

19-21-8



PENGUINS

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25-13-5

TRUST IN RUST

Bryan Rust scored his 19th goal of the season on Saturday in Washington, which ranks second on the team behind only Rickard Rakell's 23 tallies.

■ Rust enters tonight's game just one goal away from hitting the 20-goal plateau for the sixth-consecutive season. With one more goal, he will tie Sidney Crosby and Mario Lemieux for the sixth-longest such run in franchise history:

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
Sidney Crosby	6	2013-14	2018-19
Sidney Crosby	6	2005-06	2010-11
Mario Lemieux	6	1984-85	1989-90
Bryan Rust	5	2019-20	2023-24

■ With one more goal, Rust will become the ninth player in Penguins history with six 20-goal seasons with the team:

20-Goal Seasons
Penguins History

1. Sidney Crosby	16	5. Jean Pronovost	9
2. Evgeni Malkin	15	7. Jake Guentzel	7
3. Mario Lemieux	12	7. Ron Francis	6
4. Jaromir Jagr	11	9. Bryan Rust	5*
5. Rick Kehoe	9		

*One goal from 20

■ Rust has goals in three-consecutive games entering tonight, which is the second-longest active goal streak in the league (Filip Forsberg, 5GP).

THE GRZELER

Matt Grzelcyk has been steadily putting up points this season, ranking second among Penguins defensemen and fourth on the team with 23 assists.

■ Grzelcyk has set a new career high this season with 23 helpers, surpassing his previous total of 22 set in 75 games during the 2022-23 season.

■ The defenseman is a driving force behind the Penguins' power play this season, totaling a career-high eight points on the man advantage (previous career high was six power-play points in 2019-20 & '20-21).

■ Grzelcyk enters tonight's game just two points away from tying his career-high point total of 26 set during the 2022-23 season with Boston.



POWERED UP

The Penguins' power play has been clicking as of late, scoring on the man advantage in nine of the last 13 games dating back to Dec. 23, going 15-for-40 (37.5%).

■ Stretching back further, the Penguins have 23 power-play goals over their last 23 games dating back to Nov. 30. In that span, the Penguins' 23 power-play goals lead the league and their 32.9 success rate ranks second:

Power-Play Percentage
Since Nov. 30

1. Pittsburgh	32.9%
2. Winnipeg	31.8%
3. Edmonton	31.5%
4. Tampa Bay	31.2%
5. Detroit	30.0%

Power-Play Goals
Since Nov. 30

1. Pittsburgh	23
2. Detroit	21
3. Winnipeg	20
4. Tampa Bay	19
5. Washington	17

HOW SWEDE IT IS

Rickard Rakell leads the Penguins with 23 goals this season, which is the fourth-highest goal total of his career.

■ Rakell has been on a tear since he was left off of Team Sweden's Four Nations roster on December 4. Since then, Rakell leads all Swedish-born players in goals and ranks second in points:

Goals

Swedish Players Since Dec. 4

1. Rickard Rakell	13
2. William Nylander	12
3. Adrian Kempe	10
3. Lucas Raymond	10
5. Victor Olofsson	7

Points

Swedish Players Since Dec. 4

1. Filip Forsberg	25
2. Rickard Rakell	24
3. Lucas Raymond	23
4. William Nylander	22
5. Adrian Kempe	18

■ Rakell has been a leading force behind Pittsburgh's strong play since November 27. In that span, Pittsburgh's 84 goals are the third most in the NHL and Rakell has accounted for 16 which rank second in the entire league in that span.

LIZZO'S RETURN

Blake Lizotte, who played the first six seasons of his professional career with the Los Angeles Kings organization from 2018-24, returns to Crypto.com Arena for the first time since joining the Penguins in the offseason.

■ In 320 regular-season games with the Kings, Lizotte tallied 106 points (37G-69A). During his five full seasons with Los Angeles, only four players skated in more games with the Kings than Lizotte:

Games Played with LAK
2019-24

1. Anze Kopitar	370
2. Adrian Kempe	362
3. Matt Roy	344
4. Drew Doughty	325
5. Blake Lizotte	319

