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## [Cleveland.com / How Jet Greaves and the Blue Jackets made Charlie Coyle's milestone night more meaningful](#)

**By Tim Bielik – January 23, 2026**

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Charlie Coyle wasn't sure early on Thursday what his Blue Jackets teammates were going to do to commemorate his 1,000th NHL game.

The team had shirts and hats in the locker room after the morning skate in honor of his milestone.

French Prime Minister benefits from support due to international turmoil

Before the game against the Dallas Stars, the team all wore his No. 3 jersey with "1K" on the sleeves for the pregame warmups.

They had his father, Chuck, come give the pregame speech and announce the starting lineup in the locker room. Chuck also raced up to the main concourse of Nationwide Arena in time to fire the cannon before puck drop.

But the most important thing the team did in honor of Coyle's milestone night was get the win as the Blue Jackets shut out the Dallas Stars, 1-0.

"These milestones and things to celebrate are all fun. It's a part of it. It's nice," Coyle said. "But when you win, it makes it that much better, and you can enjoy it a little more. So that's what I'm happy about. I know we're all happy about that."

The lone goal of the game came from Zach Werenski, when he wristed his 19th goal of the season through a crowd and past Stars goaltender Casey DeSmith at 8:48 of the first period.

Goaltender Jet Greaves and the Blue Jackets defense took things from there. Greaves made 28 saves to secure the team's first shutout of the season. It's also the third shutout win of his young career.

"There's not too many times where I'm wondering if he has it or not," Coyle said. "I think we just have kind of have that confidence in us no matter who's back there, especially him tonight. He's making saves. He's making stuff look easy. Even from the bench, sometimes you get the view of the puck and screens and you kind of have a gulp, and he just makes an easy save.

"He just gives us full confidence back there for us to go out and play, and that helps us to do our job. And that's what makes a good team."

The win was not only the team's fifth in their last six games, but it came on the heels of a disappointing 4-1 loss to the Ottawa Senators on Tuesday. They knew their effort wasn't good enough on Tuesday, and they responded by completing a season sweep of one of the better teams in the NHL.

"Ottawa definitely wasn't good enough by our standards. I don't want to say things like that happen, but it does happen in a long year, and it's just how you respond to stuff like that. And I feel like we responded in the right way," Werenski said.

Greaves made quite a few critical saves throughout the night against a Stars team that, despite not having Mikko Rantanen on Thursday, is still one of the better offensive teams in the league. Another part of the Blue Jackets' success on Thursday in the eyes of Rick Bowness was how they managed the

puck. Columbus was not hemmed into its own zone very often, having one of their better games of the season in terms of clearing the puck and limiting how long it had to defend its own zone.

“We managed the puck, right. We gave up a couple (odd-man chances) in the first. After that, we cut it down,” Bowness said. “A big part of defense is managing the puck, and I thought we did that really good.”

Greaves also took notice of how well the players in front of him were able to take care of the puck in their own end.

“I think that’s something we speak about a lot is making sure that when we are in our zone, because it’s gonna happen, but making sure the first time we touch the puck, it’s getting out, and if not the first time, definitely the second time,” Greaves said. “We don’t want to have two, three, four times touching the puck and not getting it out of the zone. Teams in this league are so good, especially a team like Dallas. They’ve got a lot of skilled players, and I think you don’t want to spend so much time in your own end.”

The shutout capped off a special day for Coyle, who admitted after the morning skate he doesn’t like being the center of attention. Thursday was his night, and his teammates made sure it ended the way he wanted: with two points.

“I didn’t think I was nervous, but there were obviously some nerves in me, just kind of going through it and knowing the guys were doing some special things around here that I wasn’t fully ready for and had no knowledge of. But those were cool moments,” Coyle said. “And I would do it again and again to go through it and of course end up with a win.”

## [Cleveland.com / Why Mason Marchment's return from injury comes at the right time for the Blue Jackets](#)

By Tim Bielik - January 22, 2026

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The Blue Jackets are amid a make-or-break 12-game stretch, and they're getting a key player back just in time for one of their toughest games before the Olympic break.

Forward Mason Marchment was activated from injured reserve on Thursday ahead of a matchup against the Dallas Stars at Nationwide Arena. Marchment, who was acquired in a trade with the Seattle Kraken on Dec. 19, has missed the last eight games with an upper body injury.

He has had a big impact since the trade, scoring five goals and seven points in his first seven games with Columbus.

What helps amplify Marchment's return is it's against one of his former teams in the Stars. He played three seasons in Dallas, recording 56 goals and 131 points in 211 games. He also played in 49 playoff games for the Stars, scoring eight goals and 16 points.

"You always want to play against your old team, and yeah, it'll be fun," Marchment said after Thursday's morning skate. "I've got to play them once or twice already. So this one's just another game, but definitely fun to play the old team."

The Blue Jackets went 4-4 without Marchment. All four of their losses came in regulation, which is meaningful with how tight the Eastern Conference remains.

They are still seven points out of a playoff spot with seven teams to climb and 33 games to play. Their next two games against the Stars on Thursday and the Lightning on Saturday are arguably their two toughest before the Olympic break. So getting Marchment, a player used to playing in big games, back in the lineup comes at a crucial time.

"They're all big games at this time of the year. So this one's just another big game and we gotta win it," Marchment said.

It will also be Marchment's first game since Columbus hired Rick Bowness as head coach on Jan. 13. The Blue Jackets are 3-1 in Bowness' brief time, but they are coming off a 4-1 loss to the Senators on Tuesday.

Bowness admitted he is still learning about his new team, but he believes Marchment is a good fit for what he is trying to instill in the Blue Jackets.

"Mason will fit in the way we want to play in terms of our pressure and layers and things like that," Bowness said. "The most important thing as a coach is identify what you have and let them play to their strengths. That's really what I'm trying to adjust to as we go along here. It's only four games."

Even though Bowness has only been in Columbus for a short time, Marchment has liked what he's seen from his teammates of late.

"Guys look like they're creating a lot and using their minds and legs to create chances," Marchment said. "I think it's been great. The energy seems good and hopefully we keep rolling."

To make room for Marchment on the roster, the Blue Jackets placed defenseman Denton Mateychuk (upper body injury) on IR retroactive to Jan. 11.

Marchment and Isac Lundestrom will replace Brendan Gaunce and Zach Aston-Reese in the lineup against the Stars.

### **Charlie Coyle reaches major NHL milestone**

Thursday night's game won't just be meaningful for Mason Marchment as he returns to the lineup.

Forward Charlie Coyle will be playing his 1,000th NHL game on Thursday.

Players were wearing hats and shirts in the locker room to commemorate Coyle's milestone game.

"You have it in your head. There's certain milestones that you would like to achieve and get to," Coyle said. "I guess in my head it just meant if I got to a thousand, I'm playing a lot of hockey games, which I love to do."

A first-round pick of the San Jose Sharks in 2010, Coyle made his NHL debut with the Minnesota Wild on Feb. 4, 2013, against the then-Phoenix Coyotes.

Bowness recognized how special the night is for Coyle because of how much players hope to just stay in the NHL.

"The guys that reach a thousand games, it shows their complete dedication because it's not just what they're doing on the ice, it's what they're doing off the ice to look after themselves during the offseason, training," Bowness said. "I've coached against him his whole career and I've admired the way he plays. I think he's one of those guys that coaches like. They like low maintenance.

"He would be a low-maintenance, no-maintenance guy. He just comes to play, and he plays the same way every night."

Not only is it notable that Coyle is playing his 1,000th NHL game in Columbus, but his cousin, Hockey Hall of Famer Tony Amonte, was a member of the Blackhawks when they faced Columbus in the Blue Jackets' first ever game in 2000. Amonte had two goals and an assist in a 5-3 Chicago win.

## The Athletic / Jet Greaves' shutout helps Blue Jackets celebrate Charlie Coyle's 1,000th game in style

**By Aaron Portzline - January 23, 2026**

COLUMBUS, Ohio — No matter how Thursday ended for the Columbus Blue Jackets, it would have been a memorable night for center Charlie Coyle, who crossed an NHL milestone — 1,000 games played — that puts him in an impressive club.

But the fact the Blue Jackets held on for a 1-0 win over the Dallas Stars, thanks to a stellar performance by goaltender Jet Greaves and a composed third period by players up and down the Columbus bench, made it all the more special.

Greaves made 28 saves for the third shutout of his career, and Zach Werenski's goal at 8:48 of the first period was the only score for either club. It was the Blue Jackets' first 1-0 regulation win in almost two years and their fifth win in the past six games.

"It's a big night for Charlie," Blue Jackets coach Rick Bowness said. "We love that we won the game for him. He's a great member of this team. He's been a great performer in this league, obviously, for a long, long time. And he gives you everything he's got, just a coach's dream.

"That was a heck of a hockey game, man. The fans got their money's worth tonight, for sure. Actually, that's how we want to play, and that's fun, for me to be behind the bench watching that effort, seeing that the guys are blocking shots ... . Man, that was just a great effort."

This was the type of game NHL coaches appreciate and most fans find, well, rather boring. It was a chess match on skates, and a crowd of 14,372 in Nationwide Arena was, at times, watching both clubs be content to minimize risk and stay on the right side of the puck.

Bowness, who took over this job less than two weeks ago with a promise of fixing the leaky Jackets' defense, was simply delighted, especially after calling out his players — youngsters and veterans — for a sleepy effort against Ottawa on Tuesday.

The Blue Jackets played the final 3:13 down a skater after the Stars pulled goaltender Casey DeSmith for a six-on-five advantage. They spent time in their zone, sure, but they pressured Dallas on the outer reaches of the zone, not letting the Stars get comfortable.

With 11.9 seconds left, Coyle appeared to score an empty-net goal, which would have been a perfect topper for the evening. That the play was called offside did nothing to dim the postgame celebration.

Coyle is the ultimate third-line center. That is, he's a rare gem of a player, but one who generates less attention than his game deserves ... and that's just how he prefers it. In that sense, Thursday was exhausting and wonderful.

"There was a lot going on in my head today," Coyle said. "As I lay down for (an afternoon) nap, I just sort of stared at the back of my eyelids. I didn't sleep at all. I didn't think I was nervous, but there were obviously some nerves in me, just going through it.

“The guys did some really good things for me, things I wasn’t fully prepared for, you know? But those are the cool moments, and I would do it again and again. And to end up with a win at the end of the night is the best part.”

The Blue Jackets wore “Charlie Coyle 1,000” T-shirts around the rink Thursday morning. They took warmup all draped in No. 3 sweaters with “1K” on the shoulders. Shortly before puck drop, Coyle’s father, Chuck, came into the dressing room to read the starting lineup to the players.

The family, led by Chuck, lit the ceremonial cannon before faceoffs, and Bowness made sure Coyle was in the starting lineup with wingers Cole Sillinger and Mathieu Olivier.

After the game, Coyle was given the “donkey cap” signifying the players’ choice for player of the game, and players were seen wearing bathrobes with the Blue Jackets’ logo and their numbers on them, a gift from Coyle.

“He’s only been here for a short amount of time, but he’s one of the best teammates I’ve had,” Werenski said. “We were just talking back there after the game, how fun days like this are. I’ve only been a part of two 1,000th games for guys, and they don’t come around very often.

“It couldn’t happen to a better guy, so we’re happy to get the win for him.”

Werenski’s the reason the Blue Jackets and Stars didn’t play beyond regulation. He gathered a puck in the right circle and used the screen of a Dallas player in front of him to fire the puck toward DeSmith.

The puck found the far corner of the net, the only sliver of space that DeSmith was offering. It was Werenski’s 19th goal of the season, putting him on the cusp of the third 20-goal season of his career.

That was plenty enough for Greaves, who made 22 of his saves in the final two periods for his first shutout of the season.

The last time the Blue Jackets won a regulation game 1-0 was Jan. 30, 2024, at St. Louis. Elvis Merzlikins made 21 saves in that game and Dmitri Voronkov scored the only goal.

Greaves, who improved to 15-12-6 on the season, turned his postgame interview into a Coyle appreciation thread, too.

“I could talk all night about how amazing he is as a teammate, how amazing he is as a player,” Greaves said. “He’s just been such a great addition to our group. I could go on and on — like every player in this room — about how special he is, and we’re super lucky to have him.

“A night like this is super important for him. He’s got a lot of family in town. This was a really big night for this group, too, just how much we care about Charlie and how super happy we are that we could get that win for him.”

## The Columbus Dispatch / Greaves' 28 saves lead Columbus Blue Jackets to 1-0 win

**By Brian Hedger – January 22, 2026**

It wasn't pretty, but the Blue Jackets got Charlie Coyle a win for the 1,000th game of his NHL career.

Battling for three periods with the Dallas Stars on Jan. 22 at Nationwide Arena, the Jackets made Zach Werenski's goal in the first period stand up in a 1-0 shutout victory backstopped by goalie Jet Greaves (28 saves) in his first shutout of the season.

Coyle appeared to score into an empty net with 11.3 seconds left to give the Blue Jackets (23-20-7) a two-goal cushion, but the play was called offside entering the Dallas zone with Stars goalie Casey DeSmith (21 saves) on the bench for a 6-on-5 advantage.

Werenski gave the Blue Jackets a 1-0 lead 8:48 into the game and that stood as the game's only goal. He now leads all NHL defenseman with 19 goals and trails Colorado Avalanche defenseman Cale Makar by two points in defensive scoring. Greaves made six saves in the first period, 12 in the second and 10 in the third to give himself the shutout and Coyle more reason to celebrate.

## The Columbus Dispatch / Columbus Blue Jackets skate report vs Dallas Stars: Marchment returns

**By Brian Hedger – January 22, 2026**

The Blue Jackets (22-20-7) hope to get a lineup boost from Mason Marchment and Isac Lundstrom returning from injuries against the Dallas Stars (28-13-9) on Jan. 22 at Nationwide Arena.

Marchment was activated off injured reserve during the Jackets' optional morning skate, after participating in practice Jan. 21, and he'll return to the top forward line to skate with Adam Fantilli and Kirill Marchenko after missing eight games with an upper-body injury.

Lundstrom was activated Jan. 20, after missing 12 games, and watched the Jackets' 4-1 loss to the Ottawa Senators as a healthy scratch.

"It gets people back to their strengths as players and who they're playing with," Blue Jackets coach Rick Bowness said. "Obviously, I wasn't here when (Marchment) got here first, and I know they had some success (as a line), so I am anxious to see what that looks like."

Marchment's ice time will be monitored closely. He played a key role for the Stars the past three seasons, prior to a June 25, 2025 trade that sent him to the Seattle Kraken, so facing his former team is additional motivation. Reuniting with Fantilli and Marchenko is, too, after notching five goals and seven points in seven games after joining the Blue Jackets on Dec. 19 in a trade with the Kraken.

"It was a lot of fun," Marchment said. "It was a huge fresh start for me. I really needed it, and they brought me in with open arms here and let me play my game. So, I was having a blast. I was trying to get comfortable and know the guys, which takes time, but they did a great job bringing me in."

Lundstrom, who was injured during practice when his skate caught a rut in the ice, will center a fourth line with Dmitri Voronkov and Danton Heinen at the wing spots. He's contributed five points in 35 games with one goal and four assists, but his steady defensive play and faceoff acumen should help his line handle whichever matchup Bowness assigns.

Elvis Merzlikins, who left the game against Ottawa after one period due to illness, participated in the morning skate and will back up starter Jet Greaves.

"Elvis is good," Bowness said. "He's not as sick. He's got his strength back. He ate last night (Jan. 21), had a good sleep, so he's good to go. He's good to back up."

Casey DeSmith will start for the Stars, who'll be without star forward Mikko Rantanen (illness) for the second straight game. Dallas is coming off a 6-2 victory over the Boston Bruins on Jan. 20 that ended a three-game losing streak.

The Blue Jackets also have a milestone to celebrate when they face the stars, as center Charlie Coyle prepares to play the 1,000th game of his NHL career. All players who get to that point receive a silver stick for the honor, and Coyle will be honored for the accomplishment at an upcoming game.

"You honestly try to dumb it down a little bit, because it is another big game tonight," Coyle said. "These things are great, and I'm proud. You don't get here alone, so it's everyone getting celebrated, in my mind, But these nights are a lot better when you win. That's all I want and care about. It's nice to have

people in town, and have have everyone (wearing T-shirts). It's something more to play for, I guess, so we can have a good game tonight."

## The Hockey Writers / Blue Jackets' Charlie Coyle Set to Play in His 1,000th NHL Game

By Mark Scheig - January 22, 2026

One look around the Columbus Blue Jackets' locker room on Thursday morning painted the perfect picture of who was going to be celebrated that night. Players and staff alike had the hats and shirts to prove it.

Charlie Coyle, who was acquired along with Miles Wood from the Colorado Avalanche, will play in his 1,000th NHL game on Thursday night when the Blue Jackets host the Dallas Stars at Nationwide Arena. Coyle has played games with the Minnesota Wild, Boston Bruins and Colorado Avalanche prior to joining the Blue Jackets this season.

### **NHL Rumours for Jan. 22: Maple Leafs Goaltending, Toews Trade Market & Wright Available?**

Anyone who has the honor of making it to 1,000 games has had to overcome a lot of things to enjoy an NHL career with some longevity. It's no different for Coyle.

While Coyle will have some friends and family in Columbus Thursday and potentially Saturday to celebrate the occasion, the game itself is massive for the Blue Jackets. They cannot afford to let many more games slip by as they try to get back into the playoff race.

While Coyle understands the meaning of 1,000 games, he also understands that it'll mean more with a Blue Jackets' win. He talked about that on Thursday morning.

### **Coyle Reflects on 1,000 Games**

"You try to honestly dumb it down a little bit because it is another big game tonight," Coyle said. "And these things are great. I'm proud and you don't get here alone. So it's everyone's getting celebrated tonight in my mind. But these nights are a lot better when you win and you have that winning feeling and can enjoy it a little more. That's all I want and care about."

"You don't really know how to handle it fully, right? I don't know. I'm not a guy who likes to be like this in the center of things as I think most hockey guys aren't. But it's nice of course when people are doing nice things for you and want to celebrate you. It's the polite thing to do is to let it happen. And as much as you are uncomfortable with it, it's a good thing. I know I'll look back and remember these good times and these moments (and) milestones. But like we said, I just like to dumb it down and it's another game and another big game against a good team."

To be able to get to 1,000 games means overcoming injuries, slumps and everything the daily grind of hockey brings. Like for many others, it was the love of the game that Coyle cherishes most about his NHL career.

"There's certain milestones that you would like to achieve and get to. I guess in my head, it just meant if I got to 1,000, I'm playing a lot of hockey games, which I love to do," Coyle said. "I think that it starts when you're younger and fall in love with the game. You want to play as long as possible. Then you make it to this stage and you're happy. But you want more and you want to keep playing and prolong your career. So that's all I've tried to do."

“It’s a big milestone, but it’s another game along the way of playing more hockey, which is what I love, what we all love. So I just want to keep doing that as long as I can and these things just come along the way with it.”

Blue Jackets’ coach Rick Bowness has coached his fair share of players over the years who had milestone games. He offered a slightly different perspective about what 1,000 games means.

“It’s a special night obviously,” Bowness said. “Listen, when players come in our league today, they want to get to Game 10, right? They’re not worried about 1,000. They just want to stay in the league for a while. Guys that reach 1,000 games, it shows their complete dedication. Because it’s not just what they’re doing on the ice, it’s what they’re doing off the ice. To look after themselves in the offseason, training and all those things come into play. They all come into play and show you how dedicated they are to the profession.”

“I’ve coached against (Coyle) his whole career. I’ve always admired the way he plays. I think he’s one of those guys that coaches love. Low maintenance. There’s low maintenance and then there’s no maintenance and there’s high maintenance. So we like those guys down here a lot better. He would be a no maintenance guy. He just comes to play and plays the same way every night. Doesn’t matter who you’re playing against. Doesn’t matter where you’re playing. He’s going to play the exact same way. To play 1,000 games, that’s a wonderful accomplishment. There’s a lot of games. There’s a lot of travel. So for him to reach that 1,000, good for him.”

Coyle is having one of his better seasons with the Blue Jackets in recent memory. He enters play Thursday night with 10 goals and 30 points while taking on the opposition’s best lines on a nightly basis. He’s played well enough to warrant consideration for the Selke Trophy this season given to the best defensive forward.

Coyle will have ample time to celebrate his career eventually. But only one thing matters Thursday. A win against the Dallas Stars. That will make his 1,000th NHL game much more memorable.

## Cleveland 19 News / Monsters edge Wolves 7-6 in overtime

By Leah Doherty – January 22, 2026

CLEVELAND, Ohio (WOIO) - After jumping out to an early lead, the Monsters hung on to beat the Chicago Wolves in overtime, 7-6.

The Monsters came out firing in the opening period, with Owen Sillinger striking first just two minutes into the game off assists from Roman Ahcan and Luca Pinelli.

Corson Ceulemans quickly added another, assisted by Hudson Fasching and Jack Williams, extending the lead to 2-0 just 88 seconds later. Chicago got on the board through Evan Vierling at 4:59, but the Monsters answered back when Hunter McKown scored at 10:28 with assists from Max McCue and Caleb MacDonald.

Cleveland headed into the first intermission with a commanding 3-1 advantage.

The Monsters continued to control the game in the middle frame, building a commanding 6-2 lead heading into the final period. Mikael Pyyhtiä capitalized on a power-play opportunity just 2:14 into the second, with help from Pinelli and Luca Del Bel Belluz.

Justin Pearson extended the lead at 13:31, assisted by Del Bel Belluz and Pyyhtiä, pushing Cleveland's advantage to 5-1. Chicago briefly cut into the deficit when Cal Foote scored at 17:14, but Owen Sillinger—posting two goals on the night—answered back at 18:47 with assists from Guillaume Richard and Pinelli to give Cleveland a comfortable 6-2 cushion heading into the third.

History unfortunately repeated itself in the third period. Much like the night prior, the Monsters gave up the lead in the third, allowing the Wolves to score four unanswered goals to force overtime.

Bradly Nadeau started the comeback at 4:15, followed by Justin Robidas's power-play goal at 6:30. Josiah Slavin and Nadeau struck again at 17:43 and 18:19 respectively, knotting the game at 6-6 and sending the contest to the extra period.

The momentum seemed to be entirely with Chicago, but the Monsters had one more moment of magic in them.

Just 32 seconds into overtime, Jack Williams ended the suspense with the game-winning goal, assisted by Dysin Mayo and Pearson, securing the thrilling 7-6 victory.

Cleveland's Ivan Fedotov turned aside 23 shots to secure the win, while Chicago's Amir Miftakhov made 23 saves in a losing effort.

Cleveland's record improves to 18-14-5-1, sixth place in the AHL's North Division.

The Monsters will hit the road Saturday, January 24, to face the Rochester Americans with puck drop at 5:05 p.m. ET.