

NEW YORK ISLANDERS



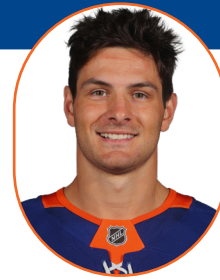
vs.



GAME PREVIEW ISLANDERS (19-12-3, 3rd in Metropolitan) vs. CANUCKS (13-17-3, 8th in Pacific) 12.19.2025 7:00PM ET UBS ARENA

PLAYER SPOTLIGHT

MAT BARZAL #13



Mat Barzal has 26 points (nine goals, 17 assists) over 33 games this season, including an active five-game point streak as well as eight points over his last seven games. With his assist on December 16 at Detroit, he tied Patrick Flatley (488) for the 15th-most points in franchise history. Among Islanders, he leads the team in assists, is second in TOI/GP (21:09) and points, is tied for second in plus/minus rating (+7) and is tied for third in goals. He's found the scoresheet in 15 of his last 22 games, including a season-high six-game point streak (2-4-6) from November 4 - 14. The Isles are 7-2 when Barzal has scored a goal this season and 14-7-1 when he finds the scoresheet. Barzal has recorded a point in each of the 11 career games he has faced the Canucks. He has totaled 18 points (three goals, 15 assists) in those games, including five multi-point performances and two three-point contests. Mat Barzal's 11-game point streak against the Canucks ties Mario Lemieux (10/17/84-12/5/87) for the longest career-opening point streak against Vancouver in NHL history. He is one of only two Islanders to post a point streak of 11 or more games against Vancouver, joining Mike Bossy, who recorded an 18-game streak against the club from October 21, 1980 to February 11, 1986. Eight of his points have come on home ice tallying one goal, and seven assists. The Coquitlam, BC native has more points against the Canucks than he does against any other Western Conference opponent.

"I LOVE THIS PLACE"

Of Matthew Schaefer's 23 points this season, 15 have come on home ice, finding the scoresheet in 12 of the team's 18 home games this season. Schaefer joins Phil Housley as the only 18-year-old defenseman in NHL history to record at least 15 points in the first 18 home games of his career. He is the fifth Islanders teenager to accomplish the feat and the first since Bryan Berard did so in 1996 (also: Pat LaFontaine in 1984, Brent Sutter in 1981-82, Bryan Trottier in 1975-76). He is the first league defenseman with at least 15 points in their first 18 career home games since Cale Makar (2019-20). He joins Makar and Shayne Gostisbehere (2014-16) as the only league defensemen to do so since 1997.



SOROKIN SNAPSHOT

IN DECEMBER

5-1-0 RECORD
4-0-0 AT HOME

.933 SV %
(180-FOR-193)

2.12 GAA

2025-26 SEASON

12-9-2 RECORD
5-5-1 AT HOME

.910 SV %
(588-FOR-646)

2.52 GAA

Sorokin's next start marks his 24th of the season, which would tie for the sixth-most in the league (entering today). In the month of December in his career, Sorokin has gone 21-14-7 with a .908 save percentage and a 2.84 GAA. His 21 wins in December are the fourth-most by an Islanders goaltender. 15 of those wins have come on home ice. A win tonight would tie him with Chico Resch (16) for the second-most wins at home in the month of December by an Islander.

VAN NYI

3.39
(T27th)

2.74
(9th)

2.73
(27th)

2.91
(21st)

28.8
(T22nd)

28.1
(T17th)

26.5
(24th)

28.6
(T11th)

73.4
(29th)

82.3
(11th)

GA/GP

GF/GP

SA/GP

SHOTS/GP

PK%

ALL-TIME RECORDS vs. VAN

OVERALL 59-42-13-8
HOME 30-17-10-4
AWAY 29-25-3-4



SMASH BROTHERS

Emil Heineman has recorded a team-high 116 hits over 34 games, which is tied for the sixth-most in the league this season. Isles vet Casey Cizikas ranks third in franchise history with 1,921 career hits (since hits began being tracked in 2007) and is second on the team this season with 81 hits. In just eight games this season, Marc Gatcomb has tallied 46 hits, which is the third-best on the Isles. His nine hits on December 9 vs. Vegas were the most by an Isles skater this season. He recorded 149 hits from his NHL debut on January 14 through the end of last season leading all rookies in that span, and were the most by an Islanders rookie in a single season since Anders Lee (169) in 2014-15.

TEAM LEADERS

ISLANDERS

CANUCKS

Bo Horvat (19) **GOALS** Kiefer Sherwood (13)

Mat Barzal (17) **ASSISTS** Filip Hronek (15)

Bo Horvat (31) **POINTS** Elias Pettersson (22)

Scott Mayfield (53) **PIM** Evander Kane (44)

Bo Horvat (3) **GWG** Brock Boeser (2)

Matthew Schaefer (23:48) **TOI/GP** Filip Hronek (24:23)

Matthew Schaefer (+8) **+/-** Filip Hronek/Aatu Raty (+4)

CAREER LEADERS VS. OPPONENT

Anders Lee (6) **GOALS** Jake DeBrusk/Tyler Myers (7)

Mat Barzal (15) **ASSISTS** Marcus Pettersson/Brock Boeser (8)

Mat Barzal (18) **POINTS** Evander Kane (13)