

## NHL MORNING SKATE: STANLEY CUP PLAYOFFS EDITION – APRIL 27, 2024



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STANLEY CUP PLAYOFFS 2024

# Morning Skate

Saturday, April 27, 2024

Avalanche score five straight goals in final frame en route to a 2-1 series lead

Rangers move within one win of advancing while Oilers and Canucks both take a 2-1 series edge

Hurricanes, Panthers aim to advance to Second Round with wins Saturday

\* The Avalanche and Oilers both scored six goals in big wins en route to 2-1 leads in their respective series, as both teams' star players posted multi-point performances Friday.

\* The Rangers rallied to move within one win of advancing to the Second Round with the help of **Barclay Goodrow**'s goal on the penalty kill, marking just the third time on record that an NHL team has scored a *shorthanded winner* in consecutive playoff contests.

\* The Hurricanes and Panthers will both look to advance to the Second Round of the 2024 Stanley Cup Playoffs on Saturday as they're two of eight teams taking the ice.

\* The NHL announced that the 2024 NHL Draft Lottery will be held on Tuesday, May 7, at NHL Network's Secaucus, N.J., studio. The event will be broadcast on ESPN, Sportsnet and TVA Sports (time to be announced next week). [Click here](#) for odds.



### STATS AND INFORMATION

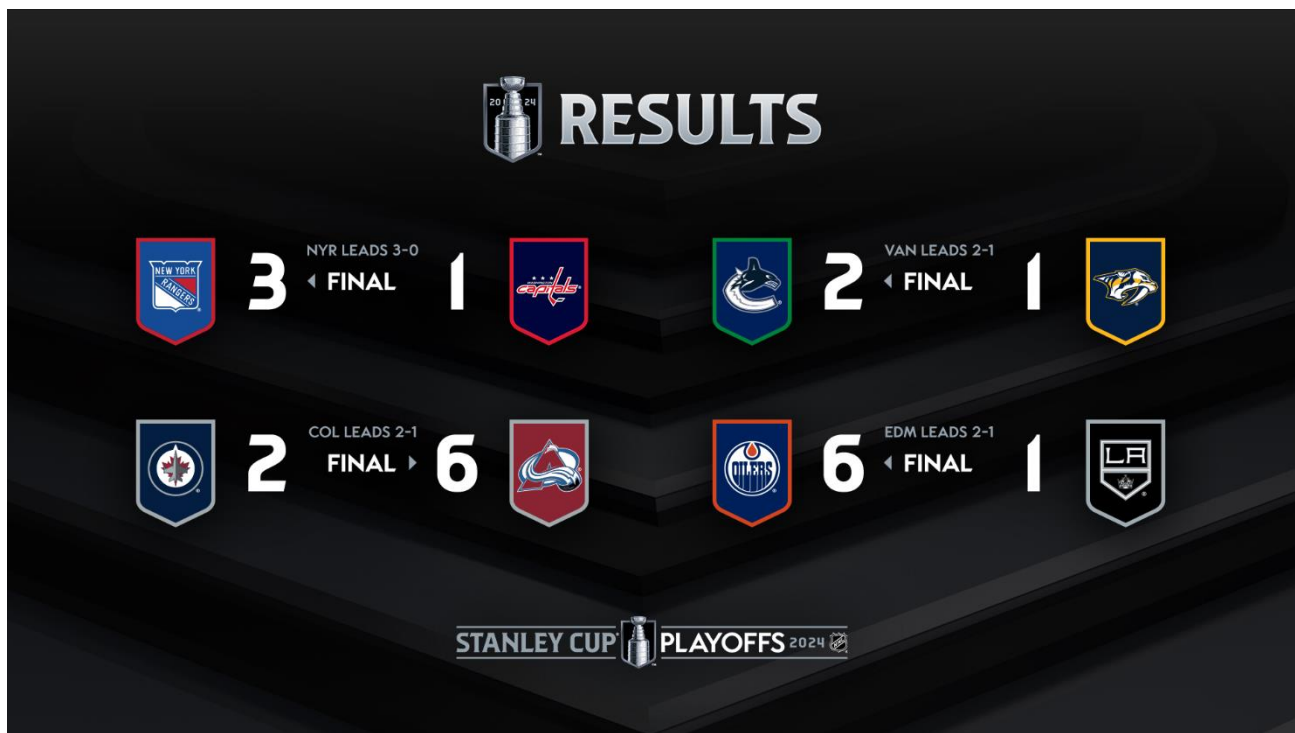


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### FIVE STRAIGHT GOALS IN FINAL FRAME LIFT AVALANCHE TO VICTORY, 2-1 SERIES LEAD

With the Jets leading 2-1 heading into the final frame, **Nathan MacKinnon** (1-1—2) spearheaded an Avalanche comeback with the first of his team's five straight goals – the most in the third period of a playoff game since the Sharks in Game 1 of the 2016 Second Round (5) – to help Colorado take a 2-1 series lead. The Avalanche own an all-time record of 16-9 (.640) [when leading 2-1 in a best-of-seven series](#).

\* MacKinnon's tying tally was his 14th career power-play goal in the postseason, moving him into a tie with **Michel Goulet** and **Milan Hejduk** for [third place on the Avalanche/Nordiques all-time list](#), behind only **Joe Sakic** (27) and **Peter Forsberg** (15).

\* The Avalanche became the 11th team in NHL history, and first since the Rangers in 1994 (6 GP), to score at least five goals in each of their first three games of a postseason. Overall, Colorado has 17 goals and Winnipeg has 11, for a combined total of 28 – the highest scoring series so far in the 2024 Stanley Cup Playoffs. The next closest series is Edmonton-Los Angeles (27).



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**SINCE 1993-94**

**Leon Draisaitl** (2-1—3), **Connor McDavid** (1-2—3) and **Zach Hyman** (2-0—2) were three of five Oilers players with multiple points Friday as Edmonton scored six goals to take a 2-1 series lead. The Oilers are 19-3 (.864) all-time when [leading 2-1 in a best-of-seven series](#).

\* Draisaitl's first point of the night was his 20th career road goal in the playoffs, while his second point was his 50th career postseason assist in just his 52nd contest – he became the fourth-fastest player in NHL history to reach the mark, behind **Wayne Gretzky** (34 GP), **Mario Lemieux** (44 GP) and **Connor McDavid** (50 GP).



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## DRAISAITL ESTABLISHES NHL BENCHMARK

Leon Draisaitl (26 GP) became the fastest player in NHL history with 20 career playoff road goals. Kevin Stevens & Bernie Nicholls previously held the distinction (29 GP).

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\* McDavid boosted his 2024 postseason-leading total to 1-8—9 and joined Gretzky (9 in 1987 & 8 in 1981) as the only players in NHL history with eight-plus assists through three games of a postseason.

\* Hyman (6-1—7 in 3 GP) added to his playoff-leading goal total and joined Draisaitl (3 GP in 2022) and McDavid (3 GP in 2020) as the third Oilers player in the past 25 years to score a goal in each of his team's first three games of a postseason. The only other player in the past 30 years with six goals through his team's first three games of a postseason is **Mark Stone** (6 in 2019 w/ VGK).

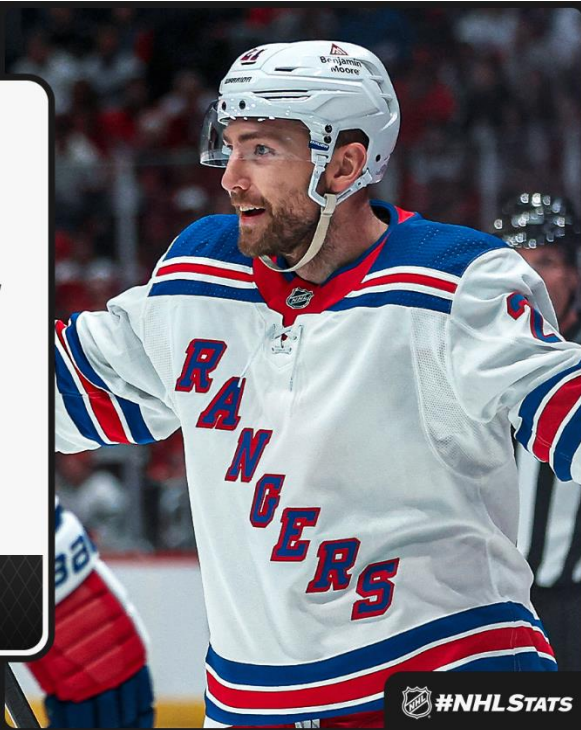
### **RANGERS RALLY WITH ANOTHER SHORTHANDED WINNER TO TAKE 3-0 SERIES LEAD**

After the Capitals opened the scoring, the Rangers rallied to earn a comeback victory via a shorthanded goal for the second straight game – this time courtesy of **Barclay Goodrow** – and took a 3-0 series lead. New York owns an all-time record of 5-0 [when leading 3-0 in a best-of-seven series](#).





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# PRESIDENTS' TROPHY WINNERS UP 3-0

The Rangers became the third Presidents' Trophy winner in the past 10 years to win each of their first three games of the playoffs. The others: Washington (3-0 in 2016) and Colorado (6-0 in 2021).

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\* Goodrow's shorthanded goal came after **K'Andre Miller** netted one in Game 2, marking just the third time on record that an NHL team scored a *shorthanded winner* in consecutive playoff contests. The other clubs to do so were the Flyers (Game 7 of DF to Game 1 of 1989 CF) and Maple Leafs (Game 7 of SF to Game 1 of 1964 SCF).

\* The Rangers earned their 30th comeback win of 2023-24 and moved within one of matching their franchise best in a single season (regular season & playoffs combined), which was set in 2021-22.



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REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFFS COMBINED, SINCE 1993-94

\* Hughes, who leads his team in scoring this postseason with 0-4—4, became the third player in Canucks history with 20 points through his first 20 career playoff games (2-18—20), joining **Trevor Linden** (21) and **Thomas Gradin** (21).

## DEFENSEMEN. NHL HISTORY

- \* [#NHLStats: Live Updates for April 27, 2024](#)
- \* [2024 NHL Draft Lottery set for May 7](#)
- \* [Tomas Hertl](#) eager for home playoff debut with Golden Knights in Game 3
- \* [Vikings draft pick J.J. McCarthy](#) receives phone call from **Wayne Gretzky** in middle of interview
- \* [Stanley Cup Playoffs postcard: Arlington, Virginia](#)

- \* **NHL @TheRink** (4/24): [Darren Pang joins](#); [Playoff storylines](#), [Demko injury](#), [Bob's save](#)
- \* **The Chirp** (4/25): [Jake Allen joins](#); [Goalie storylines & analysis](#), [remembering Bob Cole](#)
- \* **NHL Draft Class** (4/26): [Al Jensen](#), [NHL Central Scouting: Top goalie prospects](#)

The second Saturday of the 2024 Stanley Cup Playoffs will feature both the Hurricanes and Panthers taking aim at advancing to the Second Round, while their opponents, the Islanders and Lightning, will look to force a Game 5. Meanwhile, the Maple Leafs will have an opportunity to even their series at 2-2 before heading to Boston for Game 5, while the Stars can cut their series deficit in half when they visit the Golden Knights.



## STATS AND INFORMATION

# STANLEY CUP<sup>®</sup> PLAYOFFS 2024

## SCHEDULE · SATURDAY, APRIL 27

CAR LEADS SERIES 3-0



GAME 4 · 2 ET

MAX, TRUTV, MSGSN, TBS,  
BSSO, SN, TVAS

FLA LEADS SERIES 3-0



GAME 4 · 5 ET

MAX, TRUTV, TBS, BSSUN, BSFL,  
SNP, SNW, SNE, TVAS

BOS LEADS SERIES 2-1



GAME 4 · 8 ET

CBC, TVAS, SN, NESN,  
TBS, TRUTV, MAX

VGK LEADS SERIES 2-0



GAME 3 · 10:30 ET

SCRIPPS, MAX, TRUTV, TBS,  
BSSW, SN360, SN, TVAS

WATCH THE STANLEY CUP<sup>®</sup> PLAYOFFS ON **ESPN** **UNIVERSITY SPORTS** **SPORTSNET** **TVA SPORTS**

\* The Hurricanes will have an opportunity to win a seven-game series in just four games for the second time in franchise history (also 2019 R2 v. NYI) and can win a postseason series for their sixth consecutive year – the last team to post a run of that length was the Red Wings from 1995 to 2000 (6). Across the ice, **Mathew Barzal** and **Brock Nelson** will be focused on helping their club force a Game 5. Barzal (2-4—6 in 8 GP) and Nelson (3-3—6 in 12 GP) have the highest point totals when facing elimination in a best-of-seven series with the Islanders among active skaters.

\* The Panthers also have an opportunity to require just four games to close out a best-of-seven series for the second time after doing so last postseason by sweeping the Hurricanes in the 2023 Conference Finals. They'll have to solve **Andrei Vasilevskiy** who will look to halt Florida in its tracks – Vasilevskiy owns a 2.04 goals-against average and .926 save percentage in potential-elimination games in best-of-seven series.



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# VASI LIGHTS OUT IN ELIMINATION GAMES

Andrei Vasilevskiy owns the second-best goals-against-average in potential elimination games among active goaltenders behind Martin Jones (1.95 in 10 GP) and third highest save percentage, trailing Jones (.934 SV%) and Jonathan Quick (.932 SV% in 15 GP).

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\* **Brad Marchand**, who recorded his [eighth career multi-goal game in the postseason](#) during Game 3, can help the Bruins bring a 3-1 series lead back to Boston. On Saturday, Marchand will have the opportunity to [establish a franchise record for most playoff goals](#) – a mark he currently shares with **Cam Neely** (55). The Maple Leafs, led by **Auston Matthews** (1-2—3) and **Max Domi** (1-2—3), are aiming to win a series after facing a 2-1 deficit for the first time since the [2002 Conference Semifinals](#) against the Senators.

\* The Stars will focus on earning a victory as visitors in Vegas, which would cut their series deficit to 2-1. Dallas had 26 wins and 57 points on the road during the regular season, which was the [highest points percentage among all teams](#), and its 19 road victories during the playoffs over the past five years are [tied for the third most among all clubs](#). Meanwhile, the Golden Knights will host their first playoff game at T-Mobile Arena since the club hoisted the Stanley Cup on June 13, 2023 – they can become the ninth reigning champion in the past 40 years to have a three-game winning streak to start a postseason.



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# LONGEST WIN STREAK BY REIGNING STANLEY CUP CHAMPION

TO START A PLAYOFFS, SINCE 1984



## STANLEY CUP PLAYOFFS 2024

TEAM	POSTSEASON	GP
EDMONTON OILERS	1985	9
DETROIT RED WINGS	1999	6
DETROIT RED WINGS	2009	5
MONTREAL CANADIENS	1987	4
PITTSBURGH PENGUINS	2017	3
NEW JERSEY DEVILS	2001	3
PITTSBURGH PENGUINS	1993	3
EDMONTON OILERS	1986	3



\*The Golden Knights can join this list with a win Saturday



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