



COLORADO AVALANCHE UPDATE

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AVALANCHE NOTES

MacKINNON NAMED ASG CAPTAIN: Nathan MacKinnon has been named the Central Division's captain for the 2019 NHL All-Star Game. MacKinnon will make his third straight appearance at the mid-season classic, which will be held on Jan. 26, at the SAP Center in San Jose. MacKinnon will be the first Avalanche player to serve as an All-Star Game captain since Joe Sakic captained the Western Conference at the 2007 contest in Dallas.

LEADING THE LEAGUE: Mikko Rantanen leads the NHL in scoring with 59 points (16g, 43a), tied for the most points through 37 games in Avalanche history (since 1995-96). Peter Forsberg also had 59 points through 37 contests in 1995-96. Rantanen joined Forsberg (48 points in 1997-98) as the only Avalanche players to lead the league in scoring at the NHL's Holiday Break.

"I think as an organization, we saw what he could do in training camp, we saw what he did last year. Then we get in a position when we have two great goaltenders, then we bring him in, and he gets an opportunity and you want to see what he can do in this league. We like what he's done in the American League, and now he has a little glimpse of what he is capable of. I think it was a great showing for him."

— **Avalanche head coach Jared Bednar on goaltender Pavel Francouz, who made his NHL debut on Saturday against Arizona**

UPCOMING GAMES



Thursday, December 27 at Vegas Golden Knights
T-Mobile Arena, 8 p.m. MT, TV: Altitude, Radio: 92.5 FM

The Avalanche returns from the NHL Holiday Break on Thursday night, taking on the Golden Knights at T-Mobile Arena. It's the first of three meetings between the clubs and the Avs' only trip to Vegas. Colorado was 1-2-0 in 2017-18 against the Knights.



Saturday, December 29 vs. Chicago Blackhawks
Pepsi Center, 7 p.m. MT, TV: Altitude, Radio: 92.5 FM

Colorado opens up a four-game homestand against the Blackhawks Saturday, the second of five matchups between the Central-Division opponents, who clashed just over a week ago at Pepsi Center. Chicago won the first meeting 2-1.



Monday, December 31 vs. Los Angeles Kings
Pepsi Center, 6 p.m. MT, TV: Altitude, Radio: 92.5 FM

The Avs host a New Year's Eve contest for the sixth consecutive season and the eighth time since moving to Denver. Colorado is 4-2-1 at home on New Year's Eve. Monday's contest will be the first of two trips to Denver for the Kings. Colorado topped Los Angeles 7-3 on Nov. 21 at Staples Center.

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Day	Date	Location	Time
Thursday	Dec. 27	Game #38 at Vegas Golden Knights	8 p.m.
Friday	Dec. 28	Practice at Family Sports	12 p.m.
Saturday	Dec. 29	Morning skate at Pepsi Center	10:30 a.m.
		Game #39 vs. Chicago Blackhawks	7 p.m.
Sunday	Dec. 30	Practice at Family Sports	11 a.m.
Monday	Dec. 31	Morning skate at Pepsi Center	9:30 a.m.
		Game #40 vs. Los Angeles Kings	6 p.m.

*All practice dates/times are subject to change, all times mountain

CENTRAL DIVISION STANDINGS

TEAM	GP	W	L	OT	PTS
Winnipeg Jets	36	24	10	2	50
Nashville Predators	37	22	13	2	46
Colorado Avalanche	37	19	12	6	44
Dallas Stars	37	18	16	3	39
Minnesota Wild	35	17	15	3	37
St. Louis Blues	34	14	16	4	32
Chicago Blackhawks	39	13	20	6	32

AVALANCHE LEADERS

Category	Player	No.
Goals	Gabriel Landeskog	24
Assists	Mikko Rantanen	43
Points	Mikko Rantanen	59
Power-Play Goals	Gabriel Landeskog	8
Shorthanded Goals	J.T. Compher	2
Penalty Minutes	Ian Cole	56
Time on Ice/Game	Nathan MacKinnon	21:59
Game-Winning Goals	Gabriel Landeskog	7
Goals-Against Average	Semyon Varlamov	2.79
Save Percentage	Semyon Varlamov	.913

PLAYER SPOTLIGHT

Alexander Kerfoot

Position: Center
Height: 5'10
Weight: 175 lbs.
Shoots: Left
Born: August 11, 1994
Birthplace: Vancouver, BC



Kerfoot matched a career high with two goals on Saturday against the Coyotes. It was the fourth multi-goal game of his career and his first of the 2018-19 campaign. He now has three points (2g, 1a) in three contests since returning from an upper-body injury last Wednesday. Kerfoot's 21 points (6g, 15a) this season ranks sixth on the team.