

## NHL MORNING SKATE – DEC. 30, 2021

**NHL**

# MORNING SKATE

Thursday, December 30, 2021

#NHLSTATS

- ▶ Blues defeat Oilers to earn win in Winter Classic tune-up
- ▶ Carlson collects 1-3—4 in Capitals' victory against Predators
- ▶ Panthers post NHL-best 15th home win of the season

\* **Jordan Kyrou** and **Vladimir Tarasenko** helped the Blues best the Oilers at Enterprise Center in their final game before the 2022 Discover NHL Winter Classic.

\* Washington and New Jersey picked up wins Wednesday thanks to notable performances by **John Carlson** and **Jack Hughes**.

\* Thursday's slate is highlighted by the Panthers and League-leading Lightning clashing at FLA Live Arena, with the hosts looking to gain ground on the defending Stanley Cup champions in the NHL standings.

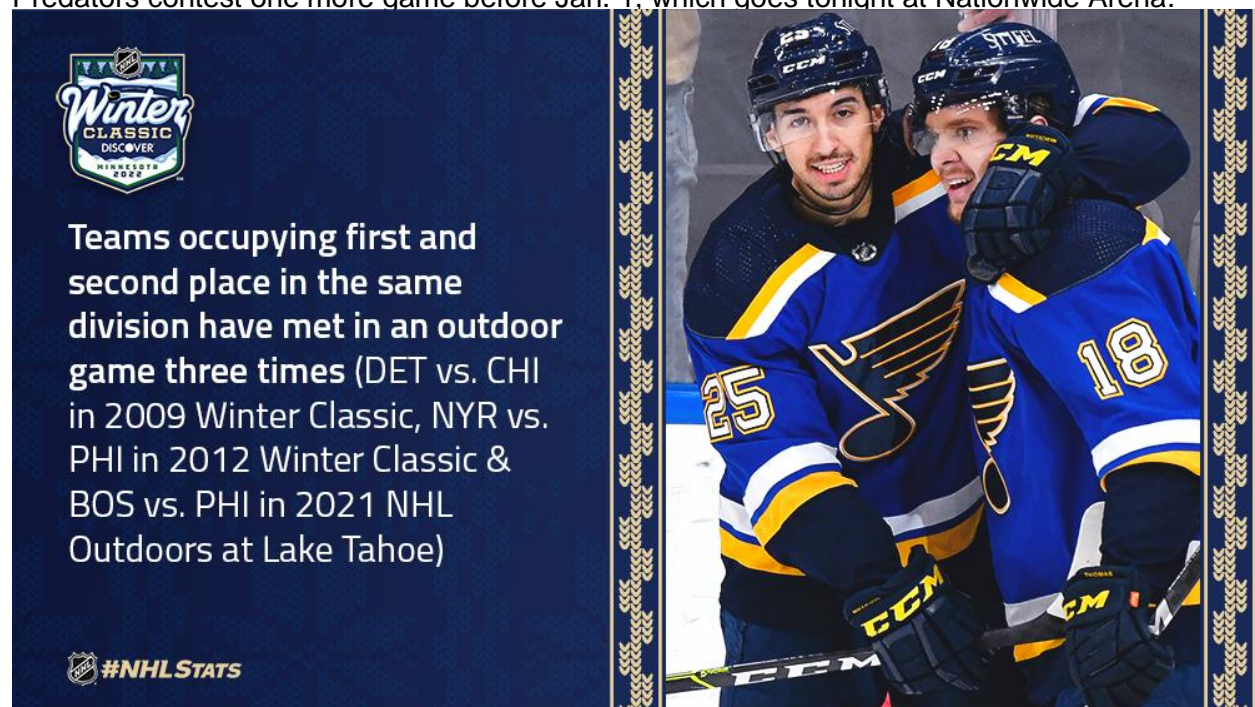
**NHL** WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

4	FINAL	3		3	FINAL	4		3	FINAL	5	
2	FINAL	4		3	FINAL	2		2	FINAL	1	

## **BLUES BEAT OILERS IN FINAL GAME BEFORE 2022 DISCOVER NHL WINTER CLASSIC**

**Jordan Kyrou** and **Vladimir Tarasenko** each tallied 1-2—3 as St. Louis skated to a victory in its final game before the 2022 Discover NHL Winter Classic, which will see the Blues square off against the Wild at Target Field on New Year's Day.

\* St. Louis (18-9-5, 41 points) extended its home point streak to 10 games (9-0-1 dating to Nov. 18) and moved into first place in the Central Division, with Minnesota (19-9-2, 40 points) and Nashville (19-11-1, 39 points) currently ranking second and third, respectively. The Predators contest one more game before Jan. 1, which goes tonight at Nationwide Arena.



## **CARLSON, HUGHES HELP CAPITALS, DEVILS EARN WINS WITH MULTI-POINT GAMES**

**John Carlson** (1-3—4) and **Jack Hughes** (1-2—3) recorded four and three points, respectively, as the Capitals (19-6-7, 45 points) and Devils (11-15-5, 27 points) snapped slides in their first game back from the Holiday Break.

\* Carlson factored on four of five Washington goals to record his [second career four-point outing](#) as the Capitals snapped their eight-game slide against the Predators (0-7-1 dating to Feb. 25, 2017). Only six active defensemen have registered more four-point games than Carlson: **Erik Karlsson** (5x), **Morgan Rielly** (5x), **Roman Josi** (4x), **Tyson Barrie** (4x), **Victor Hedman** (4x) and **Kris Letang** (3x).



## MOST GAMES WITH 4+ POINTS

► DEFENSEMEN, CAPITALS HISTORY

PLAYER	TOTAL
KEVIN HATCHER	5
SCOTT STEVENS	4
ROBERT PICARD	4
SERGEI GONCHAR	3
MIKE GREEN	3
LARRY MURPHY	3
JOHN CARLSON	2



\* Hughes registered his [fourth career three-point game](#) as New Jersey snapped its six-game losing streak (0-6-0 dating to Dec. 10) and moved within six points of Detroit (15-13-3, 33 points), which occupies the final Wild Card spot in the Eastern Conference. Hughes' four three-point games are the most among Devils players since his debut season in 2019-20.



## MOST GAMES WITH 3+ POINTS BEFORE AGE 21

► FRANCHISE HISTORY

PLAYER	TOTAL
KIRK MULLER	10
SCOTT GOMEZ	6
BRENDAN SHANAHAN	6
PAUL GARDNER	6
NICO HISCHIER	5
PETR SYKORA	5
JACK HUGHES	4
WILF PAIEMENT	4



## **PANTHERS POSTING 15TH HOME WIN FEATURED IN #NHLSTATS: LIVE UPDATES**

[Wednesday's edition of #NHLStats: Live Updates](#) features several more notes from the six-game slate. Some highlights include:

\* **J.T. Miller** (1-1—2) scored 26 seconds into overtime as the Canucks improved to 7-0-0 since naming **Bruce Boudreau** head coach on Dec. 5. **Thatcher Demko** (22 saves) extended his [career-best winning streak to six games](#).

\* **Claude Giroux** reached the [600-assist milestone](#) and surpassed **Bill Barber** (420-463—883 in 903 GP) for sole possession of second place on the [Flyers' all-time points list](#), while **Ivan Provorov** scored the overtime winner as Philadelphia extended its point streak to six games (5-0-1 dating to Dec. 10). Provorov potted his [third career overtime goal](#) and [10th career game winner](#).

\* The Panthers scored three straight goals in the final frame en route to their League-leading sixth third-period comeback win and 15th home victory of the season (15-3-0, 30 points). Florida set a franchise mark for fewest games to 15 home wins, eclipsing its previous best of 20 from 1995-96 (15-3-2, 32 points) and 1999-00 (15-2-3, 33 points).



**FEWEST GAMES TO 15 HOME WINS IN A SEASON**  
▶ NHL HISTORY

TEAM	SEASON	GP
BOSTON BRUINS	1973-74	16
MONTREAL CANADIENS	1953-54	16
BOSTON BRUINS	1929-30	16
ANAHEIM DUCKS	2013-14	17
WASHINGTON CAPITALS	2008-09	17
SAN JOSE SHARKS	2008-09	17
PHILADELPHIA FLYERS	1986-87	17
CHICAGO BLACK HAWKS	1971-72	17
CHICAGO BLACK HAWKS	1970-71	17
FLORIDA PANTHERS	2021-22	18*

\*30 OTHER INSTANCES OF 18 GP

 **#NHLSTATS**



## **QUICK CLICKS**

- \* [NHL, NHLPA agree to modify COVID-19 protocol](#)
- \* [Winter Classic: MN Unbounded, Niñas brings game to girls of color](#)
- \* [Winter Classic: Brooks Foundation gives 'game back to the kids'](#)
- \* [World Junior Championship canceled due to COVID-19 concerns](#)
- \* [Alex Ovechkin, Connor McDavid and more featured in 2021 Year in Review by #NHLStats](#)


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2021 TOP SELLING  
**JERSEYS**


**1** ALEX OVECHKIN


**2** SIDNEY CROSBY




**5** CONNOR McDAVID




**8** NATHAN MacKINNON




**3** MARC-ANDRE FLEURY




**6** PATRICE BERGERON




**9** DAVID PASTRNAK




**4** AUSTON MATTHEWS



**7** CAREY PRICE





**10** PATRICK KANE



**PANTHERS, LIGHTNING SET TO CLASH DURING THURSDAY'S SLATE**

The Panthers (19-7-4, 42 points) are set to welcome the NHL-leading Lightning (21-6-4, 46 points) to FLA Live Arena Thursday in the third head-to-head game between the intrastate rivals this season. Florida and Tampa Bay [split the two previous meetings](#) after squaring off in the [First Round of the 2021 Stanley Cup Playoffs](#).

**NHL TONIGHT'S SCHEDULE** THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2021

7:00 PM ET		@		BSSUN, BSFL, SN, TVAS
7:00 PM ET		@		BSSO, TSN2, RDS
7:00 PM ET		@		BSSO, BSOH
7:30 PM ET		@		MSG+, MSG-B
10:00 PM ET		@		ROOT-NW, SNW
10:30 PM ET		@		BSW, SNP
10:30 PM ET		@		NBCSP, NBCSCA

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