



VS.



Upcoming games for the Hartford Wolf Pack:

Sat.	Feb. 4	Vs. WBS Penguins	7:00 p.m.	@ XL Center
Fri.	Feb. 10	Vs. Lehigh Valley Phantoms	7:00 p.m.	@ XL Center
Sat.	Feb. 11	@ Hershey Bears	7:00 p.m.	@ GIANT Center
Fri.	Feb. 17	Vs. Bridgeport Islanders	7:00 p.m.	@ XL Center
Sat.	Feb. 18	Vs. Providence Bruins	7:00 p.m.	@ XL Center

Head-to-head:

This is the season's second and final meeting between the Wolf Pack and the Comets. It is Utica's lone visit to the XL Center. The Comets took a 3-2 shootout decision in the first meeting between the foes on January 6<sup>th</sup>, scoring a comeback decision on home ice. **Ryan Carpenter** put the Wolf Pack ahead 1-0 12:18 into the game, scoring a powerplay goal off a scramble in front. **Brandon Scanlin** blasted his second goal of the season home at 3:22 of the second period, putting Hartford ahead 2-0. **Joe Gambardella** got the Comets on the board at 11:44 of the middle stanza, while **Graeme Clarke** tied the tilt at 6:50 of the third period with his 12<sup>th</sup> goal of the season. After overtime solved nothing, the sides headed to a shootout. **Clarke** scored in the top half of the first round, while **Carpenter** struck iron, and **Alex Whelan** was denied on a beautiful sliding save from **Nico Daws**. The Comets have won two straight in the head-to-head matchup, including a 7-3 decision on March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022, in the last meeting at the XL Center.

Wolf Pack Notebook:

The Wolf Pack dropped back-to-back games in regulation for the first time since mid-December, falling 4-2 to the Providence Bruins on Wednesday. **Will Cuyllie** opened the scoring with his team-leading 14<sup>th</sup> goal of the season, but **Chris Wagner** responded just under three minutes later via a two-on-one chance. **Zac Jones** scored a highlight-reel goal at four-on-four 6:49 into the second, but the Bruins again evened the game at 11:48. This time, **John Beecher** benefited from a lucky bounce that allowed him to hit an empty net. **Georgii Merkulov's** one-timer on the powerplay 8:55 into the third period gave the Bruins the lead for good, while **Joona Koppanen** hit the empty net with 1.5 seconds left. It's the first time Hartford has lost back-to-back games since a four-game losing streak from December 28<sup>th</sup> – January 7<sup>th</sup>. **Turner Elson** leads the club in scoring with 24 points (9 g, 15 a). **Cuyllie** is tops on the club in goals with 14, while **Tanner Fritz** leads the way in assists with 19 on the campaign.

Comets Notebook:

The Comets also suffered a setback on Wednesday night, falling 4-3 in the shootout to the Syracuse Crunch. **Robbie Russo** opened the scoring 6:41 into the hockey game, giving the Comets a lead they'd take into the final stanza. The Crunch scored three unanswered goals in a four-minute span to kick off the third period, taking a 3-1 lead. **Jack Dugan** and **Simon Nemec** scored at 16:39 and 18:42, however, forcing overtime and salvaging a point for the home side. **Jaydon Dureau** and **Nolan Stevens** traded goals in the first three rounds of the shootout, leading to extra shooters. Lucas Edmonds would break the tie in the seventh round and push the Crunch to victory. **Clarke** leads the Comets in scoring with 35 points (16 g, 19 a). His 16 goals are also tops on the club, while both **Stevens** and **Nolan Foote** have hit double-digits in goals this season.

Yesterday/Last Night in the AHL:

Rochester (3) @ Belleville (5)

Bakersfield (5) @ Calgary (1)

Tonight in the AHL (all times Eastern):

Hershey @ Bridgeport (7:00)

Laval @ Toronto (7:00)

Manitoba @ Milwaukee (8:00)

Bakersfield @ Calgary (9:00)

Tucson @ Ontario (10:00)

Chicago @ Cleveland (7:00)

Providence @ Lehigh Valley (7:05)

Iowa @ Rockford (8:00)

San Diego @ Coachella Valley (10:00)

Abbotsford @ San Jose (10:00)

Charlotte @ Syracuse (7:00)

Wilkes-Barre/Scranton @ Springfield (7:05)

Grand Rapids @ Texas (8:00)

Colorado @ Henderson (10:00)

New York Rangers Notebook:

The Rangers took a 4-1 decision over the Vegas Golden Knights last Friday night at Madison Square Garden. **Chris Kreider**, **Vincent Trocheck**, **Filip Chytil**, and **Jimmy Vesey** all scored in the victory. The Rangers are now 27-14-8 and are off until they host the Calgary Flames on February 6<sup>th</sup> at the Garden following the All-Star break.

Tonight in the NHL (all times Eastern):

2023 NHL All-Star Skills Competition (7:00)

# Utica Comets (22-14-5-2) vs. Hartford Wolf Pack (17-17-3-6)

Feb 3, 2023 -- XL Center

## AHL Game #685

### GOALIES

#	Name	Ht	Wt	GP	W	L	OT	SO	GAA	SV%
50	Nico Daws	6-4	203	22	11	9	2	0	2.82	0.900
93	Akira Schmid	6-5	205	16	9	3	3	1	2.27	0.915

### SKATERS

#	Name	Pos	Ht	Wt	GP	G	A	Pts.	PIM	+/-
2	Michael Vukojevic	D	6-3	212	33	2	1	3	12	-4
5	Robbie Russo	D	6-0	195	43	4	15	19	18	-6
7	Simon Nemec	D	6-1	190	36	5	11	16	10	9
8	Dylan Blujus	D	6-3	203	14	0	3	3	10	1
10	Jack Dugan	LW	6-2	209	40	7	11	18	29	-3
11	Andreas Johnsson	LW	5-10	190	27	7	16	23	24	10
12	Tyce Thompson	F	6-1	178	27	7	10	17	11	-4
15	Joe Gambardella	C	5-10	200	33	4	14	18	4	3
16	Filip Engaras	C	6-1	200	13	2	0	2	6	0
18	Nick Rivera	C	5-10	190	6	0	0	0	4	-2
21	Nolan Stevens	LW	6-3	195	39	12	15	27	17	9
22	Reilly Walsh	D	6-0	185	42	3	17	20	34	-6
23	Tyler Wotherspoon	D	6-2	207	36	3	9	12	14	8
24	Brian Halonen	F	6-0	205	38	6	10	16	31	4
25	Nolan Foote	LW	6-3	201	34	14	5	19	15	-2
26	Ryan Schmelzer	C	6-2	188	40	4	16	20	19	0
28	Brian Pinho	RW	6-1	190	35	8	14	22	10	-1
55	Mason Geertsen	F	6-4	221	35	3	2	5	102	-5
75	Jeremy Groleau	D	6-3	197	23	1	6	7	2	10
77	Aarne Talvitie	C	5-11	198	33	0	7	7	2	-4
79	Samuel Laberge	LW	6-2	206	19	6	2	8	27	5
82	Nikita Okhotiuk	D	6-1	194	18	2	4	6	18	-1
90	Zach Senyshyn	RW	6-1	208	33	6	3	9	6	0
91	Nick Hutchison	C	6-3	200	28	4	5	9	21	1
92	Graeme Clarke	RW	5-11	175	42	16	19	35	18	3

### Team Staff

Dan MacKinnon	General Manager
Kevin Dineen	Head Coach
Andrew Brewer	Assistant Coach
Ryan Parent	Assistant Coach

### GOALIES

#	Name	Ht	Wt	GP	W	L	OT	SO	GAA	SV%
31	Dylan Garand	6-1	176	20	7	9	3	2	3.30	0.887
70	Louis Domingue	6-3	210	26	10	8	6	1	2.49	0.910

### SKATERS

#	Name	Pos	Ht	Wt	GP	G	A	Pts.	PIM	+/-
4	Zach Giuttari	D	6-2	190	34	1	5	6	8	7
6	Zac Jones	D	5-10	172	25	6	11	17	18	5
8	Alex Whelan	F	6-0	210	20	2	3	5	12	4
9	Ben Tardif	F	5-10	195	23	2	6	8	4	6
11	Tanner Fritz	F	5-11	192	38	3	19	22	16	4
13	Will Cuyllie	F	6-3	204	41	14	7	21	39	0
14	Ryan Carpenter	F	6-0	196	22	11	9	20	18	5
15	Turner Elson	F	5-11	185	43	9	15	24	22	4
17	Gustav Rydahl	F	6-3	201	33	4	7	11	28	3
19	C.J. Smith	F	5-11	183	21	4	2	6	6	-12
20	Karl Henriksson	F	5-9	176	42	3	6	9	14	-2
21	Austin Rueschhoff	F	6-7	230	29	2	8	10	16	1
22	Jonny Brodzinski	F	6-0	215	22	4	10	14	18	-9
26	Tim Gettinger	F	6-6	218	23	6	5	11	13	-11
32	Matt Rempe	F	6-7	207	37	5	4	9	69	1
37	Andy Welinski	D	6-1	200	38	4	12	16	12	-14
41	Bobby Trivigno	F	5-7	160	38	6	11	17	12	4
44	Matthew Robertson	D	6-4	201	40	3	11	14	23	-14
48	Lauri Pajuniemi	F	6-0	183	40	10	5	15	16	-4
49	Ty Emberson	D	6-1	194	40	6	10	16	12	6
53	Hunter Skinner	D	6-3	190	6	0	0	0	4	-2
55	Patrick Khodorenko	F	6-0	198	4	0	0	0	2	-2
58	Brandon Scanlin	D	6-4	216	41	3	7	10	16	9
74	Blake Hillman	D	6-1	200	22	0	5	5	10	-2
91	Sammy Blais	F	6-1	193	4	2	0	2	6	-8
96	Cristiano DiGiacinto	F	5-11	188	28	3	7	10	28	-2

### Team Staff

Ryan Martin	General Manager
Kris Knoblauch	Head Coach
Steve Smith	Assistant Coach
Jamie Tardif	Assistant Coach
Jeff Malcolm	Goaltending Coach

### OFFICIALS

Referee	Stephen Hiff (#56)
Referee	Jeremy Tufts (#78)
Linesperson	Ryan Jackson (#84)
Linesperson	Brent Colby (#7)