



## NEWS RELEASE

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### Cyclone Hockey Names Brian Rooney Player of the Week

*Plays major role in tight 3-1 win Saturday night*

**Dec. 12, 2011 – Ames, Iowa** – Cyclone Hockey is pleased to announce forward **Brian Rooney (Palatine, Ill. – Chicago Force/CSHL)** as its Player of the Week.

Rooney tallied points in both of the Cyclones' games against the Maple Grove Energy this past weekend, but his contributions in Saturday's game proved to be vital. Iowa State routed Maple Grove 9-1 in Friday night's game, in which Rooney added an assist, but Saturday night's game was much tighter, due to the exceptional play of the Energy's goaltender, who turned away 38 of 41 shots. Rooney, however, was an integral part in generating the Cyclones' shorthanded goal 4:28 into the first period of Saturday's game, giving Iowa State the 1-0 lead, and then put the Cyclones up 2-0 at the 5:51 mark of the second period when he took a pass in the high slot and sniped a shot top shelf blocker side. The senior captain's goal turned out to be the game-winner in Iowa State's 3-1 win over Maple Grove, and his overall performance was a reflection of how he's played for over a month.

"Going all the way back to our series at Arizona State, he has consistently been one of our top forwards," said Cyclone Hockey General Manager Dr. Alan Murdoch of Rooney. "Even in some games where we, as a team, came out kind of flat, he was leading by example with his effort on the forecheck and trying to make things happen."

Rooney's production against Maple Grove follows a month-long trend. In his last 11 games, the veteran forward has 4 goals and 6 assists, making him one of the team's top scorers in that span. The Cyclones' captain does far more than just score, though.

"With his speed, explosiveness, and gritty game, he's very effective for us on the forecheck and he's one of our very best penalty killers," said Murdoch.

So good, in fact, Rooney is called upon to center the Cyclones' first penalty killing unit, helping Iowa State maintain a respectable 84.0 percent penalty killing efficiency despite facing some of the most offensively dangerous ACHA Men's Division 1 teams in the country.

Rooney's recognition as Player of the Week for the final series of the first semester of the 2011-12 season comes in fitting fashion, as he was also the first player to be named the Cyclone Hockey Player of the Week on Sept. 19, following Iowa State's exhibition series opening weekend against the Huntsville Havoc of the Southern Professional Hockey League. He is also the first player to receive the award a second time this season.

"I guess you could say he's led from start to finish," said Murdoch of his senior captain.

Rooney and the Cyclones return to action in the New Year on the road to play Indiana University January 6, and 7, 2012. Friday's game in Bloomington, Indiana, is scheduled to start at 9:25 p.m. Eastern Time, 8:25 p.m. Central Time. The opening face-off for Saturday's game against the Hoosiers is slated for 2:30 p.m. Eastern Time, 1:30 p.m. Central Time. Both games will be broadcast online live on the American One Network. For more information, visit the Cyclone Hockey website: [www.cyclonehockey.com](http://www.cyclonehockey.com).

Cyclone Hockey's next home games are Friday, January 13, and Saturday, January 14. Opening face-off both nights is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Group-rate discounts and benefits start for groups of as few as 15 people. Contact the Cyclone Hockey office at 294.6164 for more information or visit the Cyclone Hockey website.