

GAME REPORT

Home: CV Firebirds vs. Away: TEX Stars

Date: Nov 30, 2024 6:00PM PST

Pre-Game

The Stars are on a 6-game road trip to face 3 teams in the Pacific Division. The Dallas Star's affiliate is sitting in 3rd place in the Central Division. They played the Reign last night on the first game of the road trip, which saw the Reign face down a barrage of shots on goal to get a shutout 4-0.

The Firebirds have gotten points in 9 straight games, and sit in second place in the Pacific Division. They come back home from a 2-game road trip to Tucson. The first game they won in dominating fashion 8-2, but the Tucson rose to the challenge in the second game to win in overtime. The Firebirds didn't play their best in the second game, but was able to get a point. Now, they will be home for 15 of the next 20 games over the next 7 weeks, which carries over into the new year. Home cooking and a filled up Acrisure® Arena should make for some exciting hockey.

Head-to-Head: The Firebirds and Stars played 4 times last season in cross division play. The Firebirds had the better record at 3-0-1-0 to the Stars 1-2-1-0, which flipped the script from the previous season. Some former Firebirds from the previous season are now with Texas so it should make for an interesting game. This game will be the first between the two teams this season, and the second game will be back in Acrisure Arena on Thursday. The two teams will meet in back-to-back game in Texas to flip the months January and February.

1st Period

Both teams had opportunities, but the Stars player made hit on a Firebird player. The Firebird was knocked down and helmet came off, which drew a fight. The Stars were looking to get motivated with the hit and fight after being shut out the night before. A minute later, the Stars fumbled a puck in their defensive zone, and the Firebirds capitalized to get the lone goal of the period. The Firebirds had the lone power play in the period, but couldn't capitalize. The Stars slowly took over the later part of the period with multiple shots on goal. The Firebirds did a good job in marking the Stars trying to sneak behind the play.

2nd Period

First 10 minutes neither team had any sustained zone time. On a rush the Firebirds got their second goal, but a minute later the Stars would answer on a defensive break down by the Firebirds. After the Stars got that first goal in a game and half, they started to press and take over the period. The Stars got their second goal on pass from behind the net an unmarked player waiting at the side if the net. The period ended with the Firebirds on a Power Play, which will carry over to the next period.

3rd Period

The Firebirds had the better chances in the period, but both teams played evenly. With less than two minutes, the Firebirds fumbled the puck in their own D-zone and the Stars stole the puck and scored to take the lead. The Firebirds took a timeout. With a minute to go, the Firebirds pulled their goal

tendered, and was able to score with 35 second with the 6 on 5 advantage. The fans in attendance went crazy building up the energy for overtime.

Overtime

The Firebirds started off well winning the puck and re-wining the puck several times, but being aggressive got them into penalty trouble with 2 minutes and 10 seconds left on the clock. The Stars power play couldn't deliver in the remaining 2 minutes. Game went to a shootout.

Shootout

Firebirds went first and didn't score. Stars scored on their first try. Neither team scored on the remaining shootout attempts. The Stars win and got the extra point.

Post-Game

The 3rd period sing along song was "All the Small Things" by Blink-182. Another appropriate song for the game. Both teams were evenly matched so it was the small things that mattered like a puck turn over, a bad bounce, or a perfect pass that made this an exciting game. Firebirds move their points streak to 10 games, but drop in the standings as San Jose and Colorado jump a point ahead. Both teams will play a different opponent on Tuesday, but they will play again on Thursday back at Acrisure Arena.

	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	OT	SO	Total
Stars	0	2	1	0	1	4
Firebirds	1	1	1	0	0	3

Full game statistic can be found on the AHL site: <https://theahl.com/stats/game-center/1026757>

Team Game Stats:

	Stars	Firebirds
Shots	36	29
PP	0 / 3	0 / 2
PIM	9	4
SH	0	0

Unofficial stats:

The following are unofficial statistics. The AHL doesn't show faceoff wins, icing, or offsides on the score sheet. I am tracking this on my own so there is a margin of error.

	Icing	Offside
Stars	8	1
Firebirds	3	3

Faceoff Wins	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	OT	Total
Stars	9	9	10	2	30
Firebirds	9	12	9	2	32

The following is a breakdown of faceoff wins based on zone and player count.

Zone	Stars			Firebirds		
	ES	PP	PK	ES	PP	PK
Attack	3	3	0	8	0	0
Neutral	9	0	1	6	1	0
Defense	13	0	1	15	0	2

ES – Even Strength

PP – Power Play

PK – Penalty Kill