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GAME RECAP

Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2024 - Honda Center
10-11-3, 23 pts.

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	GOALS					SHOTS					POWER PLAYS	
	1	2	3	OT	TOTAL	1	2	3	OT	TOTAL	G-OPP	%
DUCKS	0	1	0	-	1	7	7	6	-	20	0-1	0.0
VEGAS	1	1	2	-	4	12	11	10	-	33	0-2	0.0

ANAHEIM DUCKS POSTGAME NOTES

The Anaheim Ducks fell 4-1 to the Vegas Golden Knights Wednesday evening at Honda Center. Despite the loss, Anaheim is 6-4-1 the last 11 games. Anaheim negated both Vegas power plays, improving to 20-of-21 on the penalty kill the last eight games (95.2%).

JACKSON LACOMBE scored his second goal in as many games (2-0=2) at 18:01 of the second period, his first time recording goals in consecutive contests. He now co-leads Anaheim blueliners in goals (4) and ranks tied for second in scoring among club defensemen (4-2=6).

CUTTER GAUTHIER earned the primary assist on LaCombe's goal, his eighth helper of the season to rank second among club skaters in assists and tied for fourth in scoring (3-8=11). He also ranks tied for fifth among league rookies in assists and sixth in points.

MASON MCTAVISH tallied his eighth assist of the campaign to rank tied for second among Anaheim leaders. He now sits two points shy of 100 in his career (40-58=98 in 170 GP).

JOHN GIBSON stopped 30 shots in his seventh appearance of 2024-25 (4-2-1).

Tonight's attendance was 13,188. Anaheim will conclude a four-game homestand Friday, Dec. 6 vs. the Minnesota Wild at Honda Center (7 p.m. PT).



ANAHEIM DUCKS POSTGAME QUOTES

CAM FOWLER

On his first game back in the lineup after an 11-game absence

Pretty good, actually. I mean it is always hard getting the first one out of the way after an extended amount of time off, so just tried to keep it as simple as possible. But, you know, my lungs and my conditioning felt pretty good, so I was happy about that

On the team trying to maintain energy after Trevor Zegras' injury

I think, you know, unfortunately injuries are a part of hockey. So I think a lot of us that have been around for a while, we have seen our fair share of injuries and probably had our fair share as well. So it is just part of the game and you just have to lift the spirits up. You know, first and foremost talk to the guy that is injured, check in on him. But then it just has to be the next man up mentality and guys will get more opportunities, but you just have to support one another and just try to lift the spirits the best you can. It is going to be a hard thing to do, but the game is going to go on and you have to find a way to get a win.

JACKSON LACOMBE

On the difficulty of generating chances against Vegas

I think it was hard keeping the puck in the zone. They did a good job breaking it out on us. We just got to be harder in getting pucks deep and recovering pucks. I didn't think we got a lot of possession time, so I think we just got to work on that.

On having Cam Fowler back in the lineup

It's great. Obviously, we miss having him out. Like I said, he's a great leader and a great player, so I thought he did a great job out there. It was great to have him back.

HEAD COACH GREG CRONIN

On next man up mentality

We know the team now. It's 24 games into the year and on this run we've been on, it's been 6-3-1. There has been a pace that we have played that we've dictated a lot of the paces in the game. Half of the first period, I didn't see the same pace we should have play with. For whatever reason, we didn't have the same speed to our game. It came and gone in Seattle and there were times in the Buffalo game where it came and went. Tonight, I didn't see the high end pace that we've been playing with over the last 10 games.

On the game following Trevor Zegras' injury

What happens is you're down a forward and you rotate different bodies. The chemistry that you had through your lines, which have been consistent for a couple games, gets disrupted but it happens. It's hockey and guys get hurt. I thought that whatever chances we did generate, we surprisingly had some sneaky chances in the second period that went down right in front of the net. We didn't score. They scored on their chances, let's be honest, we gave them two goals. We gave them 120 foot two-on-ones on poor decisions at the offensive blueline. They're one of the highest scoring percentage teams as far as executing shots with goals. We can't give them those chances. Credit to them, they played back-to-back games and I thought they won a lot of puck battles and were able to sustain a lot of offensive zone time. I wouldn't be surprised at the end of the game if the chances were similar, but I think they had higher quality chances.



VEGAS GOLDEN KNIGHTS POSTGAME QUOTES

ALEXANDER HOLTZ

On Tanner Pearson's assist on his goal

It was really good. I was trying to get the puck to him early and just stay in the fight. He was able to find me in a really good spot on an open net.

On winning both games of the back-to-back

I think we've been playing really good hockey, really good winning hockey. Obviously nice to get out with two wins here and it's going to be nice to get back home and play at the fortress again.

ILYA SAMSONOV

On his performance tonight

Two points. Really important for me. Tough last night for me in Vegas and last couple of days, it was a real hard practice. I needed (to get) back on track. I think it's good to get two points and just continue to work on my game.

On what he has been working on in practice

Yeah, like everything. You know, after a game like that, you need to be confident with everything. It was a really hard talk with the goalie coach and watched a lot of videos and I would just say the reset.

HEAD COACH BRUCE CASSIDY

On allowing one goal in the back-to-back games

Yeah, that's good. I think we got to get to that game a little more often. It's not going to happen all the time, but something we wanted to focus on coming out of training camp. I don't think we've hit that level defensively yet, but I thought today was one of our better ones again. Last night, it was the third period we kind of bent but didn't break. I thought we had a better third period tonight, able to extend the lead and really limit their damage. Lot of that's puck management. Making them go 200 feet. That way, you get to use everybody and no one is fatigued. I thought we checked better too, over top of people. We did that well last night, but even better tonight. I'm not sure there were odd-man rushes at all, so that's always a good thing.

On Ilya Samsonov's bounce back performance

He needed it, right? Listen, he's a good pro, he's been in the league and you're going to have games like that or stretches. He probably needs to get a couple under his belt to feel good about his game, so that's one. Good on him. He's gotten a few of the back-to-back games, which is not always ideal, but sometimes that's what the hand you're dealt and I thought he was solid. We were good in front of him, but he was there when we needed him.