

Huselius □ Lost in the □ Iggy □ Fuss

Written by Dobber

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Jarome Iginla's recent hot streak has been well-documented. After all, how can you not notice 28 points in 15 games? By extension, his linemates Alex Tanguay (14 points in that span) and Daymond Langkow (21 points) have also received a lot of buzz on websites and in newspapers alike.



What is being overlooked is the man on the second line – Kristian Huselius.

For poolies, the word “overlooked” is one of their favorites. The 28-year-old left winger has a career high of just 47 points. That seems a little low because he just oozes talent. As a prospect over in Sweden, one scout noted that Huselius “could stickhandle in a phone booth”.

The talent is there, but the hunger is not. At least not often enough. On November 4, Huselius found himself in the press box a healthy scratch. In the 24 games since that night (heading into Tuesday's game against Vancouver), Huselius has 24 points. Thirteen of them are goals.

When a player on your second line is producing like that, it certainly makes things easier for the first line. If Huselius can hang onto this hunger for the remaining 40-plus games, he will have 70 points. In any event, he will beat his career high, and you can count on him for at least 60. Yet another reason why poolies should not be frustrated when their guy is scratched...

Petr Nedved going to the Oilers is an interesting one. He has bombed everywhere he has gone since returning from the lockout, with 32 points in 74 games and an ugly minus-34. Edmonton, however, may be different. If you recall, he played 16 games there to end the season prior to the lockout and picked up 15 points.

Still just 35, he may have some legs yet. However, you should probably watch him for a game or two first to see how he performs. It says here he will start off strong for about a dozen games before tailing off...

Injuries, from a fantasy pool perspective: The injury to Chris Pronger (broken foot) as well as Francois Beauchemin (lacerated spleen) means that rookie blueliner Shane O'Brien will see tons of ice time. Expect his impressive penalty minute total to rise even further, as well as his decent point total. Ryan Getzlaf will be back manning the point on the power play again, so expect his numbers to spike for the next two or three weeks...

Farm Report: Boston prospect Vladimir Sobotka has jumped onto my fantasy radar thanks to a wonderful performance at the World Juniors. He led the Czech Republic in scoring with three goals and six points in five games. His team was eliminated in the quarter-finals by Sweden on Tuesday, but Sobotka certainly isn't to blame. The 19-year-old outscored more touted countrymen Martin Hanzal (Phoenix) and Petr Kalus (Boston). Sobotka was drafted in the fourth round (106th overall) in 2005.