

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MARCH 21, 2022

JOSI, CONNOR AND CROUSE NAMED NHL 'THREE STARS' OF THE WEEK

NEW YORK (March 21, 2022) – Nashville Predators defenseman **Roman Josi**, Winnipeg Jets left wing **Kyle Connor** and Arizona Coyotes left wing **Lawson Crouse** have been named the NHL's "Three Stars" for the week ending March 20.

FIRST STAR - ROMAN JOSI, D, NASHVILLE PREDATORS

Josi collected three helpers in each of three of his appearances to top the NHL in assists (9), points (9) and plus/minus (tied; +6) as the Predators (36-22-4, 76 points) earned a pair of victories to maintain the first Wild Card position in the Western Conference. Tied 1-1 late in the second period, he assisted on three unanswered Nashville goals in a 4-1 triumph over the Pittsburgh Penguins March 15. Facing a 3-1 deficit in the middle frame, Josi again assisted on three straight Predators goals as the team ultimately fell, 5-4, to the Philadelphia Flyers March 17. He then closed the week with three more helpers in a 6-3 win over the Toronto Maple Leafs March 19, Josi's fourth consecutive outing with at least three points – <u>a feat achieved by only one other defenseman in NHL history</u> (**Bobby Orr**: 6 GP in 1970-71). The 31-year-old Bern, Switzerland, native and 11-year NHL veteran has played in 60 total games this season, leading all blueliners with 17-58—75 while already establishing career highs in goals, assists and points. He is on pace to become <u>the sixth different defenseman in League history to record a 100-point season</u> and first since **Brian Leetch** in 1991-92 (22-80—102 in 80 GP w/ NYR).

SECOND STAR - KYLE CONNOR, LW, WINNIPEG JETS

Connor ranked second in the NHL with 2-6—8 in three contests as the Jets (29-24-10, 68 points) picked up a pair of wins to remain within four points of the final playoff spot in the Western Conference. He recorded his second straight three-point performance with 1-2—3 in a 7-3 victory against the Vegas Golden Knights March 15. Connor then posted one assist in a 4-2 loss to the Boston Bruins March 18. He capped the week with 1-3—4, <u>his fifth career four-point effort</u> and first since Feb. 8, 2020 (1-3—4 vs. OTT), in a 6-4 triumph over the Chicago Blackhawks March 20. The 25-year-old Shelby Township, Mich., native – who has collected points in seven consecutive outings dating to March 8 (6-9—15) en route to setting career highs in goals (39), assists (38) and points (77) – has appeared in 63 total games this season, placing among the League leaders in shots on goal (3rd; 272), goals (5th) and points (6th).

THIRD STAR - LAWSON CROUSE, LW, ARIZONA COYOTES

Crouse led the NHL with five goals and ranked third with seven points (5-2—7) to help the Coyotes (20-38-4, 44 points) split their four outings. He opened the week by scoring his first career hat trick in a 5-3 win over the Ottawa Senators March 14. Crouse then registered 1-1—2, including his 10th career game-winning goal and fourth of the season, in a 6-3 victory against the Montreal Canadiens March 15. After being held off the scoresheet in a 4-1 defeat versus the Pittsburgh Penguins March 19, Crouse rebounded with 1-1—2 in a 4-2 loss to the San Jose Sharks March 20. The 24-year-old Mt. Brydges, Ont., native has established career highs in goals (20), assists (tied; 14) and points (34) through 61 total appearances this season, ranking second on Arizona in goals and fifth in points.

(3/21/22)

NHL COMMUNICATIONS

1 MANHATTAN WEST, 395 NINTH AVE., NEW YORK, NY 10001 **T:** 212-789-2000 50 BAY ST., TORONTO, ON M5J 2X8 **T:** 416-359-7900 **MEDIA.NHL.COM • @PR_NHL**