



NEWS RELEASE

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Cyclone Hockey Names Brian Rooney Player of the Week

Clutch in both games against the Indiana Hoosiers

Jan. 9, 2012 – Ames, Iowa – Cyclone Hockey is pleased to announce forward **Brian Rooney (Palatine, Ill. – Chicago Force/CSHL)** as its Player of the Week.

Rooney played a vital role in the Cyclones coming away with points in both games against the Indiana Hoosiers this past weekend. In Friday's game, he scored a goal in the second period to tie the game 2-2 and then went 11 for 11 in the face-off circle in the third period, which proved pivotal in the Cyclones maintaining the 3-2 lead it established early in the third period. The senior captain then put in a clutch performance in Iowa State's matinee matchup against Indiana on Saturday. Rooney assisted on the Cyclones' third goal of the second period, reducing the Hoosiers' lead to 4-3, and followed that up by scoring the game-tying goal with 49.5 seconds left in the third period while Iowa State had its goaltender pulled for the extra attacker. After a scoreless overtime period, the Cyclones called upon Rooney as its first shooter in the ensuing shootout, and he rewarded the coaching staff's confidence by scoring high glove side on the Hoosier netminder. Iowa State went on to be outscored 3-2 in the shootout, and thus lost the game 5-4, but Rooney's significant contributions in both games proved why he is the leader of this Cyclone team.

"Once again, Brian stepped up and stepped forward when we needed him," said Cyclone Hockey General Manager Head Coach Dr. Alan Murdoch. "He had a real good, solid week at practice and then solid, solid games both Friday and Saturday.

"He scored on Friday and was outstanding in the face-off circle as we protected our lead, and then gave us the tying goal late in the third period when we pulled our goaltender Saturday night, and led off in the shootout and scored to put pressure on Indiana. He just kept coming through in big situations."

Not only did Rooney stand out against Indiana, he's stood out the last two months for the Cyclones. He's currently on a four-game point streak and has 6 goals and 7 assists in his last 13 games, which makes him Iowa State's leading scorer during that period. Rooney is also one of the Cyclones' top forwards defensively and in the face-off circle and is a stalwart on Iowa State's first penalty killing unit.

Rooney's recognition as Player of the Week this week marks the second consecutive weekend he's been honored as such, as he was awarded Player of the Week honors the last week of playing before the winter break. It also marks the third time this season Rooney has been tabbed the Player of the Week, having been named such after the opening weekend of the 2011-12 season in the exhibition series against the Huntsville Havoc of the Southern Professional Hockey League. No other Cyclone has earned Player of the Week honors more than once this season.

Rooney and the Cyclones return home this weekend for a series against the ACHA Men's Division 1 22nd-ranked Kent State Golden Flashes this Friday and Saturday. Both games are scheduled to start at 7:30 p.m. Friday night's game is Iowa National Guard Night, with a limited number of special Iowa National Guard hockey cards of the Cyclone Hockey team captains available for an autograph session after the game. The Cyclones will hold Marcus Andary Night on Saturday to remember the late Cyclone hockey player, who was killed at the scene of a car accident in St. Paul, Minnesota, late in the evening on December 18.

Group-rate discounts and benefits apply for groups of as few as 15 people. Call the Cyclone Hockey office at 294.6164 for more information.