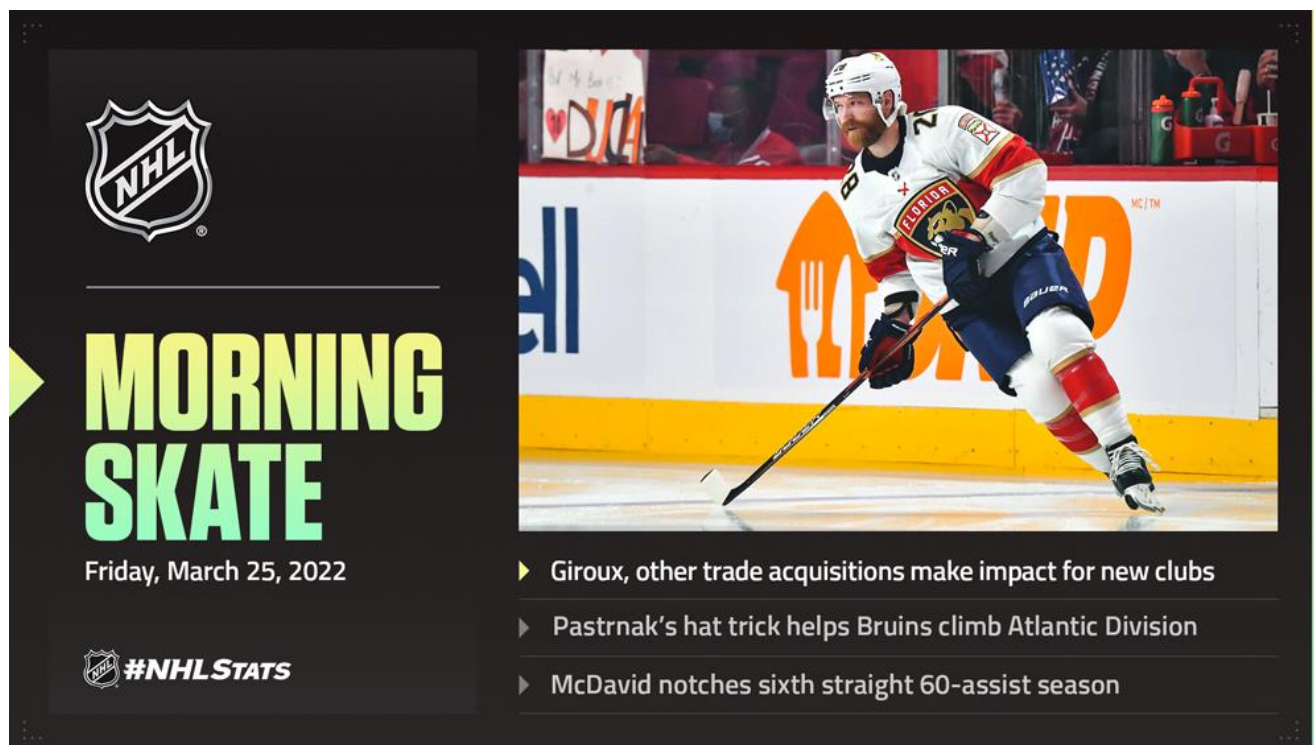


MORNING SKATE – MARCH 25, 2022



MORNING SKATE
Friday, March 25, 2022

#NHLStats

- ▶ Giroux, other trade acquisitions make impact for new clubs
- ▶ Pastrnak's hat trick helps Bruins climb Atlantic Division
- ▶ McDavid notches sixth straight 60-assist season

* New faces in new places left their mark on the NHL's Thursday slate, with **Scott Wedgewood** backstopping the Stars to a tightly-contested win against the Hurricanes and **Claude Giroux** lifting the Panthers to victory in his team debut.

* **David Pastrnak's** 12th career hat trick helped the Bruins edge the Lightning in a crucial Atlantic Division clash. Boston now sits within the top three of their grouping for the first time in 2021-22.

* **Connor McDavid** boosted his lead in the Art Ross Trophy race and joined elite company by recording his sixth consecutive 60-assist season.



THURSDAY'S RESULTS

2 FINAL 3	4 FINAL 3	4 FINAL 3	2 FINAL 5
5 FINAL 2	5 FINAL 2	2 FINAL 3	2 FINAL 5
1 FINAL 6	4 FINAL 3		

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TRADE ACQUISITIONS MAKE THEIR IMPACT

The Stars (36-24-3, 75 points) and Panthers (43-14-6, 92 points) each profited from their trade acquisitions, whom all made an impact in their respective debuts:

* **Scott Wedgewood** (44 saves) turned aside at least 40 shots in his third straight appearance – including one stop on an odd-man rush with [1:08 remaining in overtime](#) – and established a franchise mark for most saves by a goaltender in their debut, besting **Jon Casey** (43 saves on March 28, 1984 w/ MNS).



NHL

MOST SAVES IN TEAM DEBUT

► SINCE 2014-15

GOALTENDER	TEAM	DATE	SAVES
LAURENT BROSSOIT	EDM	APRIL 9, 2015	49
ANDERS NILSSON	EDM	OCT. 13, 2015	48
MARC-ANDRE FLEURY	VGK	OCT. 6, 2017	45
TROY GROSENICK	SJS	NOV. 16 2014	45
SCOTT WEDGEWOOD	DAL	MARCH 24, 2022	44

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* Wedgewood, with 45 and 40 saves in his previous two appearances with the Coyotes respectively, became the fourth netminder in the past 10 years to post three consecutive 40-save outings. The others: **Anton Forsberg** (3 GP from Feb. 22 – March 6 w/ OTT), **Anton Khudobin** (3 GP from Feb. 19-24, 2019 w/ DAL) and **John Gibson** (3 GP from Nov. 15-22, 2017 w/ ANA).

* **Claude Giroux** (0-2—2), **Robert Hagg** (0-1—1) and **Ben Chiarot** (0-1—1) all collected points in their Panthers debut to help Florida (43-14-6, 92 points) boost its lead atop the Eastern Conference. It took Giroux and Hagg 36 seconds to record their first assists with their new club, marking the third quickest start to a game a Panthers player has found the score sheet in his team debut, behind **Gary Roberts** (0:26 on Oct. 31, 2005) and **Niklas Hagman** (0:29 on Oct. 26, 2001).



PANTHERS

Claude Giroux became the fifth Panthers player in the past 10 years to register multiple assists in his debut with the franchise, joining Sam Bennett (0-2-2 on April 17, 2021), Alex Kovalev (1-2-3 on Jan. 19, 2013), Jonathan Huberdeau (1-2-3 on Jan. 19, 2013) & Brian Campbell (0-2-2 on Oct. 8, 2011)

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PASTRNAK POTS THREE AS BRUINS CLIMB OUT OF WILD CARD SPOT

David Pastrnak (3-0-3) netted his 12th career hat trick to propel the Bruins (40-19-5, 85 points) to a crucial win over the Lightning (39-18-6, 84 points). Boston, with four games remaining against teams currently amid the playoff race in the Atlantic Division (TOR: 2 GP, FLA: 1 GP & TBL: 1 GP), moved into one of its cohort's top three seeds for the first time this season.

MOST HAT TRICKS

FRANCHISE HISTORY

1ST



PHIL
ESPOSITO

26

2ND



CAM
NEELY

14

3RD



DAVID
PASTRNAK

12

4TH



JOHNNY
BUCYK

12

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* Pastrnak (25 years, 303 days), who already has the most hat tricks by a Bruins player at the age 25 or younger also leads all active players in the scenario. Only two other active skaters have reached double digits before turning 26: 25-year-old **Connor McDavid** (10) and **Alex Ovechkin** (10).

McDAVID LIFTS OILERS TO VICTORY WITH ANOTHER 60-ASSIST SEASON. . .

Connor McDavid (0-2—2) factored on two third-period goals to boost his NHL-best totals to 35-60—95 and help the Oilers (36-24-5, 77 points) move within two points of the second-place Kings (35-22-9, 79 points) in the Pacific Division. The 2021-22 campaign marks McDavid’s sixth straight season with 60-plus assists.

MOST CONSECUTIVE SEASONS WITH 60-PLUS ASSISTS
▶ NHL HISTORY

PLAYER	SPAN	SEASONS
WAYNE GRETZKY	1979-80 - 1991-92	13
CONNOR MCDavid	2016-17 - 2021-22	6
HENRIK SEDIN	2006-07 - 2011-12	6
ADAM OATES	1988-89 - 1993-94	6
BERNIE FEDERKO	1980-81 - 1985-86	6
PETER STASTNY	1980-81 - 1985-86	6
GUY LAFLEUR	1974-75 - 1979-80	6
BOBBY ORR	1969-70 - 1974-75	6

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* **Leon Draisaitl** (44-46—90 in 65 GP) also scored twice and joined his captain at the 90-point plateau. The duo became the first pair of teammates in more than 25 years to each record 90 points by their team’s 65th game of the season. The last time teammates accomplished the feat was in 1995-96 when **Peter Forsberg** and **Joe Sakic** did so for Colorado (61 GP) while **Mario Lemieux, Jaromir Jagr** and **Ron Francis** did so for Pittsburgh (58 GP).

. . . WHILE OTHER WESTERN CONFERENCE CLUBS CONTINUE PLAYOFF PUSH

The Wild (38-20-4, 80 points) and Golden Knights (35-28-4, 74 points) each skated to victories Thursday to collect crucial points in the Western Conference standings, where seven teams are separated by six points.

* **Kirill Kaprizov** (1-1—2) factored on two of Minnesota’s three goals, including an assist on **Joel Eriksson Ek**’s overtime winner, to help the Wild leapfrog the Blues (35-19-9, 79 points) for second place in the Central Division. Kaprizov’s goal marked the 60th of his career (116 GP) – only one active player required fewer games to reach the mark: **Alex Ovechkin** (95 GP).



* While head coach **Peter DeBoer** celebrated his 1,000th game behind an NHL bench, **Jonathan Marchessault** (0-3—3) collected an assist on three of Vegas' six goals to help the Golden Knights keep pace with the Stars for the second Wild Card spot in the Western Conference. Thursday marked the third straight home game in which Vegas has scored five-plus goals, tied for the longest such stretch in franchise history (also 3 GP from Dec. 31, 2021 – Jan. 4, 2020).

GENDER EQUALITY MONTH: ALL CAPS ALL HER

The Capitals' [ALL CAPS ALL HER](#) platform provides [access to hockey](#) and elevates the game for women and girls in the Washington D.C. area, while recognizing and supporting female players, coaches, parents, advocates, students, and leaders in the community.

The platform encompasses four activation pillars: youth and adult hockey programming, business development and networking, coach and referee development, and families of hockey. Events, programs and content will provide various levels of entry into the sport for women and girls of all ages, including the recently announced Women in Hockey Night on March 28.

More info on Women Night can be found [here](#).

CELEBRATING
**GENDER
EQUALITY**
MONTH



"Hockey is a better sport and a stronger community when women are empowered to make their mark on the game, from the ice to the boardroom. By creating intentional pathways for women and girls in hockey, the Capitals are supporting and highlighting female leaders who will help move the game forward both now and in the future."

- Kim Davis, NHL Senior Exec. VP, Social Impact, Growth Initiatives & Legislative Affairs



QUICK CLICKS

- * [Thursday edition of #NHLStats: Live Updates](#)
- * [Garnet Hathaway](#) fined \$2,000 for actions in Capitals game
- * [Hayden Hodgson](#) collected a goal and assist in NHL debut with Flyers
- * [Save of the Season? Kings goalie Jonthan Quick](#) makes stunning stop
- * [5 things learned from CHL/NHL Top Prospects Game](#)

FRIDAY FEATURE: CLASH OF THE METROPOLITAN DIVISION

The No. 2 and No. 3 seeds in the Metropolitan will clash on a five-game Friday when the Penguins (39-16-10, 88 points) visit the Rangers (40-19-5, 85 points) at Madison Square Garden.

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TONIGHT'S SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, MARCH 25, 2022

7:00 PM ET		@		NBCSWA, MSG-B
7:00 PM ET		@		NHLN, ATTSN-PT, MSG+, SNP, SNO, SNE, TVAS
8:00 PM ET		@		TSN3, BSOH
9:00 PM ET		@		NBCSP, ALT
9:00 PM ET		@		SNW, BSAZ



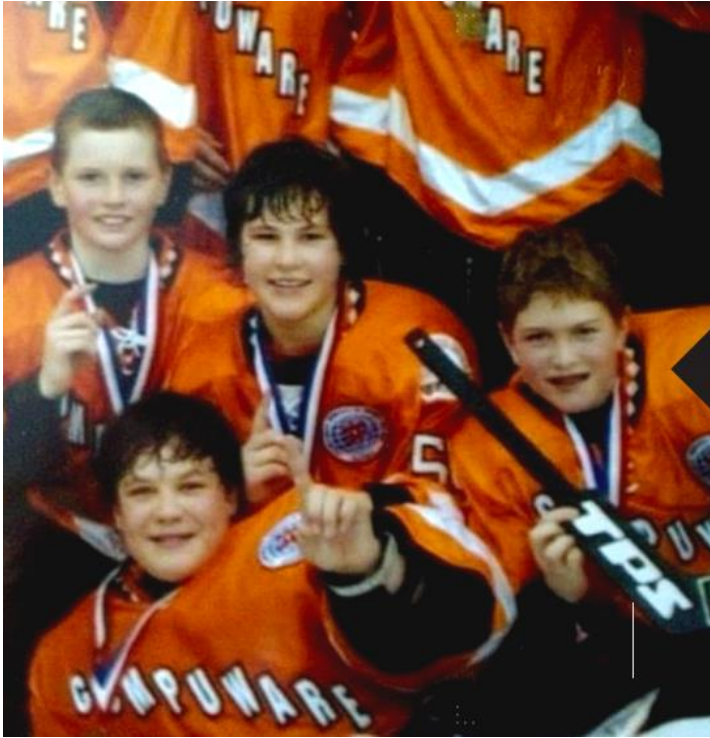
Stream on ESPN+ and NHL LIVE. Blackouts and other restrictions apply.

* Pittsburgh can reach the 40-win mark in a season in 66 games or fewer for the sixth time in franchise history and first since 2016-17 (64 GP). Captain **Sidney Crosby** leads the team in scoring with 23-43—66 (53 GP) despite being held out of the lineup a dozen contests in 2021-22. Crosby, who has finished as the Penguins leading scorer a franchise-leading 12 times in his career, can become the sixth player in NHL history to conclude a campaign atop his club in points in at least 13 seasons. The only players to do so are **Wayne Gretzky** (19), **Gordie Howe** (17), **Anze Kopitar** (13), **Jaromir Jagr** (13) and **Mats Sundin** (13).

* **Andrew Copp** and **Jacob Trouba** are set to play in their second game together in a Rangers uniform after being reunited at the trade deadline. The pair first played on the same team at age 10 on the Compuware peewee youth hockey team. Copp and Trouba's timeline as teammates include skating together on the U.S. National Team Development Program and becoming freshmen at the University of Michigan before being drafted by the Jets and playing in Winnipeg from 2014-15 to 2018-19.



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“

It's like I'm following him (Jacob Trouba) around. But it'll be awesome. I stood up at his wedding last year. Now, it'll be fun to spend some time together again.



ANDREW COPP
NEW YORK RANGER



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