

January 13, 2012

Written by Jeff Angus

Thursday, 12 January 2012 22:51 - Last Updated Friday, 13 January 2012 18:36

Thursday's Studs and Duds is up. [Check it out here.](#)

The [Midseason Guide](#) update/ addendum **is posted now**. If you still haven't picked this up yet, and aren't sure... take a look at [last year's Guide](#), free, and see for yourself.

Great news - Peter Mueller played for Colorado last night. I'd consider him a significant injury risk and wouldn't really consider having him on my roster right now (unless you can afford to use up a roster spot), but it is still really nice to see after what he has had to endure over the past few years.

A news story that I hope isn't true. [Puck Daddy reports](#) some Pens are losing patience with Crosby's recovery.

"A few, certainly not all, of Crosby's teammates are of the mind that he's been symptom-free for

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a while, though they have no medical basis for that. Some think he should be playing. Some simply think he should be doing more to communicate, or at least be as visible as concussed defenseman Kris Letang.

Last week in Pittsburgh, according to three sources, a group of players held a 45-minute meeting to discuss a temporary captaincy. Another source disputed that any such meeting occurred. If it did, were those players kidding?"

Ottawa is 9-1-2 since the Kyle Turris trade.

According to the TSN panel last night, the Leafs really like James van Riemsdyk. I can think of about 28 other teams that would like to land the young power forward, as well. Not sure what Toronto has that Philadelphia would covet (and don't say Luke Schenn, please).

Bob McKenzie – "Vancouver are getting significant offers for Cory Schneider." I don't blame teams for offering a lot. Don't see Schneider on the move until the summer – he's too important as insurance in the playoffs (unless some team steps up with a ridiculous offer).

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Surprise, surprise – Mike Green is injured again. His groin is bothering him again and there is no word on when he'll return to skating.

Tampa Bay's nightmare goaltending continued last night – Garon got the start, and promptly allowed three goals on eight shots against.

Plusty, Staal, and Ruutu combined for nine points for the 'Canes. Staal has been playing much better lately (there was nowhere to go but up, obviously). He now has 10 points in his last six games.

Carolina defenseman Jay Harrison had two points, and now has six in his last five games.

Mike Cammalleri trade analysis will be up this afternoon. Off the top of my head – Montreal gains cap space, but we have seen how well they use it. Huge offensive upgrade for Calgary.

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The full trade: Cammalleri, AHL/KHL goalie Karri Ramo, and a 5th round pick in exchange for Rene Bourque, prospect Patrick Holland, and a 2nd round pick.

Cammalleri started the game for Montreal, but was pulled halfway through the game and sent back to the team hotel. Very, very bizarre. Was the trade not done a few hours before the game started?

Uneventful Boston/Montreal game. The Bruins had little problem winning this one, and the final score (2-1 Boston) compliments Montreal a bit. They weren't ever really in this one. Gionta is out for the season, Cammalleri is gone... I guess the Habs are going to build around the likes of Eller and Pacioretty for the next few years. Tough times ahead (and I like both of the players I just mentioned).

PK Subban may hear from the league after a bit of a forearm shot to the head of David Krejci.

Goaltending controversy in Philadelphia? Bobrovsky got the start last night and was great.

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John Tavares is having a really, really strong season (on pace for 30 goals and 80 points). Too bad he plays for such a poor team.

Defenseman Andrew MacDonald has been a huge fantasy disappointment this season. Prior to last night (two assists), he had one assist in 33 previous games. He had 27 in only 60 games last season.

Two primary assists in 20 minutes of ice time for All-Star Erik Karlsson last night. Best defenseman to own in almost any pool format.

Jason Spezza scored twice, and his strong season continues as well. He's inching closer to the 90 point mark, and has taken on a leadership role on and off the ice with the young Sens this season.

The team has a lot of confidence in Craig Anderson, and it is a huge difference when you can trust in your goalie to bail you out on occasion (especially with so many rookies in Ottawa's line up each night).

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Watched most of the Vancouver/St. Louis game. A very different Blues team than earlier in the year – really hard on the puck and really aggressive in all three zones. Vlad Sobotka is a really fun player to watch – I still think he has more offense to give (but St. Louis isn't the best fit for him to show it with their terrific depth).

Chris Stewart looks good, but he is still a far cry from the dominant force that was playing for the Blues last year after the trade from Colorado.

Vancouver really misses Sami Salo's shot on the first power play unit. They gave up about three or four breakaways shorthanded due to the Blues intercepting shots from the point.

Keith Ballard was a healthy scratch for the Canucks. He's been OK this season... but would be shocked if he is still on the team after the trade deadline. Doesn't really fit in on the team, especially when moved over to the right side (no room for him on the left side, his natural position).

Luongo had a really, really good game. As mentioned before, he stopped a few breakaways and kept the Canucks in it when the Blues were dominating.

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Defensemen above 40 points – Erik Karlsson.

Defensemen above 30 points – Brian Campbell, Alex Edler, and Shea Weber.

25 defensemen have between 20 and 29 points.

Wrote a [piece on Canuck prospect defenseman Jeremy Price](#) for the CanucksArmy on Thursday. Price is a puck-moving defenseman playing for the Colgate Raiders.

Nice hand-eye from Burrows here:

{youtube}-F7Nf_jO4rg{/youtube}

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Vintage Cammalleri – that 2010 Habs team sure was fun to watch:

{youtube}oeWtz9kJPw{/youtube}