

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

Saturday, Nov. 18, 2023

Dallas Stars 3, Colorado Avalanche 6

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DALLAS STARS

Stars Head Coach Pete DeBoer

On losing the lead in the third period

"It started before the third. I loved our start, I loved how we played. In the second, first we had an opportunity 5-on-3 to extend the lead and really put a dagger in the game, and we didn't. Then a poor challenge, and momentum shifted. Their big guys got going and we didn't handle that momentum shift as well as we could have. Good learning lesson for us. It's good that it's early in the year and not in the playoffs. You can always learn when you lose a game against a really good team like that. There were a lot of positives, too, about how we played for stretches of that game."

On positive takeaways from tonight's game

"You can't just walk out of the rink with a bad taste in your mouth because of the result. You have to look at it realistically. There were big portions of that game where we really played well – some of our best hockey of the year. Just have to do it for longer and longer stretches."

Stars Captain Jamie Benn

On the Avalanche's momentum in the third period

"They turned it up a notch in the third. We let them hang around for too long, and they're a good team. Those guys know how to win. They turned it on and found a way."

On falling behind after a strong start

"Tonight's a great example that hockey is sixty minutes for a reason. We had a great first period, a little back and fourth in the second. We have to play sixty minutes."

Stars Forward Joe Pavelski

On the game

"There were some things we didn't do a good enough job of, as far as early on we played behind them. The forecheck, we got a lot off that and I think towards the end I think we were maybe just a little bit too fine at times and we got the puck to the top of the circle and it would be coming back out and we never really established that zone time. That's some of the problems there."

On decision making vs. adjustments made during the game

"It's maybe a little bit of both. At the end of the day if we're looking at getting it deep and getting that forecheck going, there's times. We probably didn't break out as clean a couple of times...we were putting it in, we maybe weren't connecting our forecheck as much or changing because we spent a little time in the D-Zone. It's a lesson and if we recognize that we need a line to jump over the boards and do it and take that momentum where we can feed it. "

Stars Forward Tyler Seguin

On losing control of the game in the third period

"It's something I never would've predicted. It's definitely not us. I don't recall the last time that's really happened to us where we've been up three and given up a game that fast. We're happy it happened now – it's not a playoff game or late in the season. It's a great learning tool for us to study and improve on."

On the role of momentum in tonight's game

"I didn't fully recognize the momentum. I just focused on my next shift. It's game 16. We definitely have to learn from that and respond from it. We deserved a lot better until the third period, but we watch the video and move on."

COLORADO AVALANCHE

Avalanche Head Coach Jared Bednar

On the Avalanche's performance in the first period

"I was worried, but I actually liked the way we were playing. The first 20 minutes were pretty neutral. Shots were 7-7 at one point. We had a couple of turnovers that led to some dangerous plays in the slot that we gave up, then we had a couple at the other end. We came out in the second period where again, I felt like we were okay, but when I looked at the scoreboard, it was 3-0. I felt like we were doing a little bit better at that point. They capitalized on some chances, so the message to our team was that we have to make something happen and keep playing. We talked about that last season because we had a couple of blowout losses where we were fragmented and too individualized in some of those games. I still felt that, with the way we were playing, if we locked it down defensively and took better care of the puck and tried to ramp it up a little bit on the offensive side, we could give ourselves a chance. The guys kept playing tonight and played like a connecting group, and we were able to get a big win. It was a close game all night long in my opinion. I know the scoring wasn't good for them, but it was great for us. I thought it was a well-played hockey game.

On the Avalanche's performance in the third period

"We did a nice job locking it down on the defensive side. We were able to capitalize on a couple of chances we had. It reminded me of the finish in the Seattle game where we were giving up a lot of shots and the guys weren't committed to checking the side and making it difficult for them to work their way through the neutral zone. That's what you got to do, whether you're winning or losing, you want to be able to do that. We knew we couldn't give up any more or we weren't going to be able to come back in the game."

Avalanche Forward Mikko Rantanen

On the club's slow start in tonight's game

"It was 3-0, and I was like, 'We're playing pretty well here.' We were creating chances, but it felt like if they created a chance, they buried one. We stuck with it, we talked about it. We didn't do it against St. Louis, we didn't do it against Vegas – when teams got a lead on us, we faded away. Now, we stick together and keep working and it worked out tonight."

On continuing to apply pressure after making a third-period comeback

"That's our key to the game – if we have a lead, we're not sitting back and giving them time. We want to press and forecheck and play with the puck in the offensive zone. We did a good job of that."