

**NHL** #NHLSTATS

# Morning Skate

Wednesday, January 31, 2024

Rookie Voronkov lifts Blue Jackets to victory, while veteran Vlasic does the same for Sharks

Barzal, Bratt join rosters for 2024 NHL All-Star Weekend

Larkin eyes first 10-goal month by Detroit skater since March 2015

\* The Blue Jackets and Sharks each skated to shutout victories during a two-game Tuesday and did so with the help of a 44-game rookie and a 1,267-game veteran, respectively.

\* The [NHL announced](#) that **Mathew Barzal** will replace injured **Jack Hughes** in the 2024 NHL All-Star Skills presented by DraftKings Sportsbook, while teammate **Jesper Bratt** will replace him on the player roster for 2024 NHL All-Star Weekend. Hughes will still be in Toronto to co-captain Team Hughes alongside his brother, **Quinn Hughes**.

\* The NHL will reveal which players are slated to compete in each of the first six events of 2024 NHL All-Star Skills presented by DraftKings Sportsbook [during the first intermission](#) of tonight's Ottawa-Detroit game on Sportsnet.



# RESULTS

TUESDAY



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## ROOKIE, VETERAN RISE TO THE OCCASION IN BLUE JACKETS, SHARKS VICTORIES

**Elvis Merzlikins** (21 saves) and **Mackenzie Blackwood** (32 saves) each posted shutouts, but Blue Jackets rookie **Dmitri Voronkov** and Sharks veteran **Marc-Edouard Vlasic** proved to be the difference makers with the game-winning goal for their respective clubs.

\* Voronkov's 12th goal of the season helped Merzlikins register his 12th outing with a save percentage of greater than .900 according to [NHL EDGE](#) – three more than he did in 2022-23 (9 GP in 2022-23) – and tied teammate **Adam Fantilli** (12) for the third-most [goals by a rookie this season](#). Columbus rookies have now tallied 25 goals through 50 games in 2023-24, four more than the next closest team (CHI: 21).



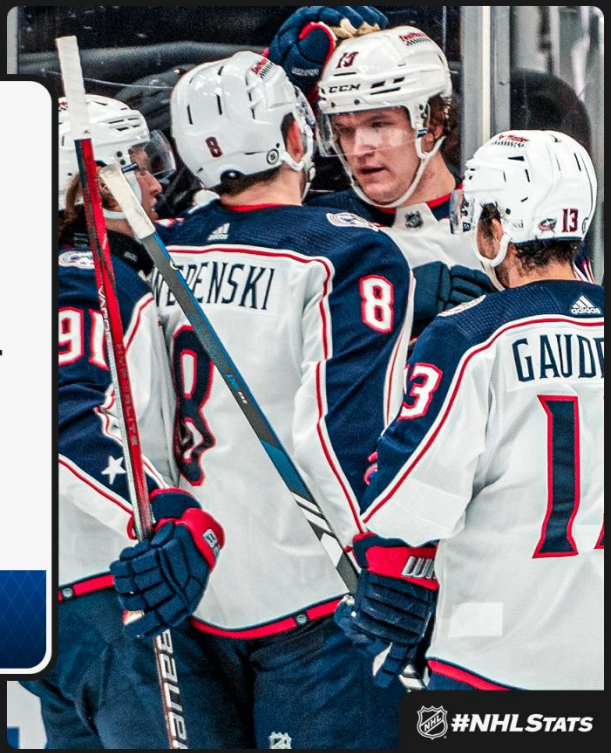
## STATS AND INFORMATION

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# ROOKIES ROARING FOR COLUMBUS

The Blue Jackets have 25 goals by their rookies in 2023-24, tied with 2000-01 for their second most through 50 games in a season in franchise history and trailing only 2022-23 (30 in 50 GP)



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\* Vlasic, one of the longest-tenured players in Sharks history and [one of only two players in franchise history to appear in at least 1,200 career games](#), scored for the second time in as many contests to tally his [81st career goal](#) and 13th career game winner.



# MOST CAREER GAME-WINNING GOALS

DEFENSEMEN, FRANCHISE HISTORY



DEFENSEMAN	GWGS
BRENT BURNS	27
MARC-EDOUARD VLASIC	13
DAN BOYLE	12
BRAD STUART	11
CHRISTIAN EHRHOFF	8
ERIK KARLSSON	8



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## QUICK CLICKS

- \* [All-Star festivities Thursday will feature '3 events in 1'](#)
- \* [Jesper Bratt](#) to replace Devils teammate [Jack Hughes](#) on 2024 NHL All-Star Weekend roster
- \* [Jack Hughes](#) won't be in action All-Star Weekend, will remain co-captain
- \* [Alex DeBrincat](#) continues to defy expectations with 500th NHL game, 2nd All-Star appearance
- \* [NHL on ESPN Friday Night](#) delivers strong viewership
- \* [Women in Hockey: Kendall Coyne Schofield](#)



JOB TITLE
Player Development Coach
EDUCATION
B.A. and M.S. - Northeastern University
YEARS OF HOCKEY EXPERIENCE
15 years
Q & A
<i>What are you most proud of?</i> In hockey, I am most proud of the change that has been made and opportunities that have been created within the game and those that have been inspired and impacted by that change along the way.

 **KENDALL COYNE SCHOFIELD**  
CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS

## LARKIN AND THE RED WINGS LOOK TO STAY HOT HEADING INTO ALL-STAR BREAK

The final game day ahead of 2024 NHL All-Star Weekend features a doubleheader on Sportsnet, which will begin with a battle between the Senators and Red Wings as the hosts look to continue their push towards their first postseason appearance since 2015-16. Meanwhile on TNT, Max and TVA Sports, the Kings and Predators will also duel for playoff positioning as they represent two of six teams separated by five points in the Western Conference Wild Card race.



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# SCHEDULE

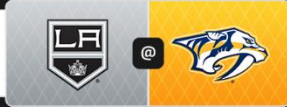
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31

7:00 PM ET



SN, RDS, BSEDT

7:30 PM ET



MAX, TNT, TVAS, BSW

10:30 PM ET



SN, TVAS, BSSD, BSSC, NBCSCA

\* Detroit enters Wednesday occupying the second Wild Card spot in the Eastern Conference thanks to a 7-2-1 record through its past 10 games. The Red Wings (26-18-5, 57 points) have leapfrogged four teams since their 10-game hot streak began on Jan. 7 and can overtake the Maple Leafs (25-14-8, 58 points) for the first Wild Card position with a win against the Senators.

\* Captain **Dylan Larkin** has been a key part of his club's recent success, skating into tonight's contest on an 11-game point streak and 10-game *home point streak*, with the latter just one shy of the longest run of his career (11 GP in 2021-22). Larkin has collected 9-6—15 (12 GP) in January, with only **Elias Pettersson** (10 in 10 GP) and **Auston Matthews** (10 in 10 GP) netting [more goals since Jan. 7](#).



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# LARKIN LOOKS TO END JANUARY ON A HIGH

Dylan Larkin (9-6-15 in 12 GP) can become the first Red Wings skater to score at least 10 goals in a calendar month since Justin Abdelkader had 10 in March 2015



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