



MONTREAL CANADIENS vs. BUFFALO SABRES



Friday, May 8, 2026 | 7:00 P.M. | KeyBank Center | Broadcast: TNT

BUFFALO SABRES

Series: 1-0
50-23-9 | 109 PTS
1st Place in the Atlantic Division

Top Scorers

Tage Thompson: 7 GP, 2 G, 5 A, 7 PTS
Alex Tuch: 7 GP, 4 G, 3 A, 7 PTS
Bowen Byram: 7 GP, 4 G, 2 A, 6 PTS

Playoff Series:

Game 1: May 6 at BUF | 4-2 W
Game 2: May 8 at BUF | 7:00 P.M.
Game 3: May 10 at MTL | 7:00 P.M.
Game 4: May 12 at MTL | 7:00 P.M.

MONTREAL CANADIENS

Series: 0-1
48-24-10 | 106 PTS
3rd Place in the Atlantic Division

Top Scorers

Nick Suzuki: 8 GP, 2 G, 5 A, 7 PTS
Lane Hutson: 8 GP, 2 G, 4 A, 6 PTS
Zachary Bolduc: 8 GP, 1 G, 4 A, 5 PTS

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

A win tonight would give Buffalo six consecutive playoff wins over Montreal, tied for the longest playoff winning streak by the Sabres against the Canadiens all-time (May 6, 1975 to April 5, 1990).

In his last four games, **Zach Benson** has posted five points (2+3), including two points in back-to-back contests.

A multi-point performance tonight would make **Benson** the first NHL skater age 20 or younger to record multiple points in three or more consecutive playoff games since Patrick Kane from April 27 to May 2, 2009 (three games; 4+2).

Alex Lyon has allowed seven total goals in six appearances in the playoffs, the fewest goals allowed in any six-game span in the playoffs by a Sabres goaltender all-time. It is the first time a goaltender has allowed seven or fewer goals in their first six playoff games with a team since Carter Hart from August 2 to 18, 2020 with Philadelphia (7).

Bowen Byram has recorded six points (4+2) in seven playoff games thus far. **Byram** is one goal away from recording the most goals by a Sabres defenseman in a single playoff year all-time.

Peyton Krebs has registered six points (2+4) in seven playoff games thus far and his plus-7 rating through the team's first seven playoff games is tied with **Byram** and **Alex Tuch** for the team lead.

Tuch has posted seven points (4+3) in the playoffs, leads all Sabres skaters in goals and is tied with **Tage Thompson** for the team lead in points.

With a point tonight, **Tuch** and/or **Thompson** would become the first Sabres skater(s) to register eight or more points in their first eight playoff games with Buffalo since Daniel Briere (3+8), Tim Connolly (5+6), Chris Drury (4+6), Mike Grier (3+5) and Derek Roy (3+5) all did so from April 22 to May 8, 2006.



In his last four games, **Josh Doan** has registered five points (2+3), including at least one point in each of his last two contests.

Doan would join **Thompson** (three games; April 26 to May 1; 0+4) and **Owen Power** (four games; April 19 to 26; 0+4) as the only Sabres skaters with assist streaks of three or more games in the playoffs with an assist tonight.

BUFFALO INJURY REPORT

Sam Carrick (upper body); **Justin Danforth** (lower body, IR); **Jiri Kulich** (blood clot, IR); **Noah Ostlund** (lower body)

ON THIS DATE

The Sabres are 4-4-0 all-time on May 8 (regular season and playoffs).

May 8, 1975: Buffalo defeats Montreal 4-3 in Game 6 to advance to the Stanley Cup Final for the first time in franchise history.

May 8, 1998: Geoff Sanderson scores two goals, including the game-winner in overtime, as the Sabres beat the Canadiens 3-2 in game 1 of the Eastern Conference Semifinals.

HOME SWEET HOME

Tage Thompson led all Sabres skaters in goals (19) and points (43) in home games in the regular season and he leads all Buffalo skaters in home points (4) in the playoffs. He is tied with **Bowen Byram** for the most home goals (2) among all Sabres skaters in the playoffs.

Alex Lyon earned a home save percentage of .907 (490 saves on 540 shots) in the regular season and made 34 saves on 36 saves (.944) at home against Boston in the first round.

In three home playoff appearances thus far, **Lyon** has made 60 saves on 64 shots against (.938), including 26 saves on 28 shots in Game 1 against Montreal.

Buffalo has registered six goals in the third period of home playoff games, tied for the third-most among all NHL teams. In the team's first four home games of the playoffs, the Sabres have posted a 5-on-5 shot attempts differential of plus-25 when trailing, the best mark among all playoff teams.

HEAD-TO-HEAD (Regular Season)

Buffalo Sabres	Montreal Canadiens
50-23-9	Record 48-24-10
26-10-5	Home Record 24-15-2
24-13-4	Road Record 24-9-8
6-3-1	Last 10 Games 7-3-0
3.45 (5th)	Goals For Per Game 3.40 (7th)
2.93 (T-10th)	Goals Against Per Game 3.06 (T-16th)
19.5% (21st)	Power Play 23.1% (10th)
81.9% (4th)	Penalty Kill 78.2% (18th)
45.9% (32nd)	Team FO% 51.0% (11th)
49.5% (15th)	Team SAT% (5 on 5) 48.2% (25th)

