



PROVIDENCE BRUINS

MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

YOUNGSTERS LEAD PROVIDENCE TO OPENING NIGHT WIN

Providence, RI – The Providence Bruins defeated the Springfield Thunderbirds Saturday night 5-2 to open up their 2017-18 regular season schedule. The P-Bruins got goals from Peter Cehlarik, Jakob Forsbacka Karlsson, Ryan Fitzgerald, Tommy Cross and Zach Senyshyn while Zane McIntyre made the start in goal.

The P-Bruin offense clicked early and often in the first, as the team struck three times in the opening period. Cehlarik opened things up at 11:10, going five-hole off a pass from Kenny Agostino to make it 1-0 Providence. The team doubled their lead on Forsbacka Karlsson’s first professional goal at 17:41. Alone in the right slot, he sent a one-timer by Harri Sateri on a beautiful centering pass from Cehlarik. Ed Wittchow cut the Springfield deficit to 2-1 late in the first, but the P-Bruins regained their two goal lead with 50 seconds left in the period as Fitzgerald scored from the left slot on a centering pass from Jordan Szwarz. His first regular season AHL goal sent Providence to the locker room up 3-1.

The P-Bruins opened it up at 16:02 of the second period thanks to their captain. While on the power play, Danton Heinen took a feed from Jordan Szwarz at the right hash. He sent a pass out to Cross alone at the point, and the defenseman rocketed a one-timer through traffic for his first goal of the year. McIntyre remained solid in net as the Bruins took a 4-1 lead into the third.

Just 45 seconds into the final period, Providence put the nail in the coffin. Senyshyn took a feed from Chris Porter behind the net and went top right corner for his first AHL goal. Springfield added a goal shortly after, but that is where the comeback attempt ended. For the 14th time in team history, the P-Bruins won their opener and did so by a 5-2 final.

McIntyre stopped 29-31 shots while Sateri stopped 21 of 26. Providence was 1-2 on the power play and 7-7 on the penalty kill. The P-Bruins are back in action Friday at the Dunk, when they take on these same Thunderbirds for the annual “Pink in the Rink” game at 7:05pm.

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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 25 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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#10/7/2017#