I know I've been hard on Marty Brodeur this past year, so I will say this - it will be awesome if he goes out on top. The perfect script for a career - legendary status, then he turns 40, then he wins another Cup, then he retires. Awesome. But injuries over the last three years have taken a toll on a body that really never got hurt prior to that.

Today the sale of the Blues will be official, to a group led by Tom "Cory" Stillman. Price of $130 million will buy the Blues, Peoria Rivermen and some Opera House that must have been thrown in for free because no hockey fan would want an Opera House. I kid. His nickname isn't Cory.

If you're a Penguins fan, would you want your team to sign Jaromir Jagr to a one-year deal for, say, $2 million?

Alex Pietrangelo is to his guns that he did not have a concussion. He was on the ice for six of LA's last seven goals, but that was due to a knee injury.

Chris Stewart pledges to work his butt off in the offseason with a conditioning coach in Toronto.

He's as down on his year as his fantasy owners are.

On paper, the Coyotes are nowhere near the Kings. On paper. But looking at that same piece of paper, nobody figured they would get into the Top 25. I, myself, predicted they would finish 24th with 83 points - and I was battered pretty badly on Twitter for it. "83 points! They have no scoring! They're terrible! Dead last, with 70 points if they're lucky!" - was the sort of chirping I got a lot of. And I would respond that this was the same team as last year, but with a different goalie...and last year they had 99 points. A 16-point drop over a goalie change is fair. But nobody was buying it. I was down on the 'Yotes... and I wasn't down on them enough, according to most. Now they're in the Final 4 and I don't think anyone will count them out.

Angus had an idea on Twitter (and I believe the rambligns as well, if I'm not mistaken) along the lines of set suspensions for certain infractions. I love the idea, but would like to tweak it because it's hard to implement. What if we get rid of one, two, or three gamers? It's either five games, or nothing. And what if the scale moves upward dramatically with each infraction? Five, then 10, 20, 40, season. Harsh? Yes, but it takes the question out. Player either gets away with it, or he's gone for a long, long time. It makes the issue black (did he do it?) or white - no grey. And have a five-man committee vote yes or no on the infraction. It seems as though suspending a guy for one game is just chickening out.

Do this, and our arguments would be - why did Giroux get five games and Malkin zero? Discussion would be about the difference in the two hits and where that line is. In a situation like I propose, though, I think Giroux would get off. No games.

Craig Smith has joined Team USA at the Worlds.

Who says defense wins Cups? Clearly that's not the case. Just look no further th- ….but if you ju- … well what ab- … Oh.

While I am enjoying the hockey, it ***is*** technically "Dobber's worst nightmare". The bane of fantasy hockey has come to pass. A Sutter-coached team is facing a Tippet-coached team and a DeBoer-coached team makes it three defensive teams in the final four. If Dale Hunter sneaks through, the nightmare will be complete. John Tortorella is our only hope, my fantasy hockey friends. Not that he preaches run-and-gun. Far from it. But he's not quite as stifling as the other three, and given the fact that the NHL is a copycat league, where 90 percent of teams copy the formula of the winning team, we can't have a defense-first team winning.

That being said – go Phoenix! (That's the beauty of my job, I have about 10 teams that I like a lot – often related to the winning of pools)

After three points in eight games, Adam Henrique really came on strong with four in the last four.

Andrej Meszaros came back into the lineup, played over 19 minutes. Andreas Lilja was scratched – and I say this because it's interesting to see
Erik Gustafsson
keep his spot. He had a great postseason and should make the jump full time next year.

James van Riemsdyk was a minus-2 last night. And the only reason he wasn't a minus-3 was because he was busy sitting in the penalty box when the Devils scored their third goal. He was a minus-5 in the last four games.

Jaromir Jagr scored two goals in his last 27 games. I wonder what the demand is out there for his services next year.

Wayne Simmonds was a minus-7 over the last eight games.

Adam Larsson has played in four straight games now and he's scored a goal and is a plus-3.

Ryan Kesler underwent shoulder surgery and rehab on that one is expected to take six months. That pushes things into November. But since last year's hip recover took a couple of weeks less than expected, I think we'll see Kesler back in October. But it will be another slow start after missing training camp and a good 10 or 15 games. Oh, I didn't mention this and I apologize – you're probably climbing the walls with curiosity – the surgery was "successful".

It sounds like Mats Zuccarello is getting closer to a return from his broken wrist. " Within two weeks " is the party line, but if the Rangers need him for Game 2 or 3 next round, I think we'll see him (assuming they make it).

Semyon Varlamov is on fire at the Worlds – 3-0, 1.33, 0.948 for Russia.

TSN's James Duthie was saying that a Sutter-coached team once beat the No.1 seed, the No.2 seed and the No.3 seed en route to getting to the Stanley Cup Final where he faced a John Tortorella-coached team that featured Brad Richards. This year, Sutter's team has already gotten past the No.1 and No.2 seeded teams in the West...and he faces the No.3 seed...

Rinaldo and Couturier hhhhhhammer Volchenkov here:

{youtube}5GgdqPbXSf0{/youtube}

Did you catch this Bryzgalov oopsy?

{youtube}Ei86kA4CCOk{/youtube}