Lockout Update: Day 60: There is still a lockout - keep in mind that the number of human beings on this earth stupid enough to shut down a major sport for a second full year number in the mid- to low- teens.

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As I noted yesterday, I updated the Fantasy Guide and the Draft List, with the latest regarding Cowen, Hodgson, Granlund, Brodin, Geoffrion, Schultz, Elliott - and some CBA notes.

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The NHL and NHLPA were in contact Tuesday, but have scheduled no meetings. The league is under the impression that they have zero offers left to put forth, they'll wait for the NHLPA. The PA, namely Donald Fehr, will wait until the NHL needs to cancel the season. He's delusional. He thinks the NHL cares enough to save the season that they'll cave. Please, someone talk some sense into him. Not that he's in the wrong. It's just that sometimes life isn't fair.

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Hey cool, here's some pics of Joe Sakic 's trophy case, as well as one of when he was a baby.

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Columbus prospect defenseman Cody Goloubef will be out 6-10 weeks with a broken hand. He'll likely need surgery. He's out of the Columbus mix at this point, due to the acquisitions of Nikita Nikitin

,

Jack Johnson
and Ryan Murray. Grabbing three guys like that within a year will kill any prospect's hopes…

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If this is what NHL teams are planning to do to "thank" the fans for their patience…they'll be surprised to discover that the gulf won't quite be bridged…. Ottawa is polling their season ticket holders and have listed these five options:

1. A "welcome back" event, with player autograph sessions, free concessions, dressing room tours…

2. An additional bonus game

3. 30% off concessions the first five home games

4. Free parking the first five home games

5. 30% off merchandise the first five home games (and season ticket holders already get 20% off)

Wow, um…start with "all of the above", and then give some more.

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Add Mark Recchi to the list of former players - guys who have been there and can intelligently

advise new players based on experience that holding off for a slightly better deal is not worth it - who have spoken out:

Make the deal with the NHL and end the lockout. "They're always going to get paid, no matter what. Look at that last deal. We ended up with the cap and everyone thought it was a bad deal. But it ended up great, right? No matter what the system is, or has been, the players get their money. No matter what the contract, the owners always find a way to pay them more. That's why I say, get a deal and get back in there . . . the money's always there."

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Fred Poulin looks at hockey players who could retire if the season is wiped out. I have an article like this in the Fantasy Guide, but Poulin takes a few extra fliers on some guys, and goes even deeper with the unrestricted free agents - the guys with less fantasy value. Whereas I focused on fantasy value.

And speaking of Poulin, he wrote a gem of an article over at DobberBaseball on Tommy John surgeries .
Worth the read.

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Carolina prospect Victor Rask has five points in 10 AHL games for Charlotte, but he was still re-assigned
to Calgary of the WHL. The thinking there is that he needs first-line ice time. With a couple of Carolina players on the AHL team due to the lockout, this wasn't possible there.

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So weird when AHL games start at 11:30 in the morning. On a weekday. Does it get weirder in

hockey? Anyway, it was the Marlies against OKC and it was a 6-5 OT final (for Toronto). Paul Ranger had two assists and was plus-3. After three games to get his groove back after missing three years, he has five points in five games and is plus-7 in that span.

Woes continue for Nazem Kadri and Joe Colborne . Between them, only Kadri had a point - an assist.

Naturally, Jordan Eberle tallied four assists. RNH had three points, Hall two and Paajarvi one.

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Another high-scoring game involved (of course) Houston. Though, to be fair, the team did it without Granlund and Brodin. Jason Zucker led the way with four points. Charlie Coyle managed just an assist in the 7-5 win. Drew Shore had three assists for San Antonio in the loss. Shore is a dark horse rookie for the NHL, whenever that starts up again…

Jacob Markstrom did not let in the seven goals - he was the backup.

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Uh oh Valtteri Filppula owners - he sprained his MCL in Finland. He could be out anywhere from 4-6 weeks, depending on the MRI results.

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Joooooooe Sakic! HHOF speech:

{youtube}nYcGfNZMw6Y{/youtube}