CONTACT:

Providence Bruins
Nathan Roberts
roberts@pseagency.com, 401.680.4734

Eddie Pannone pannone@pseagency.com

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## STRONG FIRST PERIOD LEADS PROVIDENCE TO GAME ONE WIN

**Hershey, PA –** The Providence Bruins defeated the Hershey Bears Saturday night 3-1 to take a 1-0 lead in the Atlantic Division Finals. The P-Bruins got goals from Austin Czarnik, Colby Cave and Jake DeBrusk while Zane McIntyre made the start in goal.

The P-Bruins survived a hot start from Hershey in opening minutes before opening up the scoring at 10:08 of the first. Zach Sill turned the puck over to Chris Porter, who fed Czarnik down the middle for a breakaway chance. In alone, he went bar-down over the glove of Phoenix Copley for his first goal of the playoffs to give Providence a 1-0 lead.

That lead looked to be in jeopardy as the P-Bruins headed to the game's first penalty kill. The team not only killed it off, but were able to net two shorthanded goals. The first came unassisted, as Cave stole the puck behind the net and beat Copley top-left corner for his first postseason goal. DeBrusk made it 3-0 at 14:33, taking advantage of another Hershey miscue. The Bears failed to keep the puck in the attacking zone and it trickled out to DeBrusk who was off to the races. He deked his way around defenders up the left side and scored his fourth goal of the playoffs as Providence entered the break up 3-0.

After a scoreless second period, the Bears continued to their strategy of puck possession in the attacking zone, but McIntyre and the Providence defense was up to the task time after time. Hershey pulled their goalie with just under five minutes to play and were able to get a late goal from Nathan Walker, but the desperate comeback attempt was stopped right there as the P-Bruins took the opener of this best-of-seven series by a 3-1 final.

McIntyre stopped 24 of 25 shots while Copley stopped 19 of 22. Providence was 0-2 on the power play and 3-3 on the penalty kill. The two teams are right back in action tomorrow afternoon, as faceoff for game two of the series will be at 5pm in Hershey.

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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