



PROVIDENCE BRUINS

MEDIA RELEASE

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VATRANO, KHOKHLACHEV NET TWO IN WIN OVER PORTLAND

PROVIDENCE, R. I. –Vatrano and Kokhlachev each had two goals in tonight’s 6-4 win over the Portland Pirates.

It was a slow start for Providence who trailed 8-1 on shots on goal after the first 7 minutes of the period. Colton Hargrove found himself in the penalty box for interference which allowed Portland to get a puck in the back of the net. The goal was called back due to incidental contact. The no-goal lit a fire under the P-Bruins who surged back with two unanswered goals. The first came during a penalty kill when Brandon Defazio found Colby Cave who buried a wrap-around goal. Frankie Vatrano notched Providence’s second of the night when his shot from the high slot found the back of the net.

Portland responded with three goals of their own. The first of which was by Balisy who backhanded it in off a rebound. Schremp got by Subban’s right side blocker at 15:01. Providence then went a man down with Khokhlachev in the penalty box. McKregg took advantage of the man up situation and slipped it through the legs of Subban to put Portland up 3-2.

After three consecutive power plays to start the second period, Alexander Khokhlachev tied the game for the PBruins, tipping Chris Casto’s clapper from the blue line through the legs of Brittain. Frankie Vatrano struck again to give Providence the lead just three minutes later. Max Talbot notched his first point in a PBruins jersey, dishing the puck to Vatrano who roofed it to make the score 4-3. This was Vatrano’s 10th goal of the season, and 6th against the Portland Pirates. In the last minute of the period Subban neutralized a breakaway attempt by Portland’s Grimaldi, hustling out to the nearly the blue line and saucing the puck into the offensive zone.

The third period started with an unproductive 3 vs 5 after two consecutive Portland penalties. Anton Blidh scored the game winner at 10:39 when Justin Hickman passed to Blidh and his slap shot from the blue line got past Brittain. Providence struck again with 20 seconds left in regulation when Khokhlachev recorded and empty-netter. After trailing in shots on goal for a majority of the game, Providence evened the shooting to a tied 36-36.

The P-Bruins take to the ice again tomorrow at the XL Center in Hartford against the Wolf Pack.

PROVIDENCE SCORING

#25 Colton Hargrove (#24 Brandon DeFazio, #3 Tommy Cross) 8:24, 1st
#49 Frankie Vatrano (#26 Max Talbot) 11:30, 1st
#13 Alexander Khokhlachev (#6 Chris Casto, #3 Tommy Cross) 10:44, 2nd
#49 Frankie Vatrano (#26 Max Talbot, #39 Andrew Cherniwchan) 14:13, 2nd
#21 Anton Blidh (#12 Justin Hickman) 10:39, 3rd

PROVIDENCE GOALTENDING

#47 Malcolm Subban (32 saves on 36 shots)

The Providence Bruins are an American Hockey League franchise and the top affiliate of the NHL’s Boston Bruins. Since moving to Providence in 1992 the P-Bruins have been among the league leaders in regular season attendance. On the ice the team has enjoyed similar success, having won five division titles, three regular season titles and the Calder Cup in 1999.

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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