



COLORADO AVALANCHE UPDATE

presented by

AVALANCHE NOTES

THIS WEEK: Colorado saw its season-high, six-game winning streak snapped in Monday's 4-3 overtime loss to Calgary. The Avs extended their point streak to seven games (6-0-1), one shy of matching their season high (7-0-1 from Oct. 3-19).

THAT'S A PLUS: Ryan Graves leads the NHL in plus/minus rating (+22). Graves has been a "plus" player in seven straight games, going a combined +13 during this stretch. He is the first Avalanche player to post a +1 rating or better in seven straight games since Jan Hejda from Oct. 25 to Nov. 10, 2013 (also seven).

40 BEFORE 30: The Avalanche reached the 40-point mark in its 29th game on Saturday, surpassing 40 points in less than 30 games for just the third time since relocating to Denver. The 2000-01 team reached 40 points in its 26th game (19-4-3-0) and the 2013-14 squad reached 40 in its 27th (20-7-0).

"We've had [Erik Johnson] down for a little bit, who's a huge part of our backend and obviously [Cale Makar] is also a big part, especially on that power play, but I mean we have guys that can step in. [Samuel Girard] steps in on that first unit and then [Calle Rosen] steps in on the second unit. I mean, we're confident in our depth and as you see, when we turn it on, we're still a good team regardless of who is in the lineup."

—Avalanche defenseman Ryan Graves on Colorado's defensive depth this season

UPCOMING GAMES



Wednesday, Dec. 11 vs. Philadelphia Flyers
Pepsi Center, 7:30 p.m. MT, TV: NBCSN, Radio: 92.5 FM

The Avs host the Philadelphia Flyers on Wednesday night, the first of two matchups between the clubs in 2019-20. The Avalanche won both contests last season, outscoring the Flyers by a combined score of 9-3 in the two meetings.



Friday, Dec. 13 vs. New Jersey Devils
Pepsi Center, 7 p.m. MT, TV: Altitude, Radio: 92.5 FM

Colorado wraps up a three-game homestand against the New Jersey Devils on Friday night. The Avs won both meetings last season, including a 3-0 shutout victory at home on March 17 to begin a stretch that saw Colorado win eight of its last 11 regular-season games and earn a berth in the Stanley Cup Playoffs.



Monday, Dec. 16 at St. Louis Blues
Enterprise Center, 6 p.m. MT, TV: Altitude, Radio: 92.5 FM

The Avalanche begins a two-game, Central Division road trip against the St. Louis Blues. It's the second of five matchups between the conference opponents and the last meeting in St. Louis, as the remaining three games of the season series will be played in Denver.

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Day	Date	Location	Time
Wednesday	Dec. 11	Morning skate at Pepsi Center	10:30 a.m.
		Game #31 vs. Philadelphia Flyers	7:30 p.m.
Thursday	Dec. 12	Practice at Family Sports	12 p.m.
Friday	Dec. 13	Morning skate at Pepsi Center	10:30 a.m.
		Game #32 vs. New Jersey Devils	7 p.m.
Saturday	Dec. 14	No practice	
Sunday	Dec. 15	Practice at Family Sports	11 a.m.

*All practice dates/times are subject to change, all times mountain

CENTRAL DIVISION STANDINGS

TEAM	GP	W	L	OT	PTS
St. Louis Blues	31	18	7	6	42
Colorado Avalanche	30	19	8	3	41
Winnipeg Jets	30	18	10	2	38
Dallas Stars	31	17	11	3	37
Minnesota Wild	30	14	12	4	32
Nashville Predators	28	13	10	5	31
Chicago Blackhawks	30	12	12	6	30

AVALANCHE LEADERS

Category	Player	No.
Goals	Nathan MacKinnon	19
Assists	Nathan MacKinnon	28
Points	Nathan MacKinnon	47
Power-Play Goals	Nathan MacKinnon	7
Shorthanded Goals	Matt Calvert	2
Penalty Minutes	Nikita Zadorov	43
Time on Ice/Game	Erik Johnson	22:12
Game-Winning Goals	Andre Burakovsky	3
	Cale Makar	3
Goals-Against Average	Pavel Francouz	2.50
Save Percentage	Pavel Francouz	.923

PLAYER SPOTLIGHT

Valeri Nichushkin

Position: Right Wing
Height: 6'4"
Weight: 210 lbs.
Shoots: Left
Born: March 4, 1995
Birthplace: Chelyabinsk, Russia



Nichushkin has a goal in consecutive games for the first time since Feb. 5-8, 2014 and has registered six points (5g, 1a) in his last eight contests. Signed by the Avalanche as a free agent on Aug. 19, Nichushkin has notched all five of his markers on the season in Colorado's last eight outings and ranks second on the team in goals behind Nathan MacKinnon's six in that span.