

## NHL SCOREBOARD: Recap

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# Toronto 2, Colorado 1

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TORONTO (Ticker) -- [Curtis Joseph](#) continued his incredible start with another dominating performance against the [Colorado Avalanche](#) as the [Toronto Maple Leafs](#) remained perfect with a 2-1 victory.

Mats Sundin and [Jonas Hoglund](#) scored power-play goals for the high-powered Maple Leafs, who are 3-0 for the second straight season.

"I think it was a good test for us to play that kind of game, not really having anything going for us and still hang in there and finally win it at the end," Sundin said. "Sometimes that's a sign of a team when you can win and not have your best game at the time."

Joseph had his shutout string against the Avalanche halted at three games, but he stopped 23 shots, including a game-saver on Sandis Ozolinsh's slap shot with 44 seconds to play before improving to 6-13-2 lifetime against them.

"Tonight was a tough game and we didn't have the jump from the start like we had in the previous two games," he said. "But we battled all night. It didn't come easy. Colorado played well and fortunately we got a hit here."

Joseph has turned aside 72 of 74 shots this season. He had gone 109 minutes, 51 seconds without allowing a goal before [Joe Sakic](#)'s brilliant wrister in the second period tied it at 1-1.

"There weren't a lot of shots," Sundin said. "But I think both teams had a lot of scoring chances and both goalies came up huge."

Joseph also helped set up the decisive goal by stopping [Chris Drury](#)'s shorthanded attempt from in close. At the other end, Sundin scored his third goal in as many games with 9:16 left.

Sakic scored his second goal and [Patrick Roy](#) made 26 saves for Colorado, which arrived in Toronto at 3 a.m. EDT after a season-opening 3-2 victory over Nashville on Tuesday night.

This was the only meeting between the teams this season.

Joseph posted a 3-0 victory over the Avalanche last season after recording consecutive postseason shutouts against them while with the [Edmonton Oilers](#) in 1998.

He sealed another win against one of the Western Conference's top teams by kicking aside Ozolinsh's rocket slap shot from the top of the right faceoff circle with 42 seconds remaining.

Joseph stymied Drury, the reigning Calder Trophy winner as the league's top rookie, gloving a slap shot from the right circle with 6:17 to go and denying him on a 2-on-1 in the first minute of the second period.

But his best stop on Drury led to the game-winning goal. Leafs defenseman Alexander Karpovstev turned over a puck in his own zone and Drury skated in on Joseph, only to be stopped by a pad.

"Cujo, he's Cujo," Leafs right wing [Steve Thomas](#) said. "He's gonna stop the puck no matter."

Toronto raced the other way as Hoglund slid a pass from the outside edge of the right circle to a streaking Sundin in the slot. Sundin gathered the puck on his forehand and beat Roy inside the right post.

"You can just see the fire in his eyes," Thomas said. "He seems so much more ready to play each and every game. That's the best I've ever seen him."

Sakic, playing with a bruise under his right eye after being hit with a skate on Tuesday, had tied it with 3:07 left in the second period. He took a feed from rookie [Alex Tanguay](#) at the left dot and ripped a snap shot over Joseph's left shoulder.

Sakic had a chance to open the scoring 5:48 into the first period when he broke in alone on Joseph, but he lifted a quick wrist shot over the crossbar.

Hoglund opened the scoring for the up-tempo Leafs with his second goal of the season 11:36 into the second period. On the sixth shot of a furious power play, he redirecting Sundin's wrister from the high slot past Roy.

The Leafs, who last year led the NHL with 268 goals, went 2-for-5 on the power play and are 4-for-14 this season.

Colorado had just one man-advantage attempt and lost [Adam Foote](#) midway through the third period after referee Bill McCreary called the defenseman for a coincidental high-sticking penalty, a 10-minute misconduct and a game misconduct.

"I just told him I felt he was missing some stuff in the game," Foote said. "I was bleeding. I don't think I deserved the 10, but after that, I'll tell ya, I deserved to get tossed out."

That's just the emotion of the game."