



## NEWS RELEASE

1180 State Gym | Ames, Iowa 50011 | 515.294.3498

### Media and Public Relations Staff

Kevin Wey | Director of Communications | phone 515.779.4434 | [kwey@iastate.edu](mailto:kwey@iastate.edu)

Jack MacDonald | D3 Communications Manager | phone 630.659.5119 | [jwm95@iastate.edu](mailto:jwm95@iastate.edu)

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kevin Wey ([kwey@iastate.edu](mailto:kwey@iastate.edu))

### Cyclones Win CSCHL Tournament Championship with 5-4 OT Victory

**Feb. 26, 2017 – Bensenville, Ill.** – Coming off a 3-2 overtime win over Robert Morris in the semifinals of the 2017 Central States Collegiate Hockey League Tournament, Iowa State entered the championship game with a chance to win its first CSCHL Tournament title since 2007 and the Cyclones appeared to be cruising to victory after the opening period, but a lackluster second and third forced the Cardinal and Gold to win the William H. Easton Cup in dramatic fashion less than a minute into overtime to pick up a 5-4 win over Lindenwood.

Iowa State took the lead early, only 50 seconds into the first period, after **Jackson Graalum (Fargo, N.D. – Aberdeen Wings/NAHL)** poked the puck away from Lindenwood defenseman Mitch Riese in the corner as F-2 on the forecheck, the puck slid along the boards to **Aaron Azevedo (Spokane, Wash. – Osoyoos Coyotes/KIJHL)**, and Azevedo immediately centered the puck to **Colton Kramer (Sioux City, Iowa – Minot Minotauros/NAHL)** alone in the slot for Kramer to fire past Lion goaltender Cody Karpinski far side. Lion blueliner Adam Newkirk took a slashing penalty at 5:13 of the opening frame and Iowa State made Lindenwood pay with a power play tally at the 6:40 mark, as **Tony Uglem (Moorhead, Minn. – Austin Bruins/NAHL)** fired a shot from the left face-off circle that rebounded out to **A.J. Gullickson (Verona, Wisc. – Alexandria Blizzard/NAHL)** in the right face-off circle and Gullickson sniped a shot top-right corner to give the Cyclones the 2-0 lead. Gullickson was hauled down from behind on a breakaway and awarded a penalty shot at 12:45 of the first and, after slowly weaving into the zone, quickly fired a snap shot that slipped past Karpinski blocker side to give Iowa State what seemed to be a commanding 3-0 lead.

Graalum was called for interference with 26.1 seconds left in the opening frame after holding and taking down Alex Kalau off an offensive zone face-off and the Cyclones kept the Lions off the board the rest of the first period, but 1:18 into the second Kevin Walters took a pass in the high slot from Alex Kalau and quickly fired a shot through traffic to the net and Tommy Heinzman punched in the rebound in the crease to make it 3-1.

After Lindenwood's power play tally, the Lions started to control play and Cyclone netminder **Derek Moser (Tomah, Wisc. – Rochester Ice Hawks/MnJHL)** had to bail out his teammates in front of him. Moser made a big save on a point-blank shot by Mike Lozano to prevent a power play goal at 4:23 of the second and then saved a Kevin Walters slap shot fired in stride at the 7:44 mark after Walters deflected a Cyclone point-to-point pass out of the zone and won the race to the puck high in the Iowa State defensive zone. In between Moser's two big saves, Iowa State took its allocated timeout at 5:48 of the second, but it didn't have the desired effect and Iowa State was dominated most of the rest of the second. Iowa State was pinned in its defensive zone for a prolonged period until Moser froze play with a timely glove save with 5:13 left in the second and a tripping penalty to Heinzman at 15:18 of the second provided the Cyclones and opportunity to reverse the team's slide in performance, but it was Lindenwood that scored during the ensuing Cyclone power play when Cade Owad caught up to a dumped puck, rounded the Cyclone net, and made a pass across the slot to Alexander Carlsson for a quick snipe high glove side to reduce the Cardinal and Gold's lead to 3-2 on a slow Iowa State line change. As Heinzman's penalty expired, Gullickson fired a shot that rang off the crossbar and also ricocheted off the back of Karpinski, but it did not trickle in and the score remained 3-2.

To add insult to figurate injury, with about ten seconds left in the period, defensemen **Kody Reuter (Sioux City, Iowa – Austin Bruins)** and **Jake Arroyo (Bolingbrook, Ill. – Austin Bruins/NAHL)** collided at center ice going for the puck, sending both down and Brad Edwards in on a breakaway, but Moser managed to make a pad save to maintain Iowa State's 3-2 margin heading into the second intermission.

After a lackluster second period in which it appeared plausible that the Cyclones had, as a team, contracted mono, Iowa State showed a little more energy in the third period, particularly after **Alex Grupe (Arlington Heights, Ill. – Osoyoos Coyotes/KIJHL)** poked the puck away from the skates of Lindenwood defenseman Aapo Nurminen at center ice, caught up to the puck in the offensive zone, and finished the breakaway with a five-hole goal at the 6:45 mark with a great individual effort to extend the Cardinal and Gold's lead back to two goals.

Just past the halfway point of the third period, Alex Kalau skated the puck down the right wing, dragged the puck around Arroyo after he had dropped in the face-off circle in an attempt to eliminate the pass, and Kalau slipped the puck in short side at 10:18 with the net knocked up on the moorings after **Jon Severson (Rockford, Ill. – Nashville Jr. Predators/NA3HL)** clipped it while racing back to cover a man on the backcheck. Although the Cyclones contended Kalau had slipped the puck under the net with it knocked up and off the ice, the officials concluded the goal stood and the score remained 4-3 in narrow favor of Iowa State.

A little over three minutes of gameplay later, Graalum was assessed a checking-from-behind major and a game misconduct after sending Graham Zagrodny into the neutral zone boards from behind, which put Lindenwood on the power play with 5:40 remaining and, basically, the rest of regulation. Brandon Rumble ripped a one-timer from the top of the umbrella that was deflected by Ryan Carson for a goal at 16:08, but the Cyclones managed to kill off the rest of the penalty and send the game into overtime tied 4-4 when it could have been quite possible for the Lions to put Iowa State away.

With the chance in overtime to turn the game back around after a dismal second period and a disappointing third period, the Cyclone seized the opportunity less than a minute in when **Eero Helanto (Turku, Finland – TPS Turku J20/Jr. A Sm-Liia)** wrapped a long pass up the boards to Severson at the offensive blue line, Severson proceeded along the half boards toward the corner, and then made a centering pass to Kramer, who was driving the net at the right post, and Kramer knocked it in 54 seconds into the extra frame to send the Iowa State bench pouring onto the ice in a jubilant celebration.

Moser made 37 saves on 41 shots to help backstop Iowa State to the 2017 CSCHL Tournament championship.

Following the victory, Cyclone Hockey Head Coach and General Manager Jason Fairman was relieved that the team pulled out the victory.

“What is it coaches say about gray hair and games like that?” Fairman asked rhetorically. “That was one of those games.

“I just feel very fortunate. Lindenwood is a great team. We've had great games between our two teams, just add that to the great games we've had. It was a little bit of a crazy game with things that happened. I'm anxious to look at the video on some of those things that people might categorize as crazy. But, bottom line is, we got the win in dramatic fashion and won the CSCHL Tournament championship for the first time in ten years. We're very pleased.”

Fairman was also hopeful that the Cyclones' experience at the CSCHL Tournament truly readies the team for what it will likely face at the 2017 ACHA Men's Division 1 Tournament in Columbus, Ohio, in early March.

“Two games in a row, two overtime winners,” said Fairman. “Hopefully this prepares us for nationals.

“We made some mistakes that might have cost us; but, fortunately they didn't. Certainly, we can learn from some of the things we didn't do right; but, obviously, we did more right things than we did wrong.”

Not only can the Cyclones be confident they've been adequately prepared for the national tournament, but all five teams (Illinois, Iowa State, Lindenwood, Ohio, and Robert Morris) can go into nationals reasonably assured that they have been battle-tested for the big prize.

“All the teams are competitive,” Fairman said of the teams in the CSCHL. “Any team can beat any other team on any given night.

“I think that’s why our teams are ranked where they are and why we usually have success at the national tournament, because beating each other up all year prepares us for that. I think the coaches recognize that and that’s why we’re very selective with who we allow to be in the league.”

With the William H. Easton Trophy in hand, Iowa State plays its final home game Saturday, March 4, against Midland, which will be going to the national tournament as the 15th seed. The game March 4 against the Warriors marks Senior Night, as Cyclone Hockey will be saluting seniors Drew Carlson, Alex Grupe, Eero Helanto, Dalton Kaake, and Chase Rey. Cyclone Hockey will broadcast Senior Night’s game online live on EverSport at <https://eversport.tv/acha> and it will be the organization’s last broadcast of the 2016-17 season. Due to Ethernet limitations at Midland’s home arena, Cyclone Hockey will not be able to broadcast the March 5 game in Fremont, Nebraska. The game will be streamed online live, however, by Midland.

Aside from in-person or EverSport, fans can also follow Cyclone Hockey online at [www.cyclonehockey.com](http://www.cyclonehockey.com), on Facebook at /CycloneHockey, on Twitter at @Cyclone Hockey, and on Instagram at @CycloneHockey. Cyclone Hockey...Right Now.

NOTES: Jake Arroyo was named the Most Valuable Player of 2017 Central States Collegiate Hockey League Tournament following the game. Arroyo had two goals in Iowa State’s 3-2 overtime victory over Robert Morris in the semifinals and added an assist and a number of blocked shots in the Cyclones’ win over Lindenwood. Arroyo is now tied for seventh in team scoring with 17 points (7-10-17) in 36 games played. Colton Kramer, with two goals for the afternoon, now leads Iowa State in goal scoring with 14 in 37 games played. Kramer remains third in team scoring with 28 points (14-14-28), one point behind Tony Uglem (9-20-29), who remained second in team scoring thanks to assisting on the power play goal of A.J. Gullickson. With two goals for the game, Gullickson is now third in team goal scoring with eleven in 27 games played. Gullickson remains fifth in team scoring with 21 points (11-10-21). He is third on the team in points per game (0.78) behind Uglem (1.00) and Aaron Azevedo (0.89). Azevedo, who assisted on Kramer’s goal 50 seconds into the game, is first in team scoring with 31 (12-19-31) in 35 games played. Alex Grupe snapped an 11-game pointless streak by scoring Iowa State’s fourth goal of the game. Nick Sandy, who picked up the second assist on Grupe’s goal, snapped a 25-game pointless streak. Freshman **Anthony Song (Ames, Iowa – Syracuse Stars/USPHL Premier)** hit double digits in points (5-5-10) by picked up the primary assist on Grupe’s goal. Iowa State’s CSCHL Tournament championship was the organization’s thirteenth, with previous wins in 2007, 2002, 1997, 1991, 1990, 1989, 1987, 1985, 1984, 1981, 1980, 1973.

#### GAME SUMMARY

GOALS BY PERIOD	1	2	3	OT	FINAL
IOWA STATE	3	0	1	1	5
LINDENWOOD	0	2	2	0	4

First Period – Scoring: ISU, Kramer (Azevedo, Graalum), 0:50; ISU, Gullickson (T. Uglem, Arroyo), 6:40 (pp); ISU, Gullickson (unassisted), 12:45 (ps).

Penalties: LU, Newkirk (slashing), 5:13; ISU, Reuter (interference), 14:46; ISU, Graalum (interference), 19:33.

Second Period – Scoring: LU, Heinzman (Walters, Kalau), 1:18 (pp); LU, Carlsson (Owad, Nurminen), 16:16 (sh). Penalties: ISU, T. Uglem (cross-checking), 2:58; LU, Zagrodney (cross-checking), 10:51; LU, Heinzman (tripping), 15:18.

Third Period – Scoring: ISU, Grupe (Song, Sandy), 6:45; LU, Kalau (Heinzman, Walters), 10:18; LU, Carson (Rumble, Lozano), 16:08 (pp).

Penalties: ISU, Graalum (checking from behind major), 14:20 (served by Kaake); ISU, Graalum (game misconduct), 14:20.

Overtime Period – Scoring: ISU, Kramer (Severson, Helanto), 0:54.

Penalties: None.

SHOTS BY PERIOD	1	2	3	OT	TOTAL
IOWA STATE	12	7	3	1	23
LINDENWOOD	6	16	19	0	41

<b>GOALTENDERS (SV/SH)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>OT</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
ISU, Moser (60:54)	6/6	14/16	17/19	0/0	37/41
LU, Karpinski (60:54)	9/12	7/7	2/3	0/1	18/23

**POWER PLAY:** ISU 1-3 LU 2-5

**PENALTIES:** ISU 5-21; LU 3-6

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