



4

GAME RECAP

Friday, Dec. 20, 2024 - Honda Center
12-15-4, 28 pts.

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	GOALS					SHOTS					POWER PLAYS	
	1	2	3	OT	TOTAL	1	2	3	OT	TOTAL	G-OPP	%
DUCKS	0	1	1	-	4	12	9	11	-	32	0-5	0.0
AVALANCHE	0	2	2	-	2	5	13	5	-	23	1-4	25.0

ANAHEIM DUCKS POSTGAME NOTES

The Anaheim Ducks fell 4-2 to the Colorado Avalanche Friday night at Honda Center.

LEO CARLSSON opened the scoring with his seventh goal of the season to become the fifth-fastest skater to record 20 career goals (79 GP) behind Paul Kariya (49 GP), Bobby Ryan (54 GP), Dustin Penner (64 GP) and Ryan Getzlaf (73 GP).

Carlsson also matched Trevor Zegras and Steve Rucchin for the fifth-most goals through a players first 80 NHL games in Ducks history, trailing only Kariya (40), Ryan (29), Penner (23) and Getzlaf (22).

JACOB TROUBA earned his first point (assist) as a Duck on Carlsson's opening goal, his seventh assist of the campaign.

ALEX KILLORN scored his seventh goal of the season at 13:05 of the third period, marking 3-1=4 points his last three games.

PAVEL MINTYUKOV collected his fourth helper of the season with the primary assist on Killorn's goal.

JOHN GIBSON made 19 saves, including his 10th career penalty shot save (10-2, .833), becoming one of three active goaltenders to save 10 or more in their career, joining Marc-Andre Fleury (22) and Sergei Bobrovsky (12).

The Ducks embark on a back-to-back matchup prior to the NHL's Holiday Break (Dec. 24-26) with a visit to Utah for the first time in franchise history on Sunday, Dec. 22 (2 p.m. PT, Victory+) and conclude at Vegas on Monday, Dec. 23 (7 p.m. PT).



ANAHEIM DUCKS POSTGAME QUOTES

LEO CARLSSON

On the game

I felt like we played a pretty good game, but we switched things and it didn't work out, we were just ice cold. You know, we played, I forget which game, maybe fifth or fourth game, against them this season and we got demolished that game so it was a better bounce back but just couldn't get the win.

On his performance

Yeah, first good game in a while, I guess I played okay against Columbus but first good game in a while. Yeah, nice to get a goal too, just confidence. Yeah, I felt like I played, I played better.

ALEX KILLORN

On the game

I thought we played, actually, a pretty good game all together, 5-on-5. They are a veteran team, they have won before so they're gonna try to find ways to win and they did tonight, especially like on the special teams, they did a good job, they scored on the PK which really hurts and then they scored another one on the powerplay. Veteran team, they found a way to win but all together, like 5-on-5, I thought we played pretty decent.

On the team's power play

I think part of it is not having Zegras in our lineup, he's great on the power play, but we gotta find ways to score whether it's, you know, just getting more shots from the top, which can create more but yeah, it can't be a momentum killer for us, it has to, even if we don't score, we have to kind of try to gain some momentum on it.

HEAD COACH GREG CRONIN

On playing 5-on-5 and special teams

Well, it's frustrating, I thought five on five we played a really good game and you reflect back on the game we played in Colorado, they had a bunch of guys out and we tied the game; it was an overtime loss. But, you know, it was a huge advantage for them in terms of shot attempts and all that other stuff. Tonight, it was a real solid game for us, I think we had outshot 5-on-5 by 24 to 14. Our special teams, just the power play did not generate much. Like I said before, when the power play gets scoring chances it has high shot volume attempts, your bench feels good. They get on their toes and it is just feeding offensive mindset, but tonight it wasn't generating anything like as far as shot volume and then they scored shorty.

I thought our PK was good, there was just a turnover there that ended up costing us a goal there. But, it's frustrating, like I said, last game we outshot Winnipeg, I didn't know what the [heck] it was in the first period. But we didn't score, I was like 'oh boy.' There are a lot of times when we have a shot advantage like that, you have quality chances that reflect the shot totals and if you don't score you feel it could be a tough night. I looked at the shot totals after the first period, I think it was 12 to four for us, we had a goose egg. But, we played well, we played well defensively and it was frustrating we didn't get least a point.

On the challenges of defending Colorado

You know the thing that's interesting is they had some quality attempts off of their rush and we actually had our guys back, we had players underneath the shooters and we just didn't identify them. Usually if you see, you know, the distance between the attacker and yourself on those second wave attacks, you can, kinda, we call it 'parachute' back so you can close the gap before the pass is made and we just over-skated and they have good enough players to execute that.

I thought the effort was there all over the ice, it was a lot of good one-on-one puck battles we won and we had a pretty good night on the faceoff dot and it's just unfortunate.



WINNIPEG JETS POSTGAME QUOTES

MIKKO RANTANEN

On the game

First period wasn't obviously good enough, I think they [Anaheim Ducks] had better legs, they came out jumping. Thanks to Wedge [Scott Wedgewood], he played really well in the first and kept us in a 0-0 game and then we end up going down but we stayed with it. I think the last two periods are the way we want to play. That was good to finish off the game like that. On a PK, big goal to get us started and then we were rolling after that, a little bit better.

On the power play

Obviously pucks are going in a little bit, I think sometimes it's like that, too. You create some and it doesn't go in, but now it was a nice pass play by Nathan (MacKinnon). [It's] a way to finish it off and I feel like we had some other looks, too. We didn't shoot the puck maybe enough in the power play even. Especially, I think I had opportunities to shoot maybe, but just passing it around today. It's a big one to get even one out of four.

KEATON MIDDLETON

On the special teams

I thought the PK was great tonight and I thought the power play was great, too. When special teams are working, it's kind of all aspects there, so if we can keep doing that we're doing good things.

On finishing the road trip with a win

It's great. Winning is always great. We put a high standard on ourselves and it's nice when we accomplish it.

On the team's goaltending

They've been steady. They're great guys too, great locker room guys to have as well.

HEAD COACH JARED BEDNAR

On the game

I like that we came around after the first period. They outplayed us in the first period, outchanced us. They looked like the quicker team, more desperate team. I thought our team did a really nice job adjusting, because I felt like we came around in the second period. I think we outchanced them, had a couple really good power play looks. You chip in in different ways. We get a power play goal, we get a 5-on-5 goal, we get a shorthanded goal and then the guys did a nice job with the empty net. I thought the penalty kill was really good and probably the difference in the hockey game for us, with what we gave up, because it was too much, was [Scott] Wedgewood. I thought he was outstanding. Their goalie was good too, but looking at our guy, I thought he gave us a really good start tonight which leads us to victory at the end of a long month on the road.

On Parker Kelly's goal

That was a huge goal. We're killing penalties there for a while. Tight standard tonight I felt for the penalties and we got caught on a couple reach and grabs and they were skating really well, but that's at the end of a penalty kill, breaking up a play and then sticking with it and ripping one home. That was a huge goal for us.