



NEWS RELEASE



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ZIBANEJAD, MAKAR AND SWAYMAN NAMED NHL 'THREE STARS' OF THE WEEK

NEW YORK (March 20, 2023) – New York Rangers center **Mika Zibanejad**, Colorado Avalanche defenseman **Cale Makar** and Boston Bruins goaltender **Jeremy Swayman** have been named the NHL's "Three Stars" for the week ending March 19.

FIRST STAR – MIKA ZIBANEJAD, C, NEW YORK RANGERS

Zibanejad registered multiple points in all four of his outings to lead the NHL with 5-4—9 and propel the Rangers (41-19-10, 92 points) to a perfect week as they extended their point streak to seven contests dating to March 9 (6-0-1). He scored twice, his team-leading ninth multi-goal performance of the season, in a 5-3 victory against the Washington Capitals March 14. Zibanejad then compiled 2-3—5 in consecutive wins versus the Pittsburgh Penguins, posting 1-1—2 in a 4-2 triumph March 16 and 1-2—3 (including his third straight game-opening goal as well as his team-best fifth game-winning goal of 2022-23) in a 6-0 victory March 18. He finished the week 1-1—2 for his fourth consecutive multi-point effort, a first in his career (755 GP), in a 7-0 triumph against the Nashville Predators March 19. The 29-year-old Zibanejad has played in 70 total contests this season (37-40—77), ranking among the League leaders in power-play goals (3rd; 19), power-play points (t-9th; 31), goals (t-11th; 37) and points (20th; 77). The 12-season NHL veteran also now has 62-65—127 in 83 career appearances during the month of March, an average of 1.53 points per game.

SECOND STAR – CALE MAKAR, D, COLORADO AVALANCHE

Makar topped defensemen and placed third in the entire NHL with 1-8—9 across four games as the defending Stanley Cup champion Avalanche (40-22-6, 86 points) pushed their winning streak to five contests dating to March 11 to move into third place in the Central Division. He collected three assists in an 8-4 victory over the Montreal Canadiens March 13. Makar then assisted on Colorado's lone goal in regulation in a 2-1 shootout win against the Toronto Maple Leafs March 15 before adding 1-1—2 in a 5-4 triumph versus the Ottawa Senators March 16. He capped the week with another three-assist outing, his third of the month (also March 7 vs. SJS: 1-3—4) and 11th of his career, in a 5-1 victory over the Detroit Red Wings March 18. Makar, who at age 24 already owns a Calder Memorial Trophy, James Norris Memorial Trophy and Conn Smythe Trophy, sits second among defensemen with 1.11 points per game and seventh with 16-45—61 through 55 total appearances this season. Those totals have been aided by an active eight-game point streak dating to March 5, during which he has compiled 3-13—16.

THIRD STAR – JEREMY SWAYMAN, G, BOSTON BRUINS

Swayman stopped all 62 shots he faced in two starts, going 2-0-0 with two shutouts to help the League-leading Bruins (53-11-5, 111 points) win three of their four contests. Swayman first made 36 saves for his eighth career shutout and third of the season in a 3-0 victory against the Winnipeg Jets March 16. He then turned aside 26 shots in a 7-0 triumph over the Buffalo Sabres March 19. In doing so, Swayman became the first Boston goaltender with consecutive shutouts since **Tuukka Rask** (Dec. 13-23, 2011) and **Tim Thomas** (Nov. 19-21, 2011) both accomplished the feat in 2011-12. The 24-year-old Swayman owns an 18-6-4 record in 30 total games this season, placing among the League leaders in goals-against average (3rd; 2.20), shutouts (t-3rd; 4) and save percentage (4th; .920).

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