

**October 24, 2012**

Written by Dobber

Tuesday, 23 October 2012 23:16 - Last Updated Wednesday, 24 October 2012 17:24

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Lockout Update: Day 39: There is still a lockout.

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[Fantasy Guide](#) - **UPDATED as of today** - Tropp, Luongo, Ellis, Rask and more - and don't forget that when the season is announced, I will re-jig the projections from Abdelkader through to Zubrus.

\*

[Tuukka Rask](#) [left yesterday's Czech League contest](#) after the first period with a groin injury. The same groin injury that cost him a month or so back in the spring. He's potentially the top fantasy goalie in the year ahead - but he's also potentially a fantasy team killer. If something like this dogs him for three months, forget about it - the season may only be three months long!

Apparently, the injury was "minor" and he may not miss time. Still...

A sly GM with room on the bench and [Anton Khudobin](#) on the wire will grab him. Worthy of a bench spot until you see how the Rask situation pans out. Even if he heals, and returns to action things like this could happen at any time. Especially with a shorter training camp.

\*

Vancouver's first-round pick Brendan Gaunce suffered a separated shoulder in OHL action. It will keep him out [for a month](#) .

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Speaking of prospects and shoulders - it's time to pull the plug on Calvin de Haan. He [suffered](#) the third shoulder injury of his career and this one will take him out of action for the entire 2012-13 season. Far too risky to sit on my keeper league squad, despite the upside. I would let someone else take the chance.

\*

Danny Briere and [Claude Giroux](#) have [combined](#) for 21 points in, uh, four German Elite League games.

\*

[Jakub Voracek](#) [hopes to return](#) to practice this week. He has been out with a knee injury. So there you go fantasy owners - no harm done.

\*

How did NBC let the NHL weasel \$180 million for this year even with a lockout? Granted, they get a year tacked onto the end of the deal - free - but still. With the interest that the NHL garners from \$180 million over the lifetime of the agreement, the NHL will have made \$180 million in interest. So they get their money regardless. Just a dumb arrangement on the part of NBC.

\*

Elliott Friedman's 30 thoughts [right here](#) . My favorite:

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*Was talking to a retired player on the weekend, and I said I thought the players should have started the process sooner. His reply: "If [the players] started sooner, they wouldn't have received \$200 million [in new contracts] in the 48 hours before the lockout." I didn't have an answer for that one.*

And here's another good one, that holds some fantasy relevance:

*Then there's Justin Schultz. Oklahoma City tracks individual player plus/minus for scoring chances. "After Friday night's game [a 5-2 win over San Antonio], assistant coaches Gerry Fleming and Rocky Thompson said Justin was a plus-10," head coach Todd Nelson said. "Then they said, 'We've never seen that before.' I haven't either."*

\*

[Patrick Kane](#) is off to [Switzerland](#) . He'll join [Tyler Seguin](#) with EHC Biel.

\*

The other Kane - Evander - has been criticized by his Dinamo Minsk's coach for not being fit, was [suspended](#) for one game for a headshot. He has zero points in five games.

\*

Rangers' prospect Chris Kreider has been suspended by the AHL for one game for a boarding incident last week.

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[Jason Garrison](#) is still battling his [groin injury](#) , but aims to be ready November 2 if there is a season. Probably has nothing to worry about.

\*

[Sergei Kostitsyn](#) [clarified](#) his comments from the other day.

*"The question the Russian reporter asked was if I will live in America after the end of my career," Kostitsyn said. "I said probably not because my friends and family live here in Belarus."*

*"I just want to say I really enjoy America and Nashville," he added.*

\*

Cool - Alexei Morozov picked up his 1000th KHL/Russian League point [yesterday](#) .

\*

The NHLPA has requested a meeting for today, but per Helene Elliott:

Bill Daly: "At this point there is nothing to meet about. The union has rejected our proposal from last Tuesday and they have indicated they aren't making a new one. Back to the drawing board."

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So the dummies won't sit down and talk. Posturing.

\*

Not overly funny, but amusing enough to watch in its entirety (or maybe I was just bored). Sad that this was done in LA. You know, where they won the Stanley Cup?

{youtube}6Ya7Hm0bhQw{/youtube}