

June 4, 2007

Written by Dobber

Monday, 04 June 2007 03:02 - Last Updated Monday, 04 June 2007 10:23

Taylor Pyatt has signed a two-year, \$3 million deal with the Canucks. I would put good money on him beating last year's totals (37 points). A breakout? Possible...but he's burned me so many times I feel like a loyal dog that keeps getting kicked by his abusive owner.

The 'Canes are in the market for a third-line center. They have \$5 million in cap space and will likely spend about \$3 million. Mike Peca and Todd White are possibilities.

The 'Canes will allow Josef Vasicek to walk (likely).

While the consensus is that Chicago will take Patrick Kane first overall, the talk has been that the Flyers will select James Van Riemsdyk second. However, now sources are saying that the Flyers have a lot of interest in Kyle Turris. They may also trade down in the draft, and select Karl Alzner. Stay tuned.

My selection in the "best duo" poll is the one that is the least popular. Let me explain: Legace had an 18-5-2 record from mid-December to mid-February before a knee injury took him out for the final six weeks. Coach Andy Murray's system is perfect for Legace. He also has Brewer, Johnson, Backman, Jackman and McKee in front of him. Scary good. I'm not saying he's the best goalie on that list, I'm saying his numbers will be comparable to any of the others. I also think Vanek will beat Semin, Getzlaf, Elias and Michalek next year.

Lots of notes late yesterday, so don't forget to check "next" at the bottom...

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This guy has a chance to do what Backstrom did last year: Juuso Riksman. 18-4-6 for Jokerit of the Finnish League with 2.25 and .925. His numbers in the playoffs were even better. St. Louis signed him, and at the rate that Legace and Sanford get hurt, he could get a shot at stealing a spot. This is a long shot, of course, but not out of the realm of possibility.

It was a bruised stomach muscle that caused Chris Kunitz to leave the game Saturday. He says he will be fine for tonight's contest.

As expected, the Thrashers will not be making Keith Tkachuk any offers.