

**October 30, 2012**

Written by Dobber

Monday, 29 October 2012 22:18 - Last Updated Monday, 29 October 2012 22:42

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Posting what I have early - because I've lost power twice... getting this up while I can, and will add to it when I can. Yep, rain or shine folks - Dobber's here for ya!

Lockout Update: Day 45: There is still a lockout.

\*

[Fantasy Guide](#) - Fully updated as of October 26. When the season is announced, I will re-jig the projections from Abdelkader through to Zubrus.

\*

My Hockey News column yesterday - studying NHL sophomores in the AHL. Their impact in the last lockout, and the potential from this lockout. [Take a look](#) .

\*

Blake Wheeler is off to Germany. Lars Eller is off to Finland. Meanwhile, Craig Smith is coming back to North America for [personal reasons](#) . He had eight points in eight contests.

\*

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Ah! Finally some known names in this week's [KHL awards](#) - Evgeni Malkin was the offensive player of the week and Nail Yakupov was the rookie of the week.

\*

Philly's first-round pick Scott Laughton has been [suspended for 10 games](#) by the OHL for a blindside hit to the head.

\*

The Rangers' signed undrafted prospect Kyle Jean this summer, and Jean's pro debut has been spectacular. He already has nine points (seven games). At 6-4, 203 pounds, he'll get an opportunity that most undrafted college players don't get (because they're usually undrafted because they're on the small side). Not a lot of room up front on the Rangers, but his performance has my attention.

\*

[Martin Brodeur](#) [broke his finger](#) last week. Apparently, he says he would be playing right now if the NHL were on, but he's not going to bother playing through it if it's in Europe. So he'll sit tight for a few weeks. This is only of fantasy concern if the lockout ends within a week.

\*

Toronto (Marlies?) forward [Matt Frattin](#) has been [cleared](#) for contact. He has been recovering all offseason from knee surgery and was getting paid by the Leafs an NHL salary.

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I think if there's any agreement that in some way involves a player getting a portion of his salary at a different time than expected, and that player signed a free agent contract in the summer, there should be a clause where said player is allowed to opt back into free agency and nullify the contract. It would be interesting to see if Craig Leipold is as eager to do that. And if he loses both Parise and Suter, it would be even more interesting to see the egg on his face. Just a thought that popped into my head.

Obviously, with the big bonus checks already in hand, I'm sure the two would (grumble grumble) stay put no matter what the new conditions are.

\*

Someone either hacked into Bill Watters' Twitter and can't spell, or Billy was a little drunk...or maybe he actually did [Tweet](#) this:

*Nowthat the Oct 16 proposal has been taken off the table,Isee were Steve Fehr has offered to"discuss"it.Who are those 2 trying to fool?*

It sounds to me as though he heard that Steve Fehr has offered to discuss the NHL's proposal. Yet, nobody picked up on this except Damien Cox. And hours later the entire hockey media world is quiet about it. So was this not said? Didn't happen? Anyway, Bill Watters, a former assistant GM of the Leafs, should be legit enough that one of the TSN guys would comment on this, no?

\*

Interesting Tweets from the parent (@ [PackToronto](#) ) of an OHLer regarding the CHLPA's move against the OHL. Chris @PackToronto. Here are some samples:

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*@CHLPAinfo You are claiming to represent my son in the CHL but we have no idea who you are. Why can't anyone call us back?*

*@CHLPAinfo How can you threaten to sue my son's owner when you haven't asked him if he wants representation? You don't know if he wants it.*

*@CHLPAinfo Laraque has said he is representing all players in this threat. How is that possible if my sons teammates and their friends.....*

*@CHLPAinfo ...haven't even heard from anyone in the CHLPA? How can that claim be made?*

*@CHLPAinfo But he said he represents all 1,400 players in interviews. How can that be if we don't know anything about it?*

*@CHLPAinfo But that's not what he said. 'I represent all 1400 players'. As if all have joined. I've emailed three times. Have got nothing.*

*Trying to get any answers about the #TheCHLPA is fruitless for parents. They claim to represent my son, yet refuse to talk to him/us.*

*Emailed 3 times. Asked for info. Asked for anything. But we get nothing. How can they do this to us? #TheCHLPA?*

*@CHLPAinfo Well, I have. 3 times. The parents on our sons teams are struggling to get anywhere too. Its frustrating.*

*#TheCHLPA claim to have a rep on every team, yet so many OHL players/parents know nothing about it. Why are we so in the dark?*

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*So many parents and players have no idea who #TheCHLPA is in the OHL. Its frightening! We make so many attempts to contact but get no where.*

*I apologize for getting angry, but when a third party comes in and makes statements on behalf of my son, I do. So many like me in the OHL.*

*Maybe the parents of the OHL should threaten to sue the CHLPA, like they did with the OHL. Maybe then wed get someone to talk to.*

An interesting angle on the situation to say the least.

\*

[Eric Tangradi](#) is up to five goals in just seven games for Wilke-Barre. He's in his "fourth year" for AHL play. I would imagine the same probabilities apply at that level too.

\*

[Raw Charge](#) , a Lightning blog, hasn't been impressed with the play of [Matt Taormina](#) at the AHL level. Just in case you were hanging onto him in deeper leagues, it's not looking good.

\*

We're looking to add to our team - if you're interested in some moonlighting, [take a look here](#) .

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KHL rundown from Sunday, including Radulov's three-point game:

{youtube}UY3xh8CPTOs{/youtube}

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Watch this goalie beat the hell out of a player behind the net here. That player? Damien Brunner! This is from Sunday's game:

{youtube}cSDue98oU5Q{/youtube}