

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, Oct. 21, 2023
Dallas Stars 5, Flyers 4 (OT)
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DALLAS STARS

Stars Head Coach Pete DeBoer

On tonight's game

"The stats had the turnovers at 13-1. That's being generous for us. Our puck management was horrendous. That's a great equalizer – you can do everything else right, but if you're going to mismanage the puck, your defense can't keep gaps because they don't trust the forwards are going to get it in. That's what it looks like, and we've got to figure that out. We're a smarter team than that, and we're lucky we didn't get burned. [Scott Wedgewood] gave us a game, and the silver lining is we've got this overtime thing figured out."

On working on overtime play in training camp

"We have some different personnel, and we've used them a little differently than we have in the past. We've turned some stones over to try and get that figured out. This group figured out the number of points it cost us last year, so they came back as an attentive audience. Hopefully we'll be as attentive on the turnovers and get that fixed for next game."

On the play of Joe Pavelski

"I take it for granted – you never think he's going to miss. It's always in big moments and he always rises to the occasion. In this case, it's two faceoffs against [Sean] Couturier who is one of the best faceoff guys in the league. He digs in and finds a way to win two in a row in the offensive zone, and we win the game. Not even the finish, all the little things that lead to the finish are great to watch every night."

Stars Captain Jamie Benn

On tonight's game

"The points are obviously why we are here, and we have a lot of work to do and need to clean up a lot of areas. Our power play was pretty ugly and just managing the game. We can't be giving up shorthanded goals, and we need to manage the puck a little better. I feel like we are a good forechecking team when we forecheck, but we need to put the pucks in the right places to do that, and their first goal started with myself. You don't get a puck in, and they come back. These teams are good, and they will find a way to create, too. You've got to take care of the puck, but we got two points, and we'll take it."

On celebrating Ken Hitchcock and Ed Belfour's induction into the Dallas Stars Hall of Fame

"Obviously a pretty cool weekend. Nice to get two points for them. I saw Hitch this morning, and I had a little bit of a chat with him, and it was good to catch up. He's obviously a big part of this organization. He read the starting lineup for us and he's definitely looking the part. It's a great weekend to celebrate those two."

Stars Forward Joe Pavelski

On improving performance in overtime this season

"We definitely are a little bit different, a little bit more patient. Try to possess the puck a little bit more and accomplish certain things out there, and it's led to more chances. We've got some good saves, as well. It showed last year – it's a big part of the season. Tonight, it leads to a couple good chances, [Ersson] makes a heck of a good save on Roope right before it, so it's good to be generating those looks and feeling like you're creating the chances, creating the momentum in overtime. You do that a lot, and you're going to create a few more wins."

On his overtime goal and predicting the goal plan

"It's different every time. You're thinking all kinds of things. You want that and you get that much time, you want to make it count. A lot of times you'll just be shooting that puck. Today it just felt right to make that move. [Ersson] read it well, as well. I was able to slide it between the blocker there."

Stars Forward Wyatt Johnston

On whether overtime feels different this season

"I feel more confident this year. It is a lot of fun playing in overtime and having the game on the line, and there's a lot more space offensively, so being able to see the ice and make plays and hold on to the puck. It's been a lot of fun and it definitely feels a little different and a little less nerve-racking this year than it was last year."

On his goal in the first period

"I saw the puck in the air, and I knew they're so tough to read when it's up in the air. It may take a bounce in any direction, so I was just trying to follow it in and luckily enough I got a stick and was able to pick it up, and then I just went down and picked a spot and shoot at."

On his line's chemistry

"It's great. I played a lot of minutes with those guys last year. It makes it a lot easier going into this year and just being able to know what each other are going to do and build on that chemistry from last year, especially early in the season. It makes a big difference, and it helps a lot."

PHILADELPHIA FLYERS

Flyers Head Coach John Tortorella

On feeling after the game

"We just stayed with it. You would like to get both points, but we just stayed in the game and handled some of the momentum swings and found a way to get back in and tie it."

On a young defensive core and how they handled the game

"There are mistakes being made by both teams. Their defense made some mistakes. It's going to happen each and every game. But when you play Edmonton, you play Dallas, and now we got Vegas coming, probably three of the best teams in the league. So, they're getting some good looks and what the National Hockey League is about."

Flyers Forward Travis Konecny

On playing their first game without injured defenseman Marc Staal

"There are going to be mistakes back there, but just sticking with it and battling. We stuck with it and found a way to get a big point and we move on."

On this being a big point tonight despite losing in OT

"We want to clean up a few areas, but we battled hard, and that was a big point for us. We are going to move on."

On the young defense and being without Marc Staal for several weeks

"Guys are going to figure out what they can do and what they can't get away with and clean up little areas. Sometimes the first play is the best option you got over a home run play, so just little things like that that guys are going to get used to playing in this league. I remember my first year, and it takes you a while to get games under your belt and feel comfortable out there. They're doing a great job."

Flyers Goaltender Samuel Ersson

On tonight's game

"I'm disappointed and I feel like this isn't the best version of me. It sucks to feel like that when the guys in front of me played so well today. We earned two points and the positive is that we battled back very strong. That's something we can take with us moving forward."

On improving over the course of a game

"It's up to me to battle, too, and not the start I wanted, but you have to make the best out of it and keep battling no matter what, especially in a game like this when the guys are playing so well and working so hard. They did deserve better aside from me today."