

April 17, 2012

Written by Dobber

Tuesday, 17 April 2012 01:07 - Last Updated Tuesday, 17 April 2012 15:32

Andrew Shaw gets three games. Mike Smith WILL play tonight. Per Dreger

Some notes, via TSN - Leighton has cleared re-entry waivers. Also, Nicklas Backstrom will have a hearing for the crosscheck (shown below).

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, via the Dobber Nation link (found above "Free Features" as well as "Columnist/ Articles")

If interested, you can watch the [latest Don Cherry here](#) . Quick thought – I don't think "Cheetah" does very well, in terms of sales. So why do they keep sponsoring this show? Pouring money down the toilet...

Chris Kreider made his NHL debut and played 11:11 for the Rangers. He didn't get any PP time,

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but saw some time with Richards and Gaborik, who are alright linemates. With [Carl Hagelin](#) suspended for two more games, we'll get to see more of him. Kreider was glued to the bench in the second half of the third, as it was a close game.

It was still dumb of me to take him as a dark horse in the final round of a playoff pool. Building around Rangers, Preds and Coyotes (just based on where I drafted, the more preferable teams were already picked clean). When it got down to the final round, I had to decide between [Brian Boyle](#) – who I thought was a great dark horse and could get anywhere from 4-12 points in 15 games – or Kreider. And since I love shocking people with off the board picks, I went Kreider. Now Boyle is having the series of his life. Three goals in three games, when his entire team has seven goals. It was a low-risk draft pick, but going with the other option obviously was the better move.

It's called arrogance. Being a know-it-all and a show off had me picking off the board. And not for the first time. It pays off so rarely, but damn it feels good when it does.

Boyle also has 12 shots and nine PIM on the series.

[Daniel Alfredsson](#) missed the game with a concussion, but was in the morning skate. I get the feeling he'll be back within two games, as he was a game-time decision and had passed the baseline concussion tests.

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[Bobby Butler](#) got into his first career playoff game and managed five shots in 14 minutes of action. That's exactly what he's there for, it just didn't go in for him.

Both [James Neal](#) and [Arron Asham](#) will have hearings today. Asham's was clearly out of line and a multi-game suspension. Neal's was just careless, but I don't know about intent - he turned on Couturier. The Giroux one, not so innocent. But given the star power, I can see a one game suspension for him, or perhaps just a fine. Probably not more than that.

After being squeaky clean for two games, [Milan Lucic](#) picked up four minor penalties last night.

[Zdeno Chara](#) and [Brooks Laich](#) each picked up their first three points of the postseason last night.

[Dennis Wideman](#) has been a minus player in each playoff game so far. Going back to the regular season, he has two points and is minus-9 in his last 15 games.

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[Nicklas Backstrom](#) got a match penalty after the game for crosschecking [Rich Peverley](#) in the face – could lead to a suspension.

Patrik Berglund and [Andy McDonald](#) are having strong series. Berglund has four points and McDonald five, after three games. They play on the same line, so perhaps Berglund would have had a big year with Andy on the line instead of Stewart.

[Brian Elliott](#) has only given up three or more goals eight times out of 37 starts this year. Two of those eight were in his last two starts though. Not a great time to show your mortality.

[Chris Stewart](#) was back in the lineup but played the big 8:46.

Here is a [new look](#) for the Nashville lines in practice – other than the Fisher line of course, which will always stay together until death do them part – Fisher, S. Kostitsyn, Erat; Spaling, Radulov, A. Kostitsyn; Gaustad, Horny, Bourque; Legwand, Halischuk, Yip. Quite the opportunity for Spaling, who still needs to prove that he can be a top sixer as opposed to a

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checker. [Hal Gill](#) also skated for the first time.

Detroit is using [new lines](#) as well, at least in practice – Zetterberg, Filpps, Hudler; Datsyuk, Franzen, Cleary; Abdelkader, Bertuzzi, Miller; Emmerton, Nyquist, Holmstrom.

Not to be outdone, [Chicago](#) practices with new lines - Brunette-Kane-Hossa, Stalberg-Toews-Sharp.

Minor news, but interesting – the Isles will not be bringing back their assistant coaches.

With the end of the AHL season and some teams not making the playoffs, Detroit, Chicago and Ottawa recalled a slew of players. Of note, [Tomas Tatar](#) , [Fabian Brunnstrom](#) , [Thomas McCollum](#) , [Robin Lehner](#) , [R Mika Zibanejad](#) , [Patrick Wiercioch](#) , Stephane Da Costa, [Mark Stone](#) , [Brandon Pirri](#)

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and

[Brandon Saad](#)

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The Flyers have placed [Michael Leighton](#) on re-entry waivers. Feel free to raise a Spockian eyebrow.

May be nothing, but [Mike Smith](#) and [Martin Hanzal](#) were not in practice for the Coyotes yesterday.

[Sign up for the Fan Zoo Auction page](#) in the next 48 hours for a chance to **win \$100** towards [their online store](#)

. To enter, simply sign up for their auction site and put DH (for DobberHockey) at the end of your username. An example: angusDH. The

[Fan Zoo](#)

will be running live auctions every day for the rest of the postseason.

[Check their daily auctions out here.](#)

This DobberHockey exclusive contest runs until Wednesday at midnight EST. Just looking out for you guys, and when they threw a hundred bucks at me to give to one of you...then who am I to turn that down on your behalf?

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The Backstrom crosscheck – uh oh...

{youtube}95ulmCL_om4{/youtube}

Sobotka takes down Moore, and Polak takes down Braun as the Blues throw their muscle around:

{youtube}GBc-fjWgdII{/youtube}