

July 12, 2010

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**SATURDAY NIGHT, JULY 17,
STRATFORD HIGH SCHOOL-
“THE REAL BARBECUE BOWL”-
NASHVILLE STORM VS. KINGS
COMETS**



FORMER ALL-BIG EAST WR DOMINIC GOODMAN (CINCINNATI) PLAYS BOTH WR AND QB FOR THE KINGS COMETS, THE NASHVILLE STORM’S OPPONENT THIS SATURDAY NIGHT AT STRATFORD

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

THE TIME- Saturday night, July 17, 2010. Admission gate opens at 6 PM; Kickoff at 7 PM.

THE TEAMS- The Nashville Storm (3-0, 14-1 in 2009) take on the Kings Comets (0-0, 11-2 in 2009- <http://www.kingscomets.net>). The Kings Comets are the defending champions of the Mid-Continental Football League, which most observers consider to be one of the 2 or 3 toughest regional football leagues in the United States, and the toughest in the industrial Midwest. The Comets hail from Cincinnati, Ohio. After winning the 2009 MCFL Championship, the Comets were invited to play in the National Football Events' National Championship Game, which they narrowly lost 21-20 to the Monroe County Sting from New York.

The Head Coach of the Kings Comets is Brian Wells, who is also the Head Coach of a professional arena football team- the Miami Valley Silverbacks of the Continental Indoor Football League. The Comets have played since 1999, and for most of the last decade were about a .500 program in the tough MCFL- but a recruiting development in 2007 set in motion a boost in the Comets' status from "good" to "nationally elite".

In 2007, then-University of Cincinnati WR Mardy Gilyard (now with the NFL St Louis Rams) was declared academically ineligible at Cincinnati, forcing him to sit out a season-- and Gilyard played for the Kings Comets during his ineligibility. Gilyard, of course, returned to Cincinnati to become an All-American, but he clearly enjoyed his experience with the Comets, because about a half-dozen University of Cincinnati players have now followed Gilyard to the Comet roster, including 2 2008 All-Big East players from Cincinnati: WR/QB Dominic Goodman and Defensive Tackle Terrill Byrd. And they are a long way from being the only top-level players for the Comets, who also have former University of Minnesota QB James Frazier (who alternates with Goodman at QB) and top-notch D-Line brothers Sean and Rico Middlebrooks, both of whom played at Central State University. All in all, the Kings Comets will present a formidable challenge to the currently-undefeated record of the Nashville Storm.

THE STAKES- While this is a non-league game for both teams, when you consider that both the Nashville Storm and Kings Comets finished their 2009 seasons in national championship games and had national top-10 rankings in all of the ranking services, this is another game that will lead to a significant national rankings boost for the winner. The Nashville Storm have already played 3 games against tough opponents while this is the first 2010 game for the Kings Comets----- and usually, a team playing their season-opener against a team that has already played multiple games is at a disadvantage. Don't expect that to be a major factor this time, though----- a bunch of the Comets play together on the pro Miami Valley Silverbacks, so they have been playing all spring----- they won't be rusty.

“THE LINE”- PICK ‘EM.

THE ENTERTAINMENT- The lovely ladies of the 18-member Nashville Storm Dance team will perform and lead the cheers, while musical entertainment will be provided by

DJ Lil Les and the good folks from Nashville Storm sponsor radio station 102.5 The Party.

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

THE NASHVILLE STORM FOOTBALL CONCESSION STAND MENU- THERE IS NO NEED TO GO GET DINNER BEFORE THE GAME. Christie Claybrooks is waiting for you in the Nashville Storm Concession stand with the best charcoal-grilled food at the lowest prices in Tennessee sports. Here is the menu (with prices):

½ POUND CHARCOAL GRILLED ANGUS CHEESEBURGER (\$3.25)
½ POUND CHARCOAL GRILLED ANGUS HAMBURGER (\$3.00)
CHARCOAL-GRILLED ALL-BEEF HOT DOG (\$2.00)
CHARCOAL-GRILLED POLISH SAUSAGE (\$2.00)
20-OUNCE GATORADE (\$1.50)
HOT BUTTERED POPCORN (\$1.00)
BAG-FAMOUS AMOS CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES (\$1.00)
2 OUNCE BAG OF CHIPS (FRITOS, DORITOS, LAYS, ETC.) (\$1.00)
PLANTER'S PEANUTS (OR CASHEWS) (\$1.00)
CRACKER JACKS (\$1.00)
PEANUT AND PLAIN M&M'S (\$1.00)
SNICKERS CANDY BAR (\$1.00)
3 MUSKETEERS CANDY BAR (\$1.00)
NASHVILLE'S OWN FAMOUS GOO GOO CLUSTER (\$1.00)
ICE COLD BOTTLED WATER (\$1.00)
SOFT DRINKS (PEPSI, DIET PEPSI, ORANGE AND GRAPE CRUSH, MOUNTAIN DEW, DR PEPPER, HAWAIIAN PUNCH, LIPTON BRISK) (\$1.00)
1 OUNCE BAG OF CHIPS (FRITOS, DORITOS, LAYS, ETC) (75 CENTS)
KOOL-AID "JAMMERS" (CHERRY, GRAPE, KIWI-STRAWBERRY, TROPICAL PUNCH) (50 CENTS)

ADDITIONAL (COMPLIMENTARY) CONCESSION VENDORS- In addition to the great (and inexpensive) food and beverage served by the Nashville Storm Concession Stand, the Nashville Storm are adding 2 additional vendors to sell items at the game not normally served in the Nashville Storm Concession Stand. They are:

OLD-TIMERS BARBECUE- REMEMBER US CALLING THIS GAME "THE REAL BARBECUE BOWL"----- THIS IS WHY. Old-Timers Barbecue, the superb BBQ house located on Clarksville Highway in Bordeaux, will be selling Barbecue sandwiches and sides at the Nashville Storm- Kings Comets game. Drop by Old-Timers for BBQ this week----- if you're nice, they might even have a free ticket to the game for you.

IZZIE'S ICES- On a hot summer night, there's nothing like something ICE-COLD. And noone does ICE-COLD better than IZZIE'S ICES, who sell Italian Ices in 20 delicious flavors right at the corner of Riverside Drive and Rosebank Avenue in Inglewood. Izzie's

frozen treats (all made from all-natural ingredients) have been the hit of the summer of 2010 in East Nashville. And if you go by their Inglewood location, buy one of their superb frozen treats, and talk nice, they just might have a free ticket for the game there for you too.

NASHVILLE STORM WIN THEIR 25TH CONSECUTIVE ROAD GAME- NASHVILLE STORM 38- LOUISVILLE SAINTS 12

STORM REACH "MILESTONE" BY EXTENDING ROAD WINNING STREAK THAT STARTED IN JUNE OF 2006

In accordance with the Nashville Storm's schedule, the Storm dutifully put on their "road whites" and got on the bus to head to Evangel Christian High School in Louisville, KY on Saturday, July 10 to take on the Louisville Saints in their first 2010 road game and their first 2010 game against an NFL-member opponent in a highly unusual afternoon game (the Storm play about 95% of their games on Saturday nights, but this game had a kickoff of 5:30 PM Eastern Time, 4:30 PM Central Time- Louisville, despite being due north of Nashville on I-65, is in the Eastern time zone). The Storm were seeking a milestone 25th consecutive road victory; and even though some veteran Storm players remembered that the Storm's last road LOSS (on June 3, 2006) had come in an afternoon game in the State of Kentucky, the Storm would get what they came for, a 38-12 victory over the Louisville Saints to bring the Storm's 2010 record to 3-0.

Despite being played on a scorching hot afternoon that would figure to keep most folks indoors, the game drew an overflow, standing-room-only crowd of mostly Louisville Saints supporters (although a healthy number of Nashville Storm fans made the 3-hour drive to Louisville to watch the game). And early on, the Louisville faithful's chances of

witnessing an upset by the home team looked VERY possible.

The Saints won the opening coin toss, giving them the ball first, and on the Saint's 3rd offensive play, Saint QB J.D. Meyers hit Saints WR Brandon Corker on a 53-yard TD pass to put the Saints ahead 6-0 just 2 minutes into the game. The Saint kicker, however, would miss the extra point attempt.

The extra point miss would loom large after the Nashville Storm got their first shot at the ball and Storm QB Phellepe Hall (Maplewood/TSU) went to work- Hall directed a 71-yard drive on 7 plays (all passes) to tie the score on a 12-yard TD pass to WR Jeremie "Bird" Whittaker, the Storm's 2009 leading receiver. Then, Storm K Garrett Morgan (Central Arkansas) trotted onto the field and split the uprights to put the Storm in the lead by a 7-6 score.

The Louisville Saints would again mount a scoring threat on their next possession as Louisville QB Meyers hit Saints WR Vance Woods with a 55-yard strike to give Louisville a first down in the Storm red zone at the 17-yard line. The Storm defense stiffened at that point, though, and gave the ball back to the Storm offense when Storm LB Nathaniel Claybrooks (Maplewood/MTSU) broke up Meyers' 4th down pass attempt.

The Storm, starting from their 13-yard line, began the drive with 4 straight RUNNING plays, all by Storm RB Marcellus Tibbs (gaining 29 yards). 3 more plays got the Storm to the Louisville 39 as the 1st quarter ended. On the first play of the 2nd quarter, Phellepe Hall hit WR Mario Merriwether for a 27-yard gain down to the Saints 12----- and on the next play, Storm RB Chris Fletcher (Austin Peay) ripped off a 12-yard TD run to raise the Storm lead to 14-6.

Then, at least for the Saints, the wheels flew off. On the ensuing kickoff, Louisville KR Rob Barrow fumbled on the return, and Storm DB Gary Green (McGavock HS) scooped up the ball and returned it 33 yards to the end zone, raising the Storm lead to 21-6. Then, after each team had a non-scoring possession, Saints QB Bill Ashburn threw an interception to Storm DB Tremayne Townsend (Brentwood Academy/Austin Peay), which Townsend, playing in his first game for the Nashville Storm, returned 61 yards for a TD to

put the Storm up 28-6 with 2:08 left in the 2nd Qtr. The last Louisville possession would end in disaster as a Storm 4th down stop gave the Storm the ball at the Louisville 6. After one incomplete Phellepe Hall pass, Storm K John Gorecki (Centennial HS) trotted onto the field and gave the Storm a 31-6 halftime lead with a 25-yard FG.

The Storm got the football to open the 3rd Quarter and wasted no time increasing their lead again, as QB Phellepe Hall hit WR Vonce Henderson (Overton HS/TSU) with a 33 yard TD pass to cap a 6 play, 63-yard Storm drive and commence liberal substitution by the Storm.

Early in the 4th Quarter, the Saints would mount another drive into the Storm red zone that got as far as the Storm 4, but for the second time in the game, the Storm defense would hold the Saints for 4 downs. On the Saints' next possession, Saints QB Meyers would hit Vance Woods with a 46-yard TD pass to bring the score to the final 38-12 with 2:56 left in the game, but it would be too little, too late. The game would end with the Storm running out the clock.

NOTES ON THE GAME (AND OTHER THINGS):

- **#93, Nashville Storm DE Sha'ka Hill (University of Memphis) had a breakout game in his first start on the Nashville Storm D-Line, garnering 3 Tackles for Losses including 1 QB sack. Hill is a former TSSAA "Mr Football" Lineman from Nashville's Goodpasture High School.**
- **Storm WR/KR Mario Merriwether (Clarksville HS/Bethel College) also got untracked, catching 2 passes for 54 yards and returning 2 punts for 68 yards (including a 51-yard return).**
- **Despite the final score, the Louisville Saints actually outgained the Nashville Storm 271-260 in total offense, a figure that included 244 Saints passing yards (on just 8 completions in 22 attempts). However, the Storm twice held the Saints on downs in the Storm red zone, and, of course, scored one TD on special teams and one TD by the defense.**
- **3 games into the 2010 season, the Storm has converted successfully every Field Goal attempt and Extra Point attempt this year, the first time this has ever happened this deep into the season. Both Storm kickers, All-**

American Garrett Morgan and John Gorecki, have been “money” and have been backed by a flawless unit with Ben Brazzell snapping and Matt Overton holding.

- **QB Phellepe Hall was 10 for 15 passing for 162 yards and 2 TDs---- had 1 INT on a jump ball that wasn't returned and was probably as good as a punt. And backup Matt Overton completed his first pass as a Storm QB, an 8-yard swing pass to RB Marcellus Tibbs.**
- **The Storm had 90 rushing yards in the game, led by Marcellus Tibbs (8 carries, 34 yards) and Chris Fletcher (4 carries, 27 yards, 1 TD). The Storm D, meanwhile, held the Saints to 27 rushing yards.**
- **The Arkansas Bonecrushers of the Alliance Football League, who the Storm were scheduled to play in Jacksonville, AR on August 14, have suspended operations, in effect canceling the game. The Nashville Storm will be seeking a replacement road game for that date.**
- **Other action involving past and future opponents; The St Charles Cyclones rebounded from their June 26 game against the Storm with a 33-6 victory over the Columbia Falcons; the Kentucky Wolverines brought their record to 7-1 (only loss against the Nashville Storm) with a 35-18 victory over the Columbus Gladiators; and 2 future Storm opponents, the 2008 NFL National Champion Indianapolis Tornados and the Indianapolis Yellow Jackets played each other, with the Tornados winning by a 35-0 score.**