

NHL MORNING SKATE – MARCH 30, 2022

MORNING SKATE
Wednesday, March 30, 2022

#NHLSTATS

- ▶ Avalanche become first team to reach 100 points in 2021-22
- ▶ Matthews scores goal No. 49 to retake NHL lead
- ▶ Crosby records 17th career point-per-game season

* **Cale Makar** became the third defenseman in Avalanche/Nordiques history to reach the 50-assist mark in a season, while Colorado became the first team in 2021-22 to record 100 points.

* **Chris Kreider** kept pace with **Auston Matthews** in the 2021-22 Maurice “Rocket” Richard Trophy race, **Steven Stamkos** secured another 30-goal season, while **Brock Nelson** and **Kirill Kaprizov** each netted their 13th marker of the month.

* **Sidney Crosby** reached the 70-point mark for the 12th time in his career, guaranteeing that he will average a point per game for the 17th season, tied with **Gordie Howe** for the second-most points-per-game campaigns in NHL history behind **Wayne Gretzky** (19).

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

6 ◀ FINAL 4	3 FINAL OT 4	4 FINAL 7
3 ◀ FINAL 2	4 ◀ FINAL 3	1 FINAL 4
1 FINAL 4	2 ◀ FINAL 1	3 ◀ FINAL 2

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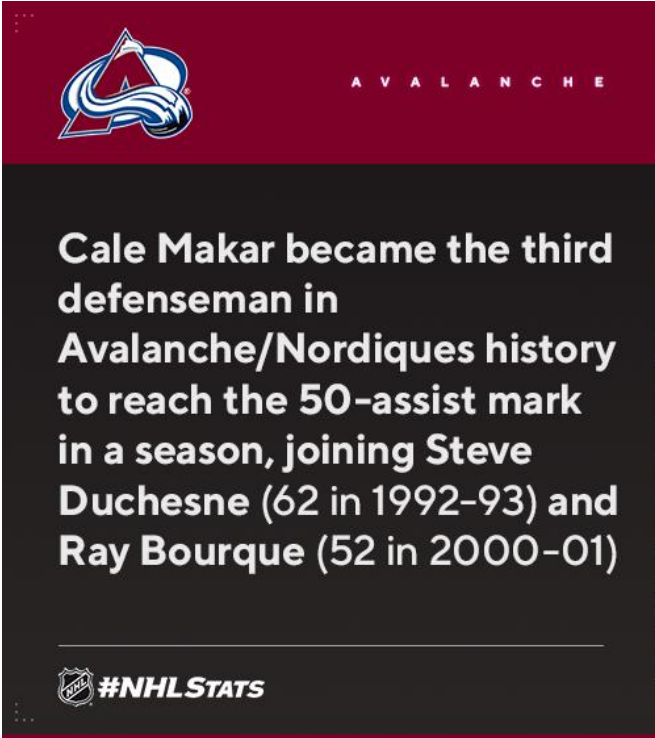
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MAKAR, HUBERDEAU HIT ASSIST MILESTONES AS CONFERENCE'S TOP TEAMS EARN WINS

Cale Makar (0-1—1) and **Jonathan Huberdeau** (2-1—3) each reached notable assist milestones Tuesday as the NHL-leading Avalanche (47-14-6, 100 points) became the first team in 2021-22 to hit 100 points and the Eastern Conference-leading Panthers (45-15-6, 96 points) set a franchise mark for [most goals for in a season](#) (268).


* Makar (24-50—74 in 63 GP) joined **Roman Josi**, **Adam Fox** and **Kris Letang** as the fourth defenseman this season to record 50 assists as Colorado became the [ninth team in the past 45 years](#) to reach the 100-point mark in 67 games or fewer.

* The Calgary, Alta., native skated in front of friends and family at Scotiabank Saddledome on Tuesday. Makar first skated at the “The Dome” as an 11-year-old when he participated in the Flames’ super skills event in 2009, where he skated out on the starting lineup between **Jay Bouwmeester** and **Brian McGrattan** with his name announced as ‘Cole Maker.’ His misspelled Flames jersey he received as part of the program was displayed in his childhood bedroom for many years.



Cale Makar became the third defenseman in Avalanche/Nordiques history to reach the 50-assist mark in a season, joining Steve Duchesne (62 in 1992-93) and Ray Bourque (52 in 2000-01)

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The image shows two Colorado Avalanche players, Cale Makar (number 8) and Jonathan Huberdeau (number 18), in action on the ice. They are wearing white jerseys with red and blue accents. Makar is in the foreground, looking towards the right, while Huberdeau is behind him, also looking right. They are both holding hockey sticks and appear to be in a defensive or offensive stance.

* Huberdeau factored on three of his team’s goals to establish a career high in assists and points (23-70—93 66 GP). Only two players in Panthers history have [recorded more points in a campaign](#): **Aleksander Barkov** (96 in 2018-19) and **Pavel Bure** (94 in 1999-00).

* Huberdeau became the first player in Panthers history to reach the 70-assist mark in a season and the first to record 400 career helpers with the club (191-400—591 in 657 GP).



Photo via [@FlaPanthers](#)

GOALS, GOALS, GOALS: A NUMBER OF PLAYERS REACHED NOTABLE GOAL MILESTONES

Auston Matthews, Chris Kreider, Steven Stamkos, Brock Nelson and Kirill Kaprizov each scored to reach notable goal milestones Tuesday en route to their respective team's victory:

* Matthews (1-1—2) scored to reclaim the lead in the 2021-22 Maurice "Rocket Richard" Trophy race and help the Maple Leafs (42-19-5, 89 points), who rank third in the Atlantic Division, earn a win in a pivotal matchup against the Bruins (41-20-5, 87 points). Matthews (49-36—85 in 61 GP) moved within one of becoming the first player this season to reach the 50-goal mark.



MOST GOALS IN A SEASON

► FRANCHISE HISTORY

PLAYER	YEAR	GOALS
RICK VAIVE	1981-82	54
DAVE ANDREYCHUK	1993-94	53
RICK VAIVE	1983-84	52
GARY LEEMAN	1989-90	51
RICK VAIVE	1982-83	51
AUSTON MATTHEWS	2021-22	49
FRANK MAHOVLICH	1960-61	48

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* **Chris Kreider** scored his 45th goal of 2021-22 (45-19—64 in 67 GP) as the Rangers (43-19-5, 91 points) earned a crucial win against the Penguins (40-18-10, 90 points) to move into second place in the Metropolitan Division. Kreider tied **Mike Gartner** (45 in 1992-93) for the eighth-most goals in a season by a Rangers player, trailing only **Jaromir Jagr** (54 in 2005-06), **Adam Graves** (52 in 1993-94), **Vic Hadfield** (50 in 1971-72), Gartner (49 in 1990-91), **Pierre Larouche** (48 in 1983-84), **Mark Messier** (47 in 1995-96) and **Jean Ratelle** (46 in 1971-72).

* Stamkos (1-2—3) scored his 11th career overtime winner to power the Lightning (42-18-6, 90 points) past the Metropolitan Division-leading Hurricanes (44-15-8, 96 points) and help Tampa Bay retain second place in the Atlantic. Stamkos, who hit the 30-goal mark for the seventh time in his 14-season career, surpassed franchise legend and Hall of Fame member **Martin St. Louis** for sole possession of the most overtime winners and 30-goal campaigns by a Lightning skater.



* Nelson (200-176—376 in 660 GP) scored the [200th goal of his NHL career](#) and 13th since March 1, which marks the most in a single month by an Islanders player since March 1996 (**Ziggy Palffy**: 13 G in 14 GP).

* Kaprizov (37-45—82 in 64 GP) scored the winner to move within one point of matching the [single-season franchise record](#) and help Minnesota extend its [winning streak to seven games](#), which marks the longest active run in the NHL. Kaprizov (13-6—19 in 15 GP) has 13 goals since March 1 and tied the Wild record for most in a single month, set by **Eric Staal** in February 2018 (13-8—21 in 13 GP).




MOST POINTS IN A SEASON

▶ FRANCHISE HISTORY

PLAYER	SEASON	POINTS
MARIAN GABORIK	2007-08	83
KIRILL KAPRIZOV	2021-22	82
BRIAN ROLSTON	2005-06	79
ERIC STAAL	2017-18	76
MIKKO KOIVU	2009-10	71
MIKAEL GRANLUND	2016-17	69
ANDREW BRUNETTE	2001-02	69

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CROSBY'S 12TH CAREER 70-POINT SEASON FEATURED IN #NHLSTATS: LIVE UPDATES

The [Tuesday edition of #NHLStats: Live Updates](#) featured **Sidney Crosby** (1-0—1) recording his 70th point of 2021-22 (25-45—70 in 56 GP) to become the 22nd player in NHL history to reach the mark in at least 12 seasons – the only other active players to do so are **Alex Ovechkin** and **Joe Thornton** (both w/ 12).

* Crosby (511-884—1,395 in 1,095 GP) recorded his 1,395th career point and surpassed **Luc Robitaille** (668-726—1,394 in 1,431 GP) for sole possession of [23rd on the NHL's all-time list](#).



Sidney Crosby's 70th point of 2021-22 guaranteed that he will average a point per game for the 17th season of his career, tied with Gordie Howe for the second-most points-per-game campaigns in NHL history behind only Wayne Gretzky (19)

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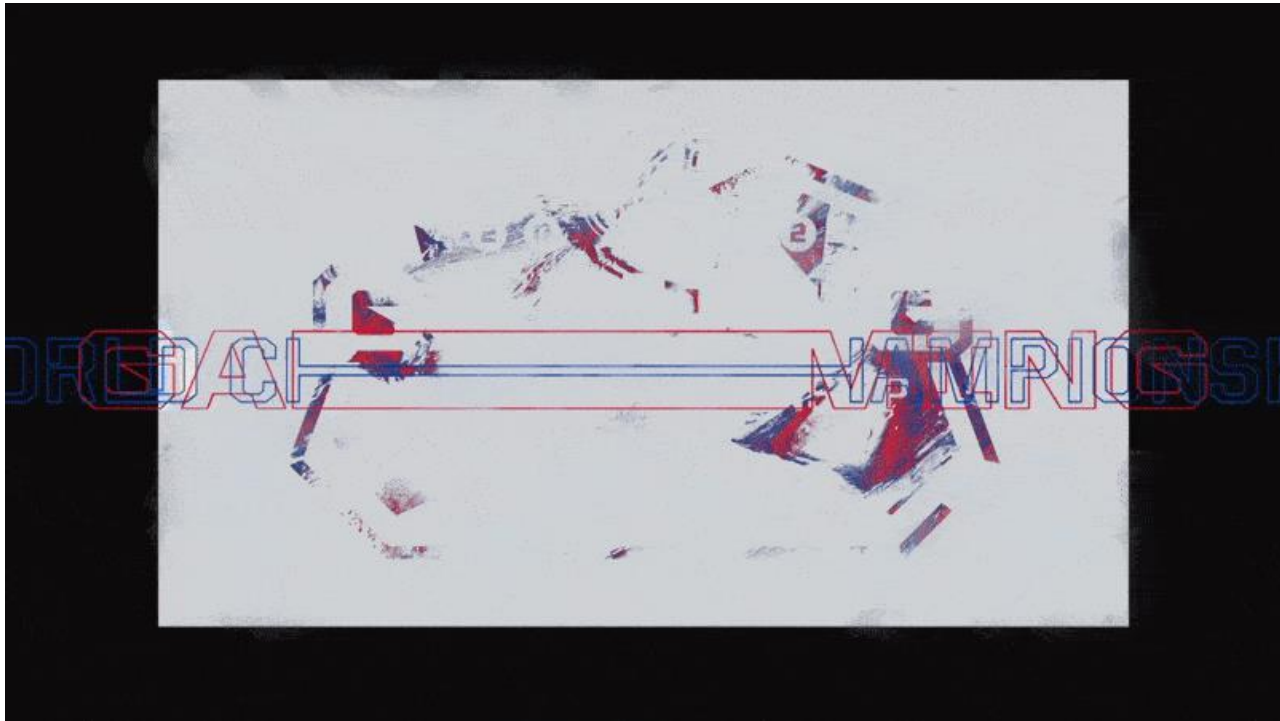
QUICK CLICKS

- * [Predators defeat Senators, move into third in Central](#)
- * [Eugene Melnyk](#) remembered after his death as 'great man' by Senators GM
- * [NHL working with NHLPA to add no-trade documentation to contract registry](#)
- * [Ben Roethlisberger](#) drops ceremonial puck at Penguins game
- * [CHEL Intel – March 29, 2022](#)




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McDAVID, DRAISAITL EYE 100TH POINT IN PACIFIC DIVISION CLASH





Sandwiched in between a TNT doubleheader in Detroit and Seattle, the Kings (36-23-9, 81 points) and Oilers (37-25-5 79 points) will clash at Rogers Place in Edmonton as the two clubs continue to jockey for second place in the Pacific Division.



TONIGHT'S SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 2022

7:00 PM ET		@		MSG-B, SN, TVAS
7:30 PM ET		@		TNT
9:30 PM ET		@		TVAS, SN1, SNW, BSW
10:00 PM ET		@		SNP, BSMW
10:00 PM ET		@		BSAZX, NBCSCA
10:00 PM ET		@		TNT

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

* Teammates **Leon Draisaitl** (48-48—96 in 67 GP) and **Connor McDavid** (36-62—98 in 66 GP) have their sights on hitting the 100-point mark, with the latter entering the contest having found the score sheet in each of his past 10 games. McDavid eyes his fifth career [100-point campaign](#) (2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19 & 2020-21) – only one active player has posted more than the 25-year-old Oilers captain: **Sidney Crosby** (6: 2005-06, 2006-07, 2008-09, 2009-10, 2013-14 & 2018-19).

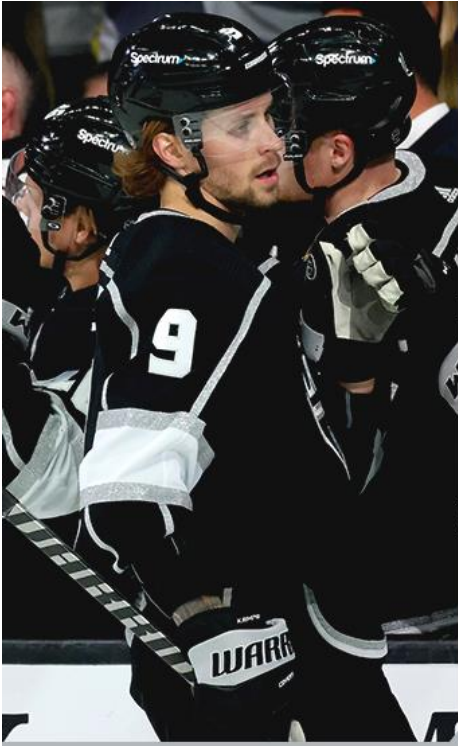
MOST 100-POINT SEASONS BEFORE 26TH BIRTHDAY
▶ NHL HISTORY

PLAYER	LAST	TOTAL
WAYNE GRETZKY	1986-87	8
MARIO LEMIEUX	1989-90	6
DALE HAWERCHUK	1987-88	6
BRYAN TROTTIER	1981-82	5
BOBBY ORR	1973-74	5

*CONNOR MCDAVID (4) CAN JOIN THIS LIST

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* **Adrian Kempe** (28-14—42 in 65 GP) leads Los Angeles in goals in 2021-22 and has notched 14 more than his 2020-21 totals (14-15—29 in 56 GP). He can become the fourth Kings player in the past 10 seasons to record a [30-goal campaign](#), joining **Anze Kopitar** (35 in 2017-18), **Jeff Carter** (32 in 2016-17) and **Tyler Toffoli** (31 in 2015-16).



LARGEST SEASON-TO-SEASON GOAL IMPROVEMENT

▶ SINCE 1991-92

PLAYER	SEASON 1	SEASON 2	IMPROVEMENT
ANZE KOPITAR	2016-17	2017-18	23
LUC ROBITAILLE	1997-98	1998-99	23
LUC ROBITAILLE	1991-92	1992-93	19
DUSTIN BROWN	2006-07	2007-08	16
ROB BLAKE	1996-97	1997-98	15
▶ ADRIAN KEMPE	2020-21	2021-22	14
DUSTIN BROWN	2016-17	2017-18	14
ALEX FROLOV	2005-06	2006-07	14

*MIN. 50 GP IN EACH SEASON (ALL W/ LAK)

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