

Written by Chris Nichols Saturday, 22 September 2012 22:16 - Last Updated Sunday, 23 September 2012 13:05

"What we've had a lack of is any degree of compromise or movement from the players association. They've really made one proposal, and they haven't moved off the one proposal. And in any negotiation, it's not really a negotiation if one side is making all the proposals and the other side is just waiting until they get what they want."

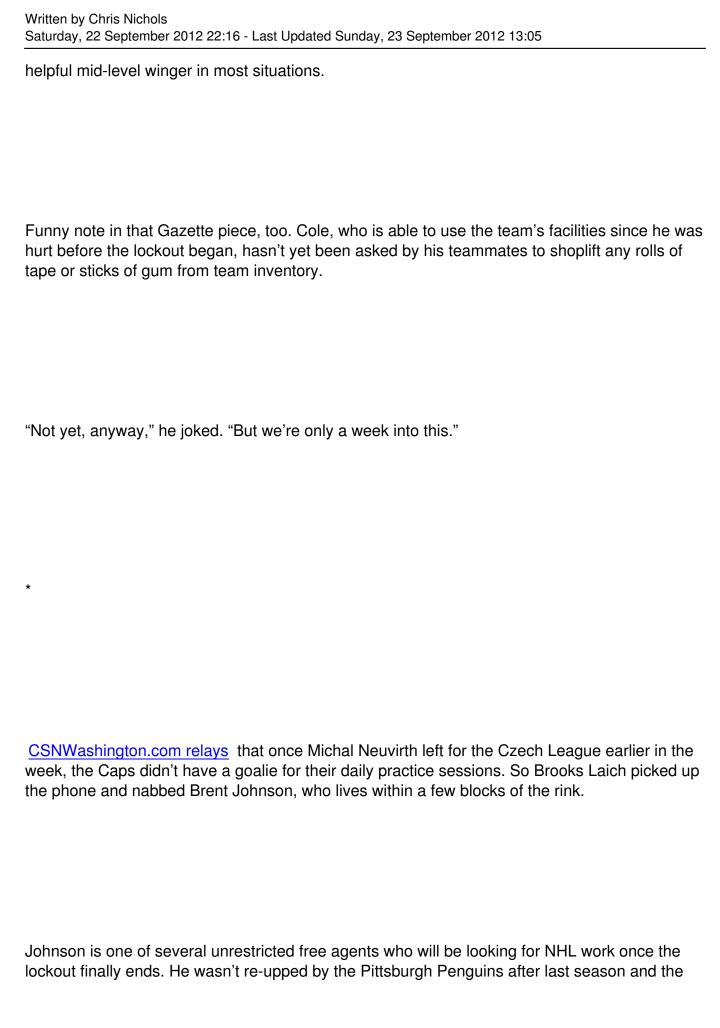
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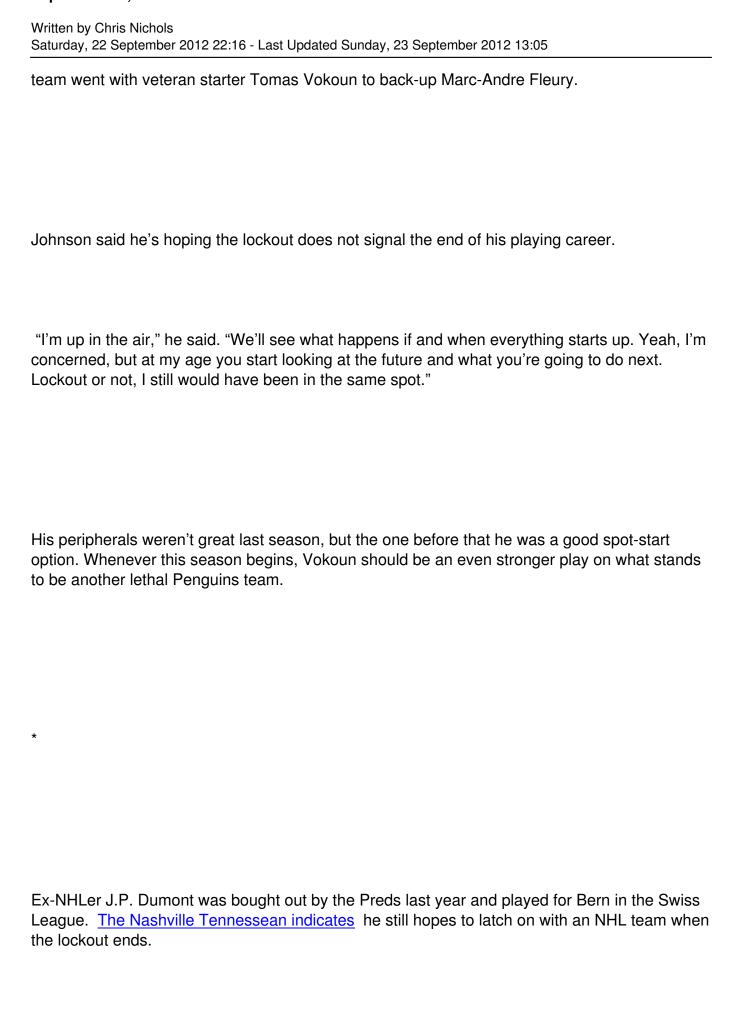
Erik Cole is hoping to be cleared to skate next week. The gist of a story from The Montreal is Cole hit the

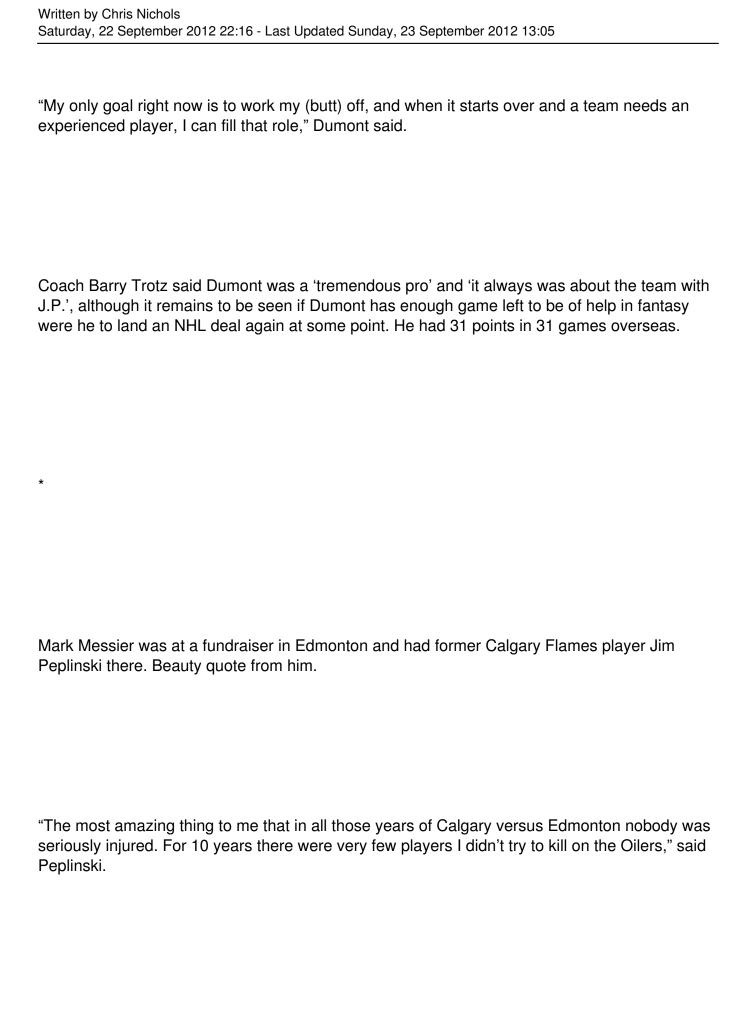
gym only a few weeks after the conclusion of last season because he was pretty peeved at how it ended. Can't blame the guy. But he probably didn't allow his body enough time to recover the physical pounding he took.

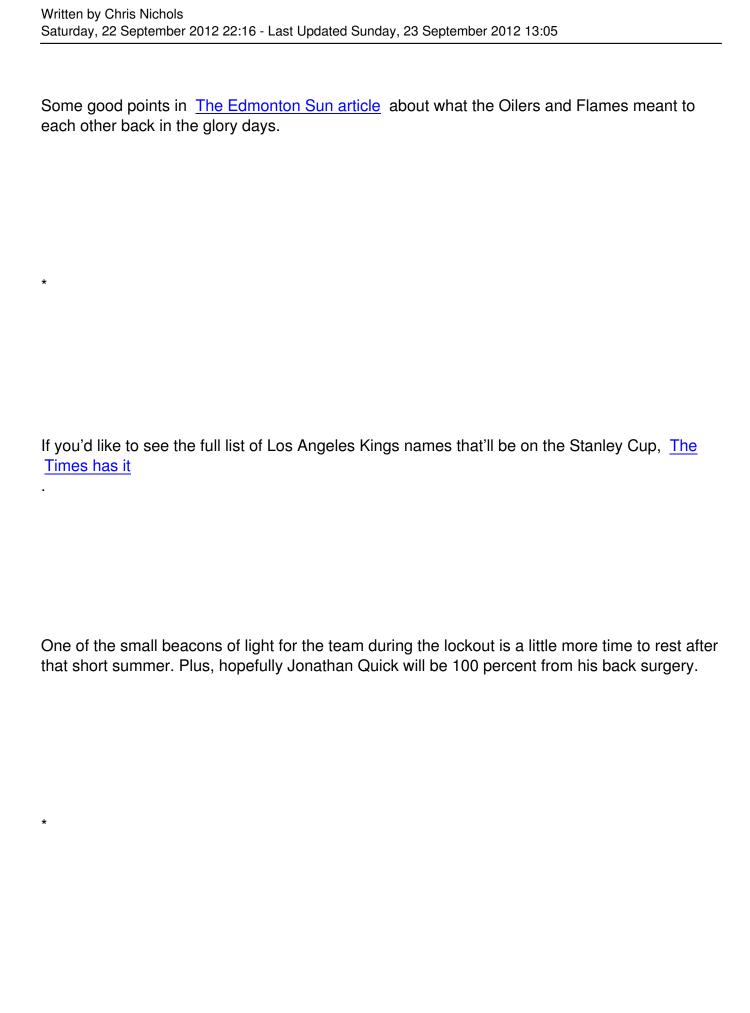
After seeing team doctors, he was told this undisclosed lower-body injury would be good to go after six to eight weeks of rehab. But it lingered all summer. So this extra time from the lockout should only help him be ready for the start of the season, whenever that comes.

He was so good for poolies last year too. He shot up to 35 goals from 26 the year prior, with the same 26-assist total extending him to 61 points. That also marked back-to-back campaigns with all 82 games played. Expecting another 35 goals would really be pushing it, but he can still be a









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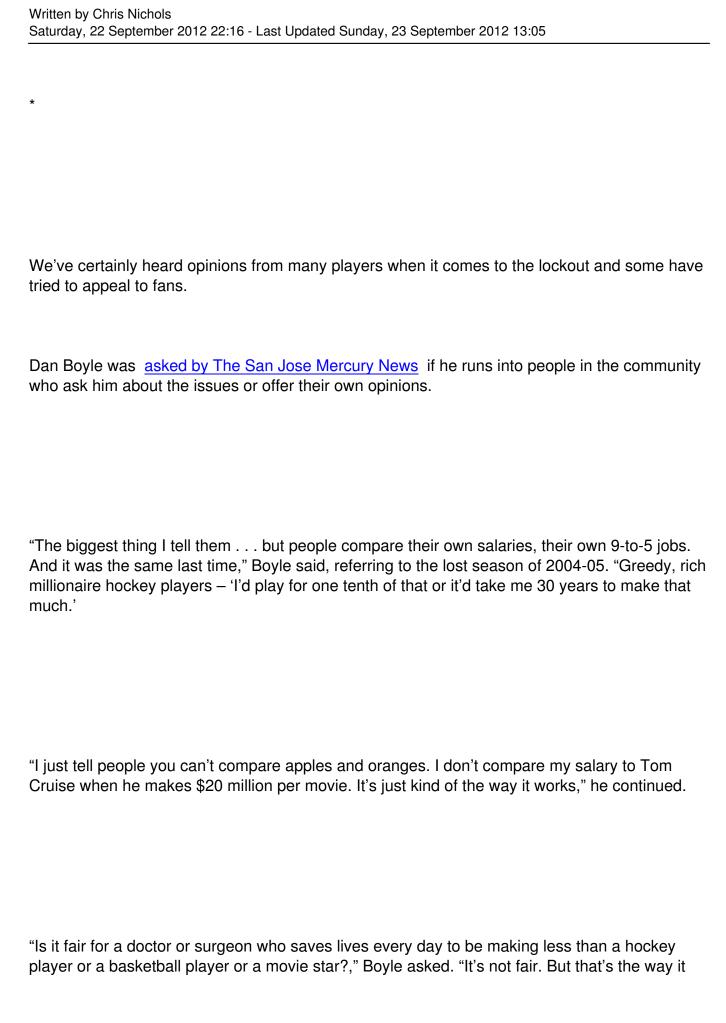
With the recent news of more NHLers potentially being eligible now to play in Sweden, the stories have been churning about Erik Karlsson looking into returning to Frolunda. Insurance costs seem to be the biggest hurdle so far.

If you were doing a single season standard league (with a base of the usual six categories of goals, assists, plus-minus, power play points, penalty minutes and shots) draft today, who would be your first pick when it comes time to choosing a blueliner?

I ask because I spent part of last week moving rankings into the Sportsnet.ca publishing tool and Karlsson is not my No. 1 rearguard.

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Gabriel Landeskog told The Denver Post he will not be playing in the AHL this season. He wouldn't say whether it was his choice, the Avs', or a mutual decision. He'll stay in Denver until at least the middle of next month and will continue his search for a new house. After that, depending on how things look on the lockout front, the speculation would have him returning to Sweden. We'll see. Regardless, he is one of a million reasons hockey fans can't wait for this ridiculous situation to be over.

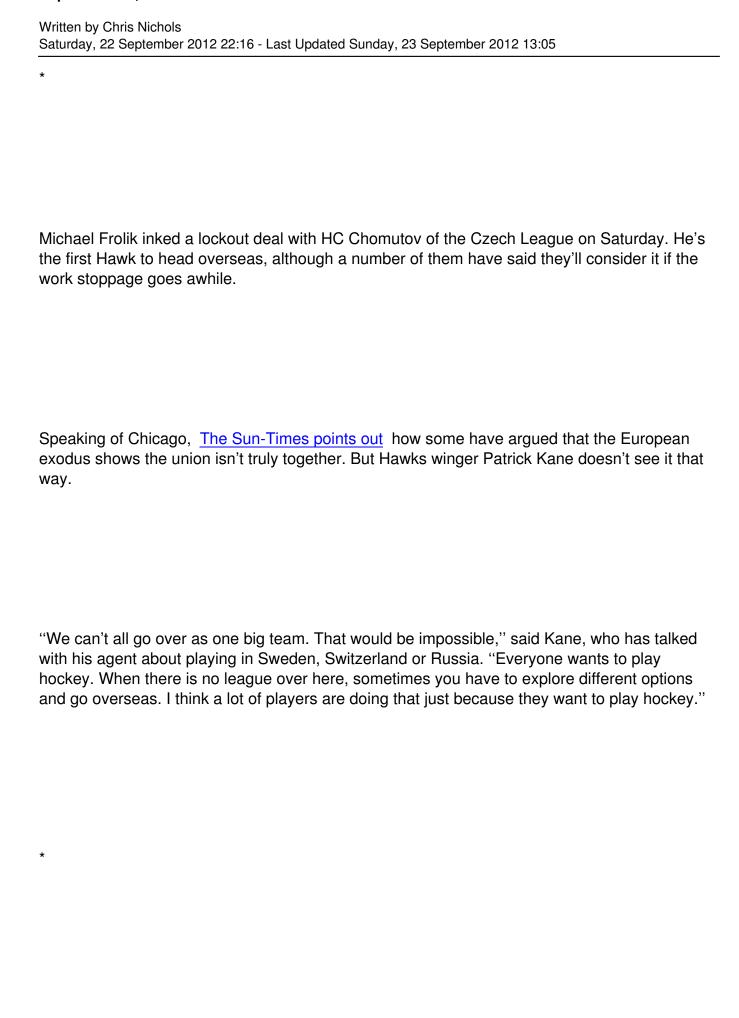


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is."
Then he added: "Most people have been supportive."
Boyle barely slipped below the 50-point mark last year (9-39-48) after five straight seasons of surpassing it, not counting his '07-8 campaign of 25 points in only 37 games. He remains one of the better all-around producers, despite having turned 36 this summer.
*
Todd Fedoruk has had his challenges on and off the ice, but the former player has been earning a few extra.bucks lately running drills for the Philadelphia Flyers players who are still in town.
Good read, going over his fight with demons over the years. Realistic quote near the end.



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TMZ first had it and The New York Times writes that his parents say the union, after initial discussions with them after Boogaard's death, did not meet a deadline to file a grievance seeking the final three years of his Rangers salary.
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The Miami Herald notes Kris Versteeg, who had hip surgery shortly after last season, skated on his own Friday. He said he has done light skating about six times since the surgery. He is expected to be ready to play in November.
"I'm starting to feel OK, getting my movement back," Versteeg said.
The forward will be looking to build on last year's 54-point effort, which was one better than his rookie total of 53. He, Stephen Weiss and Tomas Fleischmann were so effective for the Panthers last season. Peter Mueller will be a new name on the team set to make some noise this time around after signing as a free agent in July.



Written by Chris Nichols Saturday, 22 September 2012 22:16 - Last Updated Sunday, 23 September 2012 13:05 Tyler Ennis, who was the subject of a write-up in last Sunday's Ramblings, is going to play for Langnau of the Swiss league. The bonus for him is that his agent got a package deal with the team for Ennis and Jared Spurgeon of the Minnesota Wild. They're best friends and grew up together on the same Edmonton street. "I wanted to play with a buddy, and my agent just went out and got me and Spurge a nice little spot in Langnau, so I'm pretty excited," Ennis said. "All I can say is that I hope ends as quick as possible, but for now I'm looking forward to trying to improve my game with the Langnau Tigers and try and improve at center." They're just words, sure, but it's surely nice to read that his focus is still not only trying to improve his game, but also specifically on working on his mindset as a centre.

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There has been and will continue to be significant financial fallout from the lockout. Michigan Live reports

that with no Detroit Red Wings training camp, the Traverse City area and Centre I.C.E. are feeling the effects.

"We figure between the NHL prospects tournament, the golf outing and training camp, it brings between \$3 million and \$5 million to our community in a two-week period," Centre I.C.E. executive director Terry Marchand said. "At Centre I.C.E., we get hit the hardest, but everyone in the community gets hit.

"Traverse City is a nice, touristy area. At this time of the year, it's a nice shot in the arm for our community."

And oh yeah... on the subject of those same Wings. In case you missed it, Senior Vice President and Alternate Governor Jim Devellano dared to share his opinion on things about

which he's not supposed to share his opinion -according to NHL rules - in an interview with **Island Sports News**

