

Tax season - time for some write-offs

Written by Dobber

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By this point in the campaign, you have a clear picture of all the players who were complete and utter busts. Some will bounce back next year; some you can just write off for good.

Drop the following players in your keeper league in the off-season or trade them to someone who still has faith:

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(Originally in [The Hockey News](#) on March 14)

Kyle Wellwood, Toronto: He is a completely different player now. The talent is there, but it is as if he is scared to get into traffic. He reminds me of Nikolai Borschevsky when he returned from a serious injury. Wellwood is still young, but I doubt the magic will return.

Dainius Zubrus, New Jersey: You should have seen this one coming in the summer – Patrik Elias is no Alex Ovechkin, so a repeat of the Washington numbers was impossible. Now you have proof. Dump him.

Michal Handzus, Los Angeles: He looked great during eight games in Chicago and with added responsibility in L.A., more was expected. His 19 points and minus-20 rating says it all and I don't see an upside with him anymore.

Slava Kozlov, Atlanta: From 80 points to a projected 40. From a contract year to financial stability. You'll be lucky to see him bounce back to 60. Let him go.

Bill Guerin, Islanders: His 50-point days are behind him, which makes the 37-year-old a reserve fantasy player at best.

Darcy Tucker, Toronto: He'll still hold value in leagues that count penalty minutes, but the feisty winger has proven his 61 points in 2005-06 were the exception and not the rule.

Tom Poti, Washington: He had 44 points a year ago and he joined a power play that included Ovechkin this season. Poti will be lucky to reach 30 points. He's had enough chances – none bigger than this one.

Mike Modano, Dallas: The one-time superstar will likely finish with around 56 points. Like Guerin, he will be relegated to deep reserve lists next season, as I don't see a bounce back at the age of 38. Too big a name to drop, but trade him for any return possible.

Glen Murray, Boston: Injuries have shortened the length of his career from a fantasy perspective. They won't allow him to play more than 70 games and thus 50 points will never happen again.

Ales Kotalik, Buffalo: He teased us with 62 points back in 2006, but if he can't even come close to those numbers in a season in which Buffalo has been hit by loss due to free agency (Daniel Briere, Chris Drury) and injury (Tim Connolly, Maxim Afinogenov), then when will it

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happen? I'll tell you when: Never.

Ryan Malone, Pittsburgh: He's a multi-category stud and he's having a career season, so this "write-off" only applies to leagues that count strictly points. The 28-year-old is having a career season, but playing with the superstars who he plays with he's on pace to finish with 50 points? What's the point of hanging onto him any longer?

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