



NEWS RELEASE

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Cyclone Hockey Grad Erik Hudson Comes Up Big in First Pro Start

Makes an impressive 39 saves on 42 shots

Dec. 23, 2011 – Ames, Iowa – Cyclone Hockey is pleased and proud to announce that 2011 graduate **Erik Hudson (Spokane, Wash. – Burnaby Express/BCHL)** made his first regular season professional start last night and was instrumental in the Fayetteville FireAntz' 4-3 victory on the road against the heavily favored Columbus Cottonmouths.

Fayetteville was wholly outgunned by Columbus, which outshot the FireAntz 42 shots to 23, but Hudson came up big by making 39 saves and securing the "W," reminiscent of some of the performances Hudson put up in leading the Cyclones to the championship game of the 2010 ACHA Men's Division 1 National Tournament. In his two appearances in the Southern Professional Hockey League (SPHL) so far this season, Hudson has a respectable 3.08 goals-against average and an impressive .923 save percentage.

The strong outings come as no surprise to Cyclone Hockey.

"We know from four years how Erik can steal games, and Team USA recognized it when they selected him to play at the 2011 World University Games, so it's great to see Erik finally get a real look at the pro ranks and get the win and make a lot saves doing so," said Cyclone Hockey General Manager and Head Coach Dr. Alan Murdoch after receiving the news of Hudson's win. "A game like that can go a long way in a goaltender earning the confidence of a coaching staff, so hopefully this opens up more opportunities for Erik to show what he can do at that level."

Hudson started the 2011-12 season with the Pensacola Ice Flyers of the SPHL by signing with the team over the summer, but he jumped at the chance to try out for the Bloomington Blaze of the Central Hockey League, which held its training camp the same time as the Ice Flyers. One of the Blaze's final cuts, Hudson landed with the Ice Flyers and made a relief appearance November 11 against the Mississippi Surge, making 9 saves on 10 shots in a 18:08 of action. Despite acquitting himself well in his first SPHL appearance, Hudson was waived by Pensacola November 23, but he was picked up only days later by a Fayetteville team looking to improve its goaltending.

Hudson and the FireAntz return home to play the Knoxville Ice Bears tonight at 7:30 Eastern Time, 6:30 Central Time. Cyclone Hockey fans can continue to watch the Iowa State grad online, as all Fayetteville FireAntz games are broadcast live on the America One Network, the same network Cyclone Hockey broadcasts all of its home and away games on.

The Cyclones return to game 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 and 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.

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.

The Iowa State Cyclones play in the Central States Collegiate Hockey League (CSCHL) and are a member of the American College Hockey Association's Men's Division 1.