



This Week In The USHL

November 3, 2008



USHL Images

2008-09 USHL STANDINGS

EAST DIVISION

Team	GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF	GA
Cedar Rapids	9	8	1	0	16	40	15
Indiana	9	7	1	1	15	35	19
Green Bay	9	6	2	1	13	34	28
Waterloo	8	5	2	1	11	31	25
Chicago	10	4	6	0	8	30	39
Des Moines	9	2	4	3	7	31	42

WEST DIVISION

Team	GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF	GA
Lincoln	10	6	3	1	13	34	31
Sioux City	8	4	3	1	9	31	29
Omaha	10	4	5	1	9	35	37
Sioux Falls	9	4	5	0	8	28	31
Fargo	10	3	7	0	6	22	35
Tri-City	11	3	8	0	6	22	53

Dan Sova, second from left, celebrates his first USHL goal with his teammates in Waterloo's 4-3 shootout win over Green Bay on Saturday.

RECENT RESULTS

Saturday, November 1, 2008

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

Friday, October 31, 2008

Lincoln 5 Des Moines 0
 Green Bay 3 Chicago 1
 Tri-City 6 Omaha 5, OT

Thursday, October 30, 2008

Fargo 2 Sioux Falls 1

Wednesday, October 29, 2008

Waterloo 6 Chicago 2

Sunday, October 26, 2008

Indiana 5 Sioux City 2
 Cedar Rapids 4 Green Bay 0

Saturday, October 25, 2008

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

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Wednesday, November 5, 2008

Waterloo at Indiana

Friday, November 7, 2008

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

Saturday, November 8, 2008

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

Tuesday, November 11, 2008

Lincoln at Tri-City
 Sioux City at Omaha

Wednesday, November 12, 2008

Waterloo at Chicago

SCORING LEADERS

Player	Team	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM
Mike Seidel	CR	9	5	10	15	4
Andrew Miller	CHI	9	5	10	15	21
Pat Mullane	OMA	10	6	8	14	0
Louis Leblanc	OMA	10	6	6	12	14
Mike Cichy	TC	10	5	7	12	9
Brett Chartier	LIN	9	5	6	11	24
Josh Balch	DM	8	5	6	11	12
Victor Anilane	SF	9	3	8	11	4
Stephane Vigier	SC	8	1	10	11	6

Several tied with 10 points

GOALTENDING LEADERS

Player	TM	GP	W-L-SOL	GAA	SV%	SO
Mike Johnson	CR	7	6-1-0	1.74	.933	1
Brett Bennett	IND	7	5-1-1	1.84	.935	0
Kevin Murdock	LIN	8	5-2-1	2.39	.915	1
Mike Lee	FAR	8	3-5-0	2.85	.908	0
Joe Howe	WAT	6	3-2-1	3.10	.892	0

QUOTABLE

"I'm not used to scoring a lot of goals. That's going to be a memorable one for me."

Fargo Force defenseman and team captain **Luke Witkowski** to the Fargo Forum after scoring the game-winning goal in the third period of the Force's 2-1 win over the Sioux Falls Stampede on Thursday, the first home game in team history.

The USHL at 30 Years



The USHL's first powerhouse came in the form of the Dubuque Fighting Saints. In the second season as an all-junior league, the Fighting Saints, under the guidance of Head Coach Jack Barzee, a USHL veteran, became the first team to register over 30 wins (38), the first to lose fewer than ten games (9) and the first to claim the "triple crown," winning the Anderson, Clark and Gold Cups.

"That was a special group of players. About a dozen of them, so basically the nucleus of the team, were all cut by other USHL teams," Barzee said. "That group really meshed together and were such a close team. They were like a fraternity."

"But boy could they play. The bigger the challenge and the bigger the game, the better they played. It was a fun group to be around."

USHL INSIDER

An Historic Night: The Fargo Force finally got to play a game at home, and they defeated Sioux Falls 2-1 on Thursday in front of a crowd of nearly 5,000 fans in the first game ever played at the new Urban Plains Center

So-va, So Good: Waterloo's Dan Sova scored his first USHL goal, the go-ahead goal at the time, in Waterloo's 4-3 shootout win over Green Bay on Saturday night.

It's Miller Time: Andrew Miller had assists on both Chicago goals in a 6-2 loss to Waterloo on Wednesday. He scored the only Steel goal in a 3-1 loss at Green Bay on Friday. He was held without a point on Saturday, the first game all year he has gone without a point.

It's A Winner: Josh Berge's goal just 13 seconds into overtime gave Tri-City a 6-5 win over Omaha on Friday, snapping their losing streak at six games.

A Dandy In Des Moines: After winning big on opening night, the Buccaneers dropped seven in a row, but returned to the winner's circle Saturday with a 2-1 shootout win over Indiana.

Gimme Five: Sioux Falls got goals from five different players - Patrick Divjak, Josh Holmstrom, Victor Anilane, Matt Farris and Marcus Perrier - in their 5-2 win over Tri-City on Saturday, a win that snapped their three-game skid.

Weekend Off: A rare scheduling anomaly gave the Sioux City Musketeers the entire weekend off. When they return to the ice on November 7, they will have had 12 days off.

Good Going Gambler: Chris Saracino figured in all of the scoring on Saturday night, scoring the goal that tied the game with 3:17 to play in regulation, and adding a pair of assists, but it wasn't enough as Green Bay fell to Waterloo 4-3 in a shootout.

No Rough Ride Here: Cedar Rapids' Mike Seidel is among the hottest players in the USHL, with 14 points in his last seven games.

LATEST COLLEGE COMMITMENTS

Joe Caveney (SC) - Lowell
 Robbie Vrolyk (SF) - Northeastern
 Keegan Flaherty (FAR) - Minnesota-Duluth
 Joe Hartman (Ind) - Miami
 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

STAT OF THE WEEK

Cedar Rapids is the only team in the USHL averaging more than four goals pergame. They are on pace to score 267 goals this year, which would better last season's top total by 43 goals.

SPECIAL TEAMS REPORT

totals are team's percentages

Team	PP	PK	Total
Sioux City	26.19	85.71	111.90
Green Bay	20.75	89.39	110.14
Cedar Rapids	14.46	95.12	109.58
Indiana	21.15	84.68	105.83
Waterloo	18.60	85.25	104.51
Lincoln	18.75	85.71	104.46
Chicago	16.39	80.60	96.99
Omaha	13.79	82.09	95.88
Tri-City	15.94	79.31	95.25
Fargo	8.06	84.29	92.35
Des Moines	19.23	71.70	92.35
Sioux Falls	6.90	81.67	88.57

USHL ALUMNI IN THE NHL

as of November 3, 2008

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
Matt Carle (Omaha)	Tampa Bay
Ryan Carter (Green Bay)	Anaheim
Erik Cole (Des Moines)	Edmonton
Ty Conklin (Green Bay)	Detroit
Joe Corvo (Omaha)	Carolina
Mark Eaton (Waterloo)	Pittsburgh
Dan Ellis (Omaha)	Nashville
Ruslan Fedotenko (Sioux City)	Pittsburgh
Jeff Finger (Green Bay)	Toronto
Sam Gagner (Sioux City)	Edmonton
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
Ryan Johnson (Thunder Bay)	Vancouver
Rostislav Klesla (Sioux City)	Columbus
Chad LaRose (Sioux Falls)	Carolina
Brian Lee (Lincoln)	Ottawa
Ryan Malone (Omaha)	Tampa Bay
David Moss (Cedar Rapids)	Calgary
Andreas Nodl (Sioux Falls)	Philadelphia
Kyle Okposo (Des Moines)	NY Islanders
T.J. Oshie (Sioux Falls)	St. Louis
Joe Pavelski (Waterloo)	San Jose
Toby Petersen (Fargo-Moorhead)	Dallas
Tom Preissing (Green Bay)	Los Angeles
Brian Rafalski (Madison)	Detroit
Kurt Sauer (North Iowa)	Phoenix
Patrick Sharp (Thunder Bay)	Chicago
Brett Skinner (Des Moines)	NY Islanders
Paul Stastny (Omaha)	Colorado
Yan Stastny (Omaha)	St. Louis
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



PRO ALUMNI NEWS

Brett Skinner (Des Moines) has been called up by the New York Islanders. He made his NHL debut on October 27 against the New York Rangers, playing 6:45. He has no points in three games but has seen his ice time increase in each of the three games.

Justin Abdelkader (Cedar Rapids) was named the AHL Rookie of the Month for October. Abdelkader scored seven goals and added two assists for nine points in seven games for the Grand Rapids Griffins to claim the honor.

Keith Ballard (Omaha) is the leading scorer of the Florida Panthers with two goals and ten points in 11 games. He is tied for sixth in scoring among NHL defensemen.

Brian Rafalski (Madison) is tied for second in scoring among NHL defensemen with 12 points.

Thomas Vanek (Sioux Falls) leads the NHL in goals with 11. He has 14 points total, which leads the Buffalo Sabres in scoring.

Tim Kennedy (Sioux City) has at least one point in each of his first eight professional games and leads all AHL rookies in assists with nine and points with 12. He is currently playing with the Portland Pirates, the top minor league affiliate of the Buffalo Sabres.

Chris Ferraro (Waterloo) leads the ECHL's Las Vegas Wranglers in assists with three and points with five.

Joe Fallon (Cedar Rapids) is currently 3-1-0 on the year with the Fresno Falcons and has the fourth best goals against average in the ECHL at 1.76.

COLLEGE ALUMNI NEWS

USHL Alumni swept the weekly awards in the ECAC. Princeton's **Mark Magnowski** (Sioux Falls) was named Player of the Week after scoring two goals, including the game-winner, and adding an in assist in the Tigers' season-opening win over Brown. **Spencer Heichman** (Sioux City) was named Rookie of the Week. He scored the Bobcats lone goal in a 4-1 loss to UMass-Lowell on Thursday. He then had two assists in a 4-1 win over Connecticut on Saturday. **Matt Hoyle** (Indiana) was named Goaltender of the Week after making 30 saves in his college hockey debut, a 4-1 Harvard win over Dartmouth on Friday.

The CCHA honored three USHL alumni in their weekly awards. **Billy Maday** (Waterloo) was named Rookie of the Week after picking up a goal and two assists in a pair of Notre Dame wins over Northern Michigan. **Jordan Pearce** (Lincoln) stopped 43 of 47 shots in those same two wins, earning him Goalie of the Week honors. **Eddie Del Grosso** (Indiana) was named Defenseman of the Week after having two two-assist games and going +3 as Nebraska-Omaha split with Bowling Green.

James Marcou (Waterloo) was named Hockey East Player of the Week after picking up eight points in two games. He had two goals and three assists in Friday's 9-4 win over Providence, then added a goal and two assists in a 5-1 win on Saturday, also against Providence.

Dennis Urban (Ohio) had three assists in Robert Morris' 3-3 tie with Alabama-Huntsville on Friday.

Jason Gregoire (Lincoln) scored his first collegiate goal with 5:15 remaining in the third period, providing the winning margin in North Dakota's 3-2 win over Wisconsin on Friday.