

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, Jan. 25, 2024

Dallas Stars 4, Anaheim Ducks 3 (OT)

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DALLAS STARS

Stars Head Coach Pete DeBoer

On tonight's overtime win

"It was tough sledding tonight. I feel like every time we play John Gibson, he gives them a chance to win. He was excellent, and they played hard. They were opportunistic, they played hard and they make you earn your goals. It was tough to get the goals we got tonight, and they made us earn them. I'm glad to get the win and get out of here."

On the play of Thomas Harley

"He's been great all year, but his ability to skate – he blew by everybody on the ice from goal line to goal line. Pretty impressive for a young defenseman to be able to skate like that."

On the pairing of Miro Heiskanen and Thomas Harley

"They're similar players. They both have world class feet. I like the fact that they both think defense before offense. They've got a good conscience defensively, but they also have the ability to get up in the play and recognize holes offensively and take advantage of that. They have a lot of similar qualities."

Stars Forward Matt Duchene

On tonight's performance

"We're playing in a sandbox out there tonight. The puck was bouncing everywhere. Give them credit. They played hard and they defended really well. We had a lot of shots, and their goalie played well. There weren't wide open looks off the rush or anything like that. In zone, we had to work hard for looks. You've got to win in all kinds of ways. That team has beaten some good teams this year. They have some skill and some good forwards. They have some good young players. We know it sometimes takes 65 minutes, plus a shootout. We stayed with it and got the job done."

On consistently playing close games

"The Islanders game was a really good game. We probably deserved that one. We just had a little bit of a breakdown in overtime, but we probably shouldn't have gotten there, to be honest. In Detroit, we didn't stay on the gas enough offensively in the third period. Our penalty kill probably had our only bad game of the season. Tonight, it's one of those where they keep hanging around. We could have been up three to four goals at the end of the first period. To give them credit, they compete and play hard. They aren't high up in the standings, but they have some good young players. You can tell they're coming all the time. They're coached that way. They had a good game tonight."

Stars Defenseman Miro Heiskanen

On returning to the lineup after missing three weeks due to injury

"I feel alright. Still rusty after three weeks, but it felt alright. Legs felt good but a little rusty."

On playing with Thomas Harley

"It was good. He played really well tonight, as well. He is moving and making good plays, and it was nice to play with him tonight."

Stars Defenseman Thomas Harley

On scoring the game-winning goal

"Everyone loves scoring goals. Everyone loves winning. It's nice when I get it -- I like it a little bit more. That's another two points up there."

On having Miro Heiskanen back

"He's huge for us. He's our best player – everyone knows that. You feel calmer when he's on the ice. He's so good defensively. He breaks pucks out, and he makes my life really easy out there."

ANAHEIM DUCKS

Ducks Head Coach Greg Cronin

On the team's performance

"The first period was good for us. They had more chances, but they just took the game over in the second period with possession time. We would not change up in an efficient way. We got caught on the ice too long, and when that happened, you get tired legs. They rolled that momentum all the way into the third period. When we went down to three lines after they scored the third goal, then we got momentum back, and you could feel their crowd sit back because we started picking up scoring chances. We were able to sustain it over the last six or seven minutes. They dominated the game in shots, they probably dominated in scoring chances. So, after the first period, we were behind the eight ball for quite a lot of it."

On John Gibson's performance

"One of the things they did really well was shot pucks from distance to the net, and they funneled bodies there. They're a big team and they skate well, so when they do throw pucks down, it's hard to defend. They got a lot of secondary shots off of rebounds."

Ducks Forward Jakob Silfverberg

On tonight's game

"[John Gibson] was really good for us. He made some really big saves to keep us in it. The Stars] controlled the first half of the game. After that we started getting our stride a little bit, but we're playing a really good team tonight. They're competitive, and we're maybe not controlling the game, but we're staying in it by having good goaltending. At the end of the night, it's one shot that's the difference, and we get one point. Great goal tending, and we'll build off that second half of the game going forward."

On the team's improving performance in recent games

"We won the last game at home against Buffalo. That was one of our better games as of late, so we're definitely starting to see some improvements. We're playing better, and we're getting points. We played a good team tonight. It wasn't enough on our end, but there are some pieces we can take on and win in Minnesota."