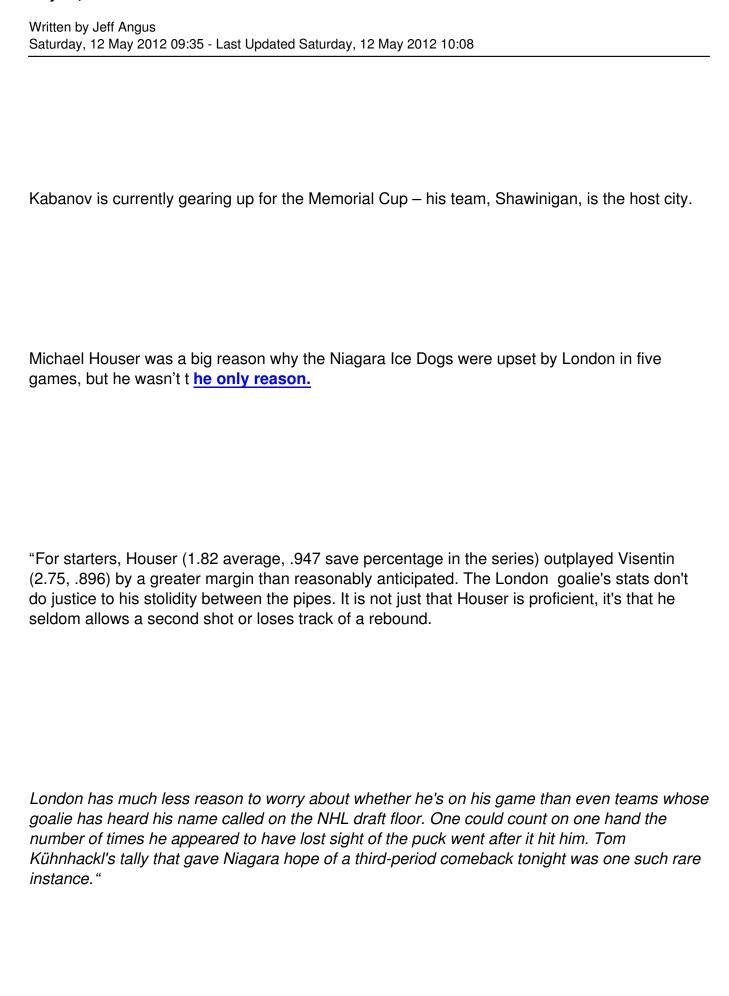


Written by Jeff Angus

Saturday, 12 May 2012 09:35 - Last Updated Saturday, 12 May 2012 10:08
In 2011-12, he had eight goals and 27 points. Not bad if you are in a 15-team league where you need six or eight defensemen on your roster. He also did other things well – according to that article he had the highest even strength scoring chance ratio among Hurricane defensemen (in other words, when he was on the ice Carolina out chanced the opposition more frequently than with any other defenseman on the ice).
He excelled playing with veteran Jaro Spacek – a conservative defensive defenseman.
Carolina needs to put someone like that alongside him in order to thrive. I could see him as trade bait if things don't work out. There are a lot of teams who would want a skilled young puck mover, and Carolina could turn their abundance of defensemen into a good young forward.
There is a report out of Russia that says Kirill Kabanov is headed to the KHL.
Update: Sounds like the Kabanov to Russia situation may only happen if there is a lockout, or if

he fails to make the Isles out of camp. I'd say one of those is more likely than the other...



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A hat trick for **Evgeni Malkin** at the Worlds:

{youtube}GG1_s-OgdUg{/youtube}