



NEWS RELEASE

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Cyclones Sweep Fighting Illini on Road with 2-1 Win

Strong goaltending of Karus ensures victory

Jan. 21, 2012 – Champaign, Ill. – After demoralizing Illinois with a three-goal third period to come from behind for a 4-2 victory Friday night, the Cyclones followed it up Saturday night with a 2-1 win over the Fighting Illini for the team's first road sweep of the season.

The Cyclones fell behind late in the first period when Illinois defenseman Joe Sullivan fired a shot from the point that rebounded toward the end boards and Scott Barrera took the puck and scored on the wraparound at 18:31 of the first, but the team wasn't behind for long. Early in the second, **Chris Cucullu (Anchorage, Alaska – Nelson Leafs/KIJHL)** skated the puck out of the defensive zone, through the neutral zone, and drove the net to fire a shot on the backhand that created a rebound in the crease that **Jon Feavel (North Pole, Alaska – Fairbanks Ice Dogs/NAHL)** put home at 3:37 to tie the game 1-1. Just over five minutes later, **James Buttermore (Stillwater, Minn. – Winkler Flyers/MJHL)** won an offensive face-off back to **J.P. Kascsak (Springfield, Va. – North Bay Trappers/NOJHL)** in the shooter's position and Kascsak fired a shot low to beat Illinois goaltender Dan Rooney along the ice, scoring the third and final goal of the game at the 8:48 mark and giving the Cyclones enough to take the eventual 2-1 win.

Following the game, Cyclone Hockey General Manager and Head Coach Dr. Alan Murdoch was pleased with what the team showed him during the weekend.

"Illinois is a pretty darn tough place to play," said Murdoch. "They play, I'd say, twice as good at home as they do anywhere else, because they're used to the big ice surface and they've got a good coach in Chad Cassel, so I thought our team showed a lot of character in picking up a good win Friday night and then following it up with a solid win Saturday night to take the sweep on the road at Illinois."

A major factor in both of the Cyclones' victories was the goaltending of **Paul Karus (Brookfield, Wisc. – Mass Maple Leafs/CHA)**, who made 24 saves on 25 shots in Saturday night's contest and ensured two goals were enough.

"Paul played real solid in net for us tonight and last night," said Murdoch. "He's good technically and strong mentally, and when he's in a groove, he's almost impossible to beat."

The Cyclones return to Ames for home games Friday, January 27, and Saturday, January 28, against the Robert Morris University Eagles. Friday night's game against the CSCHL rival starts at 7:30, while the opening face-off for Saturday night's tilt will start shortly after 8:00, following the Cyclone women's hockey game against the University of Wisconsin-Stout. Group-rate discounts and benefits apply for groups of as few as 15 people and increase as the size of the group increases. Call the Cyclone Hockey office at 294.6164 for more information or visit www.cyclonehockey.com.

NOTES: By scoring the game-winning goal, J.P. Kascsak maintains the team lead in goals scored, with 18, and in points, 36 (18-18-36). His goal also gives him a point in each of the last five games and nine points in that span (4-5-9). Like Kascsak, after scoring a goal in tonight's victory, Jon Feavel is also on a five-game point streak. Feavel has seven points (3-4-7) in those five games. His goal gives him 17 for the season, good for second on the team in goal scoring. James Buttermore remains tied with Feavel for second in team scoring, on the strength of 29 points, after assisting on Kascsak's goal. Chris Cucullu has six points in his last six games, all of them coming as assists. After giving up only one goal in Iowa State's 2-1 win, Paul Karus's goals-against average now stands at an impressive 1.99.

GAME SUMMARY

GOALS BY PERIOD	1	2	3	FINAL
IOWA STATE	0	2	0	2
ILLINOIS	1	0	0	1

First Period – Scoring: UI, Barrera (Sullivan), 18:31. Penalties: None.

Second Period – Scoring: ISU, Feavel (Cucullu), 3:37; ISU, Kascsak (Kohles, Buttermore), 8:48.
Penalties: UI, McBride (tripping), 4:02; ISU, Cucullu (hooking), 13:01; UI, Cardona (boarding), 19:54.

Third Period – Scoring: None. Penalties: UI, Fatigato (slashing), 0:33; ISU, Kascsak (slashing), 9:08; UI, McBride (tripping), 10:37; ISU, Feavel (tripping), 13:22.

SHOTS BY PERIOD	1	2	3	TOTAL
IOWA STATE	12	13	9	34
ILLINOIS	5	11	9	25

GOALTENDERS (SV/SH)	1	2	3	TOTAL
ISU, Karus (60:00)	4/5	11/11	9/9	24/25
UI, Rooney (59:45)	12/12	11/13	9/9	32/34

POWER PLAY: ISU 0-4; UI 0-3

PENALTIES: ISU 3-6; UI 4-8

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