

AHL GAME #785 — BEARS ROAD GAME #27

HERSHEY BEARS (22-25-3-4)

Home: 12-11-3-2, Road: 10-14-0-2, 7th Atlantic Division
at

HARTFORD WOLF PACK (25-23-4-3)

Home: 13-10-2-0, Road: 12-13-2-3, 6th Atlantic Division

Friday, February 23, 2018 –7:15 p.m. – XL Center

REFEREE: Chris Waterstadt (88)
LINESMEN: Glen Cooke (6), Kyle Richetelle (47)



TONIGHT'S GAME NOTES

BEARS AT WOLF PACK: The Hershey Bears go for a fifth straight win tonight as they visit the Hartford Wolf Pack at XL Center. After winning all three games north of the border, Hershey has pushed its win streak to a season-high four games, and the club has moved out of last place in the Atlantic Division. The Wolf Pack are the next team Hershey is hoping to chase down, as Hartford currently sits six points ahead of the Bears in the Atlantic Division. The Wolf Pack are 6-3-0-1 over the past 10 games.

2017-18 REGULAR-SEASON SERIES VS HARTFORD (2-1-0-0):

October 29	HARTFORD	Giant Center	W, 4-3
November 25	at Hartford	XL Center	W, 4-1
February 10	HARTFORD	Giant Center	L, 5-2
February 23	at Hartford	XL Center	
March 24	at Hartford	XL Center	
March 25	HARTFORD	Giant Center	

BEARS vs. WOLF PACK– 2017-18 TEAM LEADERS (Excludes Players on NHL Recall or at Olympics):

	HERSHEY	Hartford
Goals	Riley Barber (17)	Peter Holland (13)
Assists	Travis Boyd (26)	Cole Schneider (21)
Points	Travis Boyd (40)	Peter Holland (33)
PIMs	Tyler Lewington (103)	Brandon Crawley (78)
Plus/Minus	Dustin Gazley, Tyler Lewington (+3)	Filip Chytil (+3)
Power-Play Goals	Riley Barber (9)	Scott Kosmachuk (8)
Shorthanded Goals	Liam O'Brien (2)	Steven Fogarty (2)
Game-Winning Goals	Riley Barber (5)	Filip Chytil (3)
Wins	Pheonix Copley (10)	Marek Mazanec, Chris Nell (6)
Goals-Against Average	Vitek Vanecek (2.79)	Marek Mazanec (3.02)
Save Percentage	Pheonix Copley (.894)	Marek Mazanec (.910)

2017-18 REGULAR SEASON SPECIAL TEAMS COMPARISON:

	HERSHEY	Hartford
Power Play	39-for-238 (16.4%) – 18 th in AHL, 4 SHGA	45-for-228 (19.7%) –6 th in AHL, 6 SHGA
Penalty Kill	189-for-227 (83.3%) – 11 th in AHL, 8 SHGF	184-for-220 (83.6%) –9 th in AHL, 4 SHGF

ATLANTIC DIVISION STANDINGS:

POS	TEAM	GP	W	L	OTL	SOL	PTS	PTS%	GF	GA
1.	Lehigh Valley	55	34	14	3	4	75	.682	195	165
2.	Wilkes-Barre/Scranton	50	30	15	4	1	65	.650	166	145
3.	Providence	52	30	17	3	2	65	.625	148	126
4.	Charlotte	54	30	21	0	3	63	.583	186	157
5.	Bridgeport	52	24	20	5	3	56	.538	140	139
6.	Hartford	55	25	23	4	3	57	.518	150	182
7.	HERSHEY	54	22	25	3	4	51	.472	142	177
8.	Springfield	54	23	28	2	1	49	.454	152	176

BEARS RECENT TRANSACTIONS:

Feb. 13	ADD	D	Tommy Hughes	Recalled from loan to South Carolina (ECHL)
Feb. 9	ADD	RW	Adam Chapie	Traded from NY Rangers (NHL to Washington, Loaned from Washington (NHL)
Feb. 9	DEL	D	Hubert Labrie	Traded to Hartford (AHL)
Feb. 9	ADD	LW	Joe Whitney	Traded from Hartford (AHL)
Feb. 7	DEL	LW	Chris Bourque	Loaned to Team USA (Olympics)

WOLF PACK RECENT TRANSACTIONS:

Feb. 22	ADD	C	Dan DeSalvo	Recalled from loan to Tulsa (ECHL)
Feb. 22	DEL	C	Vinni Lettieri	Recalled from loan by NY Rangers (NHL)
Feb. 22	DEL	RW	Eric Selleck	Traded to Belleville (AHL)
Feb. 21	ADD	D	Ryan Sproul	Returned on loan from NY Rangers (NHL)
Feb. 19	ADD	D	Joey Leach	Signed to PTO

BEARS NEWS AND NOTES:

LAST TIME OUT: Hershey's last game was a 5-2 victory over the AHL's best team, the Toronto Marlies, at the Air Canada Centre on Monday. Despite falling down 1-0 after the first period courtesy of a Miro Aaltonen goal, Hershey fired back with three goals in the second period to take a lead they would never relinquish. Tyler Graovac, Jeremy Langlois, and Nathan Walker scored in a span of just over six minutes to put the Chocolate and White in front 3-1. After Toronto made it 3-2 only 1:52 into the third period, netminder Pheonix Copley stood tall, and Liam O'Brien posted a pair of empty net goals. Copley finished the night with 27 saves. The Wolf Pack are coming off a 4-0 loss on Sunday in Bridgeport. Travis St. Denis scored a pair of goals for the Sound Tigers, and Chris Gibson stopped all 22 shots thrown his way as the Wolf Pack were outshot 41-22.

LAST TIME VS. HARTFORD: Hershey's last game vs. Hartford came on Feb. 10 at the Giant Center. The Wolf Pack scored on four consecutive shots in the first period, and chased Pheonix Copley from the game after three tallies on five shots in a 5-2 Hartford win. Dustin Gazley and Liam O'Brien scored for the Chocolate and White to cut the deficit to three, but the defeat marked the third consecutive game Hershey fell into a 5-0 hole, dating back to February 4th versus the Charlotte Checkers. Hershey finished the night 0-for-5 on the power play and only 2-for-5 on the penalty kill

FAMILIAR FACES IN NEW PLACES: It's been two weeks since the Wolf Pack and Bears, as well as their NHL parent clubs, pulled off a trade that saw two players from each club switch sides. The biggest name in the trade was Hartford's captain, Joe Whitney, a three-time AHL All-Star, who joined Hershey. Whitney has fit right in with the Bears, scoring six points (one goal, five assists) in five games with the Chocolate and White. His one goal was the overtime winning marker on Feb. 11 versus Rochester. The Bears also got forward Adam Chapie in the deal, and he has skated in two games with Hershey and has yet to record a point. The Wolf Pack obtained forward John Albert, who has no points in five games with Hartford, as well as defender Hubert Labrie who has no points, seven penalty minutes, and a -5 rating in five games with Hartford.

PHEONIX RISES: Hershey netminder Pheonix Copley has won his past two starts, posting a pair of sensational performances during Hershey's road trip to Canada. Copley had been pulled in two of his previous three starts heading into last Saturday's game at Belleville, but the North Pole, Alaska native has solidified his game. Copley stopped all 28 shots he faced versus the Senators last weekend to earn his first shutout of the season, and the eighth whitewash of his AHL career. He was named the game's number one star. He followed up that performance on Monday by beating the top team in the league, Toronto, in a 5-2 victory. Copley made 27 saves and was the second star of the game. Copley's goals against average has dropped from well above three to 2.98, and he has improved his record to 10-12-5 on the season.

JEREMY'S WINNER: Monday's game was a big one for Hershey forward Jeremy Langlois. His second period goal was his first since returning from injury on Feb. 10, and his first goal since Nov. 15 versus Syracuse. Langlois' goal Monday was the game-winning marker, giving him his first winner in just over a year. The last time that Langlois scored a game-winning goal was on Feb. 17, 2017 as he struck twice for the Rockford IceHogs in a 4-1 win over Cleveland. The forward has eight points (three goals, five assists) in 32 games this season.

BEARS-WOLF PACK FAST FACTS: Hershey will be without Chris Bourque again this weekend. The forward is expected to fly back Monday after Team USA was eliminated from medal contention in South Korea....Former Hershey defender Joey Leach is a member of Harford. The big defender was signed to a PTO earlier this week. He appeared in 24 games with Hershey from 2015-2017...Forward Liam O'Brien has four goals in the last three games, with three of the tallies being empty net goals...Steven Fogarty, who was born in Chambersburg, Penn., has five points (three goals, two assists) vs. Hershey so far this season...Dustin Gazley (one goal, two assists) leads the Bears with three points this season versus Hartford...Hershey's Mathias Bau did not make the trip with a lower-body injury. He is listed as day-to-day....Hershey's Tommy Hughes spent the past four seasons with Hartford.

TONIGHT'S BROADCAST INFORMATION***Bears Radio Network: WQIC-100.1 FM; Fox Sports 1460-AM,******Streaming Audio: Caps Radio 24/7, iHeartRadio (Fox Sports 1460 Harrisburg)|| Streaming Video: AHLlive.com******Twitter: Hershey Bears Twitter: @TheHersheyBears***