

GAME REPORT

Home: CV Firebirds vs. Away: COL Eagles

Date: April 2, 2025 7:00PM PST

Pre-Game

The Eagles have clinched a playoff spot, and they are now playing for first place in the Pacific and a first-round bye. The NHL squad, Avalanche, are inching closer to a playoff spot so callups have slowed down since the trade deadline. Jacob MacDonald and Matthew Phillips continue to lead the veteran rich Eagles in points. Trent Miner continues to be rock solid between the pipes, and he is in the top 3 in the AHL goalies in GAA.

No.	PLAYER	POS	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PPG	PMPPG
4	Jacob MacDonald	D	58	29	24	53	22	0.914	1.293
54	Matthew Phillips	RW	59	18	34	52	21	0.881	1.237
21	Jayson Megna	C	58	15	31	46	22	0.793	1.172
9	T.J. Tynan	F	45	8	37	45	12	1.000	1.267
18	Jack Ahcan	D	64	5	34	39	5	0.609	0.688
48	Tye Felhaber	LW	60	20	18	38	15	0.633	0.883
3	Jake Wise	F	51	15	18	33	12	0.647	0.882
14	Chris Wagner	C	39	19	12	31	8	0.795	1.000
43	Calle Rosén	D	55	9	21	30	21	0.545	0.927
22	Jere Innala	LW	41	15	11	26	1	0.634	0.659
24	Oskar Olausson	F	56	10	13	23	5	0.411	0.500
90	William Dufour	F	53	9	13	22	-20	0.415	0.038
85	* Nikita Prishchepov	F	45	8	13	21	6	0.467	0.600
38	* Chase Bradley	LW	57	13	7	20	12	0.351	0.561
15	Mark Senden	C	53	7	13	20	22	0.377	0.792
93	Jean-Luc Foudy	RW	44	4	13	17	4	0.386	0.477
41	Jason Polin	F	34	11	5	16	-1	0.471	0.441
5	Wyatt Aamodt	D	63	3	12	15	35	0.238	0.794
82	Ivan Ivan	F	28	2	9	11	-4	0.393	0.250
74	Devante Stephens	D	42	2	8	10	7	0.238	0.405
72	* Connor Mayer	D	21	4	5	9	9	0.429	0.857
10	John Ludvig	D	25	0	8	8	3	0.320	0.440
55	* Maros Jedlicka	LW	18	3	2	5	-2	0.278	0.167
45	* Chad Hillebrand	F	20	2	2	4	1	0.200	0.250
67	x Keaton Middleton	D	17	0	4	4	5	0.235	0.529
65	x Neil Shea	F	8	1	2	3	2	0.375	0.625

36	Matthew Stienburg	F	3	1	1	2	2	0.667	1.333
68	x Ondrej Pavel	F	14	0	2	2	-4	0.143	-0.143
71	* Bryan Yoon	D	17	0	2	2	0	0.118	0.118
61	*x Garrett Pyke	D	29	0	2	2	-2	0.069	0.000
88	x Givani Smith	LW	6	0	1	1	-2	0.167	-0.167
31	Kevin Mandolese	G	17	0	1	1	0	0.059	0.059
53	x Briley Wood	F	1	0	0	0	0	0.000	0.000
34	x Kaapo Kähkönen	G	2	0	0	0	0	0.000	0.000
57	x Keaton Mastrodonato	F	13	0	0	0	-3	0.000	-0.231
34	Adam Scheel	G	14	0	0	0	0	0.000	0.000
50	Trent Miner	G	32	0	0	0	0	0.000	0.000

Totals by forwards and defense:

	G	A	PTS	+/-
Forwards	181	257	438	109
Defense	52	120	172	105

Note: The scoring data comes from The AHL Daily and team websites. PPG = Points / games played. PMPPG = (Points + (+/-))/games played. PMPPG is intended to include the defensive number to a player's full contribution per game. * Rookie. X – Player Not on roster, injured, or called up.

The Firebirds ended a 5-game skid by winning the last three games on the road. The call up of 3 key players has allowed other Firebirds to figure out their roll and step up their game. Jagger Firkus, David Goyette, and Ryan Winterton have found their way on the score sheet. Nikke Kokko continues to be strong in net, and he continues to be in the top 10 in the AHL in GAA. Victor Östman was called up from the ECHL since Ales Stezka is listed day-to-day. Victor won the first shutout of the season against the Wolves on Sunday. Ryan Winterton has been called back to the Kraken for the final few games of the season. The Firebirds have signed two forwards to fill out the roster for the remaining games. The Firebirds have 8 games remaining, and they currently sit in 4th place which is 11 points ahead of the 8th place Condors. If my math is correct, the Firebirds' magic points number is 5 to clinch a playoff spot.

Note: The ECHL Mavericks have clinched a playoff spot and are looking to capture first in the Mountain division and Western Conference

No.	PLAYER	POS	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PPG	PMPPG
39	Ben Meyers	F	50	22	23	45	2	0.900	0.940
33	*x Jani Nyman	F	55	26	15	41	3	0.745	0.800
96	Logan Morrison	F	64	13	27	40	8	0.625	0.750
58	Max Lajoie	D	63	4	32	36	15	0.571	0.810
27	Ryan Winterton	F	53	17	18	35	9	0.660	0.830
57	* Jagger Firkus	F	61	13	20	33	12	0.541	0.738

11	Brandon Biro	F	50	6	27	33	-1	0.660	0.640
16	Nikolas Brouillard	D	61	5	26	31	-1	0.508	0.492
24	* Ty Nelson	D	64	6	23	29	18	0.453	0.734
15	x John Hayden	F	43	11	16	27	-1	0.628	0.605
29	* Lleyton Roed	F	52	13	13	26	10	0.500	0.692
91	x Daniel Sprong	F	19	11	14	25	0	1.316	1.316
8	x Cale Fleury	D	36	6	18	24	9	0.667	0.917
12	* Eduard Šalé	F	46	5	15	20	6	0.435	0.565
10	Luke Henman	F	52	6	10	16	0	0.308	0.308
88	* David Goyette	F	46	5	11	16	4	0.348	0.435
23	Gustav Olofsson	D	49	3	13	16	-6	0.327	0.204
36	Ville Ottavainen	D	60	3	11	14	12	0.233	0.433
17	Max McCormick	F	19	7	6	13	-4	0.684	0.474
63	Jacob Melanson	F	35	7	4	11	-2	0.314	0.257
67	Mitchell Stephens	F	28	6	5	11	-3	0.393	0.286
21	Ian McKinnon	F	50	6	4	10	2	0.200	0.240
62	Tucker Robertson	F	36	4	5	9	-1	0.250	0.222
20	Ryan Jones	D	35	0	7	7	2	0.200	0.257
52	x Tye Kartye	F	3	2	2	4	1	1.333	1.667
50	Charlie Wright	D	16	0	1	1	-5	0.063	-0.250
2	Jake McLaughlin	D	1	0	0	0	0	0.000	0.000
45	x Jack LaFontaine	G	2	0	0	0	0	0.000	0.000
40	Victor Östman	G	3	0	0	0	0	0.000	0.000
28	x Cade Borchart	F	5	0	0	0	-3	0.000	-0.600
31	x Philipp Grubauer	G	7	0	0	0	0	0.000	0.000
30	Aleš Stezka	G	25	0	0	0	0	0.000	0.000
35	* Nikke Kokko	G	28	0	0	0	0	0.000	0.000

Totals by forwards and defense:

	G	A	PTS	+/-
Forwards	180	235	415	42
Defense	27	131	158	44

Note: The scoring data comes from The AHL Daily and team websites. PPG = Points / games played. PMPPG = (Points + (+/-))/games played. PMPPG is intended to include the defensive number to a player's full contribution per game. * Rookie. X – Player Not on roster, injured, or called up.

Head-to-Head:

Tonight is the 8th and last game in the regular season between both teams. The record for the first 7 games is evenly split with the Eagles have a 4-3-0-0 record, and the Firebirds have a 3-3-0-1. A Firebirds win means they have an outside chance to push for 1st in the Pacific, and get closer to a playoff spot. A win for the Eagles means they are closer to a first-round bye. With the playoff implication on the line, tonight's game will have a playoff atmosphere.

1st Period

Fairley even period for a majority of the period. Eagles got a goal on the rush. Jayson Megna was able to intercept the puck in the neutral zone, and get a snipe from the top right circle.

2nd Period

For 17 minutes, both teams had chances, but the Eagles scored on a failed clearing attempt. Devante Stephens found a loose puck and shot it home past Kokko.

3rd Period

The Firebirds made a push, and got a goal to get one back. Edward Sale circle the offensive zone as the puck moved behind the net. Edward found a spot the puck was heading to and put in home. This got the crowd going and a few minutes later looked to have tied the game, but the referee waved it off for goalie interference. With 3 minutes to go, the Firebirds pulled the goalie, but the Eagles put it away with an empty net goal.

Post-Game

The Eagles secured a critical 2 points in their push to secure 1st in the Pacific Division and Western Conference. With a roster full of veterans, they look like they can make a deep run in the playoffs. Even though the Firebirds came up short, they played competitive for a full 60 minutes. The players and coach after the game stated that they didn't like their first period start. Regardless, the Firebirds gave the Eagles a run for their money. Missing 4 players to call up was noticeable on the power play and breakouts. The Eagles head home for 4 games. 2 against the Barracuda and 2 against the Silver Knights. The Firebirds hit the road for 2 games against the Silver Knights.

	1 st	2 nd	3 rd		Total
Eagles	1	1	1		3
Firebirds	0	0	1		1

Full game statistic can be found on the AHL site: <https://theahl.com/stats/game-center/1027504>

Video highlights can be seen on the Firebirds' YouTube channel: [Firebirds - YouTube](#)

Team Game Stats:

	Eagles	Firebirds
Shots	20	27
PP	0 / 2	0 / 3
PIM	8	6
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					Total
Eagles					5
Firebirds					7

Offsides					Total
Eagles					3
Firebirds					2

Faceoff Wins					Total
Eagles					27
Firebirds					30

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

	Eagles			Firebirds		
Zone	ES	PP	PK	ES	PP	PK
Attack	6	1	0	10	3	0
Neutral	8	0	0	7	0	0
Defense	9	0	3	9	0	1

ES – Even Strength

PP – Power Play

PK – Penalty Kill