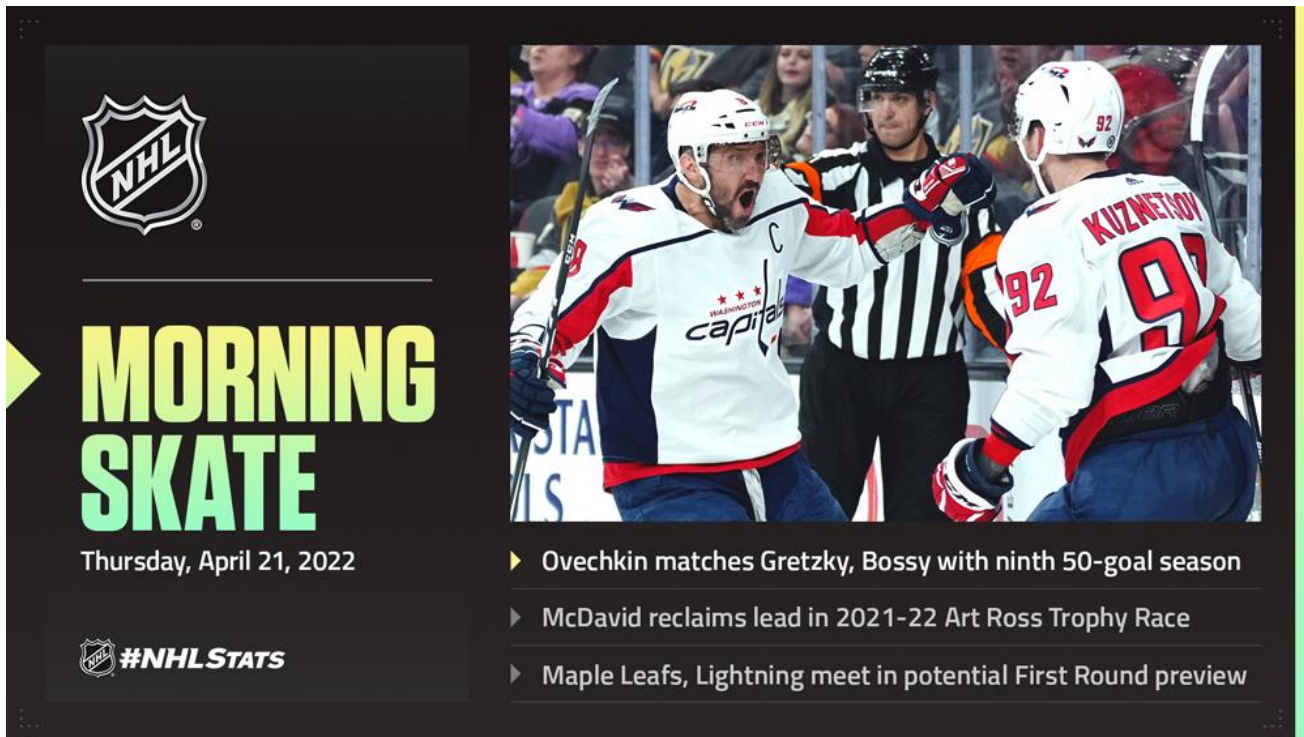


## MORNING SKATE – APRIL 21, 2022



**MORNING SKATE**  
Thursday, April 21, 2022

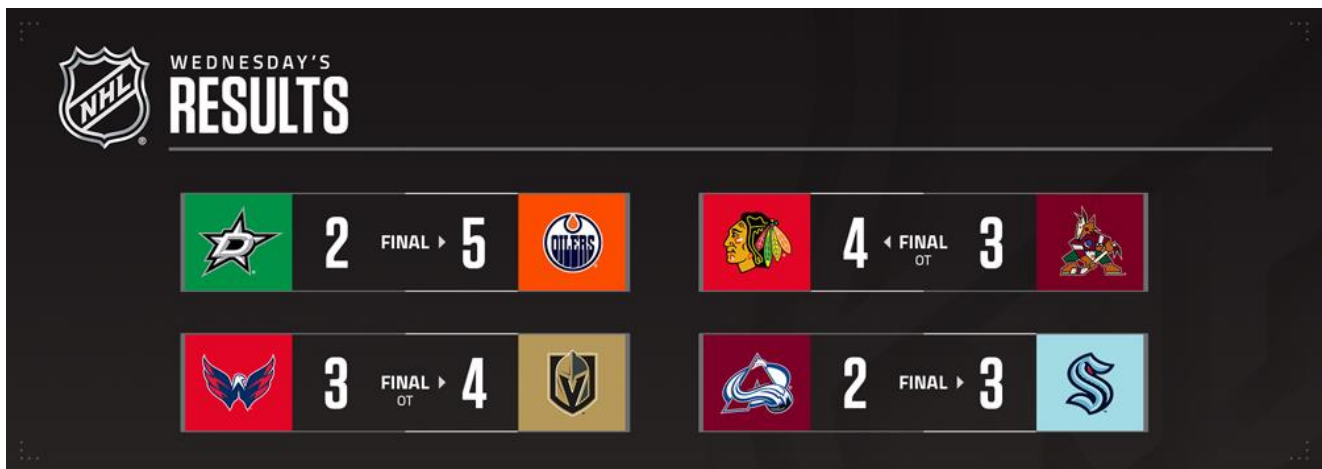
#NHLSTATS

- ▶ Ovechkin matches Gretzky, Bossy with ninth 50-goal season
- ▶ McDavid reclaims lead in 2021-22 Art Ross Trophy Race
- ▶ Maple Leafs, Lightning meet in potential First Round preview







\* **Alex Ovechkin** once again climbed multiple NHL all-time lists, this time with his ninth career 50-goal season and yet another multi-goal outing.

\* **Connor McDavid** reclaimed the lead in the 2021-22 Art Ross Trophy Race and reached the 70-assist mark for the fourth time in his career – the first active player to do so.

\* Twenty-two teams will be in action Thursday, including a national broadcast on ESPN between the Maple Leafs (51-20-6, 108 points) and Lightning (46-22-8, 100 points) in what could be a First Round preview.



**WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS**

	2	FINAL ▶	5			4	◀ FINAL OT	3	
	3	FINAL OT ▶	4			2	FINAL ▶	3	

### OVECHKIN TIES NHL RECORD WITH NINTH CAREER 50-GOAL SEASON

**Alex Ovechkin** (2-1—3) scored goals No. 49 and 50 on the season to climb multiple all-time lists, cementing himself next to some of the greatest scorers in NHL history:

 **STATS AND INFORMATION**

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\* With his first marker, Ovechkin surpassed **Teemu Selanne** (48 in 2006-07) for the most goals in a single season by an NHL player age 36 or older.

\* Ovechkin reached the 50-goal mark with his second of the game – the ninth 50-goal campaign of his career. No other active skater has more than two (**Leon Draisaitl** & **Steven Stamkos**: 2). Ovechkin also boosted his 2021-22 totals to 50-40—90 (75 GP) for his sixth career 90-point season, matching **Connor McDavid** and **Sidney Crosby** for the most among active players.



\* The Capitals captain secured his 158th career multi-goal game, which tied **Brett Hull** for the second most in NHL history behind **Wayne Gretzky** (189).

### **McDAVID HITS 70-ASSIST MILESTONE AS OILERS EXTEND HOME POINT STREAK**

**Connor McDavid** (1-2—3) hit the 70-assist mark for the fourth time in his career while **Mike Smith** (34 saves) posted his seventh straight win to help the Oilers extend their home point streak to 12 games dating to March 9 (11-0-1). Edmonton (45-26-6, 96 points) built a four-point cushion over idle Los Angeles (41-27-10, 92 points) for second place in the Pacific Division with a game in hand.

\* Smith, who has been between the pipes five times during his team's 12-game run at Rogers Place (5-0-0), became the first Oilers goaltender to post a win streak of seven-plus contests since **Cam Talbot** in 2017-18. Only three netminders in franchise history have recorded a longer run: **Grant Fuhr** (10 GP in 1985-86), **Tommy Salo** (9 GP in 2000-01) and **Andy Moog** (9 GP in 1982-83).

\* McDavid (43-70—113 in 76 GP), who [reclaimed the lead in the 2021-22 Art Ross Trophy Race](#) from **Jonathan Huberdeau** (30-81—111 in 76 GP), recorded his 211th career multi-point outing to surpass **Jaromir Jagr** (210) for sole possession of the seventh most by a player before age 26 in NHL history.





## MOST 70-ASSIST SEASONS

▶ NHL HISTORY

PLAYER	TOTAL
WAYNE GRETZKY	15
MARIO LEMIEUX	8
BOBBY ORR	6
PAUL COFFEY	5
PETER STASTNY	5
MARCEL DIONNE	5
BRYAN TROTTIER	5
CONNOR MCDAVID	4
ADAM OATES	4
DALE HAWERCHUK	4
MARK MESSIER	4
GUY LAFLEUR	4
PHIL ESPOSITO	4

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**THEODORE SCORES IN OVERTIME, GOLDEN KNIGHTS MOVE CLOSER TO WILD CARD SPOT**

**Shea Theodore** (1-1—2) scored the overtime winner in a crucial victory for the Golden Knights (42-31-5, 89 points) who moved within two points of the Stars (43-29-5, 91 points), who lost in regulation Wednesday, for the final Wild Card spot in the Western Conference.



\* Theodore recorded his seventh career overtime goal and sixth in a Golden Knights uniform, tied with **Max Pacioretty** (6) and **Jonathan Marchessault** (6) for the most in franchise history.






### **BENIERS CONTINUES NOTABLE START TO NHL CAREER ON #NHLSTATS: LIVE UPDATES**

**Matty Beniers** (0-1—1) collected a point in his fourth straight NHL game to begin his career (2-2—4) and helped the Kraken (26-44-6, 58 points) skate to a win against the League-leading Avalanche (55-16-6, 116 points). This note and more can be found in [Wednesday's edition of #NHLStats: Live Updates](#).



**Matty Beniers became the first rookie to debut with an expansion team in its inaugural season and record a point in each of his first four games with the club since Bernie Johnston in 1979-80 (4 GP w/ HFD). The longest run is six, held by Wayne Gretzky (1979-80).**

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## QUICK CLICKS

- \* [Penguins Name Amanda Kessel First Hire of Executive Management Program](#)
- \* [Auston Matthews](#) compares favorably with Sittler as dynamic Maple Leafs forward
- \* [Logan Cooley](#) to lead United States in IIHF 2022 World U-18 Championship
- \* [Alex DeBrincat](#) scores goal No. 40, Blackhawks win in overtime
- \* [Andrew Ladd](#) Thrilled & Proud to Reach 1,000 NHL Games

ANDREW LADD  
#16 | LEFT WING

MILESTONE

1,000  
CAREER GAMES PLAYED

FOURTH MEMBER OF THE 2004 NHL DRAFT CLASS TO REACH THE MILESTONE

#NHLSTATS






















## MAPLE LEAFS, LIGHTNING HIGHLIGHT 11-GAME THURSDAY

An Atlantic Division matchup broadcast nationally on ESPN between the second-place Maple Leafs (51-20-6, 108 points) and third-place Lightning (46-22-8, 100 points) will highlight an 11-game Thursday in what could be a First Round preview between the two clubs. Toronto and Tampa Bay have never met in the postseason.



# TONIGHT'S SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2022

7:00 PM ET	 @ 	RDS, TSN2, NBCSP	7:00 PM ET	 @ 	HULU, ESPN+
7:00 PM ET	 @ 	MSG+, MSG-B	7:00 PM ET	 @ 	ATTSN-PT, NESN, SNO, SNE, TVAS
7:00 PM ET	 @ 	BSSO, TSN3	7:30 PM ET	 @ 	MSG+ 2, MSG
8:00 PM ET	 @ 	ESPN, TSN4	8:00 PM ET	 @ 	BSWI, BSN, SNP
9:00 PM ET	 @ 	SNW, KTXA	10:30 PM ET	 @ 	BSW, NBCSCH, SNP, SNO, SNE
10:30 PM ET	 @ 	BSMW, NBCSCA			



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

\* The Lightning are currently led by their captain **Steven Stamkos** (33-54—87 in 75 GP) who could finish as Tampa Bay's leading scorer for the fourth time in his career and first since 2014-15 (43-29—72 in 82 GP). Stamkos (472-481—953 in 916 GP) is one point shy of surpassing former captain **Martin St. Louis** (365-588—953 in 972 GP) for a historic mark – the [franchise's all-time leading scorer](#). The duo played together for parts of six seasons and combined for 216 points over that time.

\* **Michael Bunting** (23-40—63 in 77 GP) continues to lead all rookies in scoring, six points more than the next-closest skater: **Trevor Zegras** (21-36—57 in 71 GP). Bunting is also two assists shy of matching **Mitchell Marner** (42 in 2016-17) for the most by a rookie in a single season in Maple Leafs history and continues to move up the franchise's list for points. Should Bunting conclude the 2021-22 campaign as the NHL's top rookie scorer, he would become the fourth Maple Leafs player to achieve the feat joining **Auston Matthews** in 2016-17, **Syl Apps** in 1936-37, **Ace Bailey** in 1926-27 and **Reg Noble** in 1917-18.



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# MOST POINTS BY A ROOKIE

FRANCHISE HISTORY



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