

**Winnipegjets.com**

<https://www.nhl.com/jets/news/three-things-connor-and-lambert-lead-jets-past-pens>

***THREE THINGS: Connor and Lambert lead Jets past Pens  
Connor scores twice and Lambert gets first NHL goal in 5-2 win over Pittsburgh***

By Jamie Thomas

WINNIPEG – Brad Lambert scored his first career NHL goal and Kyle Connor added two in the Winnipeg Jets 5-2 win over the Pittsburgh Penguins at Canada Life Centre. Gabe Vilardi (1G, 1A) and Mark Scheifele (2A) also had multiple point efforts with Scheifele boosting his 2025-26 totals to 9-11—20 (12 GP) and matched Ilya Kovalchuk (12 GP in 2009-10) for the fastest player in Thrashers/Jets franchise history to reach 20 points in a season. Eric Comrie made 28 saves to remain unbeaten this season at 3-0. The Jets will head out on a six-game road trip that begins Tuesday in Los Angeles.

***QUICK START...LIKE REALLY QUICK.***

It didn't take the Jets long to get on the board as the Scheifele, Connor, Vilardi trio went to work right from the drop of the puck. Scheifele entered the Penguins zone, sent the puck over to Josh Morrissey who one-timed the puck at the net, Gabe Vilardi swooped in and banked the puck off Arturs Silovs into the net for a 1-0 lead, 15 seconds into the game.

"Yeah, I always say these afternoon games, it's whoever wakes up first, usually gets the gets the advantage," said head coach Scott Arniel.

"And our top line, we know what they've been doing for us that was great."

***FIRST ONE FOR LAMBO***

The Jets are a veteran heavy team, so it is rare when we get to see a first goal, assist or point. Brad Lambert recorded his first NHL assist in his first NHL game back on April 18, 2024, and the Finnish forward had to wait until his ninth NHL game for the first goal to give Winnipeg a 2-0 first period lead.

"Obviously, for sure I've been dreaming of that moment when you're playing road hockey as a kid, you're kind of envisioning those moments," said Lambert.

"It's pretty special."

The voice of the Moose, Daniel Fink, unleashed this fun fact on X soon after Lambert's big moment.

Connor was asked about the energy that comes when a teammate scores their first goal.

"We might be the oldest team in the NHL, I don't know the stat on that but it's pretty close. There's a lot of games, a lot of wisdom in there. You know, those guys have needed to step up with the injuries we've had," said Connor.

"Lows, Perfetti and Samberg, with them out there's some open roster (spots). They've done a great job, all three of those guys whether it's Chibrikov, Lambo or Fordo."

### **PENALTY SHOT!!!**

In the second period with the Jets leading 3-0 and playing shorthanded, Kyle Connor pressured Silovs into turning the puck over. As Connor made his way to the net, Silovs threw his stick, and Connor was awarded a penalty shot.

Per NHL Stats, Connor became the third player in Jets/Thrashers history to score a shorthanded penalty shot goal. The others: Eric Perrin (Feb. 2, 2008) and Patrik Stefan (Nov. 5, 2003).

### **NHL.com**

<https://www.nhl.com/news/pittsburgh-penguins-winnipeg-jets-game-recap-november-1-2025>

### ***Connor's 2 goals help Jets end Penguins point streak at 8 Forward converts on penalty shot, Winnipeg wins 3rd in row***

By Darrin Bauming

WINNIPEG -- Kyle Connor scored two goals, including one on a penalty shot, and the Winnipeg Jets ended the Pittsburgh Penguins' eight-game point streak with a 5-2 win at Canada Life Centre on Saturday.

"We were on our toes today, playing right. We were dialed in," Connor said. "We were just rolling them over early, keeping it simple, not turning the puck over in the neutral zone. That gets us rolling, gets all the lines into it right away."

Gabriel Vilardi had a goal and an assist, Mark Scheifele had two assists, and Brad Lambert scored his first NHL goal for the Jets (9-3-0), who have won three straight. Eric Comrie made 28 saves.

"I thought we played extremely fast," Winnipeg coach Scott Arniel said. "We got out of our zone fast. We got zone transition, we moved it quick, we didn't hold on to pucks. We didn't dust it off, we didn't take it back. That looks more like us from last year. It's been coming back into our game and it's been a lot better in the last three or four (games). We're hard to defend when we come after people with speed like that."

Sidney Crosby and Blake Lizotte scored for the Penguins (8-3-2), who were 6-0-2 during their point streak. Arturs Silovs made 29 saves.

Pittsburgh fell behind 2-0 at 2:43 of the first period.

"You get down, you start chasing the game a little bit," said Crosby, the Pittsburgh captain. "I think it's tough to fight that, but you've got to find a way to stay patient. You've got to understand there's a lot of hockey left. So, unfortunately, they got to build on that lead."

Vilardi gave Winnipeg a 1-0 lead 15 seconds into the first, banking a shot off Silovs at the right post.

"I always say [in] these afternoon games, it's whoever wakes up first usually gets the advantage," Arniel said. "Our top line, we know what they've been doing for us. That was great. Starting with the face-off, then getting in on the forecheck and the pressure, and yeah, those

types of things. That obviously got the building excited right away, and everybody's up on their toes now. And then for us to score shortly thereafter, make it 2-0 -- that puts a team, a visiting team, on their heels, and that's what you want to do."

Lambert, playing his ninth NHL game, extended the lead by tapping in a loose puck at the left post after Parker Ford's wraparound attempt.

"I've been dreaming of that moment," Lambert said. "When you're playing road hockey as a kid or whatever, you're kind of envisioning those moments, so it's pretty special. ... It's awesome. You couldn't write it up any better [and] I wouldn't have it any other way. [Ford] made a great play on that goal."

Vladislav Namestnikov pushed it to 3-0 at 1:17 of the second period by scoring for the third straight game (three goals). He redirected Jonathan Toews' centering pass on the rush.

"It's definitely too many odd-man rushes," Pittsburgh coach Dan Muse said. "That really hurt us. Then it became different reasons. ... I think also a lot of situations where they're coming in, the numbers might be even, but they have a lot of space. And when you give a team like that too much space, you're not going to like the chances. A big part of it [was] there tonight."

Connor then made it 4-0 at 12:13 after being awarded the penalty shot. With the Jets short-handed and Connor forechecking, Silovs lost the puck in the right corner and was penalized for throwing his stick at the puck with Connor attempting to put it into the empty net.

"It's kind of like a misplay," Silovs said. "He came so fast. I thought he was going to be a little bit slower, so I [didn't] have time to look up [to see] where he is."

Connor said, "This year we've really made a focus (on the penalty kill) just playing quicker, faster. If you have a chance you have the green light to go and pressure. For me, just using my quickness and anticipation to kind of read that next play. You're able to force plays. Obviously the main goal is to stop them from scoring goals, but you do get chances. You see it with our PK. We've got a lot of quick players with good sticks and you're able to break them up and get those 2-on-1s and a couple breakaways. I just think our system plays the way we try to play."

Crosby cut it to 4-1 on the power play at 19:48 when Erik Karlsson's point shot went in off his leg at the right side of the net.

"That's a good team we played," Crosby said. "I feel like it wasn't our best, so we've got to respond and bounce back and make sure that we finish off the trip good."

Lizotte made it 4-2 at 10:27 of the third period, scoring on a drive to the net when the puck went in off Comrie's stick.

"I thought in the third period there wasn't a moment where I felt like we stopped playing," Muse said. "I think the guys kept going. I think that there was -- even on the bench -- a feel there that we were going to get that next one."

Connor scored into an empty net at 18:39 for his second of the game and the 5-2 final.

**NOTES:** Scheifele (nine goals, 11 assists) became the first player to reach 20 points in the NHL this season. He also tied Ilya Kovalchuk (12 games in 2009-10) as the fastest players in

Jets/Atlanta Thrashers history to get to 20 points in a season and has 10 points (two goals, eight assists) in a five-game point streak. ... Vilardi has four goals in a three-game goal streak and nine points (five goals, four assists) in a five-game point streak. ... Jets defenseman Josh Morrissey (assist) has nine points (one goal, eight assists) in a five-game point streak. ... The Jets are 6-0-0 when leading after two periods this season. Winnipeg was 41-0-1 in that scenario in 2024-25, when it won the Presidents' Trophy with the best record in the NHL (56-22-4).

### **Canadian Press**

<https://globalnews.ca/news/11506593/comrie-makes-28-saves-jets-down-penguins-5-2/>

### ***Comrie makes 28 saves, Jets down Penguins 5-2***

By Geoff Kirbyson The Canadian Press

WINNIPEG – Rookie forward Brad Lambert scored his first NHL goal and backup goalie Eric Comrie made 28 saves for the red-hot Winnipeg Jets in a 5-2 win over the visiting Pittsburgh Penguins on Saturday.

Kyle Connor scored twice, including an empty-net goal, and Gabriel Valardi and Vladislav Namestnikov also scored for Winnipeg (9-3-0).

Sidney Crosby and Blake Lizotte countered and Arturs Silovs made 29 saves in a losing cause for Pittsburgh (8-3-2).

Vilardi scored 15 seconds after opening puck drop while fans were still in the Canada Life Centre concourses buying food and drink. He corralled a Josh Morrissey rebound and banked the puck off Silovs into the net.

Lambert struck at 2:43 when he was parked to Silovs' right and fellow freshman Parker Ford carried the puck behind the Penguins net and attempted a wrap around. The puck squirted through the crease for Lambert to convert.

The Jets burst out of the gate in the second period too. Namestnikov and Jonathan Toews rushed into the Penguins' zone and, after Toews hesitated with the puck for a split second, the Russian winger deflected a pass behind Silovs at 1:17 for Namestnikov's sixth of the season.

Connor scored on a penalty shot at 12:13 of the second. Silovs misplayed the puck in the Penguins' corner during a Pittsburgh power play and threw his stick when Connor lunged for the puck in front of an empty net.

Connor's backhand beat Silovs to the glove side for what was technically a short-handed goal for his seventh of the season.

Crosby scored Pittsburgh's first goal of the game with just 12 seconds remaining in the second, when the captain deflected Erik Karlsson's point shot behind Comrie.

The Penguins pulled within two goals just after the halfway point of the third. Lizotte crashed Comrie's crease for his second goal of the season.

### *Takeaways:*

Jets: Winnipeg's top line of Mark Scheifele, Kyle Connor and Gabriel Vilardi continued their torrid streak to start the season. Vilardi netted his fifth goal of the season, Connor scored his seventh and eighth goals while Scheifele recorded his 10th and 11th assists.

Penguins: The two Manitobans on Pittsburgh's roster — Owen Pickering and Connor Dewar — were on the ice for Winnipeg's first three goals.

### *Key moment*

The Jets set the tone in a hockey heavyweight battle when Vilardi put the home side in front just 15 seconds into the game, and after facing off against the Crosby line. It's the quickest the Jets have scored to start a game this season.

### *Key stat*

The Penguins kept one of the NHL's top power plays off the scoresheet in killing all three of their penalties. Coming into the contest, the Jets had scored 27.8 per cent of the time with the man advantage.

### *Up next*

Jets: Visit the Los Angeles Kings on Tuesday.

Penguins: Visit the Toronto Maple Leafs on Monday.

## **Winnipeg Free Press**

<https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/breakingnews/2025/11/01/jets-cool-off-high-flying-penguins>

### ***Jets cool off high-flying Penguins***

By: Mike McIntyre

The Winnipeg Jets finally came up with the complete game they'd been searching for. And now the reigning Presidents' Trophy winners find themselves in a familiar position: On top of the NHL standings.

A 5-2 victory over the Pittsburgh Penguins on Saturday afternoon was fuelled by a fast start — they needed just 15 seconds to open the scoring — and a pretty flawless 59:45 that followed.

Winnipeg improves to 9-3-0, which gives them a league-leading point percentage of .750.

"That looks more like us from last year," said Jets head coach Scott Arniel.

"I thought we played extremely fast. We got out of our zone fast. We got zone transition. We moved it quick. We didn't hold on to pucks. We didn't dust it off. We didn't take it back. We're hard to defend when we come after people with speed like that."

Making the victory even more impressive is the fact the Penguins came to town as the top team in the NHL, on a scorching 6-0-2 run. The Jets seemed to take the challenge of facing a high-flying opponent personally, serving up a stark reminder that they can be a real force themselves.

"We were dialled in," said Jets forward Kyle Connor, who led the way with two goals. "We were on our toes today, playing right."

That was evident right from the opening faceoff, as the Jets won possession and immediately went down and scored. The red-hot Gabe Vilardi banked a shot in off Pittsburgh goaltender Arturs Silovs, giving him five goals in the past five games.

"I always say these afternoon games, it's whoever wakes up first usually gets the advantage," said Arniel.

"And our top line, we know what they've been doing for us. That was great. Obviously got the building excited right away. And everybody's up on their toes now. Puts a team, a visiting team, on their heels, and that's what you want to do."

#### *First goal*

The party was just getting started. The crowd of 14,262 was still buzzing from the quick strike when Brad Lambert gave them another big reason to cheer.

The 21-year-old, playing in his ninth NHL game, scored his first big-league goal. Linemate Parker Ford fed him a perfect cross-ice pass which Lambert got a stick on just 2:43 into the opening period.

"I've been dreaming of that moment," said Lambert, the 30th-overall draft pick of the Jets in 2022. "When you're playing road hockey as a kid or whatever, you're kind of envisioning those moments so it's pretty special."

Lambert and Ford spent plenty of time playing together with the Manitoba Moose last season, so it was fitting they connected for his magic marker.

"You couldn't write it up any better. I wouldn't have it any other way. He made a great play on that goal," said Lambert, who came into the lineup in place of the injured Gustav Nyquist (undisclosed, day-to-day).

The Jets don't experience many "first goals" these days — they are a veteran squad, after all — but the excitement over this one was shared by teammates.

"Definitely awesome for Lambo. He's looked great," said Connor. "He was skating really well. For him to go to the net and score the way he did, it was great. We were happy for him."

And, it turns out, up to some post-game shenanigans when it comes to the rookie.

"I was actually looking for my clothes, I don't know where they went," Lambert said with a laugh. "I have yet to find out what's going on. They were over there at my stall when I went to play the game, and I came back and they were gone. We'll see if I can find them here."

#### *Bizarre goal*

File this one under "things you don't expect to see at a hockey game."

After Vlad Namestnikov made it 3-0 early in the second period — he finished off a terrific pass from Jonathan Toews — the Jets were continuing to press for more.

They made it 4-0 midway through the frame, courtesy of a penalty shot goal by Connor that had everyone reaching for the rulebook.

While on the power play, Silovs tried to play the puck up to a teammate only to throw it directly onto the stick of Connor, who looked like he had a free path to a wide-open net. The Penguins goaltender responded by throwing his stick in the direction of the Jets winger, who put the ensuing shot wide.

"I wasn't really sure what was going on," said Connor. "I actually didn't know the rule so I didn't know if they were discussing whether it was a goal. I didn't really expect a penalty shot. Nice I got another shot at it."

Some thought Connor should have been awarded an automatic goal. Turns out he would have been had the net truly been empty and a stick was tossed in his direction with the goalie on the bench for an extra attacker.

"That's a pretty unique play," said Connor, who is now up to eight goals after sealing the victory late in the third period with an empty netter.

#### *Local flavour*

The Penguins had a couple of Manitobans in their lineup, with plenty of family and friends in attendance.

Forward Connor Dewar (The Pas) and defenceman Owen Pickering (St. Adolphe) had tough starts to their day, with the duo being on the ice for the first three Winnipeg goals.

However, they were on the right side of the scoresheet midway through the third period as Blake Lizotte crashed the crease to cut the Jets lead to 4-2. Dewar, 26, registered an assist on the play and is now up to five points (3G, 2A) in 13 games.

#### *Scheifele's surge*

Mark Scheifele had a stellar October on the ice and his reward was being named the NHL's second star of the month on Saturday morning.

He got November off to a solid start, registering two assists, to give him 20 points (9G, 11A) through 13 games. That had him leading all NHL players heading into Saturday night's action.

Linemates Connor (8G, 9A) and Vilardi (5G, 8A) aren't too far behind him.

"It's unbelievable. Watching those guys every day in practice, there's so much you can learn from them," said Lambert.

"Just how good they are out there is special to watch. It's a great opportunity to be in this situation to see them day in and day out and what they do and try to learn from their game."

#### *Key play*

Vilardi's goal on the first shift of the game set the tone for what was to come.

#### *Three stars*

1. WPG LW Kyle Connor: 2 goals
2. WPG C Mark Scheifele: 2 assists
3. WPG G Eric Comrie: 28 saves

### *Extra extra*

The Jets went 0-for-3 on the power play, while Pittsburgh went 1-for-2. Sidney Crosby, who is showing no signs of slowing down, had an Erik Karlsson point shot bounce in off his pants late in the second period.

Jets defenceman Luke Schenn was replaced in the lineup by Colin Miller. Arniel said the move is related to a blocked shot by Schenn during the third period of Winnipeg's win over Chicago.

Comrie is now a perfect 3-0-0 on the year and giving the Jets plenty of confidence as the backup to Connor Hellebuyck.

"In all three of his games, he has been really good and gave us a chance," said Arniel.

"We know what this season looks like, what the schedule looks like and he's gonna have to play some more games. When he does that on a consistent basis you can see his teammates, they want to make sure they go out there and do their best in front of him."

The Jets now begin a stretch of 11 of their next 14 games in enemy territory, with a six-game road trip starting Tuesday in Los Angeles.

### **Winnipeg Sun**

<https://winnipeg.sun.com/sports/brad-lambert-nets-first-nhl-goal-jets-win-5-2-over-the-pittsburgh-penguins>

### ***Brad Lambert nets first NHL goal, Jets win 5-2 over the Pittsburgh Penguins***

By Gordon Anderson

Sometimes real life trumps even the wildest of expectations.

Brad Lambert scored his first NHL goal, and the Jets beat the Pittsburgh Penguins 5-2 on Saturday afternoon.

"(The goal) exceeded (my expectations)," Lambert said. "I've been dreaming of that moment. When you're playing road hockey as a kid or whatever, you're kind of envisioning those moments so it's pretty special."

Lambert's goal occurred at 2:43 of the first period. Parker Ford earned his first NHL assist on the goal.

"You couldn't write it up any better," Lambert said. "I wouldn't have it any other way. Ford made a great play on that goal."

Cole Koepke also earned as assist.

Lambert was asked what a goal can do for his confidence as he covets more permanence in the lineup.

"Regardless of whether they're going in or not, you try to play your game," he said. "But 100 per cent, it gives you more confidence. To see the puck going in the net and whenever you have success, it will boost your game a bit."

Koepke did the lion's share of the work as he circled behind the Pittsburgh net and threw the puck across the crease to Lambert, who was battling with Pens defender Harrison Brunicke for position at the right post. Somehow, Lambert managed to jam the puck under the right pad of Artus Silovs. Ford earned his first NHL assist on the play. Silovs stopped 29 shots in the loss.

Kyle Connor scored twice on Saturday. His first goal was a short-handed penalty shot goal in the third period and his second was an empty-netter to seal the deal late in the proceedings.

"It's a huge milestone," Connor said of Lambert's goal. "You get to the NHL, you think about everybody that's helped you out to get there. There's so much people that affect our lives – family, coaches, teammates. And then once you're there, it's about trying to make that next step, trying to contribute, make a difference, score a goal."

Connor is no stranger to net-front celebrations with 292 goals in his career. His first NHL goal came in a 4-1 win over the Dallas Stars in October of 2016. The goal came at 16:12 of the second period. Nik Ehlers earned the assist. Patrick Laine scored twice that night to pace the offence.

"He's looked great," Connor said of Lambert. "For him to go to the net and score the way he did, it was great. We were happy for him."

Gabe Vilardi and Vlad Namestnikov also scored for the Jets. Vilardi has scored five goals in his last five games. Overall, Vilardi has a dozen points in 12 games. The Jets improved to 5-3-0 at home and 7-1-0 when they score first.

Gustav Nyquist was a scratch. Nyquist picked up a lower-body injury in the 6-3 win over the Blackhawks on Thursday night. The free-agent acquisition left the game in the first period against the Hawks. He played for less than two minutes. Head coach Scott Arniel said Nyquist "tweaked something there in the corner." There was no further update. Nyquist has five assists in 11 games.

Eric Comrie turned aside 28 shots for the win. Comrie improved his record to 3-0-0. The Jets number two has wins over the Islanders and the Flames. Comrie has allowed seven goals in those wins.

Sidney Crosby and Blake Lizotte scored for the Penguins. Pittsburgh is 5-2-1 on the road. The Penguins have outscored their opponents 20-9 in the third period.

The Jets begin a six-game road trip Tuesday night in Los Angeles against the Kings. The club's next home game is Nov. 18 against the Blue Jackets.

### *Second star*

Mark Scheifele was named the NHL's second star for the month of October. The 32-year-old Kitchener, Ont., native recorded at least one point in 10 of the team's 11 games. Heading into league action on Saturday, he is tied for the NHL lead in goals with nine, while his 18 points are tied for second in the league. On Oct. 18, Scheifele passed Blake Wheeler as the franchise's leading point scorer with 813 points. The Jets finished the month with an 8-3-0 record.

### *One-on-one*

Connor scored a short-handed penalty shot goal at 12:13 of the second period. Silovs skated into the corner above the goal line to play the puck as Connor put the pressure on. Silovs mishandled the puck, and Connor swooped in to pick up the wayward disc and headed for the empty net. Kris Letang prevented Connor from throwing the puck into the net, but Silovs threw his stick towards the net front, Connor awarded a penalty shot. On the ensuing penalty shot, Connor tossed the puck over the left shoulder of Silovs for his seventh goal of the season. Connor also scored an empty-net goal at 18:39 of the third period.