

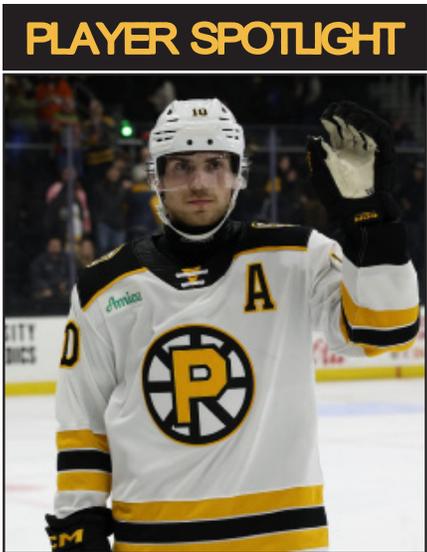


PROSPECT REPORT

March 20 - March 26, 2026

Notable Performances

Riley Tufte has posted three goals in his last two games and leads the team with 28 tallies this season. The forward scored back-to-back goals in the third period of Saturday's 5-2 win over the Comets, before netting the game's opening goal in Wednesday's 2-1 victory in Springfield. Tufte's 28 goals and 49 points are a career-best through 55 games this season.



PLAYER SPOTLIGHT

GEORGII MERKULOV

PROVIDENCE | AHL

60 GP | 19 G, 31 A, 50 PTS

Elliott Groenewold scored the first of five goals in No. 11 ranked Quinnipiac's 5-2 victory over No. 7 ranked Providence in the first round of the NCAA tournament on Thursday. The defenseman hammered a slap shot from the left point that zipped past the glove of the goaltender to start the scoring in the middle frame. The sophomore totals seven goals and 13 assists through 39 games this season and leads the nation with a plus-41 rating. The Springfield, Vermont, native was originally selected by Boston in the fourth round (110th overall) of the 2024 NHL Entry Draft.

Leaders

Providence goaltender **Michael DiPietro** leads the AHL with a 1.90 goals against average, .932 save percentage, and 30 wins.

Providence forward **Patrick Brown** ranks second in the AHL with a plus-35 rating and totals 49 points in in 62 games this season.

THIS WEEKS MATCHUPS



March 27

Youngstown at USA Hockey NTDP, 7 p.m.

April 3

Youngstown at Cedar Rapids RoughRiders, 7:05 p.m. CT

April 4

Youngstown at Cedar Rapids RoughRiders, 7:05 p.m. CT

March 27

Minnesota State vs. Western Michigan, 12:30 MT
Cornell vs. Denver, 4 p.m. MT
Bentley vs. Michigan, 5:30 p.m.
Penn State vs. Minnesota Duluth, 9 p.m.

March 27

Shawinigan vs. Sherbrooke, 7 p.m.

March 28

Shawinigan vs. Sherbrooke, 4 p.m.

March 31

Shawinigan at Sherbrooke, 7 p.m.

April 1

Shawinigan at Sherbrooke, 7 p.m.

March 28

Providence vs. Bridgeport, 7:05 p.m.

March 29

Providence vs. Springfield, 3:05 p.m.

April 1

Providence at Utica, 7 p.m.

April 3

Providence at Syracuse, 7 p.m.



PROVIDENCE BRUINS

48-13-1-0, 97 pts
1st place in Atlantic Division

PLAYER	POS	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PIM	ACQUIRED
Georgii Merkulov	C	60	19	31	50	14	34	Free Agent, 2022
Riley Tufte	F	55	28	21	49	27	64	Free Agent, 2024
Patrick Brown	C	62	17	32	49	35	48	Free Agent, 2023
Matej Blumel	F	48	17	26	43	21	18	Free Agent, 2025
Matt Poitras	F	59	13	28	41	2	42	BOS 2nd rd. (54th overall) in 2022
Fabian Lysell	F	53	15	25	40	12	47	BOS 1st rd. (21st overall) in 2021
Frederic Brunet	D	60	11	19	30	18	30	BOS 5th rd. (132nd overall) in 2022
Dans Locmelis	F	43	15	13	28	16	6	BOS 4th rd. (119th overall) in 2022
Victor Soderstrom	D	50	8	20	28	9	29	Trade w/CHI in 2025
Alexis Gendron	F	55	11	14	25	-15	46	Trade w/PHI in 2026
Christian Wolanin	D	47	7	18	25	10	12	Free Agent, 2025
Ty Gallagher	D	34	7	12	19	9	19	BOS 7th rd. (217th overall) in 2021
Jake Schmaltz	F	54	8	10	18	6	10	BOS 7th rd. (192nd overall) in 2019
Joey Abate	F	55	7	11	18	5	87	Free Agent, 2024
Riley Duran	F	62	5	12	17	16	22	BOS 6th rd. (182nd overall) in 2020
John Farinacci	F	61	7	9	16	-4	8	Free Agent, 2023
Billy Sweezey	D	60	1	13	14	21	58	Free Agent, 2024
Michael Callahan	D	47	2	10	12	26	21	Trade w/ARI in 2022
Colin Felix	D	22	0	3	3	1	63	Free Agent, 2025
Max Wanner	D	21	0	2	2	8	7	Trade w/EDM in 2025
Navrin Mutter	F	32	0	1	1	-10	86	Trade w/NSH in 2026
James Hagens	F	1	0	0	0	0	0	ATO, 2026
Brooklyn Kalmikov	F	2	0	0	0	-1	2	Free Agent, 2025

PLAYER	GP	GAA	SV%	SO	W	L	OT	SVS	ACQUIRED
Michael DiPietro	39	1.90	.932	2	30	7	0	980	Trade w/ VAN in 2022
Simon Zajicek	16	2.23	.920	0	12	4	1	416	Free Agent, 2025

NOTES:

The Providence Bruins (48-13-1-0) earned their third straight victory on Wednesday night to remain in first place in the American Hockey League. The P-Bruins defeated the Utica Comets 4-3 at the Adirondack Bank Center last Friday, before earning a 5-2 victory in a rematch at the Amica Mutual Pavilion on Saturday. Providence hit the road on Wednesday and edged the Springfield Thunderbirds 2-1 at the MassMutual Center in James Hagens' professional debut.

Joey Abate extended his point streak to four games with an assist in Wednesday's 2-1 win at Springfield and totals six points in that span. The forward netted back-to-back goals in Friday's 4-3 victory at Utica to tie the game in the middle frame. The Bloomingdale, Illinois, native has a career-best 11 assists and 18 points through 55 games this season.

Jake Schmaltz has posted goals in back-to-back games for the second time this season. The forward scored 30 seconds into Saturday's 5-2 victory over the Comets, before netting the game-winning goal in the third period of Wednesday's 2-1 win at Springfield. The McFarland, Wisconsin, native totals eight goals and 10 assists through 54 games this season.

PLAYER	TEAM	POS	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PIM
Andre Gasseau	Boston College	C	23	6	17	23	-2	12
Elliott Groenewold	Quinnipiac	D	38	6	13	19	38	22
Beckett Hendrickson	U. of Minnesota	C	36	7	13	20	5	18
Oskar Jellvik	Boston College	F	9	2	1	3	-5	4
Kristian Kostadinski	Boston College	D	34	0	3	3	5	2
Mason Langenbrunner	Harvard	D	32	2	8	10	-5	16
Dean Letourneau	Boston College	F	36	22	17	39	9	22
William Moore	Boston College	F	33	4	6	10	-6	0
Jonathan Morello	Boston University	F	36	6	7	13	6	18
Casper Nassen	Miami University (Ohio)	F	36	6	12	18	-5	6
Christopher Pelosi	Quinnipiac	C	33	17	16	33	8	12
Cole Spicer	Western Michigan Univ.	C	12	3	3	6	6	6
Ryan Walsh	Cornell	C	32	10	23	33	9	33
William Zellers	North Dakota	F	35	18	12	30	0	27

PLAYER	TEAM	GP	GAA	SV%	SO	W	L	OT	SVS
Philip Svedeback	Providence	18	2.32	.918	0	8	6	2	415

NOTES:

Will Zellers recorded two assists in No. 2 ranked North Dakota's 3-0 victory over No. 16 ranked Merrimack in the first round of the NCAA Tournament on Thursday. The forward posted the primary assist on the game's opening goal 3:52 into the contest, before notching a secondary assist on the goal that extended the lead to 2-0 4:09 into the final frame. The freshman ranks second on the team with 18 goals and fourth with 32 points through 36 games this season. The Maple Grove, Minnesota, native was originally selected by Colorado in the third round (76th overall) of the 2024 NHL Entry Draft and was acquired via trade.



North American Juniors

PLAYER	TEAM	POS	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PIM
Cole Chandler	Shawinigan (QMJHL)	F	62	20	32	52	15	50
Cooper Simpson	Youngstown (USHL)	F	60	34	40	74	5	70

NOTES:

Cooper Simpson recorded a hat-trick in the Youngstown Phantoms' 4-1 victory over the Chicago Steel last Friday. The forward then posted two assists to help the Phantoms to a 4-3 win in a rematch on Saturday and notched a goal and an assist in a 6-2 victory over the USA Hockey NTDP this Friday. Simpson ranks second in the USHL with 74 points, tied for third in goals with 34, and fourth in assists with 40. The Shakopee, Minnesota, native was originally selected by Boston in the 3rd round (79th overall) of the 2025 NHL Entry Draft.

Europe

PLAYER	TEAM	POS	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PIM
Vashek Blunar	HV71 Jr. (Swe-Jr)	D	30	5	10	15	-12	57
Liam Pettersson	Vaxjo Lakers Jr. (Swe-Jr)	D	19	5	6	11	4	8
Kirill Yemelyanov	Yaroslavl Loko Jr. (Rus-MHL)	F	55	32	25	57	39	42