

November 12, 2012

Written by Dobber

Monday, 12 November 2012 00:26 - Last Updated Monday, 12 November 2012 12:20

Lockout Update: Day 58: There is still a lockout - strap yourselves in, this will be awhile.

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On Friday DobberBaseball released their Fantasy Prospects Report. This was my first baseball guide in which I was at the helm as editor. Four quality experts weighed in, including former national fantasy baseball money winner Dave Cushard, Chris Goudey, DobberBaseball editor Tyler Hunt and senior writer Mike Schmidt. The work is fantastic, you can pick it up [here](#) (as well as take a look at samples).

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Donald Fehr keeps hammering his ideas into the NHL's head. Presenting them in different ways, repeating them, pouring on the charisma and the charm. Hell, it's worked before, so it should work now. But his problem is that he assumes that NHL owners rely on NHL revenue. But it's not the same as with baseball - in baseball, those guys make money. Tons of it. In hockey however, the revenue they make is an afterthought. Most owners couldn't care less if the season is lost.

It's encouraging to see the two sides talking six days in a row. But Sunday's short, discouraging meeting was a blow. On the plus side, they will see each other again thanks to today's Hockey Hall of Fame inductions. Inductions that I think should have been postponed.

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It's not fair that Mats Sundin, Pavel Bure, Adam Oates and Joe Sakic get a quarter of the audience and glory that they normally would. Without hockey on TV, and being honored on the Saturday on Hockey Night in Canada, and with most hockey fans focused on other things in life - these guys are getting the shaft. So who do we have to thank for that? Two guys who have never played hockey in their life.

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I had figured last week that a tentative deal would be done by the Friday and we'd be watching NHL hockey on November 23. Things could not have gone more wrong. Best-case scenario is not looking like an end of November agreement and a mid-December start date. Worst-case, for the first time, I'm seeing a canceled season as possible. I still don't believe it will happen. But now I admit it's a feasible scenario.

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Here's one hope that we have - sponsors. Molson- Coors is pretty pissed off about the lockout, and they [plan to ask](#) for reparations. Say what you want about \$3.1 billion per year that the NHL makes - the beer industry spends that on gas just to truck the beer they sell around the world. Powerful sponsors putting the screws to the league would be a great help.

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Two terms that are purely PR spin, but have successfully entered into the vocabulary of the hockey fan - "Make Whole" and "Core Economic Issues". Sad, really.

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If you're looking for a great hockey read this morning, Nicholls brought his A game again yesterday in the ramblings. [Find it here](#) .

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Here's an interesting piece looking at, team-by-team, [potential amnesty buyouts](#) . Some of these players would do better in another environment.

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Cody Hodgson is a Band-Aid Boy. I've said it before, then I kinda kept my mouth shut about it after he played 83 games last year... but now I'm saying it again. And even last year, I remember that game when he was hit into the middle of next week by Nick Foligno - and he returned later in the game. That's because he was a rookie with something to prove. If his status was secure, no way he returns from that. Anyway, this latest thing (broken hand) seals it for me.

Here's the hit I was talking about:

{youtube}cMQMNWabVwk{/youtube}

Yeah. He wasn't concussed at all.

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Our lockout tracker is [updated](#) , with a couple of things missed, as well as the Filip Kuba (Czech) and Josh Bailey (Germany) signings.

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Greg Wyshynski [thought](#) this was possibly the worst commercial you've ever seen. Sorry Wysh, I have to disagree. It's actually not bad. Maybe because I resent paying fees so much:

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{youtube}LMsKvkMMFJQ{/youtube}