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## **P-BRUINS DEFENSEMAN URHO VAAKANAINEN NAMED CCM/AHL PLAYER OF THE WEEK**

**PROVIDENCE, R.I.** - The American Hockey League announced today, November 25, that Providence Bruins defenseman Urho Vaakanainen has been named the CCM/AHL Player of the Week for the period ending November 24, 2019.

A first-round draft pick (18th overall) by the Boston Bruins in the 2017 NHL Entry Draft, Vaakanainen scored two goals and added three assists for five points in just two games with the P-Bruins last week. The Joensuu, Finland native also recorded a plus-6 rating in his two appearances.

"It's a very well deserved honor for Urho," said Providence Bruins Head Coach Jay Leach. "Not only was he productive offensively this week, but he displayed the same solid defensive play he's shown since we've had him here. He really is the epitome of a two-way defenseman and he's still only 20 years old. We're very excited for him and his future."

Vaakanainen was recalled by Boston on November 15 and spent the first half of the week skating in games at New Jersey on Tuesday and at home against Buffalo on Thursday. After being assigned to Providence on November 23, Vaakanainen immediately returned to the Providence lineup in a road contest against the Springfield Thunderbirds and recorded two assists in a 5-4 overtime loss.

Following the loss to Springfield, the P-Bruins returned home and defeated the Hershey Bears, 6-3, on Sunday afternoon with Vaakanainen scoring two goals, including the game-winning goal, and adding an assist in the win.

Through 17 games with Providence this season, Vaakanainen has scored two goals and added five assists for seven points. Overall, he has played in 47 career games in the AHL, scoring six goals and adding 15 assists for 21 points.

In recognition of being named the CCM/AHL Player of the Week, Vaakanainen will be presented with an etched crystal award prior to an upcoming P-Bruins home game.

**#11/25/19#**