

15-14-5



PENGUINS

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21-11-3

TOP LINE TRIO

The Penguins' top line of Sidney Crosby (1G-3A), Bryan Rust (2G-2A) and Rickard Rakell (1G-1A) came in clutch yet again on Thursday night in Nashville, scoring four of the team's five goals and combining for 10 points (4G-6A).

- Since the line formed on November 23, the trio has combined for 46 points (19G-27A) and Pittsburgh has earned points in nine of the 12 games (8-3-1):

Top Line's Stats Since November 23				
Player	Games	Goals	Assists	Points
Bryan Rust	12	9	8	17
Sidney Crosby	12	2	13	15
Rickard Rakell	12	8	6	14

- Since November 23, Rust's nine goals are the fifth most in the league, while Rakell's eight are the eighth most:

Goals

Since Nov. 23

1. Jake DeBrusk	11	5. Bryan Rust	9
1. Jake Guentzel	11	5. Kirill Kaprizov	9
3. Brayden Point	10	5. Valeri Nichushkin	9
3. Lucas Raymond	10	8. Rickard Rakell	8

IN RUST WE TRUST

For the second time in the past eight games, Bryan Rust scored in overtime to earn the Penguins the extra point in Nashville on Thursday.

- Rust's overtime winner capped off his second four-point night (2G-2A) in his last four games. He has six goals and 12 points in his last six games, and stretching back further has 17 points (9G-8A) in his last 11 outings.
- His second tally marked his eighth career overtime goal, surpassing Phil Kessel for the sixth most in Penguins history.

Overtime Goals

Penguins History

1. Sidney Crosby	22	5. Jaromir Jagr	9
2. Evgeni Malkin	13	6. Bryan Rust	8
3. Mario Lemieux	11	7. Phil Kessel	7
3. Kris Letang	11		

- Rust's 29th career game-winning goal surpassed Chris Kunitz for the eighth most in Penguins history.
- The Penguins have won a league-leading eight games since November 27 and Rust has scored the game-winning goal in four of those eight wins, a mark that leads the league in that span:

Game-Winning Goals

Since Nov. 27

1. Bryan Rust	4
2. John Tavares	3
2. Warren Foegele	3
2. Pavel Zacha	3
2. Jack Hughes	3



COMING IN HOT

The Penguins have earned points in nine of their last 11 games (8-2-1) since November 27 and have points in four-straight games entering tonight (3-0-1).

- Since Pittsburgh's hot streak began on November 27, no team in the league has more wins or points than the Penguins:

Wins

Since Nov. 27

1. Pittsburgh	8
1. Los Angeles	8
1. Florida	8
1. Edmonton	8
1. Ottawa	8

Points

Since Nov. 27

1. Pittsburgh	17
1. Los Angeles	17
1. Florida	17
1. Ottawa	17
5. Edmonton	16

- The Penguins' success is due in large part to their offensive output during this stretch. Since November 27, Pittsburgh leads the league in goals and ranks second in goals per game:

Goals

Since Nov. 27

1. Pittsburgh	46
2. Tampa Bay	44
2. Florida	44
4. Edmonton	41
5. Columbus	38

Goals Per Game

Since Nov. 27

1. Tampa Bay	4.40
2. Pittsburgh	4.18
3. Edmonton	4.10
4. Florida	4.00
5. Utah	3.78

CAPTAIN CLUTCH

Penguins Captain Sidney Crosby recorded his first four-point game of the season and 41st of his career with a goal and three assists on Thursday night in Nashville.

- Crosby's 41 four-point games are the 18th most in NHL history and most among active players.
- Thursday marked Crosby's third three-assist game of the season and 66th of his career, surpassing Ron Francis for the fifth-most three-assist games in NHL history:

Three-Assist Games

NHL History

1. Wayne Gretzky	224	4. Adam Oates	71
2. Mario Lemieux	108	5. Sidney Crosby	66
3. Paul Coffey	82	6. Ron Francis	65

- Crosby enters tonight's game just three assists away from tying Mario Lemieux for the most assists in Penguins history:

Assists

Penguins History

1. Mario Lemieux	1,033
2. Sidney Crosby	1,030
3. Evgeni Malkin	818
4. Jaromir Jagr	640
5. Kris Letang	585

