


NHL MORNING SKATE – DEC. 7, 2023



NHL **Morning Skate** Thursday, December 7, 2023

- McDavid climbs into third on franchise assists list, Edmonton extends win streak to five
- Golden Knights retake top spot in League standings with multi-goal comeback win on dad's trip
- Kane ready for Red Wings debut on 13-game Thursday

* The Oilers struck twice in the opening 41 seconds to earn their fifth straight win – tied with the Coyotes for the longest active run in the League – while the Golden Knights benefited from two goals in 27 seconds to pass the idle Rangers for top spot in the NHL standings.

* **Evan Rodrigues** recorded his second four-point outing of the season while **Sam Reinhart** climbed the NHL's goal-scoring leaderboard to help the Panthers skate to a high-scoring win.

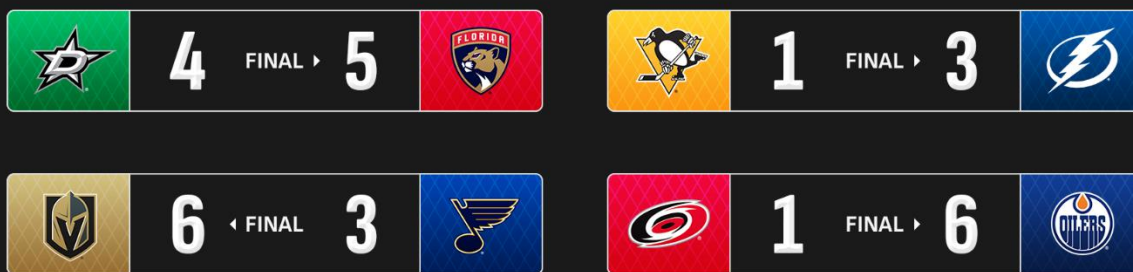
* Thursday's 13-game slate features an ESPN doubleheader, the Kings looking to set an NHL record for longest season-opening road winning streak, **Patrick Kane** making his Red Wings debut as well as the first meeting between **Connor Bedard** and **Leo Carlsson** since they were taken with the top two picks in the 2023 NHL Draft.

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NHL RESULTS

WEDNESDAY



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QUICK GOALS HELP OILERS, GOLDEN KNIGHTS SKATE TO VICTORY

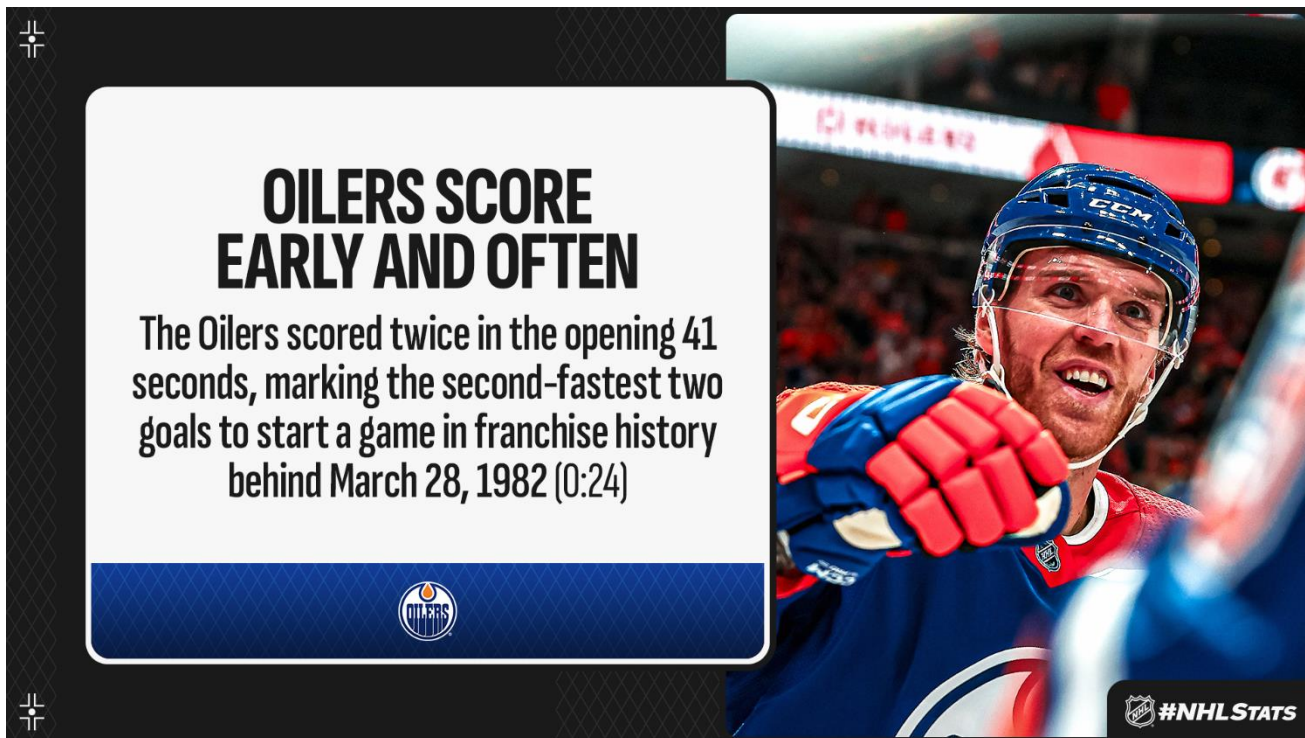
The Oilers scored twice in the opening 41 seconds to claim their fifth straight win while the Golden Knights (17-5-5, 39 points) benefited from [two goals in 27 seconds](#) to reclaim top spot in the League standings.

* **Zach Hyman** (3-0—3) recorded his second hat trick of the season, joining **Auston Matthews** (3), **Frank Vatrano** (2) and **Brayden Point** (2) as the only players with multiple three-goal performances. With every hat trick this season, AstraZeneca will donate \$5,000 to the Hockey Fights Cancer Fund of the V Foundation up to \$500,000. [Click here](#) for more information.

* **Connor McDavid** (0-3—3) factored on Edmonton's second of two quick tallies and added another helper during his club's four-goal first period to collect his 569th and 570th career assists, surpassing **Jari Kurri** (569) for [third place on the Oilers all-time list](#).

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* The Golden Knights opened their dad's trip with their third multi-goal comeback win of 2023-24 after going down 3-1 thanks to goals from six different players, including **Zach Whitecloud** (1-0—1) who became the 23rd Vegas player to score this season – now the most individual goal scorers by any team ahead of the Blue Jackets (22).

* **Jonathan Marchessault** (1-0—1), who is tied with **William Karlsson** (1-1—2) and **Jack Eichel** (1-1—2) for the team lead in goals (all w/ 12), scored his fifth game-tying tally of the campaign – tied with **Filip Forsberg** for third most among all players behind **Auston Matthews** (6) and **Steven Stamkos** (5).

RODRIGUES, REINHART POWER PANTHERS PAST STARS

Evan Rodrigues (2-2—4) opened the scoring less than five minutes into the game and didn't stop there, factoring on four of five Florida goals to help the Panthers (15-8-2, 32 points) pass the idle Red Wings (14-7-3, 31 points) for second place in the Atlantic Division.

* Rodrigues, who recorded his first career four-point outing earlier this season (2-2—4 at WPG on Oct. 14), increased his 2023-24 totals to 6-14—20 (25 GP). Among players skating in their first season with a club, only four have as many points: **Alex DeBrincat** (13-11—24 in 24 GP w/ DET), **Ryan O'Reilly** (12-10—22 in 25 GP w/ NSH), **Tyler Toffoli** (12-9—21 in 23 GP w/ NJD) and **Connor Bedard** (11-9—20 in 24 GP w/ CHI).

* **Sam Reinhart** (1-2—3) netted his 17th goal of 2023-24 to move within one of **Brock Boeser** for the League lead while also matching the Panthers mark for fewest games to 100 assists with the club – a pace originally set by **Keith Yandle** (185 GP).



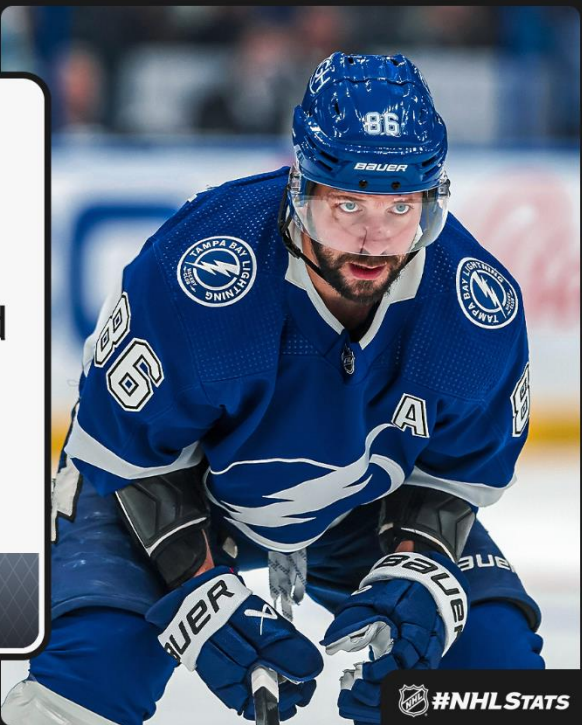
RODRIGUES RECORDS ANOTHER 4-POINT GAME

Evan Rodrigues became the second player in Panthers history to record two four-point outings in his first 25 games with the club alongside Kris Versteeg (2 in 2011-12)






KUCHEROV SETS FRANCHISE RECORD ON #NHLSTATS: LIVE UPDATES

Wednesday's edition of [#NHLStats: Live Updates](#) featured **Nikita Kucherov** (1-1—2) extending his assist streak to a [franchise-record 11 games](#) while helping the Lightning log their second straight win on the heels of an 8-1 loss Saturday.



KUCHEROV EXTENDS LEAGUE LEAD IN POINTS

Nikita Kucherov (17-27—44 in 26 GP) opened a five-point lead in the Art Ross Trophy race and moved within one goal of League leader Brock Boeser (18-12—30 in 26 GP)

HYMAN'S FOUNDATION MAKING A POSITIVE IMPACT

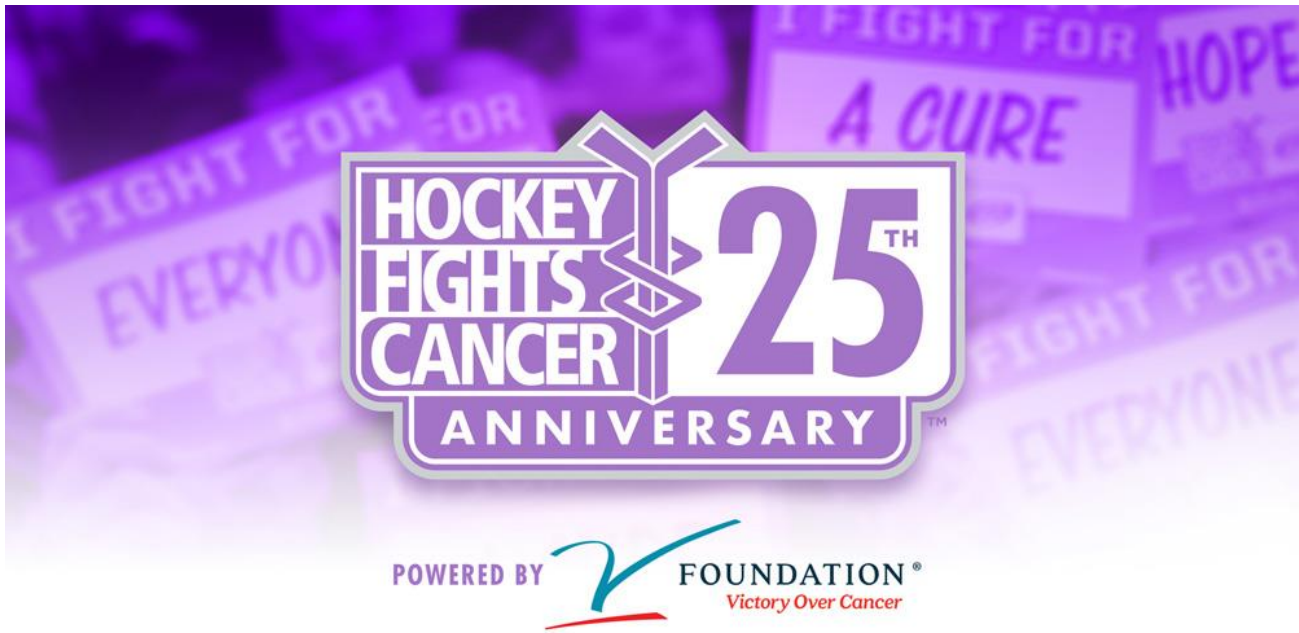
Zach Hyman's charitable efforts are featured one day after his second hat trick of the season and on the first day of Hanukkah. The Hyman Family Foundation, also known as Hyman Helps, works with the UJA Federation, an organization that preserves and strengthens the Jewish community, as well as SickKids. A children's book author and native of Toronto, Ont., Hyman has also donated to the Toronto Reference Library to support their children's literacy initiatives.



Zach Hyman is using his platform to support SickKids and UJA Federation (United Jewish Appeal) through a charity he funded called Hyman Family Foundation. Hyman raises money for both causes through a golf tournament called the Zach Hyman Celebrity Classic, which he hosts in the summer and invites players as well as media personalities. Hyman is proud of his heritage and is an active supporter of the Jewish communities in his hometown of Toronto and in Edmonton. He directs part of the fund from the golf tournament to UJA to help preserve and strengthen the quality of Jewish life in those cities.

QUICK CLICKS

- * [Patrick Kane returns to roots ahead of Red Wings debut](#)
- * [Jake Walman fined \\$2,500 for actions in Red Wings game](#)
- * [Eric Robinson traded to Sabres by Blue Jackets for draft pick in 2025](#)
- * [Jacques Martin hired by Senators as senior adviser to coaching staff](#)
- * [Blues launch new collaboration with V Foundation ahead of Hockey Fights Cancer night on ESPN](#)



ESPN DOUBLEHEADER, KINGS' STREAK AND KANE'S DEBUT HIGHLIGHT THURSDAY

A busy Thursday in the NHL is headlined by the Stars-Capitals and Devils-Kraken during an ESPN doubleheader. **Jack Hughes** (4-6—10 in 4 GP), who has three-point performances in three of his past four outings and a tally in all four of those contests, can tie his career high for longest goal streak (5 GP in 2022-23). **Joe Pavelski** (11-13—24 in 24 GP) can become the fifth player in NHL history to pace a team in goals at age 39 or older, with that group including **Jaromir Jagr** with Dallas in 2012-13; the only player in the past eight years to lead his team in goals at the end of a season *at age 37 or older* is **Alex Ovechkin** (2022-23), who is one away from the 1,500-point milestone.

NHL SCHEDULE		THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7			
7:00 PM ET		NESN, MSG-B, SNP, SNO, SNE	7:00 PM ET		BSDET, NBCSCA
7:00 PM ET		RDS, TSN2, BSW	7:00 PM ET		RDS2, TSN4, TSN5
7:30 PM ET		MSGSN, BSOH	8:00 PM ET		ESPN
8:00 PM ET		BSSO, BSSUN	8:30 PM ET		BSSD, BSSC, NBCSCH
9:00 PM ET		SCRIPPS, NBCSP	9:00 PM ET		SNW, BSSO
9:00 PM ET		ALT, TSN3, TVAS	10:00 PM ET		SNP, BSN, BSWI
10:30 PM ET		ESPN			

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* Los Angeles can become the first team in NHL history with [11 straight road wins to start a season](#), eclipsing a 10-game run by Buffalo in 2006-07. Part of the Kings' road success can be attributed to the play of **Trevor Moore** (7-8—15 in 10 GP) and **Anze Kopitar** (6-6—12 in 10 GP), who have found the score sheet in each contest thus far – they can become the first Los Angeles players with a season-opening road point streak of at least 11 games since **Wayne Gretzky** (16 GP in 1990-91).



KINGS KEEP CRUISING ON THE ROAD

Anze Kopitar & Trevor Moore can become the second pair of teammates in NHL history to each have an 11-game road point streak to start a season, following Wayne Gretzky & Jari Kurri (12 GP in 1984-85 w/ EDM)

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* Kane (451-786—1,237 in 1,180 GP), who leads all players on Detroit's active roster in career goals, assists, points and games played, joins a Red Wings team that is 6-1-0 in their last seven games and looking to clinch their first playoff appearance since 2016. He can become the seventh player age 35 or older to score in his debut with the franchise – the eldest is **Mike Modano**, who is the only U.S.-born skater in League history with [more points than Kane](#).

OLDEST PLAYERS WITH A GOAL IN TEAM DEBUT

FRANCHISE HISTORY



PLAYER	DATE	AGE (Y, D)
MIKE MODANO	OCT. 8, 2010	40, 123
STEVE THOMAS	NOV. 12, 2003	40, 120
MAREK ZIDLICKY	MARCH 4, 2015	38, 29
BRETT HULL	OCT. 4, 2001	37, 56
LARRY MURPHY	MARCH 19, 1997	36, 11
CORY CROSS	MARCH 12, 2006	35, 68



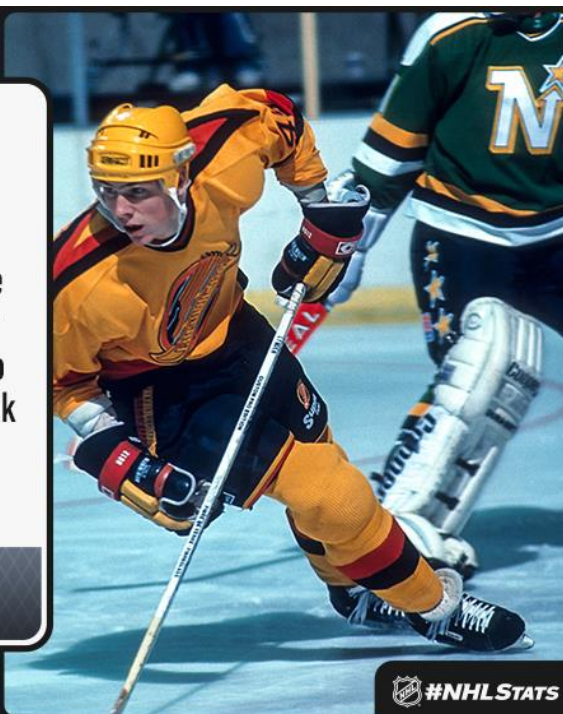
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^Patrick Kane (35 years, 18 days) can join this list

* Bedard (11-9—20 in 24 GP) and Carlsson (8-5—13 in 17 GP) rank first and second (tied), respectively, in [rookie goal scoring this season](#). Bedard had four assists against Carlsson as Team Canada earned a 5-1 win versus Team Sweden to conclude its round-robin play at the 2023 World Junior Championship.

DID YOU KNOW?

The most points by a No. 1 or No. 2 pick from the same NHL Draft in their first meeting is four, by Trevor Linden (No. 2 in 1988) versus Mike Modano (No. 1 in 1988) on Dec. 3, 1989 and Dale Hawerchuk (No. 1 in 1981) against Doug Smith (No. 2 in 1981) on Oct. 25, 1981



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