

NHL MORNING SKATE – DEC. 12, 2023



NHL Morning Skate

Tuesday, December 12, 2023

- Islanders overcome late rally by NHL's newest 1,000-point scorer Tavares and Maple Leafs
- MacKinnon extends point streak in multi-goal, third-period comeback win
- It's Connor vs. Connor for the first time when Blackhawks-Oilers clash on ESPN

* **John Tavares** tallied an assist on a late tying goal against his former team to reach the 1,000-point milestone.

* **Nathan MacKinnon** extended the NHL's longest active point streak to 12 games and scored the decisive marker in Colorado's first multi-goal, third-period comeback win of the season.

* It's Connor versus Connor for the first time this season as **Connor Bedard** and the Blackhawks aim to put a stop to a streaking **Connor McDavid** and the Oilers in the second matchup of an ESPN doubleheader Tuesday, following a clash between the Red Wings and Blues.

* The 10-game slate also features **Logan Cooley** and the Coyotes visiting **Sidney Crosby** and the Penguins on Sportsnet and TVA Sports. Cooley was born in Pittsburgh and is an [alumnus of the Little Penguins Learn to Play Program](#), an initiative spearheaded by Crosby.



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NHL RESULTS

MONDAY

 **2** FINAL ▶ **5** 

 **3** FINAL OT ▶ **4** 

 **3** FINAL ▶ **6** 

 **5** FINAL ▶ **6** 

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TAVARES TALLIES 1,000TH CAREER NHL POINT AGAINST FORMER TEAM

John Tavares (435-565—1,000 in 1,054 GP) assisted on the tying goal by **Morgan Rielly** with [6.4 seconds remaining in regulation](#) to reach the 1,000-point milestone, but New York's **Bo Horvat** buried the winner in the opening minute of overtime as Tavares' former team quelled Toronto's comeback attempt.

1,000TH CAREER NHL POINT IN GAME VS. FORMER TEAM

LEAGUE HISTORY

| PLAYER | TEAM | OPPONENT | YEAR |
|-------------------|-------------|----------|------|
| JOHN TAVARES | MAPLE LEAFS | NYI | 2023 |
| MARIAN HOSSA | BLACKHAWKS | OTT | 2014 |
| KEITH TKACHUK | BLUES | ATL | 2008 |
| ALEXANDER MOGILNY | MAPLE LEAFS | BUF | 2004 |
| BRIAN PROPP | WHALERS | PHI | 1994 |
| JOHNNY BUCYK | BRUINS | DET | 1972 |



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* Horvat had the early overtime winner after **Jean-Gabriel Pageau** potted one just 13 seconds into

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extra time Saturday. The Islanders became the eighth team in NHL history to win consecutive games *via an opening-minute overtime goal in each contest* and first since the Sharks from [Jan. 8-11, 2022](#).

* **Mathew Barzal** recorded the 12th overtime assist of his NHL career and tied Tavares atop the [all-time list for the Islanders](#) (13-7-7, 33 points), who extended their point streak to six games (5-0-1 dating to Nov. 30) and moved into second place in the Metropolitan Division.

MacKINNON CAPS COLORADO'S MULTI-GOAL, THIRD-PERIOD COMEBACK WIN

In a tie game heading into the second period, **Cale Makar** (1-1—2) scored to give Colorado its first lead of the night, but Calgary responded with four goals of its own to take a 5-3 edge heading into the third frame where the Avalanche buried three straight, capped off by **Nathan MacKinnon's** decisive tally, to earn their first multi-goal, third-period comeback win of the season.

* Makar scored his 73rd career goal and surpassed **Sandis Ozolinsh** (72) for sole possession of second on the franchise's all-time list among defensemen, behind only **Tyson Barrie** (75).

* MacKinnon (1-1—2), who extended the NHL's longest active point streak to 12 games, recorded his 57th career game-winning goal and the fourth in games where the Avalanche overcame a multi-goal, third-period deficit. MacKinnon's last decisive tally in a multi-goal, third-period come-from-behind victory was when Colorado last achieved the feat on [April 9, 2023](#).



MACKINNON'S HOT RUN CONTINUES

Nathan MacKinnon recorded a point streak of at least 12 games for the sixth time in his career, joining Connor McDavid and Patrick Kane (both w/ 6) as the only active players to do so as many times

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DEFENSEMEN DAHLIN, HEISKANEN HELP SABRES, STARS SECURE WINS

Rasmus Dahlin (1-1—2) and **Miro Heiskanen** (2-1—3) had multiple points as Buffalo and Dallas defeated opponents Monday. [Click here](#) to read additional notes from the latest edition of #NHLStats: Live Updates.

* Dahlin (53-203—256 in 383 GP) climbed a couple of franchise lists by first passing **Bill Hajt** (202) for sole possession of the [sixth-most assists by Buffalo blueliners](#) and later surpassing **Jerry Korab** (55) for third place on the [club's all-time multi-point games list among defensemen](#). **Phil Housley** (143) and **Doug Bodger** (57) rank first and second, respectively, on the latter leaderboard.

* Heiskanen (47-176—223 in 381 GP) moved into the top 10 on the [franchise's all-time list for goals among defensemen](#) and had the ninth three-point game of his NHL career. Dallas improved to 11-0-0 in its last 11 home games against Detroit dating to Jan. 12, 2017, which marks the [fourth longest home winning streak versus one opponent in franchise history](#).


MOST GAMES WITH 3+ POINTS BEFORE AGE 25
DEFENSEMEN, FRANCHISE HISTORY

| PLAYER | TEAM | TOTAL |
|-----------------|------|-------|
| CRAIG HARTSBURG | MNS | 13 |
| BRAD MAXWELL | MNS | 10 |
| MIRO HEISKANEN | DAL | 9 |
| JOHN KLINGBERG | DAL | 5 |
| GORDIE ROBERTS | MNS | 3 |
| BARRY GIBBS | MNS | 3 |

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QUICK CLICKS

- * [‘Road To The NHL Winter Classic’ begins Wednesday](#)
- * [Nikita Kucherov, Tomas Hertl, Sam Reinhart named NHL’s ‘Three Stars’ of the week](#)
- * [David Perron, Erik Gudbranson suspended for actions during games on weekend](#)
- * [Connor Bedard Watch: No. 1 picks face off when Blackhawks visit Connor McDavid, Oilers](#)
- * [Women in Hockey: Meghan Duggan](#)



MEGHAN DUGGAN
NEW JERSEY DEVILS

JOB TITLE
Director, Player Development

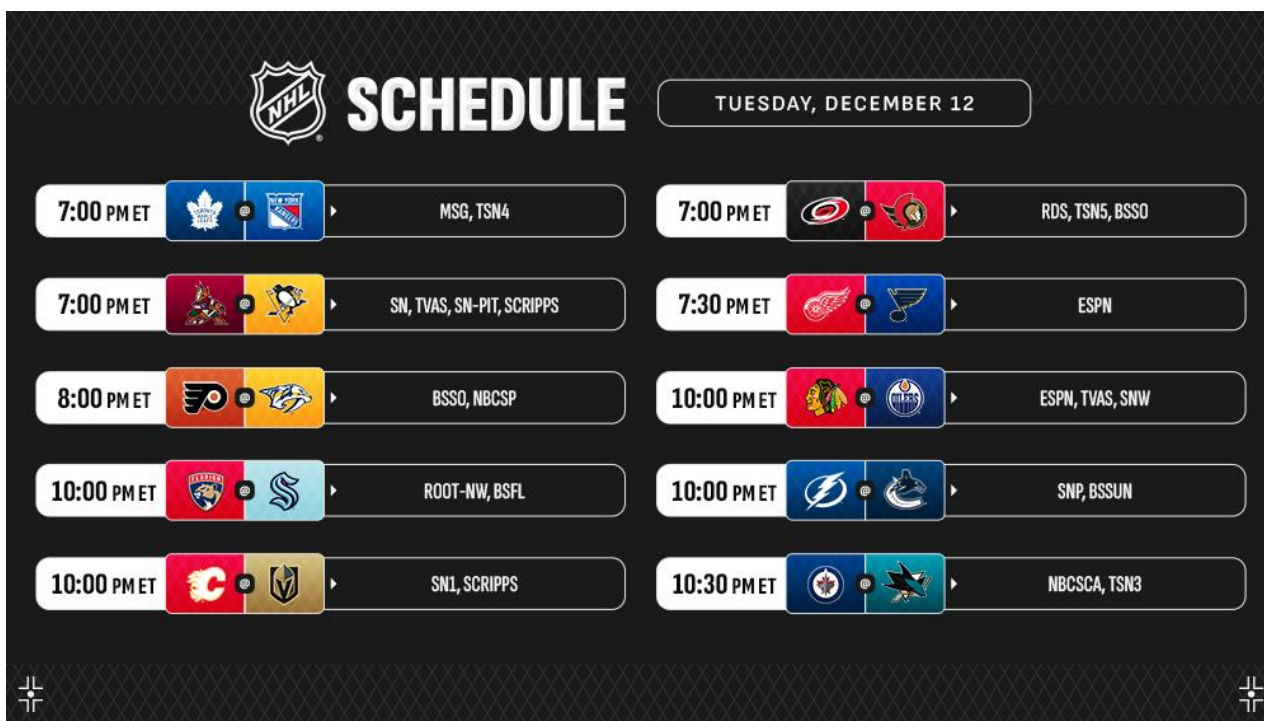
EDUCATION
BS Biology – University of Wisconsin, Madison

YEARS OF HOCKEY EXPERIENCE
30+ years

Q & A
What is a quality you admire most in others?
The ability to connect with those around you. The best leaders, teammates, and colleagues I have been around are those who have a natural and innate ability to connect with people and create an environment that encourages a sense of belonging. I believe leadership (and success in general) truly centers around creating a people first environment.

TUESDAY HIGHLIGHTED BY BEDARD VS. McDAVID DURING ESPN DOUBLEHEADER

Tuesday's 10-game slate is highlighted by an ESPN doubleheader, which closes with **Connor Bedard** and the Blackhawks battling **Connor McDavid** and the Oilers after **Patrick Kane** and the Red Wings face **Jordan Kyrou** and the Blues.



NHL SCHEDULE TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12

| | | | | | |
|-------------|--|---------------------------|-------------|---|-----------------|
| 7:00 PM ET | Maple Leafs vs. New York Islanders | MSG, TSN4 | 7:00 PM ET | Columbus Blue Jackets vs. Philadelphia Flyers | RDS, TSN5, BSSO |
| 7:00 PM ET | Florida Panthers vs. Pittsburgh Penguins | SN, TVAS, SN-PIT, SCRIPPS | 7:30 PM ET | Detroit Red Wings vs. St. Louis Blues | ESPN |
| 8:00 PM ET | Pittsburgh Penguins vs. Washington Capitals | BSSO, NBCSP | 10:00 PM ET | Chicago Blackhawks vs. Minnesota Wild | ESPN, TVAS, SNW |
| 10:00 PM ET | Carolina Hurricanes vs. San Jose Sharks | ROOT-NW, BSFL | 10:00 PM ET | Tampa Bay Lightning vs. Vancouver Canucks | SNP, BSSUN |
| 10:00 PM ET | Columbus Blue Jackets vs. Vegas Golden Knights | SN1, SCRIPPS | 10:30 PM ET | Montreal Canadiens vs. Seattle Kraken | NBCSCA, TSN3 |

* Bedard (11-12—23 in 27 GP) bedazzled fans with a [backhand saucer assist Sunday](#) to boost his [rookie-leading point total](#) to 23, which matches the amount McDavid (6-17—23 in 9 GP) has over his nine-game scoring streak dating to Nov. 20. McDavid can record a double-digit point streak for the [13th time in his NHL career](#) and would be the fifth player in League history with as many, joining **Wayne Gretzky** (31x), **Guy Lafleur** (15x), **Mario Lemieux** (14x) and **Marcel Dionne** (13x).

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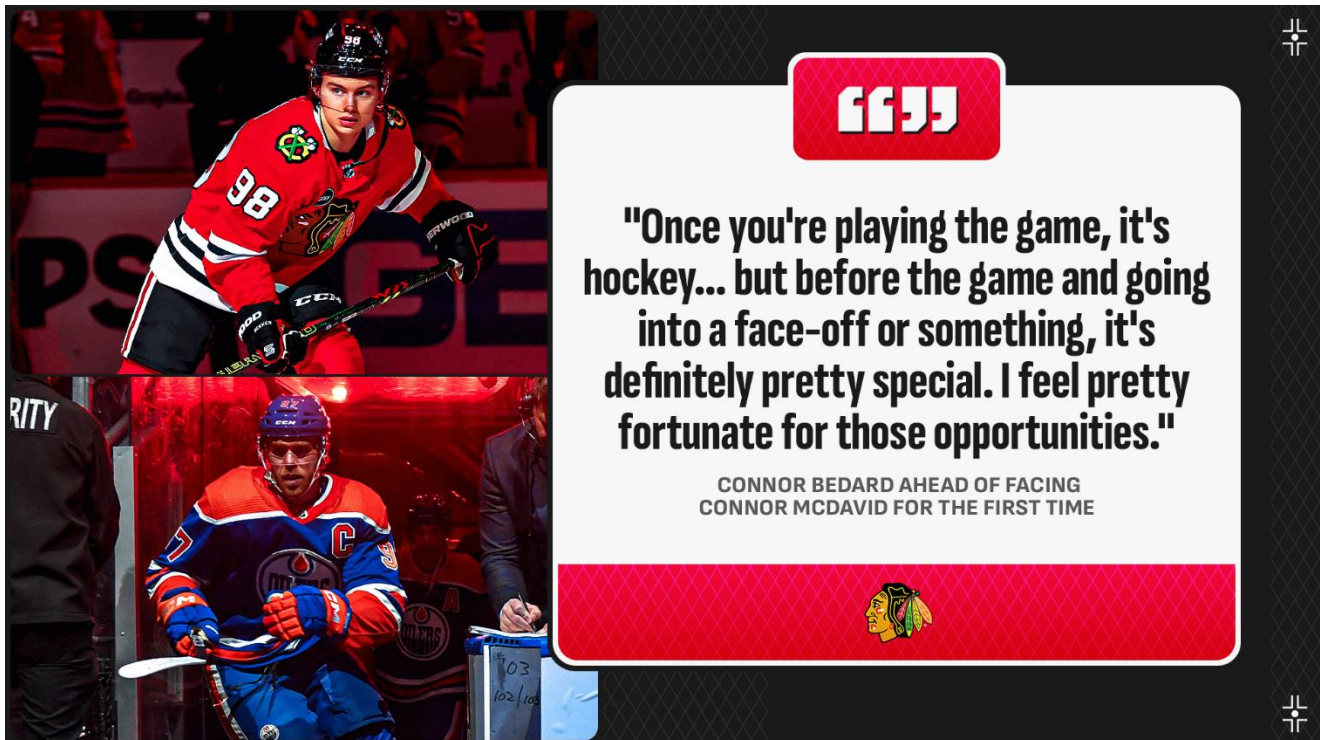


DID YOU KNOW?

Connor McDavid (9 GP) and Evan Bouchard (11 GP) can become the Oilers' first forward-defenseman set with *simultaneous* point streaks of 10+ games since Wayne Gretzky, Jari Kurri and Paul Coffey in 1985-86

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* Bedard's 11 goals are one more than McDavid (10-19—29 in 27 GP) had [through 27 games in his NHL career](#). McDavid was sidelined for nearly half of his rookie season but concluded the campaign averaging over a point per game before taking home the Art Ross Trophy, Hart Memorial Trophy and Ted Lindsay Award in 2016-17.



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"Once you're playing the game, it's hockey... but before the game and going into a face-off or something, it's definitely pretty special. I feel pretty fortunate for those opportunities."

CONNOR BEDARD AHEAD OF FACING CONNOR MCDAVID FOR THE FIRST TIME

