

## **BOSTON BRUINS vs. PITTSBURGH PENGUINS**

**Tuesday, December 30, 2008**

**Mellon Arena; Pittsburgh PA**

**Game Time: 7:30 p.m. ET**

**NESN and WBZ Radio**

### **Tonight's Game**

The Bruins visit the Penguins tonight in the second of four games between these teams this season and the first of two games of this season's series at Mellon Arena. The Bruins lead the Eastern Conference at 27-5-4 overall this season with the league's best road record at 14-4-3. The Penguins are 19-13-4 overall this season with an 8-7-2 record on home ice. The Bruins are 2-0-2 vs. Atlantic Division opponents this season and they are 20-3-4 overall vs. Eastern Conference foes. The Penguins are 5-6-0 vs. Northeast Division teams this season and they are 16-10-3 overall vs. Eastern Conference opponents.

### **Lifetime Series**

The Bruins are 97-50-21-3 lifetime vs. Pittsburgh with a 676-532 scoring advantage in those 171 games. The Bruins are 37-33-15-1 lifetime vs. the Penguins in Pittsburgh with a 304-293 scoring edge in those 86 contests. The Penguins won the first game of this season's series with a 2-1 shootout victory in Boston on Oct. 20.

Fun Facts vs. Pittsburgh: Andrew Ference was drafted by Pittsburgh as their eighth pick, 208th overall, in the 1997 NHL Entry Draft and played his first five professional seasons in the Penguins organization, including 11-25=36 totals with 157 PIM in 163 Penguins games ... Vladimir Sobotka scored his first NHL goal at Pittsburgh on Feb. 13, 2008.

### **Recent Bruins Games**

The Bruins have won their last eight games, their longest such streak since they won their last eight games of the 1992-93 season (Mar. 30-Apr. 14, 1993) and tied for the fifth longest such streak in team history, with a home-and-home series victory against Atlanta on Dec. 12 (7-3) and Dec. 13 (4-2), an 8-5 victory over Toronto on Dec. 18, a 4-2 win vs. Carolina on Dec. 20, a 6-3 win in St. Louis on Dec. 21, a 2-0 victory in New Jersey on Dec. 23, a 4-2 win in Carolina on Dec. 27 and a 2-1 victory in Atlanta on Dec. 28. They are 13-1-0 in their last 14 games, have won 17 of their last 19 games and are 22-2-1 in their last 26 contests. The Bruins have won their last 13 straight home games dating back to a 4-2 loss to Toronto on Oct. 23, which is their longest home win streak since a 16-game stretch from Jan. 10-Mar. 25, 1976. They are 10-2-1 in their last 13 road contests. The Bruins have not won nine straight games since Jan. 8-29, 1983 and they also have streaks of 11 (1929-30), 13 (1970-71) and a club record 14 (Dec. 3, 1929-Jan. 9, 1930)

### **Recent Penguins Games**

The Penguins have alternated wins and losses at 4-4-0 in their last eight games with a 9-2 win vs. NY Islanders on Dec. 11, a 6-3 loss in Philadelphia on Dec. 13, a 6-3 win in Atlanta on Dec. 18, a 7-3 loss to Toronto on Dec. 20, a 4-3 overtime win in Buffalo on Dec. 22, a 2-0 loss to Tampa Bay on Dec. 23, a 1-0 victory in New Jersey on Dec. 26 and a 3-2 loss to Montreal on Dec. 27.

### **Upcoming Bruins Games**

All games are televised on NESN and broadcast on WBZ Radio unless otherwise noted. All start times are Eastern.

The Bruins end their December with five straight road games, playing in St. Louis (6-3, Dec. 21), New Jersey (2-0, Dec. 23), Carolina (4-2, Dec. 27), Atlanta (2-1, Dec. 28) and Pittsburgh (Dec. 30, 7:30 p.m.). They will start the New Year with a six-game home stand, opening with Pittsburgh on Jan. 1 (7:00 p.m.) and continuing with Buffalo, Minnesota, Ottawa, Carolina and Montreal from Jan. 3-13.

### **Upcoming Penguins Games**

The Penguins will open 2009 in Boston on Jan. 1 and will then return home to host Florida on Jan. 3.

### **Bruins Injuries**

Patrice Bergeron: Concussion suffered Dec. 20 vs. Carolina.

Andrew Ference: Fractured right tibia suffered Nov. 13 vs. Montreal - on injured reserve.

Petteri Nokelainen: Upper body injury suffered Dec. 12 in Atlanta - on current trip.

Marco Sturm: Lower body injury suffered Dec. 18 vs. Toronto - on injured reserve.

### **Bruins Recent Transactions (Last 30 Days)**

Dec. 1: Johnny Boychuk and Matt Lashoff recalled from Providence/AHL.

Dec. 7: Johnny Boychuk returned to Providence/AHL.

Dec. 9: Vladimir Sobotka recalled from Providence/AHL.

Dec. 13: Martins Karsums recalled from Providence/AHL and returned to Providence/AHL following the game.

Dec. 20: Martin St. Pierre recalled from Providence/AHL.

### **2008-09 Overtime (1-0) and Shootouts (2-4):**

Oct. 15: Boston 3 at Montreal 4/SO ... Boston Goal: Tim Thomas ... Montreal Goal: Carey Price

Boston Shooters: Phil Kessel (No), Patrice Bergeron (No), Michael Ryder (No)

Montreal Shooters: Andrei Markov (No), Alex Tanguay (Yes)

Oct. 20: Pittsburgh 2 at Boston 1/SO ... Boston Goal: Tim Thomas ... Pittsburgh Goal: Dany Sabourin

Boston Shooters: Phil Kessel (Yes), Patrice Bergeron (No), Michael Ryder (No), David Krejci (No), Marc Savard (No)

Pittsburgh Shooters: Kris Letang (No), Petr Sykora (Yes), Sidney Crosby (No), Miroslav Satan (No), Evgeni Malkin (Yes)

Oct. 21: Boston 2 at Buffalo 3/SO ... Boston Goal: Manny Fernandez ... Buffalo Goal: Ryan Miller

Boston Shooters: Phil Kessel (No), Patrice Bergeron (No), David Krejci (Yes), Zdeno Chara (No), Marc Savard (No)

Buffalo Shooters: Ales Kotalik (No), Drew Stafford (Yes), Derek Roy (No), Jason Pominville (No), Thomas Vanek (Yes)

*Oct. 27: Boston 1 at Edmonton 0/OT ... Dennis Wideman scored on Dwayne Roloson at 3:18 of OT*

Nov. 12: Boston 2 at Chicago 1/SO ... Boston Goal: Tim Thomas ... Chicago Goal: Nikolai Khabibulin

Boston Shooters: Blake Wheeler (Yes), Phil Kessel (No), P. J. Axelsson (Yes)

Chicago Shooters: Jonathan Toews (No), Patrick Kane (Yes), Dave Bolland (No)

Nov. 15: Boston 2 at NY Rangers 3/SO ... Boston Goal: Tim Thomas ... New York Goal: Henrik Lundqvist

Boston Shooters: Blake Wheeler (No), Phil Kessel (No), P. J. Axelsson (No), Patrice Bergeron (No)

New York Shooters: Nigel Dawes (No), Nikolai Zherdev (No), Fredrik Sjostrom (No), Chris Drury (Yes)

Nov. 22: Boston 3 at Montreal 2/SO ... Boston Goal: Tim Thomas ... Montreal Goal: Carey Price

Boston Shooters: Blake Wheeler (Yes), Phil Kessel (No), Patrice Bergeron (No)

Montreal Shooters: Alexei Kovalev (No), Andrei Markov (No), Saku Koivu (No)

### **Bruins Fun Facts**

With a 27-5-4 record and 58 points through their first 36 games this season, the Bruins are off to their best 36-game start since 1929-30 when they had a club-record start of 63 points on a 31-4-1 record.

The Bruins have won their last 13 straight home games, their longest such streak since a 16-game span from Jan. 10-Mar. 25, 1976 and the longest such streak in the league this season and is the fifth longest in team history.

The Bruins have won their last five road games dating back to a 4-2 loss in Washington on Dec. 10 and are 10-2-1 in their last 13 road contests.

David Krejci has an eight-game point streak in progress with 5-10=15 totals in that stretch and he has 10-20=30 totals in 17 of his last 18 games ... That includes three career-high three assist-nights (Dec. 6 in Florida, Dec. 13 vs. Atlanta and Dec. 21 in St. Louis) and his first career hat trick scored Dec. 18 vs. Toronto.

Marc Savard has 3-6=9 totals in five of his last six games with 5-22=27 totals in his last 21 contests.

Michael Ryder has scored the game-winning goal in each of the last two games and in five of the team's last ten victories ... His seven game-winners lead the NHL ... He has 7-2=9 totals in his last eight games with 11-4=15 in his last 14 contests.

Blake Wheeler has 2-1=3 totals in his last two games with 4-1=5 totals in three of his last four games and 7-7=14 totals in his last 14 contests.

Phil Kessel has 15-14=29 totals in 19 of his last 21 games, including a career-best 18-game point streak from Nov. 13-Dec. 21 with 14-14=28 totals in that span ... It was the longest such streak overall this season, is the longest point streak by a Bruin since Adam Oates registered points in 20 straight games in 1997 and is the fifth-longest streak in team history.

Milan Lucic had his eight-game point streak stopped Dec. 27 in Carolina with 4-4=8 totals in that span.

Shane Hnidy has 1-2=3 totals in three of his last five games.

Tim Thomas has a six-game win streak in progress with a 12-1-1 record in his last 14 starts, including his third shutout of the season and tenth of his career with a 2-0 victory in New Jersey on Dec. 23 ... Thomas had consecutive 1-0 shutouts (at Edmonton on Oct. 27 and at Vancouver on Oct. 28), the first Boston goaltender with consecutive shutouts since Byron Dafoe on April 3-5, 1999 ... It was just the second time in NHL history that a goaltender posted 1-0 shutouts in consecutive road games (Florida's Craig Anderson, March 2-4, 2008).

Manny Fernandez has won his last four straight games with a 1.85 GAA and .936 save percentage in that span, and he is 12-1-1 in his last 14 decisions ... That included a seven-game win streak, the longest such streak by a Boston goaltender since Jon Casey in 1993-94, and a nine-game point streak (8-0-1), which was the longest such Bruins streak since John Grahame in 2002-03.

The Bruins have faced two penalty shots this season ... Tim Thomas stopped the Patrick Sharp on Nov. 12 in Chicago in the first overtime penalty shot in Boston history and Thomas made the save at the 2:44 mark of OT ... Thomas is now three for six in career penalty shots. Manny Fernandez faced the second shot vs. Alexandre Giroux on Dec. 10 in Washington and made his fourth save out of five career penalty shots faced.

P. J. Axelsson took the Bruins first penalty shot of the season on Dec. 8 vs. Tampa Bay's Mike Smith (no goal) ... Axelsson has now been unsuccessful on three career penalty shots.

Blake Wheeler scored his first career hat trick in just his 13th career NHL game on Nov. 6 vs. Toronto ... That was the fastest hat trick by a Bruins rookie since Craig Janney netted three in his fifth NHL game on Mar. 12, 1988 vs. Quebec ... Wheeler had changed his number from 42 to 26 effective on Nov. 6 vs. Toronto.

Matt Hunwick had a six-game point streak from Nov. 17-28 which tied Ray Bourque's six-game streak from Mar. 12-19, 1980 as the longest point streaks by a rookie defenseman in team history.

Of the 25 players on the current Bruins roster (including four players on injured reserve), nine were acquired by the team via trade, nine were drafted by the team and seven were signed by the Bruins as free agents.

P. J. Axelsson is the longest-tenured Bruin as he enters his 11th season with the team since playing his first NHL game with Boston on Oct. 2, 1997.

Phil Kessel carries the team's longest current iron-man streak into tonight's game at 161 regular season games, dating back to Jan. 9, 2007 at Ottawa. His last regular season game missed was Jan. 6, 2007, the final game of 11 he missed following a testicular cancer diagnosis and surgery.

P. J. Axelsson is two goals short of his 100th NHL/Bruins goal milestone.

The Bruins have 16 sets of back-to-back games this season - six each home-road and road-road, three road-home and one home-home. They have completed eight of these sets thus far with identical 7-0-1 records in both the first and second games of these series.

The Bruins have completed seven of their 29 season series ... They are 4-0-0 vs. Atlanta (their first series sweep in the lifetime history between the clubs); 0-1-0 vs. Calgary; 1-0-0 vs. Colorado; 1-0-0 vs. Dallas; 1-0-0 vs. Detroit; 1-0-0 vs. Edmonton; and 1-0-0 vs. Vancouver.

The Bruins finished the month of November with an 11-1-1 record and 23 points ... It was their best monthly point total since they had 24 points on an 11-2-2 record in December of 1978.

They enter the final game of their December schedule tonight with an 11-1-1 record and 23 points as well ... The last time they had 25 points in a month was in March, 1978 on an 11-2-3 record.

## **The Players**

### **6—Dennis Wideman—D**

- Has three assists in his last two games with 1-5=6 totals in his last eight games ,, Had an assist Dec. 12 in Atlanta, the game-winning goal Dec. 13 vs. Atlanta, an assist Dec. 18 vs. Toronto, two assists Dec. 27 in Carolina and an assist Dec. 28 in Atlanta.
- Has 2-10=12 totals in his last 13 games.
- Has five multiple-point games, all two-point efforts.
- Has missed one game to injury (1-muscle strain, Dec. 4).

### **11—P. J. Axelsson—LW**

- Is two goals shy of his 100th NHL/Bruins goal milestone.
- Has four assists in his last six games with two assists Dec. 18 vs. Toronto and single assists each Dec. 20 vs. Carolina and Dec. 21 vs. St. Louis.
- Scored the deciding shootout goal in the 2-1 victory in Chicago on Nov. 12.
- Took an unsuccessful penalty shot vs. Tampa Bay's Mike Smith on Dec. 8 in Boston ... He is now 0-3 in career penalty shots taken.
- Has missed three games to injury (3-muscle spasms, Oct. 18-21).

### **12—Chuck Kobasew—RW**

- Has 1-1=2 totals in his last six games with an assist Dec. 18 vs. Toronto and a goal Dec. 27 in Carolina.
- Has 5-5=10 totals in his last 18 games.
- Has four multiple-point games.
- Had a six-game point streak from Nov. 19-29 with 4-3=7 totals in that span.
- Played his 300th NHL game Nov. 19 vs. Buffalo.
- Has missed 12 games to injury (12-Leg, Oct. 11-Nov. 6).

### **16—Marco Sturm—LW**

- Has missed five games with a lower body injury suffered Dec. 18 vs. Toronto.
- Had returned to the lineup with the game's first goal that night after missing 12 games with concussion-like symptoms.
- Has 6-3=9 totals in his last ten games.
- Has four multiple-point games, all two-point efforts including two two-goal contests.
- Has missed 17 games to injury (12-concussion-like symptoms, Nov. 19-Dec. 13; 5-lower body, Dec. 20-28).

#### **17–Milan Lucic–LW**

- Had his eight-game point streak stopped Dec. 27 in Carolina with 4-4=8 totals in that span ... Had single goals each Dec. 8 vs. Tampa, Dec. 10 in Washington and Dec. 12 in Atlanta; single assists each Dec. 13 vs. Atlanta, Dec. 18 vs. Toronto, Dec. 20 vs. Carolina and Dec. 21 in St. Louis; and the game-winning goal Dec. 23 in New Jersey.
- Has 5-7=12 totals in his last 17 games.
- Has two multiple-point games, including his first career hat trick in a career-high 3-1=4 effort Oct. 25 vs. Atlanta.
- Played his 100th NHL/Bruins game Nov. 28 vs. NY Islanders.
- Has set a new season-high in goals and is five points shy of his season-high of 27 set in his rookie year of 2007-08.

#### **18–Stephane Yelle–C**

- Has single goals each in two of his last eight games, scored Dec. 12 in Atlanta and Dec. 20 vs. Carolina.
- Played his first game as a Bruin Oct. 9 in Colorado ... Scored his first goal & point as a Bruin Oct. 25 vs. Atlanta.

#### **21–Andrew Ference–D**

- Has missed 20 games with a fractured right tibia suffered Nov. 13 vs. Montreal.
- Recorded his first multiple-point game of the season with two assists Nov. 6 vs. Toronto, including his 100th career NHL assist.
- Has missed 20 games to injury (20-Leg, Nov. 15-Dec. 28).

#### **22–Shawn Thornton–LW**

- Snapped a 13-game scoreless stretch with the game-winning goal Dec. 20 vs. Carolina ... He has now scored four of his ten career goals vs. the Hurricanes.
- Matched his career-high for points in a game with a 1-1=2 effort Nov. 13 vs. Montreal, his first goal of the season.

#### **26–Blake Wheeler–LW**

- Has 2-1=3 totals in his last two games with 4-4=8 totals in his last eight games ... Had single assists each Dec. 12 in Atlanta, Dec. 13 vs. the Thrashers and Dec. 18 vs. Toronto; two-goal efforts each Dec. 21 in St. Louis and Dec. 27 in Carolina; and an assist on the game-winning goal Dec. 28 in Atlanta.
- Has 7-7=14 totals in his last 14 games.
- Has six multiple-point games.
- Had a three-game point streak from Oct. 30-Nov. 6 (4-2=6 totals).
- Had a four-game point streak from Nov. 28-Dec. 6 (3-3=6 totals).
- Scored his first career hat trick in just his 13th NHL game Nov. 6 vs. Toronto ... It was the fastest hat trick by a Bruin rookie since Craig Janney scored three in his fifth career game on Mar. 12, 1988 vs. Quebec.
- Scored his first NHL goal in his first NHL game Oct. 9 in Colorado ... Was the first Bruin to accomplish that feat since Andy Hilbert vs. Toronto on Dec. 20, 2001.
- Changed his number from 42 to 26 on Nov. 6.

#### **29–Petteri Nokelainen–C**

- Has missed seven games with an upper body injury suffered Dec. 12 in Atlanta.
- Recorded his first point of the season with an assist Dec. 12 in Atlanta.
- Has not dressed for eight games (coach's decision).
- Has missed seven games to injury (7-upper body, Dec. 13-28).

#### **30–Tim Thomas–G**

- Has a six-game win streak in progress with a 3-1 victory in Tampa on Dec. 4; a 5-3 win vs. the Lightning on Dec. 8; a 7-3 victory in Atlanta on Dec. 12; an 8-5 win over Toronto on Dec. 18; a 2-0 victory in New Jersey on Dec. 23, his third shutout of the season and tenth of his career; and a 4-2 win at Carolina on Dec. 27.
- Is 12-1-1 in his last 14 games, is 14-2-1 in his last 17 games and has taken points out of 18 of his 21 starts this season at 15-3-3.
- Faced his sixth career penalty shot Nov. 12 in Chicago, stopping Patrick Sharp in overtime ... He is now three for six in career penalty shots faced.
- Had consecutive 1-0 victories Oct. 27 in Edmonton and Oct. 28 in Vancouver, becoming the first Boston goaltender with consecutive shutouts since Byron Dafoe on April 3-5, 1999 .. It was just the second time in NHL history that a goaltender has posted 1-0 shutouts in consecutive road games (Florida's Craig Anderson, March 2-4, 2008).
- 2008-09 Shootouts: 2-3 (5 goals/17 shots).
- Was named the NHL's Second Star for the week of Oct. 27-Nov. 1 with a 3-1-0 record, 0.99 GAA and .970 save percentage in four games that week.
- Has dressed as backup for 16 games.

#### **33–Zdeno Chara–D**

- Has 2-7=9 totals in his last 11 games with an assist Dec. 6 in Florida, a goal Dec. 8 vs. Tampa Bay, an assist Dec. 10 in Washington, a goal Dec. 12 in Atlanta, two assist efforts each Dec. 18 vs. Toronto and Dec. 21 in St. Louis and an assist on the game-winning goal Dec. 23 in New Jersey.
- Had a four-game point streak from Dec. 6-12 (2-2=4 totals).
- Played his 700th NHL game Nov. 6 vs. Toronto.

#### **34—Shane Hnidy—D**

- Has 1-2=3 totals in three of his last five games with an assist Dec. 20 vs. Carolina, a goal Dec. 21 in St. Louis and an assist on the game-winning goal Dec. 23 in New Jersey.
- Did not dress Oct. 15 in Montreal (coach's decision).
- Has missed three games to injury (3-lower body, Nov. 6-12).

#### **35—Manny Fernandez—G**

- Has won his last four starts with a 4-2 win over Atlanta on Dec. 13, a 4-2 win vs. Carolina on Dec. 20, a 6-3 victory in St. Louis on Dec. 21 and a 2-1 win in Atlanta on Dec. 28.
- Is 12-1-1 in his last 14 decisions.
- Earned his 15th NHL shutout with a 4-0 win in Florida on Dec. 6.
- Had a seven-game win streak, the longest such streak by a Boston goaltender since Jon Casey in 1993-94, from Oct. 25-Dec. 6, and a nine-game point streak (8-0-1) from Oct. 15-Dec. 6, which was the longest such Bruins streak since John Grahame in 2002-03.
- Played his 300th NHL game with a 3-2 shootout loss in Buffalo on Oct. 21.
- Has dressed as backup for 20 games.

#### **37—Patrice Bergeron—C**

- Has missed four games with a concussion suffered Dec. 20 vs. Carolina.
- Has 1-7=8 totals in his last 14 games with two assists Nov. 19 vs. Buffalo, 1-1=2 totals Nov. 21 vs. Florida and single assists each Nov. 29 vs. Detroit, Dec. 6 vs. Tampa Bay, Dec. 12 in Atlanta and Dec. 18 vs. Toronto.
- Has 3-9=12 totals in his last 22 games.
- Has three multiple-point games.
- Reached the 200th NHL/Bruins point milestone with the first of two assists Nov. 19 vs. Buffalo.
- Has missed four games to injury (4-concussion, Dec. 21-28).

#### **44—Aaron Ward—D**

- Returned to the lineup Dec. 28 in Atlanta after missing ten of the previous 11 games with a lower body injury originally suffered Nov. 29 vs. Detroit.
- His last point was an assist Nov. 17 in Toronto.
- Played his 700th NHL game Oct. 15 in Montreal.
- Has missed ten games to injury (4-lower body, Dec. 4-10; 6-lower body, Dec. 13-27).

#### **45—Mark Stuart—D**

- Had points in consecutive games for just the second time in his career with a career-high two goals Dec. 12 in Atlanta, his first career multiple-point game, and an assist Dec. 13 vs. Atlanta.
- Had an assist on the game-winning goal Nov. 28 vs. NY Islanders, his first point since scoring a goal Nov. 1 vs. Dallas.

#### **46—David Krejci—C**

- Has an eight-game point streak in progress with 5-10=15 totals in that span ... Had two assists Dec. 12 in Atlanta; three assists Dec. 13 vs. the Thrashers; his first career hat trick scored Dec. 18 vs. Toronto; a goal Dec. 20 vs. Carolina; three assists Dec. 21 in St. Louis; a goal Dec. 23 in New Jersey; and single assists each Dec. 27 in Carolina and Dec. 28 in Atlanta.
- Has 10-20=30 totals in 17 of his last 18 games.
- Has 11 multiple-point games, including four three-point nights.
- Had a career-best nine-game point streak from Nov. 19-Dec. 8 with 5-10=15 totals in that span.
- Passed his previous season-high in goals scored (2007-08) with his seventh of the season on Nov. 29 vs. Detroit ... Is one points shy of his season-high of 27 (2007-08).

#### **47—Martin St. Pierre—C**

- Has played the last four games, including his first game as a Bruin Dec. 21 in St. Louis with his first point as a Bruin an assist in that game.
- Recalled Dec. 20 from Providence/AHL where he led that team in scoring and was tied for second overall in the AHL in points with 10-25=35 totals and 26 PIM in 30 games.

#### **48—Matt Hunwick—D**

- Has five assists in his last eight games with a career-high three assists Dec. 12 in Atlanta and single assists each Dec. 13 vs. the Thrashers and Dec. 27 in Carolina.
- Has 3-12=15 totals in his last 19 games, including a six-game point streak from Nov. 17-28 which tied a club record for point streak by a rookie defenseman (Ray Bourque, 2-7=9 totals in six straight games from Mar. 12-19, 1980).
- Has three multiple-point games with his season-high a career-high three assists Dec. 12 in Atlanta.

- Played his first Boston game of the season Oct. 15 in Montreal after his Oct. 14 recall from Providence/AHL where he had two assists in two AHL Bruins games.
- Has not dressed for ten games (coach's decision).

#### **49–Matt Lashoff–D**

- Did not dress Dec. 28 in Atlanta after playing in ten of the previous 11 contests ... Played his first Boston game of the season Dec. 4 in Tampa ... His last NHL points came in a two-assist effort Mar. 25 at Toronto.
- Recalled from Providence/AHL on Dec. 1 for the second time this season ... Had 4-12=16 totals with 23 PIM in 18 AHL Bruins games, ranking third overall among AHL defensemen in scoring.
- Had been recalled to Boston from Nov. 19-27 but was a coach's scratch in three games during that span.
- Has not dressed for four games (coach's decision).

#### **60–Vladimir Sobotka–C**

- Has played the last five games with 1-1=2 totals in that span ... Had an assist Dec. 20 vs. Carolina and a goal Dec. 21 in St. Louis.
- Recalled Dec. 9 from Providence/AHL for his second stint of the season in Boston ... Had 10-11=21 totals in 17 AHL Bruins games at the time of the recall.
- Played five scoreless games in Boston from Oct. 14-Nov. 4 during his first recall and did not dress for five games in that span as well ... His last Boston game was Oct. 23 vs. Toronto and his last NHL points came in a two-assist effort Apr. 4, 2008 at Ottawa.
- Has not dressed for seven games (coach's decision).

#### **73–Michael Ryder–RW**

- Has scored the game-winning goal in each of the last two games and now has a league-leading seven game-winners on the season ... Has 7-2=9 totals in his last eight games with a 1-1=2 night Dec. 12 in Atlanta; two goals Dec. 13 vs. the Thrashers; a goal Dec. 18 vs. Toronto; 1-1=2 totals Dec. 21 in St. Louis; and single goals each Dec. 27 in Carolina and Dec. 28 in Atlanta.
- Has 11-3=14 totals in his last 14 games.
- Has six multiple-point games.
- Opened the season with a four-game point streak with 1-4=5 totals in that span ... Had a goal Oct. 9 in Colorado, two assists Oct. 11 in Minnesota and single assists each Oct. 15 in Montreal and Oct. 18 in Ottawa.
- Scored his first goal as a Bruin in his first game as a Bruin Oct. 9 in Colorado ... The goal was the 100th of his NHL career.

#### **81–Phil Kessel–RW**

- Has 15-14=29 totals in 19 of his last 21 games, including a career-best 18-game point streak from Nov. 13-Dec. 21 with 14-14=28 totals in that stretch ... That is the longest such streak in the league this season, is the fifth-longest streak in team history and is the longest such streak since Adam Oates had points in 20 straight games in 1997 ... He also had a seven-game assist streak during that stretch.
- Had a six-game goal streak from Nov. 26-Dec. 8 with seven goals in that stretch, which tied for the longest such streak in the league this season ... It was the longest goal streak by a Bruin since Glen Murray tallied in six straight from Jan. 27-Feb. 5, 2004 (nine goals).
- Has eight multiple-point games with his season-high a 2-1=3 effort Oct. 18 in Ottawa.
- Had a three-game goal/point streak from Oct. 18-21 with 4-1=5 totals in that span.
- Was named the NHL's "First Star" for the week of Dec. 8-14 with 3-5=8 totals in four games on the week.

#### **91–Marc Savard–C**

- Has three assists in his last two games with 3-8=11 totals in his last nine games ... Had two assists Dec. 12 in Atlanta, a 1-3=4 effort Dec. 18 vs. Toronto, single goals each Dec. 20 vs. Carolina and Dec. 21 in St. Louis, two assists Dec. 27 in Carolina and an assist Dec. 28 in Atlanta.
- Has 5-22=27 totals in his last 21 games with 6-28=34 totals in his last 30 games.
- Has 14 multiple-point games with his season-high a 1-3=4 night Nov. 19 vs. Buffalo.
- Has had two five-game assist/point streaks - from Oct. 25-Nov. 1 (0-6=6 totals) and Nov. 13-21 (2-9=11 totals).
- Opened the season with a four-game point streak with 5-4=9 totals from Oct. 9-18.
- Recorded his 600th NHL point in a 1-3=4 effort Nov. 19 vs. Buffalo.