

FIRST PITCH

**PAPILLION
STORM CHASERS
BASEBALL**

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ISSUE 4



FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

I write to you today not about baseball, but about our Baseball Family. Family can be defined in many ways: a group of individuals who share a legal or genetic bond, or, as applied to our Storm Chasers Family, any of various social units differing from but regarded as equivalent to the traditional family.

We have all seen the unbelievable pictures or videos of areas severely impacted by the flooding. For some, we're fortunate to be doing so from the safety of our homes that were not affected. For others, we're fortunate as any flooding was minimal at best, but not significantly impactful. Sadly, for some of our Chasers Family, they are living the images we see on our televisions or on social media.

In many ways, I suspect that most of us has a loved one, an Aunt or Uncle, a cousin, or a co-worker who has been impacted by the flooding. Maybe their basement took on water, or maybe they were required to evacuate from their property to a safer destination. Some have yet to be allowed to return home to assess the damage, and in many instances, it could be up to 30 days before they are allowed back.

No act of kindness is too small. No donation will go unused. I know most of us have already contributed towards helping – be it donating at a local drop off site, or by helping a neighbor, friend, loved one or co-worker salvage items from their flooded homes. I would encourage all to continue to do what you can as the need will be there for quite some time.

For those of you who have been directly and severely impacted, our thoughts, our prayers, our hearts go out to you. Please know that your Chasers Family stands ready to help you. Baseball is just a game, and it's times like this that we're all reminded of that. Hopefully in the coming weeks when we do get the chance to suit up and play ball, it can be a happy distraction for a bit of time.

IN CLOSING

As many of you know, I preach life lessons when it comes to our program. What we are all facing, directly or indirectly, is just another opportunity for our youth to learn and grow. Our Chasers Family will persevere, and in time, the cheers at the ball field will fill our hearts. But we never forget, and never stop caring for our Chasers Brothers and Sisters!

With an emotional and heavy heart,
Mike Apgar – President of Papillion Baseball