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P-BRUINS WEEK IN REVIEW: 4/26/17 - 5/2/17

Providence, RI – Looking square in the face of elimination from their postseason nemesis, the P-Bruins fought through adversity to advance in the Calder Cup Playoffs. Facing a 2-1 series deficit against a Wilkes-Barre Scranton team that has eliminated Providence in three of the last four postseasons, the team was tasked with winning two straight on the road to keep their season alive.

Game four on Friday night was never in much doubt, as the P-Bruins struck for three goals in the opening period and went on to a 4-2 victory. Down to a decisive game five on Sunday, Zane McIntyre carried the team to a 2-1 victory by stopping a career-best 50 of 51 shots. Danton Heinen netted the two Providence goals as the P-Bruins became the first team since 1996 to knock off the regular season AHL Champions in the first round. It was an incredibly tight series throughout, as four of the five games were decided by a single goal. The team that scored first in each game ended up going on to win that respective contest.

Heinen led Providence with four goals and six points in the series with three of his goals coming on the man advantage. Those three power play goals led all AHL players in the Division Semifinals, and he tied for the AHL lead in overall goals and scoring. Tommy Cross, Colby Cave and Jordan Szwarz tallied three assists each, tied for the most helpers among the team. McIntyre made a league-high 175 saves on a league-high 187 shots, good for a 93.6 save percentage which was third in the AHL for the opening round. The P-Bruin special teams were also a major factor in the series, scoring a league-best six power play goals while sporting 27.3% success rate.

The four seed in the Atlantic Division, Providence now moves onto the Division Finals against the three seeded Hershey Bears. The P-Bruins won their first three match-ups of the season against the Bears, but dropped the final three including their regular season finale in Hershey. This is the third time the teams will meet in the playoffs and first time since 2013. The series kicks off Saturday night a 7pm in Hershey with game two taking place the following night at 5pm.

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.

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