The Hockey News

Season 7, Week 5

Five weeks are done, and six teams still sit under 20 gps. It’s the doldrums of the season, but here are six thoughts for the week that was…

1. Trade Deadline

The Deadline is coming fast. Fat Keith has already been dealt. The question is whether any of the bubble teams are going to take a big swing. You’d have to figure that the disappointment in Saguenay should open up some very good players who don’t have a lot of career left. A guy like Bure, or Leclair could swing a playoff race. Ugandan has some players that would have value across the league, if JP decides to forget about this season and worry about Season 8. And what about Sonoma? Can’t imagine Lecavalier going anywhere, but there are some players on this roster that would pique interest. Plus we all know Sugar Valley is ready to wheel and deal. There are more teams on the bubble than out of contention, which should drive prices up.

2. Honduras Gold

We can’t keep ignoring what the Ticklepuss are doing. 51 wins in 59 games! This is truly astounding. Puss has always been a top of the chart kind of guy, but that usually means somewhere in the mid to high .700s. Right now Tegucigalpa is at .898. Goals For records are going to fall, and the total overall points in a season record is right behind it. This is a juggernaut. Who the hell traded this guy Moginly?

3. Hail Anthony

The Legionaires of Rome are a bubble team. Every game is going to count. So a 6-3-0-1 in their last ten might be more valuable to this team than many others. Currently at .574, Rome has an inside track on one of the final playoff spots. But Italy, Silicon and Providence are creeping along behind them. Just like the Tortoise and the Hare, there’s no time to rest.

4. Bronze Gophers

Minnesota is another bubble team with no margin for error. So a 0-8-0-2 record over last ten games might derail the entire season. They’ve dropped below .500, sit at -30 on goal differential, and look like a team verging on being out of the Brule running. Gophers better pick it up fast.

5. Top Gun

Don’t look now, but San Diego is making a run. After a frenzied start to the season, Ultra took a break from games for a few weeks. But the Mavericks returned in week 5, and went 7-2-0-1 to bring the record to an even .500. San Diego has an easy schedule for its last 16 games, and as things sit now are 10th by winning percentage. They will need to win a lot of the last games, but the Brule playoffs are still in the cross hairs.

6. Wear a Blanket, Bob Bond

Fresh off a shivering appearance in the WNC garage, Bob Bond announced he was swooping in to resurrect the Tardigrades. Too far behind the eight ball to do anything with this season, Bob will have a chance to feel out the league and make the roster moves needed to turn around this franchise. Welcome, Bob!