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<https://www.nhl.com/jets/news/three-things-jets-deserved-better-fate-in-dallas>

***Three things - Jets deserve better fate in Dallas
Winnipeg plays solid road game but lose 3-1***

By Jamie Thomas

For the first time this season, the Winnipeg Jets lost their third game in a row after a 3-1 loss to the Dallas Stars at American Airlines Center. The Jets went 2-4 on their season long six-game road trip and once again deserved at least a point. Adam Lowry scored the only goal of the day for the Jets and Connor Hellebuyck made 28 saves and is 15-4-0 on the season. Dallas is now six points back of the Jets for top spot in the Central. Winnipeg returns home to host the St. Louis Blues on Tuesday night.

QUALITY OVER QUANTITY

For the second straight game, the Jets opened the scoring, and it was off the stick of the captain, Adam Lowry. At 3:16, Lowry redirected Haydn Fleury's shot, and it beat Jake Oettinger on the short side just inside the post for a 1-0 lead for his third goal in his last five games.

Dallas took advantage of a turnover in the neutral zone when Thomas Harley slid a pass over to Wyatt Johnson who one-timed it past Connor Hellebuyck to make it 1-1 at 17:06.

PK AND HELLEBUYCK COME UP HUGE

Winnipeg contained the number two power play in the NHL on Friday night in Vegas. Sunday afternoon, Dallas had a five-on-three man advantage for 1:32 and fired four shots on Hellebuyck but could not beat the Jets goaltender. Josh Morrissey then took a minor penalty for slashing at 16:36, Winnipeg did not surrender a single shot on that man advantage. With 20 seconds left in the second, Hellebuyck stared down Johnston and made a pad save to keep it a tie game.

DESERVED BETTER

The third period was another evenly played affair, but Dallas took their first lead when Mason Marchment fought off Josh Morrissey to beat Hellebuyck at 12:23. The Jets had a few glorious chances to tie, Pionk ripped a snapshot that looked like it was going to go in but Oettinger got a piece of it with his arm. Kyle Connor had a chance with just over 90 seconds left and his shot just went wide. With just under a minute left, Pionk spotted Mark Scheifele at the side of the net, he was denied by Oettinger.

"Obviously, there's a few things we probably want to clean up in zone, off the rush, a couple reads. But I think we worked hard. We battled. The effort was definitely there. It's been a grind of a road trip, the effort was there tonight.,"said Adam Lowry.

"We knew it was going to be a hard game. Their a skilled team and can make a lot of plays and couple things that we can control and, and that we can clean up and maybe avoid some of those. But it was a good effort all around."

NHL.com

<https://www.nhl.com/news/winnipeg-jets-dallas-stars-game-recap-december-1>

***Marchment gets go-ahead goal in 3rd, Stars edge Jets
Johnston scores, Oettinger makes 26 saves; Winnipeg drops 3rd in row for 1st time this season***

By Taylor Baird

DALLAS -- Mason Marchment broke a tie at 12:23 of the third period, and the Dallas Stars defeated the Winnipeg Jets 3-1 at American Airlines Center on Sunday.

Marchment gave Dallas a 2-1 lead on a backhand from the slot. He was spotted behind the Winnipeg defense by Thomas Harley and sprung for a breakaway, then spun away from a Josh Morrissey backcheck to get the shot off.

"He kind of caught up to me there at the end, and I just tried to protect it as long as I could and get a good shot off. Luckily it went in," Marchment said. "I was trying to go [top corner] but sometimes it doesn't work like that. Happy it did."

Winnipeg coach Scott Arniel said, "With the schedule like it is, you know it's a mental mistake and we let a guy get in behind us kind of like the other night in Las Vegas (4-3 loss to the Vegas Golden Knights on Friday). We got beat on a rush situation and it's tough. We're in a grind right here. The heavy part of the schedule, it doesn't get any easier.

"We're happy with the compete and the battle and certainly, 1-1 game going up to seven minutes left into the third period. We have to find the ways to make the difference there and we just didn't."

Wyatt Johnston and Roope Hintz also scored, and Harley had two assists for the Stars (15-8-0), who have won two in a row and four of their past six. Jake Oettinger made 26 saves.

"They've been the best team in the League so far this year, so we're chasing them right now. Guys stepped up and had a huge effort," Oettinger said. "[Connor Hellebuyck] is obviously top of the line and top of the mountain when it comes to goalies, so you know you're not going to get much on him. [Marchment] stepped up and made that huge play, and guys sacrificed and played the right way the rest of the game."

Adam Lowry scored for the Jets (18-7-0), who lost a third straight game for the first time this season. Hellebuyck made 28 saves.

"I thought Hellebuyck, I don't know how many breakaways he stopped. He gave them a chance. We did a lot of good things to earn that win," Dallas coach Pete DeBoer said. "The opponent, the time of the year, what happened the last game we played them. Big team effort from everyone. I really liked our game. I didn't think we gave a lot and thought we created enough."

Lowry gave Winnipeg a 1-0 lead at 3:16 of the first period when he deflected a point shot from Haydn Fleury.

“Anytime you have that moving screen and the deflection, it’s just about changing the angle,” Lowry said. “I’ll be honest, when I turned around and saw it in, I was surprised too. It was a great job by [Fleury] to get it through. They did a good job at getting out in lanes and making it tough on [Dallas] tonight. For him to get that by the first layer, it was nice to see it go in.”

Johnston tied it 1-1 at 17:06, burying a cross-ice feed from Harley on a 2-on-1 rush. He extended his point streak to six games (two goals, five assists).

“We forechecked them better,” Harley said. “We kind of slowed them up through the neutral zone a little bit better. We defended better. If you do those three things pretty well, you’re going to have a good chance to win.”

Hintz scored into an empty net at 19:52 of the third for the 3-1 final.

“It was a good effort. Gave up a couple of chances but played well enough to win,” Winnipeg defenseman Neal Pionk said. “Didn’t get the result we wanted. That’s been kind of the motto the last couple of games. But, it’s going in the right direction.”

NOTES: Esa Lindell had an assist on Hintz’s goal for his 200th NHL point (51 goals, 149 assists) in 627 games. ... Pionk got his 200th NHL assist in 492 games. ... Winnipeg forward Nikolaj Ehlers did not play because of a lower-body injury sustained Friday.

Associated Press

<https://www.sportsnet.ca/nhl/article/jets-stifled-by-oettinger-stars-for-third-straight-loss/>

Jets stifled by Oettinger, Stars for third-straight loss

By Associated Press

DALLAS — Mason Marchment scored the winning goal on a spinning backhander with 7:37 to play with an assist from Jake Oettinger, who made 26 saves, as the Dallas Stars beat the Winnipeg Jets 3-1 on Sunday.

Marchment took a slow-rolling pass made by Thomas Harley from near Dallas’ goal line at the opposite blue line, skated on net while closely defended by Josh Morrissey, spun to his left and shot with his back to goaltender Connor Hellebuyck to break a 1-1 tie.

Oettinger earned his fifth career assist starting the play and remained perfect at American Airlines Center this season at 9-0-0.

Hellebuyck, who leads the NHL with 15 wins, stopped 28 shots.

Wyatt Johnston and Roope Hintz also scored for the Stars, the latter into an empty net with 7.5 seconds left.

Adam Lowry scored for the Jets, who went 2-4-0 on a season-long road trip that took 10 days and covered 5,000 miles. Three of Lowry’s six goals this season have come in the last five games.

Marchment has eight goals and eight assists in his last 10 games.

Johnston has a six-game point streak (two goals, five assists).

Takeaways

Jets: Forward Nikolaj Ehlers, third on the team with 25 points, missed his first game this season with an upper-body injury.

Stars: Their fifth-worst home power play in the league at 12.9% went 0 for 5, blanked for the fifth time in their last six home games. That included 1:14 of 5-on-3 late in the second period.

Key moment

A point-blank shot by Winnipeg's Mark Scheifele with 1:07 remaining sailed just wide.

Key stat

Harley had the primary assist on both Stars goals.

Up next

The Jets will host St. Louis on Tuesday night, their first home game since Nov. 19. The Stars will complete a back-to-back on Monday night with their first trip to Utah.

Sportsnet.ca

<https://www.sportsnet.ca/nhl/article/stanleys-miscues-in-latest-jets-loss-begs-questions-about-heinolas-usage/>

Stanley's miscues in latest Jets loss begs questions about Heinola's usage

By Jacob Stoller

Ville Heinola and Logan Stanley have become intertwined.

The two are frequently compared.

While the Winnipeg Jets drafted both players in the first round, their development paths have stood in stark juxtaposition.

Stanley — a hulking six-foot-seven defenceman — has been given ample opportunity since becoming an NHL regular four years ago.

Heinola — a six-foot puck-moving defenceman — was over-ripened in the minors for years despite turning heads when he suited up for eight NHL games as an 18-year-old.

There's a narrative, fair or not, that the Jets' loyalty to Stanley is rooted in an organization stubbornly holding out hope that they weren't wrong in reaching to draft him. Many believe Heinola's development has been hindered as a result.

So, when news trickled out ahead of Winnipeg's 3-1 loss to the Dallas Stars that Heinola would be a scratch for a second straight game, all eyes turned to Stanley.

And the towering defender had a game to forget on Sunday, taking three ill-advised penalties.

At the 12:27 mark of the first period, he slashed Evgeni Dadonov.

With 1:10 left in the first frame, he cross-checked Roope Hintz from behind in the neutral zone.

And then, at the 6:58 mark of the second period, Stanley took a hooking penalty, on the penalty kill, when he was caught out of position defending Jason Robertson off the rush. It gave the Stars an extended 5-on-3 power play.

What we saw from Stanley against Dallas was not a one-off. He's taken the most minor penalties per 60 minutes (2.18) of any defencemen that's played at least 150 minutes this season, according to NaturalStatTrick.com.

When speaking to reporters post-game, Jets coach Scott Arniel didn't shy away from the fact that Stanley had to be more disciplined. However, he also provided a vote of confidence in the 26-year-old blue-liner.

"He needs to be in our Top-6," Arniel said. "He's a big-bodied guy, he's got size, he's got experience in this league. He expects more from himself, but at the same time, he's no good (to the Jets) sitting in the press box and trying to get better. He's got to be in these types of games. Hopefully, he'll continue to grow."

You can bet a lot of Jets fans flipped their keyboards reading that.

The reality is, the Jets giving Stanley such a long leash boils down to what most coaches believe is a necessity for an effective backend — size. And while there's merit to that ideology, leaving Heinola on the outside looking in — especially while Dylan Samberg remains on the shelf — is problematic.

Over the last decade, the average height of the top three defencemen on a Stanley Cup-winning team is six feet and 2.13 inches. To anybody who watches the playoffs, that shouldn't come as a surprise. The Jets' top three defencemen — Josh Morrissey, Dylan DeMelo and Neal Pionk — are currently the second smallest in the league (six feet and 0.27 inches). It makes sense that the Jets, ideally, would like to have some meat on their bottom pairing. But that shouldn't mean Heinola should be a press box regular right now. Even if there's not a world in which Heinola plays meaningful minutes for this team come playoff time — that should encourage, not dissuade, Winnipeg to give him more runway in the short term. They need to boost his trade value.

For years, Heinola was a coveted prospect that teams inquired about. Now? It's hard to envision any team giving up much for him. Not if he can't put together more reps at the NHL level.

Small sample sizes be damned, what we've seen from Heinola this year — when he suited up against the Minnesota Wild and Los Angeles Kings — speaks volumes to his ability to help the Jets win games, and it's a testament to his overall growth as a prospect. He was sturdy defensively — out-muscling players much bigger than him in front of the net — all the while demonstrating poise with the puck.

Now, mind you, Arniel has made it known that he's a fan of Heinola's game. And perhaps we're reading too much into his recent vote of confidence in Stanley. But after years and years of Heinola getting a limited opportunity and on the heels of a healthy scratch despite a positive

effort in the previous game, it's fair to question if we'll actually see the 23-year-old Fin get an extended trial run.

It'd be a shame if the Jets didn't let him run with it, especially after Stanley's last performance.

Global Winnipeg

<https://globalnews.ca/news/10897145/analysis-jets-opportunity-consistency-home-stretch/>

ANALYSIS: Jets have opportunity to regain consistency with home stretch

By Kelly Moore Global News

ANALYSIS: Jets have opportunity to regain consistency with home stretch - imageView image in full screen

It has been a tough go of late for the now second-place Winnipeg Jets. But the lessons learned during a recent run of adversity could pay off in the big picture.

When an NHL team starts a season 15-1... hey, just hang on for a second — no National Hockey League team had ever won 15 times in 16 games out of the gate like the Jets did.

So in that vein, there wasn't a template or a point of reference for a coach, players, and a fan base on how to manage expectations after reaching such historic heights.

But almost from the time that incredible start began to take hold, there was also the realization it wasn't going to last for all 82 games. Enjoy the ride for as long as it lasted — because pretty much everyone knew what was coming.

Suffice it to say the Jets have orbited back to earth with six losses in the last nine games after dropping a 3-1 decision on Sunday in Dallas, completing what might just wind up being their most difficult stretch of the season.

For much of the past two-and-a-half weeks, the Jets were victims of sluggish starts — aggressive forechecking tactics by opposing teams that made them look slow, vulnerable, just average.

And of course playing in 10 different cities, from coast to coast, on almost every other day also took its toll.

But with five of the next seven games at home, there's an opportunity for Arnie's Army to regroup and regain the level of consistency they displayed earlier in the season.

Perhaps that process began over the last five periods in Vegas and Dallas.

The Jets will certainly want to continue that, with better results, starting Tuesday night against the resurgent St. Louis Blues.

Winnipeg Free Press

<https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/breakingnews/2024/12/01/road-woes>

Road woes

Lowry boasts lone goal in loss as Jets losing skid continues into third game

By: Mike McIntyre

DALLAS — The Winnipeg Jets were excited to finally be able to sleep in their own beds on Sunday, something they hadn't done for 10 straight nights away from home.

But we suspect there might be some tossing and turning after a season-long road trip ended hours earlier in Texas with a third straight loss, one which bumps the Jets from their perch as the top team in the NHL.

A 3-1 setback on Sunday afternoon to the Dallas Stars followed a similar script to Friday's 4-3 defeat in Las Vegas. The score was tied with the clock ticking down in the third period, only for the Jets to get burned big.

Against the Golden Knights, it was normally reliable centre Vlad Namestnikov failing to cover his man, allowing for a wide-open tap-in winner with 4:05 left in regulation. Against the Stars, it was No. 1 defenceman Josh Morrissey letting Mason Marchment sneak in behind him, then spin and deliver a backhanded dagger with 7:37 left in regulation.

"A mental mistake," is how a frustrated head coach Scott Arniel described it to the Free Press outside the team's room at American Airlines Center. "We let a guy get in behind us, kinda like he did in Vegas. It's a rush situation. It's tough."

The Jets simply weren't making these kinds of mistakes earlier in the year, when everything that could go right seemingly was. Now, the opposite, including injuries piling up along with the losses.

"We're happy with the compete and the battle and certainly, it was a 1-1 game going up to seven minutes left in the third. We have to find ways to make the difference there. We just didn't," said Arniel.

The Jets fall to 18-7-0, including 2-4-0 on this journey. That allows Minnesota (16-4-4) to pass them in both the Central Division and overall standings based on point percentage. Dallas improves to 15-8-0.

They were warned

Winnipeg was burned off the rush repeatedly in Vegas, with the Golden Knights scoring three of their four goals by catching the Jets flat-footed and/or in odd-man situations. Arniel and players spoke about it after the game and after Saturday's practice in Dallas.

So why were the Jets so vulnerable once again?

"It's what they like to do. We saw numerous clips before the game of what they like to do. We saw them try to do it every period against us," said Arniel.

“We talked about it — it’s a play, a strategy that they did. At the end of the day, there’s just some mental things that happened for us. I’d probably throw a lot of that sort of fatigue that gets into it.”

“That’s a great one-on-one effort. There’s not much J-Mo can do,” said Jets captain Adam Lowry

Personnel is also likely a factor, with shutdown defenceman Dylan Samberg missing a fourth straight game with a broken foot.

“Their winger would just disappear from the zone (and) stretch us out,” said defenceman Neal Pionk. “Also, in the third, they started rimming pucks a lot. They’d do a blind rim and you have to follow that guy out of the zone, (it) stretched us out and obviously they cashed in on it.”

Indeed, Stars defenceman Thomas Harley flipped a puck out of his own zone to a streaking Marchment who was already flying at high speed, and Morrissey was unable to contain him or get in a shooting lane to prevent the game-winner.

“That’s a great one-on-one effort. There’s not much J-Mo can do,” said Jets captain Adam Lowry. “He gets back and Marchment has got so much length, and you’ve got the back to it. And it’s just an incredible play.”

Captain comes through

The Jets actually got the start they were looking for, as Lowry tipped home a Haydn Fleury shot at 3:16 of the first period to give the Jets an early lead.

It’s already the sixth goal of the year for Lowry, whose career high is 15 set over 82 games in 2016-17. He had 12 last year in 81 contests.

Replays show that Lowry essentially had a hole the size of the puck itself to beat Dallas netminder Jake Oettinger, and he perfectly threaded the needle.

“I think anytime you kind of get the moving screen and the deflection, it’s just about changing the angle. And I’ll be honest, when I turned around and saw (the puck was) in, I was a little surprised, too,” said Lowry.

“So, great job by Fleury to get it through. They did a really good job of getting out in lanes and making it tough on them. So, for him to get that by the first layer, it was nice to see it go in.”

Pionk drew the other helper, giving him an even 200 for his NHL career.

Wyatt Johnston tied the game at 17:06 of the first, and then Roope Hintz sealed the victory with an empty-netter with eight seconds to play.

The PK does, too

Winnipeg’s penalty kill has gotten a bit leaky in recent games, but that wasn’t the case on Sunday. The Jets went 5-for-5 in that department, including an extended two-man advantage by the Stars.

“Obviously you don’t want to be killing too many five-on-threes, but nice to survive it. And Helly’s, he’s got to be your best penalty killer. He made some stellar saves. He really did a good job of swallowing up a lot of pucks too,” said Lowry.

“That’s kind of how you want it to look, and the structure and like we said, it’s going to be a work in progress throughout the year and I think (Sunday) was a step in the right direction for that.”

Unfortunately for the Jets, what once was a red-hot power play has now gone cold. Winnipeg went 0-for-2 against Dallas after going 0-for-3 against Vegas.

“Fly” is grounded

No doubt missing Nikolaj Ehlers hurts on both the power play and at five-on-five. The speedy winger missed his first game of the year after suffering a lower-body injury in the second period against Vegas.

“He’s still sore. He has to get home and see our doctors,” said Arniel.

Ehlers is third on the Jets in scoring with 25 points (9G, 16A) in 24 games. His spot in the lineup was taken by David Gustafsson, who played just his second game of the year after being a healthy scratch for 23 outings.

His absence is especially notable when the entire top line is slumping, too. Mark Scheifele had just two secondary assists to show for the entire trip — with both coming on empty-net goals. Kyle Connor has gone five straight without a goal. And linemate Gabe Vilardi has just one point (a goal) in the last five outings.

“It’s part of what happens with the season,” Arniel said of the inevitable ups and downs. “But like I said, we’ve got to get home and get in our own beds, kind of refresh and get ourselves and get our minds to where they need to be for another divisional opponent.”

Key play

The Marchment game-winner, which, no doubt, Morrissey will be seeing in his sleep.

Three stars:

1. Dallas LW Mason Marchment: Game-winning goal;
2. Winnipeg C Adam Lowry: Goal;
3. Dallas G Jake Oettinger: 26 saves.

Extra, extra

The Jets made one other lineup change as defenceman Colin Miller returned after being a healthy scratch in Vegas, taking the place of Dylan Coghlan who had made his season debut against the Golden Knights.

Defenceman Ville Heinola was the other scratch for a second straight game. Arniel said the Jets are trying to manage his minutes as he works his way back from ankle surgery. Heinola played four games over a six-day span between the Manitoba Moose (conditioning assignment) and the Jets before taking a seat.

Hellebuyck, who will likely be the starting goaltender on Team USA at the 4 Nations Face-Off in February, stopped 28 of 30 shots he faced. Oettinger, who could be his backup, made 26 saves on 27 shots.

The Jets chartered home after the game and will take a day off on Monday to get caught up on laundry and family time. They'll then play Tuesday night at Canada Life Centre against the St. Louis Blues before hitting the road for two more contests.

<https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/breakingnews/2024/12/01/stanley-needs-more-runway>

***Stanley needs more runway
Defenceman lightning rod for critics, but Arniel preaches patience***

By: Mike McIntyre

DALLAS — There's no question Winnipeg Jets defenceman Logan Stanley is a lightning rod when it comes to very vocal portion of the team's fan base.

His inclusion in Sunday's lineup, along with his play and post-game comments from his coach, are sure to toss a few more logs on the fire while also keeping workplace water coolers — and social media sites — buzzing.

Stanley was dressed for a second straight game since coming off the injured list, once again bumping Ville Heinola to the sidelines as a healthy scratch. That was already enough to fuel a heated debate, since Stanley's outing in Vegas on Friday included a play where Brett Howden blew by him to score a game-tying goal following a Morgan Barron turnover.

It didn't get any better against Dallas. Stanley recorded a hat trick of minor penalties, including one which put the Jets at a 5-on-3 disadvantage for an extended period of time. And while his teammates ultimately bailed him out by killing them off, that's not a good look.

And yet, Jets head coach Scott Arniel stood by the decision to play Stanley when questioned by the Free Press following the 3-1 loss.

"He's not going to get any better sitting in the press box. He needs to be in our top six," said Arniel.

"He's a big-bodied guy, he's got size, he's got experience in this league. He expects more out from himself, but at the same time, he's no good (to the Jets) sitting in the press box and trying to get better. He's got to be in these type of games. Hopefully, he'll continue to grow."

Arniel stopped short of defending Stanley's performance, but it sounds like the 26-year-old who was drafted 18th-overall back in 2016, is going to be given ample runway here to figure it out.

"He certainly has to stay out of the box," said Arniel. "We'll look at his shifts and we'll go through that stuff. Like everybody else, we all need to be a little bit better when we get against St. Louis on Tuesday."

Stanley's first penalty was a fairly weak slashing call that came after both he and partner Colin Miller had allowed Evgenii Dadonov to skate between them and get a partial breakaway. His second infraction was a silly cross-check, the result of trying to be overly aggressive. The third was a hooking penalty while already on the PK, the result of not moving his feet.

Speed is always going to be an issue with Stanley, and that's why many can't explain why a team like the Jets — that wants to play faster — would prefer him over Heinola. Many folks are

wondering where Heinola's similarly long leash is, considering the 23-year-old is just getting back from a second ankle procedure.

Heinola, who was selected 20th-overall in 2019, didn't make any glaring errors in his first two games last week in Minnesota (a 4-1 victory) and Los Angeles (a 4-1 loss). In fact, he used his motor to draw a penalty which led to a valuable insurance goal on the power play in the third period against the Wild.

It was only a short time ago that Arniel declared himself as Heinola's "biggest fan" as he made his return from injury. Yet now he finds himself having to fight to get in the lineup, even with fellow left-shot defenceman Dylan Samberg sidelined indefinitely with a broken foot.

What gives? It would appear there's at least some load management occurring, with the Jets cautious given Heinola's history.

He played two conditioning games with the Manitoba Moose, then jumped right in for two with the Jets, amounting to four games in six days. There were no practices in between, and only one since, so perhaps some more patience is required.

That's likely a lot to ask, especially if the losses start piling up.

Heinola is no longer exempt from waivers, so there's zero chance of him being sent down this season as another team would surely make a claim. But you have to think that he isn't going to get any better sitting in the press box, either — something he's had to do far too much over the last couple years due to circumstances beyond his control.

Right now, however, his path appears to be blocked by a 6-7 teammate.

Winnipeg Sun

<https://winnipeg.sun.com/sports/hockey/nhl/winnipeg-jets/dallas-stars-shine-bright-in-win-over-winnipeg-jets>

Dallas Stars shine bright in win over Winnipeg Jets

By Jim Bender

The exhausted Winnipeg Jets put forth another valiant effort, only to be frustrated yet again.

Playing their sixth road game in 11 days, the Jets were tied 1-1 through about 53 minutes when Stars forward Mason Marchment stuck a dagger into their rapidly-pumping hearts.

With Winnipeg defenceman Josh Morrissey trying to check him, Marchment spun around to his backhand to whip a shot past a surprised goalie Connor Hellebuyck to give the Stars a 2-1 lead with seven minutes left in the game. That led to a 3-1 victory over Winnipeg in Dallas on Sunday afternoon.

Winnipeg lost three straight for the first time this season.

"I think, the battle level, the effort level was there for the most part," said Jets captain Adam Lowry, who scored Winnipeg's only goal. "Our structure was pretty good. I think both teams

played a pretty sound defensive game. I really liked the (penalty) kill tonight, and it was just a couple mistakes here and there, and them capitalizing on a couple chances and us not, and that's the difference. So, disappointing with the results."

Roope Hintz, into an empty net in the dying seconds, and Wyatt Johnston scored the other Dallas goals.

"It was a good effort," said Jets defenceman Neal Pionk, whose helper on Lowry's goal gave him 200 career assists. "Gave up a couple chances but played well enough to win. Didn't get the result we wanted. That has been kind of the motto the last couple games. It's going in the right direction.

"I thought our effort was good tonight. Went through some adversity. Battled all the way through. Had some big, blocked shots. Had some good defensive plays. Like I said, there's a lot of good things tonight. We'll look for a different result on Tuesday."

The Jets finished the road trip with a 2-4 record.

"It's (winning goal) a mental mistake," said Jets coach Scott Arniel. "We let a guy get in behind us, kinda like he did in Vegas. It's a rush situation. It's tough. I mean, we're in a grind right here. It's the heavy part of the kind of schedule. What's happening doesn't get any easier.

"We're happy with the compete and the battle and certainly, it was a 1-1 game going up to seven minutes left in the third. We have to find ways to make the difference there. We just didn't."

Jake Oettinger, who assisted on Marchment's winning goal, made 26 saves for Dallas (15-8-0).

Hellebuyck made 28 saves for Winnipeg (18-7-0).

The Jets return home to host the St. Louis Blues on Tuesday, then hit the road for another two-game trip.

"I think you look at the game as a whole there's some positives we can take out of it, and another quick turnaround," Lowry said. "So, just try and get as much rest as we can heading back to Winnipeg and be nice to play in front of the home fans."

Losing three straight will not weigh heavy on the Jets, Pionk maintained.

"No, not at all," he said. "We've got a veteran group so, been through this before, and we'll have to find a way to battle back."

Johnston had knotted the score at 1-1 late in the first period when he converted a 2-on-1 with defenceman Thomas Harley. Forward Jason Robertson also assisted. The goal extended Johnston's point streak to six games.

The Jets opened the scoring just 3:16 into the game with their first shot on goal. Lowry deflected defenceman Haydn Fleury's shot from the point past Oettinger.

The Stars are now 10-2-0 at home, with one home loss suffered in Finland.

BRIEFLY

Hellebuyck was named the NHL third star of the month for November. Hellebuyck led all netminders with 15 wins heading into the contest ... Winnipeg played without forward Nikolaj Ehlers, who suffered a lower-body injury during the loss to the Vegas Golden Knights on Friday. He was replaced in the lineup by David Gustafsson, who dressed for just his second game this season. Doctors will further examine Ehlers in Winnipeg, Arniel said ... The Jets went 5-for-5 on the penalty kill, including a 5-on-3 ... Defenceman Colin Miller drew back in for Dylan Coghlan, who played his first game of the season Friday.

Dallas Morning News

<https://www.dallasnews.com/sports/stars/2024/12/01/jake-oettinger-continues-to-show-hes-one-of-best-american-goalies-in-stars-win-vs-jets/>

Jake Oettinger continues to show he's one of best American goalies in Stars' win vs. Jets In a low-scoring affair, Oettinger allowed just one goal on 27 shots to lead Dallas to a 3-1 victory over Winnipeg.

By Lia Assimakopoulos

The NHL's upcoming 4 Nations Face-Off in February may not mean much in terms of who wins the Stanley Cup in seven months, but for some players across the league, it's among the events they're most looking forward to.

Stars goalie Jake Oettinger is one of them, a Minnesota native and rising star at his position, eager to be considered among the league's best American-born goalies. With a chance to be selected for Team USA in the 4 Nations Face-Off and the 2026 Winter Olympics in the next two years, this upcoming stretch offers Oettinger a prime opportunity.

Just three days before the final rosters are announced for the league's best-on-best tournament between the United States, Canada, Finland and Sweden, Oettinger got to go head-to-head with the goalie that is the easy choice to start for Team USA this winter.

In a low-scoring affair with Winnipeg Jets goalie and 2024 Vezina winner Connor Hellebuyck, Oettinger allowed just one goal on 27 shots to lead the Stars to a 3-1 victory against the team currently tied atop the NHL standings.

"We're really happy for him," Stars coach Pete DeBoer said. "I think the guys knew after the last time we played Winnipeg, they wanted to give him a better effort in front of him, and I thought we did that tonight."

Both goalies put on impressive performances, each only allowing goals that were near impossible to stop.

Oettinger let in a goal on the first shot he faced when Winnipeg's Adam Lowry had a perfect deflection that bounced between the goalie's pads and the posts. From there, he stopped the next 26 shots.

Hellebuyck faced a barrage of shots early on, as the Stars jumped out to an 8-1 shot advantage midway through the first period. He gave up a goal after a stunning play by the Stars where Roope Hintz and Jason Robertson passed the puck through the neutral zone to find Thomas

Harley and Wyatt Johnston in transition. Johnston scored, leaving Hellebuyck no chance to shift across the crease and stop his shot.

The Winnipeg goalie faced some difficult situations in the second period where the Stars had two power plays, including 91 seconds of 5-on-3. He made eight of his 28 saves on the power play, leaving the Stars 0 for 5 on the man advantage.

Mason Marchment made the play of the day, spinning with the puck and flicking a back-handed shot past Hellebuyck with 7:37 left in the game to secure the Stars win. It appeared Hellebuyck didn't even see the shot coming.

Oettinger had a rare goalie assist on the play.

"I saw an unbelievable, skilled play," DeBoer said. "For him to be able to make that play and then beat a world-class goalie, who had stopped pretty much everything all night, just an elite play."

Hintz added an empty netter with 7.5 seconds remaining.

The win was an important one for the Stars, not only because the Jets are a Central Division opponent, but it showed Dallas is still right with the league's best. After losing to the Jets 4-1 three weeks ago, the Panthers twice in Finland at the start of last month and the Hurricanes last week, Sunday's win was much-needed to boost Dallas' résumé.

And for Oettinger, his performance so far this season and against the league's top team showed he's ready to represent his nation as one of the top American-born goalies in the league. He entered the contest with a 12-4-0 record, .912 save percentage (12th in NHL) and 2.46 goals-against average (ninth in NHL).

In a matter of months, he could be facing shots from some of his teammates like Miro Heiskanen and Matt Duchene. Wednesday's announcement will tell.

"Obviously, it would be one of the coolest things of my career to make that team, so hopefully I've done enough up to this point to do that, and I feel like I have," Oettinger said.