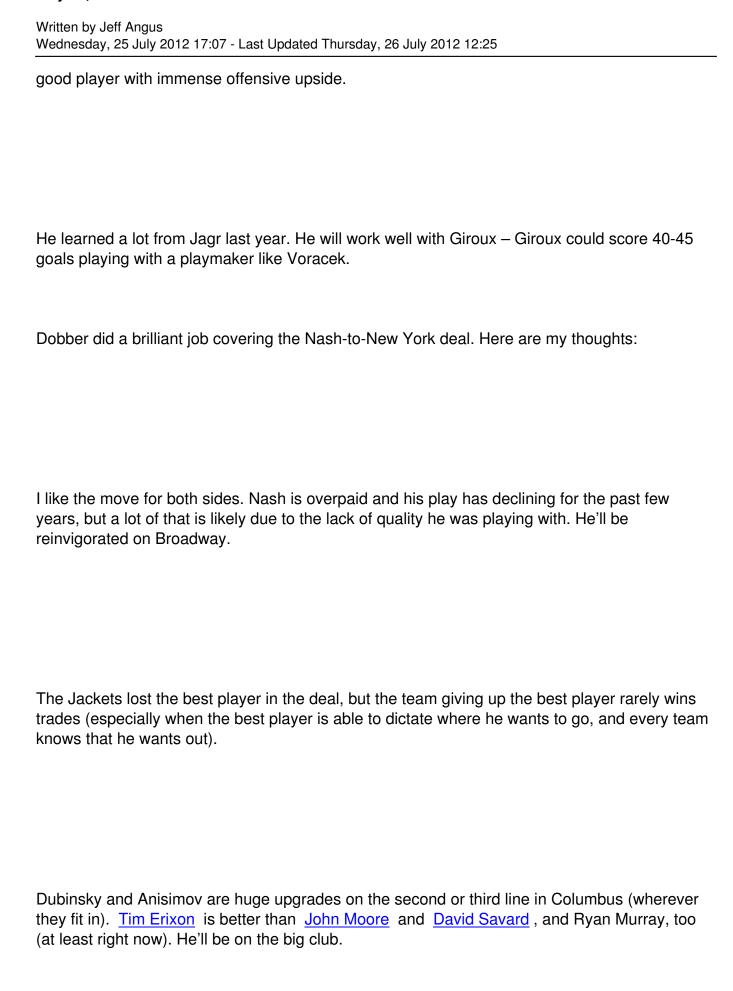
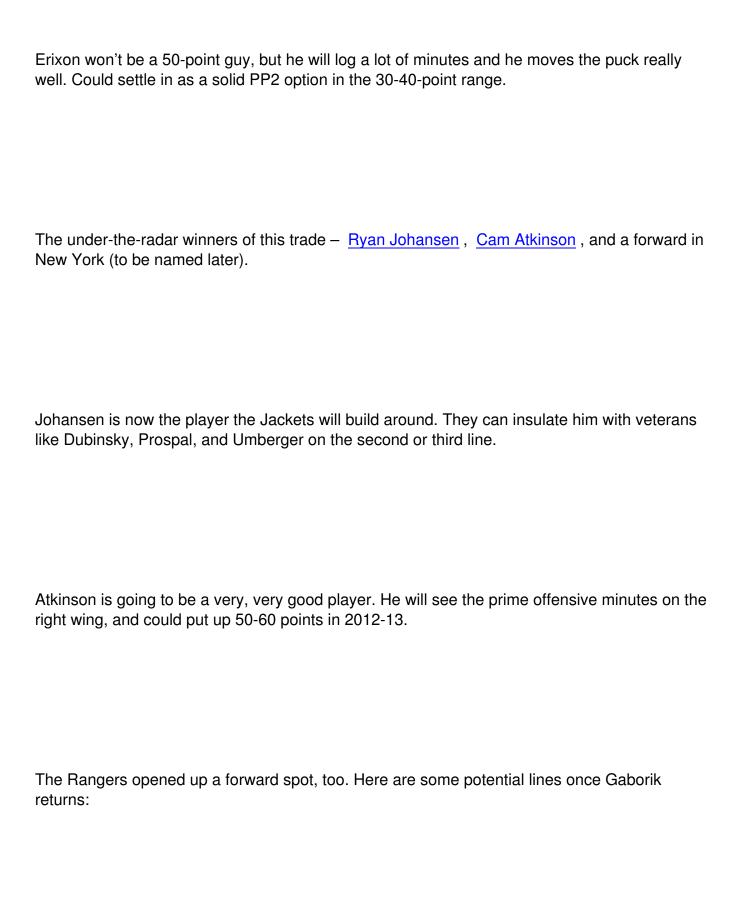


. Not really a surprise, but nice to see the words come from the club's GM. Voracek is a very

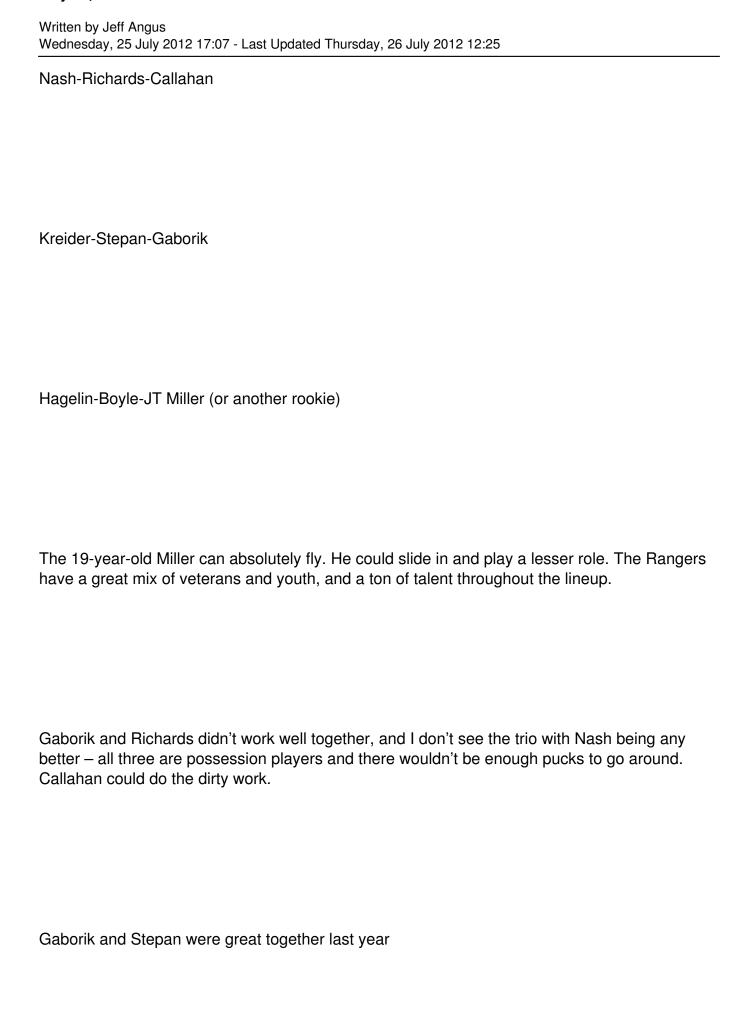
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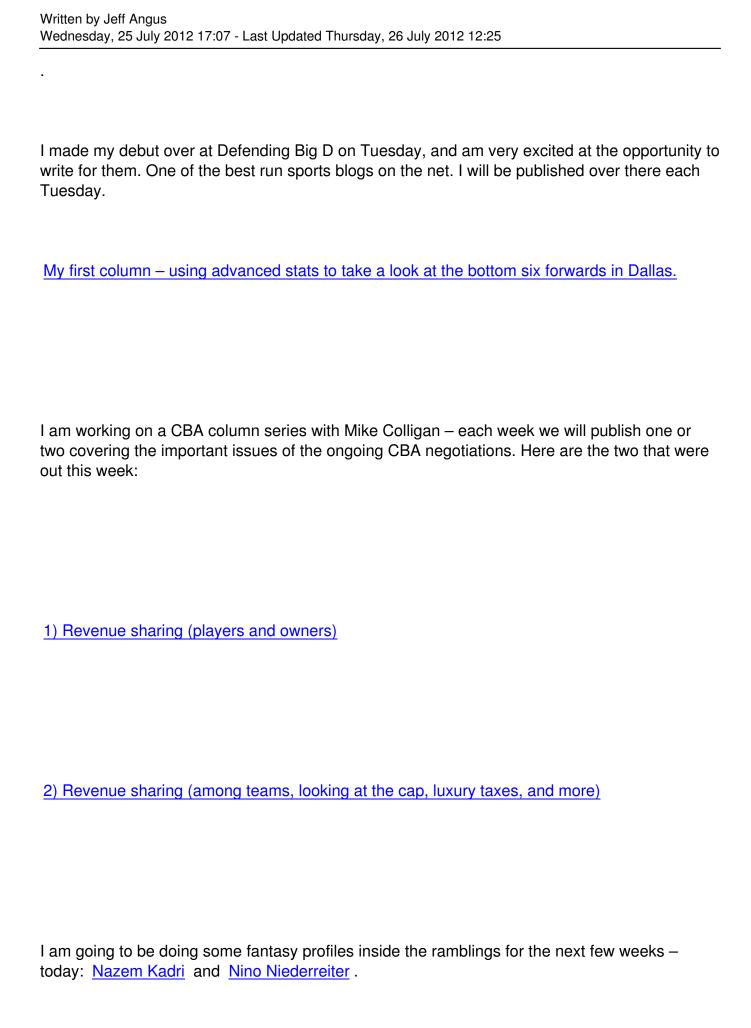


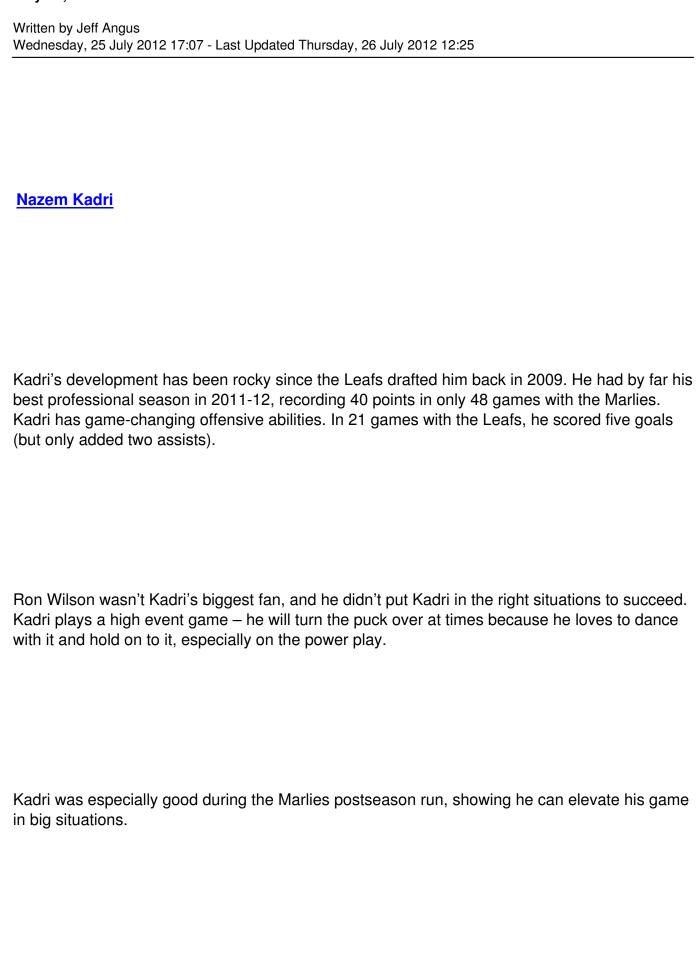


## July 26, 2012



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Don't forget about **Bobby Ryan**. Remember how long he took to develop? Many (myself

Written by Jeff Angu	JS					
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included) had started to write Ryan off. Ryan is bigger and stronger than Kadri, but the knocks were the same. "He can't skate well enough to play in the NHL" is something that many said about Ryan, and the same has been said about Kadri. "The moves he pulls in junior won't work in the NHL" is another. Kadri is a natural center who has played wing almost exclusively during his limited NHL experience. However, earlier this summer Brian Burke spoke of using Kadri as a center for 2012-13. Kadri's possession numbers are quite good (although the sample size is small). Last season, he was second in Relative Corsi among all Leaf forwards, trailing only Mikhail Grabovski. Looking at some lineup options... I think Kadri would fit quite nicely with big wingers who can help him defensively. Clarke MacArthur is one, and Nikolai Kulemin is another. I'd like to see the Leafs put Kessel and Grabovski together – they are the two best players. Bozak isn't good enough to play top line minutes.



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drafted out of junior, he was ineligible for the AHL. The good news is that Niederreiter is eligible to go and play down in Bridgeport (AHL) this year. And that is exactly what will happen, unless he has a stellar training camp.

The Islanders are quietly building a solid forward core. With the loss of Parenteau, look for Okposo, Bailey, and the incoming <u>Brad Boyes</u> to compete for the top line right wing gig. Niederreiter could play there down the road – he was incredibly impressive in the WHL, and is a talented offensive player. However, he needs to get his game back on track and his confidence back up.

## Niederreiter on 2012-13:

"I want to make a statement this season for sure," Niederreiter said before the team's prospect scrimmage at IceWorks Thursday night. "I'm going to do everything it takes to make the roster this season."

The Isles will graduate Casey Cizakas and <u>David Ullstrom</u> to the big club before Niederreiter. If you own him in your keeper league – now is the time for patience. Niederreiter has 30-goal, 70-point upside. He won't get there for a while. However, his value won't ever be lower. Don't give him away for free. A season in the AHL should get him back on track and ready to slide into a top six spot with the Islanders in 2013-14.

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And with the development of Cizakas, the Islanders will boast four good centers for Niederreiter to play with. Tavares and Nielsen are mainstays, and blue chip prospect <a href="Ryan Strome">Ryan Strome</a> is probably a year away from making the jump, as well. Niederreiter played with some great centers in junior (

Ryan Johansen

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I am going to start writing monthly fitness & nutrition tips over on my blog. Here are my tips for July:

## **Fitness**

# **Nutrition**

Niederreiter's first (and only) NHL goal:

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