

COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS POST-GAME NOTES



# DEC. 19, 2024 II NATIONWIDE ARENA II VS. NEW JERSEY DEVILS

BOX SCORE	RECORDS	<b>1</b> st	<b>2</b> <sup>ND</sup>	3 <sup>RD</sup>	OT	FINAL
Columbus	Overall: 13-15-5, 31 pts (Home: 9-4-3, 21 pts)	1	2	1	0	4
New Jersey	Overall: 21-11-3, 45 pts (Away: 12-5-0, 24 pts)	0	0	2	0	2

# GAME AT A GLANCE

### **THREE STARS**

1<sup>st</sup> – S. Monahan (2-1-3, GWG); 2<sup>nd</sup> – E. Merzlikins, CBJ (40-of-42, W); 3<sup>rd</sup> – K. Marchenko, CBJ (0-2-2)

### **GOAL SCORERS**

**Columbus:** I. Provorov (3), PPG – Z. Werenski (11), S. Monahan (10), EN – S. Monahan (11) **New Jersey:** L. Hughes (2), T. Meier (11)

### GOALTENDERS

**Columbus:** E. Merzlikins (40 saves, W) **New Jersey:** J. Allen (16 saves, L)

#### SPECIAL TEAMS Columbus PP: 1-for-2, 2 shots New Jersey PP: 0-for-1, 2 shots

# **BLUE JACKETS TEAM NOTES**

- ★ The Blue Jackets have collected points in eight of their last nine home contests (5-1-3) as well as 11 of their last 13 games at Nationwide Arena (8-2-3) following tonight's regulation win over New Jersey.
- ★ CBJ have scored the first goal in 18 (10-5-3) of the 33 games this season after scoring the first three goals tonight.
- ★ The club has recorded 107 goals (not including SO goals) in the first 33 games this season. It's the third-most goals scored through the opening 33 contests of a campaign in franchise history, one shy of the 108 in 2018-19 and five shy of the 112 in 2016-17.
- ★ Columbus has scored goals in 66-of-the-99 periods played in regulation this year after scoring in all three periods tonight. It's the 12th time this season the club has scored in all three periods in regulation and ninth time at home.
- ★ CBJ have registered 30 multi-goal periods this season after scoring two goals in the second period.
- ★ CBJ finished 1-of-2 on the power play and have now scored a power play goal in six of the last seven games (6-of-23; 26.1 pct.).
- ★ Tonight's attendance was 15,793.

# **BLUE JACKETS PLAYER NOTES**

- ★ LW Zach Aston-Reese (4-7-11, 32 GP) tallied an assist on Ivan Provorov's goal and has 0-2-2 in his last four contests. He has now registered 2-7-9 in 22 career GP against New Jersey and 0-6-6 in 9 home games against the club.
- ★ LW James Malatesta made his CBJ season debut tonight, finishing with 10:56 of ice time.
- ★ RW Kirill Marchenko (11-22-33, 33 GP) tallied his second-straight (0-4-4) and team-leading sixth multi-assist game (10<sup>th</sup> multi-point game) with two assists tonight. He has registered his 100<sup>th</sup> career point in his NHL/CBJ career (55-45-100, 170 GP) on his second assist, becoming the fourth-fasted player in club history to reach the milestone (Pierre-Luc Dubois; 142 GP, Nikolay Zherdev; 150 GP, and Rick Nash; 164 GP).

- ★ G Elvis Merzlikins, who improved to 10-9-2 this season, made a season-high 40 saves tonight (prev. 38 on Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> vs. WPG).
- ★ C Sean Monahan (11-17-28, 33) tallied his eighth multi-point and team-leading (tied) second multi-goal game with 2-1-3 and became the third player to record double-digit goals this season. The three-point effort marks his third of the season and he has picked up 3-4-7 in his last seven contests. He has now posted 12-13-25 in 20 career games against New Jersey, including his seventh multi-point effort after tonight's game, and has 7-8-15 in his 11 home outings in his career.
- ★ RW Mathieu Olivier (8-5-13, 33 GP) collected an assist and has now collected 0-2-2 in his past four games.
- ★ D Ivan Provorov (3-9-12, 33 GP) scored opened the scoring in the first period and has picked up 1-1-2 in his last three games played. The blueliner has now registered 5-16-21 in 36 career games against the Devils and 3-10-13 in 18 home contests all-time.
- ★ LW Dmitri Voronkov (8-7-15, 24 GP) collected an assist tonight for points in three-straight games (1-2-3).
- ★ D Zach Werenski (11-21-32, 31 GP) extended his home points streak to 10-straight games (8-9-17) with a power play goal tonight, becoming the 10<sup>th</sup> defenseman in the NHL in the last 15 years reach the double digit streak. With points in 10-straight home games, he's tied the franchise record posted by Oliver Bjorkstrand (10 GP in 2021-22), Cam Atkinson (10 GP in 2016-17) and Andrew Cassels (10 GP in 2002-03). The blueliner has posted points in 15 of the past 20 played this season (8-15-23).

## **BLUE JACKETS POST-GAME AUDIO INTERVIEWS**

HC Dean Evason | G Elvis Merzlikins | F Sean Monahan | D Zach Werenski

## **HURRICANES POST-GAME AUDIO INTERVIEWS**

HC Sheldon Keefe | D Luke Hughes | F Timo Meier

### **BLUE JACKETS UPCOMING SCHEDULE**

Friday, Dec. 2011am practice (Nationwide Arena)Saturday, Dec. 217pm at Philadelphia (Wells Fargo Center)Sunday, Dec. 2211am practice (Nationwide Arena)Monday, Dec. 237pm vs. Montreal (Nationwide Arena)