

**November 06, 2012**

Written by Dobber

Monday, 05 November 2012 23:34 - Last Updated Tuesday, 06 November 2012 12:07

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Lockout Update: Day 52: There is still a lockout - but hope rises again.

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

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This guy... or that guy? I'm answering your "who would you rather own, this guy or that guy" questions today in the forum. Link is [here](#) .

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My THN column on the situation up the middle in Calgary can be found [here](#) .

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Lockout ends this week. That's my guess. Sticking to it. Prediction - a tentative agreement is in place within 60 hours. Nuts and bolts are worked out by Saturday. Camps open Tuesday (one week from now). Puck drops November 23, 72-game schedule. Let's see how I do. What's your call?

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Did Bill Daly ever play hockey? Gary Bettman? The Fehr brothers? Funny how the fate of our beloved sport is in the hands of people who have never wrapped tape around shin pads.

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Here's a little [scouting report on Norfolk](#) - with the most interesting tidbit about the goaltenders. Anaheim prospects Igor Bobkov and Frederik Andersen are 3-1 on the season, but "Andersen's games don't seem to be as shaky or nerve racking, compared to when Bobkov is in net."

Both Bobkov and Andersen are profiled extensively in the upcoming [Fantasy Goalie Report](#) .

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Chicago's Kyle Beach was the player of the week in the AHL. He had five points in two games to end the week. The big power forward is coming along as expected, albeit with a lot of injury baggage. But we all knew that progress as a pro would be slow, as is the case with most power forwards.

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Tomas Vanek's [stint in Austria](#) is up. He's heading home now none the worse for wear. But his teammate Jhonas Enroth is off to Europe after signing to [play in Sweden](#)

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No AHL games last night, but more of Sunday's action - Buffalo prospect Zemgus Girgensons

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scored his first goal as a pro in Rochester's 3-2 win over Hamilton.

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Niagara forward and Islanders prospect Ryan Strome had 10 points in two games on the weekend and 12 points in three games for the week. I'm starting to regret trading him and a draft pick for David Desharnais in the offseason. Stupid small, skilled player bias...

But Strome's teammate Brett Ritchie, a Dallas prospect, was the OHL player of the week - he had 13 points.

Here is the Fantasy Prospects Report note on Ritchie:

The budding power forward didn't progress the way the Stars had hoped last season. While a midseason trade to Niagara (OHL) jumpstarted the offense again, it tapered off down the stretch and he was a virtual no-show in the postseason. The power forward needs to play a power game and so far he hasn't really done that, and he certainly didn't assert himself in the playoffs. He's still young, and he was never looked at as a "ready soon" prospect. The Stars have always looked at him as a long-term guy, so give it time.

**Upside** - David Backes (25-40-65+, 60+ PIM)

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**3YP** - Taylor Pyatt (18-25-43, 45 PIM)

**Certainty (NHLer; Upside)** - 65%; 30%

**Expected arrival** – A long wait – 2015-16 at best

**DobberHockey Draft Advice** – Do not draft

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The Super Series is underway and Team Russia topped Team QMJHL 6-2. Tampa prospect goalie Andrei Vasilevski made 31 saves, and goal scorers include Edmonton's Nail Yakupov (also an assist), Boston's Alex Khokhlachev and Buffalo's Mikhail Grigorenko (also an assist). Florida's Jonathan Huberdeau assisted on both QMJHL goals, but he was also a minus-4.

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Khokhlachev's goal in the Super Series first game last night:

{youtube}bYmOfDptPEk{/youtube}