

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

Thursday, Feb. 29, 2024
Dallas Stars 4, Winnipeg Jets 1
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DALLAS STARS

Dallas Stars Head Coach Pete DeBoer

On tonight's game

"We played better than the score reflected Tuesday, and we knew that. I was a little worried about our energy today, but the trade energized our group. It was a real solid effort tonight. We didn't have any passengers tonight. The guys really emptied the tank for how our schedule has looked the last fourteen days."

On the play of Joe Pavelski

"We've talked about him and the one thing I'll tell you is he's more valuable in the room with his leadership and the way he leads than he is even on the score sheet. All the guy wants to do is win. He's willing to do everything and willing to sacrifice parts of his game to do that. You saw tonight at five-on-three, he wasn't out there. He's the first in line to do that kind of stuff."

Stars Forward Joe Pavelski

On the win tonight after Tuesday's loss to the Colorado Avalanche

"There was a lot of good Tuesday night. There was some not so good, but there were definitely flashes and then you come home. It's been a tough schedule, we got one game then come back, then get on the road, then come back. So, we wanted to do a good job. We knew the importance of this game. Good team over there and we're all tight in the standings. Complete effort by everyone up and down the lineup"

On the feeling tonight

"The feeling is just satisfied. At the end of the night, you can just look at yourself, look at each other, guys are working, guys are getting first to pucks, taking contact, being physical. It's just satisfying is what it is. It's fun to see. It's fun to play that way, and it's nice when you get rewarded for it."

Stars Forward Jason Robertson

On tonight's win following Tuesday's loss to the Colorado Avalanche

"It was getting back on track against one of the best teams in our division. It was a good response."

On division standings

"It's a big race right now to get the division. Every team in the playoffs is going to be good. It's not any walk in the park compared to other divisions. Other teams are playing good hockey. Whatever happens we're going to have to beat whoever."

Stars Goaltender Jake Oettinger

On the win

"They have some games in hand on us, so this was huge. We would've been behind them by a good amount if we lost. The guys put three in right away for me, that's huge. We played the right way, weren't cheating, smart hockey and that's what you need to close out games with good teams."

On the feeling after acquiring Chris Tanev

"It's tough to say. We have a great team already so to add guys like that is really exciting. The only highlights I've seen of him this year is he is diving face-first to block shots, so I'm sure him and I will be good buddies pretty quickly. A good player added to a great group. We feel since day one that we can go far, so this is just another piece."

WINNIPEG JETS

Jets Head Coach Rick Bowness

On tonight's loss

"We've been talking about this for two weeks. There were some good things in the first period, but then you give them two goals like we did – having the puck twice and turning it over and then a terrible line change. That's just beating yourself and just giving a very good hockey team three goals. It wasn't as bad as the score, but it was self-inflicted problems."

On Dallas' advantages in tonight's game

"We haven't played as well. We haven't got our A-game. There weren't enough guys tonight that brought their A-game. A B-game is not going to beat them. They played better than we did."

Jets Forward Vladislav Namestnikov

On the first period

"We weren't managing the puck very well in the beginning. We literally gave them the first two goals. We had a bad line change and they converted on it. Just got to be more cautious with the puck to start the game."

On the power-play goal

"We were trying to get the puck to the net. It bounced off their defender and in the backdoor. I just had to tap it in. It's nice to get one, hopefully we can build off that."

Jets Defenseman Dylan Samberg

On tonight's loss

"We spotted them a three-goal lead. It felt like, internally here, that we gave them those three goals and we were down 3-0 in the first to a really good hockey team. Down 3-0 to anybody in this league is tough, so when you are down 3-0 to these guys in their home building after not winning many games in their last five. They were 1-2-2, so we knew it would be a tough task. We did a good job with still working at it and getting looks, and it was a big goal for our power play to get us going, but we can't be spotting them a three-goal lead. Especially in the first period. It was just mental lapses, and they capitalized."

On needing to elevate their game against tough competition and their rivals

"It certainly is disappointing. We want to win every game and compete hard in every game. It wasn't necessarily a lack of compete, it was just some mental mistakes. Missed coverages, bad changes, turnovers. When you are playing a team like that, they are going to make you pay. They are a top team. It's disappointing, and this was a game we were hoping to get. It was an emotional game, and there were some positives there for us, but we are definitely disappointed in the start and the result."