

29-15-12



PENGUINS V S



28-27-2

A-VERY GOOD NHL DEBUT

Avery Hayes made his NHL debut in dramatic fashion in the Penguins' last game before the Olympic Break on February 5 in Buffalo, scoring two goals in the first period of his first game.

- Hayes became the 12th rookie to suit up for the Penguins this season - a mark that ranks first in the NHL.

Rookies to Play in 2025-26

NHL

1. Pittsburgh	12
2. Chicago	8
2. San Jose	8
2. Minnesota	8
2. Montreal	8



- Hayes scored 9:18 minutes into the game, becoming the 24th player in Penguins history, and first since Kasper Bjorkqvist in 2021-22, to score in his NHL debut.
- Nine minutes and 29 seconds later, Hayes potted his second career goal and became the third player in Penguins history to score multiple times in his NHL debut, joining Jake Guentzel (2G on Nov. 21, 2016) and Rob Brown (2G on Oct. 21, 1987).
- Hayes became the seventh player in NHL history - and just the fourth since 1917 - to score multiple goals in the first period of his NHL debut:

Players to Score Multiple Goals in the First Period of NHL Debut

Player	Season	Date	Goals
Henry Hyland	1917-18	Dec. 19, 1917	3
Joe Malone	1917-18	Dec. 19, 1917	2
Harry Cameron	1917-18	Dec. 19, 1917	2
Al Hill	1976-77	Feb. 14, 1977	2
Auston Matthews	2016-17	Oct. 12, 2016	2
Jake Guentzel	2016-17	Nov. 21, 2016	2
Avery Hayes	2025-26	Feb. 5, 2026	2

- Hayes, who signed his first NHL contract with the Penguins on March 13, 2015, became the 12th undrafted player to score multiple goals in his NHL debut in League history (since the NHL Draft began in 1963).
- Fellow rookie forward Ben Kindel also potted two goals in the 5-2 win in Buffalo, marking the sixth time a set of Penguins rookies each scores two goals in the same game:

Penguins Rookies to Each Score 2 Goals in Same Game

Players	Date
Pierre Larouche (2) & Dennis Owchar (2)	Nov. 20, 1974
Mario Lemieux (2) & Troy Loney (2)	Jan. 12, 1985
Mario Lemieux (2) & Troy Loney (2)	Feb. 20, 1985
Mark Kachowski (2) & Dave McLlwain (2)	Dec. 17, 1987
Sidney Crosby (2) & Michel Ouellet (2)	Jan. 3, 2006
Avery Hayes (2) & Ben Kindel (2)	Feb. 5, 2026

IN RUST WE TRUST

Bryan Rust returns from the Olympic Break one goal away from joining Sidney Crosby and Anthony Mantha with 20 goals on the year.

- This would mark Rust's seventh season with 20 goals. Only six players in Penguins history have recorded more than seven 20-goal seasons with the team:

20-Goal Seasons

Penguins History

1. Sidney Crosby	18	5. Rick Kehoe	9
2. Evgeni Malkin	15	5. Jean Pronovost	9
3. Mario Lemieux	12	7. Jake Guentzel	7
4. Jaromir Jagr	11	8. Bryan Rust	6

- Rust is looking to become the sixth Penguin in franchise history to have seven-consecutive 20-goal seasons:

Consecutive 20-Goal Seasons in Franchise History

Player	Seasons	Start Season	End Season
Jaromir Jagr	11	1990-91	2000-01
Rick Kehoe	9	1974-75	1982-83
Jean Pronovost	9	1969-70	1977-78
Evgeni Malkin	7	2013-14	2019-20
Jake Guentzel	7	2017-18	2023-24
Bryan Rust	6	2019-20	2024-25
Sidney Crosby	6	3 Instances	
Mario Lemieux	6	1984-85	1989-90

TRADE ALERT

The Penguins acquired defenseman Samuel Girard and a 2028 second-round pick yesterday from the Colorado Avalanche in exchange for Brett Kulak.

- The 2022 Stanley Cup Champion is currently in his ninth NHL season, splitting his career between Colorado and the Nashville Predators. Girard has tallied three goals, nine assists, 12 points and a plus-12 in 40 games this season.
- The defenseman has recorded 37 goals, 198 assists and 235 points in 588 career NHL games. He has also added three goals, 25 assists and 28 points in 67 career playoff games.
- During his Avalanche tenure, only Cale Makar registered more assists than Girard's 198 among Colorado defenseman, while only Makar and Devon Toews have more goals and points than Girard in that span:

Assists Since 2017-18

Avalanche Defensemen

1. Cale Makar	354
2. Samuel Girard	198
3. Devon Toews	193

Points Since 2017-18

Avalanche Defensemen

1. Cale Makar	485
2. Devon Toews	245
3. Samuel Girard	232

- Among defensemen in Avalanche/Nordiques history, Girard ranks fourth in games played (583), fifth in assists (196) and eighth in points (232), while blocking the third-most shots among all players in franchise history (750).