

Jan. 13, 2024**vs. Seattle Kraken (18-14-9, 45 pts.), Nationwide Arena****Game No. 43 (13-20-9, 35 pts.)****Home Game No. 24 (8-11-4, 20 pts.)**

The Blue Jackets Press Box website, which includes game notes, stats, releases and video/audio clips as well as the 2023-24 Media Guide can be accessed at bluejackets.com/pressbox. Follow @BlueJacketsPR on Twitter for comprehensive information and updates on the team.

THE LAST GAME: JAN. 9, 2024 – CBJ 0 at WPG 5**CBJ Goal Scorers:****WPG Goal Scorers:** Dillon (6), Perfetti (13), Morrissey (7), Perfetti (14), PP – Vilardi (9)**Goalies:** CBJ – Tarasov (18/23; 60:00); WPG – Hellebuyck (29/29; 60:00)**CBJ PP:** 0/3; **PK:** 2/3 | **Shots:** CBJ: 29 / WPG: 23**3 Stars:** 1. Hellebuyck, WPG; 2. Perfetti, WPG; 3. Dillon, WPG

Noteworthy: CBJ had their 5-game road points streak (3-0-2) snapped... WPG scored 1 goal in the 1st period (3:12), 2 goals in the 2nd (10:50; 14:03) and 3rd (3:34; 9:29)... Bemstrom led the team in shots with 4... Olivier led the club in hits with 5 (15 total as team)... Gudbranson and Provorov led the team in blocked shots with 3 each (21 total as club)... Roslovic won 8-of-10 faceoffs (80.0 pct.).

OhioHEALTH INJURY REPORT

Jenner (fractured jaw); Placed on IR retroactive to Dec. 8; Approx. 6 Weeks (13 games)

Laine (clavicle fracture); Placed on IR retroactive to Dec. 14; Approx. 6 Weeks (11 games)

Blankenburg (upper body) Placed on IR retroactive to Dec. 19; Day-to-Day (9 games)

Kuraly (abdominal injury); Placed on IR retroactive to Dec. 23; Approx. 2-4 Weeks (7 games)

Werenski (ankle); Placed on IR on Dec. 29; Approx. 4-to-6 Weeks (6 games)

TOTAL MAN GAMES LOST: 160**RECENT TRANSACTIONS**

Jan. 6 Activated Boqvist off Injured Reserve

Jan. 5 Assigned Christiansen to Cleveland (AHL)

Dec. 30 Placed Kuraly (abdominal) on Injured Reserve retroactive to Dec. 23 and recalled Christiansen from Cleveland (AHL)

Dec. 29 Placed Werenski (ankle) on Injured Reserve and activated Roslovic off Injured Reserve

Dec. 23 Activated Severson off Injured Reserve and placed Blankenburg (upper body) on Injured Reserve retroactive to Dec. 19

Dec. 18 Placed Laine on Injured Reserve (retro to Dec. 14) and added Gaunce to roster on emergency recall from Cleveland (AHL)

Dec. 14 Activated Merzlikins off Injured Reserve

Dec. 11 Recalled Tarasov from Cleveland (AHL) and assigned Greaves to Cleveland (AHL)

Dec. 10 Activated Sillinger off Injured Reserve

Dec. 9 Placed Jenner on Injured Reserve (fractured jaw)

UPCOMING SCHEDULE (all times ET)

Jan. 14 – 12pm Practice (Nationwide Arena) | Jan. 15 – 1pm vs. Vancouver | Jan. 16 – No Practice

TODAY'S GAME BROADCAST INFO

7pm ET | Bally Sports Ohio | 97.1 The Fan

AGAINST THE KRAKEN**2023-24 Series:** 0-0-0 (0-0-0 vs. SEA)**2022-23 Series:** 0-2-0 (0-1-0 vs. SEA)**All-Time Series:** 2-2-0 (1-1-0 vs. SEA)**Last 10 (Overall | Home):** 2-2-0 | 1-1-0**All-Time GF/GA:** 10/12**All-Time SF/SA:** 101/118**All-Time PP:** 1-of-8**All-Time PK:** 5-of-8**THE LAST GAME VS. SEA: MAR. 3, 2023 – CBJ 2 vs. SEA 4****CBJ Goal Scorers:** PP – Laine (18), Boqvist (3)**SEA Goal Scorers:** PP – McCann (30), Eberle (14), PP – Wennberg (11), EN – Tanev (12)**Goalies:** CBJ – Merzlikins (31/34; 59:08); SEA – Grubauer (21/23; 60:00)**CBJ PP:** 1/4; **PK:** 2/4 | **Shots:** CBJ: 23 / SEA: 35**3 Stars:** 1. Wennberg, SEA; 2. Boqvist, CBJ; 3. McCann, SEA

Noteworthy: CBJ had their 3-game points streak snapped (2-0-1)... CBJ scored the 1st goal of the game 10:18 into the 2nd period, but SEA followed up with 2 goals in the 2nd... CBJ scored 4:53 into the 3rd period to tie the game at 2 but SEA scored final 2 goals to win... Laine notched his 12th multi-point effort of the season (1-1-2), giving him points in 2-straight games (1-2-3)... Boqvist recorded his 3rd multi-point contest of the campaign (1-1-2)... Gaudreau tallied his team-leading 40th assist of the season, becoming the 13th different player in club history to do so in a single season... Gudbranson registered his 11th assist of the campaign, tying his single-season career high in assists (78 GP with CGY in 2021-22).

SEASON SERIES LEFT: Jan. 28 at SEA

CBJ/SEA CONNECTIONS

SEA: Bjorkstrand was drafted 89th overall in the 2013 NHL Draft and recorded 111-123-234 in 382 games from 2015-22... Wennberg was drafted 14th overall in the 2013 NHL Draft by CBJ and posted 40-161-201 in 415 games from 2014-20.

NOTED (Team Highlights vs. SEA)

Each team has swept a season series with CBJ winning 2 OT games in the first 2 meetings in 2021-22 and Seattle picking up 2 wins in 2022-23... The winning team has recorded 4+ goals in 2 of the last 3 meetings of the series and 3+ in each of the past 3 contests...

There are no shutouts, hat tricks or penalty shots in the all-time series... Most goals scored vs. SEA: 2 – 2x (MR: 3/3/23)... Most goals allowed vs. SEA: 4 (3/3/23).

SCORING NOTABLES vs. SEA

- Boqvist – 1-1-2 in 2 career GP, recording a multi-point game (1-1-2) in the most recent meeting on Mar. 3, 2023
- Gaudreau – 2-4-6 in 6 career GP, including assists in his last 2 home contests against the club (0-3-3)
- Provorov – 1-2-3 in 3 of 4 career GP with points in each of his last 3 games against the Kraken
- Roslovic – 1-2-3 in 4 career GP, including points in two of his last 3 outings (1-2-3)
- Severson – 3-0-3 in 4 career GP with goals in each of his 1st 3 contests against the team

HOW CBJ WERE BUILT (Active: 23, Injured Reserve: 5)

Drafted (14): Bemstrom, Chinakhov, Fantilli, Jenner (IR), Jiricek, Johnson, Marchenko, Merzlikins, Peeke, Sillinger, Tarasov, Texier, Voronkov, Werenski (IR)

Trade (7): Bean, Boqvist, Laine (IR), Olivier, Provorov, Roslovic, Severson

Free Agent (6): Blankenburg (IR), Danforth, Gaudreau, Gaunce, Gudbranson, Kuraly (IR)

Waivers (1): Martin

BLUE JACKETS NOTES

KICKING OFF THE NEW YEAR AT HOME

The Blue Jackets have recorded points in five of the last seven (2-2-3) and 14 of the last 23 games (9-9-5) dating back to Nov. 22, following a 5-0 loss at Winnipeg on Tuesday. The club had its season-high five-game points streak on the road dating back to Dec. 14 (3-0-2) snapped on Tuesday. CBJ, who are 5-5-3 in the last 13 games at home, play their next three games at home. The Jackets kick off 2024 playing five-of-seven contests at Nationwide Arena between Jan. 2-19 before concluding the month with a five-game road trip at Edmonton, Calgary, Vancouver, Seattle and St. Louis from Jan. 23-30.

PLAYING EXTRA

Columbus has played past regulation in six of the last nine contests dating back to Dec. 21 vs. Washington. The club played past regulation six times (2-4) over an eight-game stretch from Dec. 21-Jan. 6. The last time the club played in at least six overtimes/shootouts over an eight-game stretch was when it played six-in-seven from Mar. 11-25, 2021. CBJ have had 13 of their games decided after regulation this season, tied for the fifth-most in the NHL.

BLOCK IT LIKE IT'S HOT

Columbus blocked 21 shots on Tuesday at Winnipeg and has been credited with 575 blocked shots over the past 31 games dating back to Nov. 6. The Blue Jackets set a franchise record with 38 blocked shots on Dec. 14 at Toronto. The team ranks third in the NHL in total blocked shots (784) and in blocked shots-per-60 minutes (18.38). Defenseman **Erik Gudbranson** leads the team and ranks 11th in the league in blocked shots in 2023-24 with 102.

MAKING THEIR MARK

CBJ's 2023-24 rookie class has combined for 19-34-53 in 42 games this season and ranks second in the league among teams' rookies in goals, assists and points. Columbus is one of two teams (also MIN) to have two rookies with 18 or more points in 2023-24 (Fantilli-24, Voronkov-20). The class currently consists of 19-year-old center **Adam Fantilli**, 20-year-old defenseman **David Jiricek**, as well as 23-year-old forward **Dmitri Voronkov**. Fantilli has posted 2-3-5 in the last 8 games, including a career-high four-game points streak (2-2-4) from Dec. 23-30. He has also registered points in seven of the past 11 contests (3-5-8). The 2023 third overall pick has recorded 11-13-24 in 42 appearances to rank second-T among NHL rookies in points, third in goals and sixth-T in assists. Voronkov, meanwhile, has recorded 1-2-3 in his past six games and has registered 2-6-8 in his last 14 contests. With 7-13-20 in 36 appearances he ranks sixth-T among NHL rookies in assists and points and seventh-T in goals. Jiricek ranks fourth among league rookie blueliners in assists and fifth in points with 1-8-9 in 36 games.

FROM THE BLUE LINE

CBJ blueliners have posted 10-50-60 in the past 26 contests and 15-82-97 in 42 games this season to rank fourth among NHL defensive units in assists and eighth in points, as well as lead the league in assists percentage (39.6 pct.) and rank fourth in points percentage (29.2 pct.) recorded by its defense. Defenseman **Ivan Provorov** has tallied 0-6-6 in his past 12 games, while ranking second on the team in assists, blocked shots and time on ice with 2-19-21 and 82 blocked shots on 22:59 TOI in 42 contests. **Damon Severson**, who returned to action on Dec. 30 after missing 15 games due to an oblique injury suffered on Nov. 19, has collected points in three of the past six games (2-2-4). He has recorded 4-3-7 with two multi-point efforts over his last 11 outings and leads club defensemen in goals with 5-7-12 in 27 appearances this season.

HATS OFF TO SILLINGER

Forward **Cole Sillinger** scored all three of the Blue Jackets goals last Saturday vs. Minnesota, notching his second career hat trick (also Mar. 13, 2022 vs. Vegas) with 3-0-3 and becoming the first player in Blue Jackets history to record multiple three-goal outings before his 21st birthday. His hat trick marks Columbus' third hat trick of the season, joining C **Boone Jenner** (Oct. 14 vs. NY Rangers) and RW **Kirill Marchenko** (Dec. 19 at Buffalo). The 2021 first round pick (12th overall) has recorded 4-1-5 in the past six games and 6-2-8 with two multi-point efforts and a +7 plus/minus rating over the last 10 contests (overall, 7-10-17 in 37 GP).

KIRILL THE THRILL

Forward **Kirill Marchenko** has recorded 4-1-5 in his past 11 games and 9-4-13 in his last 23 contests to lead the club in goals (tied) with 13-9-22 in 40 appearances this season. The Barnaul, Russia native has already set a new career high in assists and is three points shy from tying his career high in points after posting 21-4-25 in 59 contests during his 2022-23 rookie campaign. Marchenko (34 goals in 99 GP) can tie Rick Nash for the most goals in franchise history through his first 100 career NHL games with a goal on Saturday against Seattle. He scored three consecutive goals on Dec. 19 at Buffalo in a span of 8:07 to become the second Blue Jackets player with a natural hat trick this season, joining Boone Jenner (Oct. 14). It marked the fastest natural hat trick and second-fastest hat trick overall in franchise history (Jeff Carter; 3 goals in a span of 3:18 on Dec. 22, 2011 at NSH). Marchenko's second and third tallies were scored in an 18-second span, marking the fastest two goals by one player in franchise history, eclipsing the previous mark set by Cam Atkinson (0:31 on Oct. 27, 2018). The 2023-24 season (Marchenko and Jenner) marks the third campaign in franchise history where multiple players scored a natural hat trick, following 2010-11 (Matt Calvert and Rick Nash) and 2002-03 (Geoff Sanderson and Ray Whitney).

CHINNY CHINNY BANG BANG

Forward **Yegor Chinakhov** has registered 7-5-12 in the last 14 games. During the stretch, he set career highs with a four-game goal streak from Dec. 8-16 and six-game points streak from Dec. 8-21 (6-4-10). He has tallied 9-6-15, eight even-strength goals and four multi-point games in the past 20 outings. At age 22, he is the youngest Blue Jackets player since 2014-15 to record a goal streak of at least four games – Ryan Johansen (5 GP at age 22) and Boone Jenner (4 GP at age 21) both did so that season. With 10-7-17 in 31 games, he has set a new single-season career high in goals (previously seven goals in 62 GP in 2021-22). The Omsk, Russia native was drafted by Columbus in the first round, 21st overall at the 2020 NHL Draft.

JOHNNY BE GOOD

Johnny Gaudreau has registered 3-7-10 in the last 12 games, including notching a season-high five-game points streak from Dec. 14-23 (2-5-7). He notched his second three-point effort of the season on Dec. 29 vs. Toronto with the overtime winner and two assists. He has registered 6-13-19 with five multi-point outings in his last 25 contests since Nov. 18 after collecting 1-5-6 in the first 17 outings of the campaign. He leads the team in primary assists (15) and points (tied) and ranks third in overall assists with 7-18-25 in 42 appearances this season. The eight-time NHL All-Star recorded his 700th career point with an assist on Dec. 16 to become the second-fastest active U.S.-born player to 700 points (714 GP), behind Patrick Kane (696 GP) and is one of eight players overall born in the U.S. to reach the milestone in fewer than 720 games.

ALL-STAR BOONE JENNER

It was announced on Jan. 4 that Blue Jackets' captain **Boone Jenner** has been selected to participate in the 2024 NHL All-Star Game at Scotiabank Arena in Toronto on February 3. This is the first All-Star Game selection for Jenner, who is playing in his 11th NHL season with the Blue Jackets. The 30-year-old forward, who suffered a fractured jaw on Dec. 8 and is expected to miss six weeks, has registered points in seven of his last 12 games (6-3-9). He leads the team in goals (tied) and even-strength goals with 13-5-18 and 10 ES goals in 29 contests and ranked eighth-T in the NHL in even-strength goals and 15th-T in goals at the time of his injury against the Blues. He skated in his 675th career game on Nov. 18 at Washington, surpassing LW Rick Nash (674) and becoming the franchise's all-time leader in games played. Jenner has served in a leadership role with CBJ since 2015, first as an alternate captain (2015-21) prior to being named as the team's captain before the 2021-22 season. Selected in the second round, 37th overall, at the 2011 NHL Draft, the Dorchester, Ontario has posted 183-164-347 in 686 career games over 11 seasons since making his league debut in 2013-14 to rank third all-time in franchise history in goals and points.

Z ALSO SETS CBJ RECORDS

Zach Werenski, who is expected to miss four-to-six weeks with an ankle injury suffered on Dec. 27 at New Jersey, recorded assists in seven of his last 13 games (0-10-10) and 0-14-14 in his past 17 contests. He leads the club in assists and points (tied) with 1-24-25 in 34 games this season. He has notched 27 career multi-assist games, which is tied for the most by a Blue Jackets defenseman (Seth Jones). He ranked seventh-T among league blueliners in assists and third-T among all NHL skaters in assists recorded at even-strength (19), trailing only Filip Hronek and Quinn Hughes (20) prior to missing his first game on Dec. 29 vs. Toronto. He passed Seth Jones (50-173-223, 381 GP) for the most career assists by a defenseman in franchise history with his 174th career assist on Nov. 14 vs. Pittsburgh. The 26-year-old two-time NHL All-Star, who was selected eighth overall at the 2015 NHL Draft, also owns the Blue Jackets' career franchise record for goals and points by a defenseman with 80-190-270 in 450 games since making his NHL debut in 2016-17.

UP IN CLEVELAND

Columbus' AHL affiliate, the Cleveland Monsters, moved to 9-3-0 in the last 12 games, following a 5-4 loss to Utica on Friday. The Monsters lead the North Division with a 23-10-1 record (.691 pts. pct.). The club has four members headed to the AHL All-Star Classic in San Jose in February. Head Coach Trent Vogelhuber was named as the North Division's coach for the upcoming All-Star Classic, while D Jake Christiansen, RW Trey Fix-Wolansky and G Jet Greaves will also represent the Monsters. Fix-Wolansky, who became the franchise's all-time leader in goals, assists and points with 72-99-171 in 196 career games throughout this season, has recorded a point in 22 of his 30 games this season to rank seventh-T in the AHL in points with 12-20-32 in 30 games. Christiansen ranks seventh-T among AHL blueliners in points with 6-18-24 in 30 outings. Greaves leads the AHL in wins with a 17-5-0 record, 2.79 GAA and .909 SV% in 22 games. The Monsters are back in action on Saturday as they visit the Syracuse Crunch.

FOUR CBJ PROSPECTS COMPETED AT WORLD JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

Four Blue Jackets prospects represented their countries at the 2024 IIHF World Junior Championships held in Gothenburg, Sweden from Dec. 26-Jan. 5. Defenseman **Denton Mateychuk** (1st round, 12th overall) and forward **Jordan Dumais** (3rd round, 96th overall) both skated for Canada, who fell 3-2 to Czechia on Jan. 2nd in the quarterfinals. Mateychuk was named a Top-3 player for the country after posting 0-4-4 in five games, while Dumais finished with 1-1-2 in five appearances. 2023 draft pick forward **Oiva Keskinen** (7th round, 194th overall) skated for Finland, who fell 8-5 to Czechia in the bronze medal game on January 5th. Keskinen posted 2-3-5 in seven games. Fellow 2023 draft pick forward **Gavin Brindley** (2nd round, 34th overall) and the United States captured gold with a 6-2 victory over Sweden on Friday. Brindley was named a Top-3 player for Team USA after finishing third-T in the tournament in goals and fourth-T in points with 6-4-10 in seven contests.

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

- Jan. 13 – Provorov (27)
- Jan. 20 – Kuraly (31)
- Jan. 29 – Roslovic (27)

UPCOMING MILESTONES

- Bemstrom is 1 game from 200 for his NHL career (30-38-68, 199 GP)
- Boqvist is 11 games from 200 for his NHL career (22-58-80, 189 GP)
- Danforth is 7 games from 100 for his NHL career (21-14-35, 93 GP)
- Gaudreau is 1 point from 100 for his CBJ career (28-71-99, 122 GP)
- Marchenko is 1 game from 100 for his NHL career (34-13-47, 99 GP)
- Roslovic is 1 point from 200 for his NHL career (73-126-199, 406 GP)
- Werenski is 10 assists from 200 for his NHL career (80-190-270, 450 GP)

RECENT MILESTONES

- Martin played in his 50th career NHL game on 12/29/23 vs. TOR
- Gaudreau notched his 700th career NHL point (assist) on 12/16/23 vs. NJD
- Greaves notched his 1st career NHL win on 12/8/23 vs. STL
- Johnson skated in his 100th career NHL game on 12/7/23 at NYI
- Peeke skated in his 200th career NHL game on 12/5/23 vs. LAK

2023-24 TEAM QUICK HITS

- CBJ play 9-of-10 games from Jan. 6-30 against Western Conference opponents
- CBJ have scored 74 goals over the last 23 games to rank 13th-T in the NHL in goals-per-game since Nov. 22 (3.22)
- CBJ have been held to less than 2 goals in just 3 of their past 16 contests since Dec. 5
- CBJ rank 5th-T in the NHL with 93 goals scored at 5-on-5 play this season.
- CBJ have scored the 1st goal of the game in 12 of the last 23 contests
- CBJ have played in 19 1-goal games this season (5-5-9), including 7 of the last 11 contests, ranking the 8th-T in the NHL in one-goal games while another 7 games were decided by 2 goals (with empty net goals)
- CBJ rank 7th-T in the NHL with 41 1st period goals this season and 10th-T with 46 2nd period goals
- CBJ play their 11th (2-6-2) of 21 Sat. games when they host the Kraken– the game will be the final of 5-straight Sat. contests for the club through Jan. 13 with 4 played at NWA
- CBJ began the season with players from 7 different countries (Canada, Finland, France, Latvia, Russia, Sweden and the United States)
- CBJ's average age to start the campaign was 25.9, tied for the 3rd-youngest team in the league (ARI and NJD) and trailing only BUF (25.0) and OTT (25.7)

2023-24 PLAYER QUICK HITS

- Bean has recorded points in 2 of the last 3 contests (1-1-2) and has posted 2-2-4 in his last 7 games
- Danforth, who notched a career-high 4-game points streak (2-2-4) from Dec. 23-30, has registered 3-4-7 in the last 14 games and has already set single-season career highs in assists and points with 9-9-18 in 42 outings this season
- Gaunce scored his 1st goal of the season on Dec. 29. and has points in 2 of his last 4 games (1-1-2; overall, 1-2-3 in 7 appearances)
- Johnson has recorded 5-5-10 with 3 multi-point efforts in the past 15 games
- Laine, who suffered a fractured clavicle on Dec. 14 vs. TOR and is expected to miss 6 weeks, recorded points in 5 of his last 6 games (3-2-5; overall 6-3-9 in 18 GP); in his 4th season with CBJ, he has racked up nearly a point-per-game pace since 2021-22 with 54-63-117 in 129 games and his .91 points per game during that span compares to .77 in his first five NHL campaigns (150-121-271 in 351 games)
- Peeke notched a career-high 3-game points/assists streak (0-3-3) from Dec. 14-19

2023-24 LEADERS

- Kuraly (74), Danforth (62) and Olivier (53) lead CBJ in hits
- Gudbranson (102), Provorov (82) and Bean (60) lead CBJ in blocked shots
- Werenski (24:04), Provorov (22:59) and Severson (21:11) lead CBJ in TOI/GP
- Jenner (2), Bemstrom (1), Chinakhov (1) Johnson (1), Marchenko (1), Severson (1) and Sillinger (1) lead CBJ in multi-goal GP
- Gaudreau (4), Werenski (4), Provorov (3), Boqvist (2), Gudbranson (2) and Severson (2) lead CBJ in multi-assist GP
- Gaudreau (6), Werenski (5), Chinakhov (4), Jenner (4) and Marchenko (4) lead CBJ in multi-point GP

CBJ 2023-24 TEAM GAME HIGHS

GOALS: 9 (12/19 at BUF)... **GOALS AGAINST:** 7 (12/7 at NYI)... **PPG:** 2 – 2x (MR: 12/1 vs. OTT)... **PPGA:** 2 – 5x (MR: 1/6 vs. MIN)...
SHOTS: 54 (10/21 at MIN)... **SHOTS AGAINST:** 48 (12/14 at TOR)... **PIM:** 39 (12/10 vs. FLA)... **HITS:** 30 (12/14 at TOR)... **FOW:** 40 (10/21 at MIN)... **BKS:** 38 (12/14 at TOR)

CBJ 2023-24 PLAYER GAME HIGHS

GOALS: 3 – 3x, MR: Sillinger (1/6 vs. MIN)... **ASSISTS:** 4, Werenski (11/22 vs. CHI)... **POINTS:** 4, Werenski (11/22 vs. CHI)... **HITS:** 7, Peeke (12/14 at TOR)... **BKS:** 8, Gudbranson (10/21 at MIN)... **PLUS/MINUS RATING:** +5, Werenski (11/22 vs. CHI)... **SOG:** 10, Fantilli (11/16 vs. ARI)... **TOI:** 30:26 – Werenski (12/3 at BOS)... **SAVES:** 43, Merzlikins (12/14 at TOR, 48 shots)