

CONTACT:

Providence Bruins

Nathan Roberts roberts@pseagency.com, 401.680.4734

> Eddie Pannone pannone@pseagency.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

P-BRUINS FALL TO SOUND TIGERS, 5-4 IN SO

Bridgeport, CT - The Providence Bruins fell to the Sound Tigers 5-4 in a shootout on Saturday night in Bridgeport. Sean Kuraly, Alex Grant, Tommy Cross and Colton Hargrove scored for Providence. Zane McIntyre registered 25 saves on 29 shots in his first loss of the season.

Bridgeport controlled much of the opening frame, outshooting the P-Bruins 13-8 behind two Providence penalties and an offensive zone turnover. The Sound Tigers struck first on their first power play opportunity of the night after Bruins Captain Tommy Cross was called for Unsportsmanlike Conduct at 8:16. Michael Dal Colle found the back of the net off assists by Bridgeport's Josh Ho-Sang and Joshua Winquist to give the Sound Tigers an early 1-0 advantage. The score wouldn't hold for long however, as Providence struck back just 54 seconds later to tie the game at 1-1. Bruins forward Sean Kuraly powered a one-timer past Bridgeport goaltender Stephon Williams after a beautiful feed by Tommy Cross. Taylor Doherty was also credited with an assist on the goal. Bridgeport took the lead again at 12:18 in the period when Kyle Burroughs scored off assists by Tanner Fritz and Carter Verhaeghe. The goal was Burrough's second of the season, giving the Sound Tigers a 2-1 lead. After killing another penalty shortly after Bridgeport's goal, Providence final got their first man advantage late in the period. The P-Bruins took advantage of the opportunity after defenseman Alex Grant powered a one-timer into the back of the net off a beautiful pass by Matt Grzelcyk. The power play goal, also assisted by Danton Heinen, tied the game at 2-2 heading into intermission.

The action continued into the second, with Providence again held back by penalties throughout the frame. Providence was whistled for Too Many Men On The Ice at 0:42 in the period, and again when forward Taylor Doherty was called for Roughing at 4:51. Despite the opportunities, however, Bridgeport couldn't solve McIntyre and the game remained tied at 2. At 9:26 in the period Providence finally broke through when team captain Tommy Cross beat Sound Tigers goaltender Stephon Williams with a backhand shot for the 3-2 lead. The goal, Tommy Cross' eighth of the season, was assisted by Wayne Simpson and Taylor Doherty. Bridgeport struck back just minutes later when Sound Tigers defenseman Kane Lafranchise beat Zane McIntyre short side over the goaltender's blocker to tie things up at 3. Tanner Fritz and Bracken Kearns were credited with assists. Providence killed yet another penalty after Colby Cave served two minutes for Holding at 14:30, earning their fourth successful kill on five opportunities. Providence continued to try to apply pressure on Bridgeport as the period came to a close, earning them the tie-breaking goal with just 28.2 seconds remaining in the second. Forward Colton Hargrove scored his fifth of the season, assisted by Cave and Casto, to give the team a 4-3 lead heading into the 2nd intermission. Bridgeport goaltender Stephon Williams was injured on the play, leading to Jaroslav Halak coming in to close out the period.

The third period began with some great pressure by Bridgeport. P-Bruins goaltender Zane McIntyre was tested early but stood tall, turning back the Sound Tigers many scoring opportunities in the first few minutes of the frame. Bridgeport eventually broke through for the equalizer however, when forward Carter Verhaeghe scored his fifth of the season to tie the game at 4-4. Kane Lafranchise and Tanner Fritz were credit with assists. The Sound Tigers continued to apply pressure in the following minutes of play, leading to a Providence penalty. Defenseman Alex Grant was called for Interference at 5:17 in the period. After killing four of the five penalties to that point, the

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P-Bruins again turned away the Sound Tigers to keep the game tied at 4-4. Bridgeport maintained their strong play through the first half of the period, but failed to find the back of the net. The 4-4 score held into the final minutes of the period, with the two teams trading unsuccessful scoring chances. Providence found themselves on a power play with just 1:47 to play when Bridgeport's Ryan Pulock was whistled for a Broken Stick minor when he failed to drop his broken stick. Providence failed to come through on the man advantage however, and the period ended in a 4-4 tie.

The game remained tied into the overtime period, with Providence controlling much of the play early on. Bridgeport goaltender Jaroslav Halak was impressive with several key stops, keeping the game tied. At 2:11 in the overtime period Bridgeport's Joshua Winquist was whistled for Boarding, giving Providence a 4 on 3 power play opportunity. The P-Bruins couldn't beat Jaroslav Halak despite a number of great scoring chances, and the game went to a shootout to decide a winner. Both goaltenders stood strong during the shootout, turning back every scoring attempt until forward Michael Dal Colle beat Zane McIntyre to give Bridgeport the 5-4 win.

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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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