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First Month of the NHL Regular Season

Hockey is back! The National Hockey League's 2023-2024 season started on October 10th with six of the 32 teams seeing action. The season started with the Tampa Bay Lightning defeating the Nashville Predators 5-3. In his debut, Connor Bedard helped the Chicago Blackhawks defeat the Pittsburgh Penguins 4-2. The reigning champs, the Vegas Golden Knights, defended their title in their 4-1 win over the Seattle Kraken.

Mia's Terrific Three are the three teams that have been dominant through the first month of the regular season. The Colorado Avalanche set the record for the longest road winning streak in League history following their 7-3 win over the New York Islanders on October 24th, marking their 15th road win. Their winning streak of 15 games dates back to last season. The Avalanche are currently 6-2-0 with 12 points after their first eight games. The Vegas Golden Knights resume their dominance this season after winning the 2023 Stanley Cup. The Golden Knights became the first defending champions to start the season with seven straight wins, the most since the 1997-1998 Detroit Red Wings won their first four games following winning the Cup. After their first ten games of the season, the Golden Knights currently are 9-0-1 with 19 points. The Boston Bruins make up the third and final team to start the 2023-2024 campaign with a dominant start. The Bruins' only loss for the month comes against the Anaheim Ducks in overtime. After the first month, the Bruins have a record of 8-0-1 with 17 points.

On the opposite end, three teams have been struggling through the first month, making up Mia's Troubling Three. The San Jose Sharks are still looking for their first win of the 2023-2024 campaign, going winless through October. They went 0-8-1, collecting only one point through their first nine games of the season. Edmonton Oilers have been off to a slow start this season, going 2-5-1 and collecting five points. One may wonder if their slow start has to do with being without their star forward Connor McDavid for two games due to injury. McDavid returned in their last game in October, where the Oilers defeated Calgary 5-2 in the Heritage Classic. Calgary Flames make up the third team in Mia's Troubling Three. Calgary in October went 2-6-1 collecting five points. All three teams come from the Pacific Division, it is not surprising that the

bottom teams so far this season are from the Pacific as it has been on a trend of the worst division for the past couple of seasons.

Four players have set themselves apart to be one of Soracco's Standout Stars of the Month. Auston Matthes started his season off by scoring back-to-back hat tricks in the Toronto Maple Leafs' first two games of the season. Matthews became the 5th player in NHL history to record a hat trick in his first two games this season. Newly acquired San Jose Sharks' goalie MacKenzie Blackwood shined in his Sharks debut. Blackwood kept the Sharks alive in their 2-1 shootout loss to the Colorado Avalanche on October 14th with his 51-save performance. In his five starts this season, Blackwood has made 204 saves on 225 shots faced. Washington Capitals forward Alex Ovechkin became the first player in NHL history to score 300 powerplay goals when he scored the lone goal and first this season in the Capitals' 4-1 loss to the Toronto Maple Leafs on October 24th. Ovechkin is 70 goals behind Wayne Gretzky's 894 on the all-time goals list. After the first month of games, New Jersey Devils' forward Jack Hughes leads all skaters with 18 points. Hughes's 18 points have come from his five goals and league-leading 13 points in the 4-2-1 month of October.

This year's rookie class is quite deep. Connor Bedard is the favorite to win the Calder Trophy his fellow rookie competition will put up a tough fight. There have been three standout rookies after a month of play, making up Soracco's Rockin' Rookies. 2023 first overall pick Connor Bedard wasted no time getting on the scorebook. Bedard recorded his first NHL point in his first game with an assist on Ryan Donato's goal in Chicago's 4-2 win over the Pittsburgh Penguins. The following day, Bedard scored his first goal in Chicago's 3-1 loss to the Boston Bruins. Bedard has six points in nine games this season with two assists and his four goals lead all rookies. Luke Hughes, the 2021 4th overall pick for the New Jersey Devils, leads all rookie defensemen with six points with one goal and five assists in eight games. Luke's lone goal this season comes off an assist from his older brother, Jack. An underrated rookie who has had a great month is Boston Bruins forward Matthew Poitras. He was drafted 54th overall in the 2022 NHL Draft by the Bruins. Poitras has three goals and two assists for five points, through the Bruins' first nine games of the season.

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Unang Buwan ng Regular Season ng NHL

Bumalik na ang hockey! Ang 2023-2024 season ng National Hockey League ay nagsimula noong ika-10 ng Oktubre kung saan anim sa 32 koponan ang nakakita ng aksyon. Nagsimula ang season sa Tampa Bay Lightning na tinalo ang Nashville Predators 5-3. Sa kanyang debut, tinulungan ni Connor Bedard ang Chicago Blackhawks na talunin ang Pittsburgh Penguins 4-2. Ipinagtanggol ng naghaharing kampeon, ang Vegas Golden Knights, ang kanilang titulo sa kanilang 4-1 panalo laban sa Seattle Kraken.

Ang Terrific Three ni Mia ay ang tatlong koponan na nangingibabaw sa unang buwan ng regular season. Ang Colorado Avalanche ay nagtakda ng rekord para sa pinakamahabang road winning streak sa kasaysayan ng Liga kasunod ng kanilang 7-3 panalo laban sa New York Islanders noong Oktubre 24, na minarkahan ang kanilang ika-15 na panalo sa kalsada. Ang kanilang sunod-sunod na panalong 15 laro ay nagsimula noong nakaraang season. Ang Avalanche ay kasalukuyang nasa 6-2-0 na may 12 puntos pagkatapos ng kanilang unang walong laro. Ipagpatuloy ng Vegas Golden Knights ang kanilang dominasyon ngayong season matapos manalo sa 2023 Stanley Cup. Ang Golden Knights ang naging unang defending champion na nagsimula sa season na may pitong sunod na panalo, ang pinakamaraming mula noong 1997-1998 Detroit Red Wings na nanalo sa kanilang unang apat na laro matapos manalo sa Cup. Matapos ang kanilang unang sampung laro ng season, ang Golden Knights ay kasalukuyang nasa 9-0-1 na may 19 puntos. Binubuo ng Boston Bruins ang ikatlo at huling koponan na magsisimula sa kampanyang 2023-2024 na may dominanteng simula. Ang tanging talo ng Bruins para sa buwan ay laban sa Anaheim Ducks sa overtime. Pagkatapos ng unang buwan, ang Bruins ay may record na 8-0-1 na may 17 puntos.

Sa kabilang banda, tatlong koponan ang nahihirapan sa unang buwan, na bumubuo sa Troubling Three ni Mia. Hinahanap pa rin ng San Jose Sharks ang kanilang unang panalo sa 2023-2024 campaign, na walang panalo hanggang Oktubre. Nagpunta sila sa 0-8-1, na nakolekta lamang ng isang puntos sa kanilang unang siyam na laro ng season. Mabagal ang simula ng Edmonton Oilers ngayong season, naging 2-5-1 at nakakolekta ng limang puntos. Maaaring

magtaka ang isa kung ang kanilang mabagal na pagsisimula ay may kinalaman sa pagiging wala ng kanilang star forward na si Connor McDavid para sa dalawang laro dahil sa injury. Bumalik si McDavid sa kanilang huling laro noong Oktubre, kung saan tinalo ng Oilers ang Calgary 5-2 sa Heritage Classic. Ang Calgary Flames ay bumubuo sa ikatlong koponan sa Troubling Three ni Mia. Ang Calgary noong Oktubre ay nagpunta sa 2-6-1 na nakolekta ng limang puntos. Lahat ng tatlong koponan ay nagmula sa Dibisyon ng Pasipiko, hindi nakakagulat na ang mga nasa ilalim na koponan sa ngayon ay mula sa Pasipiko dahil ito ay nasa trend ng pinakamasamang dibisyon sa nakalipas na dalawang season.

Apat na manlalaro ang nagbukod ng kanilang mga sarili upang maging isa sa Soracco's Standout Stars of the Month. Sinimulan ni Auston Matthes ang kanyang season sa pamamagitan ng pag-iskor ng back-to-back hat tricks sa unang dalawang laro ng Toronto Maple Leafs sa season. Si Matthews ang naging ika-5 manlalaro sa kasaysayan ng NHL na nagtala ng hat trick sa kanyang unang dalawang laro ngayong season. Ang bagong nakuhang goalie ng San Jose Sharks na si MacKenzie Blackwood ay nagningning sa kanyang debut sa Sharks. Pinananatiling buhay ng Blackwood ang Sharks sa kanilang 2-1 shootout loss sa Colorado Avalanche noong Oktubre 14 sa kanyang 51-save na performance. Sa kanyang limang pagsisimula ngayong season, nakagawa si Blackwood ng 204 na pag-save sa 225 shots na nahaharap. Ang forward ng Washington Capitals na si Alex Ovechkin ay naging kauna-unahang manlalaro sa kasaysayan ng NHL na umiskor ng 300 powerplay na layunin nang maiskor niya ang nag-iisang layunin at una sa season na ito sa 4-1 pagkatalo ng Capitals sa Toronto Maple Leafs noong ika-24 ng Oktubre. Si Ovechkin ay 70 layunin sa likod ng 894 ni Wayne Gretzky sa listahan ng lahat ng oras na layunin. Pagkatapos ng unang buwan ng mga laro, ang forward ng New Jersey Devils na si Jack Hughes ay nangunguna sa lahat ng skaters na may 18 puntos. Ang 18 puntos ni Hughes ay nagmula sa kanyang limang layunin at nangunguna sa liga na 13 puntos sa 4-2-1 buwan ng Oktubre.

Medyo malalim ang rookie class ngayong taon. Si Connor Bedard ang paboritong manalo sa Calder Trophy na ang kanyang kapwa rookie na kumpetisyon ay maglalagay ng mahigpit na laban. Nagkaroon ng tatlong natatanging rookie pagkatapos ng isang buwan ng paglalaro, na bumubuo sa Rockin' Rookies ni Soracco. Ang unang overall pick noong 2023 na si Connor Bedard ay hindi nag-aksaya ng oras sa pagkuha sa scorebook. Naitala ni Bedard ang kanyang unang NHL point sa kanyang unang laro sa tulong sa goal ni Ryan Donato sa 4-2 panalo ng

Chicago laban sa Pittsburgh Penguins. Nang sumunod na araw, naitala ni Bedard ang kanyang unang goal sa 3-1 na pagkatalo ng Chicago sa Boston Bruins. Si Bedard ay may anim na puntos sa siyam na laro ngayong season na may dalawang assist at ang kanyang apat na layunin ay nangunguna sa lahat ng rookies. Si Luke Hughes, ang 2021 4th overall pick para sa New Jersey Devils, ay nangunguna sa lahat ng rookie defensemen na may anim na puntos na may isang goal at limang assist sa walong laro. Ang nag-iisang layunin ni Luke sa season na ito ay nagmula sa tulong ng kanyang nakatatandang kapatid na si Jack. Isang underrated rookie na nagkaroon ng magandang buwan ay ang forward ng Boston Bruins na si Matthew Poitras. Siya ay na-draft sa ika-54 sa pangkalahatan sa 2022 NHL Draft ng Bruins. Si Poitras ay may tatlong layunin at dalawang assist para sa limang puntos, sa unang siyam na laro ng Bruins sa season.

