

July 11, 2012

Written by Dobber

Tuesday, 10 July 2012 23:11 - Last Updated Wednesday, 11 July 2012 16:24

Breaking: Derek Roy [underwent](#) shoulder surgery and will be out until November.

Marc-Andre Gragnani signed a two-way contract with the Hurricanes. He will not be an NHL regular next year, which is a real shame. But the Canes have tons of depth with their offensive blueliners so they don't need another one.

Wojtek Wolski has signed with the Capitals. An analysis on that move will be up shortly.

Niklas Hagman and Tim Stapleton have each signed to play next season in the KHL. The NHL is slowly eliminating "mid-level" money. You either make several million, or the NHL minimum. So those players who maybe deserve \$1.5 million are only getting offers below \$1 million. Meanwhile, the KHL is willing to go to that higher number. So the Hagman types are getting squeezed out of the league. A very broad generalization to make based on these two players, but a theory that makes sense to me and something I'll be paying attention to.

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Not one Canadian team is on Rick Nash's "list". My Canadian brethren - how do you feel about that? Any change in attitude regarding his donning of the red and white jersey in Sochi? Or he's so good, you don't care? Generating discussion, not stirring up trouble.

Myself, I'm a little curious as to why he would not want to play on a Canadian team. I think Edmonton would be a blast. I think Vancouver would be a Cup favorite. I think Toronto would make him a cult hero. I think Ottawa would also be a blast with the potential of playing with Spezza.

Nash played hockey in London and Toronto. I've lived in Stratford, Guelph, London, Markham, Oshawa, Toronto and now Pickering (in that order). And I've got to say - my favorite place to live of those seven cities is London. So how he could experience that great city and have no desire to return to Canada for his profession is beyond me. Any insight?

Good on [Chris Neil](#) for jumping on getting an extension ASAP. He knew where he wanted to play and so he made certain he will stay there by signing before the season begins. Three years at just under \$2 million per year.

Another three-year extension, this one to [Teddy Purcell](#) who cashes in a big way. Three years

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at \$13.5 million will ensure that he gets the ice time of an elite player. Wow, \$4.5 million per year. I don't doubt that he'll earn it – I think he'll be worth it. But signing to that based on one great year was pretty ballsy. Then again, \$4.5 million for a proven 65 points and potential for more, plus reliable health sure beats what Colorado did for

[David Jones](#)

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Tale of the tape:

Purcell – 65 and 51 points the last two seasons, 162 games, will be 27 this fall. \$4.5 million. Was a restricted free agent.

Jones – 37 and 45 points the last two seasons, 149 games, will be 28 this fall, \$4 million. Would have been an unrestricted free agent.

The Blues have signed [Jamie Langenbrunner](#) to a contract. The last two seasons combined he had 56 points.

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The Devils have signed Krys Barch. He'll replace [Eric Boulton](#)'s 51 games and 115 PIM. In fact, Barch also played 51 games last year ... and posted 114 PIM. Can't get a better match than that!

The Blues traded BJ Crombeen to the Lightning. Crombeen is a proven 150 PIM player, but missed half of last season with a broken scapula. He'll replace [Steve Downie](#)'s role, but with better defensive acumen.

A minor thing, a goalie coach, and normally not something a fantasy owner pays a lot of attention to, but [Sean Burke](#) re-signing as goalie coach with the Coyotes is huge for [Mike Smith](#) owners. He's coming off a 38-win season that will continue now as long as he's healthy.

Here is an interesting blog post on [Frederick Roy](#), son of Patrick, who is an invitee at the Buffalo training camp. He is a favorite linemate of Mikhail Grigorenko. A long shot, but an interesting one. I'm talking long-term.

Both Rich AND Brenden put up massive ramblings over at [DobberProspects](#). If you want to read up on development camps – [this is the place to go](#)

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Nieuwendyk [plans to keep Brenden Morrow](#) with the stars, trade rumors be damned.

New teammates Krys Barch vs. [Cam Janssen](#) from January of 2011:

{youtube}3KGYNGLt1yU{/youtube}

New teammates Barch vs. Janssen in a rematch from December of 2011:

{youtube}3LMyuCML2o0{/youtube}

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