

## NHL MORNING SKATE – OCT. 29, 2023



**NHL** Morning Skate

Sunday, October 29, 2023

The "Battle of Alberta" heads outdoors for the first time with Tim Hortons NHL Heritage Classic

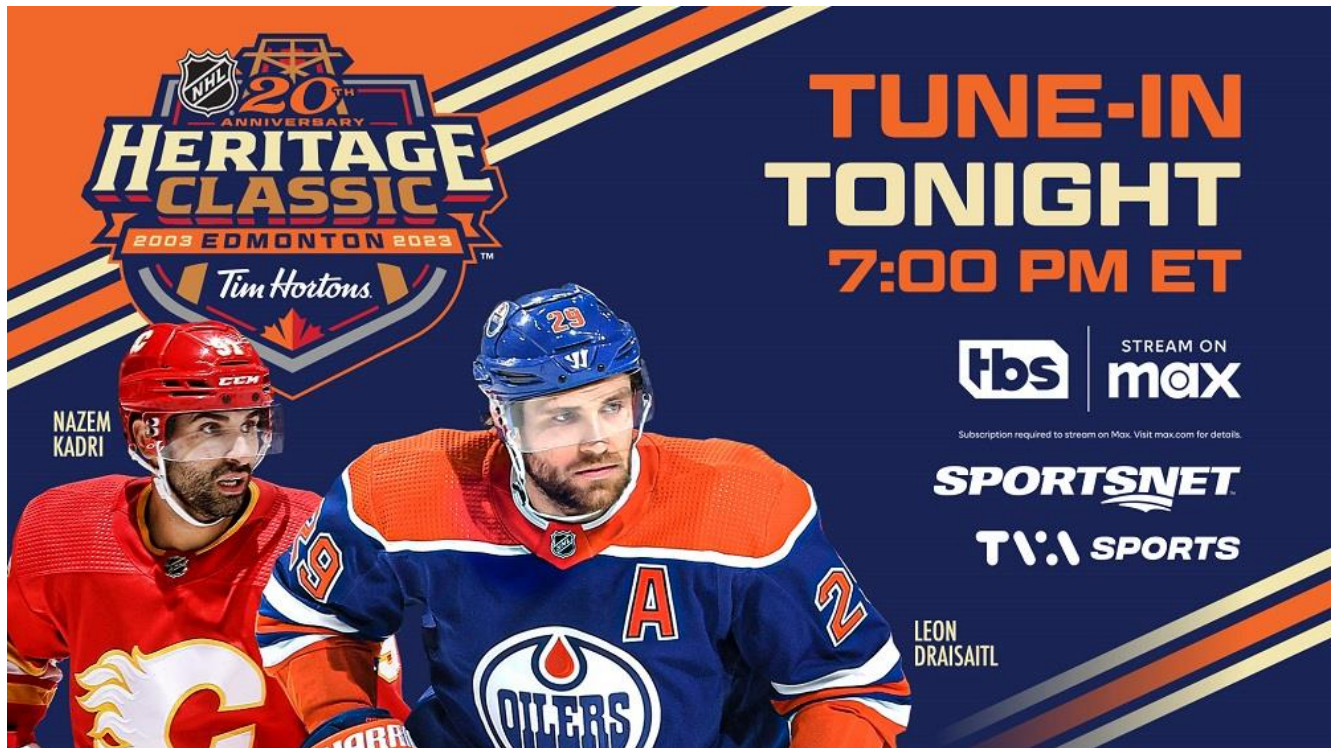
Vatrano vaults Ducks with three goals, three different ways

Pastrnak converts yet another penalty-shot attempt in Bruins win

- \* The site of the first outdoor contest in NHL history is set to play host to their first outdoor rendition of the "Battle of Alberta" when the Oilers and Flames clash at Commonwealth Stadium for the 2023 Tim Hortons NHL Heritage Classic.
- \* **Frank Vatrano** joined **Auston Matthews** as the only players with multiple hat tricks in 2023-24 and did so by joining rare company in franchise history with three goals, three different ways.
- \* **David Pastrnak** lifted the Bruins past an Original Six rival by scoring his second penalty-shot goal of the season and joined a small list in NHL history with multiple in a single campaign.

 **STATS AND INFORMATION**

 @PR\_NHL •  @PR\_NHL • #NHLStats



### **2023 TIM HORTONS NHL HERITAGE CLASSIC: A BATTLE 20 YEARS IN THE MAKING**

A 43-year-old rivalry will mark a new “first” on Sunday as the “Battle of Alberta” ventures into the open air for the first time when the Oilers and Flames celebrate the 20th anniversary of the first regular-season outdoor game in NHL history – at the site of the first such contest in League history, Commonwealth Stadium in Edmonton.

\* Captains **Mikael Backlund** of the Flames and **Connor McDavid** of the Oilers led their respective teams onto the ice at Commonwealth Stadium for an outdoor practice on Saturday followed by a skate with family and friends. McDavid, who has missed Edmonton’s last two games with an injury, [joined the Hockey Night in Canada panel](#) after practice where he said “The skate today was great, it was a great sign. Everything is heading in the right direction.”



**STATS AND INFORMATION**

© @PR\_NHL • X @PR\_NHL • #NHLStats



### **20 NOTES FOR THE 20-YEAR ANNIVERSARY**

A brief #NHLStats countdown ahead of the 2023 Tim Hortons NHL Heritage Classic, which will air live at 7 p.m. ET / 5 p.m. MT on Sportsnet, TVA Sports, TBS and MAX:

**20** – Years since the first [NHL regular-season outdoor game](#), hosted Nov. 22, 2003 by the Oilers. 57,167 fans braved frigid temperatures (0°F/-18°C) to watch the Canadiens earn a [4-3 win](#). It still stands as the highest attendance for an outdoor NHL game played in Canada.

**19** – Wins by the road team in 37 outdoor games to date. Edmonton's lone outdoor game win came as the road team in the 2016 Heritage Classic in Winnipeg.

**-18** – Temperature, in degrees Celsius, of the first-ever NHL outdoor game (also held in Edmonton) – still the second-coldest outdoor game to date.



**STATS AND INFORMATION**

© @PR\_NHL • X @PR\_NHL • #NHLStats

# COLDEST NHL OUTDOOR GAMES

AT PUCK DROP

Tim Hortons **HERITAGE CLASSIC** 2023

EVENT	VENUE	LOCATION	TEMPERATURE
2022 WINTER CLASSIC	TARGET FIELD	MINNEAPOLIS, MN	-6°F/-21°C
2003 HERITAGE CLASSIC	COMMONWEALTH STADIUM	EDMONTON, AB	0°F/-18°C
2014 WINTER CLASSIC	MICHIGAN STADIUM	ANN ARBOR, MI	13°F/-11°C
2017 NHL100 CLASSIC	LANSDOWNE PARK	OTTAWA, ON	13°F/-11°C
2014 STADIUM SERIES	SOLDIER FIELD	CHICAGO, IL	17°F/-8°C
2011 HERITAGE CLASSIC	MCMAHON STADIUM	CALGARY, AB	18°F/-8°C
2018 WINTER CLASSIC	CITI FIELD	NEW YORK, NY	21°F/-6°C
2014 STADIUM SERIES	YANKEE STADIUM	NEW YORK, NY	22°F/-6°C
2014 STADIUM SERIES	YANKEE STADIUM	NEW YORK, NY	25°F/-4°C
2019 HERITAGE CLASSIC	MOSAIC STADIUM	REGINA, SK	27°F/-3°C
2022 HERITAGE CLASSIC	TIM HORTONS FIELD	HAMILTON, ON	29°F/-2°C



\*Graphic shows all outdoor games with puck-drop temperature below 32°F/0°C

**17** – [Fastest two goals by one team](#) in an outdoor game (by Detroit in 2009 Winter Classic). Former Flames forward **Jiri Hudler** assisted on the first of the two Detroit goals.

**16** – Seasons with the Flames for captain **Mikael Backlund**, tied with **Jarome Iginla** for the [most NHL seasons with the franchise](#).

**15** – Combined goals in Game 1 of the 2022 Second Round series between Edmonton and Calgary. It marked just the [ninth time teams combined for 15+ goals](#) in a single playoff game.

**14** – Hockey Hall of Famers who played in the “Battle of Alberta” during the 1980s.



**STATS AND INFORMATION**

© @PR\_NHL • X @PR\_NHL • #NHLStats

**HALL OF FAMERS ON  
1980s OILERS & FLAMES**

EDM: Glenn Anderson, Paul Coffey, Wayne Gretzky,  
Jari Kurri, Kevin Lowe, Mark Messier & Grant Fuhr

CGY: Doug Gilmour, Brett Hull, Al MacInnis, Sergei  
Makarov, Lanny McDonald, Joe Mullen & Joe  
Nieuwendyk

Tim Hortons **HERITAGE CLASSIC** 2023

#NHLStats

- 13** – Number of individual NHL Awards won by **Connor McDavid**: Art Ross Trophy (5x), Ted Lindsay Award (4x), Hart Trophy (3x), Maurice “Rocket” Richard Trophy (once).
- 12** – Oilers skaters with NHL outdoor game experience. **Connor Brown, Cody Ceci, Mattias Ekholm** and **Zach Hyman** lead the way with two appearances apiece.
- 11** – Outdoor game [record for shots on goal](#) by a player, set by **Rene Bourque** with Calgary in 2011.
- 10** – Number worn by Oilers forward **Derek Ryan**, one of 53 players to compete on both sides of the “Battle of Alberta.” Ryan has been penning a [Heritage Classic blog for NHL.com](#) ahead of the game.
- 9** – Flames skaters with NHL outdoor game experience, led by **Nazem Kadri** with four appearances.

# CURRENT OILERS & FLAMES WITH A POINT OUTDOORS

NHL REGULAR-SEASON OUTDOOR GAMES

Tim Hortons **HERITAGE CLASSIC** 2023

PLAYER	OUTDOOR GP	CURRENT TEAM	G-A-P
CONNOR BROWN	2	OILERS	1-2-3
ZACH HYMAN	2	OILERS	1-2-3
MATTIAS JANMARK	1	OILERS	1-1-2
ELIAS LINDHOLM	1	FLAMES	1-0-1
DARNELL NURSE	1	OILERS	1-0-1
CODY CECI	2	OILERS	1-0-1
NAZEM KADRI	4	FLAMES	1-0-1
CONNOR McDAVID	1	OILERS	0-1-1
RYAN NUGENT-HOPKINS	1	OILERS	0-1-1



- 8 – Consecutive Stanley Cup Final series involving Calgary or Edmonton from 1983 to 1990.
- 7 – Outdoor games under the Heritage Classic banner. This will be the third time the event is held in Alberta – no other province has hosted the Heritage Classic more than once.
- 6 – “Battle of Alberta” playoff series (EDM: 5-1), including three decided by a Game 7.
- 5 – Commonwealth Stadium, home of the CFL’s Edmonton Elks, will become the fifth venue to host multiple [NHL outdoor games](#), following Edgewood Tahoe Resort (2), Fenway Park (2), Heinz Field (2) and Yankee Stadium (2). MetLife Stadium will join the list later this season.
- 4 – Outdoor games in the 2023-24 NHL season, the third campaign to feature at least four such contests after 2013-14 (6) and 2016-17 (4).
- 3 – Margin of victory for Edmonton in their last outdoor game (3-0 W at WPG in 2016).
- 2 – Combined outdoor shutouts by the Oilers and Flames (one each).
- 1 – Sunday will be the first outdoor game in the 43-year-old “Battle of Alberta.”



# SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

1:00 PM ET



SN, ALT2, MSG-B

5:00 PM ET



MSGSN, BSWIX, BSN

5:00 PM ET



MNMT, NBCSCA

7:00 PM ET



SN, TBS, MAX, TVAS

## HERITAGE CLASSIC QUICK CLICKS

- \* [Connor McDavid practices, not ruled out of Heritage Classic](#)
- \* [Flames seek spark to reset season in Heritage Classic against Oilers](#)
- \* [2023 Tim Hortons NHL Heritage Classic digital game program](#)
- \* [#NHLStats Pack: 2023 Tim Hortons NHL Heritage Classic](#)
- \* [Willie O'Ree legacy honored with Canada Post stamp](#)



## STATS AND INFORMATION

@PR\_NHL • @PR\_NHL • #NHLStats

## RESULTS FROM A NINE-GAME SATURDAY




### VATRANO VAULTS VISITORS TO VICTORY WITH ANOTHER HAT TRICK

**Frank Vatrano** accounted for three of the [Ducks' seven goals](#) to record his second hat trick of the season (also [Oct. 15](#)) and help Anaheim improve to 3-0-0 through the first four games of its road trip. Vatrano became the [sixth different player in franchise history](#) with multiple hat tricks in a season, joining **Paul Kariya** (3x), **Corey Perry** (3x), **Teemu Selanne** (2x), **Ryan Getzlaf** and **Bobby Ryan**.

\* Vatrano (8-1—9 in 8 GP), who ranks tied for second in the NHL with eight goals this season, became the second player in franchise history with eight through the team's first eight games in a season following Perry in 2014-15 (9-3—12 in 8 GP). Vatrano also joined Perry (2 in 2014-15) as the second Ducks player with multiple hat tricks through eight games in a campaign.


## **STATS AND INFORMATION**

 @PR\_NHL •  @PR\_NHL •  #NHLStats



**3 GOALS, 3 DIFFERENT WAYS FOR VATRANO**

Frank Vatrano became the third player in franchise history with an even-strength, power-play and shorthanded goal in a game, joining Corey Perry (Dec. 12, 2010) and Paul Kariya (Jan. 10, 1997)

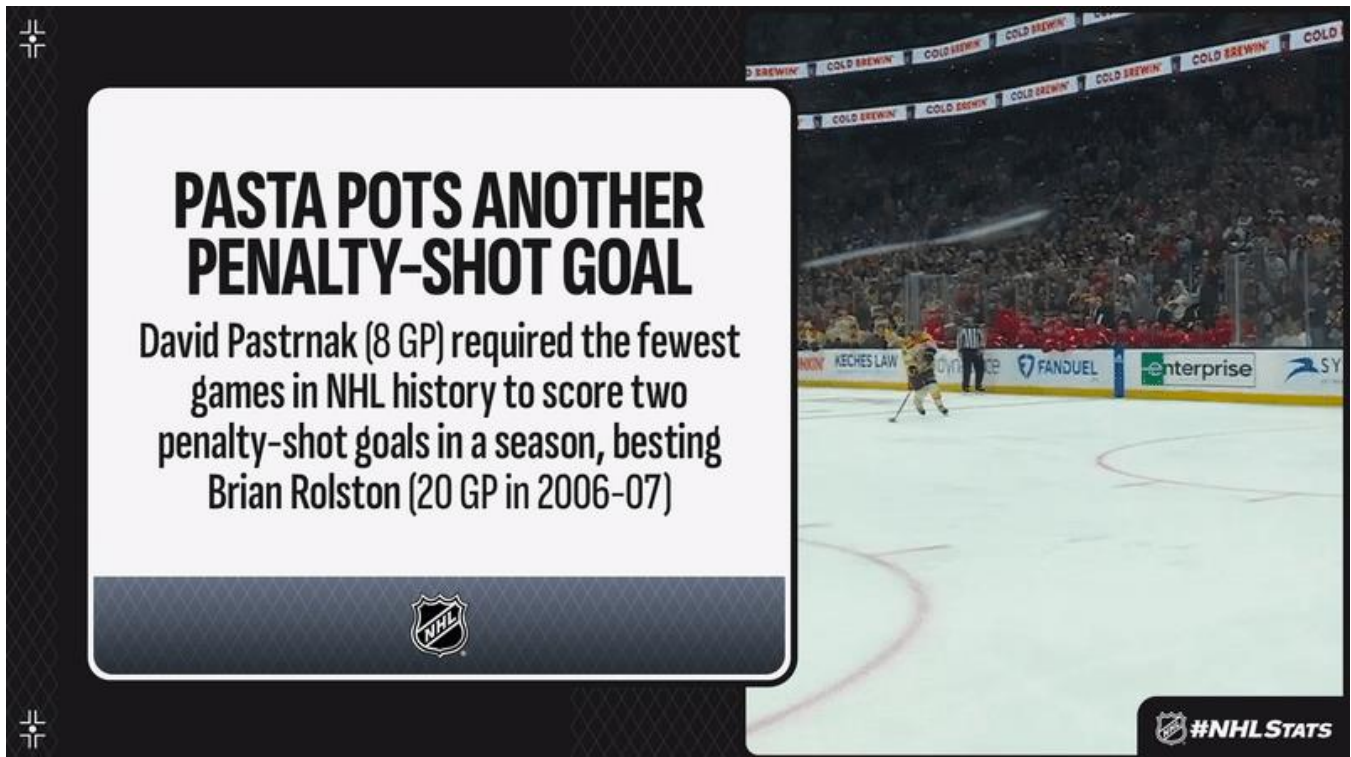


#NHLStats

#### **AROUND THE RINKS WITH #NHLSTATS: LIVE UPDATES**


A handful of stars produced notable performances during the Oct. 28 edition of #NHLStats: Live Updates. [Click here](#) to read more on each player below and more:


\* **David Pastrnak** (2-1—3) potted his [second penalty-shot goal this season](#) (also [Oct. 14](#)) to help the Bruins (7-0-1, 15 points) extend their campaign-opening point streak to a [franchise record-tying eight games](#). Pastrnak posted the third penalty-shot goal of his NHL career to tie **Woody Dumart** for second place on the [club's all-time list](#), which is topped by **Brad Marchand** (6).



**PASTA POTS ANOTHER PENALTY-SHOT GOAL**

David Pastrnak (8 GP) required the fewest games in NHL history to score two penalty-shot goals in a season, besting Brian Rolston (20 GP in 2006-07)





\* Shortly after becoming the all-time leader in games played in Kings history, captain **Anze Kopitar** became the fourth active player to [reach the 1,300-game milestone](#). He joined **Ryan Suter** (1,368 GP), **Alex Ovechkin** (1,354 GP) and **Brent Burns** (1,342 GP).

\* **Ryan O'Reilly** scored twice to boost his career goals per game against the Maple Leafs to 0.48, his second highest against a single franchise behind the Golden Knights (0.52 G/GP), and captain **Roman Josi** netted his 30th career game winner 2:13 into overtime. Josi became the [eighth defenseman in NHL history](#) to record at least 30 career game-winning goals with a single franchise.

\* **Jack Eichel**, celebrating his 27th birthday, scored the only goal in the shootout to help the Golden Knights prevail in a back-and-forth affair with the Kings and extend their season-opening point streak to nine games (8-0-1). Eichel's celebrations, however, started earlier in the week when the forward hosted Best Buddies Nevada on Thursday for a memorable Halloween event which saw him donate \$40,000 to the organization.



Jack Eichel has been actively involved with **Best Buddies**, an international organization dedicated to creating opportunities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD), starting with his tenure in Buffalo and continuing within the Vegas community. Timed with his birthday and Halloween, Eichel hosted 55 members of the Best Buddies program at practice and had his teammates dress in Halloween costumes to help hand out treats to the kids. Eichel capped off his initiative by making a \$40,000 donation to Best Buddies Nevada.

## QUICK CLICKS

- \* [Joe Thornton, Tomas Plekanec announce retirement](#)
- \* [NHL History \(@nhlhistory\) Instagram account officially launches](#)
- \* [Connor Clifton suspended two games for illegal check to the head](#)
- \* [Capitals 'privileged' to host children at Hockey Fights Cancer Skate](#)
- \* [NHL Buzz: Nico Hischier out for Devils with upper-body injury](#)