

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, Oct. 30, 2023

Dallas Stars 5, Blue Jackets 3

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DALLAS STARS

Stars Head Coach Pete DeBoer

On looking like the better team tonight

"It's a good feeling. We wanted to win this one before we go on the road and our schedule really starts to ramp up. We've been talking about building our game and adding some layers to it. Tonight was the best its looked. Hopefully that's a good sign going forward."

On the Marchment-Duchene-Seguín line

"When you reflect upon our start here, we played seven games in probably three and a half weeks since the start of the season. It's been a slow start, I want to make sure I give enough runway to combinations and power play and things. We're not overreacting because we haven't had the luxury of a lot games and touches. With the injuries we had through camp, some of those guys are just getting back. I want to show some patience, and that's why we went back to it. I thought Duchene was the best player on the ice tonight for us. That line was really good, but all the lines got going. Dadonov, I thought had a good night. His line had a couple points. The right guys got on the board. Our fourth line was really good. Faksa, Smith and Dellandrea did a great job. They were out there against [Johnny] Gaudreau through a lot of shifts, and I thought we got contributions from everybody."

Stars Forward Matt Duchene

On his first goal with the Stars

"It's nice to get the first one. First one is always the hardest during the season -- pretty sure I showed you guys that. Nice to get that one goal. It was probably our luckiest and least-dangerous play of the game that ended up in the net. Kind of funny how that went tonight, but our line's process and end-game was the best we've played as a trio, and we've got to build on that. I said to the boys after that, 'That's a standard of what we can do as a line, and we've got to bring that to as many games as we can.'"

On scoring chances with the line

"That's the depth of our team, it's big goals at big times. Obviously, big goal on the first shift and a nice bounce there. [Jason] Robertson sent it into the net off Roope [Hintz]. We were able to get that one, then [Wyatt] Johnston's line gets a couple, so it was all through the lineup. Our fourth line played great too. They had some really good looks, and they could've had one or two as well. Offensively it was our best game of the season for 60 minutes. We had a good first period, which we talked about wanting to have. Even though we were down 2-1, we carried the play and did a lot of good things. In this league, you can get really caught up in production and wins and losses, but the process is the most important thing. You can win games and your process is no good, you can lose games when it's good, but eventually it rights itself. That's the most important thing. This team is so mature in the way that we carry ourselves. I've been really impressed being a part of it and watching it. You can tell it's a team of guys that have been deep in playoffs runs and there's never any panic, it's just even-keeled good or bad."

Stars Forward Roope Hintz

On scoring an early goal

"It was nice to get one in the start because our starts haven't been great this year. It was good."

On chemistry with his line

"It just kind of flows. It's nice, and I think today we got a pretty good flow to start."

Stars Goaltender Jake Oettinger

On his timely save in the third period

"There's turning points like that in every game. I let in a soft goal, so I felt like I owed the team a big stop. Same as the goals we had -- those are just as timely as a save. Every night there's a few break downs where I can step up and make an impact on the game, and that was one of them."

On the Stars' performance in tonight's game

"We were flying. It started with [Duchene] and [Marchment]'s line. They were the best line on the ice by far, and I'm just really happy to see those guys get rewarded. They've been our best line the last few nights, so we need them. We have such a deep team, and they just showed up tonight. It was a great team win, one of our best games of the year."

COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS

Blue Jackets Head Coach Pascal Vincent

On being resilient before stumbling in the third period

"I don't agree with you. I don't think we were resilient all night. It was on and off, and it's not about the final score. We have more than this, and I'm talking about the effort. A lot of guys worked hard, but we can't afford to have a few guys not working hard enough and that's not going to fly. That's not going to fly now, after Christmas, or ever. We need 20 guys to play hard and take care of the details of the games. In the third period, we had some push. Offensively we had some chances like Boone Jenner in front of the net. We had O-zone time, and we were pushing. So, trailing by one, you may give up some chances against but inconsistently. That doesn't work."

On how frustrating it is for him to see the lack of effort when it's been a focus

"It's not about me. It's about the team. It's about the Blue Jackets, and we know it's hard to win in the NHL. You have to be consistent and stick to the plan and do the details. They're not flashy, you don't see the highlights, but those details will matter at the end of the day and winning happens, and we had some tonight. Nothing is ever as bad as you think it is or as good as you think it is. It's not as bad as we think it is. But it's not good enough, and we'll address the situation with the team and with the individuals that are concerning."

Blue Jackets Forward Adam Fantilli

On how he and Johnny Gaudreau complement each other's play

"It's Johnny Gaudreau. He's a guy I grew up watching. He's extremely skilled, he's extremely quick, he's so smart out there. He's one of those guys that can have instant chemistry with anybody. It had nothing to do with me to be honest with you. He's just that good, so being able to jump on the ice with him was awesome, something I want to do for a while. Hopefully things can keep going that way. He creates pretty much every time he's on the ice, and I want to be part of that as well."

On how tough it is to win in the NHL

"It's extremely tough. It's the best league in the world, the best players in the world and everybody is doing their best to learn. It's a veteran team over there that knows how to win and close out games. I'm not used to losing, I don't want to get used to losing, so we have to keep pushing and playing the right way and eventually they're going to start to fall for us. We're going to get our bounces and things are going to start going well if we keep working hard. But definitely not a feeling I want to get used to at all."

Blue Jackets Forward Mathieu Olivier

On failing to close out the game in the third

"It's been a bit of a theme these past few games where we've had ourselves in a good spot and just can't finish it off. It's part of the learning process we have to do as a team. We're going to have to find a way to close out third periods. We gave a push, but that's a veteran, hard-working team out there, and they gave more of a push than us. You can't get out-competed in those situations. I don't think it was a lack of effort, but we've got to find a way to out-compete them."

On getting chances without goals

"We're definitely getting our chances in the last few games. At some point, we might go through a phase where they're all going to go in. It might even out. Right now, they're just not going in as much as we'd like. It comes through phases through the year. It's up to us to find a way to get out of it. The chances are there, but we have to find a way to give less."

Blue Jackets Defenseman Damon Severson

On the breaking point in tonight's game

"We were 2-2 going into the third period, not a bad spot to be on the road, so they just outplayed us in the third [period] and got a couple really nice bounces as well. But they played better than us in the third. We had a couple good looks. Boone [Jenner] had a chance in front, and [Jake Oettinger] made a good save out of it. Overall, 2-2 going into the third is something we're going to look back on, unfortunately. Just got out-played in the third period."

On whether the Stars were pushing harder in the third period

"I feel like both teams were pushing. Both teams wanted to get that next goal to go ahead and not sitting back. [The Stars] just were able to find it a little quicker than us. We had a couple chances, a couple real good looks for opportunities to score, but they just beat us to it."