

## NHL MORNING SKATE: STANLEY CUP FINAL EDITION – JUNE 4, 2023

STANLEY CUP  
FINAL  
2023

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**NHL Morning Skate**

Sunday, June 4, 2023

The original "Misfits" help Vegas get it done in Game 1

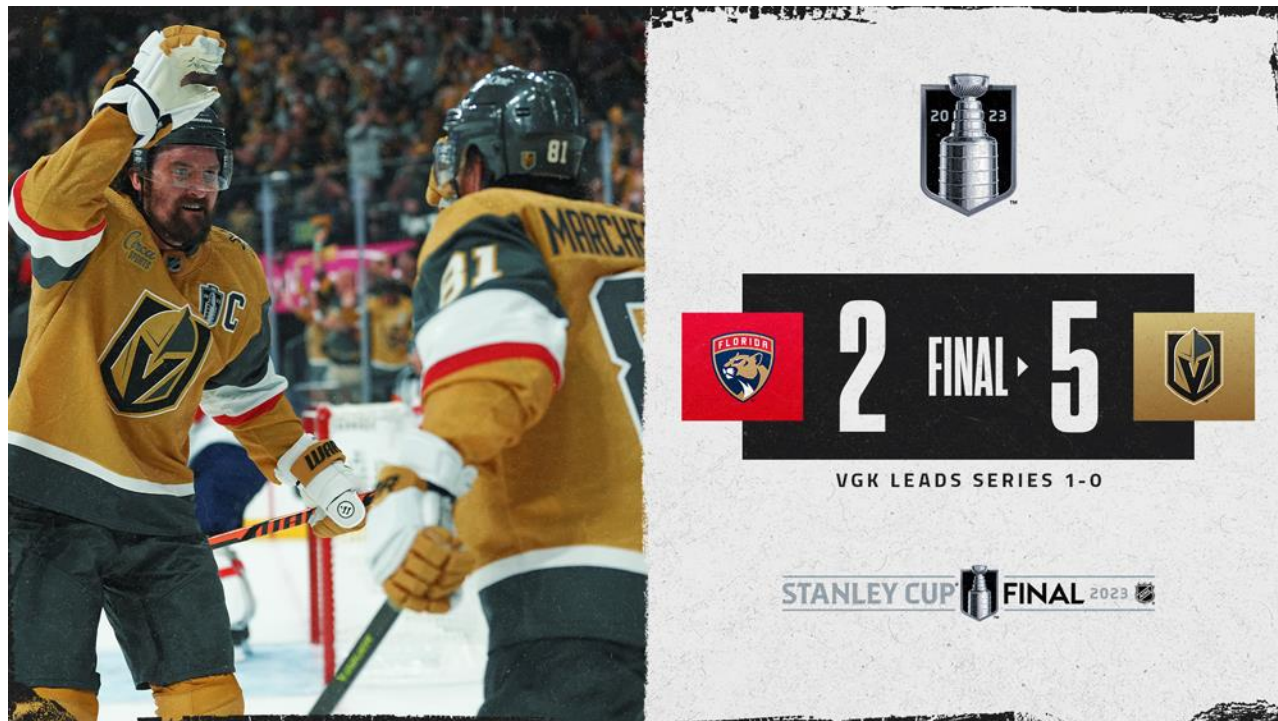
Hill, Whitecloud make presence felt in Stanley Cup Final debuts

NHL announces Devils, Flyers, Rangers, Islanders will compete in 2024 Stadium Series games

\* With 18,432 fans packed inside a sold-out T-Mobile Arena and Game 1 broadcast to fans in 250 countries and territories, the Golden Knights staged their ninth comeback win of the postseason to pull ahead 1-0 in the 2023 Stanley Cup Final.

\* Game 1 provided moments reminiscent of the Golden Knights' first-ever trip to the Final – with three members of the club's original roster scoring and **Adin Hill** replicating a memorable stop from 2018 – but also had impactful contributions from players making their debuts in the championship series.

\* NHL Commissioner **Gary Bettman** announced during his annual Stanley Cup Final media avail, alongside Deputy Commissioner **Bill Daly**, that the Devils, Flyers, Rangers and Islanders will compete in the 2024 Navy Federal Credit Union NHL Stadium Series on Feb. 17-18 at MetLife Stadium.



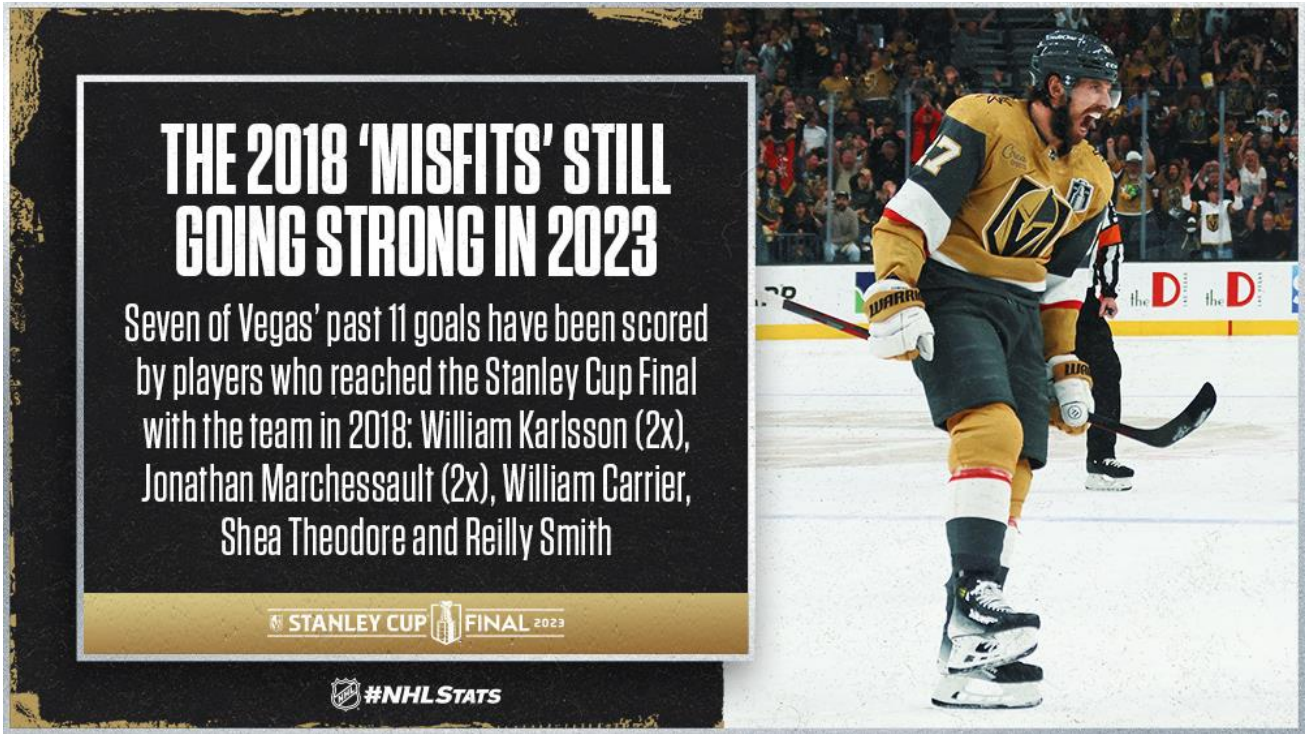
### **2018 “MISFITS” GET T-MOBILE ARENA ROCKING EN ROUTE TO GAME 1 WIN**

The Golden Knights channeled their inner “Misfits” in Game 1 of the 2023 Stanley Cup Final as **Jonathan Marchessault** and **Shea Theodore** – members of the club’s original roster in 2017-18 – provided the team’s first two goals to spark Vegas to victory in front of a roaring crowd at “The Fortress.”

\* [After serving up some #NHLStats trivia before the game](#), Marchessault scored his first career goal in the Stanley Cup Final (6 GP) and reached double digits in these playoffs (10-8—18 in 18 GP). He extended his point streak to six games, which trails only **Max Pacioretty** (7 GP in 2021) and Theodore (7 GP in 2020) for the longest postseason run in Golden Knights history.

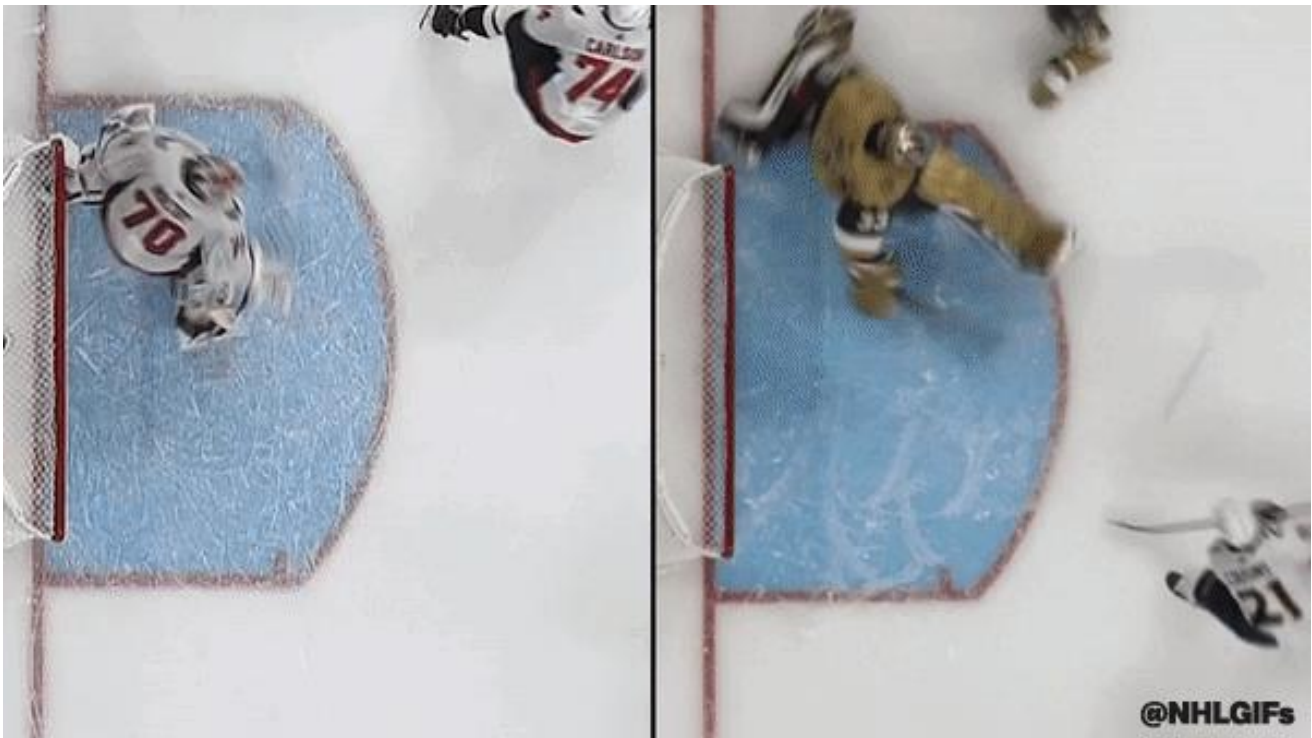
\* Theodore scored his first goal of the 2023 playoffs and first overall since March 7 – also against Florida – to halt a 27-game drought. Theodore registered 1-1—2 and became the second Golden Knights defenseman to record a multi-point performance in the Final, joining **Deryk Engelland** (Game 1 in 2018).

\* **Reilly Smith** recorded his franchise-leading fourth goal in the Stanley Cup Final and has now scored in three straight Final contests dating to Game 4 in 2018. The only players with a longer such streak (spanning years) over the past 40 years are **Mario Lemieux** (7 GP), **Wayne Gretzky** (6 GP), **Brian Propp** (4 GP), **Sergei Fedorov** (4 GP) and **Ryan O’Reilly** (4 GP).



**HILL, WHITECLOUD MAKE MASSIVE IMPACT IN FINAL DEBUTS**

The fourth Stanley Cup Final game ever played in Las Vegas included a save reminiscent of one made in the same crease five years ago, this time with Golden Knights fans rejoicing afterward. **Adin Hill** wowed the crowd with a sprawling stop against Florida's **Nick Cousins**, mirroring ["The Save" by Braden Holtby in Game 2 of the 2018 Final](#). It was one of 33 saves for Hill, who made his Stanley Cup Final debut.



\* Hill, who is playing with his fifth professional team in three seasons (3 NHL, 2 AHL), praised the Vegas defense before Game 1, [calling them the best defensive core in the League](#). Hill received support from that group at both ends of the rink Saturday as Golden Knights blueliners combined for four points in Game 1 to overtake the Stars (3-31—34) for the most by defensemen this postseason (5-30—35).

\* **Zach Whitecloud** became the second defenseman in the past 22 years – and 11th in the NHL’s modern era (since 1943-44) – to score the game-winning goal in Game 1 of the Stanley Cup Final.

## DEFENSEMEN TO SCORE WINNING GOAL IN GAME 1 OF STANLEY CUP FINAL

NHL'S MODERN ERA (SINCE 1943-44)

DEFENSEMAN	TEAM	YEAR
▶ Zach Whitecloud	VGK	<b>2023</b>
Jamie Oleksiak	DAL	<b>2020</b>
Scott Stevens	NJD	<b>2000</b>
Jason Woolley	BUF	<b>1999</b>
Nicklas Lidstrom	DET	<b>1998</b>
Paul Coffey	EDM	<b>1987</b>
Denis Potvin	NYI	<b>1980</b>
Ron Greschner	NYR	<b>1979</b>
Guy Lapointe	MTL	<b>1976</b>
Bobby Orr	BOS	<b>1974</b>
Gus Mortson	TOR	<b>1948</b>

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\* Whitecloud signed as an undrafted free agent with Vegas on March 8, 2018 and made his NHL debut less than a month later in the club’s second-last game of its inaugural season – as they embarked on their first run to the Stanley Cup Final. His journey to the NHL included stops in the Manitoba Junior Hockey League, NCAA (Bemidji State University) and AHL.

**VEGAS APPROACHING NHL RECORD WITH ANOTHER COMEBACK WIN**

[After a few narrow misses on reaching the Stanley Cup Final](#), Golden Knights captain **Mark Stone** scored in his first-ever game in the championship series. The tally gave Vegas its first multi-goal lead of the contest and helped the club stage its ninth comeback win of the 2023 Stanley Cup Playoffs, one shy of the single-postseason record achieved twice before – including last year by the Stanley Cup champion Avalanche.



# MOST COMEBACK WINS IN A POSTSEASON

NHL HISTORY

TEAM	YEAR	WINS
Colorado Avalanche	2022	10
Pittsburgh Penguins	2009	10
Vegas Golden Knights	2023	9
Dallas Stars	2020	9
Carolina Hurricanes	2006	9
Dallas Stars	1999	9
New York Islanders	1980	9
Montreal Canadiens	1971	9



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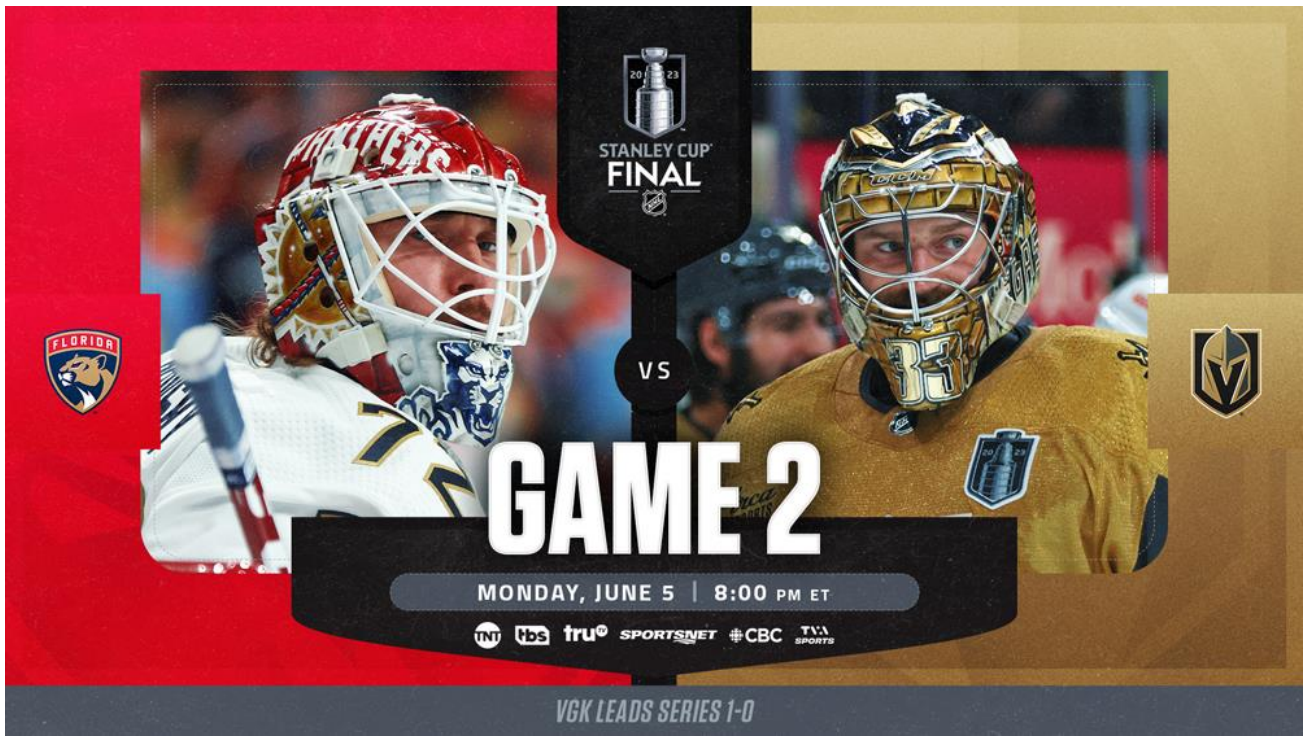
## STANLEY CUP FINAL OPENS WITH SHORTHANDED GOAL FOR THIRD TIME

Playing in his 100th career playoff contest and 13th in the Stanley Cup Final, **Eric Staal** scored his first career shorthanded goal in the postseason to open the scoring in Game 1. It came 17 years after his last goal in the Final, the [longest span in NHL history](#) between goals in the championship series.

\* Staal became the third player on record to score the opening goal of a Stanley Cup Final while shorthanded, following **Kirk Maltby** with the 1997 Red Wings (at PHI) and **Bucko McDonald** with the 1936 Maple Leafs (at DET).

 **STATS AND INFORMATION**

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**FOUR TEAMS TO COMPETE IN 2024 NAVY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION NHL STADIUM SERIES**

The [NHL announced](#) the 2024 Navy Federal Credit Union NHL Stadium Series will take place Feb. 17-18 at MetLife Stadium, the home of the NFL's New York Jets and New York Football Giants. The event will feature four teams – the Flyers, Devils, Rangers and Islanders – in two regular-season outdoor games. On Saturday, Feb. 17, the Devils will play host to the Flyers, and on Sunday, Feb. 18, the Rangers will face off against the Islanders.

<b>RESULTS</b> REGULAR-SEASON OUTDOOR GAMES PLAYED BY FLYERS, DEVILS, RANGERS AND ISLANDERS						
DATE	EVENT	RESULT	LOCATION	VENUE	ATTENDANCE	
Feb. 21, 2021	NHL Outdoors at Lake Tahoe	3 > 7	Stateline, NV	Edgewood Tahoe Resort	No fans, due to COVID-19 Pandemic	
Feb. 23, 2019	NHL Stadium Series	3 > 4  OT	Philadelphia, PA	Lincoln Financial Field	69,620	
Jan. 1, 2018	NHL Winter Classic	3 < 2  OT	New York, NY	Citi Field	41,821	
Feb. 25, 2017	NHL Stadium Series	2 > 4	Pittsburgh, PA	Heinz Field	67,318	
Jan. 29, 2014	NHL Stadium Series	2 < 1	New York, NY	Yankee Stadium	50,027	
Jan. 26, 2014	NHL Stadium Series	7 < 3	New York, NY	Yankee Stadium	50,105	
Jan. 2, 2012	NHL Winter Classic	3 < 2	Philadelphia, PA	Citizens Bank Park	46,967	
Jan. 1, 2010	NHL Winter Classic	1 > 2  OT	Boston, MA	Fenway Park	38,112	

**STATS AND INFORMATION**

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\* Also unveiled before Game 1 were logos for three more events on the 2023-24 NHL calendar: the 2023 Tim Hortons NHL Heritage Classic, 2024 Discover NHL Winter Classic and 2024 Honda NHL All-Star Weekend. The official logo for Stadium Series will be unveiled when it is available. [Click here](#) to read more about the respective design descriptions.



## QUICK CLICKS

- \* [Famous Fans: Lil Jon, Owen Wilson take in Game 1 of Stanley Cup Final](#)
- \* [Las Vegas Strip decorates with Golden Knights logo for Stanley Cup Final](#)
- \* [2023 Draft: Connor Bedard to be in spotlight at NHL Scouting Combine](#)
- \* [Panthers host Stanley Cup Final watch party at FLA Live Arena](#)
- \* [Marshmello opens Game 1 of Stanley Cup Final with pre-game concert](#)

