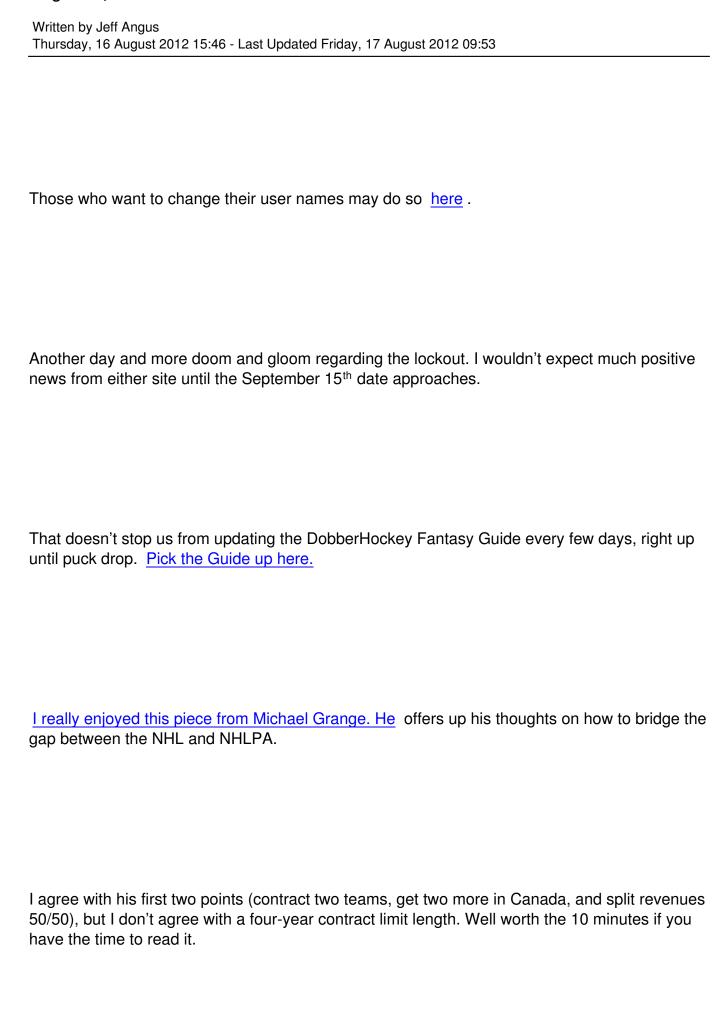
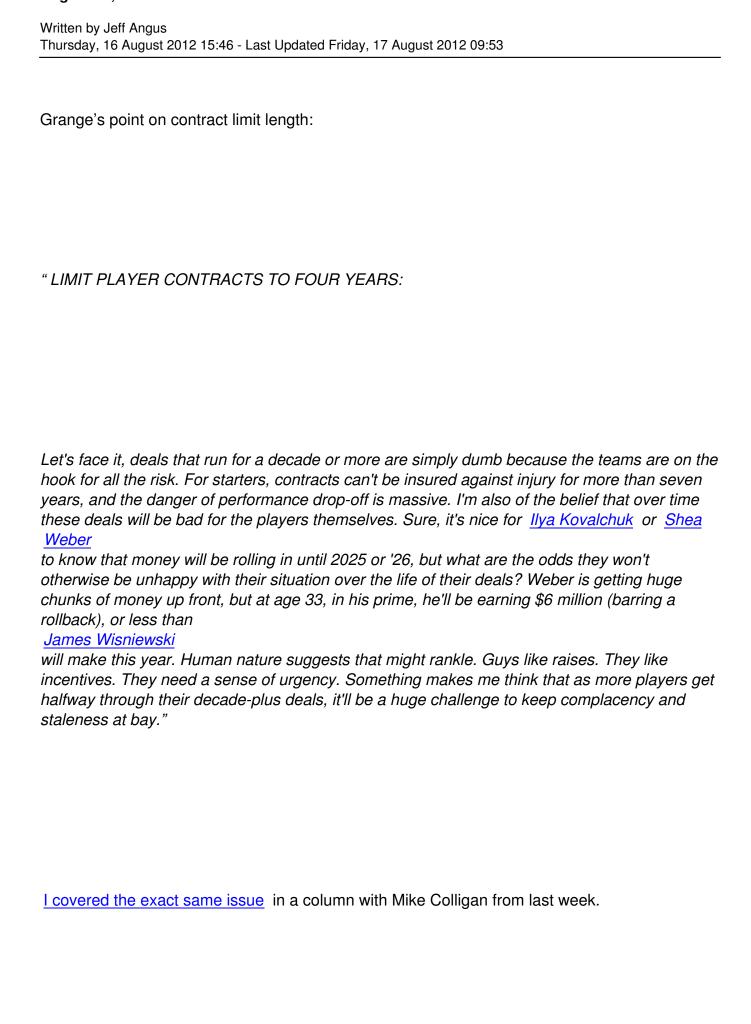
## August 17, 2012





Written by Jeff Angus Thursday, 16 August 2012 15:46 - Last Updated Friday, 17 August 2012 09:53

"ANGUS: That is an excellent point. The big money is still there for these young players, but they don't get it until later on if they start out with a club like Detroit or Pittsburgh.

Look at <u>Jordan Eberle</u> as an example. If he were on the Wings, the chances of him scoring 34 goals last season would be pretty low. Not to knock him as a player at all, but on Edmonton he received prime offensive minutes and little pressure to play well defensively (easy to do that on the worst club in the league). Eberle is going to command upwards of \$6 million on his next deal, as will <u>Taylor Hall</u>, <u>Ryan Nugent-Hopkins</u>, and Nail Yakupov a few years later. Edmonton's tanking strategy benefited them in the way of three or four elite young talents, but they won't be able to afford them all, as they are already counted on to play significant roles for the NHL club.

The teams that draft well will get rewarded if they develop properly. Setting a limit on contract length won't "level the playing field" any more than it already is. Your proposed solution of a limit on the amount a salary amount can change during the lifetime of a contract makes a lot of sense."

Speaking of... should the Oilers sign their young guns now, or wait for a new CBA? There are a lot of variables (contract length, UFA age) which would change the negotiations significantly.

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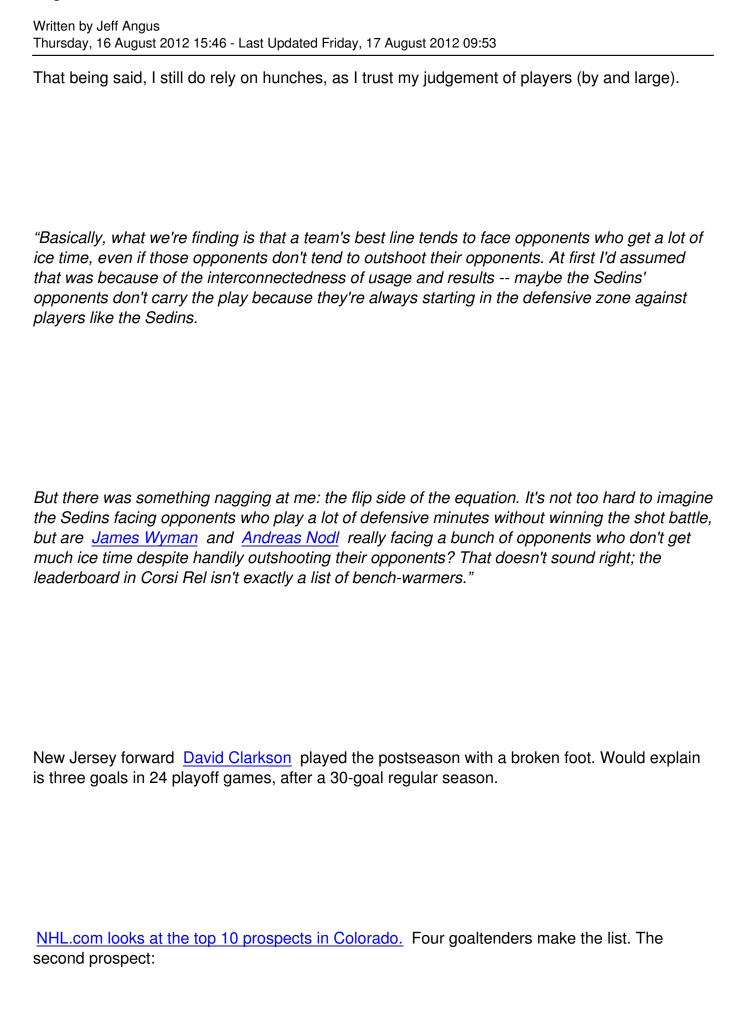
"There may also be a change in how UFA status is calculated and whether or not arbitration is available to restricted free agents. If team-friendly changes are put in place, that would have an enormous impact on the leverage of both players in negotiations. If the Oilers sign Hall and Eberle now, they may be forgoing a lot of incoming leverage.

They may also be paying much more for seasons on the assumption that they're paying for UFA years, only to have those season turn into RFA years in a new CBA. Is it reasonable for the Oilers to sign these players for more than four years in their agents insist on treating subsequent years as UFA seasons? I would suggest that it probably isn't. Of course, it's quite possible that the agents will not be so intransigent, and will be willing to compromise, perhaps treating five years as RFA seasons instead of four."

<u>A phenomenal read from NHL</u> Numbers on a new competition metric developed, which takes away some of the things that the Corsi statistic misses out on.

Again, I know some don't understand or care to understand advanced statistics, but the fantasy hockey relevance is huge. Being able to accurately evaluate and project past and future performance is much easier with these accurate measures, instead of going off "hunches" and "gut instincts," and limited stats like plus/minus.

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"Tyson Barrie, D: When the Avalanche let John-Michael Liles go to the Toronto Maple Leafs prior to the 2011-12 season, they did so with hopes a homegrown prospect could fill his skates.
Meet Barrie, the heir apparent to Liles and perhaps the best of a slew of defensive prospects coming through the Avalanche system. Undersized (5-foot-10, 190 pounds) but highly skilled, the Victoria, British Columbia, native could be the type of creative, puck-moving blueliner Colorado has been missing."
Sticking with prospects – <u>a profile of Anton Rodin</u> , who checks in at number 12 on the CanucksArmy's top 20 prospects.
"While Rodin appears at #12 on our consensus list, I had him ranked just outside of my personal top-5. Once you get past Jensen, Kassian and Schroeder - I'm not sure there's a more skilled prospect in the Canucks system. For what it's worth, Mike Gillis publicly agrees, he singled out Anton Rodin during his season ending press conference as among "the most dynamic, highly skilled players" in the Canucks prospect pool. Gillis then added that, "[Rodin] probably needs another year of development to get stronger."



Alex Kovalev has a few offers for training camp tryouts, according to Alex Kovalev. What is

your take - has Kovalev's time in the NHL come and gone? Can he still contribute?

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Can Anaheim start the season with <u>Bobby Ryan</u> after what he said earlier this summer (paraphrasing... "I want out"). Ryan is a star forward and there is zero chance the Ducks would get fair value back for him. He's signed to a cheap deal and he is a versatile player. I don't see the upside in moving him, especially with Perry and Getzlaf needing new contracts pretty soon.

Some Ryan magic:

{youtube}oYTjm5yxzi8{/youtube}