

May 29, 2012

Written by Dobber

Monday, 28 May 2012 23:45 - Last Updated Tuesday, 29 May 2012 11:41

Fantasy [Prospects Report](#) is out Friday. The content is 99.9 percent in – STILL waiting on a certain Russian to make his decision on where he will play. Because of the new

[DobberProspects](#)

site, I've had to really step up what's included

. I need to give you a reason to buy it! So, on top of the "Upside" and the "3YP" and the "Certainty (NHL; Upside)" numbers underneath each profile, we have also added "Expected arrival" to give you a firm year of expected readiness, and a "DobberHockey draft advice" in which we tell you which round you should consider taking this player if you are in a typical keeper league where teams have three to eight prospects on your roster/ bench. I can't add anymore gold than that. If I were to add another line after the profiles to help you out, it would have to be "click here to teleport Dobber to your draft and pick for you".

THN link for my column is [here](#) .

There will be a new format for the WJC, you can find details [here](#) . Essentially, no more "bye" into the semi-final. Won't start until 2014

Matt Frattin is done until training camp. Knee injury - surgery is required, per [James Mirtle](#) .

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Joey Hishon looks as though he'll be ready for training camp. Dater with an update [here](#) .

...all these professional, trained journalists calling it the Stanley Cup Finals. So funny, when the NHL calls it's own tournament the Stanley Cup Final. Whatev. I go through this head-shaking every year.

Interesting thoughts over on [Puck Daddy](#) - should penalties called in a playoff series carry over to the next game? It would have meant that Shea Weber's turnbuckle head-smash would have seen him sitting in the penalty box for two minutes to start the next game.

EA Sports "cover" tournament is down to the final two - Pekka Rinne vs. Claude Giroux.

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I don't know how much stock you put in this stuff, but thought I'd put it out there – Peter DeBoer coached [Mike Richards](#) in Kitchener. So he's quite familiar with some of the tactics, although I'm sure DeBoer has come up with some new ones.

The Norris debate is an interesting one. And by “interesting”, I mean “boring”. There are a lot [S](#)
[hea Weber](#)

backers, like

[this one](#)

, but hundreds more. Staples really does his homework here and his arguments are air tight. I agree with his points – how could I not? But the problem is – this is relying on stats far too much. And my Degree is in Stats. But let's dumb down the process a little. When Weber was out of the lineup the Preds were 3-1-0. Hell, every year it seems like the team wins when Weber is hurt – but struggles when

[Ryan Suter](#)

is hurt. I would argue that Suter is just as valuable. Anyway, take Weber out of the lineup and the team still wins. Take Karlsson out of the lineup and the Sens would be brutal. Maybe my argument is more about the Hart Trophy, but vote with your gut here fellas. Pick the defenseman who carried his team. The one who was 11

th

in scoring and not 84

th

(the next defenseman). Is the gap between Weber's defense over Karlsson's defense bigger than the gap between Karlsson's offense and Weber's offense?

My Hockey News column yesterday looks at the Toronto Maple Leafs and the Vancouver Canucks. Take a look [here](#) . And already, I've been reminded of Mike Komisarek's NMC so yeah, disregard that part.

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Very nice of [Ryan Suter](#) to [agree](#) to speak with the Preds about a contract. Nice, considering he won't sign there. I suppose they have to try, though.

Ducks prospect [Dale Mitchell](#) has [agreed](#) to go to the Finnish League and play for Ilves. Or try out for them. I don't know, it's in Finnish.

Chicago has signed prospect Joakim Nordstrom to an ELC. Three days left to sign the 2010 prospects...

It looks like Montreal prospect [Brock Trotter](#) is going [back](#) to Russia next season.

[DobberBaseball](#) 's Fred Poulin [got some props](#) on Puck Daddy for stating flat out that Bob Hartley will be the next coach of the Habs over at The Hockey Writers.

I just got the North American Central Scouting rankings from Mark Seidel and I was surprised to see Mikhail Grigorenko drop to 10th. He's considered this huge risk. Meanwhile, Filip Forsberg

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is up to third behind Ryan Murray and Nail Yakupov. I had always liked Grigorenko but admittedly hadn't followed up on him over the last two months. It's more Brendan's department, he covered the draftees I looked at the drafted players. But this situation is reminding me of three players who sunk in the draft at the last minute – [Ang](#)

[elo Esposito](#)

, Alexei Cherepanov and

[Rob Schremp](#)

.

Then again, [Zach Parise](#) , [Petr Sykora](#) and [Cam Fowler](#) also slipped in the draft.

Top 10 goals of the week:

{youtube}RTTowybS8U4{/youtube}

Top 10 hits of the week:

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{youtube}GVICGy8EIAA{/youtube}