

20-24-8



PENGUINS

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21-21-7

TRUST IN RUST

Bryan Rust's 19 tallies on the season rank second on the Penguins behind only Rickard Rakell's 23.

- 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

THIS IS 40

Sidney Crosby enters tonight's game two assists away from becoming the first Penguin to hit the 40-assist plateau this season.

- With two more assists, Crosby will record his 16th career 40-assist season, which will tie Nicklas Lidstrom and Marcel Dionne for the fifth-most such seasons in NHL history:

40-Assist Seasons

NHL History

1. Ron Francis	19
1. Wayne Gretzky	19
3. Gordie Howe	18
4. Ray Bourque	17
5. Nicklas Lidstrom	16
5. Marcel Dionne	16
7. Sidney Crosby	15
7. Seven Players	15



TRICKY RICKY

Rickard Rakell enters tonight's game with points in four of his last five appearances (1G-3A) and 24 points (12G-12A) in his last 21 games.

- Rakell has been on a heater all season, but has been on a revenge tour since he was left off of Team Sweden's roster on December 4. Since then, the forward leads all Swedish players with 13 goals and ranks second with 26 points:

Goals

Swedish Players Since Dec. 4

1. Rickard Rakell	13
1. William Nylander	13
3. Adrian Kempe	12
4. Lucas Raymond	11
5. Filip Forsberg	9

Points

Swedish Players Since Dec. 4

1. Filip Forsberg	32
2. Rickard Rakell	26
2. Lucas Raymond	26
4. William Nylander	24
5. Jesper Bratt	21

- Rakell leads the Penguins with 23 goals on the season and ranks second with 42 points behind only Sidney Crosby's 53 points.

OHL PROSPECT CHECK IN

The Penguins have three prospects playing in the Ontario Hockey League this season with each having successful junior seasons in terms of production.

- Defensemen Emil Pieniniemi (Kingston Frontenacs) and Finn Harding (Brampton Steelheads), as well as forward Cooper Foster (Ottawa 67's) are among the top-five point getters on their respective teams:

Pittsburgh's Prospects in the OHL

Player	GP	Goals	Assists	Points	Team Rank
Emil Pieniniemi	39	6	36	42	5th
Cooper Foster	40	15	24	39	3rd
Finn Harding	44	5	32	37	4th

- Despite missing games while winning a silver medal with Team Finland at the World Junior Championship, Pieniniemi ranks fifth on his team with 42 points but leads all team defensemen in his first junior season with Kingston.

- Harding also leads all Steelheads defensemen with 37 points in 44 games in his third junior season and first with Brampton. His 32 assists and 37 points are both career-high marks.

- In his fourth season with the 67's, Foster leads all team forwards in assists (24) and ranks third on the team overall in goals (15), assists and points (39).

