NHL Draft is in three days – make sure you have the goods… from a fantasy hockey standpoint … with the DobberHockey Fantasy Prospects Report . You may fall out of your chair from the awesomeness, but when you pick yourself up again, hop onto Twitter and join the #FPR hashtag contest to win all the Frozen Pool tools free for a year.
Details here
. I'll pick a winner next Monday.

The Wild have re-signed Josh Harding, this time to a three-year deal worth $5.7 million. This takes him off the FA market, which may be a blessing in disguise, given his injury history. This signing will keep Matt Hackett in the minors for another year, and his future depends on Harding's health and Backstrom's next contract. I won't be drafting Hackett this summer after all.

Darren Helm has signed a four-year deal worth $8.5 million, per TSN. Who would you rather have? Helm at $2.1 million per year or David Jones at $4 million per? I don't care about UFA vs RFA, I'm just asking about "real value".

We are having a live chat during the draft – this will take place Friday night at DobberProspects.

Brendan Ross will be there, as will myself and several other DP writers/scouts. You can head over there now and check out some of the profiles of the draftees.

If you were putting together odds, on behalf of the bookies in Vegas – where will Alexander Semin go?
Let me take a stab at it – here are my 10 favorites, in order:

KHL

CBJ

CGY

CAR

FLA

NYR

MTL

BUF

OTT

DET

With Zach Parise and Ryan Suter in play, the teams who remain may not have enough money to allocate to Semin, as opposed to what the KHL can offer.

In case you didn't hear – the NHL may have to take over running the New Jersey Devils. Actually, you know the best way to run a league? Own all the teams. That solves revenue sharing right there… as well as CBA negotiations (you only need a vote of "one" from the owners to ratify).

I got my hands on Central Scouting's final rankings, if you're interested. I know that by this point all rankings pretty much have the same players in the first five and they just juggle around a bit. The top five, in order.

Nail Yakupov

Fillip Forsberg

Ryan Murray

Mathew Dumba

Morgan Reilly

The Preds have signed Magnus Hellberg to an ELC. He could be their backup – but I wouldn't bet on it. Something will happen at some point this summer. Likely a short-term deal from a veteran, since my Salak theory from yesterday fell through.

The Blackhawks have released Salak… and re-signed Carter Hutton.

Alexander Radulov has decided to play in the KHL next season. The Preds needed to deal him faster, but there's still time. Flip him to the Rangers quickly, get what you can… and then the Rangers can work on swaying him to stay. Florida prospect Roman Derlyuk is going back to the KHL as well.

Some Blues talk here , including how Tarasenko “will have to earn his ice time”. The team also re-signed Barrett Jackman to a three-year deal.

Brad Stuart has signed a three-year deal with the Sharks, so the Red Wings get their conditional draft pick (seventh rounder – perfect for a future superstar from Sweden, yet to be discovered).

Dallas did not extend qualifying offers to Angelo Esposito , Mikhail Stefanovich, Michael Neal and
Jake Hauswirth
, meaning they are all UFA’s.

Carolina is apparently very much in the Rick Nash mix.

Here is my offseason look at the Flyers and Coyotes for The Hockey News.

Top 10 plays of the Stanley Cup Final (no ‘s’ – I’ll put this clip here anyway, even though they call it Finals ha):

{youtube}QMjNvLWQPdY{/youtube}

And, since I’m running out of highlights, time to salute some bands that I’m not only a fan of, but are fans of DobberHockey – here is a band that does great covers, Walk off the Earth. Beard Guy (Taylor) tells me he’s a fantasy hockey nut and long-time DobberHockey reader so I’m sure he’ll see this. These guys will be at Hillside in Guelph (my old stomping grounds) in July:

{youtube}LM8JhvfoqdA{/youtube}