

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

Tuesday, May 7, 2024
2024 Western Conference Second Round – Game 1
Dallas Stars 3, Colorado Avalanche 4 (OT)
[Game Summary](#) | [Event Summary](#)
Colorado leads series 1-0

DALLAS STARS

Stars Head Coach Pete DeBoer

On tonight's game

"Every time is different. You learn about each other as the series goes on. What we know about that team is what happened tonight. We had the lead going into the second period and turned the puck over in the neutral zone which led to a penalty. Took another penalty 200 feet from our end, and they're a quick-strike team. You can't make mistakes in those situations. It's a tough lesson to learn in Game 1, but I'm glad you're not learning it in Game 6 or 7 in an elimination game. We've got to be smarter than that. They've got that quick-strike ability that you've got to mentally be sharp for 60 minutes in order to beat them."

On making adjustments

"Tonight was a tough turnaround as a group. We had a great start. The fatigue from the Game 7 hit us in the second half of the game. Our group rallied and made a push in overtime. We had some opportunities in overtime, but at the end of the night when you look at the score sheet, their big guys delivered and are all over the score sheet. A couple of our guys were, but some of our scoring has to step up. We've been waiting for a series plus a game for some of that."

Stars Captain Jamie Benn

On losing in overtime

"We came out and probably played better than the second and third [period]. We had some good looks, but it just didn't go our way."

On whether he thought his team sat back after going up 3-0 in the first period

"You can't take a breath with these guys. They are a great team and they come at you. They took over that second period, and then found a way to get one early in the third. We had our chances to win that game."

On giving up two power-play goals

"They are a great power play, and they have a lot of skill. I'll have to watch some video, learn from it, and move on."

Stars Forward Matt Duchene

On losing Game 1 in overtime

"We shouldn't have got to overtime. You're up 3-0. I don't think we stayed on our toes enough, maybe in the second period we took our foot off the gas a little bit. They started coming at us, we took a couple of penalties, and their power play is lethal. They got a couple of decent bounces there, but whether they get those bounces or not, they have a pretty good chance of scoring with the way they are going right now. Then they score first thing in the third period, and it's kind of a coinflip from there. We had that game under control, and we let it slip away. We've seen that in the regular season against them – we did have two games like that in the regular season – so we've got to bounce back here and split the home stand here."

On any positive points from the game

"The first period and OT we were the better team. They kind of had the second and third. That was a pretty nice goal by them out of nowhere at the end. No time to feel sorry for ourselves. We've been in this position before, and this time we want to make sure we split. That's a high-octane team over there. It was a very different style game. We can do a better job throughout the 60 minutes, imposing our game on them with the puck. Like I said, we got away from it a bit in the second, and the tide turned there."

COLORADO AVALANCHE

Avalanche Forward Nathan MacKinnon

On the comeback win

"It took us a bit. But once we found our legs, we had a great second and third. [Alexandar Georgiev] had some great saves, and [Miles Wood] had a great goal."

On what was the mood going into overtime

"Good. We definitely stayed positive the whole game. It would've been easy to fold after that first period, but we felt like we played better than what the score showed. We wanted to see it through and definitely happy to get the comeback."

Avalanche Forward Miles Wood

On the game-winning goal

"[Andrew Cogliano] made a great play. He chipped it through the neutral zone and skated on it. I'm happy the puck crossed the goal line. The best part was celebrating with the teammates. That's what it's all about."

On what Alexandar Georgiev has meant to this team throughout the playoffs

"He's been huge for us. In the first series he was great for us. The first period, three goals were let in, but the bounce-back he showed was outstanding. He's a big part of this team."

Avalanche Defenseman Cale Makar

On Josh Manson's play and saving a goal in the first period

"You never want to give up opportunities where you need guys to make big saves like that, and [Alexander Georgiev] came up huge for us quite a few times as well. Manson is playing really well and had a huge defensive play."

On coming back from a 3-0 deficit

"It's not an ideal spot when we are playing down from three goals, but it was a closer game at that point than the score indicated. A couple of goals went off of us, and one went off my stick. At the end of the day, it's playoff hockey, and there is just no quit. If you are going to look at this game I feel like, as a group, we just stuck with it and grinded it out and found a way to win it."

Avalanche's Head Coach Jared Bednar

On the ability of coming back from a three-goal deficit

"It took just a little while to get to our game tonight. [The Stars] capitalized on their chances in the first period and we capitalized on some opportunities in the second and third. [The Stars] came out again in overtime and put it on us but [Georgiev] made some good saves throughout the course of the game. We limited some scoring chances through the middle portion of the game pretty well, but the chances we gave up were good ones. I didn't like the chances we gave up. There wasn't a bunch of them. I thought it was pretty tight checking for both teams for most of the game. But [the Stars] capitalized on some early and we got the better of them taking care of our chances in the middle portion of the game. It's part of it, the only score that matters is the one at the end of the night. You have to play the full 60 and sometimes it doesn't work."

On the turning point in the game

"There were some things we needed to do better, so we addressed that first. We were disorganized in the d-zone arrival on the first goal. We were under and around all over the place, the point is open, and multiple guys are going. [The Stars] executed and shot it through the screen, so that's on us. Good faceoff play and it hits our guy. I think [Georgiev] is making that save, but then it hit a stick and changed direction to go over us, and there's no real chance. They make a play, they have to balance it, make a draw. It was well executed on [the Stars'] part. We got some bounces too. We had some good opportunities. I felt like the game started to come for us a little late in the first, and then in the second period we started doing more of what we'd like to see and simplifying our game a little bit. But [the Stars] were more competitive in the first period and our lack of discipline didn't help. But we rebounded nicely in the second period and started to get ready to go."