The veteran forward guaranteed a happy Thanksgiving to Blues fans Wednesday night.

In a game that saw just 45 total shots, Andy McDonald took advantage of all of his chances.

Right off the opening face-off, the Blues drove the puck into the offensive zone and Alex Pietrangelo slid it over to McDonald, who skated to the top of the left face-off circle and blasted a wrist shot top-shelf over the helpless Pekka Rinne. In just nine seconds, the Blues had a 1-0 lead. The fastest opening-goal in the NHL this season was McDonald's sixth of the season and his tenth point in the last seven games.

"We got a little bit lucky there," McDonald said. "It came off the wall and I think it went off the defenseman's stick [and] kind of came right to me and I got it in the slot there. A little bit of luck there but it's good to get a good start."

On the play, Brad Boyes got an assist, which extended his point streak to seven games. He has four goals and four points in that span. On the other end of the spectrum, David Backes saw his five-game point streak snap, since the Blues could not muster any more goals.

The Blues had 15 shots on the night, while Nashville posted 30 shots. Even the shootout had a low number of shots, since many players missed the net. But Andy McDonald hit the net when it counted.

After teammates Matt D'Agostini, Brad Boyes, Erik Johnson and Alex Steen failed to beat Rinne, McDonald stepped up in the fifth round of the shootout. Rather than skate in and shoot like most of his teammates, McDonald deked Rinne and slid it past him for the 1-0 shootout lead. Halak stood tall against Nashville's Sergei Kostitsyn as he rung it off the post to ensure a Blues 2-1 shootout victory.

Barret Jackman coming back was a big story for St. Louis, since he has missed the past nine games with a sprained knee. He recorded two penalty minutes in the contest. In turn, the team

assigned defenseman Nathan Oystrick to the Peoria Rivermen of the AHL.

The Blues' next game will be this Friday when they travel to Dallas to take on the Stars. Hopefully the Blues can put together a better effort in Dallas this time, as the team squandered a 2-0 lead and lost in the shootout. Coverage begins at 7:30 on Fox Sports Midwest.

Discuss this article in the LetsGoBlues.com Forums!