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GAME RECAP

Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2024 - Honda Center
15-17-4, 34 pts.

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	GOALS					SHOTS					POWER PLAYS	
	1	2	3	OT	TOTAL	1	2	3	OT	TOTAL	G-OPP	%
DUCKS	1	0	2	-	3	5	11	10	-	26	0-3	0.0
DEVILS	0	0	2	-	2	15	6	13	-	34	0-2	0.0

ANAHEIM DUCKS POSTGAME NOTES

The Anaheim Ducks knocked off the Eastern Conference leading New Jersey Devils with a 3-2 win to close out the 2024 calendar year Tuesday night at Honda Center. With the win, Anaheim improved to 5-3-0 the last eight games and 11-10-2 the last 23 overall. The Ducks also improved to 4-4-2 in all-time New Year's Eve games on home ice.

Anaheim and New Jersey split the season series. The Ducks have earned points in nine of their last 12 contests vs. the Devils in Orange County (8-3-1) to now own a 21-20-5 all-time record vs. the Devils (14-8-2 at home).

LUKAS DOSTAL made 32 saves to earn his 10th win of the season and record his 11th outing with 30-plus save. Dostal finished December with a 5-3-1 record, including consecutive wins and victories in four of his last five starts (4-1-0).

RYAN STROME scored the Ducks' game-winning goal at 16:36 of the third period, his second consecutive game-winning goal in the final five minutes of regulation to become the first player in Ducks' history to accomplish the feat. He added an assist for his fourth multi-point outing of the season (1-1=2), marking 2-1=3 points his last two games and 2-5=7 points his last eight contests.

TROY TERRY opened the scoring with his 23rd game-opening goal to tie Bobby Ryan for 10th most in franchise history. He extended his point streak to three games (2-1=3) and continues to lead Anaheim in goals (11) and points (11-18=28).

ROBBY FABBRI scored his fifth goal to mark goals in consecutive games (2-0=2), six points his last five games (4-2=6, +5) and eight points his last eight games (4-4=8).

LUKAS GAUTHIER recorded his 12th assist for points in back-to-back games (1-2=3) and five points his last five games (1-4=5).

FRANK VATRANO earned assists on Terry and Strome's goal for his fourth multi-point outing on the campaign (0-2=2). He ranks tied for second among Anaheim leaders in points (9-10=19).

JACKSON LACOMBE earned the primary assist on Strome's goal to extend his point/assist streak to three games (0-3=3) and mark 2-6=8 points his last nine contests.

BRIAN DUMOULIN earned his seventh helper of the season.

Tonight's attendance was 17,174, a sellout. The Ducks will open their 2025 calendar year Thursday, Jan. 2 at Winnipeg (5 p.m. PT).



ANAHEIM DUCKS POSTGAME QUOTES

LUKAS DOSTAL

On his performance

Yeah, well it doesn't change my job, right? It's still my job to stop the puck and, you know, just help the team for the win. I think we just played a hell of a game, there was a lot of blocked shots, when they were getting the chances. Obviously the first period, they pressured but for the second and third, I felt like we came out really well and we controlled the game.

On how the team has changed from the beginning of the season

I think there has been a difference, we work so hard throughout the year and the whole season and we have a resilient group. I feel like we have a little bit of luck on our side.

ROBBY FABBRI

On what is going well for his line with Cutter Gauthier and Mason McTavish the last few games

Just off what Cutter said the other night, we are communicating well on the ice, on the bench. We are just complimenting each other right now. Cutter is skating great, creating plays. [Mason McTavish] is playing like a horse out there. It is just going well right now. Just trying to ride the high.

On pushing against top teams and the difference between now and the early season.

"I think we are just all on the same page. It is pretty special when either goalie in the net can give us a chance to win every night. They've been great behind us. That allows us to get to our game and play our game. Hell of a job by Dosty (Lukas Dostal) and Gibby (John Gibson), but I think we are just getting connected as a group here.

HEAD COACH GREG CRONIN

On the game

I thought it was great. We were sleeping in the first period, we looked sloppy, disjointed, we weren't handling the puck well. They were playing a real fast game, so that magnified some of our disconnectivity. We spoke about it after the first period, we are fortunate to get out of that 1-0. They had some grade A scoring chances on their power plays for those three minutes of power plays. But, I really like the way we came out the second. We kind of got back to our game which we have been playing for about six weeks now. Then when they did make it 2-2, the bench was terrific to get back to playing our game, playing on your toes. Kind of flukey goals. First one was kind of innocent, it was a wrist shot and it deflected. The second one was a rush shot that was probably 40 feet away [and] I think it hit something on the way to the net. They responded well and they are starting to get mature as a group. You talk about this repeatedly there is a group of old guys [and] a group of young kids. The older guys are able to communicate the maturity they feel after playing five to 600 games and I think that is being transferred to the young kids.

On Lukas Dostal's performance

He was awesome, I mean, in the first period he was terrific. They easily could have had three goals in the first period but he was great. He's, I've said this repeatedly, he's mature for his age, particularly in a goalie's life when you're that young, to have his maturity level. He doesn't get rattled, he's got a very high standard that he sets for himself, even when he plays pucks, he took a couple whistles that prevented us from changing tonight. I saw his face, you could tell he was disappointed in himself but you can see by his body language when little details like that slip, he immediately takes ownership of it. You always say it's not the number of saves it's the timeliness of the saves and I thought that he had some timely saves tonight.



NEW JERSEY DEVILS POSTGAME QUOTES

TIMO MEIER

On the frustration after the result

After Carolina where we only gave up two points, we wanted to come here today and get a win. I think we didn't compete enough to get out of here with two points. So, that is a frustrating one. But, cannot feel sorry for ourselves, it is our own fault. We have a chance to get two points tomorrow. This game is definitely going to piss us off, but we should go and take this into the game tomorrow.

On regrouping for tomorrow's game

No, like I said, I think we just didn't compete hard enough. We thought it was going to come easy, so we got learn how [to assess] this situation. There is no team that is going to hand you two points. Especially in a row, so we got a back to back here and we got a good team [Los Angeles Kings] tomorrow. We got to compete way harder tomorrow.

JONAS SIEGENTHALER

On Timo Meier's comment about not competing hard enough

I think we started off not bad [in the] first period. In the second period, we just took it for granted. I would say, we didn't compete enough. We were just floating around [during the game]. I think in the third, we came back a little stronger [and] scored a couple. Then we got scored on again and gave the two/two away. It shouldn't have happened, I think it is game management. If it is two [to] two in the last six minutes, it shouldn't happen.

On his comment about taking it for granted during the second period

I think we did not play hard enough. We did not move our legs. We did not play physical at all, I think that was a big part of tonight. I think we just skated by a little bit and tried to make a play. If it wasn't there, the pass got broken up and we just skated by. We know how to play the right way and I think today wasn't the right way.

HEAD COACH SHELDON KEEFE

On the momentum shift during the second period

Yeah, I think that's fair to say, I liked our first period but obviously didn't make good on our chances or didn't do enough with our chances that we had in the first. You know, first two shifts in the second were pretty good and I do think we got stalled a little bit with the penalty kills but some of those penalties we took were a little bit of a symptom of where our game was at. I thought we really lost our game in the early part of that second period. For me, the second and third were our two worst periods of the season.

On Jacob Markstrom

Yeah, [Markstrom] was great, he deserved two points here today. He should be very upset with his teammates tonight.