

## NHL MORNING SKATE – DEC. 28, 2022



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LECC LASER EYE CENTER

NHL Morning Skate

Wednesday, December 28, 2022

Raanta earns shutout as Hurricanes match franchise record with ninth consecutive win

McDavid among trio of Pacific Division stars that shone Tuesday

Rink build continues at Fenway Park for Winter Classic

\* **Antti Raanta** backstopped the Hurricanes to their ninth straight win – matching a franchise record – and 15th straight game with a point, tying the Maple Leafs for the longest such run in 2022-23.

\* A trio of Pacific Division players posted notable performances as **Connor McDavid**, **Bo Horvat** and **Erik Karlsson** added to their strong season totals.

\* Wednesday's slate features a TNT and TVA Sports doubleheader with the Bruins visiting the Devils followed by the Kraken hosting the Flames.



NHL TUESDAY'S RESULTS

 2 FINAL 30 	 0 FINAL 3 	 4 FINAL 0 	 1 FINAL 5 
 3 FINAL 2 	 4 FINAL 1 	 5 FINAL OT 4 	 3 FINAL 6 
 2 FINAL 1 	 2 FINAL 6 	 2 FINAL 4 	

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## **HURRICANES STAY HOT, MATCH FRANCHISE RECORD WITH NINTH STRAIGHT WIN**

**Antti Raanta** (24 saves) blanked his former club to help the Metropolitan Division-leading Hurricanes (23-6-6, 52 points) extend their [point](#) and [winning streak](#) to 15 and nine games, respectively. Carolina (13-0-2 dating to Nov. 25) tied Toronto (12-0-3 from Nov. 12–Dec. 13) for the longest point streak in the NHL this season.

\* Raanta, who manned the Blackhawks' crease during each of his first two campaigns from 2013-14 to 2014-15, recorded the 16th shutout of his NHL career and third with Carolina.



## **TRIO OF PACIFIC DIVISION PLAYERS SHINE**

Oilers captain **Connor McDavid**, Canucks captain **Bo Horvat** and Sharks defenseman **Erik Karlsson** continued to roll Tuesday:

\* McDavid (15-17—32 in 16 GP) scored his 10th career game-winning goal against Calgary during the regular season and extended his point streak to 16 contests, which marks the [longest active run in the NHL](#) and is [one back of his career high](#). He moved past **Mike Gartner** (9) for sole possession of the [most game-winning goals versus the Flames franchise in League history](#).

\* Horvat (2-2—4) had four points for the second time in as many games (also 2-2—4 on [Dec. 23](#)), which included scoring his [team-leading 25th and 26th goals of the season](#). Horvat became the first Canucks player to record four points in consecutive contests since Feb. 23-25, 2003, when **Markus Naslund**, **Todd Bertuzzi** and **Brendan Morrison** each did so.

\* Karlsson (2-14—16 in 10 GP) collected two assists to extend his point streak to a career-high 10 games, doing so while wearing the Sharks' Reverse Retro jersey which is inspired by the classic look of the 1974-75 California Golden Seals. Karlsson's point streak marks the [lengthiest by a defenseman in franchise history](#).



Erik Karlsson extended his point streak to a career-high 10 games. The lengthiest by an Oakland Seals/California Golden Seals player was also 10 contests, achieved by Walt McKechnie from Dec. 13, 1972–Jan. 3, 1973 (3-9—12 in 10 GP).



NexGen  
Energy



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SAN JOSE SHARKS

### **GOALTENDERS HELP ISLANDERS, CAPITALS KEEP PACE WITH HURRICANES**

**Ilya Sorokin** and **Darcy Kuemper** helped the Islanders (20-14-2, 42 points) and Capitals (20-13-4, 44 points) keep pace with the Metropolitan Division-leading Hurricanes (23-6-6, 52 points):

\* Sorokin (20 saves) recorded his 51st career win in his 100th NHL appearance and **Anders Lee** tallied twice to [climb one of the franchise's all-time lists](#) as New York defeated Pittsburgh at UBS Arena. Sorokin has the [fifth-most wins by an Islanders goaltender through 100 games with the franchise](#).

\* Kuemper (32 saves) outdueled Rangers goaltender **Igor Shesterkin** (26 saves) to record his third shutout since joining the Capitals and **Erik Gustafsson** (1-1—2) scored his [fifth goal since Dec. 17](#) as Washington passed Pittsburgh (19-10-5, 43 points) for third place in the Metropolitan Division. Tuesday marked the fifth instance in the NHL's expansion era (since 1967-68) where a goaltender *who won the Stanley Cup during the previous season* recorded a shutout against a reigning Vezina Trophy winner.



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## CUP CHAMPION FROM PREVIOUS SEASON BLANKING REIGNING VEZINA TROPHY WINNER

NHL'S EXPANSION ERA (SINCE 1967-68)

GOALTENDER	OPPONENT	DATE
Darcy Kuemper	Igor Shesterkin	Dec. 27, 2022
Philipp Grubauer	Pekka Rinne	Feb. 23, 2019
John Grahame	Martin Brodeur	Jan. 26, 2006
Grant Fuhr	Ron Hextall	Dec. 30, 1987
Tony Esposito	Glenn Hall	Dec. 21, 1969



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NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

### STARS, WILD EARN WINS AGAINST CENTRAL DIVISION RIVALS

Dallas (21-9-6, 48 points) maintained its lead atop the Central Division standings Tuesday, while Minnesota (20-12-2, 42 points) climbed past Colorado (19-12-2, 40 points) with a win in Winnipeg:

\* **Jamie Benn** scored and collected an assist to help Dallas best Nashville at Bridgestone Arena. Benn (343) surpassed **Brian Bellows** (342) for sole possession of second place on the [Stars/North Stars franchise's all-time goals list](#), trailing only **Mike Modano** (557).

\* **Mats Zuccarello** (1-1—2) factored on two of his team's four goals as Minnesota defeated division-rival Winnipeg at Canada Life Centre. Zuccarello, who became the [10th player in franchise history to post 50 career multi-point games](#) with the Wild, boosted his totals since Dec. 1 to 9-10—19 (13 GP), trailing only **Connor McDavid** (13-13—26), **Tage Thompson** (12-9—21) and **Leon Draisaitl** (6-15—21) for the most points in the NHL this month – Minnesota has two games remaining in December.



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# MOST POINTS IN A CALENDAR MONTH

WILD HISTORY

PLAYER	MONTH	YEAR	POINTS
Kirill Kaprizov	April	2022	25
Kevin Fiala	April	2022	24
Eric Staal	February	2018	21
Brian Rolston	December	2005	21
Kirill Kaprizov	March	2022	20
Mats Zuccarello	December	2022	19
Kirill Kaprizov	November	2021	19
Kevin Fiala	February	2020	19
Mikko Koivu	March	2013	19
Marian Gaborik	March	2007	19



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MINNESOTA WILD

## NYLANDER NOTCHING OVERTIME WINNER FEATURED IN #NHLSTATS: LIVE UPDATES

[Tuesday's edition of #NHLStats: Live Updates](#) featured more notes from the 11-game slate, including **William Nylander** taking the puck from **Vladimir Tarasenko** and netting the winner at 4:03 of overtime as the Maple Leafs edged the Blues at Enterprise Center. Toronto (22-7-6, 50 points) occupies second place in the Atlantic Division and moved within seven points of League-leading Boston (27-4-3, 57 points), which fell to Ottawa in a shootout.

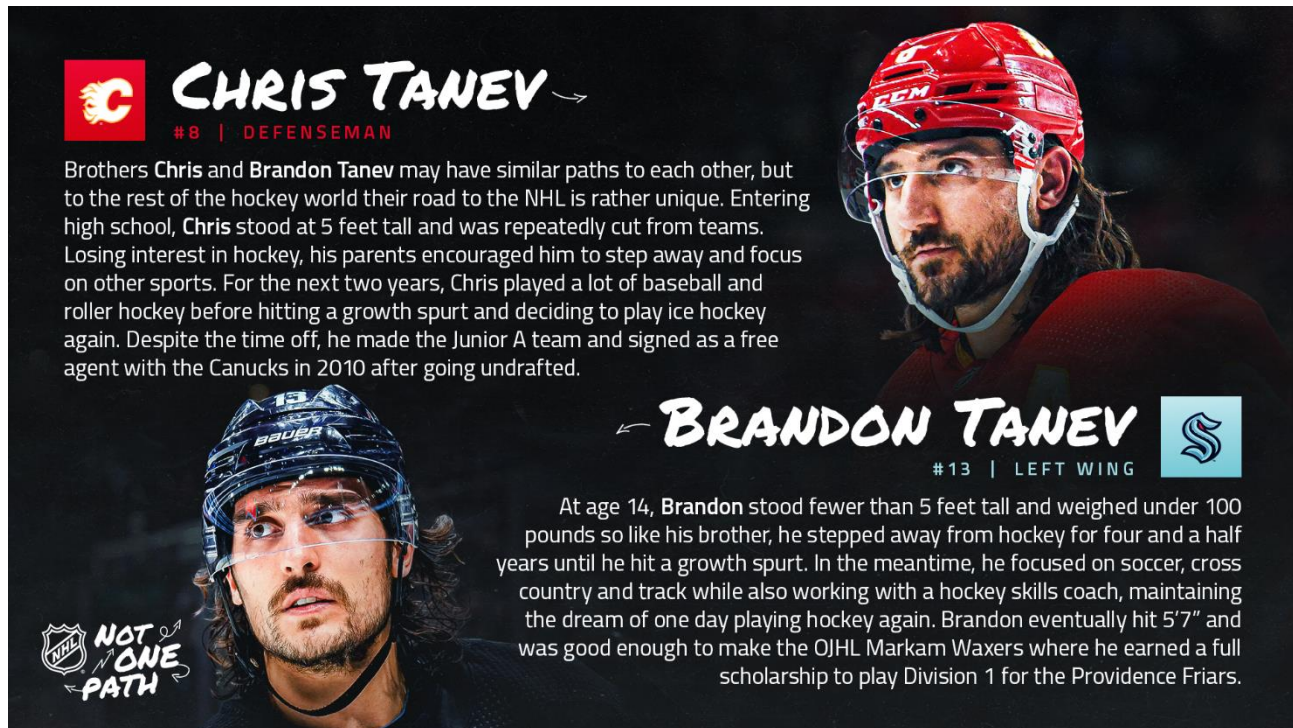


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## **NOT ONE PATH: BRANDON & CHRIS TANEV**

The Tanev brothers, **Chris** and **Brandon**, are the most recent players to be featured in the Not One Path series, highlighting unconventional roads to the NHL, ahead of their 12th head-to-head set to take place Wednesday in Seattle. Both Chris and Brandon stepped away from hockey while in high school, during formative years when most players are skating in junior leagues across North America and Europe. The tenacious brothers did not allow multi-year hiatuses or going undrafted stop them from becoming mainstays on NHL rosters.



**CHRIS TANEV**  
#8 | DEFENSEMAN

Brothers **Chris** and **Brandon Tanev** may have similar paths to each other, but to the rest of the hockey world their road to the NHL is rather unique. Entering high school, **Chris** stood at 5 feet tall and was repeatedly cut from teams. Losing interest in hockey, his parents encouraged him to step away and focus on other sports. For the next two years, Chris played a lot of baseball and roller hockey before hitting a growth spurt and deciding to play ice hockey again. Despite the time off, he made the Junior A team and signed as a free agent with the Canucks in 2010 after going undrafted.

**BRANDON TANEV**  
#13 | LEFT WING

At age 14, **Brandon** stood fewer than 5 feet tall and weighed under 100 pounds so like his brother, he stepped away from hockey for four and a half years until he hit a growth spurt. In the meantime, he focused on soccer, cross country and track while also working with a hockey skills coach, maintaining the dream of one day playing hockey again. Brandon eventually hit 5'7" and was good enough to make the OJHL Markam Waxers where he earned a full scholarship to play Division 1 for the Providence Friars.

**NOT ONE PATH**

### **QUICK CLICKS**

- \* [Tuesday's Buffalo at Columbus game postponed](#)
- \* [Nicklas Backstrom writes for NHL.com: Alex Ovechkin's march to 802 goals surreal](#)
- \* [Alex Ovechkin set to begin final step, new goal of breaking Gretzky's record](#)
- \* [Johnny Gaudreau homecoming, Winter Classic among storylines after holiday break](#)
- \* [Winter Classic great chance to experience best of Boston, Matt Grzelcyk says](#)

### **NATIONAL BROADCASTS IN CANADA AND U.S. ACCOUNT FOR 3 OF 5 GAMES WEDNESDAY**

The final Wednesday of 2022 features national telecasts in both Canada and the U.S. as the Canadiens and Lightning return from the holiday break with a showdown on Sportsnet, followed by a doubleheader on both TNT and TVA Sports. The doubleheader begins in New Jersey, where the Bruins and Devils will meet for the second time this season – the clubs have occupied first place in their respective divisions for a combined 131 days this season (BOS: 82; NJD: 49).





# TONIGHT'S SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2022

7:00 PM ET		@		BSSUNX, SN, RDS
7:30 PM ET		@		TNT, TVAS
7:30 PM ET		@		BSDet, ATTSN-PT
10:00 PM ET		@		TNT, SNW, TVAS
10:00 PM ET		@		BSSC, ATTSN-RM, SN360

ESPN

UNI

SN

TVA  
SPORTS

Stream on ESPN+, Hulu and SN NOW

Blackouts and other restrictions apply

## RINK BUILD CONTINUES FOR WINTER CLASSIC AT FENWAY PARK

As preparations continue at Fenway Park, the Bruins and Penguins each will be in action Wednesday for one of their two remaining contests before they go head-to-head outdoors on Jan. 2. TNT, TVA Sports, Sportsnet and CBC will carry the [36th regular-season outdoor game in League history](#) in less than one week as each club maintains a strong hold in the standings.

\* Boston will enter its outdoor game showdown as the No. 1-ranked team in the NHL, marking the first time a club has done so for the Winter Classic. The only other outdoor game to feature the League's top team entering play was the 2014 Stadium Series at Dodger Stadium – the [top-ranked Ducks shut out the Kings](#) (who entered as the No. 9-ranked club).

\* The Penguins (19-10-5, 43 points) currently sit in ninth place in the League standings. The 2023 Winter Classic could mark the eighth NHL outdoor game – and second straight Winter Classic – to feature two of the NHL's top 10 clubs entering play. The [last was Jan. 1, 2022](#), when the Blues (No. 8 in NHL) defeated the Wild (No. 10 in NHL) at Target Field in Minneapolis.



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