

TRUST IN RUST

Bryan Rust has scored in three of the last five games and his 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 g	oal from 20

DAHN ON THE FARM

Penguins' goaltender prospect Sergei Murashov, who recently got recalled to the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins, has been named an ECHL All Star with the Wheeling Nailers.

- The rookie goaltender has gone 15-3-1 in the ECHL this season with a .919 save percentage and 2.41 goals-against average, which included a franchise-record 13-game winning streak.
- Murashov ranks second in the league and first among rookie goaltenders in wins this season:

Wins

ECHL Goaltenders			
1. Cam Johnson	20	4. Jan Bednar	14
2. Sergei Murashov	15	4. Matt Vernon	14
2. Victor Ostman	15	4. Domenic DiVincentiis	14

Murashov also has a pair of wins in the AHL this season, going 2-0 and stopping 57 of 62 shots

POWERED UP

The Penguins' power play has been clicking as of late, scoring on the man advantage in 11 of the last 15 games since Dec. 23, going 17-for-43 (39.5%).

Stretching back further, the Penguins have 25 power-play goals over their last 25 games dating back to Nov. 30. In that span, the Penguins' 25 powerplay goals and their 33.8 success rate lead the league:

Since Nov. 30		Power-Play Goals Since Nov. 30			
1.	Pittsburgh	33.8%	1.	Pittsburgh	25
2.	Winnipeg	31.3%	2.	Detroit	22
3.	Edmonton	31.2%	3.	Tampa Bay	20
4.	Tampa Bay	29.9%	3.	Winnipeg	20
5.	Detroit	28.6%	5.	Edmonton	19

Michael Bunting scored his career-high and team-leading ninth powerplay goal on Thursday in Anaheim:

Power-Play Goals

Per	nguins in 2024-25		tor
1.	Michael Bunting	9	
2.	Sidney Crosby	6	
3.	Rickard Rakell	5	
4.	Kevin Hayes	4	
5.	Kris Letang	3	

All nine of Bunting's power-play goals have come since November 15. In that span, only Patrik Laine has more goals on the man advantage than Bunting's nine:

Power-Play Goals Since Nov. 15		
1. Patrik Laine	10	
2. Michael Bunting	9	
2. Jake Guentzel	9	YA, MAXA
4. Gabriel Vilardi	8	RESOR ASINO
5. Leon Draisaitl	7	

THE GRZELER

Matt Grzelcyk has been steadily putting up points this season, ranking second among Penguins defensemen and fourth on the team with 24 assists.

- Grzelcyk has set a new career high this season with 24 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 10 points on the man advantage (previous career high was six power-play points in 2019-20 & '20-21).
- Grzelcyk enters tonight's game just one point away from tying his career-high point total of 26 set during 2022-23.

