



BIG

MEN'S ICE HOCKEY
TOURNAMENT
SAINT PAUL 2014

2014 BIG TEN MEN'S ICE HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

Game 3 • Friday, March 21, 2014
Xcel Energy Center • Saint Paul, Minn.
NO. 2 WISCONSIN (23-10-2) 2, NO. 6 PENN STATE (8-26-2) 1
Wisconsin advances to play in championship game
on Saturday, March 22 at 7 p.m. CT



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GAME NOTES

SERIES

- This is the seventh all-time meeting between Wisconsin and Penn State, a series the Badgers now lead 6-1-0. The Badgers won all four meetings between the two teams in the 2013-14 regular season -- 7-1 and 4-3 wins in a series in Madison, Wis., on Dec. 6-7, and 4-2 and 3-2 (OT) wins in a series March 7-8 in State College, Pa.
- This is the first-ever meeting the two teams on neutral ice.

WISCONSIN BADGERS

- With the win, Wisconsin improves to 23-10-2 overall, with a 9-2-0 mark in its last 11 games and a 5-2-0 mark in road/neutral games in the 11-game stretch.
- Wisconsin is now 11-7-0 all-time at the Xcel Energy Center since the facility opened in the 2000-01 season. Wisconsin appeared in WCHA Final Five tournaments in 2001, 2002, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2010 and 2013, and the NCAA West Regional in 2010. Wisconsin has now won its last seven games played at the Xcel Energy Center -- winning three games in last year's WCHA Final Five, two games at the 2010 NCAA West Regional and the third-place game at the WCHA Final Five in 2010.
- Wisconsin is now 5-6-1 when surrendering the first goal of the game this season.
- Wisconsin is now 8-3-1 when tied after one period and 18-0-1 when leading after two periods this season.
- Wisconsin is now 13-3-1 when scoring on the power play this season; it was 1-for-3 against Penn State.
- Wisconsin is now 12-6-1 when holding an opponent scoreless on the power play this season; Penn State was 0-for-3 with the man advantage.
- Wisconsin claimed a 34-25 shots-on-goal advantage in the game, and is now 14-2-1 when outshooting its opponents this season. Wisconsin is now 15-3-1 when allowing 20 to 29 shots this season.
- Michael Mersch scored his 21st goal of the season for the Badgers at the 1:27 mark of the second period, assisted by Jefferson Dahl (15th assist) and Morgan Zulinick (ninth assist). It's the 18th game in which Mersch has scored a goal this season; Wisconsin is now 12-4-2 when he scores a goal.
- Mersch added a second goal on the power play -- the first power-play goal of the Big Ten Tournament -- at the 19:49 mark of the second period, scoring from Mark Zengerle (31st assist) and Nic Kerdiles (19th assist). It's Mersch's third multi-goal game (Badgers are 3-0-0) and ninth multi-point game (Badgers are 6-2-1) of the season. It's Mersch's 12th multi-goal and 28th multi-point game of his career. Mersch now has a team-best 22 goals on the season and is second on the team with 35 total points.
- Mark Zengerle now has a team-high 31 assists and 40 points on the season. Zengerle has had a goal or assist in 26 of his 35 games, including a current streak of eight straight games with a goal or assist (5 goals, 10 assists, 15 points). It's his 22nd game this season in which he has collected at least one assist.
- Nic Kerdiles is now second on the team with 19 assists and third with 34 points. Kerdiles is currently on a five-game point streak (four goals, six assists, 10 points), and has had a goal or assist in 19 of his 26 games this season. He has an assist in 15 games this season.

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- Jefferson Dahl snapped a seven-game pointless streak with his assist on the Badgers' first goal. He now has 15 assists and 18 points this season, and has had a goal or assist in 12 of his 34 games this season.
- Morgan Zulinick now has nine assists and 12 points on the season. His assist marked the 11th time in his 34 games in which he has had a goal or assist.
- Wisconsin goalie Joel Rumpel collected 24 saves against Penn State, improving to 20-5-1 on the season.

PENN STATE NITTANY LIONS

- Penn State finishes its second season of varsity hockey with an 8-26-2 record.
- The 2-1 decision marked Penn State's 16th one-goal game of the season, in which the Nittany Lions finished 5-11-0.
- Penn State is now 2-3-0 in neutral-site games this season.
- The Nittany Lions scored the first goal on Friday, when Curtis Loik scored his seventh goal of the season, assisted by Kenny Brooks (sixth assist) and David Glen (sixth assist) at the 55-second mark of the second period. Penn State is 2-4-1 when Loik scores a goal in a game this season. It's Loik's ninth game with a goal or assist this year.
- Kenny Brooks has had a goal or assist in 10 games this season (Penn State is 2-6-1).
- David Glen has had a goal or assist in nine games this season (Penn State is 3-6-0).
- Penn State is now 5-8-1 when scoring the first goal of a game this season.
- Penn State is now 1-5-1 when tied after one period and 2-21-0 when trailing after two periods this season.
- Penn State was 0-for-3 on the power play against Wisconsin; the Nittany Lions are now 3-15-0 when not scoring a power-play goal this season.
- Penn State is now 1-14-1 when being outshot by its opponents this season, and 0-9-1 when taking between 20 and 29 shots this year.