

June 30, 2009

**CHECK OUT THE NASHVILLE STORM ON  
MYSPACE AT**

**<http://www.myspace.com/nashvillestormfootball>** **AND ON FACEBOOK AT**

**<http://www.facebook.com/people/Bill-Caldwell/693162567>** .



# **SATURDAY NIGHT, JULY 11, STRATFORD HIGH SCHOOL- NASHVILLE STORM OPEN THEIR NAFL LEAGUE SEASON AGAINST THE INDIANA WARRIORS**

**THE TEAMS-** The Nashville Storm open their 2009 NAFL league campaign against the visiting Indiana Warriors from Indianapolis, IN. The Warriors, a 2<sup>nd</sup>-year NAFL team, have played one preseason game in 2009, defeating the Great Lakes Wolfpack 28-0 on June 13. The Nashville Storm have won their first 2 games against non-NAFL opponents, defeating the Tennessee Central Xpress 57-7 on June 6 and the Memphis Panthers 38-20 on June 13.

**THE PLACE-** Buster Boguskie Stadium at Stratford High School (1800 Stratford Avenue, Nashville, TN 37216).

**THE TIME-** Saturday night, July 11, 2009; Admission gate opens at 6 PM, Kickoff will be at 7 PM.

**THE ENTERTAINMENT-** Entertainment will be provided by DJ Lil Les and the lovely ladies of the Nashville Storm Dance Team.

**HONORARY CAPTAIN-** Joining the Nashville Storm captains for the game's opening coin toss will be MIKE ORGAN, veteran sports reporter of the TENNESSEAN.

**PROMOTIONS-** The first 100 fans who come through the admissions gate will receive a free football-shaped air horn--- these are the loudest sporting event noisemakers ever made and can be used at any sporting event. In addition, our sponsors will be giving away more goods and services in our halftime and 4<sup>th</sup>-quarter drawings as part of the "Nashville Storm Stimulus Package", so hold onto your ticket stub.

**THE COST-** Adult admission is \$8.00; kids aged 0-14 GET IN FREE. There is abundant parking on the Stratford High School premises, also FREE OF CHARGE.

# **“OLD-SCHOOL” NASHVILLE STORM HIGHLIGHT VIDEO- FROM THE 2007 SEASON**

**Thought you'd enjoy one of the older Nashville Storm highlight videos--- these highlights were taken from several 2007 Nashville Storm games, and show the Storm playing in their “old-school” black home uniforms with purple numerals. More editing genius from Kevin Mason. Enjoy.**

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## **THE NASHVILLE STORM'S SCHEDULED JUNE 27 OPPONENT, THE GRIDIRON GORILLAZ (ALLIANCE FOOTBALL LEAGUE) CANCELS GAME 6 HOURS PRIOR TO KICKOFF**

**The Gridiron Gorillaz from Southaven, Mississippi, the Nashville Storm's scheduled opponent for a home game at Stratford High School for Saturday night, June 27, cancelled their trip to Nashville to play the scheduled game at approximately 1 PM on the day of the game due to the fact that only 8 of their players had shown up to make the trip.**

**The Gorillaz were the 2<sup>nd</sup> opponent that the Nashville Storm had scheduled to fill this home game date; they were added to the schedule on June 4 as a replacement for the River City Kool Kats from Memphis, who had suspended operations on June 2. The Gorillaz' league, the Alliance Football League, awarded the Gorillaz a forfeit loss for their failure to play the scheduled game; this game was not an NFL league game for the Nashville Storm, so no action was taken by the NFL. It is currently unknown whether the Gorillaz will seek to continue their season, but the circumstances certainly raise the possibility that they might not continue play.**

**Some observations:**

- 1- The owner of the Gorillaz, LaRico Cole, did everything possible to make this game happen as scheduled. Cole actually set his team's pre-trip meet-up for 7 AM on the morning of the game even though Memphis is only a 3-hour drive from Nashville. Only 6 Gorillaz players showed up for this out of a roster showing over 30 players. Cole and his coaches spent the next 6 hours attempting to reach his remaining players, but only 2 more reported to play during this time. During this time, Mr. Cole was constantly in contact with us keeping us updated on what was going on, and we have no complaints about Mr. Cole not doing everything he could to fulfill his teams' obligations, although there is now ample reason to question the competitiveness of many of the players on Mr. Cole's team. In a conversation with Mr. Cole at 1 PM, we mutually concluded that further efforts to gather his players stood little chance of success and that the proper course was to cancel the game. We wish Mr. Cole success in his efforts to salvage the Gorillaz' season.**
- 2- Candidly, the Gorillaz were a team at high risk of something such as this happening. The Gorillaz were a first year team with an 0-5 record in the first 5 games of their existence; 4 of their first 5 games had been played in the Memphis/Southaven area, and their only trip to play a game outside their home area had been a short 2-hour trip to Little Rock, AR--- and looming ahead was a longer trip to play a game against a team (the Nashville Storm) that had won 14 of their last 15**

**games. One of the realities of adult amateur football is that no one owns a group of 30-60 amateur players; players are playing because they WANT to play, and players on a first year team that loses their first several games have a tendency to “drift off”. It is clear that many of the Gorillaz players have lost interest in continuing.**

- 3- Both the Nashville Storm football and front office staff performed superbly in what could have been a crisis situation. The Storm football staff contacted every player to let them know what happened, and let them know to call all their acquaintances and friends to let them know the game had been called off. In addition, the media were contacted, and we made sure to announce the game cancellation on the internet sites where the game had been publicized. In addition, Nashville Storm PR director Alonzo Mayfield was at Stratford HS from 6-8 PM to pass out free tickets to future games and other prizes to fans who had driven to Stratford to see the game (despite our efforts to get the word out, there were quite a few of them).**
- 4- Our next game is our NAFL 2009 league opener against the Indiana Warriors at Stratford HS on Saturday night, July 11; they are an NAFL team and THEY WILL BE SHOWING UP. It's our hope that all our friends will be there too.**