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<https://www.nhl.com/jets/news/three-things-connor-ot-hero-in-huge-win-over-wild>

***THREE THINGS: Connor OT hero in huge win over Wild  
Connor scored 46 seconds into overtime helping finish off Jets comeback***

By Jamie Thomas

Kyle Connor scored 46 seconds into overtime to lift the Winnipeg Jets to a 4-3 win over the Minnesota Wild at Grand Casino Arena on Tuesday night. Nino Niederreiter, Vlad Namestnikov and Gabe Vilardi also scored for the Jets (7-3), and Logan Stanley (2A) and Neal Pionk (2A) had multi-point nights. Connor Hellebuyck was brilliant stopping 33 shots for his fifth win of the season. The Jets improved to 7-3-0 (14 points) – tied for their second-highest win total through 10 games of a season behind only their Presidents' Trophy-winning campaign in 2024-25 (9-1-0). Winnipeg will return home to host the Chicago Blackhawks on Thursday.

***IDEAL START***

The Jets knew that the Wild were looking for a good start after Minnesota fell behind 3-0 to Utah on Saturday and 2-0 to San Jose on Sunday in back-to-back losses on home ice. After weathering an early push from Minnesota, Winnipeg got the start they were hoping for as they scored two goals 22 seconds apart which is their fastest two goals of the season.

***SECOND PERIOD ISSUES***

Winnipeg has really struggled with the second period this season and Tuesday was another example of that after they were outplayed in the middle frame. The Wild owned most of the second period and closed within one goal thanks to a goal mouth scramble that saw Kirill Kaprizov slam in a loose puck at 6:03. Minnesota would tie the game thanks to Brock Faber getting a lucky bounce after his initial shot went off the glass and then off Connor Hellebuyck and into the net to tie the game at two.

***CUE THE COMEBACK***

After Marcus Johansson gave the Wild the lead for the first time of the night with a power play goal at 3:48 of the third, the Jets turned a corner. The new look line of Morgan Barron, Gustav Nyquist and Nino Niederreiter went to work at 11:35, the Swiss forward hammered home a loose puck behind Filip Gustavsson at 11:35.

After an evenly played third period, the Jets didn't take long to get the extra point as they forced a turnover in overtime. Then it was Josh Morrissey to Mark Scheifele who spotted Kyle Connor in the high slot and the Jets winger ended the night with a wrist shot for his fifth of the season.

"We kind of pressured when it was loose puck in the neutral zone. Got it turned around, got some speed and great entry by J-Mo and Scheif, and I just found some quiet ice," said Kyle Connor.

"And, you know, I was trying to get through a screen. Saw a little hole in the far side."

**NHL.com**

<https://www.nhl.com/news/winnipeg-jets-minnesota-wild-game-recap-october-28-2025>

***Connor goal propels Jets past Wild in OT  
Scores at 46 seconds to hand Minnesota 4th straight loss***

By Jessi Pierce

ST. PAUL, Minn. -- Kyle Connor scored 46 seconds into overtime to give the Winnipeg Jets a 4-3 win against the Minnesota Wild at Grand Casino Arena on Tuesday.

Connor took a pass from Mark Scheifele and scored with a wrist shot from the right face-off circle to the far side.

"We kind of pressured when it was a loose puck in the neutral zone," Connor said. "Got it turned around, got some speed and great entry by [Josh Morrissey] and 'Scheif,' and I just found some quiet ice. And, you know, I was trying to get through a screen. Saw a little hole in the far side."

Logan Stanley and Neal Pionk each had two assists, and Connor Hellebuyck made 33 saves for the Jets (7-3-0).

"Again, we will talk about the second period," Winnipeg coach Scott Arniel said. "I loved the way we came out in the first, the second we got loose again. They do a really good job of getting bodies to the net front and they throw a lot of pucks there. We saw that in the first and they capitalized on a few of our mistakes in the second. Again, it was numbers at the net front by them. I thought we cleaned it up in the third.

"[Connor's] was a big goal in a divisional game. It is tight in this building, and it got us back going again."

Brock Faber had a goal and an assist, and Marco Rossi had two assists for the Wild (3-5-3), who have lost four straight (0-2-2) and seven of their past eight (1-4-3). Filip Gustavsson made 18 saves.

"I thought the process of the game was a lot better, more indicative of how we can play in the type of game we need to be able to play to win," Minnesota coach John Hynes said. "And so, I think when you get in a situation where you're trying to find a way to win games, I think that that process is important. And I thought we got more of that tonight."

Gabriel Vilardi put Winnipeg on top 1-0 at 12:16 of the first period, batting the puck in at the left post after Stanley threw it on net.

Vladislav Namestnikov scored 22 seconds later to make it 2-0. He deflected a point shot by Pionk at 12:38.

Kirill Kaprizov cut it to 2-1 at 6:03 of the second period, jamming in a loose puck in the crease.

Faber then tied it 2-2 at 13:12. Following a turnover by Pionk in his own zone, Faber's slap shot from between the circles deflected off a stick and banked off the glass behind the net. The puck

then caromed back over the crossbar, kicked off Hellebuyck's skate at the top of the crease and went into the net.

"I don't think I'll ever see one like that again," Faber said. "But it feels good to get a bounce and [I] wish we would have come out on top. I thought we played the game to do so."

Marcus Johansson gave Minnesota a 3-2 lead with a power-play goal at 3:48 of the third period when he poked in the rebound of Faber's point shot with traffic in front.

Nino Niederreiter tied it 3-3 at 11:35, swatting in a loose puck from the edge of the crease.

"Good start, but we've got to find a way to play 60 minutes of hockey," Niederreiter said. "There's times we showed what we're capable of doing and then there's times where we're trying to be too cute, have too many turnovers and let teams get back in it."

**NOTES:** Connor tied Scheifele for the most game-winning goals in Jets/Atlanta Thrashers history (61). ... Winnipeg is 4-0-0 on the road for the second time in Jets/Thrashers history. The other was last season (7-0-0). ... Wild defenseman Jared Spurgeon got his 300th career assist, all with Minnesota, on Kaprizov's goal. He is one of three players to reach the mark for the Wild, joining Mikko Koivu (504) and Ryan Suter (314). ... Johansson has four goals in his past three games.

### **Global Winnipeg**

<https://globalnews.ca/news/11500063/analysis-winnipeg-jets-lineup/>

### ***ANALYSIS: Winnipeg Jets getting closer to becoming familiar team***

By Paul Edmonds CJOB

Tuesday night in St. Paul, the Winnipeg Jets notched their fourth straight victory on the road this season.

Of course, it didn't come without its challenges – or at times, its blemishes. But a win is a win in the National Hockey League, especially in overtime.

Sure, the Jets are again fighting for first place in the Central Division just 10 games into the season, and do boast a winning percentage of .700 — but as the schedule now starts to lean toward November, improving their overall game is becoming even more consequential.

Now, perfection is the grand hope in sports, but an unrealistic truth. And while the Jets' coaching staff and players continually talk about "cleaning things up," the bottom line is Winnipeg isn't exactly the same team it was last season — especially up front.

With five new faces on the forward corps, the team is essentially transitioning two new lines into its depth chart right now. That integration has been understandably a methodical process, where line combinations and positional usage have been anything but consistent.

But so far, the Jets appear to be passing the test, as their 7-3 record indicates, although concern still abounds in the search for the right mix — and chemistry — outside of the Mark Scheifele, Kyle Connor and Gabriel Vilardi line.

That is why when captain Adam Lowry stepped on the ice Tuesday for the morning skate in St. Paul in a regular jersey, you could quietly feel the excitement around the team in knowing one of its most important pieces is that much closer to returning to the lineup.

And with winger Cole Perfetti presumably not far behind either, the Jets are getting close to looking like a different team – or more appropriately, more like the one we're most familiar with watching.

And while Winnipeg has still managed to find its way to more victories than losses to start the year, returning two key pieces to the lineup in good time should help ease the challenges on a nightly basis and clean up the blemishes for even more victories to follow.

<https://globalnews.ca/news/11499420/connor-scores-ot-winner-as-winnipeg-jets-edge-wild-4-3/>

### ***Connor scores OT winner as Winnipeg Jets edge Wild 4-3***

By Christian Aumell & Russ Hobson Global News

It wasn't pretty, but the Winnipeg Jets continued their winning ways in Minnesota.

Kyle Connor scored the overtime winner as the Jets edged the Wild 4-3 Tuesday night for their ninth win in a row over Minnesota and their fifth straight in St. Paul.

After getting out to a two-goal lead in the first period, the Jets surrendered three straight goals, but they tied the game with eight minutes left before winning it just 46 seconds into the extra frame.

"We stayed in the game," said Jets head coach Scott Arniel. "Absolutely loved the way we came out in the first, second, we got loose again. They do a really good job of getting bodies around the net-front and they throw a lot of pucks there.

"Nino (Niederreiter) or Gus (Nyquist), whoever got that one – that was a big goal obviously in a divisional game that's tight in this building. You know, got us back going again and KC (Connor) does what he does."

Niederreiter was credited with the tying goal. Gabriel Vilardi and Vladislav Namestnikov also scored in the win, while Logan Stanley and Neal Pionk each had two assists.

The Jets have yet to lose back-to-back games this season and are now 3-0 following a defeat.

All three of the Wild goals were of the strange variety. The Wild opened the scoring on a goal that was initially waved off. Connor Hellebuyck kicked the puck into his own net for the Wild's second marker and then Luke Schenn kned in the go-ahead goal.

Minnesota has just one win in their last eight games.

Arniel was left frustrated with his team's inconsistent play in Sunday's loss, pointing to their poor second periods and they certainly weren't any better in the middle frame again versus the Wild getting outshot 13-5.

"We got to find a way to play 60 minutes of hockey," said Niederreiter. "There's times we showed what we're capable of doing and there's times where we're trying to be too cute, have too many turnovers and let teams get back in."

"We're a veteran group. We know exactly what we're supposed to do and what we have to do to wear teams down. And I think it's something which we just got to find a way, knowing that if we play the right way, we don't have to always make it so hard on ourselves."

In 10 games this season the Jets have given up 12 goals in the second stanza but they're the only team in the NHL yet to lose on the road. now 4-0 away from home.

"It's a resilient group here," said Connor. "We've shown parts of, I think every game this season, of what this team can be. And we stuck with it, and we just found a way to win."

The Wild had the puck in the Jets' end a lot in the opening period, but it was Winnipeg who emerged with a 2-0 lead after 20 minutes.

After a chaotic sequence in their own end, Winnipeg brought the puck up the ice and into the Minnesota zone. The puck cycled back to the point where Stanley sent a shot towards the net. In a mass of bodies, Vilardi tracked down the rebound and batted the puck into the net for his second of the season at the 12:16 mark.

Just 22 seconds later, the Jets doubled down. Pionk sent a shot from the point intentionally wide that Namestnikov got a stick on to redirect it through Filip Gustavsson to make it 2-0.

Minnesota outshot the Jets 16-9 in the first and continued to outshoot Winnipeg in the second as they pushed to get even.

Just over six minutes into the period, the Wild got on the board. Jared Spurgeon got a shot on goal, leading to a wild scene in the crease where almost every player on the ice surrounded the net, and eventually Kirill Kaprizov banged home a loose puck to make it 2-1.

Minnesota should have tied the game around the 11-minute mark. Vladimir Tarasenko took a shot from the slot that was stopped by Hellebuyck, but the rebound trickled to the side of the net. Joel Eriksson Ek had a wide open net but couldn't tuck the puck in, jamming it into the post before sliding it through the crease.

But the Wild got even anyway at the 13:12 mark. Pionk blew a tire in his own end, gifting the puck to Minnesota and creating an odd-man situation. It led to a one-timer off the stick of Brock Faber going high over the net, ricocheting off the boards back in front and careening off the pad of an unsuspecting Hellebuyck into the goal for a strange equalizer.

Minnesota outshot the Jets 13-5 in the second and had a 29-15 edge in shots through 40 minutes.

Early in the third, Minnesota's lethal power play cashed in to give them their first lead. Hellebuyck stopped an initial point shot from Faber but on the ensuing net-front scramble, the puck bounced off the knee of Schenn and into the net. Marcus Johansson got credit for the marker.

But the Jets fought back and leveled the score at the 11:35 mark. Nyquist carried the puck into the Wild end and tried to centre a pass to Morgan Barron but it bounced off a skate and back to him. He drove the net and attempted to get a shot through, which was blocked, but a third try went off Niederreiter and into the net to tie the game.

The score stayed level through regulation before the Jets got the job done at 3-on-3.

After the Wild began the overtime session with possession, the Jets got the puck. Josh Morrissey carried it up the ice and into the Minnesota end before passing to the wing to Mark Scheifele. He waited for Connor to drift into the slot where he received a pass and whipped it low to Gustavsson's blocker-side to end the contest.

Hellebuyck made 33 saves as the Jets improved to 7-3 on the season.

Jonathan Toews will play his ex-team for the first time on Thursday when the Jets host the Chicago Blackhawks.

### **Winnipeg Free Press**

<https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/breakingnews/2025/10/28/connor-caps-comeback-after-jets-blow-early-lead>

#### ***Connor caps comeback after Jets blow early lead***

By: Ken Wiebe

ST. PAUL – This time, the second-period woes didn't come back to haunt the Winnipeg Jets.

Despite allowing a 2-0 lead to evaporate by giving up three consecutive goals, the Jets got the equalizer from Nino Niederreiter in the third period before Kyle Connor ensured the extra point by scoring 46 seconds into overtime to secure the 4-3 victory over the Minnesota Wild on Tuesday at Grand Casino Arena.

"He's as good as it gets, right? He's unbelievable the way he shoots the puck and the way he does the little things," said Niederreiter. "It's pretty remarkable to watch."

Out with Mark Scheifele and Josh Morrissey, Connor did what he does best after getting the puck after a smooth zone entry, burying a wrister for his fifth goal of the campaign and the 61st game-winning goal of his career.

"They're cohesive out there. They kind of read off of each other," said Jets head coach Scott Arniel. "That criss-crossing and sort of scissoring they do when they cross into the O-zone, it puts defenders on their heels. It usually opens up somebody and that's kind of what happened there."

Connor has a knack for delivering in those moments and this was the latest instalment.

"Once one team gets possession, in overtime, it's always being patient, you don't want to open something up... and I thought we did that," said Connor. "I just found some quiet ice. I was trying to get (the shot) through a screen. Saw a little hole on the far side."

That little hole on the far side was all he needed as the Jets improved to 7-3-0 on the season.

They'll host the Chicago Blackhawks on Thursday at Canada Life Centre to open a two-game homestand.

Let's take a closer look at what transpired Tuesday in this battle of Central Division rivals.

*THE DEBATE* – The first goal from the Wild had the Jets coaching staff starting at the iPad and strongly considering a coach's challenge.

After Jets defenceman Neal Pionk turned the puck over, Wild captain Jared Spurgeon ripped a shot over the net that went high up in the air and got behind goalie Connor Hellebuyck.

During the mad scramble, Wild forward Matt Boldy tried to jam home the puck but appeared to catch the pad of Hellebuyck.

However, after lengthy deliberation, the Jets decided against the coach's challenge, thinking the evidence wasn't conclusive in the allotted time to try and take the goal off the board.

"We had a little bit of everything going on that one," said Arniel. "The very first one was a high stick. It looked like a high stick. Then we finally found an angle. That's tough in that 30 seconds for (video coaches) Matty (Prefontaine) and James (Cochrane) to try to find everything. Then it was, 'Where was the puck? Was it under Helly's pad? Did they pitchfork him?' That type of thing, push him in the net. Man, we got right up to the end of it and it was a tough one. At the end of the day, the puck was laying there and I think there was some contact, but I don't know if we could have found it quick enough to make that call."

*THE SHUFFLE* – Arniel was looking for a spark in his middle-six, so he made a tweak on three of his four lines.

While keeping the top trio together, Arniel moved Vladislav Namestnikov to the wing on the second line with Jonathan Toews and Alex Iafallo.

Namestnikov helped the move pay dividends by scoring his second goal of the campaign at 12:38 of the first period while giving the Jets two goals in a span of 22 seconds.

Niederreiter's marker came after the initial shot by Nyquist was blocked, but he stayed with it and the puck got over to his linemate for the equalizer.

Earlier in the day, Nyquist spoke openly about the need to provide some more offence and being involved on the tying goal is sure to provide a confidence boost.

"You always want to get on the board when you come to a new team or when you're an offensive threat like he is," said Niederreiter. "And if things aren't going the way you want them to go, things lead into frustration and it can be hard to play the game. We all do it."

The Jets have used a number of different permutations and combinations in the middle-six and using Namestnikov on the wing could be a hint at what could come once captain Adam Lowry is cleared to return.

Provided everyone stays healthy, moving Namestnikov to the wing makes a lot of sense, given his versatility.

The corresponding move saw Morgan Barron promoted to third-line centre and that makes sense given his strong start to the campaign. He also brings speed and size to the line with Nino Niederreiter and Gustav Nyquist.

Parker Ford was inserted for Nikita Chibrikov and he centred a fourth line with Tanner Pearson and Cole Koepke.

“They clicked well together and that is what you hope,” said Arniel. “I just like the fact it is spread out, and it isn’t just (about) the other team trying to shut down our top line and we are not getting contributions from anyone else. I thought that was, not just goals, but scoring chances, which there were a lot more of.”

When you consider how disappointed Arniel was after the last game with the Utah Mammoth, giving the energetic Ford another chance made sense on a number of levels.

Ford gave the Jets another right-handed faceoff option and he’s played his role well in his three games this season.

*THE LESSON* – After another strong first period helped the Jets build a 2-0 cushion, a tough second period nearly caused Winnipeg to drop a third game in four outings.

The Jets steadied themselves in the third and handed the Wild another tough loss.

“I mean, it’s within us. We’re a veteran group. We know exactly what we’re supposed to do and what we have to do to wear teams down,” said Niederreiter. “That’s just something (where) we’ve got to find a way, knowing that if we play the right way, we don’t always have to make it so hard on ourselves.”

*THE KEY PLAY* – Kyle Connor ripped a shot past Filip Gustavsson 46 seconds into overtime.

#### *THE THREE STARS*

Kyle Connor, Jets – Buried the OT winner, had four shots on goal, seven shot attempts.

Brock Faber, Wild – 1G, 1A

Logan Stanley, Jets – 2A.

*EXTRA, EXTRA* – Following the morning skate, Arniel confirmed sending Lowry down to the Manitoba Moose of the American Hockey League for a brief conditioning stint was under consideration but a final decision had not yet been made. Lowry continues to progress, but the next step for him would be to take some contact before he receives full medical clearance.

“Yeah, it is a possibility,” said Arniel. “He’s really getting close here. We’ve just got to decide what days we’re going to practice because if he just keeps getting morning skates, it’s not doing him any good. We’re just trying to make sure that when he’s ready to go that he’s been in a couple of different scenarios where he’s been able to battle.”

The healthy scratches for the Jets were defenceman Colin Miller and forwards Nikita Chibrikov and Brad Lambert.



<https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/breakingnews/2025/10/28/nyquist-improving-all-the-time-arniel>

***Nyquist improving 'all the time': Arniel  
Strides taken as Jets journeyman winger settles into new system***

By: Ken Wiebe

ST. PAUL, Minn. – Gustav Nyquist is still searching.

The Winnipeg Jets winger feels the transition is coming along, perhaps not as quickly as he would like, but strides forward are being taken nonetheless.

No, the offensive totals are not eye-popping, with three assists to show for his first nine games going into Tuesday's contest with the Minnesota Wild.

Yet, Nyquist is adapting to a new system and has been churning through a high number of different linemates during the first month of the campaign.

But, by his own admission, Nyquist has been forced to adapt to new circumstances during the past four seasons, so he has a plan of attack for his own integration.

"It has been okay," Nyquist said matter-of-factly following the morning skate. "Obviously, it would be nice to find a little more offence out there, but it's something we're working on in practice and talking about. It comes from the defensive perspective, too. We have to make sure we clean some things up there and offence can come from there. That's what we're focusing on."

Nyquist, now 36, has been around the block so he's not about to get frazzled by a relatively slow offensive start.

The Swedish forward also recognizes he's got more to give, a byproduct of what can be found on the back of his hockey card. That includes four seasons north of 20 goals, nine of 11 goals or more and nine times with 40 points or more — and six times with 48 or more.

"In the past, I've scored some goals and it's something that I still think I can do in this league and I want to do in this league," said Nyquist. "It's just a matter of finding (it). When you haven't scored to start the season off, you're gripping your stick a little bit tighter and stuff like that. Hopefully I'll get one here soon and go from there."

Nyquist is coming off an extremely tough season with the Nashville Predators and Minnesota Wild, one that included a precipitous drop in points from a career-high of 75 in 2023-24 to 11 goals and 28 points.

When that happens for a veteran, there are questions about whether the decline is underway or if it's simply an anomaly.

By signing a one-year deal with the Jets, Nyquist was clearly banking on himself to bounce back.

The expectation wasn't necessarily rebound to somewhere in the vicinity of 75 points, but when you're used regularly in the middle-six forward group, there's a certain level of expectation of production that comes with the territory.

Asked for some insight on what went well during the flying-high campaign with the Predators, when he was used primarily on the top line with Ryan O'Reilly and Filip Forsberg and had ample time on the top power-play unit, Nyquist felt it was a matter of a lot of things coming together.

"You click with some guys. It takes longer, it takes shorter," said Nyquist. "We found each other pretty good right away. Every year, every guy has a little bit of a different role. A lot changed that year (last year). Things change and sometimes it doesn't work out."

Predators head coach Andrew Brunette was succinct when asked recently what Nyquist is doing well when he's feeling confident and in the groove.

"He's jumping," said Brunette. "It's almost like he's dancing when he's playing his best. He's such a shifty, agile player."

The influx of forwards like Steven Stamkos and Jonathan Marchessault in free agency brought a reduction in Nyquist's ice time and provided him with a reduced role after he got off to a slow start.

When the Predators started moving out some veterans last spring, Wild general manager Bill Guerin acquired Nyquist prior to the deadline for the second time in the past three years.

Nyquist fit in masterfully in 2023, chipping in five assists in a six-game playoff series.

However, last spring as the Wild were knocked out by the Vegas Golden Knights, Nyquist was held off the scoresheet entirely after making a limited impact upon his arrival that included two goals and seven points in 22 games during the regular season.

"I had a great time here, both times. Nothing but great things to say about this place," said Nyquist when asked about his experience with the Jets closest geographical rival. "It's always a bit weird coming back to a place you previously played, but I've played for quite a few teams, so it happens every now and then."

Nyquist has a great appreciation for Wild superstar Kirill Kaprizov, who inked a lucrative eight-year extension that's the biggest contract in NHL history to date.

"He's an amazing player," said Nyquist, who was originally chosen by the Detroit Red Wings in the fourth round (121st overall) of the 2008 NHL draft and — after Tuesday's contest — has 873 regular-season games on his resumé to go along with 83 more in the playoffs. "He's one of the best players in the league and one of those players that can drive a line. He does a lot for this team."

Jets head coach Scott Arniel has seen some encouraging signs from Nyquist, including four shots on goal in Sunday's 3-2 loss to the Utah Mammoth.

"He's gotten better and better as the games have gone on," said Arniel. "Obviously, he has the hockey smarts and the ability to read plays. He does stuff with the puck that others can't. He's probably one to admit it first that he'd like to see a little bit more offence from himself."

“But at the same time, like a lot of our new guys, they’re finding their way and sort of getting themselves acclimated to how we do our business and go about things. There’s improvement all the time, each and every day and that’s what I’ve been hoping for.”

## **Winnipeg Sun**

<https://winnipeg.sun.com/sports/hockey/nhl/winnipeg-jets/what-a-wild-night-as-the-jets-beat-minnesota-4-3-in-overtime>

### ***What a Wild night as the Jets beat Minnesota 4-3 in overtime***

By Gordon Anderson

A familiar name propelled the Jets to a fourth consecutive road victory.

Kyle Connor scored the game winner as the Jets beat the Minnesota Wild 4-3 in overtime on Tuesday night in St. Paul.

Mark Scheifele lugged the puck into the Wild zone and dished the puck to Connor, streaking alone in the slot. Connor received the pass and quickly zipped a shot through the legs of Filip Gustavsson just 46 seconds into the extra session.

The Jets are 4-0-0- on the road this season and 3-3-0 at home.

The goal was Connor’s fifth of the season.

“Connor is as good as it gets,” Nino Niederreiter told reporters in St. Paul.

Nino Niederreiter tied the game at 11:35 of the third period. The goal was his fourth of the season. Gus Nyquist and Morgan Barron picked up the assists.

Gabe Vilardi and Vlad Namestnikov also scored for the Jets in regulation.

Minnesota outshot the Jets 36-22. Winnipeg is 7-2-0 in games where they are outshot.

Connor Hellebuyck stopped 33 shots in regulation.

Brock Faber, Kirill Kaprizov and Marcus Johansson scored for the Wild.

The Jets host the Chicago Blackhawks on Thursday. The game will mark the first time Jonathan Toews will face his former team.

One item from Scott Arniel’s post-game briefing following the loss to the Utah Mammoth on Sunday was the lack of bodies at the net.

The Jets scored twice in the first period, both goals resulting from traffic at the net.

Vilardi’s second of the season achieved its stated desire when Logan Stanley tossed the puck at the net with several players in front of Gustavsson. The puck hit the mess of bodies before Vilardi bunted the puck into the back of the net. Arniel has said on several occasions that Vilardi

has to be at least 10 feet in front of the net to be effective. Namestnikov's fourth of the season occurred when Neal Pionk shot the puck at the net with Alex Iafallo batting with two Wild defenders for position. Namestnikov was behind Iafallo and managed to tip Pionk's into the back of the net. The goals came 22 seconds apart.

Another hot button topic in the aftermath of Sunday's game was the poor performance during the second period. Arniel termed it way "way too sloppy, way too easy for the opposition."

The Wild outscored the Jets 2-0 in the middle frame. Minnesota outshot the Jets 13-5 and had the better of the high danger chances at 6-2, according to Natural Stat Trick

Faber's first goal of the season should be filed under the lucky bounce category. His shot from the slot went over the net, the puck slamming off the end glass and back to the front of the net, hitting Hellebuyck and bouncing into the net. Kaprisov's goal was almost an exact replica of both Winnipeg goals. The puck was in the crease, with numerous bodies fighting for space, and the Russian managed to jam the puck into the back of the net from the blue paint. Minnesota's third goal was another example of traffic at the net. Johansson was credited with the goal, but Luke Schenn knocked the puck into his own net as he was falling to ice.

<https://winnipeg.sun.com/sports/hockey/nhl/winnipeg-jets/jets-mired-in-multiple-second-period-slumps>

### ***Jets mired in multiple second-period slumps***

By Gordon Anderson

Nearly three weeks into the regular season, and Jets head coach Scott Arniel is on slow boil with his team's middling and inconsistent play.

"It's time to end that stuff," Arniel said after Sunday's 3-2 loss to the Utah Mammoth. "It's about playing a 60-minute game in this league. What we did in the first period (against Utah) was hard work and it has to happen each and every shift and it has to happen from all four lines and all of our defencemen."

The second period on Sunday started brightly with Dylan DeMelo spotting the Jets a 1-0 lead 45 seconds into the second period. Utah then responded with two goals 64-seconds apart, Mikhail Sergachev and Michael Carcone filling the net behind Connor Hellebuyck. The Jets got on even terms when Mark Scheifele knotted the game with a powerplay marker at 15:09.

Dylan Guenther grabbed the game-winning goal at 14:24 of the final frame. Guenther has five goals this season. He leads the league in game-winning goals with four.

Despite the even numbers on the scoreboard after 40 minutes Arniel wasn't pleased with the effort calling it "way too sloppy, way too easy for the opposition."

All the check points that go into making the Jets a winning hockey club—getting the puck in deep, defending from the inside out, attacking the net and thinking the game through—didn't happen enough in the second.

At least, not to Arniel's liking.

“That’s our DNA, our work ethic and compete level, and I didn’t like what (I) saw in the second period,” he said.

DeMelo essentially said the same thing with his post-game remarks.

“The goals obviously stand out because they were goals, but there was just stuff throughout the game— things we preach on all year that we haven’t been able to do for 60 minutes with regards to gaining zones, getting pucks in, establishing our forecheck,” DeMelo said. “It seems like the second period has been our Achilles heel in regard to our drop off, for some reason.”

DeMelo’s tally, a point shot that pinged off the right post behind netminder Vitek Vanecsek, was his first goal of the season.

Utah outshot the Jets 16-8 in the middle stanza. The locals have been outshot 116 to 81 in the second period heading into NHL action on Tuesday night. According to Natural Stat Trick, the Mammoth had nine high danger chances with six of them occurring in the second period.

“(The second period problems) seem to be a little bit of a recurring theme,” defenceman Josh Morrissey said.

Morrissey notched his 300th assist when he drew the primary assist on Scheifele’s eighth goal of the season. Morrissey assisted on both Winnipeg goals. He also picked up three assists in the home win over Calgary on Friday night. He has six assists, dating back to last Monday against the Flames. The Calgary native reached 300 helpers in 671 regular-season games.

Despite the lack of on-ice consistency in October, Arniel plans to keep “hammering it home.”

“It’s stuff that we’ve been showing, and we’ve been talking about it,” Arniel said. “And it’s going to be one of those situations that doesn’t get any better unless we start to do it on a consistent basis for each and every period.”

The Jets are in Minnesota on Tuesday night to play the Wild for their first regular season encounter with this Central Division foe.

### **Associated Press**

<https://www.sportsnet.ca/nhl/article/kyle-connor-scores-overtime-winner-as-jets-beat-wild/>

### ***Kyle Connor scores overtime winner as Jets beat Wild***

By Associated Press

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Kyle Connor's wrist shot 46 seconds into overtime gave the Winnipeg Jets a 4-3 victory over the Minnesota Wild on Tuesday night, their ninth straight win against their Central Division rival.

Connor scored his fifth goal of the season off a clean look from the slot after a drop pass from Mark Scheifele.

Nino Niederreiter scored the tying goal midway through the third period for the Jets, who took a 2-0 lead in the first when Gabriel Vilardi and Vladislav Namestnikov scored on deflected shots 22 seconds apart.

Kirill Kaprizov and Brock Faber scored in the second period and Marcus Johansson got the go-ahead goal on a power play early in the third for the Wild, who outshot the Jets 38-22. Johansson was credited with his fourth goal in the last three games when Faber's shot bounced around the goalmouth and glanced off Jets' defenceman Luke Schenn's knee.

Logan Stanley and Neal Pionk each had two assists for the Jets (7-3-0), who improved to 4-0 on the road this season after their first game that passed regulation. Winnipeg's last loss to Minnesota was at home on March 8, 2023.

The Wild (3-5-3), who had allowed 22 goals over their first four home games including losses last weekend to Utah (6-2) and San Jose (6-5 in overtime), fell to 1-5-2 when their opponent scores first.

Kaprizov, who posted his first even-strength goal out of a team-high six this season, passed Zach Parise for fourth place on the franchise's list for career points (401). Kaprizov trails Mikko Koivu (709), Marian Gaborik (437) and active defenceman Jared Spurgeon (418).

Gaborik and former teammates Brian Rolston, Stephane Veilleux and Pierre-Marc Bouchard took part in the ceremonial puck drop as part of the Wild's season-long 25th anniversary commemoration.

#### *UP NEXT*

Jets: Host the Chicago Blackhawks on Thursday.

Wild: Host the Pittsburgh Penguins on Thursday

#### **The Athletic**

<https://www.nytimes.com/athletic/6757555/2025/10/29/winnipeg-jets-after-10-games/>

#### ***After 10 games, 7 Winnipeg Jets takeaways and what they mean***

By Murat Ates

Scott Arniel stopped short of picking apart his 7-3-0 Winnipeg Jets.

"I don't ever want to talk down on being 7-3 but we still haven't come close to playing our complete game yet," he told reporters in Minnesota on Tuesday.

Kyle Connor had just capped off the Jets' comeback, beating the Wild 4-3 in overtime, and the Jets had done some good things in front of Minnesota's net but created a lot of their own problems, too. Arniel was thinking out loud about Winnipeg's first 10 games of the season — the good, the bad, the two steps forward and one step back.

His conclusion was that it's better to struggle and win.

"I like the fact that, even though we haven't played our best hockey, we're still sitting at 7-3."

Today, we dig into what Winnipeg has been doing well, what it hasn't, how it can get better, and more — from roster construction and lines through five-on-five struggles, special teams excellence, and a trio of overtime all-stars who have been nearly unbeatable at 3-on-3.

Here are seven takeaways from the Jets' first 10 games — and what they all really mean.

### *1. Never go into OT against Connor, Scheifele, and Morrissey*

Winnipeg's go-to overtime trio of Kyle Connor, Mark Scheifele, and Josh Morrissey dominate three-on-three hockey like it's schoolyard basketball and overtime is their "AND1" mixtape. There are picks, rolls, and weaves. There are one-on-one moves that embarrass defencemen and, when the opportunity opens up, there are goals like Connor's game-winner against Minnesota.

As you enjoy this clip, take a moment to guess Winnipeg's goals for and against with Connor, Scheifele, and Morrissey on the ice in OT.

(Answer on the other side of the clip.)

Connor, Scheifele, and Morrissey have beaten their OT opponents 11-1 since 2022-23. That's outrageous stuff from Winnipeg's three stars.

### *2. Winnipeg isn't chaining shifts together the way it used to*

There is a concept in hockey called a "handoff" shift. You might know it by a different name, but the idea is simple: One line hems the other team in its own zone for a long time — so long that the team on offence can pull off a line change and keep the pressure going against exhausted opponents. You know it when you see it — the pressure building, the expectation of great scoring chances, the belief that this is the moment that your team scores. You'd settle for a power play but this is the kind of moment that enrages you if it ends with, say, a harmless floater into the opposing goaltender's glove. (Just me?)

Winnipeg spent a large part of last season leaning on teams, chaining shifts together in the offensive zone. Adam Lowry's line was particularly great at this, turning forechecks into puck possession, cycling, and enough scoring chances to tire teams out — then hustling to the bench so that Scheifele, Connor, or whomever could come out and finish the job.

Here's a goal Lowry scored in the playoffs after Morgan Barron, Alex Iafallo, and Brandon Tanev buried the Stars in their own zone and got a full line change with the pressure still on.

There's a snarky part of my internal monologue that says: So what's the fix? "Hem teams in their own end more often" is as useful as telling them to score more!

I agree with the snark on this one. Some goals are a product of handoff shifts but handoff shifts are a product, too. Just try to take notice of how many times the Jets self-criticize for being "one and done" in the offensive zone.

### *3. Second period woes: Pace is a problem*

Arniel is a better judge of his team's effort levels than we can be. When he calls out his team for a lack of hustle, like he did on Sunday in Winnipeg, we should listen to him. There is insight there, along with the evident frustration, and Arniel is unlikely to have boiled over in front of the press without attempting to drill his message home with his players.

If work rate is a problem 10 games into the season, that's a major issue — the kind we haven't concerned ourselves with regarding these Jets since Rick Bowness' first season at the helm. (Remember "pushback"?) But there's another problem bubbling under the surface here.

What if Winnipeg is getting caught out of position not because of a lack of hustle but because of a lack of speed? It might be too simple to say Winnipeg's biggest problem is transition defence and second periods are an issue because the long change creates more transition play ... but I'm not sure it would be wrong. Winnipeg was beaten to pucks by Utah on Sunday and Minnesota on Tuesday, giving up inside ice (and goals) to superior pace. Even Vladimir Tarasenko's near miss in the second period was a case of three Jets forwards on the wrong side of the puck, an easy entry, and free offence as a result.

#### *4. Winnipeg's power play is as dynamic as ever*

Arniel talks about Winnipeg's special teams in terms of the number of options they have to work with.

"There's only so many looks that come from a power play. It's about execution, shot, retrievals, those types of things we talk about our power play always doing and that's why our power play has success — because we do things repetitively," he said last week.

The Jets succeed on the power play because they have more dangerous options than opposing teams can handle. Take away Plan A and Winnipeg will burn you with Plan B. Take away Plan B, and Alex Iafallo will score from the slot.

When you watch this clip, ask yourself why the Flames defenceman is lying down.

A stationary position like that is certainly a choice, but consider Vilardi's Plan A option — a forehand pass to Alex Iafallo. The Jets make that play so consistently that it has to be respected with some kind of commitment, whether the D stays on his feet or not. Vilardi's Plan B is probably walking across the netfront, which keeps the weakside defenceman concerned, but he pulls off a surprising third play that Iafallo buries.

If the Flames' defence doesn't trust that Winnipeg can burn them with any one of those options, then Calgary can cheat. If it believes Vilardi can make the play, then it has to respect his options. That is how power plays open up space.

#### *5. Winnipeg's \$3 million to \$4 million collection of Swiss Army Knives is paying dividends*

If you could snap your fingers and add another star to the Jets — picture a prime Dustin Byfuglien carrying two Vegas Golden Knights, I dare you — you'd probably do it. In the meantime, Winnipeg is getting a lot of value from a group of veterans making the NHL equivalent of a middle class income.

Nino Niederreiter, Vladislav Namestnikov, Alex Iafallo, and Gustav Nyquist play key roles at even strength and across both special teams. The 33-year old Niederreiter (\$4 million, seven points in 10 games), 32 year old Namestnikov (\$3 million, five points in 10 games), and 31 year old Iafallo (\$3.67 million, four points in 10 games) have contributed secondary scoring as well as tenacity and grit, giving Winnipeg plenty of worker bees in its middle six. The 36-year-old Nyquist (\$3.25 million, four points in 10 games) doesn't bring the same physical engagement and the hope is that he'll provide more secondary scoring when Winnipeg's roster gets healthy.



Niederreiter, Namestnikov, and Lafallo were all acquired by trade, at good prices, and have all re-signed in Winnipeg since those trades. That's good asset management by the Jets.

#### *6. Winnipeg's penalty kill has opened the season on a heater*

Davis Payne's attention to detail creates options for the Jets' power play. Dean Chynoweth's homework contributes to the penalty kill, ranked second in the NHL prior to Luke Schenn's accidental knee against the Wild.

Winnipeg's penalty kill understands the options available to opposing power plays.

"If the PK knows that if a certain team is in a setup, if that's a 1-3-1 or an overload one-time set, we have an idea where the next plays are," Arniel said. "When it goes to the goal line, what are his options going to be and who are going to be the most dangerous people?"

The Jets' goal is to make their best, most educated guess about the other team's biggest threats, take away as many of those as possible, and allow that Plan C or Plan D is sometimes going to work.

"Dean (Chynoweth) has done a really good job of getting these guys to anticipate what the opposition (will do) ... Let's say it's a (Steven) Stamkos with a one-timer or (Filip) Forsberg and that kind of look (the Predators) have where Forsberg is a strong side shot and Stamkos has the one-timer. We kind of anticipate or have an idea of what their next plays are going to be," Arniel said.

Winnipeg has steadily improved in terms of zone time, shots allowed, and scoring chances allowed on the PK this season, moving from some of the league's worst numbers to something approaching average. The goaltending remains great, so Winnipeg's PK stays close to the top of the table.

#### *7. What Lambert and Chibrikov's minutes mean in the long run*

Winnipeg hasn't graduated a full-time NHL player to its own roster since Cole Perfetti and Dylan Samberg each cleared 50 games in 2022-23.

That's why it's such a big deal to me that Brad Lambert, Nikita Chibrikov, and Parker Ford made the roster out of camp. This wasn't a guaranteed outcome, nor were Lambert and Chibrikov so far clear of the grey area that usually sees waivers-exempt players sent to the AHL. I believe this represents a shift in Winnipeg's thinking: It seems to me that the Jets are not only aware of the need for a next generation of players but starting to feel the weight of it.

It's true that Adam Lowry's injury created one opening, but the Jets put capable AHL veterans (with NHL experience) like Walker Duehr and Jaret Anderson-Dolan on waivers to make room. They also waived their 2018 second-round pick, David Gustafsson, and their 2019 first-round pick, Ville Heinola, when they could simply have assigned Lambert, Chibrikov, or Ford directly to the Moose.

Have those players seized their NHL minutes, so as to never risk AHL assignment again? No, not remotely. It makes sense that they're first in line for Moose minutes once Lowry, Perfetti, and Samberg return to the lineup. I think it's still worth noting the Jets' awakening on this front. Whether it pays off this season or down the road, their efforts to integrate young players have not gone unnoticed.

**TSN.ca**

<https://www.tsn.ca/video/2025/10/28/grading-toews-at-the-10-game-mark/>

***Grading Toews at the 10-game mark (VIDEO)***

Jonathan Toews has contributed two goals and three assists this season and ahead of his 10th game in his return with the Jets, Domino's That's Hockey assesses how he has performed thus far.

<https://www.tsn.ca/nhl/video/2025/10/29/connor-comes-through-in-overtime-as-jets-continue-dominance-of-wild/>

***Connor comes through in overtime as Jets continue dominance of Wild (VIDEO)***

Kyle Connor came through with the game-winning goal in overtime as the Jets beat the Wild for the ninth consecutive time. TSN Hockey analyst Kevin Sawyer breaks down Winnipeg's win in Minnesota and how they took the victory despite not being at their best.