

May 07, 2012

Written by Dobber

Sunday, 06 May 2012 23:16 - Last Updated Monday, 07 May 2012 11:24

I'm taking your fantasy hockey questions all day today - just head into the forum ("other stuff") and into the "Dobber's Take" section...

Ryan Getzlaf was in a bit of a [scuffle](#) outside a Finnish nightclub on the weekend. Not fantasy relevant but just some interesting news that may or may not catch on with the English media. (*s/t to Kuisma Aalto*)

I feel good about this week. A normal week, could it be? In the last two weeks I've launched Dobber Prospects, combined the sites/forum into one login, launched the shop, and fought off an attack from hackers that slowed DobberHockey down to a crawl Friday. This week? Back to normal! I do still have an announcement (and those who like Dobber Sports on Facebook already know what it is), and I do have a few odds and ends to clean up with regards to the forum changes, and the shop. But otherwise, a nice normal week. Pretty excited about that.

Since returning from his concussion/ knee, [Alex Pietrangelo](#) was a minus-4 in two games. I'm not saying that the concussion impacted his play or his mindset, but... okay actually I am. And I know that the official word is a 'knee injury', but let's go over the timeline here – he was hit from behind on April 28. On April 29, news sites were calling it a "possible concussion". On April 29 Ken Hitchcock was quoted by reporters as calling the injury an "upper body injury". On April 30, the injury became "undisclosed". On May 2 it was a "lower body". By May 3 it was the knee. It's one of those concussions that slowly migrate down the body. Regardless, he wasn't himself

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after the hit.

Only once over the course of three games (this season) did [Brian Elliott](#) give up 11 goals. That one time was... last week. Not the greatest timing for that. Not that the offense was picking up the slack. Still, we're just eight months removed from thinking that Elliott sucks. Is this just that suckiness shining through? Regardless, if Halak can't stay healthy then this 1A vs. 1B battle won't be resolved.

It took 21 regular season games for [Dustin Penner](#) to notch his seventh point, but just nine postseason games. Somebody wants another big contract...

With this monster postseason, [Dustin Brown](#) has 36 points in his last 32 games. The addition of [Jeff Carter](#) has really opened up the ice for the other players, even though Carter's numbers have been ho hum. Brown is sure looking a like he'll have a career year next season.

So that's the season in the books for [Chris Stewart](#) . So that's 86 games, 32 points, two healthy scratches and a three-game suspension. Even [Jonathan Cheechoo](#) declined slower than that.

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It was promising to see [Patrik Berglund](#) second on the team in playoff scoring (seven points in nine games). He's someone who can and will bounce back on this team. Stewart would probably need a new team/new system.

The Devils have done an effective job of shutting down [Claude Giroux](#) – he's a minus-1 in each game of the series so far and other than a two-minute span last night in which he tallied two points, he has just a point all series. So he got loose for a couple minutes.

As long as the Devils play like this, it will continue to hide [Martin Brodeur](#)'s eroding skills. Another 22-shots-on-goal win for Marty. Then again, the Devils were on the PP all game. Happy 40th Birthday Marty.

There was some [speculation](#) that [Andrej Meszaros](#) could have returned last night, but he did not. Look for him in Game 5.

[Sean Couturier](#) did get into the lineup, but played just 7:08.

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[David Clarkson](#) has two penalty minutes in four games against the Flyers as the Devils have implemented a pretty strict 'stay disciplined' mantra. If this mantra continues to see them win games, look for it to bleed into next season. That is to say, Clarkson's PIM total will be closer to 100 than 150.

ME Vlasic sustained a sprain MCL at the Worlds. It won't need surgery, but he's done for the tourney.

[Lauri Korpikoski](#) has an undisclosed injury and he's doubtful for Game 5. Rusty Klesla will also miss Game 5 – suspended for his hit on [Matt Halischuk](#) .

Giroux could be in suspension trouble, what do you think? I say one game:

{youtube}px7X8lQ7azY{/youtube}

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Look at this fight – Stewart vs. Nolan (Shhhhhh...):

{youtube}UR8-2ScyBA0{/youtube}