

NHL MORNING SKATE – JAN. 28, 2024



#NHLSTATS

Morning Skate

Sunday, January 28, 2024

- Oilers become third team in NHL history with a 16-game winning streak
- Matthews reaches 40 goals, Kucherov reclaims first place in Art Ross Trophy race
- Sunday highlighted by Kings-Blues on NHL Network, TVA Sports

* The Oilers moved within one game of tying the longest winning streak in NHL history and did so thanks in part to **Connor McDavid**'s fourth four-point game of the season and **Leon Draisaitl** reaching the 800-point milestone.

* **Auston Matthews** became the [third U.S.-born player in NHL history](#) with six 40-goal seasons, while **Nikita Kucherov** grabbed the outright scoring lead once again.

* The top five teams in the Atlantic Division each captured victories on a 14-game Saturday, a grouping that features seeds No. 3-5 separated by just two points, including the Panthers who benefited from **Sam Reinhart**'s 20th power-play goal of the season.

* Sunday's two-game slate begins with a matinee matchup between the Kings and Blues broadcast on NHL Network and TVA Sports.



OILERS MOVE WITHIN ONE WIN OF TYING NHL RECORD AS DRAISAITL HITS 800 NHL POINTS

Connor McDavid (1-3—4) tallied a game-high four points to extend his home point streak and **Leon Draisaitl** (1-2—3) surpassed the 800-point milestone as the Oilers stayed hot and matched the Blue Jackets (16 GP in 2016-17) for the second-longest winning streak in NHL history. They are now within one of matching the record-holding 1992-93 Penguins (17 GP) and will face off against the reigning Stanley Cup-champion Golden Knights on Feb. 6.

* McDavid's home point streak now stands at 18 games, the [ninth-longest run in Oilers history](#). He also recorded his 36th four-point game, which trails only **Sidney Crosby** (38) for the most among active players.

* Draisaitl improved his career totals to 329-472—801 (683 GP) and became the [sixth player in franchise history](#) to reach the 800-point milestone. He also required the fourth-fewest games in franchise history to hit the mark, behind **Wayne Gretzky** (352 GP), **Connor McDavid** (545 GP) and **Jari Kurri** (558 GP).

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FEWEST GAMES TO 800 NHL POINTS

ACTIVE PLAYERS

PLAYER	GP
CONNOR MCDAVID	545
SIDNEY CROSBY	571
ALEX OVECHKIN	658
EVGENI MALKIN	680
LEON DRAISAITL	683
NIKITA KUCHEROV	687



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* **Stuart Skinner** extended his [franchise-record winning streak](#) to 12 games and tied Tampa Bay's **Andrei Vasilevskiy** (12 GP in 2020-21) for the second-longest run among active goaltenders behind only **Sergei Bobrovsky** (14 GP in 2016-17). In the process, he became the [10th netminder in NHL history](#) to post a run of 12-plus games.

MATTHEWS REACHES 40-GOAL MARK, KUCHEROV RECLAIMS LEAD IN ART ROSS RACE...

Auston Matthews scored the game winner and became the first player to reach the 40-goal mark this season, while **Nikita Kucherov** had two assists to leapfrog **Nathan MacKinnon** for first place in the Art Ross Trophy race:

* Matthews (40-18—58 in 46 GP) extended his franchise records for [most overall](#) and [consecutive 40-goal seasons](#) while besting **Frank Mahovlich** (48 GP in 1960-61) as the fastest player in club history to reach the mark. Matthews (339-261—600 in 527 GP) also became the [eighth player to record 600 points with the Maple Leafs](#).

MOST GOALS AT TIME OF 600TH CAREER POINT

NHL HISTORY

PLAYER	DATE	GOALS
MAURICE RICHARD	NOV. 26, 1953	357
BRETT HULL	APRIL 10, 1993	353
REGGIE LEACH	OCT. 27, 1981	350
PETER BONDRA	NOV. 17, 2000	344
RICK VAIVE	JAN. 13, 1988	342
TIM KERR	FEB. 3, 1990	341
CAM NEELY	MARCH 5, 1994	340
AUSTON MATTHEWS	JAN. 27, 2024	339

* On the night teammate **Victor Hedman** reached the 700-point milestone, Kucherov (32-53—85 in 49 GP) potted 0-2—2 and joined MacKinnon in maintaining a 140-point pace. The 2023-24 campaign would be the first season with two 140-point players since 1995-96 when **Mario Lemieux** (69-92—161 in 70 GP w/ PIT) and **Jaromir Jagr** (62-87—149 in 82 GP w/ PIT) both did so.

* One of either Kucherov or MacKinnon, who are expected to go head-to-head on Feb. 15, has led the NHL in scoring [every day since Nov. 23](#) when **Quinn Hughes** held a one-point advantage on teammate **J.T. Miller** and a two-point cushion on the Lightning forward.

MOST DAYS LEADING THE NHL IN SCORING OUTRIGHT

2023-24

PLAYER	DAYS
NIKITA KUCHEROV	57
JACK HUGHES	12
NATHAN MacKINNON	7
ELIAS PETTERSON	7
QUINN HUGHES	4
ALEX DEBRINCAT	3
LEON DRAISAITL	1

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... WHILE PLAYOFF POSITIONING IN THE ATLANTIC REMAINS CLOSE

In addition to the Maple Leafs (25-14-8, 58 points) and Lightning (27-18-5, 59 points), three other clubs in the Atlantic Division – a grouping that currently occupies five of eight postseason positions in the Eastern Conference – also captured victories. Through games played on Jan. 27, seeds No. 3-5 are separated by two points in comparison to an 11-point differential between the three clubs at this point in 2022-23.

* **David Pastrnak** (2-1—3) factored on three of his team's six goals – [five of which came in a span of 5:29](#) – as the Bruins (31-9-9, 71 points) defeated the Flyers (25-19-6, 56 points) to become the first team to reach the 70-point mark this season and kept pace with the Canucks (33-11-5, 71 points) atop the League standings.

* **Oliver Ekman-Larsson** scored in overtime to guide the second-seeded Panthers (31-14-4, 66 points) to their eighth straight road win and **Sam Reinhart** continued his scoring prowess on the man advantage to extend his [point streak to 13 games](#). Reinhart, who [established a franchise record](#) with 20 power-play goals in a single season, became the ninth player since 1933-34 with 20 power-play goals prior to his 50th game of a season and first since **Mario Lemieux** (20 in 1995-96).

MOST POWER-PLAY GOALS PRIOR TO 50TH GAME OF SEASON

SINCE 1933-34



PLAYER	TEAM	SEASON	PPGS
TIM KERR	PHI	1985-86	25
JOE NIEUWENDYK	CGY	1987-88	24
PHIL ESPOSITO	BOS	1974-75	23
MICHEL GOULET	QUE	1985-86	22
MIKE BOSSY	NYI	1980-81	21
SAM REINHART	FLA	2023-24	20
CAM NEELY	BOS	1993-94	20
MARIO LEMIEUX	PIT	1995-96	20
ROB BROWN	PIT	1988-89	20



* **Moritz Seider** (0-2—2) factored on two of five Red Wings goals to help Detroit (26-18-5, 57 points) stay one point behind Toronto (25-14-8, 58 points) in the second Wild Card spot. Seider (213 GP) became the third-fastest defenseman in franchise history to reach 100 NHL assists behind **Reed Larson** (185 GP) and **Nicklas Lidstrom** (194 GP). He also recorded his 24th career multi-point game, which is now tied with Lidstrom for the second most by a Red Wings blueliner at age 22 or younger, trailing only Larson (28).

MORE NOTES FROM #NHLSTATS: LIVE UPDATES

The [Saturday edition of #NHLStats: Live Updates](#) featured more notes from the 14-game slate. Some highlights include:

* **Brock Boeser** (3-1—4) buried his [third hat trick this season](#) and [sixth of his NHL career](#) and then assisted on the overtime winner by **Elias Pettersson** (2-1—3) as the League-leading Canucks (33-11-5, 71 points) completed their [fourth three-goal, third-period comeback victory in franchise history](#). **Quinn Hughes** (0-3—3) also factored on the winning goal and became the [sixth different defenseman in NHL history](#) to record eight three-assist games in a season. 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.

* **Artemi Panarin** (1-2—3) and **Mika Zibanejad** (0-2—2) played a role in the Metropolitan Division-leading Rangers (30-16-3, 63 points) scoring seven consecutive goals in a game on the road for the second time in the past 30 years and earning their 30th win of the season. Panarin recorded his fourth 30-goal season and became the only active undrafted player to achieve that feat, while Zibanejad recorded his 500th point as a member of the Rangers and [required the fourth-fewest games in franchise history to reach the milestone](#) (534 GP).



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* **Thomas Harley** became the sixth defenseman in NHL history with an overtime goal in consecutive games, joining **Harry Cameron** (1918-19 w/ SEN), **Greg De Vries** (2002-03 w/ COL), **Tom Poti** (2003-04 w/ NYR), **Brent Burns** (2006-07 w/ MIN) and **Dougie Hamilton** (2022-23 w/ NJD). Harley can become the first to extend the run to three when the Stars visit the Sabres after the *2024 NHL All-Star Weekend*.

* **Sidney Crosby** collected a highlight-reel assist and **Lars Eller** became the second player in franchise history with a goal in the 1,000th game of his NHL career, joining **Evgeni Malkin** ([Nov. 20, 2022](#)). Eller and Malkin are two of the nine players in League history to score at least one goal in their first *and* 1,000th career game (also **Marian Gaborik**, **Milan Hejduk**, **Alex Kovalev**, **Joe Nieuwendyk**, **Gilbert Perreault**, **Jean Ratelle** & **Luc Robitaille**).



QUICK CLICKS

- * [‘Super cool’ memories await 1st-timers at 2024 NHL All-Star Game](#)
- * [Penguins copy **Lars Eller**’s warmup to celebrate 1,000th NHL game](#)
- * [**Matt Duchene**’s kids steal show during dad’s 1,000th game celebration](#)
- * [**Alexandre Daigle**’s life in hockey profiled in new Amazon Original documentary](#)
- * [**Gritty** makes appearance during ‘Tonight Show’ phone booth segment](#)

TWO-GAME SLATE SET FOR SUNDAY

A two-game Sunday begins with a matinee matchup between the Kings (22-15-9, 53 points), who hold a Wild Card spot, and the Blues (25-20-2, 52 points), who are vying for one, broadcast on TVA Sports as well as on NHL Network. The night concludes with a showdown between the Blue Jackets (15-23-10, 40 points) and Kraken (20-18-10, 50 points) nationally in Canada on Sportsnet.



SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28

2:00 PM ET



BSMW, BSW, NHLN, TVAS

9:00 PM ET



ROOT-NW, BSOH, SN



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