

Winnipegjets.com

<https://www.nhl.com/jets/news/three-things-jets-back-in-the-win-column>

***Three things - Jets back in the win column
Scheifele, Vilardi and Connor combine for eight points in win over Flyers***

By Jamie Thomas

The Winnipeg Jets ended their three-game winless streak with an impressive 4-1 win over the Philadelphia Flyers at Wells Fargo Center. Mark Scheifele and Nikolaj Ehlers both scored power-play goals – the Jets' NHL-leading 54th and 55th of the season. The last time Winnipeg recorded more power play goals in a season was in 2018-19 (62). Kyle Connor and Adam Lowry scored the other goals for Winnipeg, Eric Comrie recorded a win for the fourth time in his last five starts for the Jets who are now 43-16-4 and became the first team this season to reach 90 points. Winnipeg will face New Jersey tomorrow night in the third game of this four-game road trip.

WHY YOU DON'T PANIC

When the Jets couldn't find the back of the net while on the power play during their 0-for-16 drought over a six-game stretch, there was more concern coming from outside the dressing room than there was from the players and coaching staff. Winnipeg scored twice on the power play against the Islanders on Tuesday and it was the top unit going to work on the Flyers in the first tonight. At 8:32, Mark Scheifele pounced on a Gabe Vilardi rebound and backhanded in his 35th of the season.

Winnipeg made it 2-0 at 15:13 with the man advantage, this time Scheifele found Nikolaj Ehlers at the far post for an easy tap in goal. Ehlers recorded his eighth 20-goal season with the Jets and tied Ilya Kovalchuk as well as Kyle Connor for the second most in franchise history. Only Scheifele (10x) has more.

"We actually went back, we're looking at the numbers and the chances and the opportunities. They were still high and they weren't going in," said Scott Arniel.

"Like I talked about, this sort of stretch, we're doing a lot of good things, and that's what I like, the fact that we just continue to stay with the attack."

MORE GOALS

During the Jets three-game winless slide, goals were hard to come by. However, much like the power play woes, the coaching staff remained confident that the goals would come if the team continued to play the way they had in the previous two games. Winnipeg added two more goals in the second period, the best one came from the team's third line of Adam Lowry, Mason Appleton and Nino Niederreiter.

NOW WE WAIT

The trade deadline is 2 pm CT on Friday and it will be interesting to see if the Jets add more players to a group that is first overall in the standings and in control in the Central Division. The Jets did swing a deal before their game in Philadelphia, bringing in Winnipeg product Chris Driedger from the Florida Panthers in exchange for goaltender Kaapo Kahkonen. The Jets also announced they have assigned Driedger to the AHL's Manitoba Moose.

NHL.com

<https://www.nhl.com/news/winnipeg-jets-philadelphia-flyers-game-recap-march-6>

***Scheifele, Vilardi each has 3 points, Jets defeat Flyers to end 3-game skid
Comrie makes 21 saves for Winnipeg; Michkov scores 20th for Philadelphia***

By Adam Kimelman

PHILADELPHIA -- Mark Scheifele had a goal and two assists for the Winnipeg Jets in a 4-1 win against the Philadelphia Flyers at Wells Fargo Center on Thursday.

Gabriel Vilardi had three assists, and Kyle Connor had a goal and an assist for Winnipeg (43-16-4), which had lost its three previous games (0-2-1). Nikolaj Ehlers and Adam Lowry scored, and Eric Comrie made 21 saves.

"I thought we played great," Scheifele said. "We got back in the win column. I wouldn't say the last couple games we've played awful, but to get our power play scoring like that, it was a good game."

Matvei Michkov scored his 20th goal, and Samuel Ersson made 23 saves for Philadelphia (27-28-8), which had won 2-1 in a shootout at Winnipeg on Saturday.

"It wasn't good enough, especially for this time of year," Flyers captain Sean Couturier said. "We were flat for most of the game. They seemed to want it more and they're a good team and they made us pay."

Scheifele made it 1-0 at 8:32 of the first period on the power play when he crashed the net to knock in the rebound of a Vilardi shot.

Ehlers scored a power-play goal at 15:13 to make it 2-0.

The Jets entered the game with the best power play in the NHL at 31.2 percent, and they went 2-for-2 Thursday after going 2-for-3 in a 3-2 loss against the New York Islanders on Tuesday. But previous to that they were 0-for-16 during a six-game run without a power-play goal.

"The things that we stress, the attack, the retrievals, the support," Jets coach Scott Arniel said. "'Scheif's' first goal was a great example of that, a shot with crashing the net. ... That power play was big in the first period and really got them on their heels. Anytime you can do that on the road, that's big."

Connor made it 3-0 at 5:28 of the second period with a shot from the right face-off dot off the rush.

It was his second goal in five games since returning from the break for the 4 Nations Face-Off.

"He's phenomenal," Scheifele said. "He makes so many good plays, obviously it's nice to see him get a goal. But he makes so many great passes, so many great reads. He's absolutely fantastic to play with and obviously it's nice to see him put one home."

Lowry put Winnipeg ahead 4-0 at 9:03 when he skated down the slot and scored off a centering pass by Mason Appleton.

"I think it's just some things in my game are not exactly where I want them to be right now," Ersson said. "Obviously it's frustrating. I know I have to be a lot better, especially this time of year."

Michkov made it 4-1 at 17:18 of the third period when he skated the puck down the left wing and beat Comrie with a shot from the left face-off circle.

It was the second straight loss for the Flyers to start a season-long seven-game homestand, following a 6-3 defeat against the Calgary Flames on Tuesday. The NHL Trade Deadline coming at 3 p.m. ET on Friday has been an issue for some players.

"There's maybe a lot of distractions off the ice, but it's on us to do a better job coming to the rink and being focused, especially with this home stretch for us, to get a couple wins and stay in the [Stanley Cup Playoff] race and give ourselves a chance," Couturier said. "It's the business side. It's on us to be ready and control what we can control and show up to the rink and bring our 'A' game."

NOTES: The Jets are the first team to reach 90 points this season. ... It was Winnipeg's 20th road win in their 31st game, setting a Jets/Atlanta Thrashers record for fewest road games to win 20, eclipsing the previous best of 33 games last season. ... Scheifele's goal was his 35th of the season. It's his third time scoring that many, second all-time among Jets/Thrashers players behind Ilya Kovalchuk, who had six. ... Ehlers' goal was his 20th, the eighth time he's had that many, tied with Kovalchuk and Connor for second-most in franchise history, behind Scheifele (10). ... Michkov and Tyson Foerster, who scored 20 goals last season, are the first Flyers rookies to score at least 20 in consecutive seasons since Tim Kerr (22, 1980-81) and Ron Flockhart (33, 1981-82).

Winnipeg Free Press

<https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/breakingnews/2025/03/06/jets-ride-power-play-to-victory>

Jets ride power play to victory

Score twice with man advantage to snap three-game winless streak

By: Ken Wiebe

PHILADELPHIA — Message received.

As his team was in the midst of a stretch where goals were tough to come by, Winnipeg Jets head coach Scott Arniel reinforced offence has consistently come as a result of a strong commitment to defending.

He urged his team not to abandon those core principles while chasing additional offence after being held to two goals or fewer during four of the past five games and notching 10 goals during that stretch.

On Thursday, the Jets offence came out of this mini-slumber, with the sound defensive structure playing an important role in a 4-1 victory over the Philadelphia Flyers at Wells Fargo Center.

"We did a great job taking the middle of the ice away. We tracked back well," said Jets head coach Scott Arniel. "They're a good transition team. I thought we really limited them (in) that rush game. And then that power play was big in the first period, and really got them on their heels."

The Jets snapped a three-game winless skid (0-2-1) in the process and improved to 43-16-4 for the season.

"We got back in the win column," said Jets centre Mark Scheifele. "I wouldn't say the last couple games we've played awful, but to get our power play scoring like that, it was a good game."

The Jets continue a four-game road trip against Eastern Conference opponents on Friday against Brenden Dillon and the New Jersey Devils.

SLUMP BUSTER

Jets winger Kyle Connor had been in a bit of a goal-scoring funk, despite generating plenty of high-quality chances in the seven games since returning from the 4 Nations Face-Off, but his only goal in the past 9 games was an empty-netter against the Ottawa Senators.

Connor showed off his wicked shot at 5:28 of the second period, ripping a shot past Flyers goalie Sam Ersson to extend the lead to 3-0.

"KC's been getting some A-1 quality, those games at home he had lots. Those guys, that's one thing they don't stop doing, they don't stop shooting and putting themselves in a position (to score)," said Arniel. "When it isn't going in, don't get away from the net, get closer to the net and that's what KC did. He had some real good looks from the inside."

Connor is up to 32 goals this season, three behind Scheifele for the team lead.

THE REVIVAL

Remember when the power play went six games without a goal?

Well, that zero-for-17 stretch seems like a distant memory after scoring on each of its first two opportunities Thursday.

Scheifele scored on a rebound to open the scoring, then he found Nikolaj Ehlers to complete a nifty passing play that made it 2-0 before the first period had come to a close.

That gave the Jets four goals in the past five opportunities.

Crisp puck movement was at the core of this recent revival.

"We always talk about... that we want an attack mindset, a retrieval mindset, and then it's the details of support," said Arniel. "And that's what it was. It all hit home."

For Ehlers, the goal was his 20th of the season, a milestone he has now hit for the eighth time in his 10 NHL seasons.

RUN SUPPORT ACHIEVED

Not scoring much has been a common thread for the Jets when backup Eric Comrie is between the pipes, but that wasn't the case in this one.

"It's always nice to score and (Comrie) has been playing amazing all season," said Scheifele. "He made a lot of big saves and kept it further out of reach than it could have been."

The only thing the Jets didn't do was preserve a second shutout this season for Comrie, as Flyers rookie Matvei Michkov scored 2:42 to go in in the game.

"It's too bad we couldn't have finished that one off, but we finally gave him some run support," said Arniel. "We finally scored some goals for him and early on too, (which) probably helped him relax a little bit. This is a busy time and he has to be a part of it."

With 19 games left in the regular season, Comrie is up to 16 starts and improved his record to 7-8-1, with a 2.45 goals-against average and .914 save percentage.

This was his third start in seven games since the break for the 4 Nations Face-Off.

"Helly's going to play a lot of games. He's a very good goalie, probably the best in the world," said Comrie, praising his goalie partner, Connor Hellebuyck. "I think he could win the MVP this year, but we'll see. He's been great."

"But it's been really fun to get some rhythm, get some games going."

KEY PLAY

Kyle Connor took a pass from Mark Scheifele, drove the net and ripped a shot past Ersson to make it 3-0 at 5:28 of the second period, dashing the hopes of a comeback for the Flyers.

THREE STARS

- 1) Mark Schiefele, Jets, scored a goal and added two helpers.
- 2) Gabe Vilardi, Jets, Chipped in three assists.
- 3) Kyle Connor, Jets, had a goal and an assist, plus got the play started on the Jets' second power play goal.

THE ANTICIPATION

This was the final game before the NHL trade deadline for the Jets and Arniel wasn't interested in dealing with hypotheticals in the final hours before the final moves were made.

The Jets pro scouting staff is on site in Philadelphia and the expectation is still a forward — likely a centre — and a defenceman will be acquired before the trade deadline.

EXTRA, EXTRA

Jets D-man Dylan Samberg was back after a one-game absence for family reasons and made an immediate impact, with six blocked shots, two shots on goal and five shot attempts in just under 22 minutes of ice time. He was also on the ice for both of the Jets goals at even strength.

Jets captain Adam Lowry rounded out the scoring for his team and is up to 12 goals for the season. His career-high is 15, set during the 2016-17 campaign.

In the early afternoon, the Jets have made a move which they hope will bolster their goaltending depth, acquiring Winnipegger Chris Driedger from the Florida Panthers for Kappo Kahkonen. Driedger, 30, has spent the bulk of this season with the Charlotte Checkers of the American Hockey League, posting a record of 10-6-4 with a 2.97 goals-against average and .878 save percentage in 20 games. He's appeared in 67 NHL games with the Ottawa Senators, Seattle Kraken and Panthers.

Kahkonen was signed by the Jets as a free agent on July 1 and appeared in 22 games with the Manitoba Moose of the AHL, going 6-14 with a 3.29 goals-against average and .885 save percentage. Driedger will report to the Moose and share the crease with Dom DiVincentiis, who is having a strong season as a rookie pro.

Earlier in the day, the Jets signed 2023 fifth-round pick Jacob Julien to an entry-level contract that kicks in next season. Julien, 20, has 10 goals and 45 points in 58 games with the London Knights of the Ontario Hockey League. Julien is a big two-way centre and he's expected to join the Moose next season.

<https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/breakingnews/2025/03/06/niederreiter-grew-stronger-through-adversity>

***Niederreiter grew stronger through adversity
Jets third-liner has blossomed into 20-goal man after early-career struggles***

By: Ken Wiebe

PHILADELPHIA — Nino Niederreiter was just a teenager, navigating the ebbs-and-flows of his first full NHL season when his first real bout of self doubt began to creep in.

Chosen fifth overall by the New York Islanders in the 2010 NHL Draft, Niederreiter made the team out of his first training camp and appeared in nine games before being returned to the Portland Winterhawks of the Western Hockey League.

Niederreiter was seemingly on top of the world, getting a good taste of the NHL, often skating alongside star centre Doug Weight.

Niederreiter even scored his first NHL goal (assisted by Weight) on Michal Neuvirth of the Washington Capitals in his third NHL game.

He added an assist four games later, so the early indications were his style of play was going to translate well to the professional level when he was ready for full-time employment.

"You're lining up against (Ilya) Kovalchuk and all of those players and you're like 'Wow, the dream is really starting to feel real,'" said Niederreiter.

He was so close, he could essentially taste it and his confidence soared as he returned to the WHL for a second season, sniping 41 goals and producing 70 points in 55 games before adding eight more goals and eight assists in 13 playoff contests.

When he arrived for his second NHL camp, Niederreiter showed that he was ready to make the jump.

After starting on a line with John Tavares and Matt Moulson, Niederreiter suffered an injury.

By the time he returned, he was used mostly on the fourth line with Jay Pandolfo and Marty Reasoner and the offensive opportunities didn't come as easily as they had the year earlier during his brief stint with the Islanders.

"As a young guy, you have to move your way up. That's how it's supposed to be," said Niederreiter. "I just got stuck there on the fourth line and never got the chance again up top. But that helped probably mould me into the 200-foot player that I am today."

Before that transpired, the search for his second NHL goal dragged on.

Days turned into weeks and weeks turned into months.

The search for solutions came up empty.

By the time Niederreiter played his 50th game that season, he still had a goose egg under the goals column.

That's a long time to wait when you're accustomed to finding the back of the net on a regular basis.

"That was not the way I pictured things," said Niederreiter, whose Winnipeg Jets faced the Philadelphia Flyers on Thursday night. "After playing nine games (as an 18 year old), I thought I could contribute in this league. Then, there were times (during his rookie season) where I felt like maybe I just don't belong here (in the NHL). Just go back (home to Switzerland)."

"It's tough, but then you also realize that it's a humbling league. You have a phenomenal start and then things are not going the way you want them to go. What did I do wrong? You question yourself on most of the things. It was definitely a humbling, humbling time."

Niederreiter finally scored in his 51st game, his lone marker in 55 games during the 2011-12 campaign.

Any lost confidence would return after spending the entire 2012-13 season with the Bridgeport Sound Tigers of the American Hockey League, as he delivered 28 goals and 50 points in 74 games.

That summer, Niederreiter was traded to the Minnesota Wild for Cal Clutterbuck and a third round draft pick in the 2013 NHL Draft.

That's where Niederreiter's career really started to take off.

After notching 14 goals in his first season with the Wild, he earned a reputation for being tough to play against and blossomed into a seven-time 20-goal scorer.

"He was wide-eyed coming in and you could see the potential in him," said Jets assistant coach Dean Chynoweth, who was an assistant with the Islanders when Niederreiter broke into the NHL. "He had a big body, played a certain way that created opportunities offensively."

Chynoweth went from seeing the formative years to what is now a more finished product.

"Any player that continues their career, goes through stretches like that as a young guy," he said. "You do have some doubts. To see him develop — and I also had him in Carolina (with the Hurricanes), you could see it just took some time. So you've got to have some patience, you've got to have people around you that believe in you. He's done a good job of that with the stops in the different places that he's been.

"He realized what he is and how he could be effective. It was just a matter of doing it on a consistent basis."

Niederreiter is thankful for his time with the Islanders organization.

"That's the team that drafted me," said Niederreiter. "They gave me my first chance, gave me my first NHL game, my first NHL goal. They're always going to be a big part of my NHL career. That's where it all started.

"It's cool to see players like (Mark Scheifele) who can play their whole career on the same team. It's something I would have liked to do, but the opportunity to go somewhere else afterwards and I had a chance to take off, so it's just another step in my career."

As the Jets played their final game before the NHL trade deadline on Thursday, Niederreiter confessed it's still a bit of an uneasy time.

That's a natural feeling for someone who has been on the move at this time of the year on two different occasions, including the 2019 trade to the Carolina Hurricanes and the 2023 trade with the Nashville Predators that brought him to the Jets.

As someone who inked a three-year contract extension in December of 2023 that kicked in on July 1, Niederreiter isn't in any danger of finding a new address before Friday.

Even that hasn't put his mind at ease.

"Especially with the situations I've been in the past, what I learned is that you never know what's going to happen," said Niederreiter. "During the trade deadline, for me personally, it's never a fun time. In this league, you never know what could be offered.

"Do I expect to be (moved)? I hope not, but some teams are going to be a lot stronger (for the stretch) and some teams won't be doing anything, so it will be an interesting trade deadline, that's for sure."

Niederreiter makes up one-third of one of the most effective third lines in the NHL and while he took an eight-game pointless drought into Thursday's action, he snapped it with an assist on a second period goal from Adam Lowry and remains fifth on the Jets in goals.

His willingness to spend time around the blue paint is something the Jets are going to be leaning on when looking for secondary scoring once the Stanley Cup playoffs arrive.

"You want to make sure you have a good feeling going into the playoffs," said Niederreiter. "You want to get your mojo back and you want to feel good about yourself, make sure the team is doing well and prepared for what's coming."

Global Winnipeg

<https://globalnews.ca/news/11070304/winnipeg-jets-dump-flyers-4-1-in-final-game-before-trade-deadline/>

Winnipeg Jets dump Flyers 4-1 in final game before trade deadline

By Christian Aumell & Russ Hobson Global News

The 2024-25 Winnipeg Jets had only lost four games in a row once all season.

They weren't about to let that happen again, taking it to the Flyers 4-1 Thursday night in Philadelphia to ensure they would be alone in first place in the NHL's overall standings heading into Friday's trade deadline.

The Jets scored a pair of power play markers in the first period, and tacked on two more goals in the middle frame to end their three-game losing slump, while also becoming the first team to reach the 90-point plateau.

"We played great," said forward Mark Scheifele. "We got back in the win column. Wouldn't say the last couple games we played awful, but obviously our power play scoring like that, it was a good game."

Scheifele scored once and added two assists in the victory. Gabriel Vilardi also had a three-point night with three helpers, while Nikolaj Ehlers, Kyle Connor and Adam Lowry also notched goals in the win.

Coming into the game, the Jets had just four goals over their last three contests.

The Jets held the Flyers to only 22 shots on goal.

"We did a great job of taking the middle of the ice away," said Jets head coach Scott Arniel. "We tracked back well. They're a great transition team. They skate well. I thought we really limited them to that rush game and then the power play was big in the first period, really got them on their heels. Anytime you can do that on the road, that's big, and then it was a real good solid team game."

"Our mindset going into that game was to win a 2-1 hockey game," Comrie said. "It's nice to get a little extra goals, but our mindset was to make sure we defended first and defended hard."

The Jets are now 6-0-1 in the first half of back-to-backs this season with only one more the rest of the way.

After a recent 0-for-19 spell on the man advantage, the Jets power play is clearly clicking again, scoring four power play goals in their last five opportunities.

"We always talk from the start of the year that we want an attack mindset, a retrieval mindset, and then it's the details, the support," Arniel said. "And that's what it was tonight. It all hit home."

The Jets had Dylan Samberg back in the lineup after he missed their last game due to family reasons. But forward Rasmus Kupari sat out after being placed in concussion protocol.

The Jets earned their first power play of the game at the 7:47 mark of the first when Michkov bowled over Comrie in the Winnipeg crease, and less than a minute later the Jets made him pay.

Winnipeg's top PP unit got set up and the puck landed on the stick of Connor on the half-wall. He held it for a few seconds before sliding it to Vilardi in the slot, whose shot was stopped by Samuel Ersson but the rebound was knocked home by Scheifele to open the scoring at 8:32 with his 35th of the season.

Philadelphia took another penalty at the 14:30 mark and once again Winnipeg's power play took advantage. Connor's cross-ice pass attempt was touched by Vilardi in the slot before landing on the stick of Scheifele, who quickly steered it back-door where Ehlers was waiting to pot it home for his 20th of the season.

Winnipeg outshot the Flyers 10-8 in the first and blew the doors off Philadelphia to start the second.

Connor made it 3-0 at the 5:28 mark after taking a Scheifele pass in full flight through the neutral zone, zooming into the Flyers' end and ripping a wrister through Ersson.

It was the captain who made it 4-0 at the 9:03 mark. Samberg got the play started with a perfect stretch pass from his own end to Nino Niederreiter, who dished it to Mason Appleton as they entered the Philly zone. He drove the puck low before sending it in front to Lowry, who scored into a wide-open net.

The Flyers didn't register a shot on goal over the first 11 minutes of the period and while they outshot the Jets 6-1 over the final 8:50, the score remained 4-0 heading to the third.

Philadelphia finally broke the goose egg with 2:42 to go when Michkov beat Comrie with a wicked wrister from the faceoff dot to Comrie's right.

Winnipeg's backup netminder made 21 saves to earn the win while Ersson turned aside 23 shots in defeat.

All eyes now turn to Jets GM Kevin Cheveldayoff to see what moves he might make before Friday's 2 p.m. trade deadline. A few hours later, the Jets will be back in action against the New Jersey Devils. Pregame coverage on 680 CJOB begins at 4 p.m. with the puck dropping a little after 6 p.m.

<https://globalnews.ca/news/11070865/analysis-winnipeg-jets-trade-deadline-2/>

ANALYSIS: Now's the time for Jets to add to already impressive lineup

By John Shannon CJOB

This is an important day for the Winnipeg Jets.

Since the NHL season began in October of last year, this team has been at or near the top of the standings. Throughout the league, other teams have really noticed how complete the Jets really are.

The best line in the NHL. The best defensive line in the NHL. One of the NHL's deepest teams. And who can forget the league's best goaltender? Those are the elements that have made the Jets so good.

As most of you know, it didn't just happen. This has been years in the making, from the draft floor for many of the core of this club, and the astute trading of general manager Kevin Cheveldayoff over the past few years.

I would suggest the success of 2025 really is based on a three-year journey, with the hiring of former and current head coaches Rick Bowness and Scott Arniel. What was viewed by many as a weakness has become a strength for this group. The talent has been here for years; the culture wasn't. Culture is now a strength.

This team, as constructed today, is good enough to win the Stanley Cup. But there are issues that demand the GM consider changes, or rather additions. Firstly, look at Dallas, Colorado and Vegas — all teams in the west, chasing the Jets, trying to be as good as the Jets. They are all active this week.

Secondly, and this might sting because getting past the first round has been a challenge, teams that play three or four rounds of playoffs need depth — lots of depth. The Jets should plan accordingly.

Today, with 90 points, the Jets are at the intersection of culture and talent. It is a destination that all teams aspire to get to. Few do. For that reason, to ensure a long and prosperous playoff run, the Jets need to add to already, talented, deep team.

As many of you have heard me say, "If not now, when?" 'When' is today.

Winnipeg Sun

<https://winnipegsun.com/sports/jets-end-losing-streak-offence-busts-out-in-win-over-lacklustre-flyers>

Jets end losing streak, offence busts out, as trade deadline looms

By Paul Friesen

Scoring drought? What scoring drought?

The Winnipeg Jets exploded for four goals in the first half of the game and cruised to a 4-1 victory over the Flyers in Philadelphia on Thursday.

The win ended a three-game skid during which the Jets scored just four combined goals and left them with an NHL-best 90 points.

It was their last game before the Friday afternoon trade deadline, with reports indicating during the game that the New York Islanders would likely trade centre Brock Nelson, a player the Jets were thought to be keenly interested in.

By the end of the night, Nelson was on the move alright, but to the Colorado Avalanche, the Jets' division rival and the team that knocked them out of the first round of the playoffs last year.

They'll have to pivot to a Plan B.

One four-goal game doesn't change their needs. But it did shake a small monkey off their back.

Back-to-back power-play goals by Mark Scheifele and Nik Ehlers in the first period had their team off and running against the Flyers.

"Really got them on their heels," head coach Scott Arniel told reporters on scene. "Anytime you can do that on the road, that's big."

Kyle Connor and Adam Lowry doubled the lead in the second and Eric Comrie improved his record to 7-8-1 with his third win in his last four starts. His shutout bid ended late, Matvei Michkov beating him with 2:43 to go.

Winnipeg improved to 43-16-4, while the Flyers, second-last in their division, fell to 27-28-8.

"Our mindset going into the game was to win a 2-1 hockey game, it doesn't matter," Comrie said. "It's nice to get a little extra... but our mindset was to make sure we defended first and defended hard."

"We finally gave him some run support... probably helped him relax a little bit," Arniel added. "We had some breakdowns, and he was there and he was big for us. This stretch here, four in six nights, this is a busy time and he has to be a part of it."

The Jets' rejuvenated power play opened the scoring midway through the first period, Scheifele shovelling a backhand rebound past Sam Ersson in the Philly net for his 35th of the season.

"I don't even know how I hit it that well," Scheifele said. "Happy to bang home a dirty one."

It was the power play's third goal on three tries over the last two games, after a six-game drought.

They made it four strikes in a row before the first period was up, Ehlers chipping in his 20th.

Gabe Vilardi picked up assists on both.

"I face it every day in practice, so I see that it's pretty good," Comrie said of what remains the NHL's top power play. "It's not always fun going against them... they make you look pretty bad sometimes."

Connor made it 3-0 in the second on a wrist shot from the faceoff dot for his 32nd, Vilardi and Scheifele picking up their third points of the night with assists.

Less than four minutes later, Lowry capped a third-line rush with his 12th of the year, and the rout was on.

Shots on goal favoured Winnipeg 10-8 in the first, 9-6 in the second, 27-22 overall.

It was the Jets' best effort in a handful of games against a Flyers team in next-year country.

"We felt there was no option," is how Mason Appleton put it during a second-period interview on TSN.

Up next, the third game of the trip, in New Jersey on Friday – four hours after the trade deadline.

<https://winnipeg.sun.com/sports/hockey/nhl/winnipeg-jets/winnipeg-jets-trade-minor-league-goalie-sign-draft-pick>

Winnipeg Jets trade minor-league goalie, sign draft pick

By Paul Friesen

The Winnipeg Jets swung a trade on Thursday, but it's not one that'll make any waves in the NHL.

The Jets swapped minor-league goalies with Florida, sending Kaapo Kahkonen to the Panthers for Chris Driedger.

A 28-year-old from Finland, Kahkonen posted a 6-14-1 record with the Jets' AHL farm team, the Manitoba Moose, this season, with a 3.29 goals-against-average and .885 save percentage.

He was a Minnesota draft pick the Jets signed as a free agent last summer.

Driedger, 30, is a Winnipeg native drafted by Ottawa in 2012.

He has a 10-6-6 record in the AHL this season, with a 2.97 GAA and .878 save percentage.

Driedger has played 67 career NHL games, recording a 31-24-5 record, 2.45 GAA, .917 save percentage and five shutouts.

Kahkonen has played in 140 NHL games, has a 49-68-15 record, 3.34 GAA and .898 save percentage, with four shutouts.

Draft pick signs

Earlier Thursday, the Jets announced the signing of forward Jacob Julien to a three-year, entry-level contract.

The 20-year-old was Winnipeg's fifth-round draft pick in 2023. He has 10 goals, 35 assists, in 58 games in his final season of junior hockey, with London of the Ontario League.

Last year Julien (6-foot-4, 181 pounds) had 78 points, helping the Knights win the OHL and Memorial Cup titles.

Sportsnet.ca

<https://www.nytimes.com/athletic/6176395/2025/03/05/jets-trade-deadline-cheveldayoff-brock-nelson-islanders/>

Jets Takeaways: Kyle Connor demonstrates all-around elite talent

By Jacob Stoller

Boy, did Kyle Connor ever need that one.

Entering Thursday's tilt with the Philadelphia Flyers, the Winnipeg Jets star winger was snake bitten with just one goal to show for over his last nine games.

Sometimes, elite offensive talents are susceptible to cheating defensively when they're down bad like that. But not Connor. At least not this version of him.

Connor has silenced skeptics of his 200-foot game this season, leveraging his high-end motor and elite instincts to become a more consistent, well-rounded player — all-the-while scoring at a 102-point pace.

And his attentiveness in the defensive zone played a huge role in him scoring a glorious goal to put the Jets up 3-0 in the second period.

As Neal Pionk went to retrieve a rimmed puck along the boards, Connor made himself available as an outlet down low. After receiving a quick pass from Pionk, Connor one-touch deked a Flyers forechecker before dishing the puck off to Gabriel Vilardi and darting down the ice.

Moments later, Mark Scheifele would find a soaring Connor in transition and from there, it was vintage 'KC'. A perfectly placed wrister that was rifled between Samuel Ersson's blocker and pad.

Even after all the goals he's scored as a Jet, Connor's release never ceases to amaze those that see it everyday.

"I think it's his (underrated) strength, his forearm strength, that he really can just fire that thing off really quickly," Eric Comrie told reporters after his 21-save win. "He can snap it off."

While this market is no stranger to world-class snipers, we haven't seen a player that can score at will — in a plethora of different ways — like Connor in a long, long time. Patrik Laine was just as much a one-trick pony as he was a human highlight reel.

Connor's the ultimate package.

"He makes so many great passes, so many great reads. He's absolutely fantastic to play with," Scheifele said.

There's often a misconception about wingers, that they can't drive a team like a centre or defenceman can. And in turn, we hardly give enough props to the select few wingers that can score at will, and don't cheat the game, like Connor.

“Those guys, that's one thing they don't stop doing, they don't stop shooting and put themselves in a position,” Arniel told reporters. “I talked to you guys this morning about, when it isn't going in, don't get away from the net, get closer to the net and that's what KC did tonight. He had some real good looks from the inside.”

In today's NHL, there are a select few wingers that qualify as 'franchise' talents and Connor is certainly one of them.

His combination of elite shooting and skating ability — according to NHL Edge, Connor ranks in the 99th percentile in total skating distance this season (344.7 KMH) — is hard to find.

And his production speaks for itself. Since the 2019-20 season, only Auston Matthews, David Pastrnak and Connor McDavid have scored more even-strength goals than him (153).

And you can bet on his next AAV being in the double digits.

Stoller Says

- There's no need to panic about the Jets power play. They were bound to rebound and the two goals they scored — the net front goal by Scheifele and Nikolaj Ehlers' finish on a tic-tac-toe — were a direct result of what's made them so lethal all year. And they never veered from their structure, even when they weren't getting the bounces.

“We actually went back, we're looking at the numbers and the chances and the opportunities — they were still high [but] they weren't going in,” Arniel said. “Like I talked about, this sort of stretch, we're doing a lot of good things, and that's what I like, the fact that we just continue to stay with the attack. The things that we stress, the attack, the retrievals, the support, and Scheif's first goal was a great example of that.”

- Cole Perfetti may be pointless in his last four games but he's gradually evolving into a legitimate top-six winger. The 23-year-old finished the night with five scoring chances — many of which were Grade-A's — and won several puck battles against a heavy Flyers blueline. He's a driver, not a passenger, on that line now.

- Logan Stanley has played better recently, by his standards, but this game was yet another example as to why he can't be in your playoff lineup. He may be six-foot-seven but Stanley struggles mightily to check effectively, or at all, for someone his size. And that's supposedly his calling card.

<https://www.sportsnet.ca/nhl/video/where-should-the-jets-be-strengthening-their-lineup-at-the-deadline/>

Where should the Jets be strengthening their lineup at the deadline? (VIDEO)

Steve Kouleas joins the FAN Hockey Show to discuss the Winnipeg Jets ahead of the NHL trade deadline and who they could look into acquiring to improve their lineup.

Associated Press

<https://www.sportsnet.ca/nhl/article/scheifele-connor-help-jets-snap-their-three-game-skid-with-win-over-flyers/>

Scheifele, Connor help Jets snap their three-game skid with win over Flyers

By Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Mark Scheifele had a goal and two assists, Kyle Connor added a goal and an assist and the Winnipeg Jets snapped a three-game skid by defeating the Philadelphia Flyers 4-1 on Thursday night.

Nikolaj Ehlers and Adam Lowry also scored for the Jets, who became the first NHL team to reach 90 points this season. Eric Comrie made 21 saves.

Matvei Michkov scored the lone goal for Philadelphia, which lost for the third time in four games.

Scheifele opened the scoring with a power-play goal on a backhander at 8:32 of the first period. He then assisted on the Jets' next two goals.

Connor had two points to move into a tie for third in the NHL in scoring. Gabriel Vilardi had three assists.

Takeaways

Jets: The top-ranked power play in the NHL continued to produce as Winnipeg scored on both of its opportunities. The Jets have scored 55 goals while having a man advantage this season and are clicking on the power play at 32 per cent.

Flyers: Travis Konecny, the team's leading scorer, has gone six games without a goal and has just two in the last 22 games.

Key moment

Connor's goal came 5:28 into the second period and expanded Winnipeg's lead to 3-0. His shot came from the right boards and beat Sam Ersson between the blocker and his right pad.

Key stat

Michkov became the first rookie in the NHL this season to reach 20 goals when he scored with 2:42 to play in the game.

Up next

Jets: Visit New Jersey on Friday.

Flyers: Continue their seven-game homestand against Seattle on Saturday.

The Athletic

<https://www.nytimes.com/athletic/6181321/2025/03/07/winnipeg-jets-trade-deadline-primer/>

Winnipeg Jets trade deadline primer: Everything you need to know for Friday

By Murat Ates

Kevin Cheveldayoff has been an aggressive buyer every single time the Winnipeg Jets have had a realistic shot at a deep playoff run. That's not going to change now that Winnipeg has the NHL's best record and over \$12 million in cap space to start deadline day.

Cheveldayoff and his management team, pro scouts, and staff are gathered at the team hotel in Philadelphia where they will remain until the 3 p.m. Eastern deadline passes. Their 43-16-4 Jets are Stanley Cup contenders but could use help at second line centre and on defence. They've shown interest in centres Brock Nelson and Scott Laughton up front and I suspect they're in on Rasmus Ristolainen and Mario Ferraro to help their blue line. They have already made a minor league trade, acquiring Winnipeg-born goaltender Chris Driedger from Florida for Kaapo Kahkonen.

It's been a seller's market thus far. Whereas the Jets acquired Sean Monahan for a first-round pick last season, the Islanders got a first-round pick, a conditional third-round pick, and a top prospect in Calum Ritchie for Nelson late Thursday. The Flyers have asked for a first-round pick for Laughton and one imagines they can get at least that much for Ristolainen, too.

This makes Winnipeg's task trickier than it's been in other contending years. Cheveldayoff acquired Paul Stastny in 2018, Kevin Hayes and Nathan Beaulieu in 2019, Nino Niederreiter and Vladislav Namestnikov in 2023, and all of Sean Monahan, Tyler Toffoli, and Colin Miller last season. The Jets fell short on Nelson, likely because they couldn't offer a prospect of Ritchie's quality, and may face high prices for lesser players as they're forced to pivot.

Will the Jets find a way to acquire one of the other centres on the market? Did their conversations with Lou Lamoriello kickstart other trade opportunities with the Islanders? And how will they shore up their defence corps?

Here is all our coverage from the past few weeks and everything you need to know for Winnipeg's trade deadline.

TSN.ca

<https://www.tsn.ca/nhl/video/jets-spark-their-power-play-to-end-three-game-slide%7E3093573>

Jets spark their power play to end three-game slide (VIDEO)

The Jets opened the game with back-to-back power play goals in the first period. Frankie Corrado joins SportsCentre to discuss their win over the Flyers that ended their three-game losing streak.

<https://www.tsn.ca/nhl/video/what-will-jets-2025-trade-deadline-entail%7E3093109>

What will Jets' 2025 trade deadline entail?

Dan Robertson is joined by Frankie Corrado to discuss who the Jets should be targeting at the trade deadline. Corrado also shares his own deadline day experience after he was involved in a last minute deal.