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PROVIDENCE BEATS PENGUINS, WILL MEET AGAIN IN PLAYOFFS

Providence, RI - Austin Czarnik lit the lamp twice to help lift the P-Bruins over the WBS Penguins by a score of 3-1 in the second to last game in the regular season. Providence and Wilkes-Barre/Scranton will face off in the first round of the Calder Cup Playoffs, with home ice being determined by tomorrow's results.

Jeremy Smith was the star of the first period, standing on his head to make 19 saves to keep it a one-goal game. The Penguins managed to get one by Smith when Rowney executed a quick one-timer off of Guentzel's pass. The best offensive chance for the P-Bruins came on a 2v1, with Danton Heinen sending a saucer pass to Max Talbot who was just barely denied by DeSmith kick save.

The P-Bruins found their feet in the second period after having been out-shot 20-9 in the first. The penalty kill unit was tested and successful on three separate occasions. Providence defense only allowed 3 shots on goal throughout the middle frame. The power play unit also found success, with Austin Czarnik netting the equalizer 15:50 into the period. Frankie Vatrano sent the puck to Alexander Khokhlachev who saucer the puck to Czarnik. His one-timer beat a diving DeSmith.

Czarnik tallied his second goal of the night with another great helper coming from Khokhlachev. DeFazio sent the puck to Khokhlachev who carried the puck down the left wing and executed a flawless centering pass to Czarnik. This marked Khokhlachev's 110th assist for the P-Bruins, a new franchise record surpassing Andy Hilbert who held the record for 11 years.

Frankie Vatrano potted the empty netter with less than a tick left on the clock to give the P-Bruins the 3-1 lead and keep his goal per game average alive at 15 goals in 35 games.

Danton Heinen made his pro debut, donning the #23 jersey for the Providence Bruins and playing on a line with Talbot and Ferlin, and also spending some time on the second power play unit. The 6'0" forward helped lead the Denver University Pioneers to a Frozen Four appearance his sophomore season before joining the P-Bruins.

The Providence Bruins play their last game of the regular season tomorrow against the Bridgeport Sound Tigers.

PROVIDENCE SCORING

#27 Austin Czarnik (#13 Alexander Khokhlachev, #49 Frankie Vatrano) 15:50, 2nd PP #27 Austin Czarnik (#13 Alexander Khokhlachev, #24 Brandon DeFazio) 4:30, 3rd #49 Frankie Vatrano (#17 Seth Griffith) 19:59, 3rd EN

PROVIDENCE GOALTENDING

#30 Jeremy Smith 30 saves on 31 shots

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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