.83	.934	1
Kevin Murdock	LIN	21	13-7-1	2.26	.915	1
Mike Johnson	CR	23	16-6-1	2.30	.913	2
Reid Ellingson	GB	25	15-6-2	2.49	.910	1

### QUOTABLE

"It was such an awesome experience. The best part was the atmosphere and just seeing the passion of the Montreal fans. It's a great thing to have that rivalry."

*Former Green Bay forward **Blake Wheeler** of the Boston Bruins to NHL.com following his MVP performance in the YoungStars game, talking about the passion surrounding the rivalry between Montreal and Boston.*

# The USHL at 30 Years



The 2001-02 season was the USHL's last as a Tier II junior league. As a result of the re-classification, the winner of the Clark Cup would become national champions. The first team to win that label - the Sioux City Musketeers, whose motto that year was "never, never, never give up, never, never," a quote from Winston Churchill.

"We had good speed and skill, played with intensity, worked hard and were tough. As the season progressed their confidence grew and with that their chemistry," said head coach Dave Siciliano. After a fourth place finish in the league, they advanced to the Clark Cup Finals against arch-rival Omaha. "In the finals versus Omaha it was important to have something to push us forward because they had won the Anderson Cup, were very skilled and played in front of 6,000 screaming people," Siciliano said. "That's where the motto came in. In games two and five in their building we overcame 3-1 deficits in the third period to win 4-3 in regulation and in overtime.

"That team was a pleasure to coach because for each game and practice they came to the rink ready to work hard and try to improve while enjoying everything we threw at them. They deserved the result they got."

## USHL INSIDER

**He's A Brick House-r:** Des Moines goaltender Michael Houser made 48 saves in the Buccaneers' 4-3 loss to Sioux Falls on Wednesday, setting a new league-high for saves in a game this season.

**No Streak For You:** Both Sioux City and Sioux Falls came into the week riding four-game winning streaks, and both teams had their streaks halted. The Musketeers lost 6-3 at Waterloo on Saturday, ending their streak at five games. The Stampede also lost on Saturday, 5-3 to Omaha, stopping theirs at six games.

**The Gambler:** Green Bay's Michael Forney scored at 3:25 of overtime to give the Gamblers a 3-2 win at Waterloo on Wednesday. Forney now has goals in four straight games.

**Give Him A Shutout Patch:** Indiana goaltender Brett Bennett earned his first USHL shutout, making 32 saves in a 6-0 whitewashing of Chicago on Saturday. With the win, Bennett also became the first USHL goaltender this year to win 20 games.

**Thank You Sir, May I Have Another:** Stephane Da Costa had a four point game for the second week in a row. He had a goal and three assists in a January 16 win, and did it again in Friday's win over Indiana.

**Howlin' Wolfe:** Chicago's Greg Wolfe had his first three-point game in the USHL, and his second career multi-point game when he scored twice and added an assist in Chicago's 5-4 loss to Cedar Rapids on Friday.

**The Ten Spot:** With three wins last week, the Green Bay Gamblers now have the league's longest winning streak this season at ten games. Their last loss was a 3-2 defeat to Sioux City on December 20.

**Flan-Agan, And Agan, And Agan:** Cedar Rapids' Kyle Flanagan had three points in the RoughRiders' 5-4 win over Chicago on Friday. It's the fourth time this year that Flanagan has had at least three in a game.

**Proving His "Wirth":** Omaha's Jake Hauswirth had five points last week, giving him 26 for the year and helping him surpass his total from all of last year.

## LATEST COLLEGE COMMITMENTS

Chris Crane (GB) - Ohio State  
 Rob Linsmayer (CHI) - Holy Cross  
 Chris Saracino (GB) - RIT  
 David Makowski (GB) - Denver  
 Ryan Daugherty (Oma) - Northern Michigan  
 Alex Gerke (TC) - Connecticut  
 Jake Newton (Lin) - Northeastern  
 Torey Krug (Ind) - Michigan State  
 Brandon Richardson (ind) - Nebraska-Omaha  
 Darren Rowe (CR) - Massachusetts  
 Garrett Vermeersch (Lin) - Northeastern  
 Chris Forfar (Lin) - Michigan State

## STAT OF THE WEEK

Wednesday's 4-3 win over Des Moines was Sioux Falls Head Coach Kevin Hartzell's 500th game as a USHL head coach. He is the seventh coach in USHL history to reach the 500-game plateau.

## SPECIAL TEAMS REPORT

*totals are team's percentages*

Team	PP	PK	Total
Cedar Rapids	18.75	88.06	106.81
Lincoln	16.39	89.24	105.63
Indiana	17.71	87.72	105.43
Waterloo	18.82	84.02	102.84
Sioux City	21.89	81.02	102.01
Green Bay	17.58	82.56	100.14
Omaha	18.56	81.08	99.64
Chicago	17.01	81.07	98.08
Fargo	12.89	84.48	97.37
Des Moines	16.42	79.66	96.08
Sioux Falls	13.50	81.55	95.05
Tri-City	11.76	78.79	90.55



**USHL ALUMNI IN THE NHL**  
*as of January 26, 2009*

Andrew Alberts (Waterloo)	Philadelphia
Tyler Arnason (Fargo-Moorhead)	Colorado
David Backes (Lincoln)	St. Louis
Keith Ballard (Omaha)	Florida
Jason Blake (Waterloo)	Toronto
Jared Boll (Lincoln)	Columbus
Adam Burish (Green Bay)	Chicago
Chris Butler (Sioux City)	Buffalo
Matt Carle (Omaha)	Philadelphia
Ryan Carter (Green Bay)	Anaheim
Scott Clemmensen (Des Moines)	New Jersey
Erik Cole (Des Moines)	Edmonton
Sean Collins (Sioux City)	Washington
Tim Conboy (Topeka)	Carolina
Ty Conklin (Green Bay)	Detroit
Joe Corvo (Omaha)	Carolina
Joey Crabb (Green Bay)	Atlanta
Patrick Davis (Sioux City)	New Jersey
Mark Eaton (Waterloo)	Pittsburgh
Dan Ellis (Omaha)	Nashville
Ruslan Fedotenko (Sioux City)	Pittsburgh
Jeff Finger (Green Bay)	Toronto
Sam Gagner (Sioux City)	Edmonton
Nathan Gerbe (Omaha)	Buffalo
Tom Gilbert (Chicago)	Edmonton
Alex Goligoski (Sioux Falls)	Pittsburgh
Matt Greene (Green Bay)	Los Angeles
David Hale (Sioux City)	Phoenix
Martin Hanzal (Omaha)	Phoenix
Jack Hillen (Tri-City)	NY Islanders
Tim Jackman (Twin Cities)	NY Islanders
Ryan Johnson (Thunder Bay)	Vancouver
Tim Kennedy (Sioux City)	Buffalo
Rostislav Klesla (Sioux City)	Columbus
Chad LaRose (Sioux Falls)	Carolina
Brian Lee (Lincoln)	Ottawa
Trevor Lewis (Des Moines)	Los Angeles
Ryan Malone (Omaha)	Tampa Bay
Peter Mannino (Tri-City)	NY Islanders
Drew Miller (Omaha)	Anaheim
David Moss (Cedar Rapids)	Calgary
Andreas Nodl (Sioux Falls)	Philadelphia
Kyle Okposo (Des Moines)	NY Islanders
T.J. Oshie (Sioux Falls)	St. Louis
Max Pacioretty (Sioux City)	Montreal
Joe Pavelski (Waterloo)	San Jose
Toby Petersen (Fargo-Moorhead)	Dallas
Chris Porter (Lincoln)	St. Louis
Ryan Potulny (Lincoln)	Edmonton
Tom Preissing (Green Bay)	Los Angeles
Teddy Purcell (Cedar Rapids)	Los Angeles
Nate Raduns (Omaha)	Philadelphia
Brian Rafalski (Madison)	Detroit
Kurt Sauer (North Iowa)	Phoenix
Patrick Sharp (Thunder Bay)	Chicago
Brett Skinner (Des Moines)	NY Islanders
Trevor Smith (Omaha)	NY Islanders
Paul Stastny (Omaha)	Colorado
Yan Stastny (Omaha)	St. Louis
Colin Stuart (Lincoln)	Atlanta
Mark Stuart (Rochester)	Boston
Jeff Taffe (Rochester)	Pittsburgh
Bill Thomas (Tri-City)	Pittsburgh
Thomas Vanek (Sioux Falls)	Buffalo
Steve Wagner (Tri-City)	St. Louis
Blake Wheeler (Green Bay)	Boston
Landon Wilson (Dubuque)	Dallas

**PRO ALUMNI NEWS**

**Blake Wheeler** (Green Bay) was named MVP of the NHL YoungStars game, played in Montreal on Saturday. Wheeler had a hat trick and added two assists as the Rookies defeated the Sophomores 9-5. Montreal fans playfully booed Wheeler in the game, who plays for the hated Boston Bruins.

**Thomas Vanek** (Sioux Falls) went without a point and was held to one shot on goal in his NHL All-Star Game debut. His Eastern Conference team won the game, 12-11 over the Western Conference in a shootout.

**Danny Irmen** (Lincoln) was briefly called up last week by the Minnesota Wild as an emergency injury fill-in, but didn't dress for any games. Irmen is in his third season with the Houston Aeros of the AHL and has four goals and nine points in 47 games.

**Jason Blake** (Waterloo) has been hot of late in Toronto, with 18 points in his last 20 games. Blake is now third on the Maple Leafs in scoring with 14 goals and 31 points in 43 games.

**Peter Mannino** (Tri-City) has been re-called by the New York Islanders for the second time this season. Mannino, who got mop-up duty in one NHL game earlier in the year, is 9-10-2 with a 3.09 goals against average for the Islanders' AHL affiliate, the Bridgeport Sound Tigers.

**Jared Boll** (Lincoln) is tied for fifth in the NHL in penalty minutes with 111, but leads the league in fighting majors with 15.

**Scott Clemmensen** (Des Moines) started the season in the AHL, but was re-called by the New Jersey Devils after Martin Brodeur's injury and is now tied for seventh in the NHL in wins with 19.

**COLLEGE ALUMNI NEWS**

**Alex Stalock** (Cedar Rapids) made 39 saves, picking up his second shutout of the year, and sixth of his collegiate career, in Minnesota-Duluth's 4-0 win over Minnesota State-Mankato on Friday.

**Drew Leblanc** (Chicago) scored his first college hat trick, and added an assist in St. Cloud State's 6-1 thrashing of Colorado College on Saturday. Leblanc had just two goals coming into the game.

**Aaron Palushaj** (Des Moines) had three assists in Michigan's 5-3 win over Michigan State on Saturday. Palushaj now has 23 helpers on the year, tied for second in the nation.

**Kurt Davis** (Green Bay) has five goals and 27 points this year in 27 games for Minnesota State-Mankato, one of just four defensemen in Division I to average at least a point-per-game.

**Jake Marto** (Omaha), who was the WCHA Defensive Player of the Week last week after scoring three goals in a win and tie over Michigan Tech, had three more points in North Dakota's 8-3 win over Denver on Friday.

**Chris Margott** (Waterloo) had a hat trick and also added a pair of assists in Robert Morris' 8-5 win over Quinnipiac on Saturday.

**Mike Janda** (Chicago) scored the game-winning goal with 2:14 to play in regulation as RIT beat Canisius 4-3 on Sunday.

**Joe Finley** (Sioux Falls) had a career-high four points in North Dakota's 8-3 win over Denver on Friday. Finley had a power play goal and three assists in the game.