

Isles score 2 short-handed in win over Rangers

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Thomas Vanek snapped a tie with a power-play goal early in the third period, and the New York Islanders earned their first regulation victory in over a month by beating the slumping New York Rangers 5-3 on Friday night.

Vanek scored during a two-man advantage at 1:18 of the third to give the Islanders just their second win in 15 games and first in regulation since Nov. 12 against Nashville. They were 2-10-4 since then.

Cal Clutterbuck scored a short-handed, penalty-shot goal, and Michael Grabner added a short-handed tally in the first period. Defenseman Brian Strait scored in the second, and Grabner added an empty-netter with 50.3 seconds left for the Islanders, who lost a 2-0 lead for the second consecutive game but had four goals for the first time in 15 games.

Capitals 4, Hurricanes 2

RALEIGH, N.C. — Troy Brouwer had a goal and an assist, and the Washington Capitals scored three power-play goals in the second period of a 4-2 win over the Carolina

Hurricanes.

Marcus Johansson and John Carlson also scored with the man advantage and Nicklas Backstrom assisted on all four goals to help the second-place Capitals win their fifth in seven games. Alex Ovechkin scored his 400th career goal into an empty net with 24.5 seconds left.

Jordan Staal and Riley Nash scored for Carolina while Cam Ward stopped 25 shots.

Washington's Philipp Grubauer matched a season high with 39 saves — and got some help from the choppy ice after Alexander Semin's shot with about 6 minutes left trickled just wide of the net.

Ducks 3, Devils 2, OT

NEWARK, N.J. — Kyle Palmieri scored at 2:37 of overtime, and the Anaheim Ducks extended their winning streak to seven with a 3-2 victory over the New Jersey Devils.

Palmieri, from nearby Montvale, N.J., swung around Devils defenseman Eric Gelinas and circled behind the New Jersey goal. He then tucked a wraparound behind goaltender Cory Schneider.

Mathieu Perreault and Cam Fowler also scored for the Pacific Division-leading Ducks, who matched the franchise record with



Associated Press
New York Islander Michael Grabner pumps his fist to celebrate his empty net goal Friday as New York Ranger John Moore reacts from behind in the third period in New York. Grabner scored two goals during the Islanders' 5-3 win.

their second seven-game winning streak this season. Jonas Hiller made 19 saves in the win.

Andy Greene and Michael Ryder had the Devils goals.

Jets 5, Panthers 2

WINNIPEG, Manitoba — Evan-der Kane, Michael Frolik and Jacob Trouba each had a goal and an assist, helping the Winnipeg Jets cool

off the Florida Panthers with a 5-2 victory.

Toby Enstrom and Blake Wheeler also scored for Winnipeg in its first home win since Nov. 15. Ondrej Pavelec made 21 saves.

Shawn Matthias and Nick Bjugstad scored for the tired-looking Panthers, who had won five in a row. Both goals were unassisted, and thanks to giveaways by the Jets deep in their own zone.

Canucks 3, Blackhawks 2, SO

CHICAGO — Ryan Kesler scored the deciding goal in an eight-round shootout, and the Vancouver Canucks rallied to defeat the Chicago Blackhawks 3-2.

Kesler fired a high shot past Antti Raanta to help Vancouver end a two-game losing streak. Mike Santorelli was successful in the first round as the Canucks improved to 2-4 in shootouts.

Patrick Sharp had Chicago's only shootout score.

Vancouver's Daniel Sedin tied it at 2 with 9:12 left in the third period. Zack Kassian also scored for the Canucks.

Chicago's Patrick Kane scored his team-leading 21st goal and set up Kris Versteeg's score in regulation.

Heat stay hot

Bosh, Wade pace Miami past Kings

Associated Press

MIAMI — Chris Bosh scored 25 points, Dwyane Wade added 20 and the Miami Heat put up a season high for points, rolling past the Sacramento Kings 122-103 on Friday night.

LeBron James had 18 points, eight assists and six rebounds while sitting out the fourth quarter for Miami, which has won four straight overall and 18 of its last 19 against the Kings.

Ray Allen added 18 and Mario Chalmers scored 16 for the Heat, who shot 61 percent.

DeMarcus Cousins led Sacramento with 27 points and eight rebounds in 32 minutes. Ben McLemore scored 20 and Rudy Gay added 14 for Sacramento, which has now dropped the first three games of its four-game trip.

76ers 121, Nets 120, OT

PHILADELPHIA — Evan Turner hit the winning basket at the buzzer and scored 29 points to lead the Philadelphia 76ers to a 121-120, overtime win over the Brooklyn Nets.

Paul Pierce hit a 3-pointer with 16.9 seconds left in OT to give the Nets the short-lived lead.

Turner, sensational all game, drove past a pair of defenders and tossed up the last-gasp shot. The ball bounced three times around the rim before it dropped through the net. After a brief review, the bucket stood, Turner was mobbed by his teammates and the Sixers snapped a seven-game losing streak.

Thaddeus Young scored 25 points for the Sixers, and Michael Carter-Williams had 15 points and 10 assists.

Alan Anderson had a season-high 26 points for the Nets, Pierce scored 24 with 10 rebounds, and Deron Williams had 17 points and 14 assists.

Bobcats 116, Pistons 106

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. — Kemba Walker scored 34 points and Al Jefferson led a fourth-quarter rally by the Charlotte Bobcats, who overtook the Detroit Pistons 116-106 after trailing by as many as 20.

Charlotte was down 14 after three quarters before dominating the fourth. Jefferson scored 13 points during a decisive 16-3 run.

Brandon Jennings had 26 points for Detroit, which rallied from a 21-point deficit to beat Boston on Wednesday but blew a big lead two nights later. Down 89-75, the Bobcats



Associated Press
Miami's Chris Bosh, right, is fouled by Sacramento's Derrick Williams in the first half Friday in Miami. Bosh scored 25 points in the Heat's 122-103 victory.

scored the first nine points of the fourth quarter to get back in the game. Jefferson scored 15 of his 24 points in the fourth.

Charlotte scored 72 points in the second half and outscored the Pistons 41-17 in the final quarter.

Hawks 118, Jazz 85

ATLANTA — Lou Williams scored 25 points and the Atlanta Hawks continued their offensive upswing as they rolled to an easy 118-85 win over the Utah Jazz.

The Hawks never trailed and pushed their lead to double digits for good in the opening period.

Atlanta set a scoring high with its 124-107 win over Sacramento on Wednesday night and has topped 110 points in three straight games.

Al Horford has been a key in the flurry of high-scoring games, averaging 23.8 points in his last four games. He had 23 points in only three quarters. Horford was rested as the Hawks took an 85-58 lead into the final period.

The Hawks (15-12) have won three straight and four of five.

Enes Kanter had 13 points and 13 rebounds for Utah. Alec Burks also had 13 points

Cavaliers 114, Bucks 111, OT

CLEVELAND — Kyrie Irving made four free throws in the final 21.5 seconds of over-

time and finished with 39 points while battling a flu bug, leading the Cleveland Cavaliers to a 114-111 win over the short-handed Milwaukee Bucks.

Irving played despite being ill the past two days and missing practice Thursday. Although he wasn't at his best, the All-Star guard played 43 minutes and carried the Cavs to their fifth win in six home games.

Earl Clark made a 3-pointer as the shot clock expired with 44 seconds left, and Jarrett Jack added 17 points for the Cavs.

With Milwaukee down by three, O.J. Mayo missed two 3-pointers in the last 10 seconds.

Mayo had 20 points, John Henson 18 and Brandon Knight added 17 and a career-high 14 rebounds as the Bucks lost their fifth straight.

Pacers 114, Rockets 81

INDIANAPOLIS — Paul George had 24 points and nine rebounds and Lance Stephenson added 16 points, leading the Indiana Pacers to a 114-81 rout of the Houston Rockets.

The Pacers ended their only two-game losing streak of the season and maintained their grip on the Eastern Conference's best record (21-5) with their most lopsided win of the season.

Dwight Howard finished with

19 points, 12 rebounds and five blocks for the Rockets. James Harden, the NBA's No. 6 scorer, was held in check most of the night by George, finishing with 12 points on 3-of-14 shooting.

Former Indiana All-Star Danny Granger received a standing ovation when he made his season debut late in the first quarter and fans chanted his name when he made his first basket, a 3-pointer, early in the fourth.

Raptors 109, Mavericks 108, OT

DALLAS — DeMar DeRozan scored 15 points, including the go-ahead basket on a wild shot while getting fouled in the final minute of overtime, and the Toronto Raptors beat the Dallas Mavericks 109-108.

The Raptors held on despite 23 points and a huge fourth quarter from old teammate Jose Calderon.

Toronto trailed 108-107 after a 3-pointer by Calderon when DeRozan's pump-fake got Brandan Wright and Shawn Marion in the air. DeRozan threw up a shot as he was bumped and it went in for the final points with 1:11 remaining.

Kyle Lowry led four Toronto players in double figures with 20.

Dirk Nowitzki scored 22 for the Mavericks but missed his last six shots, including two on their second-to-last possession while down a point.

College Basketball BRIEFS

Men Top 25

No. 2 Syracuse 75, High Point 54

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — Trevor Cooney hit five 3-pointers and scored 17 points, C.J. Fair added 15 points, and No. 2 Syracuse beat High Point 75-54 on Friday night.

Syracuse (11-0) remained unbeaten, but it wasn't easy. High Point (3-7) trailed by just three points at halftime and led early in the second period before Syracuse responded with a 28-3 run to put the game away.

The Orange are the highest-ranked team High Point has ever played. The Panthers lost to third-ranked North Carolina 94-69 in December 2006 and are 2-26 against the Atlantic Coast Conference, the two wins coming more than 50 years ago.

Cooney, who entered the game shooting 46.3 percent from beyond the arc, has made at least five 3-pointers in six games this season. Freshman point guard Tyler Ennis had 10 points and matched his season high with nine assists and Jerami Grant also had 10 points. Devante Wallace led High Point with 10 points, Anthony Lindauer had nine, and DeJuan McGaughey and Lorenzo Cugini seven apiece. Leading scorer John Brown, averaging 20.1 points, was held to a season-low six points on 3-of-11 shooting.

Women Top 25

No. 10 South Carolina 69, Winthrop 61

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Tiffany Mitchell scored 20 points and No. 10 South Carolina held off a late charge by Winthrop for a 69-61 victory.

The Gamecocks (10-1)

led by 19 points in the opening half, yet struggled to stay ahead down the stretch against the Eagles (6-3) of the Big South Conference. Erica Williams' jumper with 4:34 left drew Winthrop to 59-55. Mitchell then added a bucket to increase South Carolina's lead.

Schaquilla Nunn's put-back brought Winthrop within four points before Asia Dozier's two foul shots and Mitchell's jumper extended the margin to 65-57 with 1:55 to play. Winthrop could not get closer than five points the rest of the way.

Dozier had 14 points for the Gamecocks, who rallied after their first loss of the season Wednesday night against No. 14 North Carolina.

Dequesha McClanahan and Williams had 19 points each for the Eagles.

NC State 89, No. 12 LSU 79

RALEIGH, N.C. — Markeisha Gatling and Kody Burke each scored 25 points to lead North Carolina State to an 89-79 win over No. 12 Louisiana State.

Gatling shot 11 of 13 from the field and grabbed eight rebounds, six off the offensive glass, to lead the Wolfpack (11-1) to its first win over a ranked opponent since a 76-69 win over No. 19 Florida State on Valentine's Day.

Burke drilled three straight jumpers to help NC State to a 12-6 lead to start the game, but the Lady Tigers clawed their way back into the game, taking a lead on a Theresa Plaisance 3-pointer with 9:44 left in the game.

Gatling's layup with 8:01 left sparked an 11-1 run that put the Wolfpack back in the lead for good.

Plaisance finished with 18 points off the bench to lead LSU (9-2). Jeanne Kenney added another 17 points.

—From wire reports



Associated Press
Syracuse's C.J. Fair, left, battles for the ball Friday against High Point's Devante Wallace in the first half in Syracuse, N.Y.