

July 14, 2012

Written by Jeff Angus

Friday, 13 July 2012 13:13 - Last Updated Saturday, 14 July 2012 11:27

Brendan Ross has comprehensive ramblings [up over at DobberProspects today.](#)

Dallas has locked up defenseman Philip Larsen to a two-year deal. Larsen's cap hit will be around \$1 million. He's a great skater and moves the puck well, but his offensive upside is a bit of a question mark right now.

The Jets have re-signed the underrated Kyle Wellwood to a one-year, \$1.6 million deal. Wellwood will center the third line behind Olli Jokinen and either Bryan Little (who may move back to wing) or Burmistrov.

Another Jets signing - defenseman Paul Postma - one-year, one-way. Postma will likely be in the NHL on a full-time basis. He has more than earned his way there with several seasons of solid play in the AHL. Could be a sleeper pick for both one-year and keeper leagues.

Buffalo 2012 1st round pick Zemgus Girgensons won't be going to college – he signed a pro ELC contract yesterday. He is eligible to start off in the AHL, since he wasn't drafted out of the

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CHL.

Check out some job opportunities currently open for Dobber Sports. We need a podcast host for DobberNation, and DobberFootball is looking to add writers. [More information is right here.](#)

[Nick Bonino](#) signed a two-year deal with the Ducks. He'll likely slide in on L3 behind Koivu and Getzlaf. Bonino's deal is one-way, and he's likely going to stick as a full-time NHLer.

The Ducks would love prospect [Peter Holland](#) to come in to camp and compete with Bonino for that spot. Holland has significantly more offensive upside than Bonino, but Bonino may be a bit more ready for NHL minutes.

How do the Stars plan on replacing [Derek Roy](#) for the first few weeks of the season? [Cody Eakin](#) and [Tom Wandell](#) are the contenders, [according to beat writer Mike Heika.](#)

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"Dallas has replacement candidates for Roy in [Cody Eakin](#) and [Tom Wandell](#) who could play on the second line if Roy misses games. However, the Stars obtained Roy because they were hoping to avoid scaling those players that far up the lineup. The Stars traded second-line center [Mike Ribeiro](#) to Washington in June for Eakin, who is 21 and brings potential but only 30 games of NHL experience."

I wasn't aware that [Steve Ott](#) and [Mike Weber](#) were best friends. [A good read](#) on Weber trying to help Ott get acclimatized to the Sabres organization.

"Certainly one of his favourite targets, Calgary's [Jarome Iginla](#) , won't be sorry to see Ott go east. "What I do is try to get guys off their games because they stop competing," Ott said.

"That's why I have such great respect for Jarome. He doesn't stop competing. He comes right back even harder." The prospect of new ground to till in the east and the opportunity for his family to watch him doing it is another reason for Ott to be excited."

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I have a feeling Ott is going to be a very valuable fantasy option for 2012-13. The Sabres are severely lacking in the faceoff department, and the top two centers will be very young – [Tyler Ennis](#)

and

[Cody Hodgson](#)

.

I could see Ott taking all faceoffs on line two and then moving to the left wing once the puck has been dropped.

Ott has averaged close to 40 points over the last four years, and is money in the bank for 150+ PIM. Combine that with faceoff wins, and you get a very valuable (and versatile) forward for most pool formats.

Teemu's back! [More on the return of Selanne:](#)

"I still feel that I have something to give and that I just feel I can play at this high level," Selanne said on a conference call while vacationing in Italy. "And even with the tough first half we had last year, I still enjoyed the game so much. So that's why I knew way earlier than normal that I wanted to play again."

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"... Age is a funny thing. A lot of times, I don't feel 42 right now. After all, it's just numbers and it all depends how good you feel, how healthy you are and how much passion you have for the game."

You are the GM of a contending team, and you have the option to sign [Shane Doan](#) or [Alexander Semin](#)

. Identical contracts – two years, cap hit of \$6 million. Who would you take, and why?

Caps 2012 1st round pick Filip Forsberg [compares himself](#) to [Corey Perry](#) .

Asked who he models his game after, Filip Forsberg hesitated only slightly.

"Well, no not really pattern my game after. But maybe [Corey Perry](#) ," the Washington Capitals' first-round pick said. "He's also a very big-sized, right-handed guy. Got a good shot and also good hands and he's pretty big and can play a bit physical, so maybe him."

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[Dominik Hasek](#), the greatest goaltender in the history of hockey (up for debate, I know), wants to return to the NHL. His agent, Ritch Winter, [believes that the 47-year-old will “excel” in the NHL next season.](#)

“There’s also the fact Hasek plays a position where age doesn’t factor as much as, say, forward or defense. [Martin Brodeur](#) played in the 2012 Stanley Cup finals a month after turning 40; in 2011, [Dwayne Roloson](#) (41) became the oldest goalie in league history to post a playoff shutout.

(At 45, Hasek won a Czech league title — and playoff MVP — with Pardubice. At 46, he led the KHL with seven shutouts.)”

The Penguins have signed skilled winger [Benn Ferriero](#) to a one-year, two-way contract. Ferriero has spent the past few seasons in the Sharks organization, and he even saw some top line minutes when injuries struck. He is a gritty but undersized two-way forward.

Ferriero is likely insurance if there is an injury to any of Pittsburgh’s forwards. He can play any role from line one to line four – a very solid depth player.

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Cardiac Cane takes a look at [Justin Faulk](#) 's [best moments in 2011-12.](#)

Bolts Prospects counts down the [top prospects in](#) Tampa Bay's organization.

"1. G Andrei Vasilevski, Ufa Jr. (RUS Jr.)

We start with a little intrigue at the top of our rankings, as we put Andrei Vasilevski, the 19th overall pick, at the top of the rankings. Put simply, we believe that if the "Russian factor" were put aside, and Vasilevski was named Andy Vaughn, we suspect he would've been a top-10 pick held in the same esteem as past draftees like [Carey Price](#) and Marc-Andre Fleury. As noted by Red Line Report, Vasilevski's mastery at the U20 World Junior Championships last season is unheard of for a 17 year old underage goaltender. He plays with the maturity and skill of a goaltender several years older than he is and probably is the best goaltending prospect to ever be drafted out of Russia. If rumors are true that he may be able to manufacture a move to Mississauga of the OHL, which drafted Vasilevski in last month's CHL Import Draft, all the better."

“7. D [Mark Barberio](#) , Norfolk (AHL)

Conacher may have been voted the AHL's MVP, but within the Admirals locker room second year defenseman [Mark Barberio](#) was named the team's MVP. Barberio led the AHL in scoring amongst defensemen with a magnificent 13 goal, 61 point, +28 campaign. He was the engine of an unstoppable Admirals regular season power play and had erased any and all lingering questions about his skating. However, once the playoffs started, Barberio's production tailed off as other teams targeted Barberio physically, and as Barberio slowed down he took Norfolk's power play down with him. Barberio probably needs one more year of seasoning where he learns how to overcome teams coming after him. Once he does that, he should be an excellent two-way contributor in the NHL.”

The Lightning have a pretty deep prospect pool – even their 10 and 11 prospects have legitimate NHL upside.

Would a [Bobby Ryan](#) for [David Krejci](#) trade fly for both teams? Krejci and Getzlaf would be a great 1-2 punch in Anaheim. And the trade would allow

[Tyler Seguin](#)

to move back to his natural position of center. And Ryan would give the Bruins another big, skilled winger, joining

[Milan Lucic](#)

and

[Nathan Horton](#)

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A PIM prospect to keep an eye on for the next few years – Alexandre Mallet. The Canucks drafted him in the 2nd round this year – he’s older than most prospects at 20, and already plays a pro game. The team has compared him to Alex Burrows and [Maxim Lapierre](#) (but bigger and tougher), which says everything you need to know about his playing style.

A slick goal from Holland during the Ducks developmental camp:

{youtube}lygjK67cBJA{/youtube}