

**WinnipegJets.com**

<https://www.nhl.com/jets/news/jets-get-huge-win-in-st-louis>

***Jets get huge win in St. Louis***

***Mark Scheifele recorded two assists and is now at 99 points for the season in 3-2 win***

By Jamie Thomas

Mark Scheifele became the second player in franchise history to record 99 points in a season with a couple of assists as the Winnipeg Jets beat the St. Louis Blues 3-2 on Thursday night. Alex Iafallo, Josh Morrissey and Jonathan Toews scored for the Jets who are 13-5-4 since the Olympic break and will return home to host the Philadelphia Flyers on Saturday.

***AI GETS JETS ON THE BOARD***

After giving up the game's first goal, the Jets played an impressive first period outshooting the Blues 16-12. Winnipeg would tie the game at 9:24 and it was Mark Scheifele collecting the puck behind the Blues net, he spotted Alex Iafallo coming to the front of the net and delivered a perfect pass that Iafallo slammed home for his 13th of the season.

***JMO TAKES AND GIVES***

With the game tied at one in the first, Josh Morrissey helped out his goaltender Connor Hellebuyck when the Blues Dylan Holloway looked to have a sure goal, but Morrissey denied him at the goal line to keep the game 1-1.

"I mean, just this time of year is desperation hockey, so try to keep out of the net," said Morrissey of the save.

"And you know what? Thankfully, it didn't go in."

That save would turn out to be huge because in the second, Winnipeg took the lead for the first time, and it was Morrissey pouncing on a Jacob Bryson rebound and he would beat Jordan Binnington for his 14th. Scheifele would get a secondary assist and that moved him to 99 points, the second most points in a season in franchise history.

A minute and 40 seconds later, Jonathan Toews scored his second goal in as many games for his 11th thanks to a brilliant pass from Cole Perfetti, the Jets lead 3-1 after 40. Toews goal would turn out to be the eventual game winner, his first GWG as a member of the Jets.

***PK THE STORY***

The Blues scored their first goal of the night courtesy of their power play of the night, but the Jets penalty kill shut down the St. Louis man advantage on the next four chances, going four-for-five. The biggest moment came late in the third period with the Jets leading by one and Morrissey took a high-sticking penalty on Jimmy Snuggerud. Winnipeg completely contained the Blues power play not allowing a single shot during that kill, and helped close out the game.

"We went to get aggressive on the goal and we left the middle open, which they were obviously trying to get it to. After that, we didn't allow any of that stuff to really get inside there. The stuff that was coming was coming from the outside. We did a good job with our sticks, with our lanes," said head coach Scott Arniel.

"The other side for me was that we did a good job with our clears. We had chances, especially in third but also in the second, where there were times where (there were) 50-50 pucks or guys were battling against one versus two and we were finding ways to get the puck and get it down the ice."

## **NHL.com**

<https://www.nhl.com/news/winnipeg-jets-st-louis-blues-game-recap-april-9-2026>

### ***Jets hold off Blues for 3rd straight victory Scheifele has 2 assists for Winnipeg; St. Louis has lost 4 of 6***

By Lou Korac

ST. LOUIS -- Mark Scheifele had two assists, and the Winnipeg Jets held off the St. Louis Blues 3-2 at Enterprise Center on Thursday.

Alex Iafallo, Josh Morrissey and Jonathan Toews scored for the Jets (35-31-12), who have won three straight and seven of nine. Connor Hellebuyck made 20 saves.

Winnipeg remained three points behind the Los Angeles Kings for the second wild card into the Stanley Cup Playoffs from the Western Conference. Los Angeles defeated the Vancouver Canucks 4-1 on Thursday to move back into the second wild card.

"We had mentioned them being a really good rush team and the transition that comes from them, and I just felt we did a good job of trying to limit what they had," Jets coach Scott Arniel said of the Blues. "There were some times in the second (period) where we got a little bit stubborn and we didn't get pucks deep and kind of fed that (transition game). But all in all, it was a real good road game in a building that's been tough for us."

Dylan Holloway had a goal and an assist for the Blues (33-33-12), who have lost two straight and four of six. Jordan Binnington made 31 saves.

St. Louis is seven points behind Los Angeles.

"We seemed to have lost how fast we played north and how quickly we were attacking their net," Blues coach Jim Montgomery said. "A problem last game (a 3-1 loss to the Colorado Avalanche on Tuesday) and today's game is us taking away east-west plays in our own end. That's something we've got to improve upon here and work on tomorrow."

Holloway made it 1-0 for St. Louis at 4:56 of the first period with a power-play goal. He took a no-look, between-the-legs pass from Robert Thomas and beat Hellebuyck with a wrist shot from the right face-off circle to the short side.

Iafallo tied it 1-1 at 9:24, scoring from in front off Scheifele's pass from below the goal line on the right side.

Morrissey saved what would have been Holloway's second of the game at 13:59. Holloway dangled around Hellebuyck and tried to stuff the puck in, but Morrissey kept it out at the goal line with his stick.

"I mean, just this time of year is desperation hockey, so try to keep (it) out of the net," Morrissey said. "And you know what? Thankfully, it didn't go in."

Morrissey put the Jets ahead 2-1 at 14:11 of the second period, scoring on a rebound in the slot after Binnington stopped Jacob Bryson's shot from the left point.

"We hadn't had a lot of success on in-zone offense in the first three games against them, and we talked about it a little bit at practice yesterday (about) how we could implement a few different things, and we had some good movement," Morrissey said. "They're a team that's been playing really well defensively and offensively, and we were able to generate a little bit in zone that, like I said, we hadn't had earlier against them. So it was good."

Toews then made it 3-1 at 15:51. He scored on a one-timer from the bottom of the right circle after Cole Perfetti brought the puck out from behind the net and passed across the slot.

"Just not taking care of the weak side of the ice," Montgomery said, referring to the two late second-period goals. "With man-on-man coverage, we should have that part of the ice taken care of. The second goal in particular, the Toews goal ... we had four guys on the strong side of the ice and no one on the weak side. We had (Tyler Tucker) there, but he had a broken stick."

Colton Parayko cut it to 3-2 on the rush at 13:00 of the third period. He took a pass from Jordan Kyrou in the right circle and sent a wrist shot past Hellebuyck to the glove side.

The Blues couldn't find the tying goal.

"We had some good chances for sure," Parayko said. "We generated some good opportunities. (Hellebuyck) made some good saves and they had some stick luck and things like that. We definitely had our chances and put things towards the net too."

The Jets, who were 4-for-5 on the penalty kill, held firm following a high-sticking penalty on Morrissey with 2:34 remaining, even after the Blues pulled Binnington for an extra attacker with about 1:25 to play.

"First of all, hats off to our penalty kill," Arniel said. "I know we gave up one early, but our penalty kill was really solid in the second and third where it really needed to be."

"We went to get aggressive on the (Holloway) goal and we left the middle open, which they were obviously trying to get it to. After that, we didn't allow any of that stuff to really get inside there. The stuff that was coming was coming from the outside. We did a good job with our sticks, with our lanes. The other side for me was that we did a good job with our clears."

*NOTES:* Scheifele has 16 points (three goals, 13 assists) in his past eight games. He also is one point from his first 100-point season in the NHL (34 goals, 65 assists in 78 games). ... Morrissey has nine points (two goals, seven assists) in his past nine games. ... Thomas, whose four-game goal streak (six goals) ended, extended his point streak to seven games (six goals, six assists) and tied Al MacInnis for fifth in Blues history with 325 assists. ... Holloway has 13 points (five goals, eight assists) in his past eight games.

## **Associated Press**

<https://www.sportsnet.ca/nhl/article/iafallo-morrissey-and-toews-score-as-jets-beat-blues-to-keep-playoff-hopes-alive/>

### ***lafallo, Morrissey and Toews score as Jets beat Blues to keep playoff hopes alive***

By Associated Press

ST. LOUIS, Mo. — Alex Iafallo, Josh Morrissey and Jonathan Toews scored as the Winnipeg Jets beat the St. Louis Blues 3-2 Thursday night, keeping their playoff hopes alive.

Mark Scheifele had two assists and Connor Hellebuyck made 20 saves for Winnipeg (35-31-12), which has 82 points. The Jets went into the game four points behind Nashville (84 points) for the second Western Conference wild card.

Dylan Holloway and Colton Parayko scored for St. Louis (33-33-12) and Jordan Binnington had 31 saves. The Blues, who have 78 points, took a hit to their playoff hopes with four games remaining in the regular season.

Morrissey slammed home the rebound of a shot by Jacob Bryson to give the Jets their first lead of the game with 5:49 left in the second period and Toews made it 3-1 just 1:40 later.

Robert Thomas flicked a pass backward between his legs to Holloway for a goal from the right circle that opened the scoring at the 4:56 mark of the first period. Thomas has 325 assists for the Blues, tied with Al MacInnis for fifth-most in franchise history.

Iafallo poked home a feed from Scheifele from point-blank range near the midway point in the first period.

Parayko, on a breakaway, beat Hellebuyck to the glove side to cap the scoring with seven minutes left in the third period.

#### *Up next*

Jets: Host Philadelphia on Saturday.

Blues: Visit Chicago on Saturday.

## **Global Winnipeg**

<https://globalnews.ca/news/11772365/winnipeg-jets-keep-faint-playoff-hopes-alive-with-3-2-win-in-st-louis/>

### ***Winnipeg Jets keep faint playoff hopes alive with 3-2 win in St. Louis***

By Christian Aumell & Russ Hobson Global News

Going into Thursday night's showdown with the Blues in St. Louis, the Winnipeg Jets knew they had no room for error.

If they wanted to make the playoffs, this was a game they absolutely had to have.

Mission accomplished as the Jets overcame a bit of a slow start and held on for a 3-2 win to keep their still slim post-season hopes alive.

After giving up the first marker, the Jets struck for three straight goals and had a key penalty kill in the final two minutes for their third straight victory.

The Jets surrendered a power play goal in the first period but were perfect on their next four penalty kills.

"It was called upon a bunch," said Jets defenceman Josh Morrissey. "And thought it did a good job. We gave up the one there in the first but after that, came up big, and some key moments in the game. We did a good job."

"Hats off to our penalty kill," said Jets head coach Scott Arniel. "I know we gave up one early, but our penalty kill was real solid in the second and the third there where it really needed to be."

The Jets recorded a season-high 16 shots on goal in the first period.

The road victory snaps a streak of 11 straight games between the two that were won by the home team. The Jets had lost in their last four straight trips to the Show Me State.

"I think all-in-all it was a real good road game in a building that's been tough for us," Arniel said.

Morrissey, Alex Iafallo and Jonathan Toews had the goals for Winnipeg. Mark Scheifele registered a pair of assists to give him 99 points on the season as he moved past Ilya Kovalchuk for the second most points in a season in franchise history. He's now just one back of the record held by Marian Hossa.

The win temporarily moved the Jets past the San Jose Sharks within just two points of the final playoff spot with four games left. The Nashville Predators lost to Utah on Thursday, while San Jose and Los Angeles both had late starts.

"There's no quit in our group," said Morrissey. "We've been competing and battling really hard since the Olympic break and clawing to try and get back into this race and into a playoff spot. Obviously, there's a lot of work left but all we can do is try to basically win every night here as we close this stretch out."

The Blues got off to the better start, taking advantage of the game's first power play.

St. Louis cycled the puck around the Winnipeg end, leading to Robert Thomas briefly losing the handle on the puck. As he went to retrieve it along the boards, two penalty killers converged on him, freeing up space for Dylan Holloway.

Thomas got to the puck first and slid a backhand pass through his own legs to Holloway, who took a moment to gather the puck before firing it past Connor Hellebuyck at the 4:56 mark.

At one point, the Blues had a 10-4 edge in shots on goal, but over the final 11:39, Winnipeg outshot the home side 12-2 and tied the game in the process.

Scheifele carried the puck into the Blues' end down the right wing before a centring pass went off a defender and into the other corner. Haydn Fleury got to it first and knocked it to Scheifele

behind the net, who found a hard-driving Lafallo cutting down the lane for his 13th of the season at the 9:24 mark.

The assist for Scheifele was his 98th point of the season, setting a new standard for points in a season in the Jets 2.0 era, eclipsing the 97 points that Kyle Connor had last season.

St. Louis came oh-so-close to regaining the lead with roughly six minutes to go when Holloway undressed Hellebuyck with a great deke but as he went to slide it into the open net, Morrissey got his stick across the goal line to prevent the goal.

Moments later, Brad Lambert drew a penalty on the Blues with a great net-drive but the Jets couldn't convert on the power play, though they did get five shots on goal during the two minute minor penalty.

St. Louis had two power plays in the second but the score stayed tied 1-1 deep into the second but not long after a penalty to Dylan DeMelo expired, the Jets took their first lead of the night.

Winnipeg's top line had the puck humming around the St. Louis zone, leading to Jacob Bryson getting the puck at the left point. He floated a shot on goal through some traffic that Jordan Binnington made a meal out of, coughing up a huge rebound that Morrissey chipped into the net for his 14th of the season at the 14:11 mark.

Just 1:40 later, Winnipeg doubled their lead.

Gabriel Vilardi tracked down a loose puck behind the St. Louis net, bringing it around to Binnington's right before giving it to Cole Perfetti. Perfetti spotted Toews wide open on the other side of the ice, so he rapidly got Toews the puck for a one-timer into an open net for his 11th of the season and second in as many games.

Shots on goal in the second favoured Winnipeg 11-7 as they took the 3-1 lead to the third.

The Blues found themselves on another power play early in the third when Neal Pionk was called for tripping but once again Winnipeg was able to get the kill.

St. Louis had possession of the puck for much of the third but Winnipeg did a great job of preventing shots from getting through to Hellebuyck, allowing just two shots on goal through the first 13 minutes of the final frame before the Blues cut the lead to one.

Moments after Binnington made a fine stop on Lafallo, the Blues broke the puck up the ice. Holloway won a puck battle with Pionk at the Jets' blue line, sliding it over to Jordan Kyrou for an odd-man rush as Connor and Scheifele were slow to get back into the play.

As he skated deep into the Winnipeg end, Kyrou sent the puck over to Colton Parayko, who wristed it past Hellebuyck to make it 3-2 with exactly seven minutes to play.

The Blues had a great look to tie the game off the ensuing faceoff when Dalibor Dvorsky got free and skated in on a partial break before whipping a shot wide of the net.

With 2:34 to go, Morrissey caught Jimmy Snuggerud in the face with a high stick, giving the Blues their fifth power play chance of the game and it became a 6-on-4 with 90 seconds remaining when Binnington went to the bench for an extra attacker.

St. Louis struggled tremendously to get anything set up, generating no shots before the final horn sounded. In fact, the Parayko goal was the Blues' final shot on goal of the night as they managed just three in the entire third period and one total shot in their final four power play chances.

That meant Hellebuyck had to make 20 saves to earn the win.

Winnipeg will need to keep on winning if they want to have a shot at the wild card, and that quest continues at home Saturday evening against the Flyers. The puck drops just after 6 p.m. with pregame coverage on 680 CJOB beginning at 4 p.m.

<https://globalnews.ca/news/11773056/tribute-scott-oake-winnipeg-hockey-night-in-canada-legend-retiring/>

### ***A tribute to Scott Oake — Winnipeg's 'Hockey Night in Canada' legend***

By John Shannon CJOB

You will forgive me for not reflecting on Thursday night's Jets-Blues game that saw the Winnipeg hockey club continue its quest for what is still an improbable berth in the postseason. Friday is a day of reflection for me — and one of Winnipeg's best exports.

Saturday night in San Jose, on national television, Scott Oake will sign off on his final Hockey Night in Canada regular-season broadcast. He will do it in typical Scott Oake fashion — with self-deprecating humour and a low-key, humble demeanour.

For almost 30 years, Scott brought a level of class and dignity to the show that few others did. As someone who was already a high-profile announcer at CBC, Oake came to Hockey Night to be "one of the boys."

The show had expanded from a three-hour, single-game program to almost seven hours of television with a pre-game show and a doubleheader of hockey. In hockey parlance, Oake signed on for HNIC to be a second-line centre, after being a first-liner for the CBC for the CFL and the Olympics. He knew the role, understood the role and embraced the challenge.

Scott Oake was and is the ultimate team player.

The skills that Oake brought to the show were complete. Oh sure, there was a journalistic slant to much of those early years for Oake. After all, he was hired to front the newly created "Headliner," which highlighted the NHL's biggest story of the week. Every Wednesday night, he was told where he was going first thing Thursday morning to create content for the following Saturday, in addition to his role working the national game every Saturday, no matter where it was.

Scott brought a humanity to the job, and that showed every week, and that has continued all these years later, particularly with his post-game show, After Hours. The players learned to understand and appreciate his talents.

He did the job never forgetting his roots in Winnipeg, his adopted hometown. Privately, he always talked about his love and devotion to his family. And he did it, on the air, without showing

the challenges of losing a son and the love of his life, in his time at Hockey Night. There was never a question of his devotion to Saturday nights. And now with the Bruce Oake Centre, and the soon-to-be-built Anne Oake Family Recovery Centre, we fully understand his devotion to family.

And while it's sad that Hockey Night in Canada is losing a quality announcer, knowing that Scott Oake, the man, will be around for years making lives in this community better is certainly well worth celebrating.

## **The Athletic**

<https://www.nytimes.com/athletic/7183824/2026/04/10/winnipeg-jets-playoff-race-josh-morrissey/>

### ***Josh Morrissey's MVP-calibre performance keeps Jets' playoff hopes alive***

By Murat Ates

The Winnipeg Jets were at risk of redefining misery as recently as Jan. 8, when they were on track to become the first team in NHL history to follow a Presidents' Trophy win with a last-place finish.

Now, thanks to Josh Morrissey's Norris Trophy-calibre performance in a must-win game in St. Louis, the Jets have legitimate hope of being a playoff team. Morrissey, who was dancing dangerously on the blue line from his first shift of the game — and who scored the goal that broke the deadlock in Winnipeg's favour — singlehandedly redefined Winnipeg's margin for error in the first period against the Blues.

That margin is about the width of his stick.

Morrissey's fingerprints are all over Winnipeg's playoff chase, just like they were all over its 3-2 win on Thursday. He was dangerous immediately in the must-win game, walking around Jordan Kyrou on an early shift and teeing up his partner Dylan DeMelo for a point shot through traffic. Later in the first period, Morrissey deked past Nathan Walker and found Cole Perfetti for a scoring chance in the low slot.

But Morrissey's biggest impact — and the biggest reason Saturday's game against Philadelphia has meaning — was in stealing multiple sure goals.

The most dramatic came in the first period, when Jimmy Snuggerud picked off DeMelo's stretch pass and started an aggressive Blues counterattack. When Snuggerud's pass to Robert Thomas beat DeMelo and Mark Scheifele in the Jets' zone, Thomas found Dylan Holloway for a deke so good it's inconceivable that Holloway didn't finish the play with a goal.

Holloway faked a forehand, beating Scheifele and freezing Connor Hellebuyck, then stickhandled past both on his backhand. When Holloway pulled the puck back to his forehand to finish into the empty net, he was robbed by Morrissey, who had slid desperately to his left like a street hockey goalie to make a shocking stick save. (If it was, in fact, a street hockey move, then tip your hat to Josh's younger brother Jake, at whom Josh shot countless foam pucks in the Morrissey family's unfinished basement.)

It wasn't Morrissey's only stolen goal of the first period, with a desperate stick check helping Hellebuyck negate Snuggerud's breakaway after a bad line change and another quick Blues counterattack with 20 seconds left. The Blues' young star, who entered play with a goal and three assists in his two most recent games, made a dangerous move but wasn't allowed a shot.

And then Morrissey scored the goal that broke Thursday's game wide open in the second period, driving the net with his backhand. A minute and forty seconds later, Jonathan Toews finished off Cole Perfetti's heads-up pass after a drive from Gabriel Vilardi, and the Jets held on to win. Nashville lost, San Jose lost and even the expected Los Angeles Kings win over Vancouver couldn't take it away: Winnipeg finally got some help on the out-of-town scoreboard.

If the Jets beat Philadelphia on Saturday, Winnipeg's locker room is going to be filled with all kinds of belief that the once sputtering Jets can make the playoffs after all. Don't count them out when they struggle, we wrote in October. Then they struggled — nearly historically so — and we counted them out.

If they do make the playoffs, star scorers such as Scheifele and Kyle Connor will get all kinds of accolades, deservedly so. However, Connor's and Scheifele's dominance has, in part, depended on Morrissey playing a dominant all-around game. They've been outscored with Morrissey on the bench. They set up Alex Lafallo's first-period goal, with Scheifele expertly protecting the puck on the right-wing boards before making a brilliant pass to Lafallo from behind the net. Then they combined for a lack of backcheck, which led to Colton Parayko's third-period goal, putting the Jets at risk of giving up points in a game they led after two periods for a league-worst 10th time this season.

Morrissey created chaos himself by taking a high-sticking penalty after Parayko's goal, but his overall performance was masterclass. He's now scored nine points in his last nine games and 55 points in 73 games this season. He's Winnipeg's time-on-ice leader at five-on-five, plays on the top power-play unit and plays on the penalty kill. When the Jets' secondary scoring fell off dramatically to start the year, Morrissey took on a bigger responsibility, playing even more minutes than usual behind Connor and Scheifele, and has been a less heralded piece of Connor's and Scheifele's oft-celebrated offensive prowess.

On Thursday, Morrissey was on the ice for 23 Jets shot attempts and just 12 for St. Louis, enjoying a 12-4 lead in shots that hit the target and a 2-0 lead in goals.

It was a Norris-calibre performance, with dominance in all three zones, by one of the league's top all-around defencemen. But it still might not be enough.

#### *Critical points lost*

When Parayko scored to bring St. Louis within a goal with seven minutes left in the third period, it was reminiscent of other games in which Winnipeg was unable to hold onto a late-game lead. The Jets have the NHL's second-worst win percentage in games they've led after two periods and some of their nine losses after leading late were dramatic and memorable.

Here are the games that will hurt the most:

- OTL to Minnesota in December: The Jets led 2-1 with 30 seconds left in the third period, but Dylan DeMelo took a cross-checking penalty, and the Wild made Winnipeg pay.

- Loss to Toronto after leading 4-1 partway through the second period: The Jets made it to the second intermission with a 4-3 lead, but the Maple Leafs completed their 6-5 comeback win in the third.
- OTL to Vegas after leading 3-2 with 5:04 left in the third period: It looked like Connor's go-ahead goal would be the difference, but 59 seconds later, the game was tied, and the Golden Knights went on to win in overtime.
- Loss to Edmonton after leading 3-1 after the first and 3-2 after the second period: This was the last of 11 straight losses between Dec. 15 and Jan. 8, and another in which Winnipeg led but couldn't close.
- OTL to Toronto after going up 3-1 early in the third period on Nino Niederreiter's goal: Once again, the Maple Leafs stormed back, and this time it took until overtime for Toronto to win.

That's seven points given up in games you'd expect the Jets to win. They have four games left and still trail the Kings by three points. A postseason miss would likely come with a postmortem that places blame on those final four games; however, the truth is that the seven points Winnipeg gave up in December and January will be to blame more.

#### *Fleury, Namestnikov and misplaced trust*

Stretch run hockey is more difficult than pre-Olympic break hockey. Pre-Olympic break hockey is more difficult than the start of the season.

Haydn Fleury, Vladislav Namestnikov and Niederreiter have missed substantial time due to injuries this season. Their performances have been closer to replacement level than that befitting their roles — particularly that of Namestnikov and Niederreiter, who were positive difference-makers last season. On Thursday, Fleury's needless high-sticking penalty led to Holloway's power-play goal.

The shift after Holloway scored, Namestnikov got overtaken just inside the offensive blue line. The Blues countered, creating a rush chance that looked eerily similar to the one that drew Fleury's penalty. Winnipeg escaped unscathed, as it did when DeMelo and Morrissey took high-sticking penalties; Pionk was called for tripping; and Toews served a too-many-men penalty for jumping onto the ice too soon during a line change.

Morrissey stole goals from the Blues and scored one himself, but those other veterans making careless plays with their sticks can't say the same. It created suspense where no suspense should have been; it's these kinds of problems that show how difficult it is to jump on a speeding train at the end of the season and how flaws remain in Winnipeg's game, despite its push up the standings.

#### *lafallo, dogged on the details and a playoff-worthy net drive*

If you were to make a Mark Scheifele mixtape, it would include a series of board plays of puck protection and dangerous passes into the middle of the ice. We saw both of those things on lafallo's first-period goal.

But there's a detail that seemed to go unnoticed: lafallo made the net drive of coaches' dreams. Not only did he start the play in Winnipeg's zone, taking a hit to make a breakout pass to Connor, but he also followed the play up ice while covering for a pinching Fleury. It was only when the Jets established possession deep in the Blues' zone that lafallo drove the net. That's

when Scheifele centred the puck, but watch the replay and you'll see it: Lafallo swats Jake Neighbours' stick out of the way as Lafallo drives toward the net. It helps open the passing lane that Scheifele hits, leading to a massive goal.

"I was just trying to get to the net," Lafallo told TSN's Dan Robertson on the broadcast. It was just the right kind of understatement to match the overstated tenacity on the goal. Lafallo made a great defensive play on his next shift out and is delivering in his augmented role on the Jets' top line.

### *It's the hope that kills you*

Here's the race for the second wild-card spot in the West. Winnipeg has buried St. Louis and inched past San Jose, while still needing to pass Nashville and Los Angeles.

These are Winnipeg's final four games of the regular season.

- April 11 vs. Philadelphia
- April 13 at Vegas
- April 14 at Utah
- April 16 vs. San Jose

Los Angeles has the easiest schedule, with just one playoff team left to play (Edmonton), even if it plays three of four games on the road. Nashville has three games remaining, with two against playoff teams, but plays all of them at home. It's Winnipeg's schedule that's the most difficult, with three playoff teams, four flights, three time zones and one back-to-back. But the Jets did that to themselves.

At least Winnipeg has given its fans reason to care about those final games. You might not have predicted that in January, when the team was in last place, and you'd be forgiven for feeling just a little bit of hope today on April 10.

### **TSN.ca**

<https://www.tsn.ca/nhl/video/2026/04/10/are-the-jets-running-out-of-runway/>

### ***Are the Jets running out of runway? (VIDEO)***

The Jets won for the seventh time in their last nine games but with only four games remaining, are they running out of time? Craig Button joins SportsCentre to discuss their chances of making the playoffs.

<https://www.tsn.ca/nhl/article/toews-says-hes-thankful-for-struggles-after-masterton-trophy-nomination/>

### ***Toews says he's 'thankful for struggles' after Masterton Trophy nomination***

By TSN.ca Staff

The National Hockey League revealed the nominees for the Bill Masterton Memorial Trophy on Wednesday, with veteran forward Jonathan Toews the selection for the Winnipeg Jets.

The trophy is awarded annually to the NHL player “who best exemplifies the qualities of perseverance, sportsmanship, and dedication to hockey.”

The 37-year-old Toews is a prime example of the kind of player honoured with the award - a former Conn Smythe Trophy, Frank J. Selke Trophy and Mark Messier Leadership Award winner and three-time Stanley Cup champion, Toews returned to the ice for the first time this season after missing over two years to travel the world, seeking help solving health issues brought on by long COVID.

After the extended time away from hockey, it would have been difficult to predict what kind of player Toews would be this year with the Jets - his first time playing without a Chicago Blackhawks jersey on his back.

“It’s not like you’re consciously thinking about that, but I guess if I do stop to kind of look back at what the last four or five years have been like, it’s definitely been super unpredictable,” Toews said to reporters on Monday. “Something that I never thought I would have to go through in my life.

“At the same time, I am very thankful for all of the struggles because honestly, it is cliché but it’s where I’ve learned the most about myself. About hockey, about life and all of those things.”

Toews served as captain of the Blackhawks for 15 seasons, and it turned out that despite his limited production on the scoresheet this year - 10 goals and 27 points (both career lows) in 77 games - Toews’ leadership and knowledge have proven invaluable to the team and himself.

“Obviously he’s intense. I think he’s a guy that you can tell is a winner. He wants to win,” head coach Scott Arniel said to reporters on Monday. “That’s one of the biggest things. He’s having a lot of fun while he’s doing it. Obviously, being able to be back has been big for him. I think it adds to our leadership group.”

Toews acknowledged there was a psychological aspect to a return to the NHL along with the obvious physical side, saying “it’s been a struggle” trying to find energy and ways to contribute throughout the season.

“How do you really separate the two, at the end of the day,” he relented. “I think we like to put things in categories and boxes, but they’re all part of the same thing,” Toews said. “For sure, it’s psychological, it’s physical, it’s emotional — it’s all of the above.

“So yeah, I was eager to get the opportunity in the NHL again, and I told myself I would do anything to go out there and help this team.”

The Jets are facing long odds to make the playoffs entering play on Wednesday, sitting fourth in line for the final spot in the Western Conference playoff picture. With five games left on the schedule, the Jets (80 points) trail the Nashville Predators (84 points), Los Angeles Kings (83 points) and San Jose Sharks (81 points).

If this season doesn’t end up with a playoff appearance, Toews is still happy about the season he had and the struggles he worked through to have it.

“There have been a lot of challenging, difficult days but it’s all worth it,” said Toews. “The way that the city has received me, the city, the organization but also the players in the locker room. I would do it all over again to be part of this group.”

“I pride myself on my experience and what I accomplished in the game and the way I’ve played over the years. Like I said, sometimes you take a backseat or have a limited role and it’s a new opportunity to learn, to learn how to be a better teammate, a better person. That’s part of it. When there are moments like that, you have to check that ego at the door.”

The winner of the Bill Masterton Memorial Trophy will be selected in a poll of all chapters of the Pro Hockey Writers Association at the end of the regular season.

### **Winnipeg Free Press**

<https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/breakingnews/2026/04/09/jets-beat-blues-to-keep-playoff-hopes-alive>

#### ***Jets beat Blues to keep playoff hopes alive***

By: Mike McIntyre

The Winnipeg Jets have been on a tear since the Winter Olympic break, looking more like the team of old than simply an old team.

And the reigning Presidents’ Trophy winners kept their playoff torch burning Thursday night, fending off near-certain elimination with a tidy 3-2 road triumph over the St. Louis Blues.

Make it three straight “must-win” victories for a resilient group that refuses to let its flame be extinguished.

“There is no quit in our group,” Jets defenceman Josh Morrissey told the team’s radio rights holder CJOB, following the game.

“Obviously, there is a lot of work left and the only thing we can do is basically win every night here to close this stretch out. I am just proud of the way the guys have been resilient and calm in games. Like, whenever we get down, as we did tonight, whatever happens we just keep going, keep competing and trying to execute and do all of the little things it takes to win.”

The Jets, at 35-31-12, pulled to within two points of the final Western Conference wildcard spot as of press time. That could grow to three points if the Los Angeles Kings (one point up on Winnipeg and playing Vancouver at press time) were victorious.

Winnipeg has just four regular-season games remaining and will likely need to run the table. But if they keep up the level of play we’ve seen in recent outings, they certainly have a fighting chance.

Go figure that shedding a few aging, slower skaters in place of some younger speed and skill would make a difference as everyone is suddenly pulling in the same direction and contributing in both big and small ways.

“Guys are doing a good job of getting in shot lanes and taking hits to make the play, sacrificing when they have to and that’s all of the stuff that makes it hard on the opposition and sort of fires up our bench when guys are doing that stuff,” Jets coach Scott Arniel told CJOB.

“It’s not just five, six or seven guys, everybody is doing it. In their own little way, they’re contributing and helping battle and compete and just staying in games like we’ve been doing.”

St. Louis had collected points in 16 of 20 games since NHL players returned from Italy, which was the best mark in the West. Right behind them is Winnipeg, which is now 13-5-4 in that span. The Blues, now 33-33-12 overall, have run out of time. They are toast.

### *GOLD MEDAL REMATCH*

Same goalies, slightly lower stakes. Same result.

The last time we saw Connor Hellebuyck and Jordan Binnington on the ice at the same time, they were facing off for the gold medal in Milan. Hellebuyck put on a show that day as his United States squad downed Binnington’s Canadian crew in overtime.

Hellebuyck stopped 20 of 22 in this one, including a brilliant point-blank one off Blues forward Jake Neighbours in the second period when the score was tied. He also had some help from Morrissey, who used his stick to steal what looked like a sure goal by Dylan Holloway earlier in the game.

“Just this time of year is desperation hockey, so try to keep out of the net. And you know what? Thankfully, it didn’t go in,” Morrissey told CJOB.

Holloway had opened the scoring early in the first period, while St. Louis defenceman Colton Parayko — Morrissey’s partner at the Olympics — beat him with a wicked wrister late in the final frame.

Hellebuyck has been an absolute workhorse, starting 19 of Winnipeg’s last 21 games. He’s likely not going to vacate the net unless the Jets either clinch a spot or are knocked out of contention.

Binnington was terrific as well — not to mention much busier — as the Jets fired 34 shots, including a season-high 16 in the first period.

### *CENTURY MARK*

Jets centre Mark Scheifele continued his stellar run of play with assists on Winnipeg’s first two goals by Alex Iafallo — it was a heck of a pass to set up his linemate’s 13th of the year — and then a secondary helper on Morrissey’s 12th of the campaign.

Add it up and Scheifele is now at 99 points on the year — including 16 in the past eight games alone. He’s stepping up huge when his team needs it the most.

That’s already a dozen more than his previous career high. Scheifele came close to the century mark in the third period when Iafallo just missed on his second of the night.

The 33-year-old sits fifth in NHL scoring, trailing only Connor McDavid, Nikita Kucherov, Nathan MacKinnon and Macklin Celebrini.

### *GAME-WINNER*

The Jets signed Jonathan Toews last summer to hopefully come up with some key contributions. And they got one Thursday as he finished off a slick passing play with linemate Cole Perfetti to score his second goal in as many games and 11th of the year.

It came just 100 seconds after Morrissey's goal, giving the Jets a 3-1 lead at the time.

Toews, 37, may not have the foot speed he once did, but there's no question the hands are still there. It wouldn't be a surprise, once this season is done, to see the Jets and the hometown product — who was just selected as Winnipeg's Masterton Trophy nominee — come to an agreement on a one-year contract extension.

### *FROM ANGELS TO DEVILS*

The Jets had been hockey angels since the Olympic break, taking the fewest number of penalties amongst all NHL teams. In their last two games, they'd been shorthanded for a grand total of nine seconds, with Scheifele taking the lone infraction at 19:51 of the third period last Saturday in Columbus.

Thursday was a different story.

The Jets took five minor penalties on the night, including a high-stick by Morrissey with just under three minutes left to play which led to a Blues six-on-four once they pulled Binnington for an extra skater.

Fortunately for Winnipeg, the much-maligned penalty kill came up big. Although Holloway's goal came with the man advantage, the Jets stood tall on the next four — allowing just a single St. Louis shot during those eight combined minutes.

"Obviously called upon a bunch and thought it did a good job. We gave the one there in the first but after that came up big, and in some key moments in the game," Morrissey told CJOB.

The Blues only took one penalty, with the Jets unable to capitalize.

### *KEY PLAY*

The beautiful play between Perfetti and Toews which put the Jets up by a pair and ultimately stood as the game-winner.

### *THREE STARS:*

1. WPG C Mark Scheifele: 2 assists
2. STL LW Dylan Holloway: 1 goal, 1 assist
3. WPG D Josh Morrissey: 1 goal

### *EXTRA, EXTRA*

This marked the first time in the past 12 games (including playoffs) where the visiting team has won a game in the head-to-head battle between the Jets and Blues.

Winnipeg won three of four meetings this year, with just 15 combined goals in the games (1-0 St. Louis, 3-1 Winnipeg, 3-2 Winnipeg, 3-2 Winnipeg).

Defenceman Ville Heinola was Winnipeg's lone healthy scratch. Blue-liners Elias Salomonsson and Colin Miller and forwards Morgan Barron and Gus Nyquist remain injured.

The Jets return to action on Saturday evening when they host the Philadelphia Flyers at Canada Life Centre.

<https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/breakingnews/2026/04/08/were-not-done-yet-arniel>

***'We're not done yet': Arniel  
Jets hanging on for dear life but have chance to chase Blues away***

By: Mike McIntyre

Scott Arniel typically presents as calm, cool and collected when he stands in front of the media to speak about his hockey club.

But behind closed doors? Well, let's just say his club's late-season pursuit of a playoff spot — along with nightly out-of-town scoreboard watching — is taking an emotional toll on the head coach of the Winnipeg Jets.

"I almost threw something through the TV with the score in Anaheim," Arniel said Wednesday with a laugh. He was referring to Tuesday's 5-0 victory by the Predators over the Ducks that puts Nashville in the final Western Conference wildcard spot, four points clear of Winnipeg.

"For all of us, it is a mental roller-coaster."

The Jets, to their credit, are doing their part to hold on for the ride. They'll take a two-game winning streak into St. Louis on Thursday night in what is yet another "must win" game.

"Guys have done a fantastic job of focusing from that Olympic break until now," Arniel said.

"I know it's easy to say focus on ourselves and one game, but I can't stress enough how our leadership group, how our whole team as a group has stayed focused on what we can control. This group is recognizing they have a responsibility to play until the very end. I'm proud of them for doing that. We're not done yet."

No, they're not. But one more loss over these final five games will likely do it. Winnipeg will be facing a St. Louis team that should have even more desperation — the Blues are two points behind the Jets, and six points behind the Predators, with five regular-season games remaining. They need to run the table, and also get plenty of help.

Winnipeg ended St. Louis' season last spring by way of the "Manitoba Miracle" in Game 7 of their epic first-round playoff series. Now, a chance to basically do the same thing to the Blues, albeit on a slightly smaller stage.

"For all of us, it is a mental roller-coaster."

It won't be easy. The Jets (12-5-4) and Blues (13-4-3) are actually the top two teams in the Western Conference since the Olympic break.

"They made some changes (at the trade deadline), they moved some senior people out that had been there. There's some young guys that have taken a step. They're fast, they play fast," said Arniel.

This is the fourth meeting of the season between the Central Division rivals, with the home team winning the previous three. Expect another tight, low-scoring, tight-checking affair, considering 10 combined goals have been scored in those three games (1-0 St. Louis, 3-1 Winnipeg, 3-2 Winnipeg).

“Maybe it’s just one of those matchups that everybody’s aware of and doesn’t want to make the mistake,” said Jets forward Kyle Connor, who leads the team with 38 goals.

“For us, obviously, we want to be a team that defends first, so we take pride in that and that low number, but also not taking away from our offence. We’ve always stressed that we build through that.”

St. Louis has made a late-season surge before, most recently last year when they snuck into the playoffs and then gave Winnipeg, which had won the Presidents’ Trophy for compiling the best overall regular season record, all they could handle. The Blues had an even more memorable run in 2019 where they went from dead last at Christmas to the Stanley Cup in June.

Winnipeg has less experience in this department, although recent results suggest they’re handling increased pressure just fine.

“It’s coming down to just whoever wants it more,” said Connor. “It’s part of the process. I mean, it’s the position we put ourselves in.”

Based on Wednesday’s practice, expect the Jets to roll with the same lineup against the Blues as they did Monday night against Seattle. Forward Morgan Barron (lower-body) and Elias Salomonsson (concussion protocol) did not skate and remain on the injury list. Gus Nyquist (undisclosed) and Colin Miller (lower-body) were both in non-contact sweaters and remain out as well.

“It’s coming down to just whoever wants it more.”

Goaltender Connor Hellebuyck did not skate, but that’s just maintenance as he manages a hectic schedule. He’ll make an eighth-straight start in net — and 19th in the past 21 games — as the Jets ride their workhorse in a major way.

Some milestones are now in sight. Connor needs two more goals to reach 40 for the third time in his career. Gabe Vilardi needs one more goal to hit 30 for the first time. And Mark Scheifele needs three more points to hit the century mark for the first time.

All three will have an easier time accomplishing those goals if the power play can pick up where it left off in Monday’s dominant 6-2 win over the Kraken. Winnipeg went 3-for-3, sparked by Jonathan Toews joining Connor, Vilardi, Scheifele and Josh Morrissey on the No. 1 unit.

“It’s nice to just go out there and sometimes changing things up like that, for whatever reason, sparks a goal or two or you work for a bounce,” said Toews. “I’m trying to free up pucks, win some battles, win some draws and facilitate and let them make plays and do what they do.”

**MOOSE ARE LOOSE:** There's no such playoff angst down on the farm, where the Manitoba Moose officially punched their post-season ticket with a 4-3 victory on Tuesday night over the Milwaukee Admirals at Canada Life Centre.

The American Hockey League club is likely destined for a best-of-three play-in series by virtue of finishing fourth in the Central Division. Their opponent is probably going to be the very same Admirals, who are the affiliate of Nashville and sit in fifth place.

Manitoba and Milwaukee faced each other again on Wednesday at the downtown rink. The Moose have five regular-season games remaining — two at home this weekend against the Texas Stars, who are third in the division and still potentially catchable, followed by road games next week in Chicago and Iowa (twice).

The AHL playoffs begin the week of April 20.

### **Winnipeg Sun**

[https://www.winnipegsun.com/sports/jets-still-sharp-in-a-3-2-win-over-the-st-louis-blues/article\\_04a2be83-a1f5-4207-a1b6-09f03fd9a294.html](https://www.winnipegsun.com/sports/jets-still-sharp-in-a-3-2-win-over-the-st-louis-blues/article_04a2be83-a1f5-4207-a1b6-09f03fd9a294.html)

### ***Jets still sharp in a 3-2 win over the St. Louis Blues***

By Gordon Anderson

Josh Morrissey saved one goal and scored one goal as the Jets beat the St. Louis Blues 3-2 on Thursday night.

The Jets rearguard perhaps saved the season, at the very least helping to prolong it for at least another game, when he robbed Dylan Holloway with a stick save at the left post with 6:01 remaining in the first period and the game tied at one apiece.

“(At) this time of year it is desperation hockey, so (I was trying) to keep out of the net,” Morrissey told CJOB. “And you know what? Thankfully, it didn’t go in.”

Holloway stick-handled around Connor Hellebuyck and had the entire net to shoot at, but elected to jam the puck inside the left post, only to have Morrissey come across from the other side of the net and make a save that most road hockey goalies would have been proud of.

The play was an apt example of the desperation and never-say-die attitude the club has exhibited since late February.

“Obviously, it was a great job getting to the net and staying with it and not giving up on the play,” head coach Scott Arniel said. “It’s (part of) all the little stuff, shot blocks. (Making) one more play and making that last-ditch effort like he did.”

Morrissey then went on to give the Jets a 2-1 lead at 14:11 of the second period, scoring his 14th goal of the season. He was named the first star. Morrissey logged 22:16 over 32 shifts. He was credited with four shots and one blocked shot. He was a plus-two.

“Morrissey was fantastic,” Arniel said. “He was skating tonight. I saw him on the offensive side and what he was doing, with his patience and holding onto the puck. But I liked his battle in the

D-zone and his ability to close quick, using his feet. He takes a lot of pride in how he plays without the puck and I really liked how he played tonight.”

Alex Lafallo and Jonathan Toews also scored for the Jets (35-31-12). Mark Scheifele picked up two assists. He is one point away from reaching the 100-point mark for the first time in his career. Hellebuyck (23-21-11) stopped 20 of 23 shots to earn his third consecutive victory. He was making his eighth consecutive start. He is 6-2-0 in those eight starts.

The Jets won six of eight points against their Central Division foe this season.

Holloway and Colton Parayko scored for the Blues (33-33-12). Robert Thomas extended his points streak to seven consecutive games. He has six goals and six assists in those seven games. Jordan Binnington (12-20-7) was making his first start in four games. He picked up the loss, stopping 30 of 33 pucks.

With the Nashville Predators losing 4-1 to the Utah Mammoth on Thursday night, the Jets are within two points of the final wildcard spot with four games remaining, pending other results on Thursday evening. The San Jose Sharks and the Los Angeles Kings were also in action on Thursday.

The Jets host the Philadelphia Flyers on Saturday night.

#### *Ice Chips*

Gustav Nyquist, Ville Heinola, Morgan Barron and Elia Salomonsson were scratched.

#### *The PK*

The Jets were 4-for-5 on the penalty kill, including a crucial stop with Morrissey in box for high-sticking at 17:26.

The five spot was out of character as the Jets have been a disciplined team in the last 20 games. In the previous five games before the matchup with the Blues, the Jets had been whistled for just six minors. They went 4-1-0 in that small sample size.

“The (penalty kill) was great, called upon a bunch and thought it did a good job,” Morrissey said. “We gave the one there in the first but after that came up big, and in some key moments in the game.”