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GAME RECAP

Sunday, Jan. 5, 2025 - Honda Center
17-18-4, 38 pts.

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	GOALS					SHOTS					POWER PLAYS	
	1	2	3	OT	TOTAL	1	2	3	OT	TOTAL	G-OPP	%
DUCKS	2	0	2	-	4	12	8	6	-	26	0-1	0.0
LIGHTNING	0	1	0	-	1	5	18	14	-	37	1-2	50.0

ANAHEIM DUCKS POSTGAME NOTES

The Anaheim Ducks earned a 4-1 victory over the Tampa Bay Lightning Sunday night at Honda Center. With the win, Anaheim improved to 4-1-0 the last five games, with all five against teams a collective 54 games over .500 (114-60-12, .645%) entering play the day of the game. Anaheim is also 7-4-0 the last 11 games overall and has earned points in 15 of the past 26 (13-11-2).

JOHN GIBSON made 36 saves to earn his 200th career NHL win, joining Jean-Sebastien Giguere as the second goaltender in franchise history to reach the milestone. He became the third active U.S. born netminder to reach the plateau (also: Jonathan Quick, 399 and Connor Hellebuyck, 299). With the win, Gibson improved to 7-5-1 on the season and not sits six wins from tying Giguere (206) for Anaheim's all-time record for wins by a goaltender.

TROY TERRY opened the scoring with his team-leading 14th goal of the season and added an assist for his sixth multi-point outing (1-1=2). Terry now has 5-3=8 points his last six games and has points in four straight home games (3-2=5).

FRANK VATRANO factored on three of the Ducks' four goals (2-1=3) to record his third three-point outing of the season on the day he signed a three-year contract extension through the 2027-28 NHL season. He has earned six points his last four games (2-4=6, +5).

RYAN STROME skated in his 200th game as a Duck and recorded his 15th and 16th assists to extend his point streak to five games (2-5=7, +7), matching his longest streak with Anaheim (Oct. 22-30, 2023; 2-6=8, +5). He is one assist shy of 300 in his career.

JACKSON LACOMBE scored his eighth goal of the season and second in as many games (2-0=2) to rank tied for fifth among all NHL defensemen in goals and tied for second in even-strength goals (8) this season. He has five points his last six games (2-3=5, +4) and continues to pace all NHL blueliners 23 and younger in goals.

LEO CARLSSON earned his seventh assist of the season to extend his point streak to three games (1-2=3, +2).

JACOB TROUBA also earned an assist, his second as a Duck and eighth of the campaign.

Tonight's attendance was 14,208. The Ducks conclude their two-game homestand Tuesday, Jan. 7 vs. Calgary (7 p.m. PT).



ANAHEIM DUCKS POSTGAME QUOTES

JOHN GIBSON

On the game and his big saves in the second period

I mean we knew they were gonna come. They are a good team. They didn't have a good first period, so we expected them to come hard in the second and the third. It's just about finding a way to win the hockey game and that's what we have been able to do lately; keep ourselves in each game. So, [we are] fortunate tonight to have a good one.

On Frank Vatrano's contract extension

He's a guy you want to have in the room... He's a guy that checks all the boxes, and when you can keep a guy like that around for a while, it's always a positive and a big help to your team.

FRANK VATRANO

On the game

I liked it a lot. I think we got off to a great start. We had the most energy. Obviously, we had a tough last trip getting in late, but we knew they were tired too, so we needed to get off to a good start. I think the second period got away from us, but we had a great third period closing them out. It was a great team effort tonight.

On the team's recent success

We know we can play with the best of them. I think with us, we've just got to make sure we're playing the right way every single night. Early on in the season when it got away from us, it got away from us. We couldn't really bring ourselves back, but I think even when we're not playing so well we can find ways to grind it out and kind of simplify our game and find ways to win. We're scoring more goals and that's huge, but I think we're doing a great job away from the puck and we're limiting team's chances.

On his three-year contract extension

I think always when you have security and don't have to think about it anymore you can put it in the past and just focus on hockey. You don't have to worry about the outside stuff, worry about contracts. Even as I went through it, everything went smoothly, everything went great. I knew I was going to be a Duck for a few more years so the day finally came.

I always say I wouldn't be in this position if it wasn't for these guys in this room. These guys push me every day to be my very best and we have great relationships, not just on the ice but off the ice. This is one of the best rooms I've ever been a part of, and I'm excited for the change here and the culture we're trying to build, to build that winning culture. I'm just so thrilled to be a part of it in the future...

On the uniqueness of his contract

You have to think about the bigger picture. For me it's money that can set up my family for the future. At the end of the day it helps the team out. We have a young team, guys are going to be due for big contracts in the future and I understood that. For me, when guys take less money and when guys find ways to be cute with the salary cap, I wanted to be part of that... All I wanted for a long time was to be a Duck. It didn't matter what money I was making or anything. I wanted to play here, I didn't want to play anywhere else. I'm just happy to help these young guys grow and be a part of it.



ANAHEIM DUCKS POSTGAME QUOTES

TROY TERRY

On the game

I thought we really controlled the game in the first. They have good players and in the second they got a little more chances and it felt like we let our foot off the gas a little bit. Coming into the third, I thought we didn't sit back and try to defend, we were still attacking their net. It helps when you have (John Gibson) in your net.

On impressive wins the last five games

I think the framework for our team has been there. I think our D zone has been good all year. A lot of times this year I think structurally we haven't had many bad games the last month. Our issues have been a lack of scoring. Being able to beat some good teams, different guys picks are going in for them. It's just a game of confidence. Within our struture and game plan set up for us, I think we're just excuting it and it's giving us the opportunity to succeed.

HEAD COACH GREG CRONIN

On Frank Vatrano's contract extension

It's great, I'm really happy for him and his family. He personifies a guy that comes up out of nowhere, he's a college hockey player. I believe he was a free agent signing, he kicked around the minors for a few years and got booted around a couple NHL teams and I think everyone recognizes and identifies his compete level and his skating. He's an elite skater and he's always had a good shot, but he's converting that now to being a reliable goal scorer. Anybody that gets over 25 goals in the NHL is considered a goal scorer in today's generation. Franky hit 37 or 38 last year, he started off slower this year and I think he's going to be another 25+ goal scorer this year. I think he's going to get them in bunches and I'm sure the contract is going to take some weight off his head as far as where his next stop is cause he's going to be with us another three years, which is awesome for us, obviously for him, and the organization."

On tonight's game and it being a 'test case'

Benchmarks right? Tonight, obviously again, we got them on a back-to-back and I think it was three to four for them. It was a little bit of an advantage as far as energy. But, you go to Edmonton, Winnipeg, New Jersey, [and] Colorado before that; that is a tough run of games and I thought we played really well in most of them. Speaking of energy, I thought tonight, and the players know it more than the coaches do, but you get in late from Edmonton due to the time zone change. I don't think they got into bed until four in the morning and yesterday was kind of a wash, so today coming in I felt it [and] I'm not playing. Your internal clock is just messed up. I thought we played a good first period, then they were on us. But, we stuck together and we were able to keep our structure. Obviously Gibby [John Gibson], it's a great 200th win for him and he earned it. He had to deal with a lot of rubber, both in his equipment and at the net. They had a lot of shots directed at our net. We did a good job defending the second effort ones and he did a good job in the first ones.



TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING POSTGAME QUOTES

JAKE GUENTZEL

On if the slow start is to blame for the loss

Yeah, oh yeah, you never want to put yourself down two-nothing. It's a tough league to come back from so definitely not the way we wanted to start, tough road trip for us but we gotta go back home and regroup.

On the team's elevated play in the second period

Yeah, we just started playing hard, that's the bottom line, we dug down a little bit and played our game. Obviously, they just defended hard and, yeah, just one of those nights where we come on time.

ANTHONY CIRELLI

On the start of the game

Obviously it's hard playing from behind. We didn't come out of the gate there like we wanted to, we were down two quickly. I thought we pushed there in the second and the third, but like I said, it's hard when you start the game like that.

On the team's response after a slow start

I thought we got back to our game plan there in the second. You know, playing a little bit faster, we were getting pucks in on their D, forechecking hard. [We] could've thrown a little bit more pucks to the net with some traffic, but I thought that second, and most of the third there we gave ourselves a chance. Their goalie played well. Like I said, it's hard when you start like that.

HEAD COACH JON COOPER

On the team's performance

Listen, this is tough to swallow, you know, coming out here and playing three games and coming out with zero points, we're definitely not used to that. It's a humbling game, you know, in the end, you can probably make an argument that we were, we played better than our opponent all three games and that's what humbles you because, in the end, it's the final result that matters, whether it was a bad start tonight or kind of a bad finish last night. In the end, we scored three goals in three games. It's tough to win when you're not scoring and we've been used to scoring a lot this year. It's unfortunate because a lot of guys on this team that are used to putting it in, couldn't put it in this trip and that puts a lot of stress on your defense, you know, for the most part, did a pretty good job. Yeah, it's a tough one to swallow, you know, in the end, you could look at the totality of how we played and I said this last night, there's no moral victories, you gotta find a way to pull some of these games out and unfortunately we couldn't.

On what they could have done to beat John Gibson

You know, the problem is the goalie's gotta vote too and he decided not to let anything by him tonight. We had 80 plus shot attempts tonight, could we have taken his eyes away a little better? Maybe. Bounce here, bounce there, you know, in the end, we worked, we put ourselves in positions to score, you know, the goalie bettered us tonight.