

# 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

Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2024

**Dallas Stars 3, Montreal Canadiens 4**

[Game Summary](#) | [Event Summary](#)

## DALLAS STARS

### **Stars Head Coach Pete DeBoer**

#### *On tonight's game*

"In the first period, we scored early and then stood around and watched. In the second period, we got some good looks. We didn't score, but at least we started to play our game generate some chances. The third period was tough with six minutes of penalties you're killing. They get the one power-play goal and that was probably the difference."

#### *On Wyatt Johnston's first goal in 16 games*

"Big goal for him. He's been all around it for a long time, and he needed one to break the egg, so to speak. Hopefully he's off and running now. He's been feeling the pressure of that, carrying that around."

#### *On losing points against an Eastern Conference opponent*

"A loss is a loss. You look around the league, and the other teams around us are winning. Winnipeg won again tonight, so you can justify it however you want, but it's still a loss. It hurts because that's a game that we feel we should win."

### **Stars Forward Wyatt Johnston**

#### *On breaking his goal drought*

"It felt like it's been a long time. Obviously, that feels good. Still got a lot more work to do and can still be a lot better, hopefully. Keep that rolling."

#### *On his assist*

"It was partially going for the shot, but it worked out. It wasn't 100% planned that way, but we'll take it."

### **Stars Defenseman Miro Heiskanen**

#### *On Montreal's strengths in tonight's game*

"They were working hard. They were pretty close all the time when we had the puck and playing hard on us. We had to do a lot of battling and a lot of working to get to the good places. They were defending hard and playing really well."

#### *On Montreal's ability to stifle Dallas' opportunities*

"Teams block shots and get sticks on pucks, so we just have to try to find lanes and get it to the net."

## MONTREAL CANADIENS

### **Canadiens Captain Nick Suzuki**

#### *On tonight's performance*

"It was a good win for us. They're a really good team, and we played really good hockey over this road trip. It's nice to get a win going back home."

#### *On third period defense*

"There are not too many times when you're six on five for six minutes. We could do a better job, but we got the win. That's what's most important. Defensively we were really good tonight against a really good offensive team."

### **Canadiens Defenseman Jordan Harris**

#### *On scoring his first goal of the season*

"It started off with Juraj [Slafkovsky] back tracking, and I don't know if he got an assist on the play, but he should get an assist on the play. It was a great play by him. The coaches encourage all the time jumping up in the play as long

as your smart about it and choosing your spots. Going in and jumping in to help out. It was a good time to do it, so it worked out well.”

*On being encouraged to get pucks to the net offensively*

“The way the way the league is going is whenever you’re on offense it’s a five-man unit. We have the defenseman that can make the plays. Something we talk about as a group is doing it the right way. But definitely getting pucks on the net, jumping up on the play and making plays when you’re there.”

**Canadiens Defenseman Kaiden Guhle**

*On tonight’s win*

“It was good. Just for the team I think it was good. That first goal was unfortunate and a tough bounce, and we just responded well. It didn’t faze us. We had a goal pretty soon after that, and my goal helped us a bit. Getting scored on like that early – we were sleeping to start, but my goal really woke us up and made us push a little harder after that.”

*On the defense and the backchecking tonight*

“We have been working on that. Rush coverage is something we have been trying to work on a lot as a group. It’s a tough thing around the league to sort out, and those two last goals in Tampa were rush coverage. They are goals that you don’t want to let happen. Especially late in games, so that was a huge improvement for us tonight, and we did a really good job. That helped us a lot getting a lot of one-and-done’s. [Dallas] didn’t have much time in the offensive zone tonight, and it was really big for our group to do that.”