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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TOMMY CROSS NAMED PROVIDENCE BRUINS 2016-17 IOA/AMERICAN SPECIALTY AHL MAN OF THE YEAR

Providence, RI – The Providence Bruins are proud to announce that Tommy Cross has been named the team's winner of the IOA/American Specialty AHL Man of the Year award for his outstanding contributions to the Providence community during the 2016-17 season.

This season, Cross helped lead the Providence effort in their annual Holiday Toy Shopping Event at Walmart. Players were divided into five different teams and were provided with shopping wish lists from Child & Family's "Adopt-A-Family" Holiday Giving Program. Each group browsed the Walmart aisles and selected items for the 16 children and families in need. Thanks to his efforts, thousands of dollars' worth of toys were purchased out of pocket by the team and given to the families.

Cross is also an instrumental part of the Providence Bruins Fan Club's annual steak fry event. The event has raised over \$10,000 a season which was donated to Hasbro Children's Hospital and the Special Olympics. For the past three seasons, he has ensured his teammates would represent the team at the event in addition to himself while making donations to the charities they support.

Cross is now one of 30 finalists for the AHL's 2016-17 Yanick Dupre Memorial Award, honoring the overall IOA/American Specialty AHL Man of the Year. The league award is named after the former Hershey Bears forward and AHL All-Star who died in 1997 following a 16-month battle with leukemia. The winner of the Yanick Dupre Memorial Award will be announced by the American Hockey League at a later date.

The Providence Bruins are the American Hockey League affiliate of the NHL's Boston Bruins, playing their home games at the Dunkin' Donuts Center in Providence, RI. Spanning more than 20 years, the Boston/Providence affiliation is one of the longest and most successful player development partnerships in professional hockey history.

For all the latest Providence Bruins news and updates visit **ProvidenceBruins.com** or follow the team on Facebook at **facebook.com/providencebruins** or Twitter at **twitter.com/AHLBruins**.

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