Milliron 11/01/2016 A. Sauerwein

 Former U-W-R-F men’s hockey goalie Tanner Milliron (MIL-ayron) walked off the ice at Hunt Arena last March for the final time as the Falcons netminder. But Milliron’s hockey career is far from over. Ace Sauerwein (SOUR-wine) has more.

MP3 R/T: 1:07 O/C: STD.

ACE SAUERWEIN: AFTER GRADUATING SCHOOL IN SPRING, MILLIRON BEGAN HIS PROFESSIONAL HOCKEY CAREER BY TRAINING WITH THE MINNESOTA WILD. HE PLAYED WELL ENOUGH AND EARNED HIS FIRST PROFESSIONAL CONTRACT WITH THE WILD’S DOUBLE A AFFILIATE, THE QUAD CITY MALLARDS. HOWEVER, CIRCUMSTANCES WOULD CHANGE THAT.

TANNER MILLIRON: MADE PAST THE FINAL CUTS AND IT JUST HAPPENED THAT THE MINNESOTA WILD SENT DOWN A GOALIE THAT THEY FELT NEEDED SOME DEVELOPMENT. AND I THEN ENDED UP IN EVANSVILLE, INDIANA.

ACE SAUERWEIN: THE GOALIE THAT WAS SENT DOWN BUMPED MILLIRON OFF OF THE MALLARDS TEAM. MILLIRON WOUND UP IN EVANSVILLE, INDIANA, PLAYING FOR WILD’S SINGLE A AFFILIATE, THE EVANSVILLE THUNDERBOLTS. MILLIRON GOT HIS FIRST TASTE OF PRO HOCKEY LAST WEEK AND IS HAPPY TO BE BACK ON THE ICE.

TANNER MILLIRON: IT’S JUST NICE TO GET MY FEET WET AND KIND OF SEE WHERE I NEED MORE DEVELOPMENT AND TINY THINGS I CAN PICK UP ON TO KEEP MOVING UP THE RANKS.

ACE SAUERWEIN: MILLIRON BLOCKED 40 SHOTS IN HIS FIRST APPEARANCE. U-W-R-F HOCKEY COACH STEVE FREEMAN COACHED MILLIRON FOR FOUR YEARS AND HE ISN’T SURPRISED BY MILLIRON’S TREMENDOUS SUCCESS.

STEVE FREEMAN: WE HAD A NIGHT GAME AT SEVEN O’CLOCK AT NIGHT, HE MIGHT BE THERE AT TEN IN THE MORNING GETTING READY FOR THE GAME AND STRETCHING OUT IN BETWEEN CLASS.

ACE SAUERWEIN: REACHING THE NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE IS A GOAL OF MILLIRON’S, BUT HE SAYS HE KEEPS IT IN THE BACK OF HIS MIND. FOR THE FALCON NEWS SERVICE, I’M ACE SAUERWEIN.

###