Fantasy Guide and draft list are now updated as of Friday afternoon. There is a good chance I actually do a small update one more time on Saturday morning.

A reminder - the "forgot password" token is broken. If you forgot your password, email me , don't waste time on the token.

*

Alexei Kovalev has signed a one-year contract with Florida. Impact coming up...

*

Leland Irving will be Calgary's backup, despite minimal game action in the AHL this year - and weak performances when he did play. Very surprising, but perhaps Karlsson was worse...Personally, I think they should have taken a look at Danny Taylor.

*

Phoenix has cut Michael Stone.

*

Bobby Butler has been placed on waivers, but remains with the team until tomorrow. Looks like they just want the flexibility to send him down so they're clearing him now. His NHL career, really, pretty much hangs in the balance. UPDATE: he's going back to the AHL for sure.

*

Congratulations to Ryan Ma, who is getting married today!

*

The Islanders have suspended Lubomir Visnovsky, who hasn't reported yet. From what I can gather, he may take a couple of weeks to get back to North America. Risky pick.

The Isles have Wade Redden on their roster on their website. Hmmmm...

Actually, per McKeen's Gus Katsaros, friend of the site, all players are on all of their former teams - that is to say, Redden is also on Ottawa's website.

Tim Connolly has cleared waivers.

The Isles also claimed another defenseman - Bryan Strait from PIT. Add that to Hickey and Finley this week.

Winnipeg has claimed James Wright (FLA)

The goalie grid is filling out nicely over at The Goalie Post. I invite you to check it out daily to see the starting goalies
- up to the minute. And to really play it safe, just pay the five bucks and get a year's worth of email alerts
for any starting goalie changes. It will save your bacon a few times this season. This is one

dollar more than is being charged at other sites - but those other sites don't have Justin Goldman giving you insider info from his contacts, do they? Just pay the extra 10 cents a month or whatever it works out to and go with the best!

*

Breaking: The Leafs have apparently cut Matt Frattin in favor of Leo Komurov... and, uh, Colton Orr? Frattin WILL be back, and soon.

The Leafs have also sent Moran Rielly to junior

Carolina has sent Ryan Murphy to junior. This one I expected.

*

A lot of people are worried about Brayden Schenn on that top line instead of Voracek. All I can say to that is - be patient. Wait until Daniel Briere is back. Wait until the Flyers lose a few games. The change will come. I think Schenn is the best fit with Briere and Voracek is the best fit with Giroux.

*

One line that Ken Hitchcock will sit on for awhile, giving them lots of chances to mesh, is Tarasenko, McDonald and Steen. Steen catches a nice break here, because his skill set allows him to play on a scoring line or a checking line. In fantasy hockey, sometimes versatile players hurt. So lucky break with Steen.

*

I found this hilarious - the evolution of Brent Burns .

*

I was a busy guy the last two days:

My column with The Hockey News picks my Top 10 rookies to draft .

My mailbag with The Hockey News .

My Puck Daddy article looks at training camps in the East . Later today will cover the West.

*

Update on contracts - Dmitri Kulikov has all but signed with the Panthers. It's done, just needs the signature. Jamie Benn is also getting close with Dallas. Far, far away - Ryan O'Reilly and PK Subban. Now I'd start to get concerned when it comes to those guys.

The holdup with Benn is apparently term. The team wants at least six years and he wants three to five. Money a small issue too, but it's close.

*

It looks like Patrick Bordeleau has made the Avalanche. If you need a one-dimensional PIM guy, there you go.

*

Marek Svatos has been released by the Panthers. Ditto with Brad Winchester and the Flames.

I fired off a long list of cuts yesterday in the ramblings. Here's some more:

BOS - Spooner

FLA - Shore, Howden, Robak, Markstrom, Santorelli

PHO - Johnson, Conner, Miele, Summers, Gormley, Shinnimin

PIT - Ferriero, Strait, Bennett

TB - Barberio, Johnson

So the door is wide open for Eric Tangradi now. He needs this and he needs to seize it. Johnson, Ferriero and Santorelli weren't exactly cut, just placed on waivers (which often precedes the 'cut').

*

The Scott Gomez and Wade Redden buyouts are done. They are unrestricted free agents. In fantasy hockey - please don't sucker for Scott Gomez . There is no hope there.
Wade Redden
has value in 12-team roto leagues that require six defensemen, as I think he can still be a 30-point guy.

*

The Hockey Writers gives you the final roster for Colorado. Here are their probable lines to start:

Landeskog - Duchene - Parenteau

McGinn - Stastny - Jones

Downie - Mitchell - Hejduk

Bordeleau - Olver - McLeod

Johnson - Hejda

O'Byrne - Zanon

Barrie/Wilson - O'Brien

Olver, a skill guy with a couple of stone hands on his wings. Reminds me of Steve Sullivan on the Leafs. Sullivan would play with Kris King and Tie Domi, and then he'd get benched the next game because he wasn't producing. #logic

*

Dear NHL: full page ads in every major city had to cost you hundreds of thousands of dollars. Please forget doing stuff like that and instead sink the money into discounting stuff in your shop. It would be nice to get a couple of framed pictures at half price. Thank you.

*

Tampa Bay probable starting line combos:

Ryan Malone - Steven Stamkos - Martin St. Louis

Cory Conacher - Vincent Lecavalier - Teddy Purcell

Benoit Pouliot - Tom Pyatt - B.J. Crombeen

Adam Hall - Nate Thompson - Dana Tyrell

Matt Carle - Sami Salo

Eric Brewer - Victor Hedman

Brian Lee - Brendan Mikkelson

Keith Aulie - Marc-Andre Bergeron

*

Zach Boychuk is hanging onto his spot on the Eric Staal line and will apparently start the season there. Alexander Semin will be on the other wing. That sound you heard was Boychuk owners across the continent doing a fist pump.

*

The Oilers have recalled Yan Danis because Nikolai Khabibulin is still too injured to play. This is Dubnyk's team, if you didn't know it before.

*

Brandon Saad has made the Blackhawks

Nazem Kadri and Matt Frattin has made the Leafs. By all accounts, Kadri has been fantastic in training camp and has earned his spot. He'll be playing with Frattin and JVR, likely.

*

Add Todd Bertuzzi and Jakub Kindl to the groin injury club. If Mikael Samuelsson doesn't return for opening night (but he believes he will), then the Wings may have to recall Gustav Nyquist
after all…

*

I nice shootout goal by Jared Spurgeon:

{youtube}3zTLHtKKBIY{/youtube}