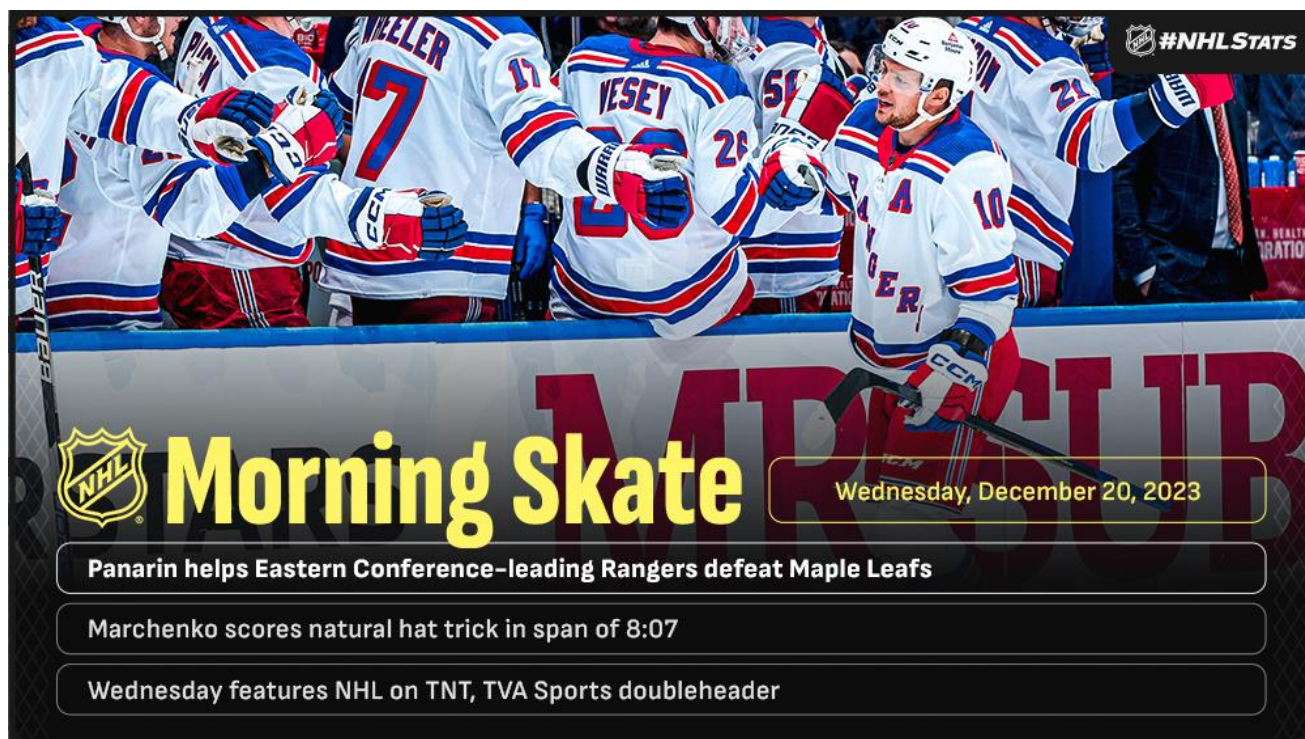


NHL MORNING SKATE – DEC. 20, 2023



#NHLStats

Morning Skate

Wednesday, December 20, 2023

- Panarin helps Eastern Conference-leading Rangers defeat Maple Leafs
- Marchenko scores natural hat trick in span of 8:07
- Wednesday features NHL on TNT, TVA Sports doubleheader











* **Artemi Panarin** helped the Eastern Conference-leading Rangers move one point ahead of the second-place Bruins, who fell Tuesday thanks to Wild forward **Kirill Kaprizov** scoring his franchise-record seventh career overtime goal.

* **Kirill Marchenko** accounted for three of the [Blue Jackets' season-high nine goals](#) and recorded the [second-fastest hat trick in franchise history](#).

* Wednesday's three-game slate is highlighted by an NHL on TNT and TVA Sports doubleheader.

* **REMINDER:** For all players on an NHL active roster, injured reserve, or with non-roster and injured non-roster status as of midnight (local time) on Dec. 20, a roster freeze shall apply through midnight (local time) on Dec. 28, with respect to waivers, trades and loans, subject to the exceptions provided for in CBA Article 16.5 (d).

 **RESULTS** TUESDAY

	4 ◀ FINAL OT 3			9 ◀ FINAL 4			3 FINAL ▶ 6	
	3 ◀ FINAL OT 2			1 FINAL ▶ 6			5 ◀ FINAL 2	
	1 FINAL ▶ 3			5 ◀ FINAL 2			2 FINAL ▶ 3	
	3 FINAL ▶ 4			4 ◀ FINAL 1				

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RANGERS PAD LEAD ATOP EASTERN CONFERENCE STANDINGS

Artemi Panarin scored one of his team's five goals – three of which came in the final frame – to help the Rangers defeat the Maple Leafs and improve to 22-7-1 (45 points), taking a one-point lead over the Bruins (19-5-6, 44 points) for first place in the Eastern Conference standings. New York's 22 wins are its most through 30 games in a season in franchise history, eclipsing the previous best of 21 set in 1993-94 en route to winning the Stanley Cup.

* Panarin, whose goal came after **Braden Schneider** put the Rangers up 3-2 at 8:08 of the third period, boosted his 2023-24 totals to 17-26—43 – the most points by a New York player through 30 games in a campaign since **Jaromir Jagr** (14-30—44) in 2006-07. The Rangers are tied with the Lightning for the second most game-tying *and* go-ahead goals in the third period this season with 14, which trail only the Flames (19).

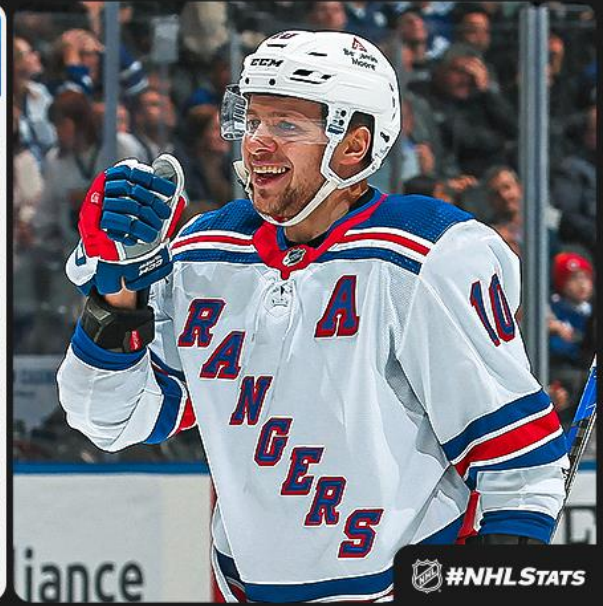
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MOST POINTS THROUGH 30 GAMES IN A SEASON

FRANCHISE HISTORY

PLAYER	SEASON	POINTS
FRANK BOUCHER	1929-30	53
JEAN RATELLE	1971-72	51
BILL COOK	1929-30	48
MARK MESSIER	1992-93	46
ROD GILBERT	1971-72	46
VIC HADFIELD	1971-72	46
JAROMIR JAGR	2006-07	44
ROD GILBERT	1976-77	44
ARTEMI PANARIN	2023-24	43
JAROMIR JAGR	2005-06	43
THEO FLEURY	2000-01	43



MARCHENKO SCORES NATURAL HAT TRICK IN JUST OVER EIGHT MINUTES

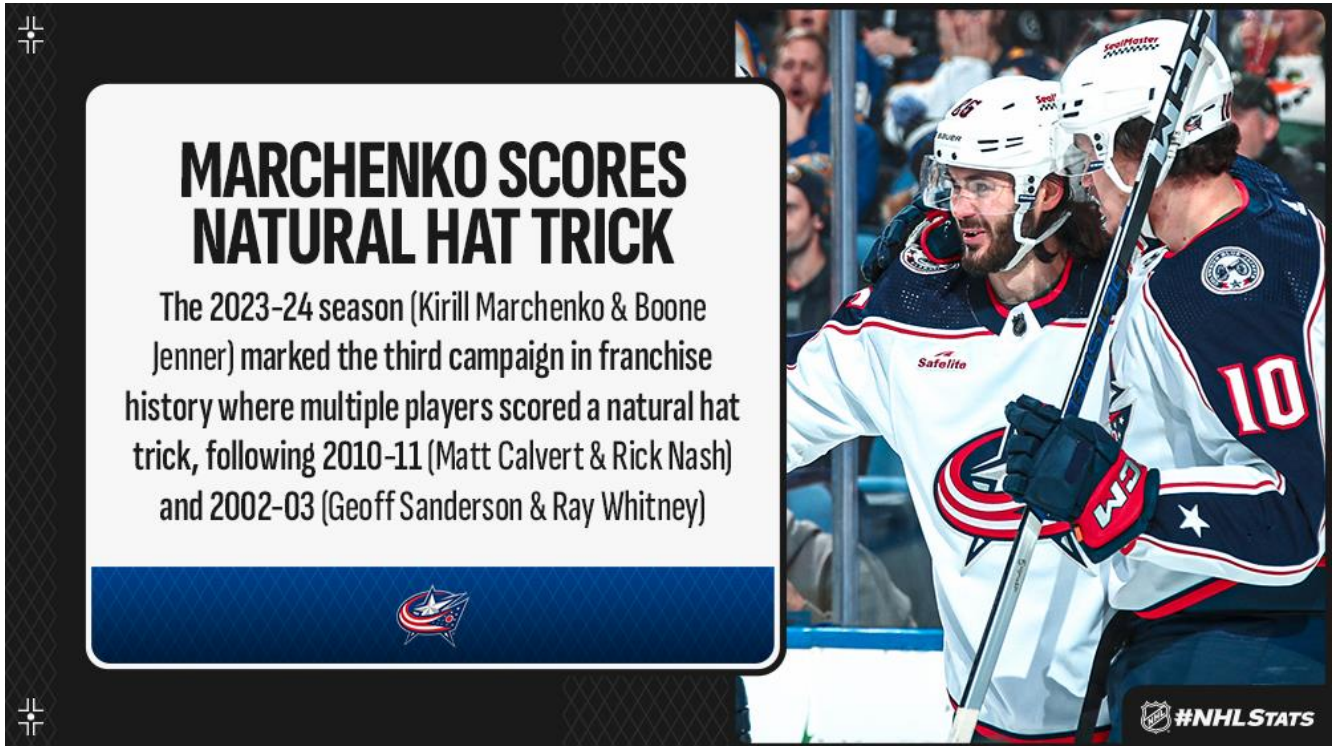
Kirill Marchenko scored three consecutive goals in a span of 8:07 and became the second Blue Jackets player with a natural hat trick this season, joining **Boone Jenner** ([Oct. 14](#)). Marchenko had his second and third tallies in an 18-second span, marking the [fastest two goals by one player in franchise history](#) – he eclipsed the previous mark set by **Cam Atkinson** (0:31 on [Oct. 27, 2018](#)).

* 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.



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MARCHENKO SCORES NATURAL HAT TRICK

The 2023-24 season (Kirill Marchenko & Boone Jenner) marked the third campaign in franchise history where multiple players scored a natural hat trick, following 2010-11 (Matt Calvert & Rick Nash) and 2002-03 (Geoff Sanderson & Ray Whitney)



KUCHEROV, HUGHES ADD TO LEAGUE-LEADING POINT TOTALS

Nikita Kucherov and **Quinn Hughes** had two points apiece in high-scoring wins Tuesday:

* Kucherov (22-32—54 in 32 GP) tallied twice and boosted his [League-leading point total this season to 54](#), while **Steven Stamkos** (0-3—3) recorded the [99th three-point game of his NHL career](#). The Lightning (15-13-5, 35 points) moved into the final Wild Card spot in the Eastern Conference.

* Hughes (9-32—41 in 33 GP) assisted on two of five Vancouver goals to become the first defenseman to hit the 40-point mark this season and the fastest in franchise history to do so in any campaign. The Canucks have three 40-point scorers this season in Hughes, **J.T. Miller** (15-30—45 in 33 GP) and **Elias Pettersson** (13-28—41 in 33 GP) – the most among all teams.



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**HUGHES HITS
40 POINTS**

Quinn Hughes (33 GP) became the first defenseman in Canucks history to reach 40 points in a season in fewer than 40 games



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FLYERS TAKE FINAL HEAD-TO-HEAD WITH DEVILS BEFORE HEADING OUTDOORS

Owen Tippett scored his second career overtime goal to help the Flyers secure a win after overcoming 1-0 and 2-1 deficits in the final game between Philadelphia and New Jersey before the *2024 Navy Federal Credit Union NHL Stadium Series* at MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J. on Feb. 17 (8 p.m. ET on ABC, ESPN+, TVAS-D, SN360). The only Stadium Series contest to require extra time also involved Philadelphia and saw the Flyers earn a win against the intrastate-rival Penguins at Lincoln Financial Field on Feb. 23, 2019 (4-3 OT W).



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HOLMSTROM'S SHORTHANDED GOAL FEATURED IN #NHLSTATS: LIVE UPDATES

[Tuesday's edition of #NHLStats: Live Updates](#) featured more notes from the 11-game slate. Some highlights include:

* **Simon Holmstrom** scored his League-leading fifth shorthanded goal of the season as the Islanders extended their home point streak to nine games (6-0-3 dating to Nov. 22).

* **Anze Kopitar** (27-43—70 in 90 GP) had 1-1—2 and became the fourth player in NHL history to record at least 70 career points [against the Sharks](#), joining **Teemu Selanne** (99), **Joe Sakic** (75) and **Mike Modano** (73).

* **Connor Bedard** (12-16—28 in 31 GP) had two assists to boost his [rookie-leading point total this season to 28](#) and help the Blackhawks edge the Avalanche and **Nathan MacKinnon** (8-20—28 in 16 GP), who extended his [point streak to a career-high 16 games](#).

* **Kirill Kaprizov** (2-0—2) scored the seventh overtime goal of his NHL career and passed **Matt Dumba** (6) for sole possession of the [most in franchise history](#).

* **Michael Kesselring** scored the last of Arizona's four unanswered goals as the Coyotes earned their first [three-goal comeback win](#) since [April 29, 2022](#).

* **Sebastian Aho** recorded the sixth three-assist game of his NHL career to tie **Jordan Staal** and **Ray Ferraro** for ninth place on the [Hurricanes/Whalers franchise's all-time list](#).



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LIVE UPDATES

QUICK CLICKS

- * [Auston Matthews reaches 25-goal mark; John Tavares honored for hitting 1,000 points](#)
- * [Noah Dobson developing into Islanders star thanks to help of veteran mentors](#)
- * [BetMGM and NHL announce multi-year North American partnership extension](#)
- * [Updates to 2023-24 NHL regular-season schedule](#)
- * [Ice truck for 2024 Discover NHL Winter Classic arrived in Seattle on Sunday night](#)



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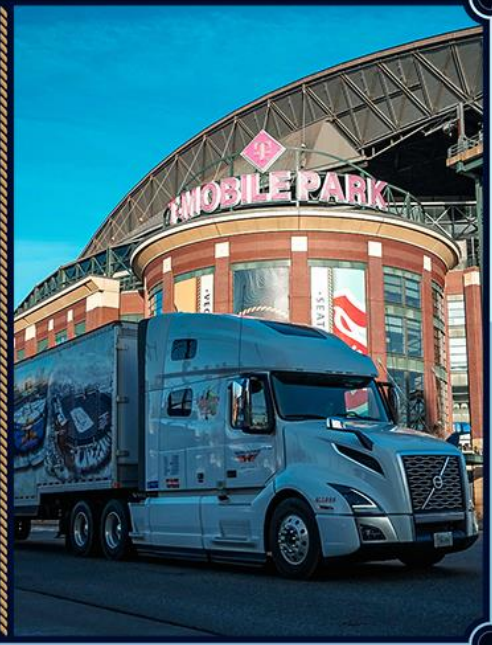
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DISCOVER  *Winter CLASSIC* 2024

ICE TRUCK ARRIVES IN SEATTLE

Washington will be the 16th U.S. state to host at least one regular-season outdoor game, while New Jersey is set to become the 17th when the *2024 Navy Federal Credit Union NHL Stadium Series* takes place at MetLife Stadium from Feb. 17-18

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WEDNESDAY HIGHLIGHTED BY NHL ON TNT, TVA SPORTS DOUBLEHEADER

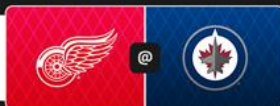
Wednesday features an NHL on TNT and TVA Sports doubleheader, which opens with **Mathew Barzal** and the Islanders visiting **Alex Ovechkin** and the Capitals and closes with **Quinton Byfield** and the Kings hosting **Matty Beniers** and the Kraken. The three-game slate also includes **Moritz Seider** and the Red Wings jousting **Josh Morrissey** and the Jets on Sportsnet.



SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20

7:30 PM ET



SN, BSEDT

7:30 PM ET



MAX, TNT, TVAS, MNMT

10:00 PM ET



MAX, TNT, BSW, TVAS



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