Winnipegjets.com

https://www.nhl.com/jets/news/three-things-jets-win-streak-at-11-games

Three things - Jets win streak at 11 games Jets 11 game win streak is tied for third-longest run in NHL history by Canadian team

The Winnipeg Jets win streak is now up to 11 games after a 4-1 win over the Ottawa Senators at Canadian Tire Centre. Cole Perfetti, Mason Appleton, Kyle Connor and Mark Scheifele scored for the Jets who are now 42-14-3 on the season. Scheifele's 33 goals has him tied for second in the NHL with the Maple Leafs William Nylander. Connor Hellebuyck made 24 saves and is now 21-2-2 in his last 25 starts, Winnipeg will travel to Nashville and will play the Predators on Thursday night.

TIED FOR LEAGUE LEAD IN GOALS

Winnipeg came into the night with 208 goals and that had them in second spot in the NHL behind the Capitals and now are tied with the Caps with 212. It's the most goals scored through 59 games in franchise history. The Jets lead the league with 30 four goal outings. Winnipeg is 37-2-1 when scoring at least three goals in a game this season.

ANOTHER WIN FOR HELLE

Connor Hellebuyck posted an eighth consecutive win and recorded the second-longest streak in franchise history behind his own mark of nine games set in 2017-18. Hellebuyck now has the longest win streak this season as he surpassed Ilya Sorokin, Linus Ullmark, Pyotr Kochetkov and Logan Thompson who all had runs of seven games.

JETS WIN WITHOUT POWER PLAY CLICKING

Winnipeg has won a lot of games this year thanks to their power play which has been ranked number one for the majority of the season. They have now gone a season high four games without a power play goal and are 0-for-10 over that stretch with the man advantage including 0-for-4 tonight and had a two minute, 5-on-3 power play, to their credit, they did not allow Ottawa any momentum after the Sens killed that two-man advantage off.

"Yeah, obviously our power play has been great all year. We've been able to win games and give us a lot of momentum and that first unit has been fantastic," said Cole Perfetti.

"Had some good looks tonight. Goalie made some nice saves. It's not going to go every time, so that was a great rebound from our group."

Canadian Press

https://www.sportsnet.ca/nhl/article/jets-run-franchise-record-winning-streak-to-11-games-in-winover-senators/

Jets run franchise-record winning streak to 11 games in win over Senators

By Canadian Press

OTTAWA — The Winnipeg Jets extended their franchise-record win streak to 11 games, topping the Ottawa Senators 4-1 Wednesday night in what Mason Appleton called the "ugliest" of the wins over the last while.

But a win is a win, and Winnipeg continued its run as the top team in the NHL.

"When you put together a streak like this, not every win is going to look the same. That would be almost impossible. It's a testament to the kind of team we are and how deep we are and find different ways to win," Appleton said.

Winnipeg (42-14-3) got two goals in quick succession at the midpoint of the first period from Appleton and Cole Perfetti, taking advantage of some ill-timed mistakes from Ottawa that pushed the surging Jets out of reach.

The struggling Senators (29-25-4) have now lost five straight.

"The first two periods were pretty sloppy," Jets coach Scott Arniel said. "It's bound to happen. We couldn't make a play. We weren't connecting. We did a lot of things that were uncharacteristic of (our team) but we played a lot better in the third.

"That's our group and that's our captains' recognizing it."

In net, it was a battle of the last two Vezina Trophy winners in Linus Ullmark, who won it with the Boston Bruins in 2022-23 and Connor Hellebuyck, who added his name to the trophy last year for Winnipeg.

Hellebuyck made 24 saves for the Jets while Ullmark stopped 36 in a losing effort.

Ullmark is still searching for his first win since Dec. 19 and is winless in four starts since coming back from injury.

Hellebuyck, meanwhile, has now gone an incredible 21-2-2 in his last 25 starts and continues to lead the league in goals-against average as he looks to become the first to win the Vezina Trophy in back-to-back seasons since Martin Brodeur in 2007-08.

"We're winning in different ways and that says a lot about our group as well. Tonight, you don't want to play like that but when you have the best goalie in the world it helps," Perfetti said.

"(Hellebuyck) saved our bacon a few times," added Appleton. "It was a vintage game by him."

Kyle Connor potted his 31st of the season at 11:56 of the second to make it 3-0. Less than 50 seconds later Thomas Chabot replied for Ottawa to get the Senators on the board.

Mark Scheifele, who became the Jets' franchise leader in goals Monday night, added an emptynetter late in the third for his 33rd goal of the season.

Ottawa dressed just 11 forwards and seven defencemen Wednesday and will gladly welcome some of their stars returning to stop its losing skid.

Brady Tkachuk, Josh Norris and Shane Pinto all skated Wednesday morning but Ottawa head coach Travis Green confirmed they would be out, with no formal update on when they would return.

The Senators were missing some firepower — to the tune of 51 goals so far this season — with those three inactive.

"It's no secret we're missing some of our skilled players, our top-end players," Green said. "I thought we had some good looks, but we couldn't score. For a couple of reasons. They have a really good goalie and it's hard to score in the NHL."

Winnipeg is now six wins away from the all-time NHL streak of 17 held by the 1992-93 Pittsburgh Penguins. The Edmonton Oilers had last season's longest winning streak with 16.

"There's a way we need to play consistently and we're always trying to build our brand towards what's coming down the road," Arniel said. "We're going to have big games from now until the end of the season and we're going to have big games getting into the playoffs."

NHL.com

https://www.nhl.com/news/winnipeg-jets-ottawa-senators-game-recap-february-26

Jets defeat Senators for 11th straight victory Connor, Scheifele each has goal, assist in win; Ottawa loses 5th in row

By Callum Fraser

OTTAWA -- The Winnipeg Jets extended their franchise-record winning streak to 11 games with a 4-1 victory against the Ottawa Senators at Canadian Tire Centre on Wednesday.

"It's not going to be pretty every night," Winnipeg forward Cole Perfetti said. "We've won 11 in a row. ... Not every game is going to be great, but if we're still finding ways to win when we don't play our best, I think that says a lot about our group."

Kyle Connor and Mark Scheifele each had a goal and an assist, and Connor Hellebuyck made 24 saves for the Jets (42-14-3). Hellebuyck has started eight games during the streak.

"As much as we had opportunities -- power play, different scenarios -- we gave up some chances and 'Helly' was there," Winnipeg coach Scott Arniel said. "Like I said, we win hockey games in different ways, different fashions, and tonight, Helly had to be big. He had to make some key saves for us to keep us in a game that we weren't really good at early on."

The Jets haven't lost since Jan. 20, when they fell 5-2 at the Utah Hockey Club.

"I thought 'Bucky' was real solid back there and he saved our bacon quite a few times," Winnipeg forward Mason Appleton said. "It was a vintage game by him. And then anytime you can score in bunches like that, obviously it gives you a real confidence boost and a good chance and kind of gets you feeling good."

Tim Stutzle had an assist to extend his point streak to 10 games, Thomas Chabot scored, and Linus Ullmark made 35 saves for the Senators (29-25-4), who have lost five in a row.

"You're always disappointed when you lose, but I thought it was a step in the right direction for our team," Ottawa coach Travis Green said. "I felt like we found our legs a little bit, found our

work ethic, forecheck was better, breakout was better, spent a lot of quality time in the offensive zone. It's a good team over there and we played a hard-fought game."

The Senators were without forward and captain Brady Tkachuk (lower body) for the second straight game. Center Josh Norris (mid-body) missed his sixth game in a row, and center Shane Pinto (upper body) was out for the fourth consecutive game.

"I'm not going to lie, those are very big pieces of our team," Chabot said. "Very talented centers that give us a lot of depth, so we're obviously missing them. But as you guys all know, we're definitely not the first team to go through this this season and we won't be the last one, probably."

Perfetti gave the Jets a 1-0 lead at 7:46 of the first period. Nikolaj Ehlers intercepted a Stutzle pass attempt and threw the puck toward the net from the left point before Perfetti redirected it in.

"Little rocky start, which you can't really do when you're playing one of the best teams, if not the best team, in the League," Ullmark said. "You've got to be firing on all cylinders from minute one to minute 60."

Appleton made it 2-0 at 9:03. After stopping Nino Niederreiter's shot on the rush, Ullmark lost sight of the puck on the ice in front of him, and Appleton poked it in.

"That was probably the ugliest [win], I think," Appleton said. "I think [Arniel] would say that, too. But at the end of the day, when you put together a streak like this, not every win is going to look the same. That would be almost impossible. So, I think it's a testament to the kind of team we are and how deep we are and finding different ways to win."

Connor pushed it to 3-0 at 8:04 of the second period with a quick shot from the bottom of the left face-off circle to the short side off a pass from Gabriel Vilardi.

Chabot cut it to 3-1 at 8:53 with a wrist shot over Hellebuyck's right shoulder from the left faceoff dot. Stutzle assisted on the goal, giving him 14 points (three goals, 11 assists) during his point streak.

"You've got to figure a way very quickly to get out of this," Chabot said of the losing streak.

Scheifele scored into an empty net at 17:04 of the third period for the 4-1 final.

"Tonight, you don't want to play like that, but when you've got the best goalie in the world, it helps," Perfetti said. "Some timely goals and you end up winning a game that sometimes you might not win. Just move on and go to Nashville (on Thursday)."

Ottawa defenseman Tyler Kleven left the game midway through the first period with a lowerbody injury after a fight with Adam Lowry. There was no update on Kleven.

NOTES: Hellebuyck's eight-game winning streak is the second-longest in franchise history behind his own run of nine games set in 2017-18. He now has the longest winning streak in the NHL this season. ... The Jets improved to 25-3-2 when scoring first this season, the best such record in the NHL. ... Ullmark has allowed three or more goals in each of his past four starts. ... Stutzle also has a nine-game assist streak (11 assists).

<u>TSN.ca</u>

https://www.tsn.ca/nhl/video/perfetti-a-key-factor-during-jets-11-game-win-streak%7E3087627

Perfetti a key factor during Jets' 11-game win streak (VIDEO)

What has been the key to the Jets' franchise-record 11-game winning streak? How much will Connor Hellebuyck play down the stretch? Should the Senators be upset that Brady Tkachuk got injured at the 4 Nations Face-Off? TSN Hockey analyst Martin Biron joins SportsCentre to share his thoughts.

Global Winnipeg

https://globalnews.ca/news/11051193/winnipeg-jets-extend-win-streak-to-11-games-with-4-1triumph-in-ottawa/

Winnipeg Jets extend win streak to 11 games with 4-1 triumph in Ottawa

By Christian Aumell & Russ Hobson Global News

The Winnipeg Jets just can't be stopped right now.

The NHL's top team continued its white-hot run Wednesday night in Ottawa, downing a shorthanded Senators team 4-1 to extend their franchise-record win streak to 11 games.

The Jets admittedly weren't at their best in the first two periods, but still managed to build up a 3-1 lead and locked it down in the third period before eventually adding an empty netter.

"The first two periods were pretty sloppy," said Jets head coach Scott Arniel. "It's bound to happen. We couldn't make a play and we weren't connecting. We did a lot of things that are uncharacteristic of us, but at the end of the day, we played a lot better in the third, came out and did a lot of good things, and then just found a way to win a hockey game."

The Jets became the fourth Canadian team in NHL history to record a win streak of at least 11 games, joining the Edmonton Oilers (2023-2024), Montreal Canadiens (1967-1968, 1981-1982, 1926-1927), and Ottawa Senators (2009-2010).

It may not have been pretty, but a win is a win anyway you slice it.

"When you put together a streak like this, not every win is going to look the same," said Jets forward Mason Appleton. "That'd be almost impossible. So, I think it's a testament to the type of team we are, and how deep we are, and find different ways to win. Not every one is going to be a Picasso and tonight we felt like we gave up a little too much, but still find a way to get the win and that's what matters."

Kyle Connor had a goal and an assist in the win, while Appleton, Cole Perfetti, and Mark Scheifele had the other markers for Winnipeg.

It took the Jets more than five minutes to record their first shot on goal, but a pair of scraps in the first seven minutes seemed to flip the momentum in the Jets favour. The Jets opened the scoring just a minute after Jets captain Adam Lowry fought Tyler Kleven.

"He can kinda impose his will on teams," said Appleton. "Guys are very conscious of that and maybe a little fearful. He's a big strong dude and when he grits his teeth a little bit, I think everyone on the other bench definitely notices it."

Jets goalie Connor Hellebuyck recorded an eighth consecutive win to move within a single victory of his own franchise record of nine straight wins from the 2017-2018 season.

Even though Brady Tkachuk was not in the lineup, the game got frisky early with multiple players dropping the gloves in the first seven minutes.

The first incident came less than three minutes in when Logan Stanley took exception to an Artem Zub hit on Scheifele. Both players dropped their gloves but no punches were thrown as the two men grappled for a bit before officials intervened. Stanley got an extra roughing penalty on the play but Winnipeg killed it off.

A few minutes later, Kleven caught Mason Appleton with a big, clean hit into the boards, prompting Lowry to fight Kleven. Lowry briefly left the game to get his right hand taped up after the fight, while Kleven also went to the locker room after the tussle and did not return.

Just over a minute after the fight, the Jets got on the scoreboard thanks to a turnover in the Senators end by Tim Stutzle. A blind backhand pass missed the mark near the blueline and Nikolaj Ehlers intercepted it before zooming a pass towards the net that Perfetti steered past Linus Ullmark to open the scoring.

Winnipeg struck again 77 seconds later. Nino Niederreiter was sprung on a partial breakaway and was denied by Ullmark, who thought he had the puck frozen. Instead, the puck sat free near his pad and was jammed home by Appleton to make it 2-0 on Winnipeg's fourth shot of the night.

Hellebuyck had to be strong for most of the period as the Senators dominated the shot clock until the final minutes when Winnipeg actually pulled ahead 13-12 through 20 minutes.

The Jets extended their lead at the 8:04 mark of the second. After a long shift in the Senators' end, Gabriel Vilardi skated the puck in front of the Ottawa net before dishing it to Kyle Connor, who beat Ullmark five-hole for his 31st of the season.

The Senators finally got on the board 49 seconds later when Thomas Chabot beat Hellebuyck with a perfect shot just under the crossbar.

Winnipeg had a golden opportunity to build on their lead when Nikolas Matinpalo was called for two penalties on one play, and 36 seconds later Jake Sanderson took a penalty as well, giving the league's best power play a full two-minute 5-on-3.

The Jets managed to get six shots towards Ullmark but could not get one past him as the game stayed 3-1 heading to the third. Winnipeg outshot Ottawa 18-11 in the second.

If history was any indication, there would be little drama in the third. Winnipeg entered the game with a 31-0-1 record when leading after 40 minutes, while Ottawa was 1-19 when trailing after two.

True to form, the Jets allowed very little in the final 20 minutes, holding the Sens to two shots in the third.

Ottawa even had a power play with under six minutes left but they couldn't get anything going, so they pulled Ullmark with 3:36 left.

That too proved fruitless as Scheifele scored into the empty net with 2:56 left on the clock.

Hellebuyck turned aside 24 shots to earn the win, while Ullmark made 36 stops in defeat.

Winnipeg will look to make it a dozen wins in a row when they visit Nashville Thursday night. The puck will drop just after 7 p.m. with pregame coverage on 680 CJOB beginning at 5 p.m.

https://globalnews.ca/news/11049754/analysis-winnipeg-jets-history-mark-scheifele/

ANALYSIS: Scheifele rewrites Jets' record book, but which franchise's stats matter?

By Paul Edmonds CJOB

As the Winnipeg Jets move forward in their history, there will always be the undercurrent of debate about the team's franchise records. Do we recognize and celebrate the Atlanta Thrashers days as part of the organization's past?

Or do we only acknowledge the records from the Jets' previous NHL era of 1979-96, and then 2011 to date?

It's certainly confusing and problematic when the two worlds collide – and lately, that's been often – as they did on Monday night when Mark Scheifele scored his 329th career goal.

As essentially a charter member of the Jets since relocation, Scheifele is now the all-time leader in goals in Atlanta/Winnipeg franchise history, surpassing Ilya Kovalchuk, who only ever played in Winnipeg as a member of the opposition and a player the city has zero association with – other than in name recognition.

But for right now, anyway, it's the former that is the official account of the current Jets' history. As such, Scheifele's new stamp on the goal mark is the standard.

If and when the Jets organization reclaims the historical annals that left for Arizona and are now in limbo with that team's fresh start in Utah, the current baseline for Jets milestones does include the Atlanta Thrashers.

And while we understand there is a strong play being made to the NHL by the Winnipeg Jets to retrieve the old Jets records, until that is accomplished, the NHL will continue to officially work off of the team's records that include its days in Georgia.

Now, that doesn't mean Scheifele's next target isn't former Jets great Dale Hawerchuk's 379 goals to lead the old franchise. In fact, it's something Scheifele is eagerly looking forward to bringing down as well – perhaps as soon as next season.

And by that time there may be an official merging of the old Jets records with the new. And then we will speak of Atlanta no longer. But even then, when Scheifele scores goal 380 to surpass

Ducky he will be the undisputed franchise leader in goal scoring – two times over, no less – and that relevance will no longer be open for debate.

Winnipeg Free Press

https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/breakingnews/2025/02/26/jets-win-ugly-in-nations-capital

Jets win ugly in nation's capital Sloppy play carries the day against depleted Senators lineup

By: Mike McIntyre

KANATA, Ont. — We've reached the point in this franchise-record winning streak — one that now spans an incredible 11 games spread out over 35 days — when the Winnipeg Jets are starting to get a bit picky.

"That was probably the ugliest one, I think," forward Mason Appleton said Wednesday night inside Canadian Tire Centre, moments after his club had downed the Ottawa Senators 4-1.

Talk about first world problems. Or, to be more specific, first-place problems.

"At the end of the day when you put together a streak like this, not every win is going to look the same. That would be almost impossible," Appleton continued.

"It's a testament to the type of team we are, how deep we are and find different ways to win. Not every one is going to be a Picasso and tonight we felt like we gave up a little too much. But still found a way to get the win and that's what matters."

Fair enough. We'll concede the Jets weren't always at their best in this one, especially in a fairly loose and sloppy first 40 minutes.

"We couldn't make a play. We weren't connecting. We did a lot of things that were uncharacteristic of us," is how head coach Scott Arniel described it.

What should we take away from a team that can bring something less than their A game into a visiting building against a desperate opponent fighting for its playoff life and still skate away with a three-goal victory?

"Not every game is going to be great but if we're still finding ways to win when we don't play our best, I think that says a lot about our group," said forward Cole Perfetti.

"We're winning in different ways, all different styles. I think that says a lot about our group as well."

Winnipeg improves to 42-14-3 which has them looking down on every other team in the league. They have a three-point cushion over the Washington Capitals for top spot overall and an 11-point buffer over the Dallas Stars for the lead in both the Central Division and Western Conference.

Ottawa, meanwhile, fell for a fifth straight game and remain just out of the Eastern Conference playoff picture with a 29-25-4 record.

Let's pick this one apart a bit further:

SCRAPPY START

It was clear the Senators came out with a plan to be physical in the opening minutes, dishing out several big hits including one that sent Winnipeg's top scorer, Mark Scheifele, to the ice. Teammate Logan Stanley rushed to his defence, dropping the gloves with Ottawa's Artem Zub — who may have gotten away with sticking out his leg.

Although the Jets came out of that exchange shorthanded, it was a penalty they didn't mind taking.

"100 per cent," said Arniel. "That's us sticking together."

A few minutes later, Senators forward Tyler Kleven crushed Appleton, who didn't have the puck at the time and clearly wasn't expecting it. That drew an immediate response from linemate Adam Lowry, with the Jets captain scoring a quick, decisive victory in the ensuing fight.

Lowry appeared to cut his hand on Kleven's helmet and went to the room for some repairs, while Kleven eventually left the game with a lower-body injury.

"Those are signs of a really good hockey team who care for each other," said Arniel.

BANG, BANG

The Jets were on their heels a bit off the start, with goaltender Connor Hellebuyck coming through with several key saves. The physical pushback seemed to lead to an offensive outburst in which the Jets struck twice in 77 seconds to seize momentum from the home side.

First up Perfetti, who's been on an offensive tear of late. He tipped a pass from Nikolaj Ehlers, who pounced on a giveaway from Ottawa's Tim Stutzle at 7:46 of the opening frame.

"I started circling back almost to get ready to backcheck and then Fly made a great play," said Perfetti, who is now up to 12 goals on the year and has 12 points (5G, 7A) over his last 10 games.

"I thought it was going to be too hard to handle, so I just kind of chopped at it and ended up going in. It was a good bounce."

One witnessed by his parents and other family and friends who made the trip from nearby Whitby, Ont., to see him light the lamp in his home province for just the second time in his career.

Next was Appleton, who jumped on a loose puck created by a Nino Niederreiter shot for his eighth of the season at 9:03.

"Any time you can score in bunches like that obviously it gives you a real confidence boost and kind of gets you feeling good," said Appleton.

DAM BURSTS

Kyle Connor has looked dangerous since returning from the 4 Nations Face-Off, with a whopping 19 shot attempts (and 14 shots on goal) over the last two games. He had nothing to show for it, however, as his personal scoring drought had extended to five games.

He buried a beautiful Gabe Vilardi feed near the midway mark of the second period to make it 3-0. He's now up to 31 goals on the year and is on pace for 100 points.

POWER OUTAGE

Winnipeg's power play has been a major weapon this year and is a big part of why they've been so successful. They hadn't scored in three consecutive games prior to facing the Senators (0-for-6 in that span) and ran into another roadblock in this one.

The Jets went 0-for-4, including a huge missed opportunity later in the middle frame after Ottawa's Thomas Chabot had cut the lead to 3-1.

Senators defenceman Nikolas Matinpalo took two minors on the same play — high-sticking and playing with a broken stick — and then Jake Sanderson was called for a blatant hook early in the four-minute advantage, leading to a five-on-three for a full two minutes. All of which went for naught.

"Our power play has been great all year. We've been able to win games and give us a lot of momentum and that first unit has been fantastic. Had some good looks. The goalie made some nice saves," said Perfetti.

Ottawa's fans were really into it once play returned to five-on-five, and you thought this might be the emotional boost the home team needed. The Jets really tightened up their game from that point on and really took control in an event-free third period.

"Obviously we want to score there and kind of really put the game away, but it was a good response from our team," said Perfetti.

Scheifele sealed the win with an empty-netter, his team-leading 33rd goal of the year.

KEY PLAY

Appleton's goal, just 1:17 after Perfetti opened the scoring, ultimately proved to be the gamewinner.

THREE STARS

- 1. Jets Connor Hellebuyck: 24 saves
- 2. Jets Kyle Connor: 1G, 1A
- 3. Jets D Dylan Samberg: Team-high 24:28, 3 shots, 3 hits, 4 blocks, plus-2

EXTRA EXTRA

The Senators were without three key injured forwards in Brady Tkachuk. Josh Norris and Shane Pinto and played with 11 forwards and seven defencemen. Winnipeg's only injury right now is depth forward Morgan Barron, who is close to a return.

Healthy Jets scratches were defencemen Ville Heinola and Haydn Fleury and forward Jaret Anderson-Dolan, who was called up from the Moose earlier in the day.

Ottawa goaltender Linus Ullmark stopped 35 of 38 shots he faced.

The Jets went two-for-two on the penalty kill, including a clinical one late in the third period with Appleton in the box when they never even let the Senators get set up in the offensive zone.

Winnipeg chartered after the game to Nashville, where they will conclude this quick two-game road trip tonight against the Predators.

https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/breakingnews/2025/02/26/morrisseys-calm-assist-earns-grateful-moms-first-star-award

Morrissey's calm assist earns grateful mom's first-star award Jets D-man a bit player in icy three-car crash, but guides upset collision rookie through traumatic aftermath

By: Mike McIntyre

OTTAWA — Josh Morrissey's impact on the Winnipeg Jets is significant, with a calm, cool demeanour and ability to come up with big plays at key times.

Turns out the talented defenceman is making similar contributions in the community, where he recently took control of a chaotic situation surrounding a three-vehicle crash that he unwittingly found himself in the middle of.

"It's not often that people get to see this side of a player," Jodi Pauley told the Free Press. "And I cannot stress enough how much it meant to us to find out who he was after the fact and how humble he was when the jersey was off."

This heartwarming story actually goes back to a cold morning late last month when Pauley's 19year-old daughter, Mackenzie, was driving on Portage Avenue. She stopped at a light that had just turned red, only to be struck from behind by a vehicle.

The impact caused significant damage and sent the at-fault motorist spinning into the middle lane where she struck a second stopped vehicle. Morrissey was behind the wheel of that one, although the parties involved didn't realize it at the time.

"It was a little icy that day," Morrissey recalled Wednesday.

"(Mackenzie's) car was to my left and were in the front row of the intersection. The car behind ended up getting both of us. Thankfully no one was injured. I got the least damage. Unfortunately, hers and the car that hit her were a lot worse off than mine. Just some minor repairs for mine."

As Pauley explained, her daughter had never been in a crash before and was quite shaken up emotionally. It didn't help that the woman responsible for the crash remained in her vehicle, leading to some confusion at the scene.

"I think people react in all kinds of ways in those situations," said Morrissey, who was on his way home at the time from his team's morning skate at Canada Life Centre. "People can get flustered and all that kind of stuff. It was one of those things where I just tried to go about it the right away." He recognized Mackenzie was quite upset and did his best to console her.

"I didn't think she had been in a situation like that before, so I just tried to explain what to do and try to keep things under control," he said.

"Those things can happen, especially on those Winnipeg roads. But I was happy to help out. One of those things where you just try to do things by the book and help out someone who was having their first experience with that."

It made a huge difference, according to Pauley.

"To many, this wouldn't seem like a very big deal, but it really was to our family," she said.

"She was in a bit of shock and didn't really know how to handle what, to her, was a scary situation, especially when the driver that hit them refused to get out of her vehicle. She was fortunate enough to have what she described to me as 'a really nice guy' who, in her words, 'took over and helped her navigate the exchanging of info,' etc."

As Pauley explained, her daughter thought the kind stranger "looked a little familiar" but didn't immediately make the connection. It was only later that day, back home, that a viewing of the paperwork showed exactly who had come to her rescue.

"It was heartwarming to see that someone famous could be so humble and kind," said Pauley, noting Morrissey went on to have a big game in a Jets victory that night.

"He just seems like such a good guy, and it's nice to have some good to talk about sometimes, especially the way the world is lately."

The league-leading Jets aren't just winning big on the ice this year, but off it, as well. Morrissey's teammate, Nino Niederreiter, helped rescue a pair of motorists on Boxing Day near La Salle when he found them stuck in a snowbank.

Morrissey was quick to deflect any praise, saying he hoped anyone else would do the same thing in a similar situation.

"I think, at the end of the day, it doesn't matter if you're a hockey player on the Jets, or anybody. Just be a good person and do things the right way," he said.

"That's what I try to do as much as possible. I'm happy to hear it positively helped her in that situation. I just tried to do things the right way in a situation like that, help someone out that maybe hadn't been in that situation before. Nothing crazy, I didn't save the world or anything like that, but happy to hear I helped her out."

Morrissey, 29, is now in his 10th season with the Jets and under contract through 2027-28. He is fresh off starring for Team Canada at the 4 Nations Face-Off but missed last Thursday's championship triumph over the United States with a severe flu bug. He's expected to be part of the national team at the Winter Olympics in Italy next February.

The 13th-overall draft pick from 2013 returned to Winnipeg's lineup Monday to score the gametying goal with 26 seconds left in regulation. Mark Scheifele then won it overtime. "He comes up with big moments, time and time again for us," Jets captain Adam Lowry said Wednesday.

He is one of Morrissey's best friends on the team — both men are from Calgary — and said the roadside assistance story doesn't surprise him in the least.

"That's a great example of his humility," said Lowry.

"He's a superstar off the ice but he doesn't go around demanding attention or asking for it. He just goes about his life, tries to give back to the community, tries to make a positive impact. Obviously (the collision was) an unfortunate situation, but that's where his calm demeanour and his leadership in the chaotic environment of sports comes in. You kind of need that calm influence and that's what he is for us.

"Clearly it extends beyond the room."

Winnipeg Sun

https://winnipegsun.com/sports/hockey/nhl/winnipeg-jets/jets-keep-rolling-through-ottawa-withwin-no-11

Jets sloppy and ugly, but still winners in Ottawa

By Paul Friesen

An injury-riddled and struggling Ottawa Senators team wasn't going to stop the steamrolling Winnipeg Jets on Wednesday, even if they weren't at their best.

The Jets extended their winning streak to 11 games with a 4-1 win in the nation's capital.

Of the 11, this isn't one that'll go in the art gallery.

"That was probably the ugliest one," winger Mason Appleton told reporters in Ottawa. "But at the end of the day when you put together a streak like this, not every win is going to look the same. That would be almost impossible. It's a testament to the type of team we are, how deep we are and find different ways to win.

"Not every one is going to be a Picasso and tonight we felt like we gave up a little too much."

Appleton scored the Jets' second goal of the first period, following one from Cole Perfetti.

Kyle Connor made it 3-0 in the second, while Mark Scheifele added an empty-netter after the Senators finally got on the board in the third.

Jets coach Scott Arniel agreed the tidy score didn't reflect his team's play.

"The first two periods ... pretty sloppy," Arniel said. "It's bound to happen. We couldn't make a play. We weren't connecting. We did a lot of things that were uncharacteristic of us. But ... we played a lot better in the third."

The win, goalie Connor Hellebuyck's eighth in a row, keeps Winnipeg on top of the overall NHL standings with a 42-14-3 record.

The Senators lost their fifth straight, playing without their top two goal-scorers, captain Brady Tkachuk and centre Josh Norris, as well as forward Shane Pinto, all out with injuries.

They fall to 29-25-4.

Final shots were 40-25 in favour of the Jets, 9-2 over the final 20 minutes.

The first 20 included a pair of scraps after what the Jets felt were over-the-top hits against them.

Not even three minutes in, Artem Zub clipped Scheifele, and Logan Stanley immediately dropped the gloves thinking it had been a dirty hit.

Stanley got a double-minor, Zub a minor.

"That's us sticking together," Arniel said. "Scheif is our top player, you don't want to see anyone taking runs at him or whatever in those situations. There wasn't a call. Maybe I thought there should have been. But at the end of the day, great that Stan got in there."

Minutes later, Adam Lowry didn't like a hard but clean hit by rookie Tyler Kleven on Appleton, so he dropped his gloves and stunned the 23-year-old from Fargo with a quick one to the chin. This time both players got five for fighting.

"Those are signs of a really good hockey team who care for each other," Arniel said.

Barely a minute later, Perfetti scored the first of two Jets goals in a 77-second span.

"Maybe that jump-starts us," Appleton said. "Gets us into the battle a bit."

"There might be something to that," Arniel added. "He (Lowry) is a presence, a big man, and there's not a lot of guys in this league that like to go up against him when he gets angry like that. He can be a force."

Appleton wouldn't be surprised, too, if his linemate's fight caused the Senators to back off.

"He can impose his will on teams, and guys are very conscious of that, maybe a little fearful. He's a big, strong dude. And when he grits his teeth a little bit, everyone on the other bench definitely notices it."

While Linus Ullmark was giving up two in the Sens net, Hellebuyck was doing his thing at the other end.

With their 22-0-2 record when leading after 20, the Jets were well on their way to consecutive win No. 11.

Connor, on a nifty setup from Gabe Vilardi, made it 3-0 before the second period was half over.

Less than a minute later, though, the Sens got one back, Thomas Chabot beating Hellebuyck over the shoulder, short side.

While the Jets squandered a two-man advantage later in the second, they still led by two through two.

They had one last challenge: With less than six minutes to go in the third, they called on their penalty kill after Appleton went off for tripping.

"That was a good one to watch from the box," Appleton said. "You take a penalty with that time left obviously it's a little more stressful. But we did a really good job killing that one off. I don't think they ever got set up."

Winnipeg's power play went 0-for-4, a fourth straight game without scoring. Ottawa was 0-for-2.

The Jets won't have much time to enjoy this one – they're right back in action on Thursday, after a late-night flight to Nashville to take on the Predators.

It's their sixth back-to-back set of the season. They're 1-4 in the second game.

Ottawa Sun

https://ottawasun.com/sports/ottawa-senators-no-match-for-high-flying-jets-in-fifth-straight-loss

Ottawa Senators no match for streaking Jets in fifth straight loss

By Bruce Garrioch

The struggles continued for the sinking Ottawa Senators.

The shorthanded Senators extended their losing streak to five after they dropped a 4-1 decision to the Winnipeg Jets on Wednesday night in front of 17,831 at the Canadian Tire Centre.

Only Thomas Chabot was able to beat goaltender Connor Hellebuyck as the Jets extended their franchise-record winning streak to 11. Winnipeg hasn't lost a game since Jan. 20.

The Senators were without captain Brady Tkachuk along with two of their top centres — Josh Norris and Shane Pinto — and that trio can't get back soon enough because this lineup is thin.

To make matters worse, the Senators lost defenceman Tyler Kleven to a lower-body injury he likely suffered in a fight with Adam Lowry in the first period that never should have happened.

Trying to make the playoffs for the first time since 2017, the Senators can't afford to let this continue much longer. Goaltender Linus Ullmark wasn't at his best, but he didn't have much help, facing 39 Winnipeg shots.

This is the second time this season the club has lost five straight. Ottawa went 0-4-1 in a stretch from Nov. 14-23. The Senators have only 24 games left and a difficult stretch ahead.

"I thought it was a good step in the right direction," said winger David Perron. "Sometimes when you're on a streak like this there is the old Ken Hitchcock quote that it takes one game to get it going in the right direction and this was it."

ULLMARK STRUGGLES

Pulled after giving up five goals on 15 shots in the club's loss to the Habs on Saturday,

Ullmark made his third straight start. He came into this game with a 0-3-0 record since returning from a back injury that forced him to miss 19 games. He had posted a .879 save percentage and a 4.88 goals-against average.

Games like this are why the Senators acquired Ullmark and he had to come up big. He came into this one with a 2-0-0 career record against the Jets with a .945 save percentage and 2.00 GAA.

This is a time of the season where Ullmark needs to step up and he'd better find his game soon. The trip to the 4 Nations Face-Off with Team Sweden was supposed to help sharpen his game and that hasn't happened.

"(He's been) all right but all right doesn't really cut it in this league," Ullmark said. "The frustrating part is that I'm still looking for that first win since coming back."

Ullmark needs to find it soon because this was a game where the Senators had to get him to steal two points.

Hellebuyck is the NHL's best goalie with a 35-7-2 record. He came into this game with a 2.04 GAA and a .910 save percentage. He doesn't give up easy goals and the Senators understood that coming in.

If there was going to be a turning point it had to come after the Senators were able to kill off a double-minor to defenceman Nikolas Mantinpalo and a 5-on-3 for the full two minutes after Jake Sanderson was sent off.

The Senators were able to keep the NHL's best power play at bay and Ullmark made the necessary stops. Hellebuyck made a huge point-blank stop on David Perron just after that kill by Ottawa.

TESTING ADVERSITY

The challenge is more difficult without Tkachuk, Pinto and Norris but injuries are part of the game. That can't be an excuse, especially when a team is fighting for a playoff spot but you also have to be realistic.

The club recalled forwards Angus Crookshank and Jan Jenik from its American Hockey League affiliate in Belleville. It was the second straight night the Senators have dressed 11 forwards and seven blueliners.

It's the first time Crookshank has been recalled this season after suiting up for 13 games last year. Still, the Sens are missing 51 goals with Tkachuk, Norris and Pinto sitting in the press box.

Trailing 3-0 after Kyle Connor scored his 31st at 8:04 of the second, Chabot finally got the Senators on the board. He took a pass from Tim Stutzle and beat Hellebuyck on the glove side only 49 seconds later.

"You're always disappointed when you lose but I thought it was a step in the right direction," said coach Travis Green. "We found our legs a little and we found our legs a little bit."

TOUGH START

Two goals in a span of 1:17 allowed the Jets to pull out to a 2-0 lead after 20 minutes.

Mason Appleton poked home a loose puck that Ullmark couldn't find in the crease at 9:03 to extend Winnipeg's advantage. A turnover by Stutzle allowed Cole Perfetti to open the scoring at 7:46.

"We gave them two goals to start the game and it's going to be tough coming back, especially with the goalie they've got," said Chabot. "There are positives to take but we've got to move on to the next game.

"We've got to figure out a way very quickly to get out of this."

That's too bad because there were large portions of the first period where they completely controlled the game, but the Jets capitalized on their chances and the Senators didn't.

The Senators are now 3-16-2 when trailing after the first period and Mark Scheiffle put it away into an empty net.

Sportsnet.ca

https://www.sportsnet.ca/nhl/article/brutal-struggle-remains-real-for-senators-goalie-linusullmark/

'Brutal': Struggle remains real for Senators goalie Linus Ullmark

By Alex Adams

OTTAWA — Two Vezina Trophy winners squared off, but there was no question who was the better one.

Connor Hellebuyck > Linus Ullmark.

By no means was Ullmark the only cause of the Senators' 4-1 defeat on Wednesday to the Winnipeg Jets, a team that boosted its winning streak to an incredible 11 games.

However, Hellebuyck made no costly mistakes and Ullmark made one clear mistake. As they say, small margins make a gulf of difference in the NHL.

Ottawa was burned in the first by a careless Tim Stutzle no-look failed outlet pass that led to a Cole Perfetti tap-in to give Winnipeg the 1-0 lead. A few minutes later, Nino Neiderreiter sprung in on Ullmark with a weak backhand; Ullmark lost the rebound for what felt like a quantum minute before Mason Appleton fired the loose puck home with what would be the game-winning goal.

Despite making 35 saves, Ullmark could've been better, and Ottawa is now riding its worst losing streak of the season with five straight.

When Sportsnet.ca asked coach Travis Green post-game to evaluate Ullmark's performance since his return from a back injury in February, he said, "I don't want to speak for how he feels,

but I think probably after the second goal tonight, he started to look at himself. But I'd probably say it's been average."

Without big guns Brady Tkachuk, Josh Norris and Shane Pinto — all out with injuries — the Senators were going to be hard-pressed to beat the best team in the league, but that's when you need your star goaltender to step up. Ullmark hasn't raised his level of play, losing all four of his recent starts when the team was without Norris and Pinto, including two games without Tkachuk. Ullmark allowed 14 goals in those four games.

Ullmark was honest when asked by Sportsnet.ca post-game to evaluate his play since his return from the back injury.

"All right," said Ullmark. "But 'all right' doesn't really cut it in this league, I would say. The frustrating part is that I'm still looking for that first win since coming back. But it's going to come sooner or later, hopefully as soon as Saturday."

When Ullmark was acquired and then signed to a four-year, \$33-million extension a day before the regular season, the hopes were high that he'd be the Senators' elite goaltender, not an average one. The Senators bet on a goaltender with a great resume but someone who has never played more than 49 games in a season.

From the jump, Ullmark was hurt in pre-season, then again two games into the season and then once again in late December with a back injury, before returning in February. So far, the wager on Ullmark hasn't worked out. There is plenty of runway left on his contract, but only 24 games left this season.

Ullmark was raw and honest about his injury-riddled season.

"Absolutely brutal, it sucks," said Ullmark about his feelings after coming in and out of the lineup due to injuries. "You want to be in it. You want to play."

The Senators brought Ullmark in to steal games and, to his credit, he did that for a stretch in late November to late December before suffering his back injury, going 8-0-1 with ungodly numbers.

There have been two Ullmarks this season, unstoppable and a bit below average.

Since his return in February, Ullmark has played against three Vezina Trophy winners in Hellebuyck, Andrei Vasilevskiy and Sergei Bobrovsky. Each time, he's been outclassed, giving up a bad goal when his team needed him most.

Against Tampa Bay and Florida, he let goals in from Brandon Hagel and Gustav Forsling from the hash marks when the game was tied or within a goal. Backbreakers. Even when not facing a Vezina winner, Ullmark gave up a juicy rebound on Saturday that landed on Josh Anderson's stick which gave Montreal a 4-2 lead. He was later pulled.

Earlier this week, Ullmark explained how winning is a habit.

"Winning is a luxury," said Ullmark. "It comes with a lot of hard work, and then you don't focus on the results. You focus on the process."

The Senators have been desperate to have the luxury of having one of the best goaltenders in the NHL. They are now two points out of a playoff spot and cannot afford to drop farther out of the race.

A run by a Swedish Hamburglar is required.

Adams' apples

Angus Crookshank made his season debut on Wednesday, and there was something familiar about the call-up to the big leagues. As was the case when he was called up last year, Crookshank had just gotten back from the road after playing in Cleveland and after waking up from his 5:30-11 p.m. nap. After getting the call on Tuesday night, he immediately packed and drove to Ottawa in the middle of the night, just like he did last year. When Sportsnet.ca asked him about driving over two hours over midnight, Crookshank said, gleefully, "You do anything to play in the NHL."

More injury woes

Defenceman Tyler Kleven left the game with a lower-body injury after fighting the Jets' Adam Lowry. The Senators do not have as much depth on the left side. If Kleven is to be out for an extended period of time, it might alter general manager Steve Staios' plans for the deadline in terms of adding a left-shot defenceman.

The Athletic

https://www.nytimes.com/athletic/6159273/2025/02/27/nhl-winnipeg-jets-trade-deadline-proposals/

Who says no? Winnipeg Jets subscriber trade proposals dissected by NHL sources

By Murat Ates

The Winnipeg Jets have won 11 straight games. They have the best record in the NHL, the second-most goals, the fewest goals against, the best power play and the best goaltender. Multiple Jets will receive consideration for end-of-season awards.

And you've been trying to make them even better.

We asked you to submit Jets trades, and you put together suggestions in this behemoth thread. You fixed the blue line. You upgraded the forward group. Sometimes you did both in a single trade. You put a lot of focus on legitimate Jets targets, including Rasmus Ristolainen, Jamie Oleksiak, Scott Laughton and more, while also taking massive swings for stars such as Elias Pettersson.

But were your trade proposals fair?

We took the most popular ones to a panel of NHL sources — those who make roster decisions and negotiate contracts.

When it comes to your top Jets trades, who says no?

Rasmus Ristolainen — submitted by Dominik R. Winnipeg gets: Rasmus Ristolainen and Scott Laughton

Philadelphia gets: Ville Heinola, Nikita Chibrikov, second-round pick Who says no: Philadelphia

Murat's take: I see what you're doing, here. You've upgraded the Jets' defence corps, giving it a big, strong, crease-clearing defenceman in Ristolainen. He's put together a strong run of results in Philadelphia, leaning on his net-front physicality to take scoring chances away without taking himself out of possession chasing hits. Laughton is a versatile forward — similar to Vladislav Namestnikov or Alex Iafallo in that he can play any role you like — and wears a letter in Philadelphia.

I love what you're asking for but don't think you've given up enough to get them. The Jets barely use Heinola. They wouldn't miss a second-round pick in a trade for one of Ristolainen or Laughton. Chibrikov is one of my favourite prospects. He's tenacious and annoying to play against, while offering a high-end shot that will translate to the NHL if he can get into good spots to use it. If he were faster, he'd be a blue-chip prospect and this deal would look more like fair value to me. As it stands, the Jets address playoff-bound needs this season and next without giving up a first-round pick or taking a player off their NHL or AHL roster. I'm cheating a bit to say that, given Chibrikov is hurt, but I don't think the Flyers get enough here.

Agent A's take: "Philly says no. They can get much much more for that package."

Agent B's take: "I'm not a huge Ristolainen guy but I think this trade would be really good for the Jets. Philadelphia says no."

Executive's take: "Philadelphia says no. With term on both players, they aren't in an urgent situation. If either are moved the price will be much higher."

Brock Nelson — submitted by Miles B. Winnipeg gets: Brock Nelson New York gets: Brad Lambert, Chaz Lucius, 2026 second-round pick Who says no: Winnipeg

Murat's take: I was fascinated by this trade proposal. Brad Lambert's scoring is down this year — as is everyone's — on an underwhelming Manitoba Moose team. Chaz Lucius recently played his 25th AHL game this season, which is a new games-played high for him in any league going back to his days with the U.S. National Team Development Program. How would outside sources view them?

My own trade values are rooted in previous Jets deadline deals. A first-round pick got Sean Monahan. A first-round pick plus what seemed like a quality energy-line prospect in Brendan Lemieux got Kevin Hayes, while a first-round pick and a quality prospect in Erik Foley — before concussion issues — got Paul Stastny. This trade proposal feels similar to those. There's no first-round pick, but it's more than balanced by Lambert's quality as a prospect.

That said, I freeze when I look at Lambert's and Lucius' UFA years (2031 and 2030, respectively). You'd have to be really sure Brock Nelson is the guy to give up that much team control on those two prospects. If Lucius rebounds to the point of meaningful Jets contribution, I'd see that as found money — his hockey IQ is NHL quality, but he's missed so many developmental reps. My range of possibilities for Lambert is wide: I'm guessing he's a second-line right wing who helps on the power play through most of those years but a best-case scenario would be even better than that.

To part with Lambert, I'd need some indication that Nelson would re-sign in Winnipeg beyond this summer. Even then, Nelson is 33 years old, and even if he's a great fit here and now, I wonder about the long-term implications. Finally: Please call me out for overreaching on a small sample size — I should know better — but I didn't like Nelson's game at the 4 Nations Face-Off.

Agent A's take: "Jets say no. Too much mortgaging of the future here to increase a strength of the team."

Agent B's take: "That's tough. You don't know what those guys are going to become. Winnipeg says no."

Executive's take: "If NYI move Nelson, I think they would be looking for a late first-round pick or equivalent. At minimum. Nelson's 16-team no-trade list makes that more challenging to accomplish. They would need to like these prospects a lot. I'd say NYI probably says no."

Jamie Oleksiak and Jared McCann — submitted by Zach T. Winnipeg gets: Jamie Oleksiak and Jared McCann Seattle gets: Brad Lambert, 2025 first-round pick, Logan Stanley Who says no: Nobody?

Murat's take: If I were Winnipeg, I would hold on to Lambert and the first-round pick but I could see the Jets making this trade.

It reminds me of the Ristolainen and Laughton deal above: You're looking to patch two pieces of Winnipeg's foundation with one blockbuster. It's also fun from the perspective of Oleksiak being the player Winnipeg seems to hope Stanley will become. It's fitting you've included both defencemen in this trade. All that said, McCann is the best player in the deal.

Over the past three years, McCann has scored more points per minute at five-on-five than any Jets forward outside of Nikolaj Ehlers. Laughton's scoring rate, by comparison, is closer to that of Adam Lowry and Mason Appleton. Lambert and Winnipeg's first-round pick both have a lot of value, so there's substantial risk here. Still, McCann is 28 years old and has two seasons left on his contract after this one — I'm less worried about this trade than the Nelson one above.

Oleksiak is the player I worry about. The 6-foot-7 defenceman has been on the ice for a lot of chances against in recent seasons, despite delivering quality top-four results for a portion of his career. To be clear, I have some optimism that the 32-year-old Oleksiak could find a better version of his game on a Winnipeg team with better defensive structure than Seattle, but there's no certainty in that. The Kraken have faced a shooting gallery when using Oleksiak in a shutdown role.

Agent A's take: "I think both teams agree. Maybe add a conditional third-round pick or something to Seattle, too."

Agent B's take: "I would do that if I was Winnipeg. McCann has been one of Seattle's best players. I'm not a huge fan of either defenceman in the deal but I know Stanley struggles. I like Oleksiak more."

Executive's take: "That could work. A lot of moving parts though, and every team values the players in this range differently."

Elias Pettersson — submitted by Damian C. Winnipeg gets: Elias Pettersson Vancouver gets: Cole Perfetti, first-round pick, Alex Iafallo, Logan Stanley Who says no: Vancouver

Murat's take: I wanted to include one of your biggest swings. Based on your submissions, this left me with Pettersson or Sidney Crosby and I chose to include Pettersson as the more realistic player to be moved.

My hot take is for the Jets to take Pettersson and run. It's true, Cole Perfetti has outscored him 37-35 this season, but Pettersson was in the middle of interpersonal issues so pronounced that the Canucks traded J.T. Miller away. I'm more inclined to believe Pettersson is capable of the 89 points he put up last season — and maybe even the 102 points he hit two seasons ago — than to think he's washed up at 26 years old. I'm a believer in Perfetti — and would like to point out his skill development along the boards precedes his "prick" comments — but the odds favour Pettersson as the best player in this trade.

What are the risks? If Pettersson fails to find his game, you've traded a cost-controlled top-six forward for a top-six forward who costs \$11.6 million a year. That could ruffle feathers on a team where Connor Hellebuyck and Mark Scheifele get paid \$8.5 million each. I have no insight into Pettersson's role in the interpersonal conflicts that played out in Vancouver; Winnipeg would need to know he was bringing his best self to the Jets, regardless of production.

In terms of cost, I don't expect the Jets' first-round pick to be particularly high this year or next. I'm not particularly worried about including it, nor do I view lafallo and Stanley as untouchable for a player of Pettersson's calibre. Perfetti seems like a thoroughly reasonable cost of doing business if Winnipeg is optimistic about Pettersson at all.

Here's one NHL executive speaking on the subject in a piece by Harman Dayal: "Pettersson is younger (than Miller), has more of a prime left. He's not as good of a playoff performer, there's some (Mitch) Marner in him there. But I can find (playoff performers like) the (Blake) Colemans, the (Ryan) McDonaghs to surround these elite players with and shield him from that."

I tend to think top-end talent figures itself out more often than not, but I do understand the risk. In the end, I say Vancouver says no because I think the Canucks could get more for Pettersson.

Agent A's take: "This is a tough one. It's risky for Winnipeg but I say yes. Focus on the cost control and former 100-point guy."

Agent B's take: "I don't think Pettersson is a playoff player. He's talented. He has so much skill. When it comes down to a championship, I don't know if I want that guy as a go-to guy."

Executive's take: "I imagine Vancouver would want a center coming back. Winnipeg would be a bit stuck there. The overall idea is interesting, though."

Ryan O'Reilly — submitted by Bruno B. Winnipeg gets: Ryan O'Reilly Philadelphia gets: 2025 first-round pick Who says no: Winnipeg Murat's take: You've offered what I view as a reasonable price for my favourite player rumoured to be available. I think O'Reilly maintains most of the two-way excellence that made him a Conn Smythe winner in 2019. His game is ideal, in my mind, for playoff hockey because there's no cheat in it: O'Reilly fights for space in the middle of the ice in front of Juuse Saros and opposing goaltenders alike.

So yeah, I'm in on this. O'Reilly spends most of his time in the offensive zone and I think his point rates would go up if he played between Ehlers and Perfetti (or any combination of Jets forwards). He's an elite faceoff man, he's a frustrating player to play against and he tends to have more success on the PK than he's had in Nashville this season. For \$4.5 million for this year and two more after it, I'd offer that first-round pick, and rest assured I'd be keeping my firsts in 2026 and 2027.

Our league source disagreed with me.

Agent A's take: "Winnipeg says no. I can only see them moving their first-round pick if it's for a D. I think the Jets have to upgrade their D before the playoffs."

Agent B's take: "I don't know how much O'Reilly has left in the tank. And how many first-round picks are you going to trade away? Winnipeg says no."

Executive's take: "That's fair."