

CBJ leads BOS 2-1...Gm 4, Thurs., 7:30 ET
CAR leads NYI 2-0 ... Gm 3, Tonight, 7 ET



STL leads DAL 2-1...Gm 4: Tonight. 9:30 ET
SJ leads COL 2-1 ... Gm 4: Thurs., 10 ET

2019 STANLEY CUP PLAYOFFS UPDATE May 1, 2019

Today's Action – 2 games

NYI vs CAR - Game 3 (7 PM ET, NBCSN)

35-year-old backup goalie **Curtis McElhinney** will make his 1st career playoff start in place of the injured **Petr Mrazek**, who left in the middle of Game 2 with a lower-body injury. McElhinney stopped all 17 shots he faced in relief on Sunday; how will he fare on the biggest stage of his career?

McElhinney, who is playing on his 7th different NHL team: *"I don't think at this point in my career anything surprises me. I've been through so much. I'm grateful for the opportunity I do have right now. It's one of those moments you check off your bucket list. Just one more challenge to look forward to."*

- The Hurricanes went 3-0 at home in the First Round, outscoring the Capitals 12-3 in those games.
- The Islanders have only scored 1 goal so far this series.
- **Barry Trotz** has recent experience in this position – his Capitals lost Games 1 and 2 at home in the First Round to Columbus last season before winning the next 4 en route to a Stanley Cup.

Trotz: *"Look at both games. We've had lots of chances. It hasn't been a series where they've outchanced us, outplayed us. I think we've played a good portion of carrying the play, if you will, in good portions of the first two games. It could very well be us on the positive end, but we're not, and that's the reality."*

STL vs DAL - Game 4 (9:30 PM ET, NBCSN)

St. Louis native **Pat Maroon** was the hero for the Blues in Game 3, scoring the game-winning goal with less than 2 minutes to play. The Blues are now 4-0 on the road in the playoffs; a win in Game 4 would set a franchise record for most road wins to begin a postseason.

- Dallas is in a familiar spot; in the First Round, they also lost Game 3 at home to fall behind 2-1 in the series against Nashville. The Stars proceeded to win 3 straight to advance.

DAL D Ben Lovejoy: *"We played our best game of the playoffs in Game 4 against Nashville, and we need to come out and do that again (Wednesday)."*

Postseason By The Numbers

57 games played

- 29 home wins; 28 road wins
- 28 one-goal games
- 5 shutouts (**Petr Mrazek x2, Mike Smith, Marc-Andre Fleury, Braden Holtby**)
- **13** OT games (10 OT games in the First Round; 3 so far in the Second Round)
 - There were only 10 OT games total last postseason
 - 3 games have gone to 2OT

Postseason Leaders Through 21 days

- Goals: 9 – **Logan Couture** (SJ)
- Assists: 10 – **Erik Karlsson** (SJ), **Jacob Slavin** (CAR)
- Points: 12 – **Nathan MacKinnon** (COL), **Mark Stone** (VGK), **Couture** (SJ)
- GAA: 1.47 – **Robin Lehner** (NYI)
- Save %: .952 – **Lehner** (NYI)



3 Stars of Tuesday

- 1) **Sergei Bobrovsky:** 1 goal allowed on 37 shots against the Bruins ... 1.88 GAA this postseason
- 2) **Logan Couture:** 1st career playoff hat trick ... leads playoffs with 9 goals in 10 games
- 3) **Timo Meier:** 1 goal & 2 assists ... first career 3-point playoff game

Blue Jackets 2 Bruins 1 (Game 4: Thursday at 7:30 pm – NBCSN) CBJ leads series 2-1

- In front of an electric crowd, the Blue Jackets won their 2nd straight game behind 36 saves from **Sergei Bobrovsky** and another game-winning power play goal from **Matt Duchene**. All 3 games in this series have been decided by 1 goal.
- The Blue Jackets continued to stifle Boston’s top offensive players. **Patrice Bergeron**, **Brad Marchand**, and **David Pastrnak** were all held off the scoresheet, and in 3 games this series, the trio has combined for just 1 point:

BOSTON'S BIG THREE – THIS SERIES			
	MARCHAND	BERGERON	PASTRNAK
GAME 1	--	--	--
GAME 2	--	--	1 goal
GAME 3	--	--	--

BOS D Brandon Carlo, ever the optimist, on Bobrovsky: *“The secondary saves that he’s making are very impressive. But he’s definitely going to crack at some point. I have a lot of faith that we’re going to put pucks past him really soon. We had really good opportunities through all three periods to put pucks behind him and you credit him today. But overall I don’t think it’s going to last.”*

Sharks 4 Avalanche 2 (Game 4: Thursday at 10 pm – NBCSN) SJ leads series 2-1

- The Avs rallied from a 2-0 deficit to tie the game midway through the 3rd period, but **Logan Couture** scored 65 seconds later to give San Jose the lead for good. He added an empty netter to record his first career playoff hat trick. The loss snapped Colorado’s 8-game home winning streak.
 - Entering the game, Couture had not scored in the series, and admitted he was “pressing” after a 6-goal output in the First Round against Vegas. Couture now leads the postseason with 9 goals, 3 more than anyone else.
 - Couture now has 43 playoff goals since his postseason debut in 2010 – the 2nd-most in the NHL behind **Alex Ovechkin**:
 - **Nathan MacKinnon** scored the Avs’ first goal – he’s now recorded a point in 7 straight games.

Most Playoff Goals Since 2010	
Alex Ovechkin	50
Logan Couture	43
Sidney Crosby	42
Patrick Kane	41
Joe Pavelski	40

SJ Coach Peter DeBoer, last week, on Couture stepping his game up in the playoffs: *“I don’t think there’s an explanation for it. It’s just the way you’re wired that you have the ability to rise to the occasion in moments like that. Great quality to have.”*

COL Captain Gabriel Landeskog: *“A tie hockey game with six minutes to go at home, we got to be able to get that at least to overtime.”*