



## “Half the Field – Twice the Fun!”

**IOWA BLACKHAWKS**  
Indoor Professional Football  
One Arena Way | Council Bluffs, Iowa 51501  
Office (712) 366.9326  
Fax (712) 366.9323  
info@iowablackhawks.com  
www.iowablackhawks.com

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**May 7, 2009**

### **Blackhawks sign 8-year-old phenom**

COUNCIL BLUFFS, Ia. – The Iowa Blackhawks, Council Bluffs indoor professional football team, has signed 8-year-old Alec Mass from Treynor Elementary to a one game contract for the Blackhawks May 9<sup>th</sup> game against the Kansas Koyotes.

May 9<sup>th</sup> is Heroes Night with the Iowa Blackhawks as the team will honor military, law enforcement, and other local heroes.

“When I first read Alec’s story I was amazed,” Blackhawks general manager Jeremy Poore said, “to go through chemotherapy while battling cancer and still attending school and doing everything a normal second grader does really made me think.”

Poore went on to say during Wednesday’s press conference, “Alec handled his illness like a man. Scratch that he handled it like a hero because most men I know would curl up in the fetal position when trying to deal with what Alec has.”

Alec was diagnosed May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008 with Alveolar Rhabdomyosarcoma, a very rare cancer of the soft tissue, and went through 43 weeks of treatments to battle the disease. Alec’s last MRI and CT scans came back clear of cancer. He will have to go through scans every three months for the next year and every six months for the next five years before he is considered cured as this type of cancer does not go into remission.

Alec will be the Iowa Blackhawks honorary captain during Saturday night’s game against the Kansas Koyotes at the Mid America Center. When asked if he would be nervous for Saturday’s game against Kansas Alec calmly shook his head, put on his game face, and said, “No I will be fine.”

Alec is a gentleman of few words but his smile and his actions seemed to bring out the best of his new teammates on Wednesday.

Iowa Blackhawks head coach Mike Wolff told the press conference attendees, “I think Alec puts this all into perspective for us. To go through what he has and to battle the way he has serves as an inspiration for me personally and I know he is an inspiration to this team.

The Iowa Blackhawks face the 5 time defending APFL Champion Kansas Koyotes this Saturday at the Mid America Center at 7:05pm. For tickets, please contact the MAC box office at (712) 323.0636 or purchase online at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com).



Chris Moore and head coach Mike Wolff present Alec Mass with a game jersey moments after Alec was signed to a one-game contract.



## “Half the Field – Twice the Fun!”

### IOWA BLACKHAWKS

#### Indoor Professional Football

One Arena Way | Council Bluffs, Iowa 51501

Office (712) 366.9326

Fax (712) 366.9323

info@iowablackhawks.com

www.iowablackhawks.com

**Have a question about this article? Feel free to contact anyone below for more information.**

**JEREMY POORE, General Manager** @ (712) 307.0731 – [jeremy@iowablackhawks.com](mailto:jeremy@iowablackhawks.com)

**MIKE WOLFF, Head Coach** @ (712) 310.3637 – [mikewolff@iowablackhawks.com](mailto:mikewolff@iowablackhawks.com)