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BEAR TRACKS

THE OFFICIAL WEEKLY RELEASE OF THE KNOXVILLE ICE BEARS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 21, 2012

ICE BEARS MOVE BACK INTO SECOND PLACE AFTER BIG WEEKEND

KNOXVILLE, TN. – Looking to build off of the successes of last weekend, the Ice Bears entered the week determined to maintain their 2nd place standing in the SPHL. Playing 3 games in 3 days, the Ice Bears went 2 for 3, with the only loss coming in the final minutes to league leading Augusta. With a playoff position already locked up and the final stretch of the season beginning, the team hopes to finish strong and maintain momentum into postseason play. **All games will be broadcast on America One Networks with both a video and audio feed, with a nominal fee for each game. A free audio-only webcast of the games is also available on local sports station ESPN1180 am or by visiting the Ice Bears page on www.stickam.com. Free viewing of the America One Network's Broadcast is available at Cool Sports Home of the Icearium.**

CURRENT RECORDS AND STATS

Last Week: 2-1-0
Record: 26-12-4, 56 pts (2nd, SPHL)
164 GF, 133 GA
14.08% PP (8th, SPHL); 79.47% PK (8th, SPHL)

LAST WEEK'S TRANSACTIONS

02/14/12 Hache, Matt (G) claimed off waivers
02/15/12 Holder, Paul (D) traded to Pensacola for cash
02/15/12 Kallechy, Jesse (G) traded to Pensacola for cash
02/15/12 Pawlowski, Brad (D) signed contract

UPCOMING GAMES AND PROMOTIONS

Wednesday, February 22 – Knoxville at Fayetteville FireAntz. 7.30 PM EST

The Knoxville Ice Bears and Fayetteville FireAntz will faceoff for the eighth time this season on Wednesday night at the Cumberland County Crown Coliseum. The Ice Bears are looking to maintain their winning record against their foes from Fayetteville while also earning 2 important points in the standings. *Players to Watch: C Leveille, Chris (54 pts, team goals and assists leader) LW Biduke, Jesse (16G, 39pts) C Reed, Bobby (33pts)*

Friday, February 24 – Huntsville Havoc at Knoxville, 7:35 PM EST

For the second consecutive weekend, the Ice Bears welcome the Havoc to the Civic Coliseum for the teams' sixth matchup this season and the first half of a home and home series. Having won 4 out of the 5 previous contests, the Ice Bears hope to continue their dominance over Huntsville. *Players to Watch: C Detulleo, Glenn (45 pts, leads team in points and assists) RW Kretzer, Ryan (17G, 40pts)*

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PROMOTION: This Friday is Food Allergy night at the Coliseum. As part of Food Allergy Night, specialty vendors will offer their Allergy-Friendly products. Other hypoallergenic concessions are in the works. Ice Bears regular season orange jersey's will be auctioned off post-game. Jersey's will not be available to take home until the season is over. Be sure to stick around and grab your favorite player jersey!

Saturday, February 25- Knoxville at Huntsville Havoc, 7:30 PM EST

The Ice Bears invade Von Braun Center for the third time this season to finish off the second half of their home and home weekend series against the Havoc. Having split the first two contests in Huntsville, the team hopes to play strong and return to Knoxville with two points. *Players to Watch: C Detulleo, Glenn (45 pts, leads team in points and assists) RW Kretzer, Ryan (17G, 40pts)*

ICE BEARS WEEK IN REVIEW

Friday, February 17th – Mississippi at Knoxville Attendance: 3,842

Coming off of a big weekend, the Ice Bears looked to maintain momentum against a Mississippi team that was on a three game winning streak. The Ice Bears jumped out to a 1-0 lead with 5 minutes remaining in the first on Eric Satim's 10th goal of the season. That lead would not last long though as the RiverKings' Darrell Stoddard got a shot past goaltender Kyle Rank just 51 seconds after the Satim goal. The Ice Bears regained the lead in the second on Mark Van Vliet's goal at 14:53 of the period. The teams exchanged goals in the third frame, but Mississippi was unable to overcome a two goal deficit late in the game, and Dan Bremner's empty net goal with 16 seconds sealed the game for Knoxville by a score of 5-3.

Friday, February 18th – Huntsville at Knoxville Attendance: 4,008

After disposing of the RiverKings on Friday, the Ice Bears turned their attention to the Havoc on Saturday for their second home game in two nights. After falling behind at the 8:55 point of the first period on a goal by Kyle Crawford, Mike Towns tied it just before intermission on his 8th goal of the season. After falling behind in the second the Ice Bears were able to take the lead goals by Slais (3:31) and Swider (12:29). Berkley Scott gave Knoxville a two goal advantage 11:45 into the third to cap the scoring for Knoxville. Kyle Rank was able to hold down the fort late, finishing with 31 saves in a 4-2 win for Knoxville.

Sunday, February 19th – Knoxville at Augusta Attendance: 3,034

Heading into their third game in as many days, the Ice Bears traveled to Augusta for a Sunday matinee against the first place Riverhawks in the debut of recently acquired goaltender Matt Hache. The first period was all Augusta, as they were able to go into the locker room with a 3-0 lead thanks to 2 goals by Brendan Taylor, with the other coming from Egor Mironov. The Ice Bears would be able to turn it around in the second period as Olauson, Segal, and Bremner were all able to get shots past Riverhawks goalie Peter Skoggard. Augusta would enter the second intermission with a one goal lead though as Jim Gehring tallied at 17:11 of the frame. Knoxville would come storming out of the gate yet again in the third as Olauson (0:43) and Segal (3:06) were both able to score their second of the game, giving Knoxville a 5-4 advantage. Augusta was able to tie the game just three minutes later on a goal by Neil Graham and take the lead with just three minutes remaining as Taylor was able to complete the hat trick. His goal would prove to be the game winner as the Riverhawks held on 6-5.

THREE STARS OF THE WEEK

- 1. David Segal.** Segal earned points in each of the three consecutive games this weekend, including two goals against the Riverhawks on Sunday. He finished the weekend with 2 goals, 3 assists and a +3 rating.
- 2. Kevin Swider.** Swider was able to maintain (and extend) his league lead in points this weekend, finishing with 1 goal and 4 assists.
- 3. Kyle Rank.** The rookie netminder once again had a very strong weekend. Playing two out of the three games this weekend, Rank earned two victories while turning aside 62 of the 67 shots he faced.