

**August 4, 2009**

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

**[http://www.myspace.com/nashvillestormfoo  
tball](http://www.myspace.com/nashvillestormfootball) AND ON FACEBOOK AT**

**[http://www.facebook.com/People/Bill-  
Caldwell/693162567](http://www.facebook.com/People/Bill-Caldwell/693162567)**

## **THE ROAD TO MIAMI HAS BEGUN**



**The Nashville Storm- Tennessee's Team, Nashville's Team,  
AMERICA'S TEAM-Photo by Donnie Beauchamp**



**Former TSSAA Mr. Football Kelcey Williams (Northwestern Oklahoma) led the Storm rushers against the Rhinos- Photo by Donnie Beauchamp**



**Storm DE Lloyd Washington (Allen University) closes in for the kill. The Storm D recorded 6 QB sacks. Photo by Donnie Beauchamp**



**TOUCHDOWN! Mario Merriweather (Clarksville HS/Bethel College) scores. Photo by Donnie Beauchamp**



**Storm WR Roger Moore (Glenclyff/Missouri Western) delivers a devastating stiff-arm to a Rhino defender en route to a 27-yard gain. Photo by Donnie Beauchamp**



**The lovely ladies of the Nashville Storm Dance Team salute the music of the late Michael Jackson at halftime. Photo by Donnie Beauchamp.**

## **THE RIVALRY GAME, ROUND 1; NASHVILLE STORM 33- ARKANSAS RHINOS 23**

**Nashville Storm QB Phelepe Hall (Maplewood/TSU) threw touchdown passes on the Storm's first 3 offensive possessions to stake the Nashville Storm (6-0, 4-0 in NFL play) to a 21-3 second-quarter lead against their arch-rival, the Arkansas Rhinos (3-2), and the Storm withstood a couple of Arkansas rallies to win 33-23 at Stratford High School on Saturday night, August 1. Hall's 40 yard TD pass to DeQuinn Watford (St. Ambrose College), his 25-yard TD pass to Ivan Burley (TSU), and his 22-yard TD strike to Mario Merriweather (Bethel College) gave Hall 21 TD passes at the midway point of the Nashville Storm's regular season, a figure that becomes more remarkable when you consider that Hall has only logged 105 pass attempts thus far in 2009 (and only 9 in the victory over the Rhinos).**

**Rhino WR Stewart Franks (Arkansas-Pine Bluff) was a one-man gang for the Rhinos as he caught 5 passes for 149 yards and the Rhinos' only 2 offensive touchdowns of the night from Rhino QB Damien Dunning. However, the Nashville Storm defense sacked Dunning 6 times, and Storm Safeties Michael Curtis (Aaron Academy/Campbellsville U) and Danarius Fowler (Pearl-Cohn/TSU) intercepted passes from Dunning as the Storm outgained the Rhinos in total offense 244-189. The Storm's scores (other than Hall's TD passes) came from a 3-yard TD run by RB Anthony "Batman" Martin (Hillwood HS/Mesa CC) and 25 and 29-yard FGs from Storm K Garrett Morgan (Central Arkansas). The Rhinos got a 42-yard 2<sup>nd</sup>-quarter FG from K James Bellar and cut the Storm's victory margin from 18 to 10 on Matthew Stewart's 89 yard kickoff return for a TD (and ensuing 2-point conversion) on the game's last play.**

#### **NOTES ON THE GAME:**

- **Despite an afternoon of rain that lifted only about 45 minutes before kickoff, the Storm fans came out in decent numbers with plenty of enthusiasm. The Nashville Storm salute the Spring Hill Raider youth football program, who came out in force Saturday night and who have been consistent Storm supporters over the last couple of years.**
- **Recording artist Tythanee Fitzgerald sang the National Anthem for the Storm before Saturday night's kickoff, AND TYTHANEE HAS SOME SERIOUS PIPES. The National Anthem is a very difficult song to sing properly because of the vocal range it requires (if you don't believe me, ask Carl Lewis and Roseanne Barr). But Tythanee knocked it out to perfection. Thanks to Tythanee, and we're looking forward to your next music release.**
- **2008 Nashville Storm starting QB Tye Forte (Arkansas State) now lives in Little Rock again, and played the entire game for the Rhinos---AT WIDE RECEIVER. Forte finished with 2 catches for 4 yards.**
- **The Nashville Storm's honorary captain for Saturday night's game was a Stratford legend---- hometown hero CORY FLEMING, who went on to be one of the University of Tennessee's greatest Wide Receivers, who won a Super Bowl Ring on the last Dallas Cowboy Super**

**Bowl Champion team, and who became one of the Arena Football League's all-time leading receivers playing for both incarnations of the Nashville Kats. Cory gave a stirring pregame speech to the Storm team and, despite having a Stratford reunion to attend, stayed for the entire game following his participation in the pregame coin toss. Keep coming back, Cory, and thanks.**

- **The lovely ladies of the Nashville Storm Dance Team performed at halftime, and the show was a salute to the music of the late Michael Jackson. The show was received enthusiastically by both the Storm's grown-up fans and our young fans alike.**
- **The Nashville Storm also thanks our friends at Nashville radio station 102.5 The Party ( <http://www.1025theparty.com> ), who brought a sound truck to Stratford to entertain the Storm fans coming into the game.**
- **102.5 The Party isn't the Nashville Storm's only friend in Nashville radio; on Saturday mornings at 9:15 throughout the Nashville Storm season, Nashville Storm President/GM Bill Caldwell does a weekly segment on WFSK (88.1 FM on your dial- the Fisk University radio station) on Fisk AD William Head's "Coaches Corner" radio program, which runs from 9 to 10 AM on Saturdays. You can find out more about WFSK at <http://www.fisk.edu/wfsk> . WFSK has played the best smooth jazz in the Nashville market for many years, and you can call in to Coach Head's Saturday morning sports talk show by calling (615) 329-8810.**
- **Arkansas Rhino RB Brendon Medcalf became the first opposing runner to run for more than 35 yards rushing against the Nashville Storm defense in 2009 Saturday night by gaining 84 yards in 13 carries. All but 4 of those yards came in the first half, which ended with the Storm leading 21-9. Medcalf is in his 2<sup>nd</sup> season with the Rhinos, but his first season ended prematurely when he suffered a broken leg in an early-season game against the Memphis Panthers in 2008. He seems to have recovered nicely.**
- **Despite Medcalf's first-half success, the Rhinos finished with only 31 yards rushing, as the Storm D racked up 13 tackles for losses including 6 QB sacks. Storm MLB Jeremy Sims (Georgia State) and DT Danny Roberson (TSU) led the way with 3 TFLs each, and Storm**

- DEs Gary Peete (AF2 Memphis Xplorers) and Corvelli Haynes (Ole Miss) had QB sacks for losses of 17 yards and 18 yards, respectively. Rhino QB Damien Dunning finished with 9 completions in 24 attempts for 158 yards, 2 TD passes and 2 interceptions.**
- **For the Storm, Phellepe Hall finished with 6 completions in 9 attempts for 131 yards, 3 TD passes, and 1 interception. Hall had another TD pass to Mario Merriweather called back on a penalty against the Storm. The Storm rotated 6 running backs in gaining 113 rushing yards, with former TSSAA Mr Football Kelcey Williams (Northwestern Oklahoma), the State of Tennessee HS recordholder for rushing TDs in a season (with 48) leading the Storm runners with 34 rushing yards.**
  - **HOW 2009 STORM OPPONENTS FARED THIS WEEKEND- The Indiana Warriors defeated the River City Raptors 49-6; the Tennessee Central Xpress lost to the North Georgia Bulldogs 36-0; the defending NAFL National Champions defeated the Louisville Saints 41-18 in Indianapolis. The Memphis Blast, Memphis Panthers, and Asheville Grizzlies had the weekend off. And congratulations to Nashville's Tennessee Rattlers (not on our 2009 schedule) who scored a stunning upset victory over the previously undefeated and nationally-ranked Chattanooga Steam by a 12-6 score.**



**He'll be wearing road white this time, but Nashville Storm QB Phellepe Hall is coming to Jacksonville, AR on August 15. And he's bringing all his rowdy friends with him. Photo by Alonzo Mayfield.**

## **NEXT UP FOR THE NASHVILLE STORM; THE ARKANSAS RHINOS AGAIN (THIS TIME IN JACKSONVILLE, AR) ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 15**

**The Nashville Storm, now 6-0 and 4-0 in the NFL, have a bye weekend on August 8, and then head to Jacksonville, AR (a suburb of Little Rock, AR) for a rematch with the Arkansas Rhinos on Saturday night, August 15.. If successful there, the Storm will have won their 20<sup>th</sup> straight road game in a streak dating back to June of 2006**

**and will clinch the Storm's 8<sup>th</sup> straight berth in the NAFL playoffs.**

**But it won't be easy, even though the Storm has won in their last 3 visits to the Little Rock area against the Rhinos and their last 5 games against the Rhinos overall. The Rhinos have a bunch of talented newcomers like RB Brendon Metcalf, WR Stewart Franks (Arkansas-Pine Bluff), and S Tyler Knight (Mississippi Valley State- 1AA First Team All-American), who have joined a group of Rhino veterans who still remember when the Rhinos were who dominated the Storm-Rhino rivalry.**

**The game will be played Saturday night, August 15, with a 7 PM CDT kickoff at Jacksonville Middle School's football stadium, 201 Sharp Drive, Jacksonville, AR 72076. A Google map to the game site is linked below; hope to see you there.**

**GOOGLE MAP-**[maps.google.com/2.webloc](https://maps.google.com/2.webloc)