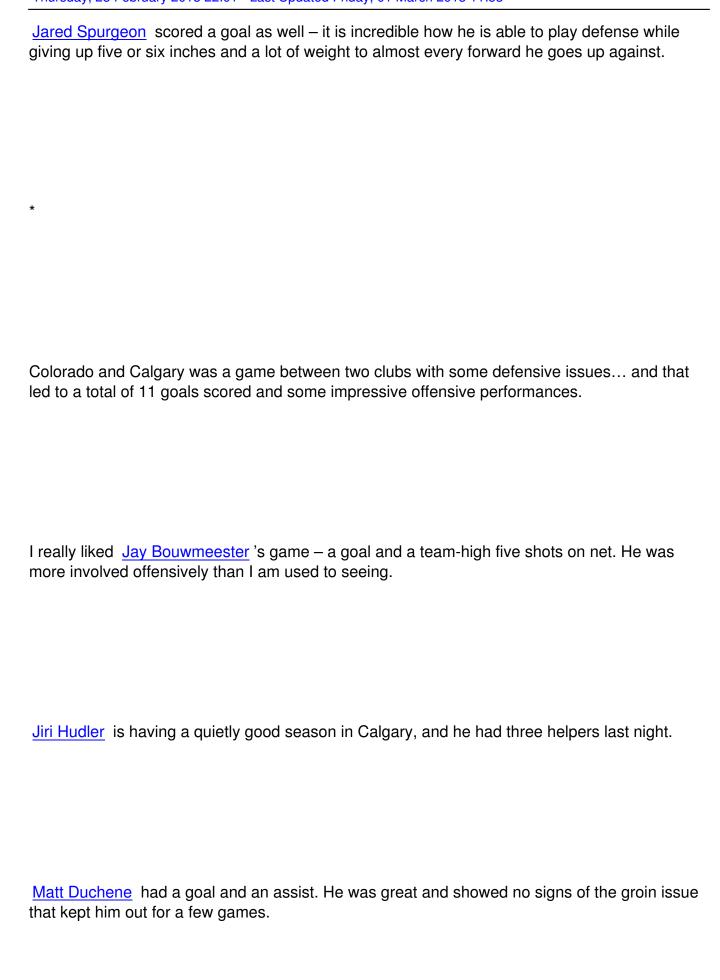
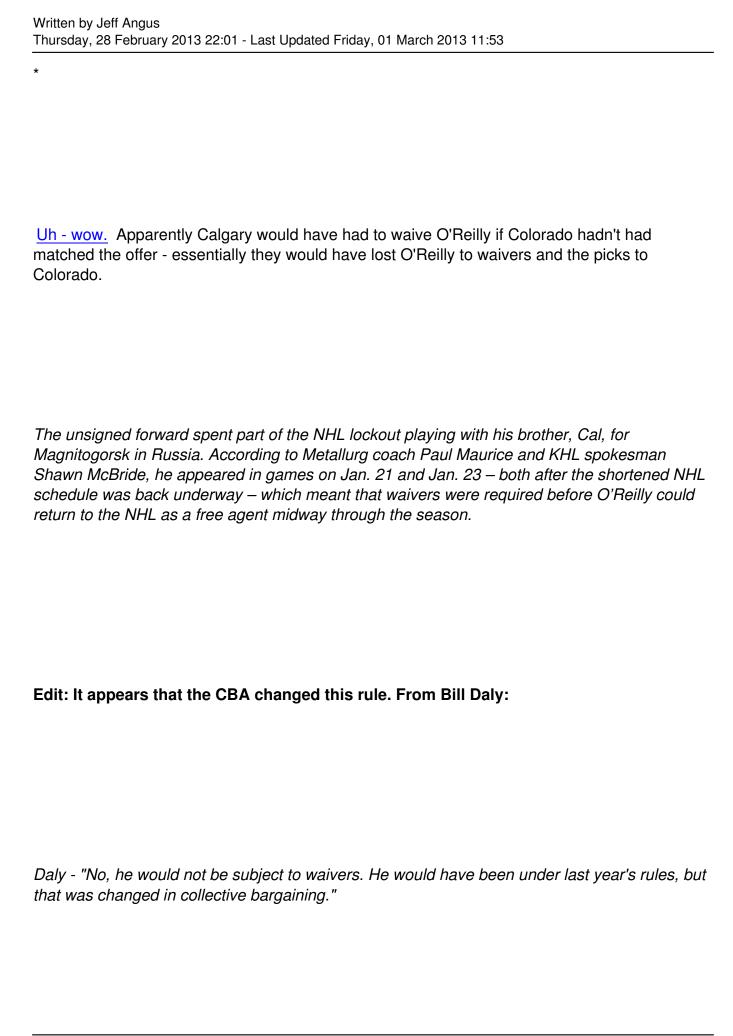


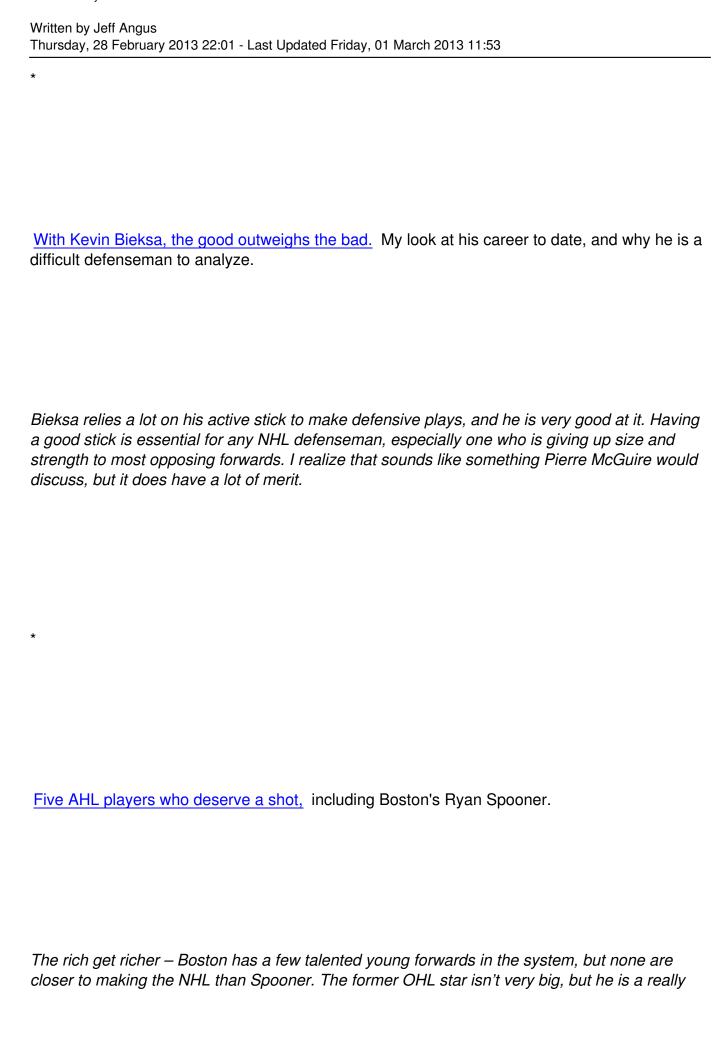
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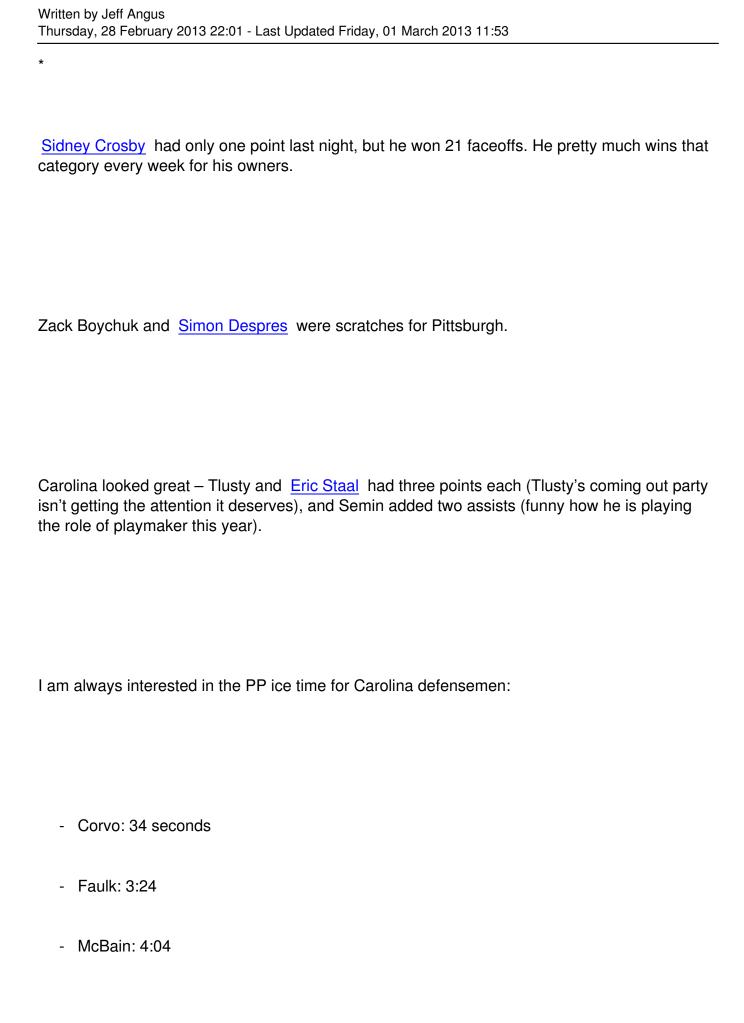
Flyers.

Written by Jeff Angus Thursday, 28 February 2013 22:01 - Last Updated Friday, 01 March 2013 11:53 smart player. As a rookie pro this season, he has been Providence's most dangerous forward on many nights. And his lack of size won't be a huge issue on Boston, as the team has enough "Nasty" Nazem Kadri had a hat trick for the Leafs last night (to go along with five SOG). Kadri has been the best Leaf this season on many nights, and he is quickly becoming one of my favorite players in the league to watch. His skill level is ridiculous, and it goes to show how much can change with proper coaching and some confidence. He did it in only 15:46 of ice time too. James van Riemsdyk scored his 12th of the season – he is looking like a future 40-goal scorer

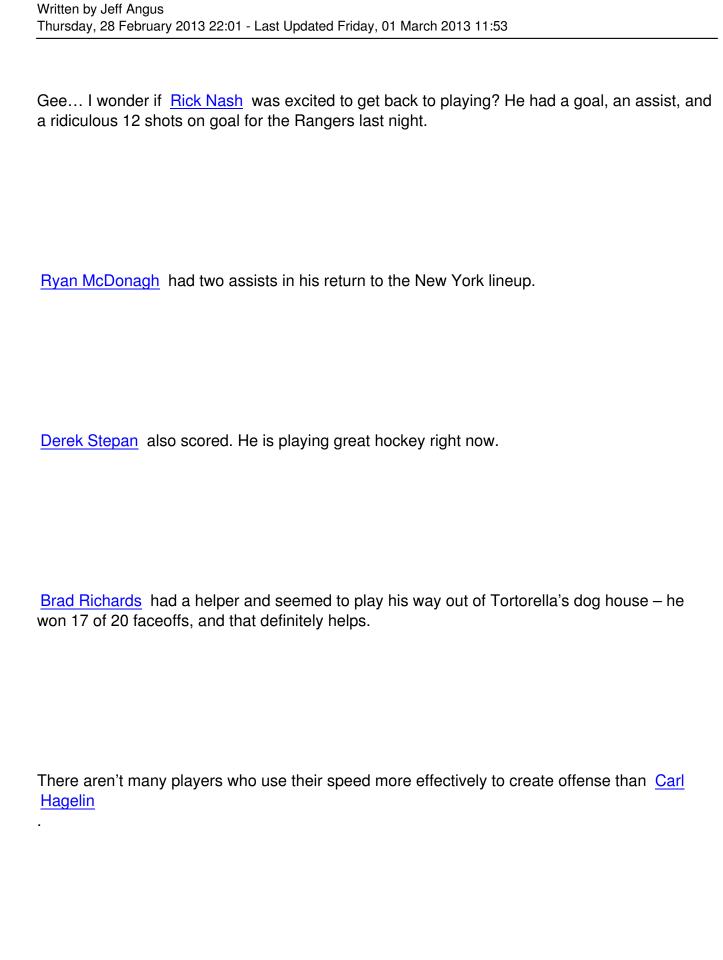
this year. He is using his size more consistently than he ever did during his career with the

March 01, 2013
Written by Jeff Angus Thursday, 28 February 2013 22:01 - Last Updated Friday, 01 March 2013 11:53
Cody Franson picked up another helper and had a great game. Like Kadri, he is playing with a ton of confidence this season.
Dion Phaneuf also had a great game, and he has been playing really well lately. He logs a ton of tough minutes and flies under the radar a bit, which is pretty crazy considering he is the captain of the Toronto Maple Leafs.
Josh Bailey scored for the Isles, and he led all forwards in ice time. It was his first goal of the season (he missed the start with a knee injury).
Kyle Okposo, who has been awful for much of 2013, had three points last night. A sign of things to come, or a blip on the radar?

Back to Bailey – he now has three points in his last five games, and the 21 minutes he played was much higher than his season average of 14:44 per game.







Written by Jeff Angus

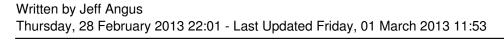
Thursday, 28 February 2013 22:01 - Last Updated Friday, 01 March 2013 11:53 Mathieu Garon got the start for the Bolts – he let in four goals on 42 shots. Wow. {youtube}OjRJNHMkZSk{/youtube} I had an entire write-up on Calgary offer-sheeting Ryan O'Reilly, but Colorado matched the two-year, \$10-million pact (and it was announced after Calgary got out to a 2-0 lead in Colorado last night... coincidence?).



Written by Jeff Angus

Thursday, 28 February 2013 22:01 - Last Updated Friday, 01 March 2013 11:53

So.... Jay Bouwmeester is playing pretty tough minutes for Calgary. Look at this graph if you don't believe me (one axis is offensive zone start percentage, and the other is quality of competition). Scott Hartnell is a vital part of Philadelphia's success - NHL.com The trickle-down effect: Giroux, who went pointless in eight of the 16 games Hartnell missed, has two points in each of the past three games, continuing a hot streak that started when now-injured Matt Read was the left wing on the top line.



*

Some love for Florida's Drew Shore, who is quietly having a very good rookie season.

Right now, you're all saying Who? and I'm saying Exactly. Shore is overshadowed by another rookie on the Florida Panthers, <u>Jonathan Huberdeau</u>, who is currently one of the favourites for the Calder trophy, along with <u>Cory</u>

<u>Conacher</u> Vladimir Tarasenko, Alex Galchenyuk

Nail Yakupov , and Justin Schultz

Shore is fresh out of the NCAA and is quietly putting together a solid season for the Panthers. He has 9 points in 17 games, good enough to tie for seventh in rookie scoring. Moreover, he's third in assists and second in shots, and will likely pick up more goals as the season progresses and his terrible shooting percentage approaches normalcy. Considering he wasn't necessarily expected to make the Panthers this season, he has to be considered a big success so far.





*

A very interesting look at how the top CHL defensemen have fared in the NHL over the past 10-15 years.

The OHL stands out as producing the highest number (19) and percentage (28.8%) of Impact+players, and the lowest bust rate (54.5%). Also, from 1999 to 2008, there have been 66 unique defensemen in the top-10 of scoring. This means that no one player was double-counted if he was a top-10 scorer in multiple years. Some notable graduates include Drew Doughty, Alex Pietrangelo

Mark Giordano

Michael Del Zotto, and P.K. Subban.

*

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This current slump isn't the first of Nugent-Hopkins' career.
But it wasn't all roses for the Nuge in 2011-12.
He was prone to some serious offensive lapses. Nine straight games passed without Nugent-Hopkins scoring a goal before he was injured against Chicago on January 2nd. In fact, Nugent-Hopkins suffered through a 21-game stretch of almost total scoring futility, finding the back of the net just twice from December 9th to March 12th - a period which was divided by his injury.
He scored on just 5% of his 40 shots in that run.

March 01, 2013
Written by Jeff Angus Thursday, 28 February 2013 22:01 - Last Updated Friday, 01 March 2013 11:53
The Hockey Writers with a good interview with Winnipeg forward Blake Wheeler. Nothing really super insightful, but it is a solid read on his career to date:
They're awesome and I think the best thing about our fans is how knowledgeable they are. They aren't just screaming and going crazy all the time, if we're not playing well it's quiet in there. They are a very knowledgeable fan base and they make it a lot of fun to play in front of them because they really know and understand the game. They are cheering for the right reasons and it makes it a really fun, great atmosphere in the building.
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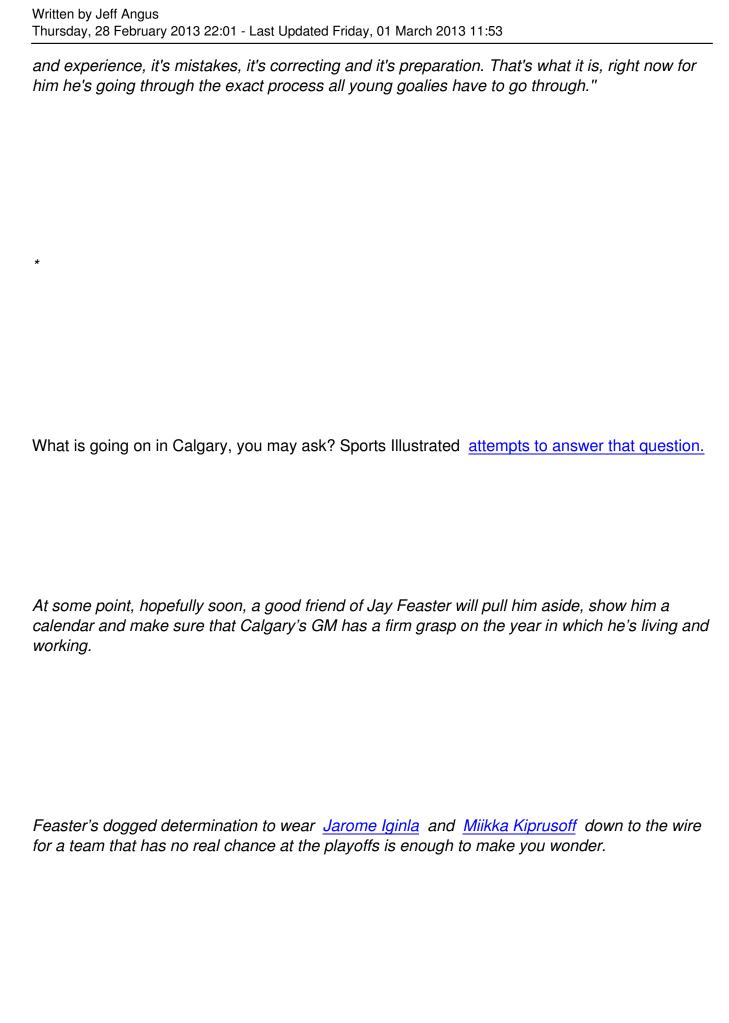
As expected, there have been some growing pains for Anders Lindback in Tampa this season.

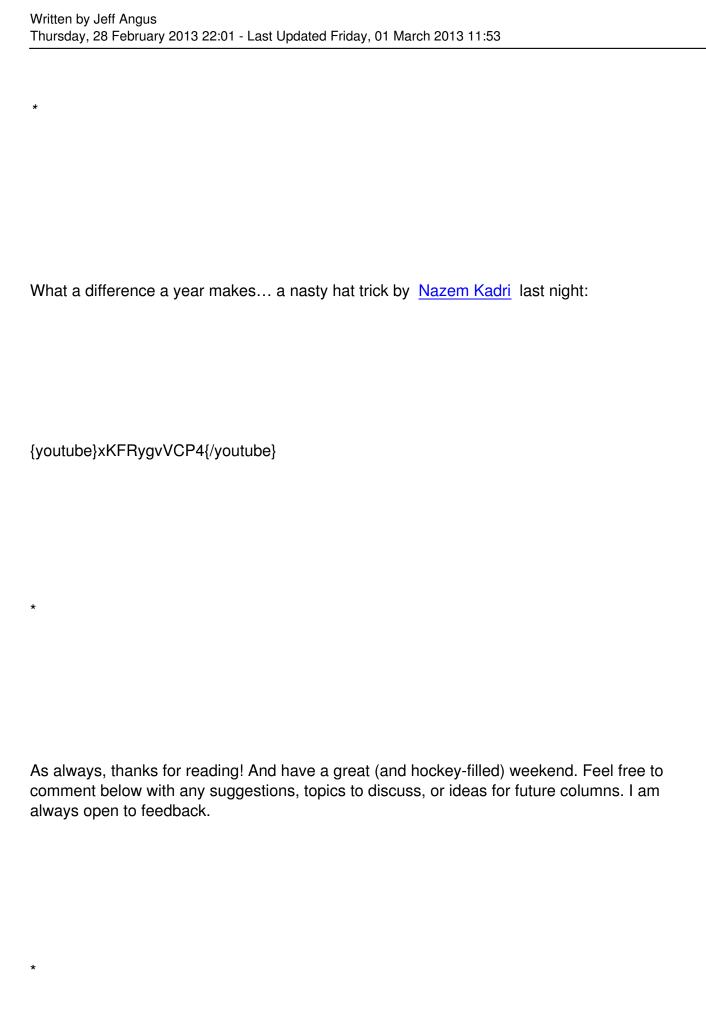
Garon

Mathieu
is the

beneficiary with more playing time (for now):

"He has to go through the process," Lightning coach Guy Boucher said." You can't buy a process, because if you buy the process, everybody would be great. It's just the process of time





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