

NHL MORNING SKATE – DEC. 17, 2021

MORNING SKATE

Friday, December 17, 2021

#NHLSTATS

- ▶ Stamkos records 900th point as Lightning leap to first overall
- ▶ Forsberg tallies three points as Predators win sixth straight
- ▶ Ovechkin looks to break all-time power-play goals record

* **Steven Stamkos'** 900th career point helped vault the Lightning into top spot in the NHL standings.

* **Filip Forsberg** and **Quinn Hughes** aided the Predators and Canucks to victory Thursday en route to extending the League's longest active win streaks to six games.

* **Jack Drury**, the son of former NHL player **Ted Drury** and nephew of Rangers GM **Chris Drury**, scored in his League debut as Carolina capped their victory with a [Stars Wars-themed Storm Surge](#).

* **Connor McDavid** (16-31—47) notched two points to overtake **Alex Ovechkin** (21-25—46) for the [NHL scoring lead](#), while **Leon Draisaitl** (23-23—46) pulled even.

* **Alex Ovechkin** enters Friday tied with **Dave Andreychuk** for the [most power-play goals in NHL history](#) (274).

THURSDAY'S RESULTS


2 FINAL SO 3	1 FINAL 2	4 < FINAL 1	5 < FINAL 3
3 FINAL 5	1 FINAL 3	2 FINAL 5	3 < FINAL SO 2
2 FINAL 5	5 < FINAL 2		

STATS AND INFORMATION

@PR_NHL @PR_NHL #NHLStats


LIGHTNING LEAP INTO FIRST PLACE AS STAMKOS RECORDS 900TH NHL POINT

On the night the Lightning (19-6-4, 42 points) moved into first place in the overall standings for the first time since April 3, captain **Steven Stamkos** (452-448—900 in 869 GP) also [celebrated his 900th career point](#) and joined **Martin St. Louis** (365-588—953 in 972 GP) as the second player in franchise history to hit the milestone with the club.



ACTIVE PLAYERS WITH 900+ POINTS FOR ONE FRANCHISE

PLAYER	TEAM	POINTS
ALEX OVECHKIN	WSH	1,366
SIDNEY CROSBY	PIT	1,342
PATRICK KANE	CHI	1,112
EVGENI MALKIN	PIT	1,104
JOE THORNTON	SJS	1,055
ANZE KOPITAR	LAK	1,026
RYAN GETZLAF	ANA	1,002
NICKLAS BACKSTROM	WSH	981
PATRICE BERGERON	BOS	940
STEVEN STAMKOS	TBL	900



* **Andrei Vasilevskiy** extended his winning streak to six games and secured his NHL-leading 16th victory of the season (2.10 GAA, .928 SV%, 2 SO). Vasilevskiy also improved to 63-21-4 in 2021 and surpassed **Marc-Andre Fleury** (62-30-6 in 2009 w/ PIT) for the most wins by a goaltender in a calendar year in NHL history (regular season and playoffs combined).

FORSBERG HELPS PUSH PREDATORS TO SIXTH STRAIGHT WIN

Filip Forsberg (2-1—3) factored on three of five goals to record his 24th career three-point game and help the Predators (18-10-1, 37 points) extend the NHL's longest active win streak to [six games](#) (tied). Nashville, 8-2-0 in its last 10 games, moved ahead of Colorado (17-8-2, 36 points) and idle St. Louis (16-8-5, 37 points) for second place in the Central Division.

Most three-point games, franchise history:

- 24 - Filip Forsberg**
- 23 - Martin Erat**
- 22 - David Legwand**
- 20 - Steve Sullivan**

 **#NHLSTATS**

WESTERN CONFERENCE CLUBS CONTINUE TO JOCKEY FOR POSITION

The Golden Knights (18-11-0, 36 points), Oilers (17-11-0, 34 points), Kings (13-10-5, 31 points) and Canucks (14-15-2, 30 points) each won to keep pace in the Western Conference standings, where eight teams are separated by six points (seed Nos. 5-12).

* **Alex Pietrangelo** notched an assist to extend his road point streak to nine games (3-7—10) – the longest ever by a Golden Knights player – as Vegas claimed its third straight win. The Golden Knights improved to 6-1-0 in seven games since Dec. 3, moving from outside the playoff picture to within three points of first place in the Pacific Division over the past two weeks.

* **Jesse Puljujarvi** (2-1—3) scored twice in a span of 46 seconds – the fastest two goals by an Oilers player in more than eight years – as Edmonton halted an 0-6-0 slide to maintain the second Wild Card position in the Western Conference. **Connor McDavid** notched two assists to overtake **Alex Ovechkin** (idle) for the [most points in the NHL this season](#).

* **Anze Kopitar** scored the game winner as the Kings extended their point streak to four games (3-0-1) – with each of the last three contests coming against clubs currently ranked among the top seven in the NHL standings. Kopitar tied **Marcel Dionne** for the second-most [game-winning goals in franchise history](#) (59).

* **Quinn Hughes** (0-1—1) factored on one of five Canucks goals as Vancouver improved to 6-0-0 since **Bruce Boudreau** was named head coach Dec. 6. Boudreau became the [sixth head coach in NHL history](#) to win each of his first six games with a club, following **Geoff Ward**, **Jacques Lemaire**, **Patrick Roy**, **Bryan Murray** and **Mario Tremblay**.



CANUCKS

Quinn Hughes has collected 10 assists in a calendar month for the fifth time in his career (also November 2019, February 2020, January 2021 & November 2021) – the most such instances by a defenseman in Canucks history

 #NHLSTATS



NIGHT OF FIRSTS IN RALEIGH HIGHLIGHTS #NHLSTATS: LIVE UPDATES

The [Thursday edition of the #NHLStats: Live Updates](#) includes notes on 21-year-old **Jack Drury** (1-0—1) and 27-year-old **Andrew Poturalski** (0-1—1) securing their first NHL points in a Carolina victory. The Hurricanes (20-7-1, 41 points) required the second-fewest games in franchise history to reach the 20-win mark in a single season.

* Poturalski became the [second-oldest skater in Hurricanes team history](#) at the time of his first career point, while Drury became the fourth Hurricanes player in the past five years to score in his NHL debut.



STATS AND INFORMATION

 @PR_NHL  @PR_NHL  #NHLStats



Jack Drury's father, Ted, skated in 414 career games (41-52-93) and his uncle, Chris, is a Stanley Cup champion (2000-01 w/ COL) and is the current president, general manager and alternate governor of the Rangers.

 #NHLSTATS



QUICK CLICKS

- * [Steven Stamkos reflects on 900 career points with Lightning](#)
- * [Sabres score two game-tying goals in shootout win over Wild](#)
- * [Semyon Varlamov makes 40 saves, Islanders defeat Bruins](#)
- * [Jonathan Quick makes 41 saves, Kings top Panthers](#)
- * [2022 NHL All-Star Game fan vote now open online](#)

PAIR OF GAMES ON ESPN+ AMONG SIX-GAME SLATE

A six-game Friday features **Alex Ovechkin** looking to break a tie with **Dave Andreychuk** for the [most power-play goals in NHL history](#) as well as a pair of contests exclusively on ESPN+ and Hulu that includes a Central Division showdown between the Stars and Blues and the Pacific Division-leading Ducks hosting the Coyotes.



STATS AND INFORMATION

 @PR_NHL  @PR_NHL  #NHLStats



TONIGHT'S SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2021

7:00 PM ET		@		ATTSN-RM, MSG, TVAS
7:00 PM ET		@		ATTSN-PT, MSG-B, SN
8:00 PM ET		@		HULU, ESPN+
8:00 PM ET		@		TSN3, NBCSWA
8:30 PM ET		@		BSSO, NBCSCH
10:00 PM ET		@		HULU, ESPN+



Stream on ESPN+ and NHL LIVE. Blackouts and other restrictions apply.

STATS AND INFORMATION

@PR_NHL @PR_NHL #NHLStats