



POSTGAME NOTES & QUOTES

COLORADO AVALANCHE 3, NEW YORK ISLANDERS 1

FEBRUARY 19, 2020

First Star

Cale Makar (2a)

Second Star

Joonas Donskoi (1g)

Third Star

Pavel Francouz (27 svcs)

TEAM STATS

Avalanche

Shots: 29

Power Play: 0-4

Penalty Kill: 3-3

Faceoffs: 60%

New York

Shots: 28

Power Play: 0-3

Penalty Kill: 4-4

Faceoffs: 40%

Avalanche Schedule

Thursday, Feb. 20

No practice

Team flight to Anaheim

TEAM NOTES

The Avalanche closed out its five-game homestand, finishing 2-2-1 on the home stay. Colorado has collected points in 12 of its last 15 contests (9-3-3) and is 9-3-1 over its last 13 outings.

Tonight's game was the last of a two-game season series between the Avs and the Islanders. The Avalanche finished 1-1-0 against New York, as each team won on home ice.

Colorado is now 17-6-4 against the Eastern Conference this season.

INDIVIDUAL NOTES

Cale Makar notched two assists to bring his season total to 33, making him the new franchise leader in assists by a rookie defenseman. Makar surpassed Bruce Bell's record from the 1984-85 season with Quebec. He now holds the franchise records for goals (12), assists (33) and points (45) by a first-year defenseman.

Nathan MacKinnon finished with two assists and now has 51 helpers this season, the third straight campaign he has reached the 50-assist threshold. Only two other Colorado players, Joe Sakic (1998-2002 and 2003-07) and Peter Forsberg (1995-99), have recorded 50+ assists in three consecutive seasons.

MacKinnon's two assists bring his career total to 298, moving him into a tie with Paul Stastny for ninth place in franchise history and fifth in Avalanche history in assists.

Joonas Donskoi picked up his 15th goal of the season to reach a new career high and eclipse his previous best of 14, achieved in each of the last two campaigns with San Jose.

Andre Burakovsky scored his 20th goal of the season to reach the 20-goal mark for the first time in his career. His tally stood as the game winner for his sixth game-winning goal of the season, a team high and tied for seventh in the league. Burakovsky's six game winners is also a new career high, surpassing his previous best of five during the 2017-18 season with Washington.

Martin Kaut made his NHL debut and finished with two hits in 7:47 of ice time.



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QUOTES

Colorado D Cale Makar

On The Playoff Race: "I mean, you love competition. Nobody's in this game if you don't like it. Obviously we're all close to the top there and it's going to just depend on who separates themselves in this next little bit."

On The Calder Trophy Race: "I don't pay attention to it at all, it's something that's never on my mind. I don't really follow any of that stuff. The way that I keep telling people is that individual success will come with team success. You see Nate (Colorado C Nathan MacKinnon), he should be the frontrunner for the Hart [Trophy] this year. As long as our team keeps doing well he's going to keep doing well."

Colorado G Pavel Francouz

On Almost Getting A Shutout: "I felt that they were playing for me too. Unfortunately we got scored on with two minutes left, but it doesn't mean anything. I'm really happy we won and that's the most important thing."

On Colorado RW Martin Kaut: "I think he played really well. It was his first NHL game and he played great defensively and offensively as well. He didn't [make] any mistakes so I'm really proud of him."

Colorado RW Martin Kaut

On Playing With Colorado G Pavel Francouz: "We played together on the national team, but this is different, right? We just enjoy it and Frankie should have a shutout right, but they score so that sucks for him but [we] won."

On His NHL Debut: "I just look at my stall and my helmet was in here so I say, 'ok guys' and just go on the ice. It was unbelievable for me, this moment."

New York Islanders LW Anders Lee

On The Road Trip: "I think we've got our backs against the wall a little bit here. It's been a tough stretch and a brutal road trip, but none of this is meant to be easy. You're not going to just come out of it with a half effort or anything like that and I think moving forward here we just have to keep our heads, stick together, and right the ship when we get home back in front of our fans and get some energy from them and figure this out. It's just been a tough trip that we weren't able to right. We'll think about it tonight, think about it on the flight tomorrow, but we have to move on and stick together. This is a close-knit room; there's no give up or anything like that. We're fighting until the end and this has just been a brutal four-game stretch and we're having a tough time with it. That's what makes everything that much more rewarding when you come out of it and that's what we're going to do."

On Overcoming Adversity: "I think you can choose to handle adversity. You can let it take over you, you can let it get into your head, you can let it bring you down, or you can let it fuel you. You can be more determined by it, you can be inspired by it, and that's how you grow as a person and as a team. I don't think any of this tough stretch right here is going to be the one that knocks us down. That's not who we are as a group, that's not who we are as the New York Islanders, and that's why we're looking forward to Friday to figure it all out. You've got to choose how you're going to let the adversity affect you and I think if we handle it the right way, things will be alright."



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New York Islanders RW Josh Bailey

On Playing Colorado: “They’ve got a great team. I think it was much like the last game we played; it was pretty tight. We just fell short. I think with it being a couple in a row now it stings, obviously, but the season is far from over. I think you’ve got to have the right mindset as a group, and we will.”

On Veterans Stepping Up: “You’ve got to use it as a way to make you stronger as a group. No question about it, I think it falls on the older guys and the leadership first and foremost. We need to do a better job, across the board we all need to step up. I’ve got a lot of faith in this team, I think we all do and we’ll find a way to right this.”