

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

Saturday, Dec. 2, 2023

Dallas Stars 8, Tampa Bay Lightning 1

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

DALLAS STARS

Stars Head Coach Pete DeBoer

On today's win

"Not much not to like. Tough games from a schedule point of view for both teams. [The Lightning] had a tough road, too. We just wanted to concentrate on making sure that we didn't have to play a perfect game, but we had to compete. The fresh legs that we put in the lineup helped us, did a great job. Jake [Oettinger] was fresh because we got to play [Scott Wedgewood] the other night in Calgary. Just a solid win."

On the importance of first shift after scoring a goal

"Those bump up shifts are really important. That's a chance to really grab momentum, pile on if you've scored, and if you just got scored on, to try and grab some momentum back before the other team grabs it. So, for us, I don't think it's been a secret through the first twenty games we've had different guys battling some confidence in scoring at different points, and the right guys got goals tonight. [Jason Robertson] had a couple, [Jamie Benn] scored, so it was a good night."

On Jake Oettinger's performance

"We needed Jake to be our best player tonight, and he was. He rose to the challenge. It wasn't just that break away. At 3-1, there were probably two or three good chances they had that could have really changed the game, and he kept us in the driver's seat and gave us that confidence to extend the lead."

Stars Captain Jamie Benn

On today's game

"It was a good sixty minutes and good start. Our penalty kill did a great job. We gave up one, but that's a great power play. We'll take the two points."

On maintaining momentum

"It's huge. The first shift after any goal is important. But we had a lot of good ones tonight."

On Mason Marchment's performance

"A lot of confidence. That line has been great for us all year. They gel well together, and they work great together. It's fun to watch when they're going."

Stars Forward Mason Marchment

On positive momentum in today's game

"Even when things are going badly, you have to stay positive and keep pushing through. There are going to be ups and downs throughout the season. That was definitely an 'up.'"

On his recent hot streak

"It feels good. I'm playing with confidence, and my linemates are playing well. We're feeling good, so we'll just keep it going."

Stars Forward Jason Robertson

On today's blowout win

"It was one of the few games here at home where we started on our toes. Good things happen when we did that, and it led to success."

On his two-goal performance

"When you are getting touches, and you score goals as an offensive guy it is always nice. Getting a good bounce here and there. We'll try to build on it this month."

On the importance of keeping the pressure up after scoring goals

"It was really important for the guys following it up. [Tampa Bay] took a timeout, and our guys still stuck with it. It's easy for the momentum to swing, but our guys responded the right way after each goal and built on that. It just continued throughout the game."

TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING

Lightning Head Coach Jon Cooper

On the message to the team today

"In 82 games, there are going to be some stinkers. When it feels like every shot is going in the net and everyone you take is not, that happens. Usually, you have to burn the tape, turn the page, and move onto the next game. What makes it tough is that in three or four [games], we for sure could have taken two of them to the point and gotten points on the last three. We don't, and now all sudden we've lost four in a row. This one is much more of a stinger. A week ago we won three in a row, and to find out you lost four in a row, you can't bury your head in the sand. You have to say, 'Okay, what can we get better at here,' and move onto the next one. Good thing is we have these guys again. You can look at it two ways. It's a heck of a team, Dallas. But when something like this happens, if you have a choice, you would want to play the same team again. We're going to have that opportunity in a few nights."

On not scoring goals

"It's tough. Four games ago, we score eight on 14 and now we have five out of 150. We have really good players there, but you're used to scoring and it's not going in the net. It's not a 15-game year, it's an 82-game year. There are going to be some dry spells. But before we do that, we have to start keeping the puck out. For us, that has got to be paramount."

Lightning Forward Austin Watson

On Jon Cooper's message to the team after giving up three goals early in the game

"At that point the game can get a little squirrely emotionally, but at the time we were doing a lot of good things and playing the offensive zone. We hadn't given up much, but what we did ended up in the back of our net. Just to try to stick with what we were doing and claw our way back. We were able to get one on the power play, but we know what happened the rest of the game as well."

On preventing mistakes going forward

"Just have to stick with it and have to work. It's a bit unfortunate where we score eight [goals] on 15 [shots] in Carolina, and then over the last three games or so, we have put a lot of rubber on the net and can't seem to find a way to bear down when we get chances. It seems like what we do give up are some pretty grade-A, point-blank looks, and they end up in back of our net. There's a lot of guys here from the teams that won a couple of championships, and we have a lot of veteran guys that have played playoff games that have been through a lot of seasons. Adversity comes throughout the season, and we are hitting a little bit of that right now. The thing you can't do is get negative and get down on each other or yourself, you have to work to find your way out of it, and I'm really confident that our group will do that."

Lightning Defenseman Calvin De Haan

On the message after Stars scored three goals

"Stick with our game plan. It was three quick shots that went in the net, and we had a game like that against Carolina. It was the same thing. It felt like that game in a way. We created some good opportunities, but we're just not capitalizing offensively right now. It's frustrating, but the worst thing that could happen is letting negativity creep into this locker room. I've played on some subpar teams over my career, and when that negativity starts creeping in, it makes things worse. We need to stay focused and stay positive. I'm sure the teams that have won championships here with the Lightning have faced some adversity over the course of those seasons and playoffs, as well. We are just going through that a little bit right now. It's definitely not for lack of effort. We are trying our best out there. The stars aren't aligning for us."

On fending off the negativity after four straight losses

"No, we are not happy, but we can watch game tape and take some positives away. We are doing some good things, but we aren't capitalizing offensively. It's five guys out there, not just our forwards. It's everyone being apart of the offense. But at the same time, we need to find a way to keep the puck out of our net. It seems like teams are playing a little opportunistic against us right now and pucks are going in. It is what it is, but we have to stay positive and keep moving forward. Lots of hockey left."