

**March 31, 2007**

Written by Dobber

Saturday, 31 March 2007 05:29 - Last Updated Saturday, 06 October 2007 07:53

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Alex Goligoski ended his NCAA season, but his hockey season may not be over. The Penguins may try to sign the offensive rearguard to a pro contract, be it Wilkes-Barre or Pittsburgh. Stay tuned.

Petteri Nummelin, who has been out because of a groin strain, practiced full for the first time Friday. Lemaire said he won't play today but is close.

Glen Murray has stated that he will miss the rest of the regular season to properly heal his groin. This really should not come as much of a surprise.

Ryan Smyth has been trouble by a leg injury since Tuesday. It caused him to miss last night's game. As I said before - the Isles are toast.

The 'Canes are toast as well. Losing three games in a row at a time like this. Horrible.

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Attention PIM players: Jordin Tootoo returns to the Nashville lineup after serving his five game suspension for his hit on Robidas of the Dallas Stars. Nashville and Tootoo will play against...Dallas tonight. Whoops!

Scott Nichol should return to the Nashville lineup on Tuesday. Scott Hartnell is aiming for Thursday to make his return.

The NHL has overturned the game misconduct penalty forward Darcy Hordichuk was given during Tuesday's win over Edmonton. Hordichuk was tossed from the game for not having his jersey properly tied down. Replays clearly indicated the jersey was tied down, but snapped off during his fight with Edmonton's Jason Smith. The overturn is important because players can be suspended after three misconducts. Hordichuk is now back to two misconducts this season.

Philippe Boucher was back in the Dallas lineup.

Ville Peltonen left last night's game for Florida with an illness. Florida still won, and with the Canes, Habs and Isles all losing, they are suddenly in the playoff mix. They are just two behind Carolina and four out of a playoff spot. It is still next to impossible...yet it IS possible.

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Wade Redden was back in the Ottawa lineup, but Patrick Eaves missed the game because of a groin injury.

Craig Rivet missed last night's game with a groin injury.

Paul Ranger made that surprise return that I warned you about yesterday. Almost three weeks early.

Sheldon Souray tied an NHL record last night by scoring his 18th power play goal of the season. The only other rearguards to do that were Denis Potvin and Adrian Aucoin. Souray's fantasy value will never be higher and despite his healthy season I still consider him a bandaid boy.

Saku Koivu was a minus-4 last night. Sergei Samsonov was a healthy scratch again.

I don't know why some of you readers argue with me about this: Niklas Kronwall is a bandaid

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boy. He will be a first ballot inductee hall-of-famer bandaid boy. He was helped off the ice last night after getting knocked into the boards by Joel Lundqvist and was taken to hospital with a hip injury. With the Kronwalls, and the Lindros', etc - bandaid boyhood is hereditary. Be it slightly weaker bones or a touch less fluid between the brain and the skull, or the muscles are a little less flexible...or all of the above, you are just born with certain attributes that either allow you to withstand that crushing hit into the boards or not. All it takes is one millimetre of flexibility and that is the difference between a tear and a bruise, or a break and nothing at all. I'm telling you again and maybe this time you will listen to me: stay away from Nik Kronwall like you would Nik Antropov or Eric Lindros or Peter Forsberg or the entire gang on my list.

Still with defensemen, Steve Eminger returned to the Washington lineup after missing three contests with a head injury.

John Madden may be back in the Devils lineup, but Scott Gomez is now day to day with a bruised thigh. . He may not play on Sunday.