**POSTGAME NOTES & QUOTES**

COLORADO AVALANCHE 6, PITTSBURGH PENGUINS 3

NOVEMBER 28, 2018

First Star
Nathan MacKinnon (1g, 3a)

Second Star
Sidney Crosby (3g)

Third Star
Gabriel Landeskog (1g, 1a)

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**TEAM NOTES**

The Avalanche earned its 1,400th regular-season win as a franchise and extended its win streak to a season-long six games. Colorado is now 8-0-1 over its last nine outings.

With last night’s win in Nashville, the Avs have swept each of their last two back-to-back sets and are now 2-1-1 in the second game of such sets. It’s the first time the club has swept two consecutive back-to-back sets since Nov. 2013 (Nov. 1-2 and Nov. 29-30).

Colorado has scored six or more goals in six games this season, more than any other team in the league. The Avalanche’s 95 total goals in 2018-19 ranks first in the NHL, as does its 3.80 goals-per-game average.

Colorado’s top line of Gabriel Landeskog (28 points), Nathan MacKinnon (41 points) and Mikko Rantanen (42 points) have combined for 111 points this season, the most of any trio through 25 games since 2005-06.

Landeskog’s third-period goal, assisted by MacKinnon and Rantanen, marked the 14th time this season that all three forwards have recorded points on the same goal.

The Avs scored three goals in the third period and now has a league-high 39 markers in the final frame.

Pittsburgh’s two goals in a span of 42 seconds of the second period is the fastest two goals the Avalanche has allowed this season (previously: 1:07, Nov. 1 at Calgary).

The Avs have scored five empty-net goals this season, tied for sixth in the league.

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**INDIVIDUAL NOTES**

Mikko Rantanen (42 points) and Nathan MacKinnon (41 points) have recorded the most points through the first 25 team games of the sea-

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**TEAM STATS**

**Avalanche**

- Shots: 26
- Power Play: 0-1
- Penalty Kill: 3-4
- Faceoffs: 53%

**Pittsburgh**

- Shots: 25
- Power Play: 1-4
- Penalty Kill: 1-1
- Faceoffs: 47%

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**Avalanche Schedule**

- Thursday
- Nov. 29, 2018
- No practice
son in Avalanche history (Previous: Joe Sakic (37 points) and Peter Forsberg (37 points) in the 1995-96 campaign).

Rantanen and MacKinnon have recorded multi-point games in each of Colorado’s last six contests. Since 1988-19, only two other pairs of teammates have recorded simultaneous streaks of multi-point games in more than six contests (Wayne Gretzky and Bernie Nicholls; 9 games in 1988-89 and Mario Lemieux and Kevin Stevens (8 games in 1992-93).

MacKinnon and Rantanen’s streaks of six multi-point games matches the Avalanche record for consecutive multi-point outings (4x - last: Joe Sakic, 1999-00).

MacKinnon and Rantanen each have a league-high 14 multi-point games this season.

Gabriel Landeskog notched his fifth game-winning goal of the season, moving him into a tie for first in the league in game winners with Tampa Bay’s Yanni Gourde. Landeskog’s tally was also his 15th of the season, and he’s now tied for ninth among all skaters in goals.

Nathan MacKinnon finished with four points (1g, 3a), the sixth time this season he’s registered three or more points and his first four-point night of the campaign. It’s the fourth time in MacKinnon’s career that he’s tallied four or more points in a game (last: March 2, 2018 vs. Minnesota, 2g, 3a).

Colin Wilson notched his seventh goal of the season, his most in a campaign since 2016-17 (12) with Nashville.

Sidney Crosby registered his first hat trick of the season and 11th of his career.

Philipp Grubauer is 6-0-2 over his last eight appearances.

Erik Johnson finished with a +4 plus/minus rating, matching a career high (Nov. 14, 2015 at Montreal).

Nikita Zadorov registered a season-high eight hits, his most since March 22, 2018 vs. Los Angeles (15, franchise record).

**QUOTES**

**Colorado C Nathan MacKinnon**

*On Tonight’s Game:* “We were good early. They didn’t have much and then they scored two quick ones and Sid (Pittsburgh C Sidney Crosby), you know, you can’t give those guys much room. Unfortunately, we broke our stick when Sid scored the first goal, but special players like that, you can’t give them any types of breaks or room or they’re going to find a way to bury it. But yeah, I thought we were solid tonight. We didn’t give them a ton and then they started buzzing in the third, but it felt good to hold
the lead.”

On Colorado’s Power Play: “We’ve been good. We were good last year – we scored the most goals in the league last year – and this year, we’re just kind of building off of each other. We have a good power-play coach with Ray (Colorado Assistant Coach Ray Bennett) and good five guys.”

Colorado D Erik Johnson

On Tonight’s Game: “I think for the most part, we were really, really good until the last 45 seconds of the second period, so we came in here after that and just said, ‘Screw it, we just played 39 minutes of really good hockey. They got a couple of lucky bounces there at the end.’ We didn’t really want to change anything and they got a quick one there early in the third, but nothing changed for us. You know, we played probably one of our sharpest games in a while there until that last minute of the second. So, job well done by us on a back-to-back and keep this thing rolling.”

On The Defense Contributing Offensively: “I just think we are seeing opportunities to join the play. You know, forwards are doing a good job. When they have speed, they’re delaying and finding us late and managing to find the back of the net, so it’s fun to help contribute and it’s coming from different guys, sometimes on different nights, not just from the top line, but obviously when they’re rolling, we get secondary scoring, it’s just a bonus.”

Colorado LW Gabriel Landeskog

On Colorado’s Top Line: “Obviously, we’ve been finding ways to create some offense here this season and at this point, you just kind of want to keep it going and keep contributing offensively and being reliable defensively. I think tonight, obviously, the breakaway, we were on the ice for that one and then Sid’s (Pittsburgh C Sidney Crosby) third one we were on the ice for too, so we have to make sure we clean up some defensive stuff.”

On Tonight’s Game: “This building, you just kind of feed off the crowd and feed off the energy and that was right from warm-ups tonight. We felt it’s going to be a fun night, like it always is here, but especially against the Penguins. Obviously, they draw a crowd. We felt like we had them right where we wanted them after the first 39 minutes. We break a stick and they get a breakaway to one of the best players in the league and then a bounce off one of our defensemen’s stick that goes in from the corner, so there’s not much you can do about that. You just try to reset as best as you can and we were able to get rewarded at the end of the third.”

Pittsburgh C Sidney Crosby

On The Team: “I think everybody’s just trying to do the same thing and work and make plays, create turnovers. No matter who it is, some guys are going to get more chances in certain games but I think all of us are willing to do the same things. That’s hopefully going to make us consistent.”
On Tonight’s Game: “We had a lot of momentum, we get that [his third goal] and then we got some really good offensive zone shifts and we get that power play. Seems like we lost a lot of momentum. We have to do a better job at power plays, one of the best one’s of the league and we got an opportunity to win a game like that. The next one we have to do a better job than we did.”

Pittsburgh D Kris Letang
On Tonight’s Game: “Some guys had a really good effort. When you think about Sid (Pittsburgh C Sidney Crosby) and his line, there’s a bunch of guys that would pack it in quick but we stayed in and kept battling and we gave ourselves a chance. It’s too bad we didn’t get the result but it was a good effort.”

On Tonight’s Loss: “You can’t rely only on your power play but it was one that we wanted to score on, make the game tied. It was a good effort all around, just a couple mistakes. When you’re down three goals you have to burn a lot of energy.”