

Winnipegjets.com

<https://www.nhl.com/jets/news/three-things-mistakes-hurt-jets-against-utah>

***Three things - Mistakes hurt Jets against Utah
Jets fall 5-2 in Utah, lose Lowry to injury***

By Jamie Thomas

The Winnipeg Jets dropped their second game in a row with a 5-2 loss in Salt Lake City to the Utah Hockey Club. Nino Niederreiter and Dylan DeMelo scored for Winnipeg and Nikolaj Ehlers recorded two assists as the Jets record fell to 31-14-3. Mark Scheifele had an assist as well and joined Blake Wheeler as the only two players to have 200 career road assists for the Jets/Thrashers franchise. Winnipeg will travel to Denver and will face the Colorado Avalanche on Wednesday night.

MISTAKES HURT JETS

After playing some of their best defensive hockey over a six-game stretch at home allowing just nine goals over that stretch. This evening against Utah, Winnipeg played solid hockey for the first 30 minutes allowing four unanswered goals over a 12-minute stretch at the end of the second and beginning of the third. Three of the goals came off odd man rushes which was odd to see considering how well the Jets had defended before Monday night.

"It was really big in the sense that we didn't win a whole lot of battles. They got in on the forecheck, created the turnovers. Even though it was 0-0 for a long stretch there, we still didn't get enough opportunities and didn't do enough to win that hockey game," said Scott Arniel.

"Our execution, a lot of those things, not good enough. That's on me. I've got to push these guys to be a heck of a lot better than that."

SHOWED SOME FIGHT

28 seconds after Matias Maccelli had made it 4-0 Utah, the Jets finally solved Connor Ingram scoring twice in 3:16 to cut Utah's lead in half. At 8:32, Nino Niederreiter scored his 13th of the season when his shot snuck underneath Ingram and trickled over the goal line. Dylan DeMelo recorded his third of the campaign, one-timing a pass from Nikolaj Ehlers past Ingram.

LOSS OF LOWRY

The Winnipeg Jets welcomed back Vladislav Namestnikov this evening and it looks like Mason Appleton is close to returning sometime this week. That being said, the Jets lost a key component to their forward group when Adam Lowry was injured at some point and missed the second and third periods. The Jets were down to 10 forwards for a little while when Gabe Vilardi accidentally collided with Alex Kerfoot in the second period. Vilardi returned with just under five minutes left in the middle frame. Scott Arniel had no update on the status of Lowry after the game.

NHL.com

<https://www.nhl.com/news/winnipeg-jets-utah-hockey-club-game-recap-january-20>

***Hayton has 3 points, Utah Hockey Club holds off Jets
Cooley extends goal streak to 4, Keller gets goal, assist in win***

By Matt Komma

SALT LAKE CITY -- Barrett Hayton scored and had two assists, and the Utah Hockey Club defeated the Winnipeg Jets 5-2 at Delta Center on Monday.

Clayton Keller had a goal and an assist, and Logan Cooley extended his goal streak to a career-high four games for Utah (20-19-7), which won consecutive home games for the first time since Nov. 13. Connor Ingram made 23 saves.

"We had great leadership, we had a great presence," said Utah coach Andre Tourigny. "[I'm] really proud of the way we weathered the storm, and we stayed with it. ... When we took the lead, it didn't change the way we played. We kept playing the same way. We started the third period we didn't back off or be nervous. We kept playing the right way. So I think that is, for me, the key moment."

Nikolaj Ehlers had two assists and Connor Hellebuyck made 23 saves for the Jets (31-14-3), who have lost six of their past 10 games (4-4-2).

"That was embarrassing. Of all the games this year, that was the most embarrassing game," said Jets coach Scott Arniel. "For me, for our players, I take full credit. I've got to be the one that has to hold these guys accountable and make sure we're better. That was embarrassing."

Olli Maatta gave Utah a 1-0 lead at 16:00 of the second period, scoring on a shot from the point for his first goal with Utah since being acquired in a trade with the Detroit Red Wings on Oct. 29.

Keller had left the game 35 seconds into the second after taking a puck to the face on a deflected shot from Michael Kesselring. The forward returned at 15:20 and had an assist on Maatta's goal on his first shift back.

"I got lucky. It didn't catch my eye," said Keller. "I was kind of sitting there for like 20 minutes just laying down on my back. So when I came back out, I just tried to get my legs into it and just be simple the first couple shifts. I think the guys helped me as well."

Cooley made it 2-0 Utah at 19:42, picking the puck up in the neutral zone and beating Hellebuyck on the glove side.

Hayton scored at 4:53 of the third period to give Utah a 3-0 lead. The forward took a pass from Josh Doan on a 2-on-1 and beat Hellebuyck on the glove side for the goal.

Mattias Maccelli gave Utah a 4-0 lead at 8:04. The forward took a pass from Doan on the rush and scored into an open net.

Nino Niederreiter made it 4-1 at 8:32 when he beat Ingram between the legs off a pass from Ehlers on the rush.

"That is not Winnipeg Jets hockey," said Ehlers. "It's not the first time this year we've played this way and when you don't play the right way in this league, it doesn't matter who you're playing against, you're not winning that game."

Dylan DeMelo scored at 11:48 on a shot from the point to cut the lead to 4-2.

"We've got to look in the mirror," said DeMelo. "We know deep down in that room that we've got a lot more to give ... and we've shown it for most of the year."

Keller scored an empty-net goal at 17:55 for the 5-2 final.

Utah has won its past two to finish its seven-game homestand at 3-4-0.

"The last three games, even though we didn't win against the (New York) Rangers, that was a step in the right direction," said Keller. "If you keep doing the right things, you're going to win. So it's good to see us get a couple [of wins] before we go on the road. It's a huge road trip for us. So [I'm] looking forward to that."

NOTES: Jets captain Adam Lowry left the game with an undisclosed injury after the first period. Arniel did not have an update after the game. ... Keller extended his point streak to four games (two goals, seven assists). ... Keller became the first Utah player to reach 50 points in a season (16 goals, 34 assists). ... Utah forward Nick Schmaltz had two assists to extend his point streak to six games (three goals, five assists).

<https://www.nhl.com/news/longtime-boston-bruins-ambassador-tom-mcvi-dies-at-age-89>

McVie dies at 89, was 'quite a character' as coach for Devils, Capitals, Jets Had served as Bruins ambassador for past 30 years

By NHL.com

Tom McVie, a Boston Bruins ambassador who coached the New Jersey Devils, Washington Capitals and Winnipeg Jets, died at the age of 89.

"The entire Boston Bruins organization is deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Tom McVie," Bruins president Cam Neely said in a statement Monday. "Tom was a huge part of our Bruins family, having served as coach, scout and ambassador for more than 30 years. His hockey mind, colorful personality, gruff voice, and unmatched sense of humor livened up every room he entered, and he will be dearly missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with Tom's family and many loved ones."

Born June 6, 1935, in Trail, British Columbia, McVie began his NHL coaching career with the Capitals on Dec. 31, 1975. He coached two more seasons in Washington and guided the Jets of the World Hockey Association to the 1979 Avco Cup before taking over for Bill Sutherland in Winnipeg's first two NHL seasons (1979-80, 1980-81).

McVie became the second Devils coach after the franchise relocated from Denver in 1982 when he replaced Billy MacMillan after New Jersey started the 1983-84 season 2-18 with zero ties. He went 15-38 with seven ties in 60 games and returned to replace John Cunniff 67 games into the 1990-91 season.

The Devils made the Stanley Cup Playoffs the following season, losing the Patrick Division Semifinals in seven games to the New York Rangers. McVie was replaced by Herb Brooks and hired as a Bruins assistant to Brian Sutter for the 1992-93 season, when Boston went 51-26 with seven ties but was swept by the Buffalo Sabres in the best-of-7 Adams Division Semifinals.

McVie was 126-263 with 73 ties in 462 regular-season games and got his name on the Stanley Cup in 2011 as a Bruins ambassador. Though he never reached the NHL as a player, he skated 21 seasons in the minor leagues as a left wing, including one as a player-coach for Fort Wayne in the International Hockey League in 1971-72 and the following season with Johnston of the Eastern Hockey League.

McVie arrived behind hockey benches after a nomadic junior and minor-pro trail, one that took him across the continent between 1954-74 with stops in Toledo, Fort Wayne and Dayton in the International league, Seattle, Portland, Los Angeles and Phoenix in the Western league and a season with the storied Johnstown Jets, of "Slap Shot" fame, in the EHL.

He truly was a hockey "lifer" given all the jobs he had along the way.

"If I wasn't coaching hockey, then I'd probably be driving the Zamboni," McVie told Boston Globe hockey writer Kevin Paul Dupont in October 1992, then a freshly minted assistant coach with the Bruins.

Dupont related how McVie had been using the same piece of Samsonite luggage for 32 years, its owner estimating 750,000 miles on the suitcase in the baggage holds of buses with thousands more travelled by air.

"My first two years of pro hockey, I never had a piece of luggage," McVie said. "I was playing for Seattle -- Keith Allen was the general manager -- and I got hurt in Calgary on a trip that was going to Edmonton. Well, they decide to send me home, and Allen takes my meal money; that's the way it worked -- no play, no meal money.

"Like I say, I never had a suitcase. Those first two years, I threw what I needed into a bag with Les Hunt -- he played in the Detroit organization. I'll never forget, I'm standing on this train platform in Calgary, and Les just hands me my clothes. They're going on, and I'm going home. My clothes, all over the platform. I had to go get a paper bag and throw all my stuff in it."

McVie would be traded to Portland in 1961, which provided players with monogrammed luggage. He would use that suitcase up to his talk with Dupont in 1992, and quite likely for years beyond that.

"I vowed that day, wherever I go, it goes," said McVie. "It's sort of a conversation piece, I guess. In 36 years of pro hockey, I'll bet that I've received 20 sets of luggage, and I've given them all away -- every one of them."

In Montreal on Monday, Rick Green was saddened to learn of the death of his first NHL coach, the defenseman having been drafted by McVie's Capitals No. 1 in 1976 but remembered his bench boss with a few lively stories.

“As a 20-year-old, I didn’t know what to expect at the NHL level, and Tommy McVie, what was he all about,” said Green, whose next NHL stop with the Canadiens would bring him the 1986 Stanley Cup.

“It didn’t take long when he had us on the track and we had to run a 5:40 mile and so many push-up and sit-ups. It was like he was a drill sergeant but that’s the way he was.

“Tommy was quite a character. For what he had to work with, he had to be quite a character ... we had some guys who were interesting, and that’s an understatement. He was demanding and he needed to be with the guys we had who were always trying to find ways to take shortcuts.”

Green suggested he was impressed, amused and even a bit fearful of McVie, never quite sure where he stood.

“I was wearing Lange (molded) skates, and I’d forgotten my boot liners at the rink,” he recalled. “We were at our practice rink and I didn’t dare want to go to Tommy and say ‘I forgot my liners, I can’t practice,’ so I put 12 pairs of socks on to work as my liners. I managed to get through practice without him screaming or shooting pucks at me.

“He was to himself mostly, I didn’t spend a lot of time with him away from the rink,” Green added, laughing. “I had enough of him behind the bench, let alone on the ice.

“And Tommy was the first man I ever knew who could put two pucks in his mouth at the same time. That’s a talent. I guess his nickname was ‘The Clown’ back in the day when he played in the International league, so you needed a sense of humor back then.

“Someone told me about the puck trick so I went up to him and told him I didn’t believe it. Tommy just took his teeth out, grabbed two pucks and in they went.”

TSN.ca

<https://www.tsn.ca/nhl/video/sawyer-utah-capitalized-on-the-few-mistakes-the-jets-made%7E3065885>

Sawyer: Utah capitalized on the few mistakes the Jets made (VIDEO)

TSN's Dan Robertson and Kevin Sawyer recap the Winnipeg Jets' loss to the Utah Hockey Club on Monday night, and break down how Utah was able to capitalize on mistakes in the victory.

<https://www.tsn.ca/nhl/video/boudreau-offensive-zone-turnovers-lost-this-game-for-winnipeg~3065879>

Boudreau: Offensive zone turnovers lost this game for Winnipeg (VIDEO)

TSN Hockey analyst Bruce Boudreau joins SportsCentre to share his thoughts on what went wrong for the Jets in their loss to Utah on Monday night, and the big upcoming game between Winnipeg and Colorado on Wednesday.

Global Winnipeg

<https://globalnews.ca/news/10969235/winnipeg-jets-lose-the-game-and-their-captain-in-utah/>

Winnipeg Jets lose the game and their captain in Utah

By Christian Aumell & Russ Hobson Global News

Their first visit to Utah is not one the Winnipeg Jets will be telling their grandkids about someday.

Turnovers doomed the Jets as they dropped a 5-2 decision in Salt Lake City Monday night, a game in which their captain Adam Lowry had to leave with an injury after the first period.

After a scoreless opening frame, Utah scored twice in the second, added two more in the first eight minutes of the third and hung on the victory.

The Jets registered just six shots on goal in the second period and only eight in the third period as they finished with only 25 shots.

“That was embarrassing,” said Jets head coach Scott Arniel. “That was the most embarrassing game, for me, for our players. I take full credit. I got to be the one that has to hold these guys accountable, make sure we’re better. That was embarrassing. From top to bottom we did a horses–t job.”

It’s the first time the Jets have lost back-to-back games in regulation since early December. The Jets made some costly mistakes and had giveaways lead directly to goals.

“Just execution,” said Jets defenceman Dylan DeMelo. “Maybe a couple unfortunate bounces that pucks kinda just bouncing on us. But plays that we usually make, so, move on, learn from it and get ready for Colorado.

DeMelo and Nino Niederreiter scored the goals for the Jets, while Nikolaj Ehlers had two assists in the loss.

Barrett Hayton had a goal and two assists for Utah as they won for just the fourth time in their last 14 games.

“You look yourself in the mirror,” Ehlers said. “That is not Winnipeg Jets hockey. It’s not the first time this year we’ve played this way and when you don’t play the right way in this league, doesn’t matter who you’re playing against, you’re not winning that game and you’re letting our goalies down.”

Lowry did not emerge from the dressing room after the first period. He was shaken up after sliding awkwardly into the boards in the first and while he did play some shifts after that, he did not return to the game after the first intermission.

“Don’t know anything yet,” said Arniel after the game.

The opening frame was fairly uneventful as Winnipeg managed to get only one shot on goal in the opening 11 minutes, though they would end up outshooting Utah 11-10 in the first.

The Jets' best chance came with less than two minutes to go when David Gustafsson collected the puck in his own end and raced up the ice, splitting two defenders and getting a good chance on goal that squeezed through Connor Ingram and rolled just centimetres wide of the post. Morgan Barron attempted a wraparound right after that Ingram stopped to keep the game goalless through 20 minutes.

Gabriel Vilardi left the game early in the second after a collision with Alex Kerfoot, sending the Jets' lines into disarray with only ten forwards, but Vilardi did return before the end of the second.

It took a while for the first goal to arrive but it finally did with exactly four minutes to go in the second. A point shot from Olli Maatta was heading wide before banking off DeMelo and into the net to open the scoring. The goal was originally credited to Utah captain Clayton Keller who was battling in front with DeMelo before it was switched to Maatta for his first of the season.

Utah doubled their lead in the final minute of the period when Dylan Samberg fumbled the puck at the Utah blue line as he sprinted to keep it in, allowing Barrett Hayton to retrieve it and get it to Logan Cooley to start a 2-on-1. Cooley kept it all the way and roofed one past Connor Hellebuyck to make it 2-0 after two.

Things did not get better for Winnipeg in the third. The Jets had the puck in the Utah end when a Neal Pionk pass from the right point eluded Josh Morrissey at the left point, bouncing off the boards before it was knocked down the ice, kicking off a race to the puck between Pionk and Josh Doan. Doan got to it first, pushing it to the slot where Hayton was waiting to rip it past Hellebuyck to make it 3-0 at the 4:53 mark.

Another blue line disaster led to Utah's fourth goal of the night. Samberg stumbled at the point with the puck, giving it away to Hayton who sprinted up the ice on a 3-on-2. He passed it across the ice to Doan, drawing Hellebuyck over before sending it back to the slot where Matias Maccelli had a yawning cage to score into at the 8:04 mark.

Winnipeg got on the board just 28 seconds later when Neiderreiter's shot in transition snuck through the five-hole of Ingram.

The Jets made it 4-2 at the 11:48 mark when DeMelo blasted one past Ingram to make things a little interesting, but that was as close as they would get. Keller sealed the game into an empty net with 2:05 left.

Hellebuyck turned aside 23 shots as he got saddled with his second regulation loss in his last 17 starts. Winnipeg had zero power plays on the night.

The Jets will look to rebound Wednesday in Denver against the Avalanche before getting another crack at Utah on home ice on Friday night.

Sportsnet.ca

<https://www.sportsnet.ca/nhl/article/not-winnipeg-jets-hockey-ehlers-arniel-upset-with-effort-vs-utah/>

'Not Winnipeg Jets hockey': Ehlers, Arniel upset with effort vs. Utah

By Sportsnet Staff

Being atop the Western Conference won't preclude a team from laying an egg, and it certainly won't make the loss easier to swallow when it does happen.

"We're not winning the Stanley Cup with the way that we're playing today," Winnipeg Jets forward Nikolaj Ehlers said to reporters after his side dropped a 5-2 game against their divisional rival Utah Hockey Club Monday night.

"It's pretty simple. We don't play the right way. Long shifts, turnovers... They dominated us today, simple as that."

Though the Jets did manage to get on the board, their markers came after surrendering four straight goals to their opponent. Winnipeg only scored their first goal midway through the third period, doubled up shortly thereafter, and then saw their progress undone by an empty netter from Clayton Keller to seal the deal.

"That is not Winnipeg Jets hockey. It's not the first time this year we've played this way," Ehlers continued. "When you don't play the right way in this league, it doesn't matter who you're playing against, you're not winning that game."

"We have the team in here to do something great. When we play the right way, we are dominant. We are great, and it is pretty simple."

"That was embarrassing," head coach Scott Arniel added. "Of all the games this year, that was the most embarrassing game — for me, for our players. I'll take full credit, I've got to be the one that holds these guys accountable and make sure we're better. That was embarrassing. From top to bottom, we did a horse---- job."

Apart from the Jets' skaters, Vezina Trophy-winning goaltender Connor Hellebuyck had an uncharacteristically off night, stopping 23 of the 27 shots he faced for a .851 save percentage. He sits at .927 on the season.

Even with the loss Monday, the Jets still sit atop the West, three points ahead of Vegas, and second only to the Washington Capitals across the entire NHL, with a 31-14-3 record.

They'll try to bounce back as they take on another divisional foe — the inconsistent Colorado Avalanche — on Wednesday.

Associated Press

<https://www.sportsnet.ca/nhl/article/jets-cant-recover-from-big-deficit-in-loss-to-utah/>

Jets can't recover from big deficit in loss to Utah

By Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — Connor Ingram made 23 saves and Olli Maatta scored his first goal for the Utah Hockey Club in a 5-2 victory over the Winnipeg Jets on Monday night.

Logan Cooley, Barrett Hayton, Matias Maccelli and Clayton Keller also scored to help Utah win its second consecutive home game. Hayton, Josh Doan and Nick Schmaltz each had two assists.

Connor Hellebuyck stopped 23 shots for Winnipeg. Nino Niederreiter and Dylan DeMelo scored in the third period as the Jets avoided their second shutout loss of the season.

Keller headed to the dressing room a minute into the second after a shot from teammate Michael Kesselring deflected high and struck him in the face. Keller returned, with swelling and a cut above his eye, with 4:40 left in the period.

He helped set up Maatta's drive 40 seconds later that put Utah on the board. Cooley extended the lead on a breakaway with 17.9 seconds remaining in the second.

Hayton and Maccelli each scored early in the third to make it 4-0 before Niederreiter and DeMelo scored 3:16 apart to cut the deficit in half with 8:12 left.

Keller capped the scoring with an empty-netter with 2:05 remaining.

TAKEAWAYS

Jets: Played their first road game in January after opening 2025 with eight straight at home.

Utah: Tough defence carried Utah, which allowed one shot on goal over the first 10 minutes and kept Winnipeg off the scoreboard until almost midway through the third period.

KEY MOMENT

Maatta and Cooley scored 3:42 apart late in the second to spark an offensive surge for Utah.

KEY STAT

Utah is averaging 3.8 goals over its last four games.

UP NEXT

Jets: Visit the Colorado Avalanche on Wednesday.

Utah: Visits the Minnesota Wild on Thursday.

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/rom-mcvie-jets-first-nhl-coach-dead-1.7436722>

Tom McVie, 1st NHL coach of the Winnipeg Jets, dead at 89
McVie led Jets to World Hockey Association championship in 1979

Jimmy Golen · The Associated Press

Tom McVie, who coached the Winnipeg Jets to the 1979 World Hockey Association championship over Wayne Gretzky's Edmonton Oilers in the final year before the franchises were absorbed into the NHL, has died. He was 89.

McVie was also the Jets' first coach in the NHL and the Devils' second after they moved from Colorado in 1982. He also coached the Washington Capitals, compiling an overall NHL record of 126-263 with 73 ties in parts of eight seasons from 1975-92.

The Trail, B.C., product joined the Bruins as an assistant coach in 1992 and got his name on the Stanley Cup as a team ambassador when it won the 2011 championship.

"Tom was a huge part of our Bruins family, having served as coach, scout and ambassador for more than 30 years," said Boston president Cam Neely, whose playing career overlapped with McVie's coaching tenure. "His hockey mind, colourful personality, gruff voice, and unmatched sense of humour livened up every room he entered, and he will be dearly missed."

McVie made his NHL head coaching debut when he succeeded Hall of Famer Milt Schmidt in Washington on New Year's Eve in 1975, but he never finished higher than fourth before heading to the WHA. He took over the Jets, whose roster included a 40-year-old Bobby Hull, and won the 1979 Avco World Trophy.

"Coach McVie was an historical figure in Winnipeg's pro hockey history as the coach of the last team to ever win the Avco Cup in the World Hockey Association, as well as the first coach in the team's National Hockey League history back in 1979," the Jets posted on X on Monday.

"Tom's personality, voice, and knowledge of the game transcended his title and time in our city as the team made the transition from the WHA to the NHL. His ability to tell a story only added to the legend of the hockey club's arrival on the big stage. We'd like to extend our deepest condolences to the many friends and loved ones of Coach McVie."

McVie told the Boston Globe after joining the Bruins organization in 1992 that he was proud to be a hockey lifer.

"If I wasn't coaching hockey," he said, "then I'd probably be driving the Zamboni."

Canadian Press

https://www.thespec.com/sports/hockey/tom-mcvies-hockey-career-took-him-from-the-johnstown-jets-to-the-boston-bruins/article_e7a664ec-eb1d-5aba-b6d0-841d43b321e0.html

Tom McVie's hockey career took him from the Johnstown Jets to the Boston Bruins

By The Canadian Press

Tom McVie, who coached the New Jersey Devils, Washington Capitals and Winnipeg Jets, has died. He was 89.

McVie, also a longtime member of the Boston Bruins organization, died Sunday at his home in Vancouver, Wash., said a Bruins spokesman citing McVie's family.

Born June 6, 1935, the native of Trail, B.C., played 15 seasons in the Western Hockey League from 1967-68 to 1972-73, including championship seasons in 1959 with Seattle and 1964-65 with Portland.

McVie was player-coach with the Eastern Hockey League's Johnstown Jets (of "Slap Shot" fame) before transitioning to head coach with the Dayton Gems of the International Hockey League.

He started his NHL coaching career with the Capitals on Dec. 31, 1975, and coached two more seasons in Washington before switching to the World Hockey Association in February 1979, leading the leading Winnipeg Jets to the 1979 Avco Cup.

He continued as coach in Winnipeg's first two NHL seasons (1979-80, 1980-81) but was fired in December 1980 with the 1-20-7 Jets mired in a 25-game winless streak. McVie also suffered through a 25-game winless streak with the Capitals.

McVie later had two stints as New Jersey Devils coach.

He became the second Devils coach, replacing Billy MacMillan after New Jersey started the 1983-84 season at 2-18-0. McVie took over the Devils again late in the 1990-91 season, succeeding John Cuniff.

McVie also coached in the American Hockey League, guiding the Maine Mariners (1982-87), Utica Devils (1987-91) and Providence Bruins (1997-98). He led Maine to the Calder Cup final in 1982 and won the Louis A.R. Pieri Memorial Award as the league's outstanding coach in 1988-89.

His 328 victories put him among the top 20 in AHL history.

McVie joined Boston as an assistant coach to Brian Sutter for the 1992-93 season, the start of a long association with the Bruins.

"The entire Boston Bruins organization is deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Tom McVie," Bruins president Cam Neely said in a statement Monday. "Tom was a huge part of our Bruins family, having served as coach, scout and ambassador for more than 30 years."

“His hockey mind, colourful personality, gruff voice, and unmatched sense of humour livened up every room he entered, and he will be dearly missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with Tom’s family and many loved ones.”

McVie’s name made it on to the Stanley Cup in 2011 as a Bruins ambassador.

The Jets also mourned the loss of McVie.

“Tom’s personality, voice, and knowledge of the game transcended his title and time in our city as the team made the transition from the WHA to the NHL,” the Jets said in a statement. “His ability to tell a story only added to the legend of the hockey club’s arrival on the big stage.”

The Capitals said McVie, the franchise’s fourth head coach, “made significant contributions during the franchise’s early years and will forever be part of our history.”

Winnipeg Free Press

<https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/breakingnews/2025/01/18/jets-run-into-hot-goaltender-lose-to-flames-3-1>

Jets drop second straight game in 5-2 loss to Utah

By: Mike McIntyre

SALT LAKE CITY — Scott Arniel had seen enough. And, at the same time, not nearly enough from a group that many believe can be a legitimate Stanley Cup contender provided they play the right way.

An ugly 5-2 loss on Monday night to a struggling, rebuilding Utah team had the rookie head coach of the Winnipeg Jets spitting fire in a brief but newsworthy media session with the Free Press.

“That was embarrassing,” Arniel said outside the team’s dressing room at Delta Center.

“That was, of all the games this year, that was the most embarrassing game. For me, for all our players — I take full credit, I’ve got to be the one that holds these guys accountable and make sure we’re better. That was embarrassing. From top to bottom, we did a horseshit job.”

At 31-14-3, there have been plenty of nights already this season where the Jets have failed to collect two points, including their last home game on Saturday in which they fell 3-1 to the Calgary Flames. So what was it about this particular outing — the team’s first-ever in Salt Lake City — that clearly rubbed Arniel the wrong way?

“We didn’t win a whole lot of battles,” Arniel continued.

“They got in on the forecheck, created the turnovers. Even though it was 0-0 for a long stretch there, we still didn’t get enough opportunities and didn’t do enough to win that hockey game. Our execution, a lot of those things, not good enough. That’s on me. I’ve got to push these guys to be a heck of a lot better than that.”

Indeed, this defeat was nothing like Saturday's, where the Jets dominated zone time, possession and simply couldn't find a way to beat a red-hot goaltender.

"We had lots of time in their end. Didn't execute. D couldn't get the pucks down to the front of the net. Our forwards didn't work hard enough to get to the front of the net," said Arniel.

You'll notice not all of Arniel's barbs were aimed at his players, who to be frank were pretty lousy across the board. He also threw himself under the same bus. No doubt the post-game flight to Denver, where the Jets will practice Tuesday before facing the Colorado Avalanche on Wednesday, would have been a rather quiet one.

This may have been an even more costly loss, as Jets captain Adam Lowry didn't play beyond the first period due to an unspecified injury. He lost an edge and crashed into the boards early in the game but played a few more shifts after. However, he didn't come out following the intermission.

"I don't know yet. Don't know anything that way," Arniel said when asked for a post-game update. At that point, he walked away from the backdrop, abruptly ending the chat.

Yeah, it was that kind of night.

BUT WHAT DID THE PLAYERS THINK?

To be clear, Arniel had plenty of company when it came to pointing fingers. Forward Nikolaj Ehlers and defenceman Dylan DeMelo were the two requested to speak after the game, and both were extremely candid in their assessment.

"It is pretty simple. We don't play the right way," is how Ehlers put it. "Long shifts and turnovers. They are a good team and don't take anything away from them, they are a good team, and they dominated us today and it is as simple as that. We are not winning the Stanley Cup with the way we are playing today."

Ehlers, who never pulls his punches, was just getting warmed up.

"Look yourself in the mirror. That is not Winnipeg Jets hockey," he continued.

"It is not the first time this year we have played this way. When you don't play the right way in this league, it doesn't matter who you are playing against, you are not winning that game. You're letting our goalies down. We have the team in here to do something great, and when we play the right way, we are dominant. We are great. And it is pretty simple."

DeMelo was also blunt.

"First and foremost, we've got to look in the mirror, and we know deep down and in that room that we got a lot more to give on that front," he said.

TURNOVERS AND GIVEAWAYS GALORE

You'd never know this Jets team was among the stingiest in the NHL given the way they played in this one.

After an opening 20 minutes where neither team could find the back of the net and play was fairly even — the shots were 11-10 in favour of Winnipeg — the roof began to cave in.

Olli Maatta opened the scoring with four minutes left in the middle frame, as his point shot may have hit DeMelo on the way to beating Connor Hellebuyck. Then came a costly pinch by the normally-reliable Dylan Samberg in the dying seconds of the period which led to a Utah 2-on-1 rush and a Logan Cooley goal at 19:42.

That's a play Samberg can't make at that juncture, especially without any forward support filling in. Mark Scheifele was the closest, but he was out of a gas at the end of a long shift. Next up was Neal Pionk's turn to make a costly mistake, as he coughed up a puck that led to Barrett Hayton being left all alone in front of Hellebuyck to make it 3-0 just 4:53 into the third period.

Samberg's miserable night continued as another puck blunder led to another Utah odd-man rush and a Matias Maccelli goal at 8:04.

"Plays that we usually make," is how DeMelo described all of the above. He suggested the ice inside the NHL's newest rink led to some bouncing puck which Winnipeg had trouble controlling. Of course, it must be noted Utah played on the very seem ice and didn't seem to have the same issues.

"A couple of bad bounces, but there were opportunities there where we could have done a little better job with our execution, and not maybe given our partner kind of a bad puck, so that stuff is easy to clean up for our group. So that's the encouraging part of that," said DeMelo.

ANOTHER INJURY SCARE, A LINE BLENDER ON MAX SETTING

With Lowry already out, forward Gabe Vilardi and Utah forward Alex Kerfoot ran into each other early in the second period, and the Jets winger left the game for a good chunk of the frame.

With Winnipeg down to just 10 forwards, Arniel was pretty much rolling out a completely different line every shift. Did that play a role in Winnipeg's struggles?

"No, not at all," said Ehlers.

Once Vilardi was back, Arniel changed some more things up. Ehlers was put with Nino Niederreiter and Mark Scheifele, and that new trio combined for Winnipeg's two goals once the game was essentially out of reach. Scheifele and Ehlers set up Niederreiter for his 13th of the year at 8:32 of the third, while Samberg and Ehlers set up DeMelo for his third at 11:48.

Clayton Keller sealed the victory with an empty-netter.

NO POWER TO THEIR PLAY

This may be as much of an indictment as anything: The Jets did not earn a single power play on Monday night. That's actually the third time that's happened this year — with all of the instances coming in the last 10 games.

No doubt some of this is on other teams being on their best behaviour, not wanting to give the NHL's NO. 1 unit a chance to feast. But some of it is on Jets players to force the other team to take penalties.

"Could they have called one, absolutely, but, overall, when it is happening as much as it is happening right now, it is on us," said Ehlers.

“Obviously we are not playing the right way, getting inside and creating the penalties against. It is on us.”

KEY PLAY

The Samberg whoopsie that led to Utah’s second goal at 19:42 of the second period felt like the dagger.

THREE STARS

1. Utah C Barrett Hayton: 1 goal, 2 assists.
2. Utah RW Josh Doan: 2 assists.
3. Utah RW Clayton Keller: 1 goal, 1 assist

EXTRA, EXTRA

Hellebuyck finished with 23 saves on 27 shots. Utah goaltender Connor Ingram stopped 23 of 25 shots he faced.

The Jets did go 2-for-2 on the penalty kill if you’re searching for any positives.

Winnipeg made one lineup change, with forward Vlad Namestnikov returning after a four-game injury absence and Dominic Toninato coming out as a healthy scratch, joining defencemen Haydn Fleury and Ville Heinola in the press box. Forward Mason Appleton remains the only injured player, and he could be available as early as Wednesday.

<https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/breakingnews/2025/01/20/sold-on-salt-lake-city>

Sold on Salt Lake City

Arniel says Utah Hockey Club shows promise with new location and new ownership

By: Mike McIntyre

SALT LAKE CITY — The NHL’s newest market is drawing rave reviews from the Winnipeg Jets.

“It’s a great city. Especially outdoors, you can see the mountains from everywhere,” a rather wide-eyed Alex Iafallo said Monday, a few hours before his Winnipeg Jets hit the ice at Delta Center for the very first time to face the Utah Hockey Club.

“It was cool flying in. It’s just awesome.”

Indeed, the sights in Salt Lake City are spectacular, especially on a clear, crisp day such as the one Mother Nature ordered up for the Canadian visitors.

“It seems really nice here. It’s obviously a little cold. Not Winnipeg cold, mind you,” said forward Cole Perfetti with a chuckle.

Let the record show it was about -8 C at the time of the morning skate with a windchill making it feel like -15. That would have felt tropical compared to the deep freeze Winnipeggers woke up to.

“The mountains are beautiful to look at. It’s nice to be in a new spot that I’ve never been to, and I love the scenery,” Perfetti continued.

There typically isn't a lot of time to mix business with pleasure when an NHL team is on a road for a quick trip such as this, as players, coaches and staff basically go from airport (arrival day before the game) to hotel to rink (morning skate) to hotel (afternoon nap) to rink (game) to airport and quickly travel to the next city.

However, there was an opportunity for a little bit of sight-seeing as members of the 2.0 team got an up-close look at where the remains of the 1.0 era now reside. At least in theory, since the NHL is essentially treating this re-location as if it were expansion while parking the shared Jets/Arizona Coyotes history in hockey purgatory.

"I think we all loved going to Arizona. But it obviously didn't work there," said Jets coach Scott Arniel.

"To have a team here where the fans are passionate, to see the excitement new ownership's brought in, it's a great market. It came pretty quick for them, had to put it all together last summer. They've done a great job of doing what they had to do to get ready. It's great to have them in the league."

This is actually a homecoming of sorts for Arniel, who helped the Utah Grizzlies capture the Turner Cup in the now-defunct IHL back in 1995-96 while playing out of the Delta Center.

"It's kind of cool being back. Coming in the city (Sunday), seeing the sights. I haven't been here since then," said Arniel

Although it's the same arena, it's undergone major changes with more to come. Owner Ryan Smith plans to start a three-phase process following this season which will make the venue more fan-friendly for a hockey audience. Currently, about 5,000 seats in the 16,200-capacity building have obstructed views of the ice.

That's why their current attendance — an average of 11,131 per game which shows on websites as just 68.7 per cent capacity — is misleading.

One thing several Jets players were quick to point out is how steep the upper-deck is, with it resembling almost a direct plunge from top row to bottom from their vantage point on the ice.

"There's definitely some interesting angles," said Perfetti. "But it's a beautiful building."

Arniel said there could also be some growing pains for a team like his playing in the venue for the first time.

"You have to get a feel for how the boards work, the glass works, just kind of all that," he said. "Hopefully we can be up and running once the game starts."

It clearly hasn't been too big of a problem for visitors, since Utah entered play with just a 6-11-4 record on home ice.

"It's a real cool building and we got to see the city a little bit. My dad actually played here, and when I was little, there's pictures of me on skates here for one of the first times," said forward Vlad Namestnikov.

Indeed, Evgeny Namestnikov suited up for 62 games with the Grizzlies in 1997-98, along with six contests with the NHL's New York Islanders that season.

"It's a great city," said Namestnikov.

Salt Lake City is a vibrant sports market. They have always supported the NBA's Utah Jazz rain or shine (at 10-30 so far this year it's been a perpetual downpour yet they continue to draw huge crowds at Delta Center), and the Winter Olympics are coming back in 2034 after being here in 2002.

"It's exciting. To come here, there's a little history. And at the end of the day we love when the markets like this are passionate," Arniel said of the NHL now joining the Grizzlies (who are currently the ECHL affiliate of the Colorado Avalanche and now play at the 10,000 seat Maverik Center in nearby West Valley City).

With an exciting pool of potential future stars such as forwards Logan Cooley (20), Dylan Guenther (21) and Josh Doan (22) to go with existing young core players such as Barrett Hayton (24), Jack McBain (25) and Clayton Keller (26) the future seems bright and the growing fan-base should have plenty to cheer about.

"They're right on the cusp," Arniel said of Winnipeg's division rival, who will host the Jets again on April 5.

"They had to go through the draft, rebuilding, made some trades, signed some big free agents. They're getting real close. They're right in the hunt in a playoff spot. Sometimes it's just having to go through those experiences to grow as a team. They've got some great young pieces to build from."

<https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/breakingnews/2025/01/20/franchise-relocation-a-family-tradition-for-doans>

Franchise relocation a family tradition for Doans

By: Mike McIntyre

SALT LAKE CITY — Like father, like son? In more ways than one.

Shane Doan's rookie NHL season came with the 1995-96 Winnipeg Jets, who are best known for packing their bags and heading to the desert the following year.

Josh Doan's rookie NHL season came with the 2023-24 Arizona Coyotes, who are best known for packing their bags and heading to the mountains the following year.

"It's crazy how it worked out that way," the younger Doan said Monday. "A lot of people have teased me about it, saying we're a curse. If you take a Doan, then your team is going to move the season after you play your first."

The 22-year-old, who was born in Scottsdale, Ariz., was looking forward to facing his Dad's old team for the first time Monday night at his newest hockey home in Salt Lake City.

A real full-circle moment, if you will.

“He’s always said how grateful he was for the opportunity to start his career in Winnipeg,” said Doan. “He loved it. There were so many guys there who kind of molded him into who he became as a player and a person.”

Shane appeared in 74 games with Jets 1.0 (7G, 10A) after being drafted in the first-round, seventh-overall, in 1995. The Alberta native would go on to play 1,466 games with the Coyotes over 20 incredible years, with 955 points (395G, 560A) in that span.

Josh, who played two seasons with the Chicago Steel in the USHL then two more at Arizona State University, was drafted in the second-round (37th-overall) by the Coyotes in 2021. He played 76 American Hockey League games in Tucson, Ariz., over two seasons before an impressive 11-game NHL audition last year in which he had nine points (5G, 4A).

This year has included a few bumps, along with a 25-game stint in the AHL (still in Tucson) and now 15 games and counting with the re-located big club in Utah. He had two goals and one assist prior to facing the Jets.

“This is the level we all dream about playing,” said Doan.

“I got an opportunity to go down and play some big minutes in the AHL and grow my game a little bit more. Now it’s about coming back up here and finding my full stride and try to help the team win some hockey games at a crucial time of the year.”

The young right-winger has leaned on his father for plenty of advice about navigating the NHL waters, including what it’s like to see the team get up and leave.

“He’s been the biggest help for me in this move and what it’s like to go from one city to another and try to embrace both cities at the same time,” he said.

“It’s obviously a unique experience. But you’re all going together. We got a chance to come here as a group, all the staff came. So it was a pretty swift and easy transition for the group.”

Doan was also looking forward to making his first NHL trip to Winnipeg later this week as Utah visits Canada Life Centre on Friday.

“I played there growing up as a kid. We’d play spring hockey and had a tournament in Winnipeg couple times,” he said. “But I haven’t been there since I was younger.”

“The people are so friendly and outgoing. A little bit colder than (Arizona), but not too cold. You get all the seasons, which is nice.”

– Josh Doan on living in Salt Lake City

Doan has another option to talk Jets 1.0 without leaving his own dressing room. Teammate Jack McBain is the son of Andrew McBain, who played six seasons with Winnipeg between 1983-1989.

Doan is currently being given a big opportunity in the top six as he skated Monday night on the second line with Barrett Hayton and Matias Maccelli. Utah is trying to find some additional offence with forward Dylan Guenther sidelined indefinitely with a lower-body injury.

He is now soaking up the beautiful scenery and energy in the NHL's newest market and would love to carve out the type of long, successful career his father had — but perhaps with a Stanley Cup or two along the way.

"The people are so friendly and outgoing. A little bit colder than (Arizona), but not too cold. You get all the seasons, which is nice," said Doan

"You look around the league at other teams and the way that they have (won). I think we've got a group now and we're pretty confident. I think it's just one of those fun and exciting groups that wants to play fast and have fun and grow together. It all starts in the room and transitions on to the ice." said Doan.

Winnipeg Sun

<https://winnipeg.sun.com/sports/hockey/nhl/winnipeg-jets/that-was-embarrassing-jets-unhappy-with-effort-in-loss-to-utah>

'That was embarrassing': Jets unhappy with effort in loss to Utah

By Gordon Anderson, Winnipeg Sun

During the course of a long hockey season, some nights are reserved for a less-than-best effort.

The Utah Hockey Club built a 4-0 lead before the midpoint of the third period, en route to a 5-2 win over the Jets on Monday night.

"That is not Winnipeg Jets hockey," forward Nicholaj Ehlers said. "When you don't play the right way in this league, it doesn't matter who you are playing against, you are not winning that game."

Ehlers had two assists, his 25th and 26th of the season, in the losing effort.

Olli Maatta, Logan Cooley, Barrett Hayton and Matias Maccelli gave the Hockey Club a four-goal advantage before Nino Niederreiter and Dylan DeMelo responded for the Jets.

Clayton Keller scored into the empty net at 17:55 to seal the deal.

With the Minnesota Wild winning on Monday night, the Jets (31-14-3) are five points ahead of Minnesota for first in the central.

Head coach Scott Arniel was none too pleased with the effort.

"That was embarrassing," Arniel said. "That was, of all the games this year, that was the most embarrassing game. For me, for all our players — I take full credit, I've got to be the one that holds these guys accountable and makes sure we're better. That was embarrassing. From top to bottom, we did a (poor) job."

Jets captain Adam Lowry left the game in the first period and did not return. Lowry totalled 5:18 of ice time before he headed for the showers.

"It sucks. He is our captain, he is our leader and plays the right way every single shift he goes out there. Huge, huge part of this team and a special guy," Ehlers said.

Utah improves to 20-19-7. They are four points behind the Calgary Flames for the second wildcard in the west, heading into league action on Tuesday. The Hockey Club is 8-11-4 at home. Hayton was named the first star with one goal and two assists. Cooley was the second star and Keller was named the third star.

"Don't take anything away from them, they are a good team, and they dominated us, and it is as simple as that," Ehlers said. "We are not winning the Stanley Cup with the way we (played) on Monday."

Connor Hellebuyck (28-7-2) turned aside 23 shots. Hellebuyck is now 12-3 against the Central Division. Coming into the game, Hellebuyck sported a goals against average of 1.07 with a .961 save percentage and five shutouts against divisional opponents. The last time the lanky American netminder allowed five goals in a game was a 5-0 road loss to Florida on Nov. 16.

Connor Ingram (8-5-3) turned aside 23 shots for Utah.

Utah was blanked on two power-play chances. The Jets didn't receive a power play opportunity.

The Jets are in Colorado on Wednesday night. Puck drop is 8:30 p.m. CST.

Ice Chips

On Monday, former Jets head coach Tom McVie passed away. McVie led the team to a World Hockey Association Avco Cup championship in 1978. The following year, he coached the club's first entry into the NHL ... Vladislav Namestnikov made his return to the lineup. He was hurt after blocking a shot against the Kings on Jan. 10. He missed four games.

Salt Lake City Tribune

<https://www.sltrib.com/sports/utah-hockey-club/2025/01/20/utah-hockey-club-captain-clayton/>

Clayton Keller gets two points — and 12 stitches — in Utah Hockey Club win

By Belle Fraser

Clayton Keller disappeared.

The Utah Hockey Club captain took Michael Kesselring's point shot to the face early in the second period and ran straight for the locker room.

"I got lucky, it didn't catch my eye," Keller said. "When it happened, it happened so fast you don't really feel much."

Twenty-five minutes later, the team and Delta Center crowd collectively breathed a sigh of relief. Keller — albeit, bloody, bruised and with 12 new stitches — was back on the ice for the final 4:40 of the middle frame.

“They do a great job of trying to get it done as quick as possible and getting us back out there,” Keller said. “I can see right now. I don’t know about tomorrow. Just kind of feels like something is pushing. But I’m good.”

It took Keller just a few shifts to help pull Utah ahead in the eventual 5-2 win over the Winnipeg Jets Monday at Delta Center.

The 26-year-old forward picked up the puck by the red line, carried it into the offensive zone and dropped it to Nick Schmaltz who found Olli Määttä open up top. With Keller screening in front, Määttä blasted it past Jets’ goaltender Connor Hellebuyck for the 1-0 advantage at 16:00 and his first goal with Utah.

“That’s a hockey player, huh?” head coach André Tourigny said. “He came back and in his first shift, no hesitation, takes the puck out on entry, went right to the net and got rewarded. Coming back without hesitation, without a doubt in his head, that was great.”

The play marked Keller’s eighth point in the past four games and 34th assist of the season — most on the Club roster.

“It does a lot for the bench knowing that he’s willing to do that and come back and go right back to the net-front the next shift and get rewarded,” forward Josh Doan said. “It’s one of those things where it’s part of the game but you hate to see it happen. To see him bounce back, that was huge for us.”

Logan Cooley widened the gap with 17.9 seconds remaining in the period and extended his goal streak to four games, which is a new career high.

The 20-year-old streaked up the right side and wired the puck bar-down for the 2-0 boost. The center has seven points in the last five matchups and a total 42 on the season. He is three away from breaking his career record of 44 points through 82 games.

Utah wasted little time to extend its lead in the third period. A strong forecheck from Josh Doan helped the forward chip the puck to Barrett Hayton who was crashing the Jets’ net. Hayton got the puck between the hash marks and wristed it in to make it 3-0 at 4:53.

“I think that’s one of the most important parts of my game is being hard on the forecheck and forcing turnovers and making plays like that,” Doan said. “That’s something you have to take pride in.”

Hayton and Doan set up the next goal, too, but it was Matias Maccelli who buried it this time. The second line executed a pretty tic-tac-toe play off the rush which found Maccelli open in the slot to one-time the puck home for the 4-0 scoreline at 8:04. It was Maccelli’s ninth goal of the season as well as Doan’s second point and Hayton’s third point of the night.

“Both plays were really set up by Hayton and working hard,” Doan said.

Winnipeg countered with a two-goal push. Nino Niederreiter and Dylan DeMelo scored within three minutes of each other to put the Jets within two by the 11:48 mark. Utah refused to collapse, though, and none other than Keller potted the empty-net goal at 17:55 to bring the game to its final 5-2 standing.

“Even when [Winnipeg] had a push in the rest of the game, never felt the boat was rocking,” Tourigny said. “We had great leadership, we had great presence. Proud of the way we weathered the storm and stayed with it.”

The Jets, who lead the Central Division by five points and sit second in the NHL rankings, came into Delta Center winning three of their last four games. Utah did not let the numbers get in its head and put forth a high-paced, even-keeled effort which earned it two more points in the Western Conference playoff race.

The Club will face Winnipeg again on Friday.

“They’re such a great team, they’re so tough to create,” Keller said. “I think we did a good job tonight of taking what was there and not forcing it. I think that’s something earlier in the year that we wouldn’t have done.”