



NEWS RELEASE

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Cyclones Bucked from Tournament by Bronchos in 6-1 Loss

Mar. 12, 2017 – Columbus, Ohio – Having won eight of the team's last nine games, including a 3-2 victory over Colorado the day before in the first round of the 2017 ACHA Men's Division 1 National Tournament, Iowa State entered its quarterfinal matchup against fourth-ranked Central Oklahoma optimistic it could emerge victorious in what was expected to be a tight matchup against the Bronchos, but the top-ranked Western Collegiate Hockey League team proved to have a sharp-shooter's touch and pulled away in the third period to eliminate the Cyclones with a 6-1 loss.

A tripping penalty to **Nick Sandy (Calgary, Alberta – Neepawa Natives/MJHL)** put Central Oklahoma onto the power play only 2:48 into the opening period and the Bronchos converted at the 3:30 mark, putting Iowa State down early, when a mishandled sweep across the low slot by Donald Danroth went right to Landon Robin for an easy goal as netminder **Derek Moser (Tomah, Wisc. – Rochester Ice Hawks/MnJHL)** had already dropped into the butterfly in anticipation of what Danroth had intended to do. The Bronchos maintained a slight edge in momentum after Robin's power play tally and Moser was forced to come up with a big save at the 9:48 mark after Josh Wyatt got in behind the Cyclone defense to create a two-on-one, take a pass in the slot from Danroth, and skate in unopposed in the slot. Just under 40 seconds later, Danroth connected again on a two-on-one with Wyatt with a cross-crease pass, but Moser managed to move across quickly enough to make the save at his left post.

Unfortunately, not long after Moser's big save on Wyatt, Sandy got tangled up with Broncho forward Alexander Jmaeff skating back for an icing and fell, Jmaeff was able to get to the puck unopposed along the end boards, and then made a centering pass out to Robin for a quick flip over Moser at the 10:55 mark. Iowa State responded just over a minute later, though, as **Jackson Graalum (Fargo, N.D. – Aberdeen Wings/NAHL)** stripped Trevor Leblanc of the puck behind the Central Oklahoma net off an offensive-zone face-off and swept the puck out to the slot while falling down for **Aaron Azevedo (Spokane, Wash. – Osoyoos Coyotes/KIJHL)** to fire past netminder Alex Henry with 7:42 left in the opening period.

The Cyclones came out hard in the second period down a goal and came inches away from evening the score when **Colton Kramer (Sioux City, Iowa – Minot Minotauros/NAHL)** took a Graalum shot blocked in the slot and fired the rebound toward the net but hit the left post 1:44 in to sound a sour note on the xylophone. Iowa State continued to press and **Trevor Sabo (Skokie, Ill. – Rochester Ice Hawks/MnJHL)** appeared to have a prime opportunity for a sweep from the high slot 4:45 into the second, but he had his stick broken in half by a one-handed slash by Tyler Minx that went uncalled, resulting in a weak shot on goal.

Iowa State continued to buzz offensively, particularly with a flurry of shots around the 10:30 mark, but Henry made a timely cover with 9:28 remaining and kept the Cyclones off the board. Then, despite, all of Iowa State's offensive chances in the second period, Central Oklahoma scored the lone goal of the period at 14:55 when Andrei Novikov sent a pass from the right point to Leblanc all alone in the left face-off circle and Leblanc rifled a shot top shelf to give the Bronchos a 3-1 lead.

Broncho forward Sam Rice picked up a high-sticking penalty with 42.1 seconds left in the second, but the Cyclones failed to convert to end the second or at the start of the third period and had the power play cut short by tripping call on **Eero Helanto (Turku, Finland – TPS Turku J20/Jr. A Sm-Liiga)** 59 seconds into the third. A penalty-filled first half of the third period continued with a bench minor to Central Oklahoma 1:27 into the third period for too many men on the ice, matching minors to **Kody Reuter (Sioux City, Iowa – Austin Bruins/NAHL)** and Chad

Roorda at 5:08, and an interference penalty to Austin Cunningham at 5:41. The Cyclones failed to tally on any of its power plays, though, and the Bronchos extended their lead to 4-1 at 10:25 when Robin cut across **Jake Uglem (Moorhead, Min. – Winkler Flyers/MJHL)** to gain the slot and send a backhander on net that deflected off Moser and trickled in.

The second half of the third period, like the first half of the period, was also full of penalties. Central Oklahoma's Jake Daughtry was assessed a ten-minute misconduct for reasons uncertain to onlookers and **Jake Arroyo (Bolingbrook, Ill. – Austin Bruins/NAHL)** was assessed a ten-minute misconduct and game misconduct after firing the puck out of frustration on a delayed penalty at the 13:14 mark after the Cyclones had already touched the puck twice while waiting for the whistle. Iowa State went onto the penalty kill on the high-sticking minor Arroyo was originally whistled and killed that off, but Rice came cruising in with the puck and fired a hard wrist shot in stride high short side from the right face-off circle for a 5-1 Broncho lead with 4:26 left in regulation.

Dalton Kaake (Maple Creek, Sask. – Cypress Cyclones/PJHL) and Austin Cunningham were both handed ten-minute misconducts, the penalty de jour, at the 16:10 mark for a scuffle that typically would have only resulted in matching minors and the Bronchos iced scoring 24 seconds later, exactly one minute after Rice's tally, when Wyatt made a drop in the high slot to Formosa, Formosa fed it back to Wyatt at the right post, and Wyatt sent it across the crease to Danroth for an easy tip-in and a 6-1 margin.

Despite being down by five goals, the Cyclones continued to skate hard the remainder of the game, but their efforts proved futile and Central Oklahoma was still holding onto its 6-1 lead at the final buzzer, eliminating Iowa State from the 2017 ACHA Men's Division 1 National Tournament.

Following the game, Cyclone Hockey Head Coach and General Manager Jason Fairman could only concede that Central Oklahoma was the superior squad on Sunday, March 12, 2017.

"Central Oklahoma was just a better team than we were today, I don't think there's any disputing that," said Fairman. "There were a couple times where I thought if we'd gotten a goal we might have turned things around, but it just seemed that at crucial moments we couldn't put one away."

"I give them credit for their strategy, the way they played us. They did a good job of getting pucks and chipping them in the neutral zone and they were patient and waiting for opportune times and took advantage of them. They were the better team today for sure."

Although the Iowa State did not pick up their third check mark in their list of season-long goals, Fairman still took solace in everything the Cyclones did achieve during the 2016-17 season and tried to convey that to the players following the disappointing loss.

"I told the guys I knew they were disappointed and it wasn't the outcome we wanted but that, given some time and perspective, they'd realize it was a special season and that you don't have to win a championship to have a special season," said Fairman. "To accomplish what we did, winning the CSCHL regular season title, being ranked number one for four weeks, and winning the CSCHL league playoff championship, those are all things that had not happened in Cyclone Hockey for a number of years."

"So, I think upon reflection, guys will realize it was a special season, it just won't feel like it at the moment."

Like the coaches for every team at the 2017 ACHA Men's Division 1 National Tournament that had not advanced to the semifinals, Fairman already had an eye looking toward the 2017-18 season, when the Cyclones will attempt to go for "the cycle."

"We're anticipating a good recruiting class," said Fairman with optimism. "We've got to fill some holes left by the seniors, but we have a good core of guys coming back and I imagine we're going to compete again for a national championship, and that will be our goal as always."

“The three goals will always be to win the CSCHL regular season championship, CSCHL tournament championship, and the national championship. So, that’s not going to change. We’ll just have to reload and I certainly think we’ll be in the mix of things next year.”

Cyclone Hockey thanks all of its fans for their support during a 2016-17 season that was not only successful on the ice but also the most successful in terms of game attendance since the Iowa State began playing in the Ames/ISU Ice Arena in 2001. Fans can continue to follow Cyclone Hockey during the off-season online at www.cyclonehockey.com, on Facebook at /CycloneHockey, on Twitter at @Cyclone Hockey, and on Instagram at @CycloneHockey. Cyclone Hockey...Right Now.

NOTES: Aaron Azevedo, by scoring Iowa State’s lone goal against Central Oklahoma, was the only Cyclone to tally points in both of the Cyclones’ national tournament game. With his goal, Azevedo equaled **Tony Uglem (Moorhead, Minn. – Austin Bruins/NAHL)** and **A.J. Gullickson (Verona, Wisc. – Alexandria Blizzard/NAHL)** for goals scored in 2016-17 with fourteen. Azevedo finished the season second in team scoring with 33 points (14-19-33) in 38 games played. Jackson Graalum, who assisted on Azevedo’s goal, finished the season with 14 points (5-9-14) in 33 games played. Tony Uglem ended 2016-17 as Iowa State’s leading scoring with 34 points (12-22-34) in 33 games played, missing four games while playing for Team USA in late January and early February and four other games due to injury in mid-January. Despite a statistically rough final game of the season, goaltender Derek Moser ended the season with a .915 save percentage and 2.43 goals-against average in 1777:41 played over 30 games, all of them starts. Moser finished 2016-17 with a record of 20-9-1-0 and 5 shutouts. Iowa State finished the season with an overall record of 25-15-1-0.

GAME SUMMARY

GOALS BY PERIOD	1	2	3	FINAL
IOWA STATE	1	0	0	1
CENTRAL OKLAHOMA	2	1	3	6

First Period – Scoring: UCO, Robin (Danroth, Herndon), 3:30 (pp); UCO, Robin (Jmaeff, Novikov), 10:55; ISU, Azevedo (Graalum), 12:18.

Penalties: ISU, Sandy (tripping), 2:48.

Second Period – Scoring: UCO, Leblanc (Novikov, Robin), 14:55.

Penalties: ISU, Halbach (elbowing), 6:40; UCO, Rice (high-sticking), 19:17.

Third Period – Scoring: UCO, Robin (Rice, Roorda), 10:25; UCO, Rice (Nygardh, Meyer), 15:34; UCO, Danroth (Formosa, Wyatt), 16:34.

Penalties: ISU, Helanto (tripping), 0:59; UCO, Bench Minor (too many men on the ice), 1:27; ISU, Reuter (tripping), 5:08; UCO, Roorda (holding), 5:08; UCO, Cunningham (interference), 5:41; UCO, Daughtry (ten-minute misconduct), 11:22; ISU, Arroyo (high-sticking), 13:14 (served by Alcott); ISU, Arroyo (ten-minute misconduct), 13:14; ISU, Arroyo (game misconduct), 13:14; ISU, Kaake (ten-minute misconduct), 16:10; UCO, Cunningham (ten-minute misconduct), 16:10.

SHOTS BY PERIOD	1	2	3	TOTAL
IOWA STATE	12	11	15	38
CENTRAL OKLAHOMA	12	15	10	37

GOALTENDERS (SV/SH)	1	2	3	TOTAL
ISU, Moser (60:00)	10/12	14/15	7/10	31/37
UCO, Henry (60:00)	11/12	11/11	15/15	37/38

POWER PLAY: ISU 0-3; UCO 1-3

PENALTIES: ISU 8-40; UCO 6-28

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