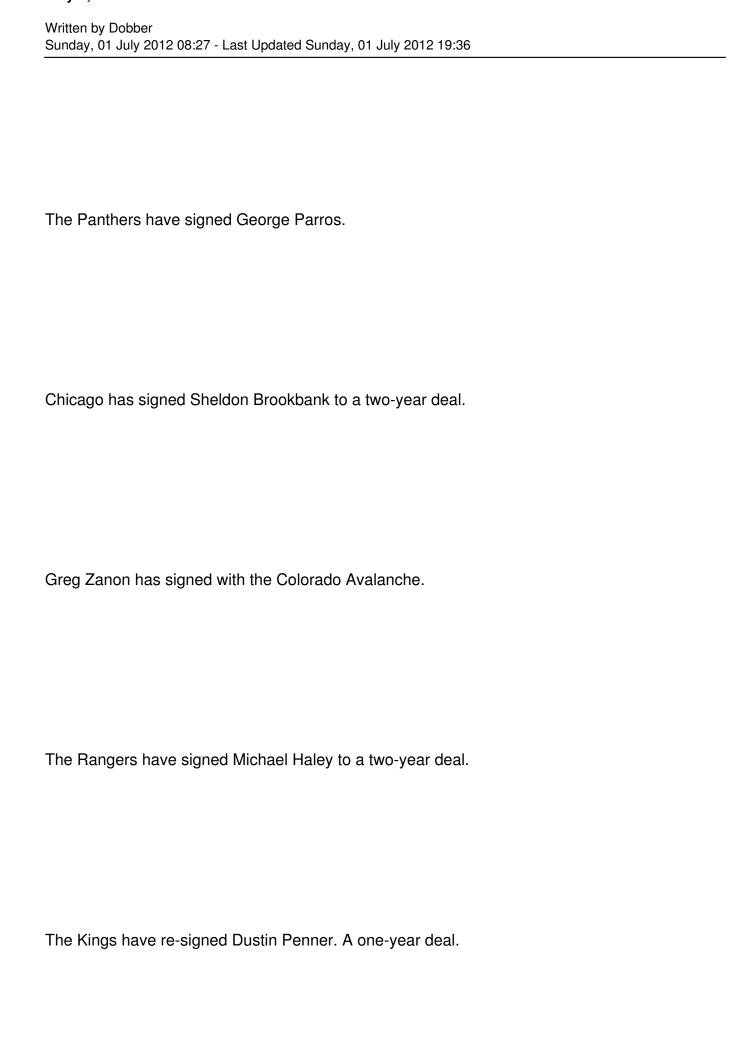
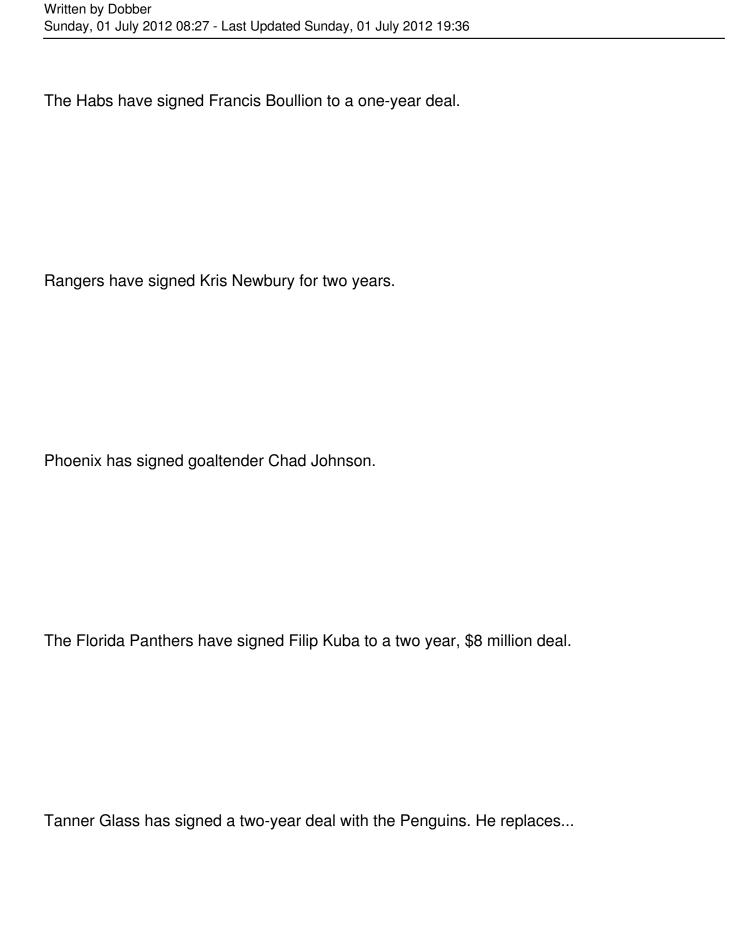
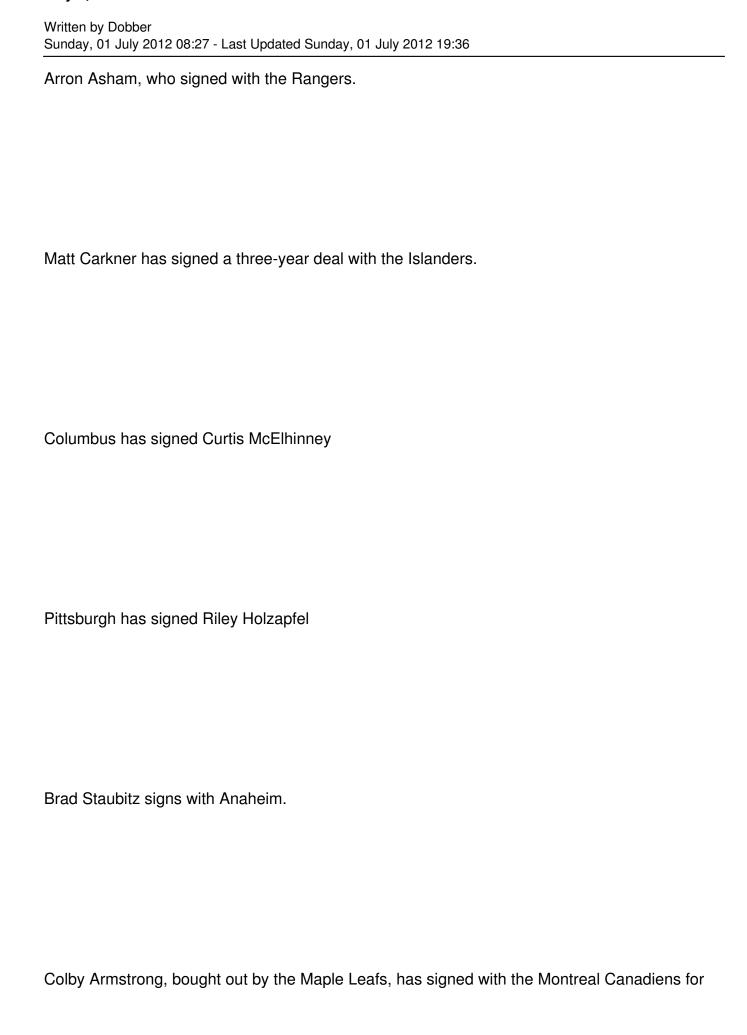


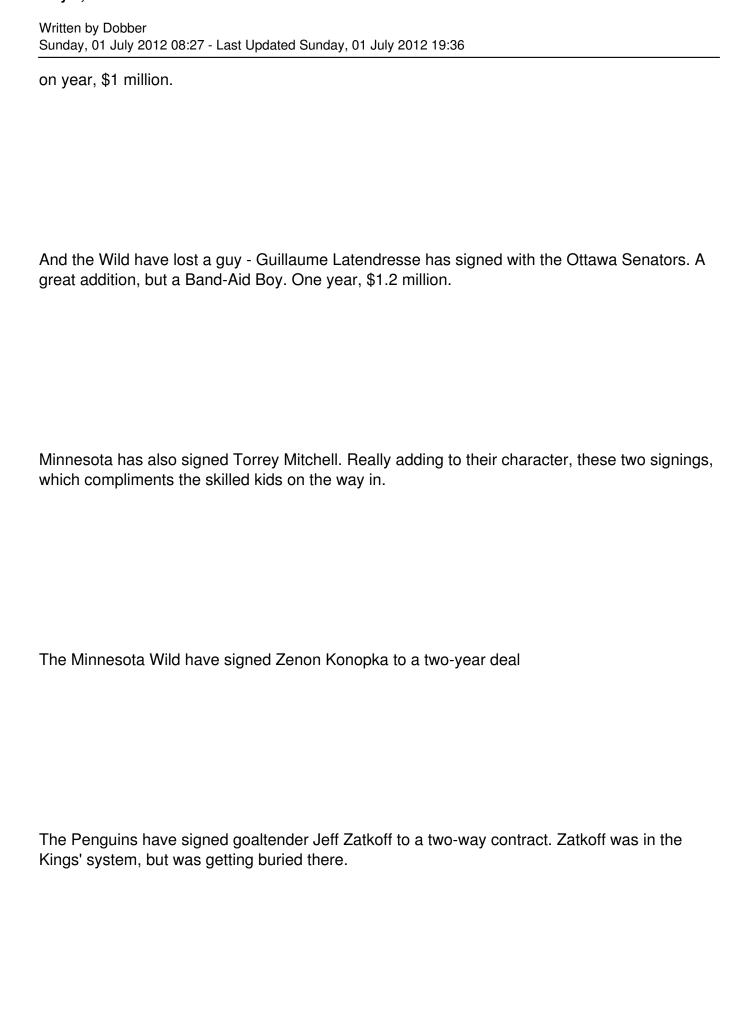
Written by Dobber

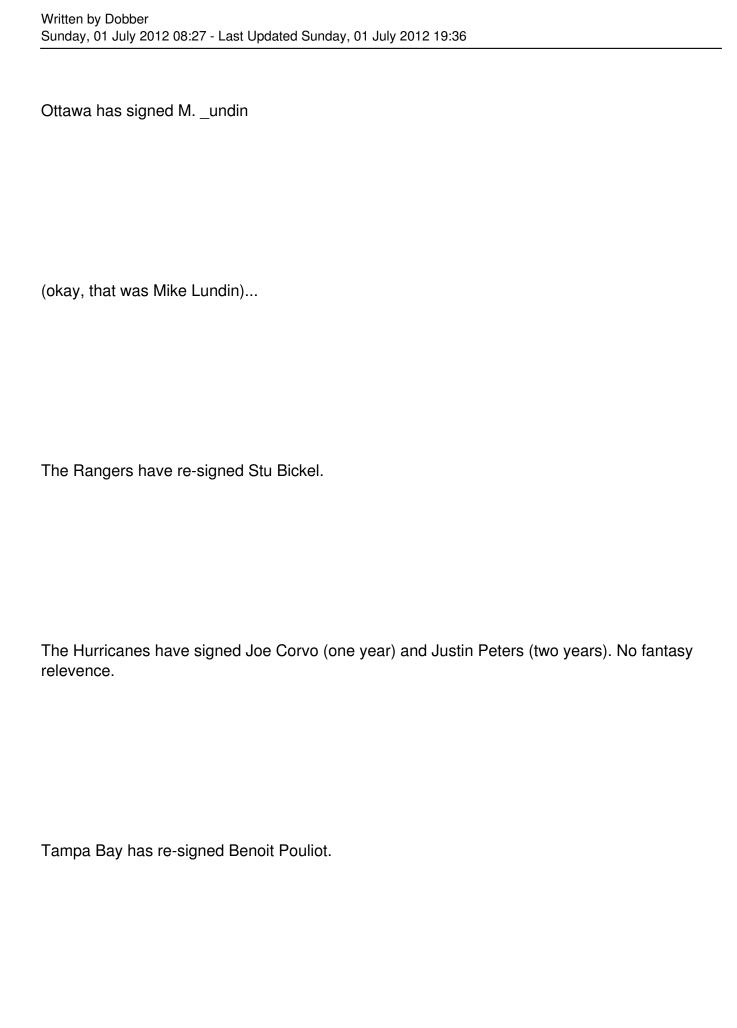
Sunday, 01 July 2012 08:27 - Last Updated Sunday, 01 July 2012 19:36
Pittsburgh has signed Dylan Reese.
San Jose signed Adam Burish for four years.
Adrian Aucoin has signed a one-year deal with Columbus.
Nashville has signed goaltender Chris Mason to a one-year deal worth \$1.25 million. There is your Rinne backup.
The Islanders have signed Eric Boulton. One year.

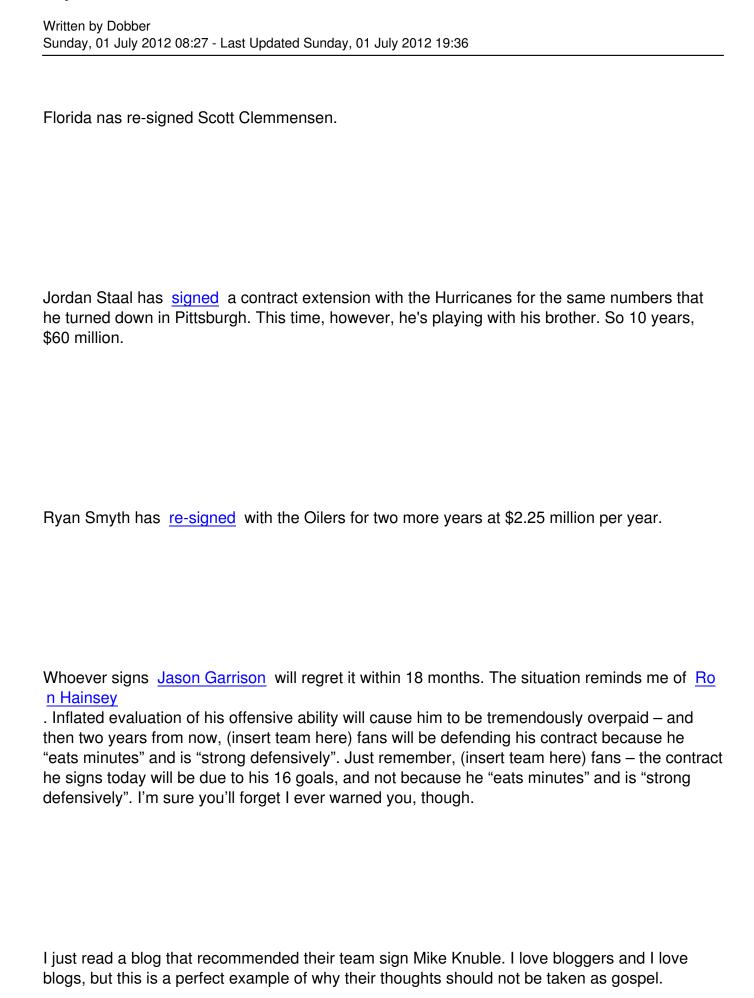


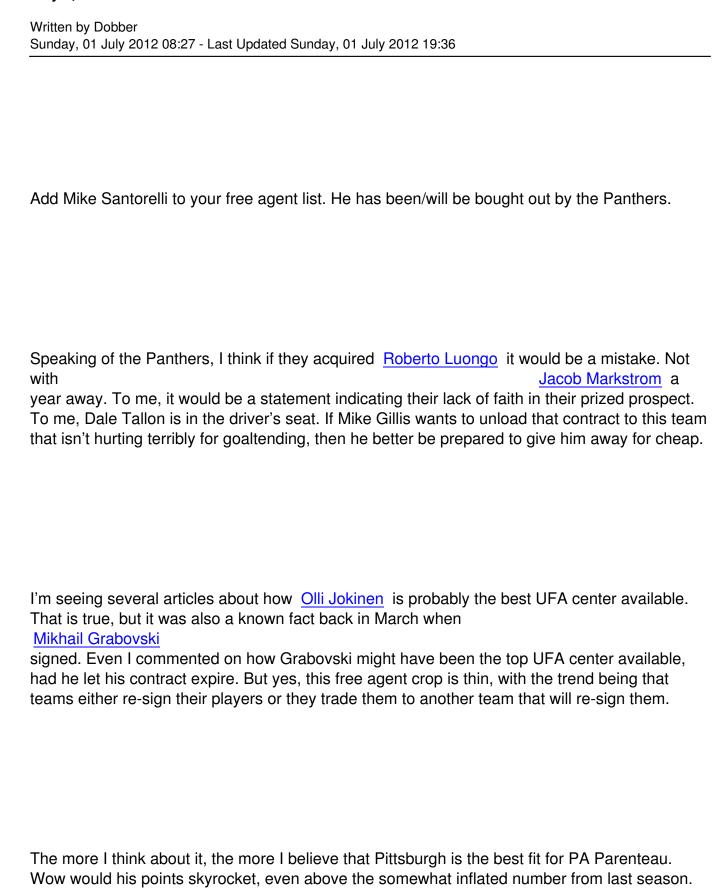












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Hybrid icing will be tested in the AHL – one of several changes that I figured would be coming, as noted

in Wednesday's ramblings.

As I mused on Twitter:

- 1. There is no way an insurance company insures that contract for less than \$3 million per year. It just doesn't make sense to do that, as you are essentially betting that he will be healthy at least three years of every four.
- 2. There is no way the Pittsburgh Penguins would pay more than even half that to insure a contract, because that's like paying another player's salary.
- 3. I would have still signed Crosby to that contract though.

What I was unable to muse about on Twitter, thanks to the limited characters, was the reasoning. What's a Cup worth? If the Penguins win two Cups in the next 13 years, did they get their \$104 million back right there? I say they do.

Crosby was under a lot of pressure to get the extension signed this summer – and not during the regular season or next summer. You see, after September 15<sup>th</sup>, contracts will be limited to seven years. Or something like that. The new CBA will see to it. It was another thing I noted in my CBA musings from last week – possibly a limit of five years if the player is over 30, but seven years otherwise.

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I've seen a couple of enforcers get bought out — <u>Eric Godard</u>, <u>Matt Bradley</u>. Will teams learn from this? You need to make sure that the player can offer other facets of the game, and that the price tag fits the player. Same can be said for all role players, actually. See Armstrong, Colby. We'll know if all GM's are paying attention to this if <u>Brandon Prust</u> signs for a reasonable number.

So, no. They aren't paying attention.

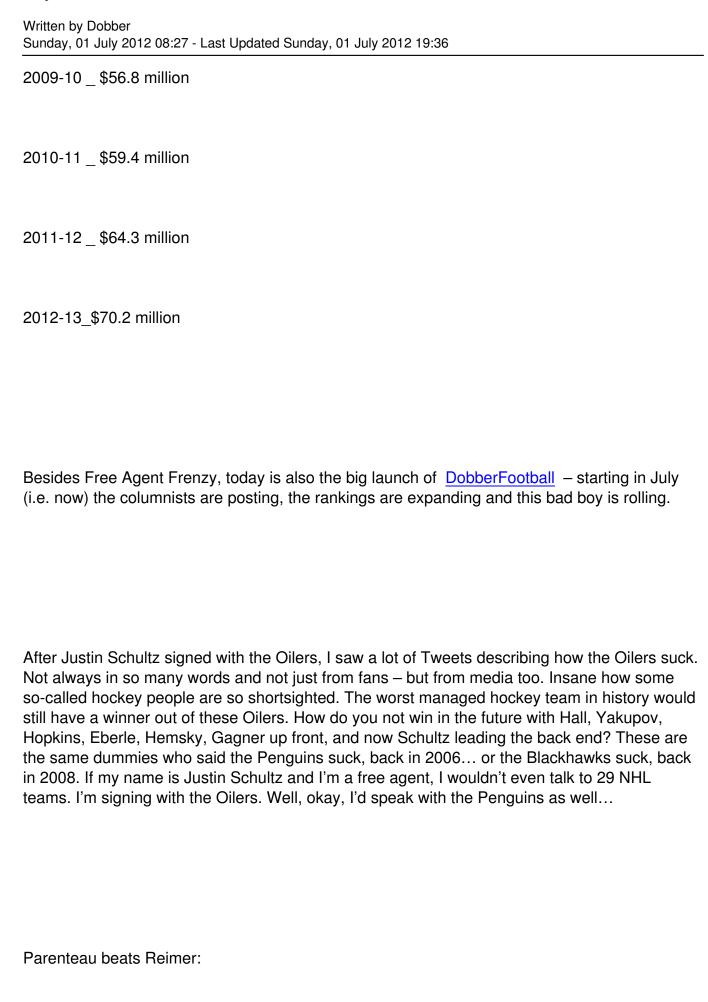
## WOW - salary cap growth:

2005-06 \$39 million

2006-07 \$44 million

2007-08 \_ \$50.3 million

2008-09 \_ \$56.7 million



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{youtube}5VUFQfscE1g{/youtube}