

13-14-4 PENGUINS A



13-13-2

TOP LINE TRIO

Pittsburgh's top line of Sidney Crosby (3A), Bryan Rust (3G-1A) and Rickard Rakell (2G-2A) combined for 11 points on Thursday night in the team's ninegoal win against the Montreal Canadiens.

- Since the trio was put together on November 23, Crosby (1G-9A-10PTS), Rust (7G-5A-12PTS) and Rakell (6G-4A-10PTS) have combined for 32 points (14G-18A) in nine games.
- In that span, Rust's seven goals are the fifth most in the league and Rakell's six goals are the ninth most:

Goals

Since Nov. 23

1. Jake DeBrusk	10	5. Valeri Nichushkin	7
2. Jake Guentzel	9	5. Brad Marchand	7
3. Brayden Point	8	5. Oliver Bjorkstrand	7
3. Lucas Raymond	8	9. Rickard Rakell	6
5. Bryan Rust	7		

- Rakell recorded his second career four-point game on Thursday night, tying his single-game career high originally established Jan. 11, 2015 (2G-2A).
- Crosby recorded his 65th career three-assist game, which tied former Penguin Ron Francis for the fifth most in NHL history. It doubled as his 181st career three-point night, sitting just two behind Phil Esposito and Mark Messier (183) for the fifth most in NHL history.

Three-Assist Games

NHL History

1. Wayne Gretzky	224	4. Adam Oates	71
2. Mario Lemieux	108	5. Sidney Crosby	65
3. Paul Coffey	82	5. Ron Francis	65

■ Crosby also tied Steve Yzerman for seventh on the NHL's all-time multi-point games list with his 477th such game on Thursday.

TRUST IN RUST

Bryan Rust exploded for three goals and four points on Thursday night in Montreal for his sixth career hat trick and seventh career four-point game.

■ Rust's sixth hat trick tied Mike Bullard for the ninth most in Penguins history. Since he entered the league in 2014-15, no Penguin has more hat tricks than Rust:

Hat Tricks

Penguins Since 2014-15

	5	
1.	Bryan Rust	6
2.	Sidney Crosby	5
2.	Jake Guentzel	5
4.	Evgeni Malkin	4
5.	Kasperi Kapanen	2



Rust's second goal was his 28th career game-winning goal, which tied Chris Kunitz for the eighth most in Penguins history.

GOALS GALORE

The Penguins, who are coming off a nine-goal game on Thursday night in Montreal, are 6-2-0 since November 27 in large part due to their offensive output during that stretch.

- Pittsburgh's nine goals on Thursday night against the Canadiens were the most any team has scored in one game this season.
- Since Nov. 27, Pittsburgh's 4.50 goals-per-game average is the highest in the league:

Goals Per Game

Since Nov. 27

1.	Pittsburgh	4.50
2.	Tampa Bay	4.43
3.	Florida	4.00
4.	Edmonton	3.86
4.	Utah	3.86



- In that eight-game span, the Penguins have had 14 different goal scorers, with Bryan Rust and Rickard Rakell leading the way with seven and six goals apiece, respectively.
- On Thursday night, Matt Nieto scored his first goal since Nov. 5, 2023. He became the 20th Penguin to score a goal this season, a number that ranks third in the league:

Unique Goal Scorers

2024-25

1. Colorado	21	3. Buffalo	20
1. Philadelphia	21	3. Calgary	20
3. Pittsburgh	20	3. NY Rangers	20

BANG BANG

Kris Letang tallied his sixth goal of the season and has eight points (4G-4A) in his last six games dating back to November 30.

- Letang's four goals are his most in a six-game span since Feb. 20-Mar. 2, 2021 when he also recorded four goals and eight points.
- Since his hot streak began on Nov. 30, Letang leads all NHL defensemen in goals and ranks second in points:

Goals

Defensemen Since Nov. 30			
1.	Kris Letang	4	
2.	Jackson LaCombe	3	
2.	Vince Dunn	3	
4.	Damon Severson	2	
4.	Shea Theodore	2	

Points

Defensemen Since Nov. 30

4	1. Quinn Hughes	9
3	2. Kris Letang	8
3	3. Adam Fox	7
2	3. Noah Dobson	7
2	3. Vince Dunn	7

Letang is on pace for 17 goals this season, which would top his previous career-high mark of 16 recorded in 2015-16 and '18-19.