



NEWS RELEASE

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Cyclone Center Mike Lebler Signs Pro Hockey Contract

Inks two-year contract with Austrian team

May 26, 2011 – Ames, Iowa – Cyclone Hockey is proud to announce that four-year standout center **Mike Lebler (Penticton, British Columbia / Nelson Leafs / KIJHL)** has signed a two-year contract with the Linz Black Wings of the Austrian-based Erste Bank Ice Hockey League.

“This is an outstanding development for a great player,” said Cyclone Hockey Head Coach Al Murdoch of Lebler’s signing with a team in Austria’s top league.

“This is huge for Mike Lebler, but it’s also huge for Cyclone Hockey in that he’s going there with a degree in engineering,” said Murdoch. “Not a lot of teams can lay that claim—going on to pro hockey with a degree in engineering.”

Lebler was an impact player for Iowa State all four years he skated for the Cyclones and finished his collegiate career with 93 goals and 121 assists for an impressive 214 points in 176 games. In 2010-11, Lebler led the team in scoring with 23 goals and 26 assists in 42 games and was the recipient of the Charlie Turner Award as Iowa State’s top scorer. Lebler, an alternate captain for the Cyclones his senior season, was also the recipient of the team’s Alexander Murdoch Award as the team’s most valuable player, the Rod French Award as the outstanding forward, and the Ed Moore Award as the most sportsmanlike player.

In 2009-10, Lebler received national recognition from the American Collegiate Hockey Association (ACHA) when he was selected to the All-Tournament Second Team after scoring 2 goals and 3 assists in 4 games at the 2010 ACHA Men’s Division 1 National Tournament and leading Iowa State to a second-place finish. He also garnered the Charlie Turner Award following the 2009-10 season, his junior year, by leading the team in offensive production with 20 goals and 40 assists in 46 games. Lebler led all sophomores offensively in 2008-09 by scoring 23 goals and 29 assists in 46 games and finished tied for fourth overall in team scoring. Similarly, he led all freshmen in scoring in 2007-08 and finished fourth overall in team scoring by putting up 27 goals and 26 assists in 42 games.

In addition to his awards for his on-ice performance, Lebler was named an ACHA Academic All-American his junior and senior years—the only two years a player is eligible for such recognition from the ACHA. Lebler graduated earlier this month with a degree in construction engineering.

The professional league Lebler will be skating in this upcoming season, the Erste Bank Ice Hockey League, is a 10-team league featuring clubs in Austria (6 teams), Slovenia (2), Croatia (1), and Hungary (1). Each team plays a 54-game regular season, and the top eight teams from the regular season earn a playoff berth. The Erste Bank Ice Hockey League’s playoffs consist of a quarterfinal round, a semi-final round, and a final round, with each round played using a best-of-seven-games series format. During 2010-11 season, 40 players who have played regular season games in the National Hockey League skated in the Erste Bank Ice Hockey League.

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. Season tickets for the 2011-12 season are now on sale. Call the Cyclone Hockey office today at 515.294.6164 for more information or visit www.cyclonehockey.com

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