

# POSTGAME QUOTES

D A L L A S S T A R S C O M M U N I C A T I O N S

Monday, Dec. 18, 2023

**Dallas Stars 4, Seattle Kraken 3 (OT)**

[Game Summary](#) | [Event Summary](#)

## DALLAS STARS

### **Stars Head Coach Pete DeBoer**

#### *On tonight's game*

"We played a good game. For three in four nights, we ran out of a little bit of gas in the third, but we did a lot of good things tonight. [Scott Wedgewood] was good again. If we had cashed in on the power play, we probably aren't in overtime in the third. We had some opportunities to really put that game away, but credit to their penalty kill, they did a good job."

#### *On the Stars' power play*

"We've had a really hot power play lately and have been really good at attacking the interior of the ice. [Seattle] did a good job. They've got some big defensemen who are hard and heavy with [Jamie] Oleksiak and [Adam] Larsson. It's hard to penetrate and we didn't do enough of that tonight."

#### *On the play of Matt Duchene*

"If he hadn't had the slow start, he might be leading the league in scoring. He's been that good and consistent. Every night he's bringing it for us, he wants the puck on his stick, and he wants to be a difference maker. He's just been fantastic."

### **Stars Forward Joe Pavelski**

#### *On the patience in tonight's overtime*

"It was good. We controlled possession and waited to get a look that we liked. We got out a change or two, and then someone's got to make a play along the way. It was a nice play by [Matt Duchene]. He had a big night for us, and it was good to see [Thomas Harley] finish it off there."

#### *On tonight's overtime win and getting the extra point*

"It's big, especially after the other night and not getting it. They definitely do go a long way – we saw that last year. If we didn't get that extra point tonight, we were going to be pretty disappointed. We felt like we played a pretty good game. We had the power play chances to put it away, and then we gave up one at the end. There was no panic, but there was an understanding that we would be letting something go if we didn't get that extra point tonight."

### **Stars Forward Matt Duchene**

#### *On the overtime session*

"I almost blew it. I lost the puck to Bjorkstrand there. He made a pretty good play, but I was kind of mad at myself – went down and [Bjorkstrand] hit the goal post. It was lucky. Thankfully, we were able to rebound there. Huge draw win by Jamie to set the whole thing up."

#### *On his first goal of the night*

"We were just patient. The puck was over on [the far] side for the most part, and [Evgenii Dadonov] and [Joe Pavelski] were both looking at me, trying to find me through, and it wasn't there. Pavelski gave a little deception and then sent it over, and finally the lane opened. He and I met eyes three or four times before that opened. When you get in those situations, it's a fine line between patience and going for it. Dadonov and Pavelski did a really good job over on that side."

### **Stars Goaltender Scott Wedgewood**

#### *On the game*

"They crash the net hard. That was in the scouting report for us. They're a net front team. They get pucks there, bodies there, and that's how you're going to score goals in this league. They tied it up in that fashion at the end of the game. I came up fine – couple of bumps and bruises, but my throat's ok, so we're good."

### *On review of the game-tying goal*

"I just didn't see the release, which sucks, because my head was pointed to the ceiling. I play through almost everything I can, but I didn't see the release. All I saw was the puck at my shoulder when my head came back to level plane and then the post off my back, and the scramble ensues. You get swimming, which is probably not my best play. I thought that's what they were reviewing, but the linesmen went over so I thought it had something to do with offsides. I didn't have any clue what that was. I was hoping it would get a little bit more of a look from the refs for an interference call, because I can't obviously be ready to make the first save no matter what happens after that, it doesn't get to the net. We won, they get an extra point out of it, but the win is obviously the nice part about it."

## **SEATTLE KRAKEN**

### **Kraken Head Coach Dave Hakstol**

#### *On Jared McCann's Status*

"I really can't tell you anything right now. He was unavailable due to a lower-body [injury] for the remainder of the game. We'll have to have a short-term answer sometime tomorrow. We should have some better information at that point in time."

#### *On Kraken's Game Plan*

"We fed them with four or five really good outnumbered opportunities in the first period and that's not the way you want to start in this building against this team for sure. We had a couple of guys tonight that didn't start on time, and it leads to some of those plays. That'd be on the negative side. The positive side is digging out of the hole and battling with a short bench and finding a way to get back in. Again, in the third period, nothing came easy, we took a couple of penalties that you would rather not be in the box for. The guys were not rattled in any way, they did the job and found a way to get through the [penalty] kill, tying it up late. The overtime is a little bit frustrating in the fact that it's been two nights in a row we should have been on the power play for too many men. That's not the case, and we know we don't ever rest on that. Really proud of the point we earned, but disappointed by not being able to get the second point in overtime."

#### *On Matty Beniers and Tomas Tatar's chemistry*

"There was a little instant chemistry there in that between those three guys [Jordan Eberle], Tomas and Matty. What you saw tonight was Matty playing with some speed and his linemates being able to find him with some of that speed from underneath. He was effective in that, coming from under with some of those opportunities. They had a good night, they worked hard, they generated some offense, and they were a big part of us being able to come back in the hockey game."

### **Kraken Forward Tomas Tatar**

#### *On his recent trade to Seattle and his first two days with the team*

"It was a tough 48 hours. A lot of stress moving, but today I felt a lot better, and I am getting used to the system a little bit. It was a big point for us. We battled back. We had a few breakdowns in the first period which costed us a few goals, but then we battled back, and we played well. We deserved a point, and in overtime we hit the post. That's how thin the line is between winning and losing, but we just have to take the positive from this game and plan for the next one."

#### *On playing with his new teammate Matty Beniers*

"He is a very smart centerman. He can distribute the puck, and [Jordan Eberle] helped us a lot today. Us three, we were close, supporting each other, and we are winning battles. It was a lot of fun to play with those two."

### **Kraken Forward Eeli Tolvanen**

#### *On the first period compared to the third period tonight*

"The first period was really sloppy. A lot of misreads. We weren't ready to play today. We gave up some odd-man rushes, some two-on-ones, and some half-breakaways. That's not a recipe against this team, but in the third period, we did a pretty good job of managing the puck and staying on it. We just kind of turned the switch and decided that these points matter. It sucks not to get two points, but it was big to get the one."

#### *On having the confidence to compete against the good teams*

"If you look at today, we had a really bad first period, and it was 2-0 for [Dallas], but we start playing our game, and it was all of a sudden 3-3. So, we know we can win these games, and we know we have to be confident and get the ones that we have to start on time."