According to Chesnokov , Alexander Radulov's KHL rights have been traded by Salavat to CSKA. Read into that what you will, but how I interpret it is that Salavat is getting a little less confident that Rads will return. I think they see his pending trade within the NHL as a motivator for him to remain in the NHL. To me, his fantasy value goes up a bit.

Here are your early Stanley Cup odds for 2013 – courtesy of bodog:

Pittsburgh Penguins 7/1

Los Angeles Kings 11/1

Chicago Blackhawks 12/1

Detroit Red Wings 12/1

New York Rangers 12/1

St. Louis Blues 12/1

Vancouver Canucks 12/1

Boston Bruins 14/1

Philadelphia Flyers 14/1

Nashville Predators 18/1

San Jose Sharks 22/1

Anaheim Ducks 25/1

Buffalo Sabres 25/1

Tampa Bay Lightning 25/1

Washington Capitals 25/1

New Jersey Devils 30/1

Florida Panthers 35/1

Toronto Maple Leafs 35/1

Colorado Avalanche 40/1

Dallas Stars 40/1

Ottawa Senators 40/1

Phoenix Coyotes 40/1

Winnipeg Jets 40/1

Calgary Flames 50/1

Carolina Hurricanes 50/1

Edmonton Oilers 60/1

Montreal Canadiens 60/1

Columbus Blue Jackets 75/1

Minnesota Wild 75/1

New York Islanders 75/1

Which would you put money on? Which odds do you think were clearly calculated when the oddsmaker was drunk?

The Oilers have signed Oscar Klefbom to an ELC. While he won't be their savior on the defense… he'll certainly be a huge part of it. The guy is a two-way stud. We won't see him this year though. Another SEL season first, last I checked.

Sidney Crosby signing for 10 years and $90 million – my first reaction to this rumor was 'wow – risky'. But then I started to wonder how much merchandise he sells, and the odds of him helping the Penguins to one more Cup. If they win one more Cup, then I think they got their money's worth.

Ian Laperriere has announced his retirement. I thought he did last year, but I guess not. His concussion was a devastating one, taking him out of the mix for two years – a career ender. When he first broke into the league he had 13 goals, 27 points, was plus-12 with 85 PIM in just 37 games. When a rookie does that, fantasy owners trip over themselves to pick him up for the following year. But he only scored 13 goals or more one other time and he only his 27 points two more times.

The Islanders have signed prospect Johan Sundstrom to an ELC. He was their second round pick last year. He's ranked 216 on my Fantasy Prospects List , but he'll spend at least two years in the AHL and probably three.

This one really boggles the mind. The Devils elected to keep their pick – 29th overall – rather than forfeit it. They need to forfeit one of their next three first round draft picks because of the Kovalchuk/cap circumvention thing. Yesterday's decision implies that Lou Lamoriello plans on having one of the next two drafts picking 30th (i.e. they win the Cup). Dumb. And it screwed up Brendan Ross's Mock Draft – he had factored in the New Jersey forfeit. So he had to scrap a big chunk of his Mock Draft and go at it again.

Speaking of the Mock Draft – it will be in today's update of the Fantasy Prospects Report . I also profiled four more players – Dumoulin, Hrivik, Gernat and Haula.

Look at the ref setting a nice pick on Volchenkov:

{youtube}DvhjzB0ZmLE{/youtube}