

***THREE THINGS: Full team effort helps Jets end winless streak
Scheifele scores twice, 12 different players record a point in 5-1 win over Kings***

By Jamie Thomas

WINNIPEG – The Winnipeg Jets jumped out to a 3-0 second period lead on route to a 0-0 win over the Los Angeles Kings at Canada Life Centre. The win ended the Jets 11-game winless streak. Mark Scheifele (2G), Gabe Vilardi (2A) and Cole Perfetti (2A) had multi-point nights, and 12 different players had at least one point. Eric Comrie made 23 saves for the Jets who will continue the five-game homestand Sunday afternoon against the New Jersey Devils.

LOOKED GOOD AFTER FIRST

Vladimir Namestnikov returned to the Jets lineup a day after he was a healthy scratch for Winnipeg's 4-3 loss to the Oilers on Thursday night. Namestnikov replaced the injured Morgan Barron on the left side of the Adam Lowry line, and it was the Russian forward who opened the scoring at 1:31 of the first period. Logan Stanley's shot from the point was redirected by Namestnikov past Darcy Kuemper. It was Namestnikov's first goal since November 1, 2025, in a 5-2 win over the Penguins.

"I'm the first to admit I wasn't the best in those games," said Namestnikov to Kevin Sawyer after the first intermission.

"I just got to be better. Today's a new day, new start. I just got to go out there and be better."

Winnipeg got some more secondary scoring in the first at 18:05, Cole Koepke found some open ice and Dylan Samberg fed Koepke for his third of the season.

KEPT POURING IT ON IN SECOND

Jonathan Toews came into tonight playing some of his best hockey as a Jet with four assists in the seven games since the Christmas break. Toews got his first goal since November 11, tapping in his own rebound to give the Jets a 3-0 lead at 2:07 of the second.

Mark Scheifele would then take back the team goal scoring lead with a couple in the middle frame, he got a great bounce off Quinton Byfield as he attempted a pass out front during a Jets power play. The pass would go off the Kings forward and past Kuemper at 12:35. The Jets centreman got his second of the night on an odd man rush converting a pass from Cole Perfetti at 19:17 and it was 5-1 after 40 minutes.

"THIS IS WHY YOU PLAY THE GAME"

Eric Comrie was looking for his first win since December 5, a 4-1 victory over the Buffalo Sabres and he was ready to go from the drop of the puck. After the Jets jumped out to a 5-1 lead, Comrie shut the door in the third period stopping all 12 shots the Kings threw at him. It was a huge win for the team and for Comrie who admitted that it's been really tough for him mentally. After the game, the Jets goaltender said his wife Haley, had a special surprise for him in his vehicle before he left for the rink today.

"So, I hop in the car and there's three pictures - one of myself as a kid and one of my son wearing goalie pads and one of my daughter in the locker with me," smiled Comrie.

"She goes, 'this is why you play the game.' It was awesome."

NHL.com

<https://www.nhl.com/news/los-angeles-kings-winnipeg-jets-game-recap-january-9-2026>

Scheifele scores twice, Jets end 11-game slide with win against Kings Perfetti, Vilardi each has 2 assists for Winnipeg, which was 0-7-4 during skid

By Darrin Bauming

WINNIPEG -- Mark Scheifele scored twice, and the Winnipeg Jets ended an 11-game skid with a 5-1 win against the Los Angeles Kings at Canada Life Centre on Friday.

"It's been mentally, physically, emotionally hard on everyone," Winnipeg coach Scott Arniel said. "We got through it. We did what we needed to do. Now we need to move forward and build off it."

The Jets had gone 0-7-4 during the slide and allowed three straight goals in a 4-3 loss to the Edmonton Oilers on Thursday in the first of a back-to-back.

"There is a lot of relief for everyone," Arniel added. "We needed that, as you know. We needed it badly. I just like the way, on a back-to-back game, such an emotional one last night, and to come back today was great."

Vladislav Namestnikov, Jonathan Toews and Cole Koepke also scored, and Eric Comrie made 23 saves for the Jets (16-22-5). Gabriel Vilardi and Cole Perfetti each had two assists.

"We played like kids again tonight," Comrie said. "We had a lot of fun. We got back to just enjoying the game we love to play. ... For everyone to get out there and play like kids and have fun, that takes more pressure off than who scored. It doesn't really matter, but we're just having fun again."

Quinton Byfield scored for the Kings (18-15-10). Darcy Kuemper allowed five goals on 16 shots before being replaced by Anton Forsberg at the beginning of the third period. He made three saves.

"I feel like everybody knew they're on a bad losing streak there, and they came out desperate, wanted it," Byfield said. "That's all they did. They just outmuscled a couple, got to the net a little bit harder than us. Obviously, their goalie played well, as well. So, they just knew what they had to do, and obviously, being on that losing streak, they came out hard."

Namestnikov made it 1-0 for the Jets at 1:31 of the first period, tipping Logan Stanley's point shot through the legs of Kuemper.

"All four lines scored today and then we won," Namestnikov said. "So that's what we were doing all last year. All four lines were contributing and we need it this year. So, hopefully this is a step in the right direction and we can continue this."

Koepke made it 2-0 at 18:05, when Dylan Samberg set him up for a one-timer from the right face-off dot.

"Really, it was probably their power play, I think, (that) got (them) some momentum with five minutes left in the first period," Los Angeles coach Jim Hiller said. "I didn't think they had much prior to that besides the goal. So that set us back just a little bit, and then we have a chance to bury one. We didn't get it."

Toews pushed it to 3-0 at 2:07 of the second period. Colin Miller's point shot redirected off a skate in front before hitting the post, and Toews reached behind Kuemper to slide it in.

"I think we had a couple unfortunate bounces against us," Kings forward Adrian Kempe said. "But other than that, I think you're down a couple of goals, it's tough to start climbing back. Tried to look for one or a couple, but I think we had our chances. It's been kind of the same issue as it's been all year, and it's putting more than one or two on the board, and it continued tonight."

Byfield put the Kings on the board 3-1 at 9:32, tapping Taylor Ward's shot from the blue line past Comrie in with his skate. Winnipeg challenged the play, although the goal was upheld.

"I feel like there's a lot of bounces out there today, you know?" Byfield said. "Unfortunate, but there's also some on us. Like, there's some chances I'd like back where maybe I pass instead of shooting. I think we only had (five) shots in the first, so that's probably a big area. Just getting pucks to the net, playing down low, so there's some factors there."

Scheifele made it 4-1 at 12:35 on the power play when his centering pass from behind the net took a wild bounce off Byfield's skate and elevated over Kuemper's shoulder.

"I thought we started fine," Hiller said. "I would say they had some timely goals. They certainly didn't spend a lot of time in our zone, but they had some good rush attack. They've got some guys that can finish, so that was probably the difference."

Scheifele then made it 5-1 at 19:17, scoring with a one-timer from above the left face-off dot on the rush.

NOTES: The Jets improved to 14-7-3 when scoring first and ended a five-game skid in those games. ... Namestnikov returned to the lineup after being a healthy scratch on Thursday and scored his seventh goal of the season, which was his first in 30 games. ... Nino Niederreiter had the secondary assist on Namestnikov's goal for his 100th point with the Jets franchise, ending a 17-game pointless drought. ... Ward assisted on Byfield's goal for his first career assist in his third NHL game. Ward scored in his NHL debut on April 17, 2025 against the Calgary Flames.

Canadian Press

<https://www.chrisd.ca/2026/01/09/winnipeg-jets-los-angeles-kings-game-win-recap/>

Scheifele Scores Twice in Jets' 5-1 Win Over Kings to End 11-Game Losing Streak

By Judy Owen, The Canadian Press

Before Eric Comrie went to the rink on Friday, his wife Haley put some photos in his car to help the Winnipeg Jets backup goalie get in the right frame of mind.

It worked.

Comrie made 23 saves in a 5-1 victory over the Los Angeles Kings that ended Winnipeg's 11-game losing streak.

"I hop in the car and I have three pictures – one of myself as a kid and one of my son wearing goalie pads and one of my daughter in the locker (room) with me," Comrie said of the photos stuck on his driver's side window. "And she goes, 'This is why you play the game.' It was awesome."

Comrie's last start was Jan. 1 against the Toronto Maple Leafs, when he mishandled the puck and it went to Auston Matthews for the winning goal in a 6-5 loss. The Jets had been up 4-1.

"After the last game I wasn't in the best mental space that I've ever been in my life. My wife actually helped me get out of it," he said, before telling reporters about the photos in his car.

Jets head coach Scott Arniel said wives and girlfriends of the players and coaches often feel the same disappointment and frustration as their partners during a team's losing skid.

"They've been wearing this just as much as the players have," he said. "I know my wife, all the wives and girlfriends, have been trying to help their spouses get themselves out of this. I think they'll be just as relieved as we are."

The Jets were winless (0-7-4) since a 5-1 victory over the Washington Capitals on Dec. 13. It was the longest skid since the team moved to Winnipeg from Atlanta in 2011.

"The big thing for me is sometimes you have to look back," Arniel said. "We play this game and we were all kids. There's lots of great memories when you're young, things you went through to get yourself here, and we put so much weight and pressure on ourselves that you can overwhelm yourself."

"That was kind of the message today to the group – let's go back to that feeling where we're thinking about why we play this game."

Mark Scheifele scored twice and Vladislav Namestnikov and Jonathan Toews both ended lengthy goal-scoring droughts. Cole Koepke also scored for Winnipeg (16-22-5) and Gabriel Vilardi contributed two assists.

Namestnikov ended a 29-game goal drought, while Toews halted a 26-game scoring slump.

Quinton Byfield scored for the Kings (18-15-10).

Darcy Kuemper stopped 11 of the 16 shots he faced before he was replaced by Anton Forsberg to start the third period. Forsberg made three saves.

All the Jets felt the happiness of the 14, 412 fans at Canada Life Centre, who sang loudly, did the wave in the third period and gave the squad a standing ovation at the final buzzer.

"I think (the fans) deserved it more than we deserved it," Comrie said. "We've been putting them through some tough times and they've been sticking with us."

Namestnikov, who was a healthy scratch Thursday against Edmonton, tipped in a Logan Stanley shot at 1:31 of the first period. The veteran of 828 NHL games said it was a relief to end the drought.

"Kind of re-evaluate your game and go from there," Namestnikov said. "It was a new day today and a new mindset. Just go out there and play and have fun."

It was the third game of a five-game homestand that continues Sunday afternoon against the New Jersey Devils.

"It's been mentally, physically, emotionally hard on everyone. We go through it," Arniel said. "We did what we need to do. Now we need to move forward and build off it."

Arniel said defenceman Neal Pionk missed the game with a lower-body injury, but didn't confirm it was because he blocked a shot in the loss to the Oilers. Forward Morgan Barron was sidelined with an upper-body injury.

Winnipeg Free Press

<https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/breakingnews/2026/01/09/phew-jets-snap-losing-skid>

PHEW! Jets snap losing skid

By: Ken Wiebe

This is exactly what Scott Arniel had in mind when he was asking everyone for more.

On this night, scorers scored, checkers checked, special teams were crisper and critical saves were made.

Most importantly, the Winnipeg Jets overcame what has been an imposing mental hurdle and hopped back into the hot tub time machine to a place where they played with confidence instead of playing tentatively when things got tense.

Chalk it all up and the Jets finally snapped an 11-game winless skid that saw them plummet to the bottom of the NHL standings, earning a 5-1 victory over the Los Angeles Kings on Friday night at Canada Life Centre.

The decisive margin of victory led to a raucous atmosphere during the third period, with the hometown fans singing throughout the final 20 minutes of play and saluting the Jets with a standing ovation before the final buzzer sounded.

"It most certainly did. A lot of relief for everyone," said Arniel, asked if the game felt like a group therapy session. "Shout out to the crowd. They were loud, they were enjoying themselves.

"We needed that. We needed it badly."

The Jets also needed to bring some joy back into their collective game, which is tough to do when leads are tough to hold and the losses mount.

The Jets continue a five-game homestand on Sunday afternoon against Brenden Dillon and the New Jersey Devils.

Let's take a closer look at what transpired in this one:

THE START

Eric Comrie was back between the pipes for just the second time since Dec. 11 and he came up with a performance that he needed, turning aside 23 shots to pick up his first victory since making 34 saves against the Buffalo Sabres on Dec. 5.

During his previous three starts, Comrie was shelled for 15 goals, leading to some frustration for one of the most positive people on the planet.

The Jets came up with a better effort in front of him, limiting the Kings to only 12 shots on goal through two periods.

Comrie made a critical save off former Manitoba Moose forward Jeff Malott on a rebound chance with about 90 seconds remaining in the second period to ensure the Jets took a four-goal lead into the third when Mark Scheifele scored his second goal of the contest with 42.8 seconds to go in the middle frame.

"I just try to do my job out there. When I get called upon, I have to go out there and make a big save," said Comrie. "I feel like that's maybe what I didn't do the last few games. I didn't give them the big save when we needed it. I just did my best job to stay in the moment and stay in the present and give them that save when I needed to."

The goal from Kings forward Quinton Byfield prompted the Jets to use a coach's challenge for goalie interference, but it was not overturned.

Byfield entered the blue paint on his own volition and the Jets believed that his presence there prevented Comrie from being able to fully push across and make the save after Warren Foegele's shot was tipped in front by Taylor Ward.

The puck caromed in off Byfield and into the net.

"At the very beginning their guy (Byfield) went into the crease and his foot hit Comrie's," said Arniel. "I talked to the ref after about it. But they felt (Comrie) had enough time to get himself reset, there was a gap between when it hit him and when the puck went in the net. We thought that was maybe a call we'd seen before that went the other way. It is what it is."

THE SLUMP BUSTER(S)

Ending lengthy scoring droughts was the order of the day, beginning with Vladislav Namestnikov, who had a perfect redirection after a point shot by Logan Stanley.

Namestnikov sat out Thursday's game as a healthy scratch, but scored a goal in his first shift of the game on Friday.

That's the type of response a coach loves to see.

"I was really happy with him," said Arniel. "To do it on that first shift was awesome."

That snapped an 18-game point streak and was his first goal in 30 games — a wild stat when you consider Namestnikov had six goals and seven points in his first 12 games of the season.

"It was a long time coming," said Namestnikov, who showed plenty of emotion during his goal celebration. "You want to score so bad and it doesn't go in for however long it was, it's hard and it drains you mentally. But you've got to keep going and I'm just glad it went in."

Namestnikov referenced the benefits of watching Thursday's.

"You kind of watch the game from the side and see there's more room than when you're on the ice," said Namestnikov. "You re-evaluate your game and go from there. It was a new day, a new mindset. You just go out there and play and have fun."

Linemate Nino Niederreiter also chipped in an assist on the play, snapping a 17-game pointless drought.

The slump-busting wasn't done there, as Jonathan Toews notched his first goal since Nov. 11, a span of 29 games without denting the twine.

Toews has come out of the holiday break energized and is playing instinctually, which has led to an offensive surge.

With his goal on Friday, Toews has recorded five points during the past eight games and is up to 14 points in 44 games this season.

FOURTH LINE CONTRIBUTION

For the second time in as many games, the Jets' fourth line came up with an important goal.

On Thursday, it was Tanner Pearson finding the back of the net and on Friday, it was Cole Koepke, who got himself into a prime shooting position and ripped home a shot after a sneaky no-look pass from Dylan Samberg.

Although Danny Zhilkin is still looking for his first NHL point, he's looked extremely comfortable during the past two nights, using his speed effectively while defending well.

Zhilkin, who finished with 13 shifts for just under 11 minutes of ice time against the Kings, even got an opportunity to contribute to the penalty kill — which is an area where he can provide an additional boost.

THE KEY PLAY

Koepke's third goal of the season, with 1:55 to go in the first period, proved to be the game-winner.

THE THREE STARS

Mark Scheifele, Jets, Scored a pair of goals to hit 22 for the season.

Jonathan Toews, Jets, Scored a goal, went 73 per cent in the faceoff circle.

Eric Comrie, Jets, Made 23 saves for his first win in five starts.

EXTRA, EXTRA

With defenceman Neal Pionk (lower body) and forward Morgan Barron (upper body) out of the lineup due to injury and considered day-to-day, the lone healthy scratch was winger Gustav Nyquist.

Jets defenceman Colin Miller returned to the lineup for Pionk and had a strong showing, collecting an assist while recording two shots on goal, seven shot attempts, two hits and a blocked shot.

The Kings were without several forwards, including Joel Armia, Corey Perry and captain Anze Kopitar, who is retiring at the end of this season.

The Jets chased Kings goalie Darcy Kuemper after he allowed five goals on 16 shots on goal through two periods of play.

<https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/breakingnews/2026/01/09/jets-comrie-credits-wife-family-for-assist-in-ending-losing-streak>

Jets' Comrie credits wife, family for assist in ending losing streak

By: Mike McIntyre

Eric Comrie had a confession to make.

"After last game, I wasn't in the best mental space that I've ever been in my life," the Winnipeg Jets goaltender said on Friday night, a few moments after backstopping his team to a desperately needed victory inside Canada Life Centre.

"My wife actually helped me get out of it. It was unbelievable today what she did."

Indeed, Haley Comrie's name won't show up on the final scoresheet, but she provided a valuable assist in the form of a heartfelt pre-game gesture.

"She put a couple pictures of my kids in my car, both playing hockey. It showed me why I play the game and why I love the game," said Comrie, who got visibly choked up as he spoke.

"It kind of got me back into the mindset of playing hockey again and being a kid and having fun out there. It was pretty special for me out there."

Three photos were displayed: One showing his daughter, now aged two, in the Jets locker room with him; Another showing his son, who will be turning one this spring, wearing goalie pads. And the third and final one showing Comrie as a child.

"It kind of got me back into the mindset of playing hockey again and being a kid and having fun out there."

"She goes 'This is why you play the game,'" said Comrie. "It was awesome. They were right on my driver's side window so I could see them when I walked in. It was really special."

Jets coach Scott Arniel said he was touched by the story of what Comrie's wife did.

"They've been wearing this just as much as the players have. I know my wife, all the wives and girlfriends, have been trying to help their spouses get themselves out of this. I think they'll be just as relieved as we are," he said.

"For Coms, that's awesome. The big thing for me is sometimes you have to look back, we play this game and we were all kids, there's lots of great memories when you're young, things you went through to get yourself here, and we put so much weight and pressure on ourselves that you can overwhelm yourself.

"That was kind of the message today to the group, let's go back to that feeling where we're thinking about why we play this game, the love of the game and just to be around the guys, just to be around the group, hopefully success comes from that."

Comrie, like the majority of his teammates, had struggled to find his game lately. But unlike forwards and defencemen, his role as a backup to No. 1 Connor Hellebuyck means going long stretches between starts.

So when he has a tough outing — or four in a row, as was the case — he has to sit and stew. Comrie was lit up for 18 goals in those games, which occurred Dec. 6, Dec. 9, Dec. 11 and Jan. 1, when the Jets blew a 4-1 lead and lost 6-5 to Toronto, with the game-winning goal coming late in the third period off a mishandled puck that ended in the back of his net.

"I actually just watched the (John) Elway documentary a couple days ago. He mentioned in the documentary how in football he'd take the losses home with him. I have the tendency to do the same thing," said Comrie.

"All the wives and girlfriends, have been trying to help their spouses get themselves out of this. I think they'll be just as relieved as we are."

"All of us do. It's hard because it's a job that has so many ebbs and flows and pressure, and we take stuff home with us; it's not fair to our families. My wife does an unbelievable job keeping me grounded, keeping me level."

Fortunately for Comrie, family provided the fix he needed.

"It's hard to stay angry coming home to my daughter yelling, 'Daddy, daddy, daddy, come give me big hug and a big kiss.' She wants to show what she's done all day, and then I've got two dogs jumping all over me," he said.

"It's hard to stay mad but you still get a little quiet and a little down. It's not right to my family. It's not what they deserve. I need to be a better parent all the time and the best person that I can be at my house. I try to do that, but it's hard."

A performance like Friday night, where he stopped 23 of 24 shots that came his way in a 5-1 victory over the Los Angeles Kings, helps the cause as well.

"We just had to get back to playing and having fun again and doing what we love to do. This is a game at the end of the day and we truly love playing it," said Comrie.

"For everyone to get out there and play like kids and have fun, that takes more pressure off than who scored. It doesn't really matter, but we're just having fun again."

The fans inside Canada Life Centre were in party mode as well, with chants of "Comrie, Comrie" raining down from the rafters at one point.

"I think they deserved it more than we deserved it," he said.

"We've been putting them through some tough times and they've been sticking with us. It's unbelievable to see their support tonight. There's not a lot of fan bases that would do that. A lot of fan bases would turn on their team after what we've gone through lately, but they've stayed right with us the whole time. They are the best fans in the NHL for a reason."

Winnipeg Sun

https://www.winnipegsun.com/sports/jubilant-jets-crown-kings-to-snap-an-11-game-losing-skid/article_f5321c31-86c6-4e30-85bc-4eb62f982f35.html

Jubilant Jets crown Kings to snap an 11-game losing skid

By Gordon Anderson

For one night, the demons were slayed for both the player and the team.

Vlad Namestnikov snapped a lengthy goal-scoring slump, and the Jets snapped an 11-game losing streak following a 5-1 victory over the Los Angeles Kings at Canada Life Centre on Friday night.

"There is a lot of relief for everyone," head coach Scott Arniel said. "I have to give a shout out to the crowd. That was fun, they were loud, and they were enjoying themselves. "We needed that, as you know we needed it badly. I just like the way, on a back-to-back game, such an emotional one last night, and to come back today was great."

Namestnikov netted his first goal in 30 games to open the scoring at 1:31 of the first period.

Logan Stanley shot the puck towards the net, Namestnikov tipping the puck between the legs of Darcy Kuemper for his seventh of the season. His previous goal occurred in a 5-2 win over the Pittsburgh Penguins on Nov. 1.

"It's a long time coming," Namestnikov said. "It's just a relief. You want to score so bad, and it doesn't go in for however long it was. It's hard and kind of drains you mentally, but you got to keep going. I'm just glad it went in."

Namestnikov was a healthy scratch on Thursday night against the Edmonton Oilers. The Jets lost 4-3.

"He takes a lot of pride in being an everyday player, and I know it was frustrating for him," Arniel said. "It was a hard decision, but at the end of the day, I love the way we responded."

Unlike recent games where the Jets managed to squander leads in the third period, on this night the final 20 was a mere formality with a four-goal lead, most of the entertainment emanating from the crowd as multiple beer slammers, several rounds of the wave and chants of 'Comrie, Comrie' drew the focus away from the ice for one pleasant night downtown.

"It was fun," Eric Comrie said. "The building was going too. They had the wave going, they had everything going tonight. It was great. We played like kids again tonight. We had a lot of fun. We got back to just enjoying the game we love to play."

Quite a reversal from 24 hours ago as a smattering of boos greeted the team following the loss to Edmonton, but the crowd was fully back on the return flight.

"I think they deserved (the win) more than we deserved it," Comrie said of the crowd. "We've been putting them through some tough times, and they've been sticking with us. It's unbelievable to see their support tonight."

Comrie turned aside 23 shots for the win.

Mark Scheifele scored twice. Cole Koepke and Jonathan Toews also scored for the Jets.

Quinton Byfield scored for the Kings. Darcy Kuemper allowed five goals on 16 shots. Anton Forsberg cleaned up, stopping three shots in the third.

The Jets host the New Jersey Devils on Sunday afternoon.

Ice Chips

Neal Pionk and Morgan Barron were scratched for health-related reasons. Gustav Nyquist was a healthy scratch.

By the numbers

The Jets have scored the first goal in five consecutive games ... The Jets have led by two goals or more in three consecutive games ... Heading into league action on Friday night, the Jets and Anaheim Ducks led the NHL in slap shots on goal with 159 ... Winnipeg is fifth in goals scored via slap shot with 17 ... The Jets are 27th in the league in shots on goal with 1,120. The Colorado Avalanche lead the league with 1,481 ... Luke Schenn leads the team in hits with 85 ... Scheifele's second goal of the game late in the second period entered the net at 81.9 miles per hour.

The Byfield bounce

At 10:28 of the second period, the Jets initiated a coach challenge on an apparent goal by Quinton Byfield. The Los Angeles winger was tied up with Dylan Samberg in the crease, impeding the left leg of Comrie. Taylor Ward's shot from the left point hit bodies in front of the net and bounced off Byfield's leg before crossing the goal line. The Jets were given a two-minute bench minor for delay of game. The powerplay was erased when Adrian Kempe was whistled for a high-sticking minor. On the ensuing powerplay, Scheifele's centering pass for

Gabe Vilardi bounced off the leg of Byfield and over the right shoulder of Kuemper at 12:35. The goal was Scheifele's 21st of the campaign.

Where have you been?

Toews broke a 26-game goalless drought when he scored 2:07 into the second period. Colin Miller's point shot hit Kuemper and banged off the right post as Toews crashed the crease to bat the puck into the net for this fourth of the season. His previous goal occurred on Nov. 11 against the Vancouver Canucks. Nino Niederreiter picked up an assist on Namestnikov's goal. The helper was his first point in 18 games. His previous appearance on the scoresheet was a two-goal performance against the Nashville Predators on Nov. 29 ... Niederreiter was a healthy scratch in the New Years Day game against the Toronto Maple Leafs.

Global Winnipeg

<https://globalnews.ca/news/11607320/winnipeg-jets-finally-win-a-game-downing-l-a-5-1-to-end-11-game-slide/>

Winnipeg Jets finally win a game, downing L.A. 5-1 to end 11 game slide

By Christian Aumell & Russ Hobson Global News

The Winnipeg Jets have won a hockey game.

The Jets got contributions from all four lines as they took down the L.A. Kings 5-1 Friday night, putting a merciful end to their 11-game losing streak.

Mark Scheifele scored twice and Jonathan Toews and Vladislav Namestnikov both ended lengthy scoring droughts, and it was nothing but relief after winning for the first time since Dec. 13.

"We needed that," said Jets head coach Scott Arniel. "We needed it badly and just like the way on a back-to-back game, such an emotional one last night, then to come back today, it was great."

The Jets led from start to finish and after being a healthy scratch the night before, Namestnikov scored just 91 seconds into the game for his first goal in 30 games since Nov. 1.

"A long time coming," he said. "It's just relief and you want to score so bad, and it doesn't go in for however long it was. It's hard and it kinda drains you mentally, but you got to keep going and I'm just glad it went in."

The Jets had all four lines rolling as each scored at least once. They've been searching for a balanced attack for what feels like eons and finally got it on Friday.

Eric Comrie made 23 saves for his first win since Dec. 5

"We played like kids again tonight," said Comrie. "We had a lot of fun. We just got back to just enjoying the game we love to play."

Comrie credited his wife for his stellar play against the Kings.

"After the last game I wasn't in the best mental space I've ever been in my life," he said. "My wife actually helped me get out of it. It was unbelievable today what she did. She put a couple pictures of my kids in the car both playing hockey and it showed me why I play the game and why I love this game. And it kinda got me back into the mindset of playing hockey again and just being a kid and having fun out there. It was pretty special to have that."

"I knew they were banged up last night," said Arniel. "Found out this morning so, yeah, they're just day-to-day though. We'll just see where they are come for Sunday."

The Jets wasted little time in opening the scoring, a moment of great relief for the goal scorer as it was Namestnikov, fresh off his first healthy scratch in forever, who tipped a Logan Stanley point shot through the legs of Darcy Kuemper just 91 seconds into the contest.

It was Namestnikov's first goal since Nov. 1, snapping a 29-game goalless drought during which he recorded but one assist.

The game's first power play went to L.A. when Kyle Connor was called for tripping with 8:32 to go in the first. The Kings came close to cashing in but a Drew Doughty one-timer near the end of the power play rang off the crossbar.

Winnipeg got their first 5-on-4 look with 4:27 to go in the first when Kevin Fiala was called for holding. They were unable to take advantage, but not long after the power play expired, the Jets doubled their lead thanks to another player who has been in and out of the lineup.

The play began with Josh Morrissey colliding with a Kings player near the L.A. blue line, causing the puck to roll into the middle of the Kings' zone. L.A. tried to move the puck out but Alex Turcotte lost the handle, allowing Cole Koepke to get it and hand it off to Tanner Pearson.

Pearson sent a cross-ice pass to Dylan Samberg at the near point, who took a moment to settle the puck before sending it back the other way to the opposite faceoff dot where Koepke was waiting to blast it past Kuemper.

The goal was Koepke's third of the season and first since Dec. 6, which allowed Winnipeg to take a 2-0 lead into the second period. The Jets also outshot the Kings 9-5 in the first.

It was valid to wonder if the Jets would be able to hold onto that lead, considering they had blown multi-goal leads in three of their previous four losses.

But Winnipeg expanded their advantage early in the second with another drought-breaker. A point shot from Colin Miller deflected off a King on the way to the net before hitting the post, causing the puck to sit loose in the crease behind Kuemper.

Toews had inside positioning in the crease and put it home for his fourth of the season and first since Remembrance Day, snapping a 26-game goalless drought.

Winnipeg had been doing a good job defensively as Comrie only had to make seven saves over the first 29 minutes before the Kings got on the board with a bit of a fluky one.

Warren Foegele took the initial shot from the point that was tipped on the way by Taylor Ward, causing it to ever-so-slightly change direction. It looked to be heading just wide, but it wound up

hitting the leg of Quinton Byfield, who was battling at the edge of the crease with Samberg, before bouncing into the net.

The Jets challenged the play, grasping at straws that there was goaltender interference but after a quick review, the call on the ice stood, giving the Kings a power play.

L.A. had a couple decent looks before the man advantage was nullified by an Adrian Kempe high-sticking minor.

After Winnipeg got back to full strength, they had nearly 90 seconds of power play time but didn't need all of it before restoring their three-goal lead on their own lucky bounce.

Scheifele had the puck behind the L.A. net and attempted to center the puck, but his pass went off the skate of Byfield in front and fluttered over an unsuspecting Kuemper for his 21st of the season.

Scheifele added another for good measure with less than a minute to go in the period. After an errant pass by the Kings in the neutral zone, Gabriel Vilardi won the race to the puck and carried it into the L.A. end. He sent it to Cole Perfetti in the slot, who sent it to the far side where Scheifele had just come off the bench and into the play. Kuemper got a piece of Scheifele's shot but it still got through to make it 5-1 after 40 minutes.

Both teams registered seven shots on goal in the middle frame as Winnipeg had complete control going to the third while the Kings yanked Kuemper after 40 minutes, letting Anton Forsberg finish the game.

Not much happened in the third period as fans did the wave and the in-house DJ played lots of sing-along songs, harkening back to a time when blowout wins were common in Winnipeg.

L.A. did outshoot Winnipeg 12-3 in the final frame but couldn't get one past Comrie before the final horn sounded.

Comrie ended a personal four-game losing skid during which he allowed at least four goals in each start.

The Jets will look to win consecutive games for the first time in almost two months when they host the Devils on Sunday afternoon. The puck drops just after 1 p.m. with pregame coverage on 680 CJOB beginning at 11 a.m.

TSN.ca

<https://www.tsn.ca/nhl/video/2026/01/10/bain-jets-will-enjoy-this-one-tonight-and-then-its-on-to-the-next/>

Bain: 'Jets will enjoy this one tonight and then it's on to the next' (VIDEO)

The Winnipeg Jets' 11-game winless streak mercifully came to an end Friday night as all four lines contributed on the score sheet in a victory over the Kings. TSN Jets reporter Danielle Bain explains that the vibes around the team were much better after finally getting back into the win column, but the team understands they have a lot of work to do and need to follow this game up with a strong effort against the Devils on Sunday.

<https://www.tsn.ca/nhl/video/2026/01/10/team-effort-propels-jets-to-much-needed-win/>

'Team effort' propels Jets to much-needed win (VIDEO)

TSN's Dan Robertson and Kevin Sawyer break down how all four lines showed up for the Winnipeg Jets to help them pick up their first win in 12 games, and how important the victory is for the club and its fans.

<https://www.tsn.ca/nhl/video/2026/01/09/the-talking-point-why-have-the-jets-gone-from-first-to-worst/>

The Talking Point: Why have the Jets gone from first to worst? (VIDEO)

The Jets won the Presidents' Trophy last season but currently sit in last place in the NHL and are mired in an 11-game losing streak. TSN Hockey analyst Martin Biron dives into what's gone wrong for Winnipeg in this edition of the Talking Point.