I know more than a few poolies who expected this kind of production from Nashville's David Legwand. The problem is, it was supposed to have happened six years ago.

Now at the age of 26, Legwand has yet to reach the 50-point plateau in his career but is on pace to do that by early February. Now in his seventh NHL season, this is just his third healthy one. Perhaps that was all that was needed to get him going. On the other hand, he played 82 games in the season prior to the lockout, yet only garnered 47 points.

In all likelihood, the reason is the arrival of center Jason Arnott (via unrestricted free agency in the summer) that has gotten Legwand going. The second overall pick in 1998 needed someone to take the heat off of him as the No. 1 center. Arnott has come in and done just that, forming some excellent chemistry with Steve Sullivan and J-P Dumont and giving the Predators one of the more potent second lines in the league. Legwand has Martin Erat and Paul Kariya on his wings. Which line can the opposition defense focus on? Choose one and the other will burn you.

Health permitting – and that is always an issue with Legwand – he will tally more points than his current 66-point pace because he only getting hotter. He has 15 points in his last 13 games…

By now, most astute poolies would have noticed Chris Kelly's nutty production. Ottawa lost their two best centermen and plugging Kelly into that No. 1 spot with Dany Heatley on one wing and Daniel Alfredsson on the other was supposed to be temporary. They even picked up Mike Comrie from the Coyotes to take over for him while the Sens awaited the return of Jason Spezza and/or Mike Fisher from their knee injuries. Eight games and 14 points later and Chris Kelly does not seem to want to go anywhere. In fact, coach Bryan Murray is considering keeping him on that big line even when Spezza returns and then trying to use Spezza and Comrie to form a potent second line.

Kelly had decent numbers playing junior hockey (for London of the Ontario League), but his American League and NHL numbers never really impressed. He is playing over his head, but sometimes players can keep that going long enough to carve a pretty nice career for themselves – and some pretty nice points for risk-taking poolies…

**Farm Report:** Calgary prospect Daniel Ryder is enjoying the best season of his life so far. The

2005 third-round pick (74th overall) signed a three-year entry-level deal just a couple of months ago and he currently sits second in Ontario League scoring. He had 59 points in 29 games for the Peterborough Petes before being traded to Plymouth. On his new team he has three goals and six points in three games. He is rocketing up the Flames' depth chart and, besides Dustin Boyd, is pretty much their best prospect in terms of putting the puck in the net and tearing up the score sheet. What him in camp in the fall, although he will likely be a couple of years away yet.