“Wings Head to Hockeytown With a “W”"
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The Detroit Red Wings were able to come away from Jobing.com Arena Friday night with a 7-4 win over the Phoenix Coyotes to tie up the series 1-1. With Henrik Zetterberg’s first playoff hat trick, a pair of goals by Valtteri Filppula, and the clutch play-making skills of Justin Abdelkader, the Wings left the Coyotes howling at the end of Game 2 of the Stanley Cup playoffs.

The Wings had a slow start in the first period, with all the focus on the series-leading Coyotes. After the first 20 minutes of play, the scoreboard lit up 1-0 in favor of Phoenix after a goal from Keith Yandle. It was within the next 20 minutes where a fury of goal scoring occurred by both teams. In a matter of approximately 4 minutes, the puck hit the back of the net 5 times. It was a penalty from the home team that started this goal fest; Zetterberg took this opportunity to score his first goal of the night. This resulted in 4 more odd-man rushes back and forth across the ice, each resulting in a score (2 from each team.)

It was because of Abdelkader, that the wings took their first lead 2 1/2 minutes into the final period of game play. Coyote forward Wojtek Wolski was on his way across his own blue line when Abdelkader picked his pocket with a clear path to the net and sent the puck sailing to the 5-hole. Abdelkader also had numerous 5 bone-crushing hits throughout the game.

With two more goals from #40, including a final minute empty netter, and another situation where Detroit took full advantage of the power play, the Coyotes were unable to regain a lead for the remainder of the evening.

The two teams are set to square off once more this Sunday at 3 PM. The next two games, Games 3 and 4, will take place at Joe Louis Arena in Detroit.