

DALLAS STARS

19-12-0, 38 PTS (3rd in Central)

Last Game: 12/18 5-3 L vs. TOR

Next Game: 12/23 at UTA

Last 10 Games: 6-4-0

PP: 17/97 (17.5%)

PK: 74/88 (84.1%)

NEW YORK

NEW YORK RANGERS

15-15-1, 31 PTS (6th in Metropolitan)

Last Game: 12/17 0-2 L at NSH

Next Game: 12/22 vs. CAR

Last 10 Games: 3-7-0

PP: 17/80 (21.3%)

PK: 81/93 (87.1%)

DALLAS STARS VS. NEW YORK RANGERS // DEC. 20, 2024 // 7 P.M. CT // AMERICAN AIRLINES CENTER // DALLAS, TX

LAST GAME

Dallas 3 vs. Toronto 5

Goals: Steel, Dadonov, Blackwell

Goalie: Oettinger (8/12), DeSmith (6/6)

PP: 0/4 PK: 1/1 Shots: Dallas 39 – Toronto 19

Three Stars: 1. TOR – J. Woll 2. TOR – N. Robertson 3. DAL – E. Dadonov

- **Miro Heiskanen** skated a season-high 29:50 in the game, the ninth-highest time on ice total in a single game in his career.
- **Colin Blackwell** scored a goal and recorded a single-game career high six shots on goal.
- **Miro Heiskanen** recorded an assist to tie Dennis Hextall (216) for 23rd on the franchise's all-time assists list.

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Monday, Dec. 23, 2024: Dallas at Utah, 8 p.m. CT, Delta Center (Victory+/The Ticket)

Friday, Dec. 27, 2024: Dallas vs. Minnesota, 7 p.m. CT, American Airlines Center (Victory+/The Ticket)

Sunday, Dec. 29, 2024: Dallas at Chicago, 7:30 p.m. CT, United Center (ESPN/The Ticket)

Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2024: Dallas vs. Buffalo, 7 p.m. CT, American Airlines Center (Victory+/The Ticket)

Thursday, Jan. 2, 2024: Dallas vs. Ottawa, 7 p.m. CT, American Airlines Center (Victory+/The Ticket)

RECENT TRANSACTIONS

Dec. 12, 2024: Recalled D **Lian Bichsel** from Texas (AHL)

Dec. 14, 2024: Recalled G **Magnus Hellberg** from Texas (AHL)

Dec. 15, 2024: Loaned D **Lian Bichsel** and G **Magnus Hellberg** to Texas (AHL)

Dec. 16, 2024: Recalled D **Lian Bichsel** from Texas (AHL)

Dec. 19, 2024: Loaned D **Lian Bichsel** and D **Alexander Petrovic** to Texas (AHL)

CURRENT INJURIES

 MAN GAMES LOST: 36

Tyler Seguin (hip; IR) – 8 games – day-to-day

Matt Dumba (upper body; IR) – 4 games – day-to-day

Thomas Harley (illness) – 2 games – day-to-day

Nils Lundkvist (illness) – 1 game – day-to-day

GAME NOTES

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

- Tonight is the first of two games the Stars will play against the Rangers this season and the only time the two teams are facing off in Dallas this year. The teams will face each other next on Jan. 7 in New York.
- Tonight is the final of six consecutive home games the Stars will play, their longest such stretch of the season.
- Entering play Thursday, the Stars, Minnesota Wild and Washington Capitals were the only NHL teams this season that have not lost more than two consecutive games.
- The Stars have allowed only 2.58 goals against per game this season, which was the fourth-best mark in the NHL entering play Thursday. Dallas has allowed two or fewer goals in 17 of the 29 games that they have played this year.
- In Dallas' last game when **Oskar Bäck**, **Colin Blackwell** and **Sam Steele** were on the ice together during 5-on-5 play, the Stars outshot the Maple Leafs 9-1 according to Natural Stat Trick. Both **Blackwell** and **Steel** scored in the game.
- The Stars have had four different rookies score a goal for them this season: **Logan Stankoven** (4), **Lian Bichsel** (2), **Mavrik Bourque** (2) and **Oskar Bäck** (2). Entering play Thursday, Dallas, San Jose and Winnipeg were the only NHL teams to have four different rookies score at least one goal this season.

LONE RANGERS

- **Miro Heiskanen** has seven points (2-5-7) in his last seven games against the Rangers dating back to March 5, 2019.
- **Roope Hintz** has seven points (3-4-7) in his last six games against New York dating back to March 10, 2020.
- **Mason Marchment** has four points (2-2-4) in four games against the Rangers as a member of the Stars.
- **Sam Steel** has three points (1-2-3) in his last three games against New York.

BENN THERE DONE THAT

- Dallas' last game on Dec. 18 was the 1,143rd game of captain **Jamie Benn's** career, which is the most-ever by a Stars skater.
 - **Benn** surpassed Mike Modano's 1,142 games with Dallas.
- **Benn's** 1,143 career games rank second on the franchise's all-time list behind Modano, who played in 317 games for the North Stars before the team relocated to Dallas.
- **Benn** also ranks in the top five in franchise history in career goals (389, second), assists (538, third) and points (927, second).
- Dallas' Oct. 18 game against the Maple Leafs was also the 328th consecutive game that **Benn** played in, which is the fifth-longest active Iron Man streak in the NHL.
- **Benn** enters tonight's game riding a five-game assist streak. If he were to record and assist again tonight, it would give him assists in six consecutive games for the first time since Feb. 21 to March 3, 2020.
 - A point of any kind would give him his first six-game point streak of the season.
- **Benn's** five-game assist streak was tied for the second-longest active assist streak in the NHL entering play Thursday.

HOME COOKING

- The Stars enter tonight's matchup against Toronto with an 13-4-0 record while playing at home this season.
 - One of Dallas' "home" losses this season came at Nokia Arena in Tampere, Finland.
 - With a win tonight, the Stars could tie the Toronto Maple Leafs for the most wins at home this season (14).
- The Stars have allowed only 2.18 goals against and 37 goals in home games this year, which ranked third and tied for fifth in the NHL this season entering play Thursday.
- Dallas has gone 39-for-43 on the penalty kill at home this year. Their 90.7 percent success rate when playing a man down at home this year was the second-best mark in the NHL entering play Thursday.
 - No team has allowed fewer power-play goals against at home this year than Dallas' four.
- Dallas' next home win will be their 14th of the season. Last year, the Stars won their 14th home game of the season on Jan. 16, 2024 against the Los Angeles Kings.
- **Jamie Benn** (5-10—15) and **Jason Robertson** (4-11—15) are tied for the team lead in scoring at home this season.
 - **Benn** as 13 points (4-9—13) in his last 13 home games dating back to Nov. 1 and enters tonight's matchup riding a five-game home point streak.
- **Roope Hintz** has eight points (6-2—8) in his last eight home games dating back to Nov. 20.

BICHS BETTER HAVE MY MONEY

- Dallas' game against the Predators on Dec. 12 marked the first NHL game of defenseman **Lian Bichsel's** career.
- In making his NHL debut, **Bichsel** became:
 - The 33rd player and 13th defenseman selected in the 2022 NHL Draft to appear in an NHL regular-season game.
 - The eighth player drafted by the Stars between 2017 and 2024 to play in at least one regular-season game for Dallas.
 - The 46th Swiss player and 15th Swiss defenseman in league history to appear in an NHL regular-season game.
- **Bichsel** scored his first NHL goal in the game, making him the third defenseman in franchise history to score in his NHL debut according to NHL Stats, joining Daniel Poulin (Dec. 12, 1981) and Bryan Maxwell (Feb. 16, 1987). **Bichsel's** goal came exactly 43 years to the day after Poulin's.
- Additionally, **Bichsel** recorded five hits in the game, which is tied for the most by a Stars skater in a single game this season.
- **Bichsel** scored the second goal of his NHL career in Dallas' last game (and his third NHL game) on Dec. 16 against the Washington Capitals, making him the second defenseman in franchise history to score two goals within his first three NHL games according to NHL Stats, joining Minnesota North Stars blueliner Derian Hatcher (2 in 1991-92).
- **Bichsel's** goal was the eventual game winner, making him the club's second-youngest defenseman with a game-winning goal according to NHL Stats, behind only **Miro Heiskanen** (4; youngest: 19 years, 99 days on Oct. 25, 2018).
 - **Bichsel** was 20 years and 212 days old on Dec. 16.
- **Bichsel's** two goals this season were just one shy of tying New Jersey's Seamus Casey for the league lead among rookie defensemen entering play Thursday.
 - **Bichsel** and Casey were the only two rookie defensemen to score a game-winning goal this season.
- When **Bichsel** has been on the ice during 5-on-5 play in his first four NHL games, the Stars have outscored their opponents 3-2 and outshot them 29-16 according to Natural Stat Trick.
 - **Bichsel's** 66.7 percent on-ice Corsi rating in his NHL debut was the best mark of any defenseman to take the ice (Stars or Predators) during the game.
- Standing at 6'7", there are only four players to appear in a regular-season game this year that are taller than **Bichsel**: New York's Matt Rempe (6'9"), Vancouver's Tyler Myers (6'8"), Chicago's Louis Crevier (6'8") and Calgary's Adam Klapka (6'8").
- **Bichsel** was originally selected by the Stars with the 18th-overall pick of the 2022 NHL Draft, the only Swiss player to be drafted that year. It made him the seventh-highest drafted Swiss player in NHL history, behind Nico Hischier (first overall, 2017), Nino Niederreiter (fifth overall, 2010), Timo Meier (ninth overall, 2015), Kevin Fiala (11th overall, 2014), Sven Bärtschi (13th overall, 2011) and Michel Riesen (14th overall, 1997).

- Defenseman Mirco Müller was also drafted 18th overall, taken by San Jose in 2013.

KILLING IT

- Entering play Thursday, the Stars had the fifth-ranked penalty kill in the NHL this season with an 84.1 percent success rate.
 - They have gone a perfect 11-for-11 on the penalty kill and scored one shorthanded goal during their current homestand.
- Dallas has allowed only 14 power-play goals against this season, which was tied for the fourth-best mark in the NHL this season entering play Thursday. Their 0.45 power-play goals against per game were also ranked fifth in the NHL entering play Thursday.
- The Stars have not allowed a power-play goal against in five consecutive games, going 11-for-11 on the penalty kill during that span.
 - If they were to remain perfect on the penalty kill tonight, it would mark the second time this season that they have gone six games without surrendering a power-play goal against after doing so from Oct. 12 to 22.
- Thomas Harley** has allowed 3.65 power-play goals against per 60, which was tied for the fifth-best mark in the NHL entering play Thursday among defensemen that have at least 40 minutes of shorthanded ice time this season.
- Esa Lindell** has skated 108:53 minutes on the penalty kill this season, which was third-highest total of any NHL skater this season entering play Thursday.
 - Lindell**, who skated 7:58 of shorthanded ice time, was on the ice for all but two seconds of Dallas' eight penalty kill minutes in their game on Dec. 16 against the Washington Capitals.

ROBO ON THE GOGO

- Jason Robertson** enters tonight's matchup having totaled seven points (2-5—7) in his last seven games played.
- During the Stars current homestand, the Stars have outscored their opponents 4-2 and outshot them 38-28 when **Robertson** has been on the ice during 5-on-5 play according to Natural Stat Trick.
- With two assists in Dallas' game on Dec. 16 against Washington, **Robertson** now ranks 23rd on the franchise's all-time scoring list with 335 (140-195—335) career points. He sits five points shy of Al MacAdam for 22nd all-time.
- Robertson** enters tonight's game five assists shy of recording 200 career assists. When he reaches the milestone, he will become the 27th player in Stars franchise history at the sixth player from the 2017 draft class to total 200 NHL assists.

ONE FOR THE HISTORY BOOKS

- Jake Oettinger's** next shutout will be the 12th of his career, which will tie Jon Casey for the sixth-most in franchise history.
- Miro Heiskanen** is one assist shy of tying Brad Maxwell (217) for seventh on the franchise's all-time assists list by defensemen.
- Matt Duchene** is five points away from recording his 100th point with the Stars.
- Esa Lindell** is one game shy of taking sole possession of ninth on the franchise's all-time games played list by defensemen.
- Lindell** also enters tonight's contest four assists shy of tying Alex Goligoski (155) for 25th all-time among Stars/North Stars defensemen.

CONNECT FOUR

- Stars forward **Roope Hintz** (Finland), defensemen **Miro Heiskanen** (Finland) and **Esa Lindell** (Finland), and goaltender **Jake Oettinger** (United States) have all been selected to represent their home country at the 4 Nations Face-Off, which will be held in Montreal and Boston from Feb. 12 to 20, 2025.
- Dallas is one of six NHL teams to have at least one forward, defenseman and goaltender from their roster to be selected for the 4 Nations Face-Off, with the others being Boston, Minnesota, Vancouver, Vegas and Winnipeg.
- Only six teams have had more players selected to a 4 Nations roster than the Stars: Colorado, Florida, Minnesota, Tampa Bay and Vegas. The full breakdown is as follows:

PLAYERS SELECTED	TEAMS
0	Washington
1	Calgary, Chicago, Columbus, Los Angeles, NY Islanders, San Jose, Seattle
2	Buffalo, Detroit, Ottawa, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, Utah
3	Carolina, Edmonton, Montreal, Nashville, Philadelphia, Winnipeg
4	Boston, Dallas , New Jersey, NY Rangers, Toronto, Vancouver
5	Colorado, Minnesota, Tampa Bay
6	--
7	Florida, Vegas

- All four players have previously represented their home countries in international competition.
 - Heiskanen** has played for Finland at the 2017 and 2018 IIHF World Junior Championships, 2018 and 2022 (gold) IIHF World Championships and at the 2018 Winter Olympic Games.

- **Lindell** suited up for the Fins at the 2014 IIHF World Junior Championship, where he won a gold medal. He again represented Finland at the 2015, 2016 (silver) and 2022 (gold) IIHF World Championships and at the 2016 World Cup of Hockey.
 - **Hintz** previously played for Finland at the 2015 and 2016 IIHF World Junior Championships, winning a gold medal at the later tournament.
 - **Oettinger** has played for Team USA at the 2017 and 2018 IIHF World Junior Championships and at the 2021 IIHF World Championship. He medaled in all three tournaments, winning bronze in 2018 and 2021 and gold in 2017.
- The 4 Nations Face-Off will mark the first time that all three of **Heiskanen**, **Hintz** and **Lindell** are playing for Finland together.
 - **Heiskanen** and **Lindell** previously won a gold medal together at the 2022 IIHF World Championship.
- The Stars will also be well-represented among the 4 Nations staff, with **Jim Nill** (Associate GM), **Pete DeBoer** (Assistant Coach) and **Misha Donskov** (Assistant Coach) all set to join Canada's staff for the tournament. Additionally, former Star **Jere Lehtinen** will serve as Finland's General Manager.

STRAIGHT FROM THE SOURCE

- Josh Clark profiled Jim Nill's tenure with the Stars, which includes thoughts from Jamie Benn and Matt Dumba, in his latest piece for DallasStars.com - [The architect: How Jim Nill has cultivated a new era of Stars hockey](#).
- Lia Assimakopoulos talked with Logan Stankoven, Texas Stars head coach Niel Graham and Mavrik Bourque himself about [Bourque's journey to the NHL](#) and finally cracking the Stars' opening night roster.
- [Wyatt Johnston joined The Musers on Sportsradio 96.7 and 1310 The Ticket](#) from Stars media day to discuss brining a veteran presence to Dallas' locker room despite only being 21 years old, coping with the physical demands of the NHL and navigating his first pro season without Joe Pavelski.
- Fresh off of signing a two-year contract extension, Mike Heika of DallasStars.com profiled [what's ahead for Stars defenseman Thomas Harley](#) this season as he prepares to take another crucial step in his career.
- In celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, Albert Perez of NHL.com sat down with NHL alum and the Stars' Vice President of Cultural Growth and Strategy, Al Montoya, to discuss the [Stars' bid to grown and engage with their Hispanic fanbase](#).
- Mike Heika of DallasStars.com dove deep into [what makes Esa Lindell a core member of the Stars organization](#), both on and off the ice, after the blueliner signed a five-year contract extension a year ahead of hitting free agency.

STARS REAL-TIME STATS LEADERS

Hits: Benn (46), Marchment (41), Blackwell (37)

Blocked Shots: Lindell (59), Heiskanen (51), Lyubushkin (50)

Shots: Johnston (82), Stankoven (78), Marchment (74)

STARS' RECORD IN 10-GAME SEGMENTS [W-L-OT (PTS), GF/GA, PP, PK]

1-10: 7-3-0 (14), 32/23, 6/32, 28/31

11-20: 6-4-0 (12), 37/27, 4/30, 20/27

21-30: 6-4-0 (12), 28/25, 7/31, 25/29

31-40: 0-1-0 (0), 3/5, 0/4, 1/1

OVERTIME RESULTS (1-0)

Dec. 14, 2024 vs. St. Louis: Duchene

SHOOTOUT RESULTS (1-0)

Oct. 15, 2024 vs. San Jose: Duchene

UPCOMING NHL MILESTONES (PLAYER ... NEEDS ... MILESTONE)

Games Played

Matt Dumba ... 7 games ... 700 NHL games

Wyatt Johnston ... 5 games ... 200 NHL games

Starts

N/A

Goals

Jamie Benn ... 11 goals ... 400 NHL goals

Assists

Jason Robertson ... 5 assists ... 200 NHL assists

Points

N/A

RECENT MILESTONES

Oskar Bäck ... First NHL game ... Oct. 10, 2024 at NSH
Pete DeBoer ... 100th win as Stars head coach ... Oct. 10, 2024 at NSH
Oskar Bäck ... First NHL point (assist) ... Oct. 17, 2024 at WSH
Mavrik Bourque ... First NHL point (assist) ... Oct. 22, 2024 at BUF
Roope Hintz ... 400th NHL game ... Oct. 24, 2024 at BOS
Jason Robertson ... 300th NHL game ... Oct. 24, 2024 at BOS
Jake Oettinger ... 200th NHL game ... Nov. 1, 2024 vs. FLA
Mavrik Bourque ... First NHL goal ... Nov. 1, 2024 vs. FLA
Oskar Bäck ... First NHL goal ... Nov. 14, 2024 vs. BOS
Tyler Seguin ... 800th NHL point ... Nov. 14, 2024 vs. BOS
Mason Marchment ... 100th NHL assist ... Nov. 18, 2024 vs. ANA
Jake Oettinger ... 200th NHL start ... Nov. 29, 2024 vs. COL
Esa Lindell ... 200th NHL point ... Dec. 1, 2024 vs. WPG
Lian Bichsel ... First NHL game and first NHL goal ... Dec. 12, 2024 vs. NSH

MEDIA RESOURCES

[Stars Press Site](#)
[NHL Media Site](#)
[Pronunciation Guide](#)
[NHL Stats](#)

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