



PROVIDENCE BRUINS

MEDIA RELEASE

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PROVIDENCE FALLS TO COMETS IN THIRD NIGHT OF HOME STAND

Providence, RI - Despite outshooting the Comets 35-30, the Providence Bruins fell to Utica by a score of 5-3. The P-Bruins home point streak end at 22 games. The Providence Bruins picked up 3 of a possible 6 points over the three game home stand this weekend.

Utica's Higgins scored twice in the first to give the Comets at 2-0 lead. The second goal was scored on the power play, with Chris Casto in the box for holding. Tommy Cross dropped the gloves with Archibald and scored the takedown and the matching 5 minute major for fighting.

Brandon DeFazio got the P-Bruins on the board when he buried a rebound on Bachman's doorstep with just 1.2 seconds left to play in the first to cut Utica's lead to 2-1. Frankie Vatrano and Matt Irwin picked up the helpers.

Utica capitalized on another power play 5:58 into the third. Higgins notched his third of the night to put the Comets up 3-1. Two more fights broke out in the second, with Ferlin and Blidh dropping the gloves against Kenins and Bancks respectively.

Vatrano scored his 31st of the season at the tail end of the second. Khokhlachev threaded the needle to Czarnik, who immediately sent the puck to Vatrano who sniped high stick side on Bachman.

The P-Bruins came out with energy in the third and scored a quick goal to tie it at 3-3. Vatrano battled in the corner and sent the puck to Khokhlachev in front of the net who buried it 5 hole.

The equalizer suggested a third night of overtime, but Utica fought back and scored again with 8 minutes to play, and again for an empty net goal.

The Providence Bruins had moments of greatness over the weekend against three of the strongest teams in the East. Vatrano went 2-3-5 and Khokhlachev added 3-1-4. Jeremy Smith made 59 saves on 65 shots and Zane McIntyre added 29 saves in the overtime win.

The Providence will return home to the Dunk after a 7 game away stand on April 2nd against the Hershey Bears.

PROVIDENCE SCORING

#24 Brandon DeFazio (#49 Frankie Vatrano, #2 Matt Irwin) 19:58, 1st

#49 Frankie Vatrano (#27 Austin Czarnik, #13 Alexander Khokhlachev) 17:57, 2nd

#13 Alexander Khokhlachev (#49 Frankie Vatrano, #3 Tommy Cross) 5:53, 3rd

PROVIDENCE GOALTENDING

#30 Jeremy Smith 25 saves on 29 shots

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.

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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