



NEWS RELEASE

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Cyclones Fall Short in 6-4 Loss to Robert Morris

Four quick goals against in second period proves costly

Jan. 28, 2012 – Ames, Iowa – Following a 1-1 first period, Iowa State's Saturday matchup against Robert Morris looked like it would remain a tight affair, similar to the 5-2 Friday night victory that was much closer than appeared on the scoreboard, but four Eagle goals in a span of 5:42 in the second period proved to be too much for the Cyclones to come back from and the team dropped the game 6-4 after a Robert Morris empty-net goal late.

Robert Morris scored their first goal of the second period exactly eight minutes in when a Derek Winkler shot on the power play managed to trickle in amidst a gaggle of players around the crease, and the Cyclones responded quickly and tied the game 2-2 at the 9:03 mark when **Derek Kohles (Johnston, Iowa – Dubuque Thunderbirds/CSHL)** bodied Eagles defenseman Ryan McGaughy off the puck in the corner on the forecheck and fed it to **James Buttermore (Stillwater, Minn. – Winkler Flyers/MJHL)** crashing the net, but Robert Morris proceeded to explode offensively just under three minutes later. Eagle forward Dave Bauer took advantage of a Cyclone turnover in the corner, took a couple strides, and sniped a goal top shelf at 11:58 of the third period to re-establish a Robert Morris lead. Ninety-four seconds after Bauer's goal, Winkler scored his second goal of the game when he was sprung for a breakaway by Zach Kuta, giving Robert Morris the 4-2 lead, and then immediately off the ensuing face-off the Eagles' Nick Leon took a loose puck in the face-off circle, spun, and fired a shot along the ice that scored at 13:42.

Staring down a three-goal deficit going into the second intermission, the Cyclones drew to within two goals with 6.2 second remaining in the period when **Antti Helanto (Turku, Finland – Owatonna Express/MnJHL)** made a pass so fine from the point to Buttermore driving the far post that Buttermore barely had to move his stick to put it into the near-empty net on the power play, making the score 5-3.

Down a more manageable two goals to start the third period, the Cyclones faced an intense Robert Morris defensive effort in the third period but managed to draw to within one goal when **Dominic Toigo (Delta, British Columbia – South Delta Ice Hawks/PIJHL)** fired a crisp shot from the point that resulted in a loose puck in the crease that **David Kurbatsky (San Ramon, Calif. – Owatonna Express/NAHL)** tapped home at the 11:20 mark of the third. Just 3:04 after Kurbatsky's goal, the Cyclones received a prime chance to tie the game 5-5 when a penalty shot was called after a Robert Morris player covered a loose puck in the crease, but Eagle netminder Andy DiCristofaro came up big by spreading out toward the post on **Trevor Lloyd (Commerce, Mich. – Rochester Ice Hawks/MnJHL)** as Lloyd made a nice move to drag the puck across the crease and attempt to score blocker side. Iowa State opted to pull netminder **Paul Karus (Brookfield, Wisc. – Mass Maple Leafs/CHA)** for the extra attacker with 47.6 seconds remaining in an attempt to tie the game and send it into overtime, but Markus Ellis spoiled the effort when he launched a clear out of the defensive zone for an empty net goal credited at 19:32 of the period.

With the Cyclones firing a lot of quality shots during the game, Cyclone Hockey General Manager and Head Coach Dr. Alan Murdoch gave a figurative tip of the cap to DiCristofaro.

"I would have to say that the goaltender that played for Robert Morris tonight had to be the star of this game," said Murdoch. "He stood on his head, made some tremendous saves, saved the penalty shot, and really won it for them."

Murdoch was encouraged by the response of the defensemen during the weekend under the pressure of the Robert Morris forecheck, the character the team showed in the near comeback, and the fact that opponents are considering a victory over the 24-6-1-4 Cyclones a momentous occasion.

“Another team celebrated like they’d won the Stanley Cup Playoffs after beating Iowa State,” said Murdoch.

“I don’t know what’s up with that,” added Murdoch rhetorically.

Early in the game the Cyclones looked like the team that would be celebrating at night’s end, as **Brandon Clark (Spokane, Wash. – Trail Smoke Eaters/BCHL)** scored cleanly top shelf on a crisp point shot only 1:53 into the game, but Robert Morris hung tough and evened the score 1-1 at the 15:45 mark of the first period when Ellis buried a rebound on the power play generated by a Michael Sugden point shot, and the Eagles went on to score four of the game’s next five goals to take the eventual 6-4 victory.

The Cyclones are on the road next weekend for a pair of games against the ACHA Men’s Division 1 fourth-ranked Lindenwood Lions. Friday night’s game is slated to start at 7:30, while Saturday’s game is scheduled for a 4:00 p.m. start. Both games will be broadcast online live on the America One Network. Go to www.cyclonehockey.com for more details and to order.

Iowa State returns home for a series against the University of Central Oklahoma Bronchos (spelling is correct) Friday, February 10, and Saturday, February 11. Friday night’s contest is scheduled for a 7:30 opening puck drop, while Saturday night’s game will start at approximately 8:05, following the Cyclone women’s game against North Dakota State. 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: James Buttermore, by scoring two goals, broke the tie with **Jon Feavel (North Pole, Alaska – Fairbanks Ice Dogs)** for second in team scoring and has 33 points (15-18-33) in 31 games. Buttermore is now on a five-game point streak and has 3 goals and 6 assists in that span. Picking up an assist, Feavel is close behind in third with 32 points (17-15-32) in 35 games. Feavel is now on a seven-game point streak and has 3 goals and 7 assists in that stretch. David Kurbatsky continues to be a threat driving the net and burying rebounds, as his goal tonight gives him 12 in his last 14 games. By tallying two helpers, Derek Kohles moves into a tie for sixth in Cyclone scoring with **Brian Rooney (Palatine, Ill. – Chicago Force/CSHL)** at 20 points (9-11-20).

GAME SUMMARY

GOALS BY PERIOD	1	2	3	FINAL
IOWA STATE	1	2	1	4
ROBERT MORRIS	1	4	1	6

First Period – Scoring: ISU, Clark (Falvey, Crawford), 1:53; RMU, Ellis (Sugden), 15:45 (pp). Penalties: RMU, Bauer (elbowing), 4:07; ISU, Dopko (holding), 15:05; RMU, Cimoch (tripping), 17:27.

Second Period – Scoring: RMU, Winkler (Domico), 8:00 (pp); ISU, Buttermore (Kohles), 9:03; RMU, Bauer (Keasey), 11:58; RMU, Winkler (Kuta), 13:32; RMU, Leon (Bauer), 13:42; ISU, Buttermore (Helanto, Kohles), 19:53 (pp). Penalties: RMU, McGaughy (roughing), 3:41; ISU, Lloyd (cross-checking), 6:04; ISU, Falvey (10-min unsportsmanlike major), 13:32; RMU, Winkler (hooking), 15:26; RMU, Tews (holding), 18:26; ISU, Crawford (roughing), 18:26; RMU, McGaughy (high-sticking), 19:43.

Third Period – Scoring: ISU, Kurbatsky (Feavel, D. Toigo), 11:20 (pp); RMU, Ellis (unassisted), 19:32 (en). Penalties: RMU, Kuta (interference), 9:44; RMU, Domico (interference), 11:36; RMU, Domico (ten-minute misconduct), 11:36.

SHOTS BY PERIOD	1	2	3	TOTAL
IOWA STATE	13	12	10	35

ROBERT MORRIS	16	7	10	33
GOALTENDERS (SV/SH)	1	2	3	TOTAL
ISU, Karus (59:15)	15/16	3/7	9/9	27/32
ISU, Empty Net (0:45)	-/-	-/-	0/1	0/1
RMU, DiCristofaro (60:00)	12/13	10/12	9/10	31/35

POWER PLAY: ISU 2-7; RMU 2-2

PENALTIES: ISU 4-16; RMU 9-26

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