



Buffalo Sabres

Daily Press Clips

Tuesday, April 2 2013

Sabres send Regehr to Kings

By Miguel Rodriguez

Buffalo News

April 1, 2013

A couple of weeks ago, a Buffalo Sabres fire sale video started making the rounds on YouTube. While the clip proved to be amusing, rebuilding the Sabres is not a laughing matter to General Manager Darcy Regier.

The project reached another stage Monday night with veteran free-agent-to-be Robyn Regehr opting to waive his no-trade clause in exchange for the life of a King. The 6-foot-3, 225-pound defenseman accepted a trade to the Los Angeles Kings, the defending Stanley Cup champions, pending the results of a physical. In return, L.A. sent the Sabres second-round draft choices in 2014 and 2015.

The Kings do not have a first-round pick in this June's draft and so were reluctant to part with this year's second rounder.

"He expressed an interest in remaining here," Regier told The News late Monday night. "We had some preliminary discussions relevant to the contract. Ultimately we made the decision that we were going to move him. He was fine with the opportunity."

Adam Pardy was recalled to take Regehr's spot, giving the Sabres six defensemen.

There could be more deals in Sabreland before Wednesday's 3 p.m. deadline as the 13th-place Sabres appear to be in clearance mode. There are multiple reports Sabres captain Jason Pominville has been asked for a list of the eight teams he'd refuse to go to in a trade. His agent, Normand Dupont, didn't return messages left for him by The News seeking confirmation. Pominville has one year left on his deal, with a salary cap hit of \$5.3 million.

The club also announced center Luke Adam has been called up from the Rochester Americans. Adam was sent to the minors after 52 games last year. His return could be a security move in the event ailing wingers Ville Leino (lower body) and Thomas Vanek (upper body) can't skate tonight against the Penguins at CONSOL Energy Center in Pittsburgh.

Or, it could be a signal a deal is in works involving another forward.

Regier has said he's willing to trade anybody if the price is right. Monday's deal completes a three-day stretch in which he's traded two defensemen in exchange for four draft picks.

The Sabres sent veteran Jordan Leopold to St. Louis in exchange for a second-round pick and a conditional fifth that could become a fourth rounder Saturday. Last month, Buffalo sent rookie blue-liner T.J. Brennan to Florida for a fifth-round pick.

“We have to be realistic about where we are and the direction we’re going,” Regier said. “And in this case, it was important to take advantage of getting draft picks and to use those draft picks to build.”

With the Kings in need of defensive depth, especially with reliable stay-at-home veterans Willie Mitchell and Matt Greene injured, Regehr provides a stabilizing presence on their blue line.

The 32-year-old, 13-season veteran blocks a lot of shots (385 for his career) and willingly throws his weight around in corners and in front of the net. He’s scored 30 goals and recorded 170 points in 931 games and has a reputation of being a solid locker room guy.

“Another #greatteammate dealt: Good luck in LA Robyn!” tweeted Buffalo defenseman Christian Ehrhoff.

Regehr didn’t return a message left by The News after the deal. Earlier Monday, Regehr didn’t shoot down the idea of waiving his no-movement clause if approached by Sabres management provided it was the right situation.

Apparently a chance at winning a ring proved to be more attractive than Hockey Heaven.

The closest he’s ever gotten to hoisting the Stanley Cup was back in 2004 when he and the Calgary Flames lost Game Seven in Tampa Bay after having a 3-2 series lead and failing to clinch on home ice. The Kings, who became the first No. 8 seed to ever win the Cup last year, stand in fifth place in the rugged Western Conference and began expressing interest in Regehr two weeks ago.

Everything fell into place Monday.

“We indicated to him that we were going to look toward next season and we’re really going to look toward building this team not just to move it into the playoffs but to go deep into the playoffs,” Regier said. “No one is quite sure of the time line but we’re certainly going to focus on next season.”

Should Pominville wind up being dealt, it would extend a run in which players wearing the Sabres’ captain’s ‘C’ – from Lindy to Pat Lafontaine, Michael Peca, Danny Briere and Chris Drury – have departed.

The 30-year-old Pominville has 10 goals and 23 points in 36 games. He has just one goal in his last seven games and three points in his past 10. The 2001 second-round pick has recorded 185 goals and 454 points in 577 games.

News Sports Reporter John Vogl contributed to this report.

Sabres deal Regehr

By Paul Hamilton

WGr 550

April 1, 2013

Pittsburgh, PA (WGR 550) -- The Sabres were protecting an asset this morning by not letting Robyn Regehr on the ice at practice. Regehr has waived his no trade clause and accepted a trade to Los Angeles. Buffalo gets the Kings second round picks in 2014 and 2015.

Adam Pardy has been called up from Rochester.

Since Regehr is an unrestricted free agent after this season, even he knew this might happen. Darcy Regier said, "Los Angeles expressed an interest probably a couple of weeks ago and it just developed over that time period."

The defenseman had a no trade clause in his contract and did waive it to go to the defending Stanley Cup champions. The GM said, "We had some discussions both with him and his agent independently and it was a decision that we made together. He has a no move clause and he expressed an interest in remaining here. We had some preliminary discussions relative to the contract, but ultimately we made a decision that we were going to move him and he was fine with the opportunity to be moved to Los Angeles so that all took place today."

We've been wondering where this all is going to go and for the first time, Regier gave us a glimpse, "We indicated to him that we're going to look towards next season and really look at building this team not just to make it into the playoffs, but to go deep into the playoffs and no one's quite sure of the timeline, but it's certainly going to focus on next season vs this season."

The Sabres could not get a pick from this year's draft from L.A. because the Kings don't have a first round pick in June and were not willing to give up their second because of it.

Adam joins the Sabres

By Paul Hamilton

WGR 550

April 1, 2013

Pittsburgh, PA (WGR 550) -- With injuries to Thomas Vanek and Ville Leino, Luke Adam will get his first chance with the Sabres this season.

In 64 games this season Adam has put up disappointing numbers in Rochester. He has 14 goals and 18 assists.

Adam had a very hot start last season and in 71 NHL games he scored 13 goals and 11 assists.

Sabres short players at practice

By Paul Hamilton

WGR 550

April 1, 2013

Buffalo, NY (WGR 550) -- Thomas Vanek again skated on Monday and says he's improving. He wouldn't rule out playing in Pittsburgh on Tuesday, but Ron Rolston said, "He was out there again today, but I would assume tomorrow probably not, but he is doing a lot more out there he can move a lot more, but there are just some things that he can't do yet that we wouldn't put him into that situation to play when he can't do the things that he needs to do."

Ville Leino was being evaluated and missed practice.

Steve Ott and Robyn Regehr were given maintenance days, but Rolston said they'll play on Tuesday.

The trade deadline is 3:00 on Wednesday. In the past, Lindy Ruff has been in the room with the hockey department after practice. Ron Rolston said he'll have input too, "I'm sure they'll ask for opinions on things, but at the end of the day, it's not my job, they'll make those final decisions."

Some coaches speak to the players about the deadline, Rolston is not one of them, "We don't we just play hockey. We play tomorrow night and we try to get better as a team and it'll be a big challenge for us, but I think we're ready for it."

It was so amusing to see folks on Twitter say that Steve Ott did throw himself headfirst into the boards to hurt himself against the Bruins. He got an embellishment penalty and Rolston said it wasn't embellishment, "No, unless you want to launch yourself headfirst into the boards. I know Otter plays hard, but I'm not sure he's going to actually do that to get a call."

Many of the players and Rolston claim the team is playing better, yet you wouldn't know by the lack of wins. Rolston said, "We obviously want to get results, but we have to continue the consistency of doing what we did for the first two periods for 60 minutes and we'll have to do that tomorrow night. I mean I liked our game and at the end of the day the scoring chances were around 12-to-11 for us in a hockey game against the Bruins. If you tell me that before the game, I'll take it." Jason Pominville said, "We have been playing better, we've got points out of the games that that I thought we probably should've won. I think the Washington game was probably a good example of it. Even last night we probably should've had points, but I think the effort is there, we're playing better defensively, we're giving less scoring chances and when you do that, you're going to win games. It hasn't come as much as we would've liked, but on a long run we'll probably win more games than we would if we keep playing the way we have."

Sabres trading Pominville?

By Howard Simon

WGR 550

April 1, 2013

The Sabres might be on the verge of trading their captain.

TVA Sports in Montreal reports the team has asked Jason Pominville to submit a list of eight teams to which he will not accept a trade. That is part of a modified no trade clause in his contract.

Pominville has one year left on a five year contract and will carry a \$5.3 million cap hit next season.

According to the report, Sabres General Manager Darcy Regier informed Pominville, due to the team's current situation, he needed to look around the league and see what was available.

Fourthperiod.com reports several teams are interested in Pominville including San Jose, Columbus, Montreal, Vancouver and Los Angeles.

Columbus is said to be willing to trade one of its three first round picks in this year's draft for a scoring forward under contract past this season.

Pominville can certainly help a team seeking offense. He has averaged 25 goals over the last seven seasons. He has 10 in 36 games this season.

Sabres trade Regehr to Kings

NHL.com

April 1, 2013

The Los Angeles Kings won the Stanley Cup last season with veteran defensemen Willie Mitchell and Matt Greene patrolling their blue line and playing important minutes. Both Mitchell and Greene are injured and may not play again this season, so Kings general manager Dean Lombardi went about trying to replace some of that experienced grit by acquiring Robyn Regehr from the Buffalo Sabres on Monday night.

The Kings gave Buffalo two second-round draft picks -- one in the 2014 NHL Draft and the other in the 2015 NHL Draft -- in exchange for Regehr, 6-foot-3, 225-pound blueliner who played in the 2004 Stanley Cup Final with the Calgary Flames.

The deal is contingent on Regehr passing a physical.

"We will withhold comment on the trade until after the medical exam is completed," Lombardi said.

Regehr, 32, is scheduled to be an unrestricted free agent after the season. He has a no-movement clause in his contract, so he had to approve the trade.

"Los Angeles had expressed interest a couple of weeks ago; [it] developed over that time period," Buffalo GM Darcy Regier said in a Monday night conference call. "I had some discussions with [Regehr] and his agent individually. It was a decision we made together.

"He was fine with being moved to Los Angeles."

In Regehr, the Kings are getting a guy who is very much like Mitchell in that he can log big minutes if called upon, play on the first-unit penalty kill and all in all be a force on the back end because of his size and experience.

Regehr has only two assists this season, but he logs more than 18 minutes per game, including more than three minutes on the penalty kill and 2:18 on the power play.

"This gives him an opportunity to challenge for a Stanley Cup," Regier said. "For us, it was an opportunity to get draft picks and make our club stronger."

Regier says the draft picks give the Sabres flexibility as they rebuild the club. The Sabres, he says, can either use the picks to select top-60 players in the 2014 and 2015 drafts, or they can package the picks down the road in bids to land more established players.

"We are going to look at building this team not just to make the playoffs, but go deep in the playoffs, Regier said.

It's possible that Kings coach Darryl Sutter, who coached Regehr in Calgary, will start the veteran defender on the third pair with either Keaton Ellerby or Alec Martinez. The

Kings top-two pairs are Rob Scuderi with Slava Voynov and Drew Doughty with Jake Muzzin, who was the NHL's Rookie of the Month in March.

Regehr, a first-round pick for the Colorado Avalanche in 1998, has played in 931 career games and has 170 points, 879 penalty minutes and a plus-14 rating. He has played in 41 career Stanley Cup Playoff games, but none since 2008.

In addition, Kings forward Dustin Penner has been placed on the injured reserve list (retroactive to March 31) due to a lower-body injury.

Sabres deal Regehr to Kings for draft picks, look to future

By Bill Hoppe
Olean Times Herald
April 2, 2013

PITTSBURGH – Robyn Regehr’s absence from Buffalo Sabres practice Monday morning inside the First Niagara Center raised eyebrows.

With Wednesday’s deadline approaching, had the veteran defenseman waived his no-trade clause and been dealt?

The 32-year-old was just enjoying a maintenance day off the ice.

Shortly after practice ended around noon, Regehr walked into the dressing room and said he couldn’t “say yes or no right now” about ditching his no-trade clause again, which he waived in 2011 to leave Calgary.

But Monday night, the 13th-place Sabres traded Regehr to the Los Angeles Kings for second-round picks in 2014 and 2015.

The Sabres and Regehr decided together the no-trade clause would be waived.

“He expressed an interest in remaining here,” Sabres general manager Darcy Regier said on a conference call late Monday.

What possibly convinced Regehr, an unrestricted free agent following the season, to move on?

“I think we indicated to him we were going to look toward next season,” Regier said. “We were going to look (at) building this team not just to make it into the playoffs, but to go deep into the playoffs.

“No one’s quite sure of the timeline. But we’re certainly going to focus on next season versus this season, and this provides him an opportunity I think to challenge for the Stanley Cup.”

The Kings first expressed an interest in Regehr, someone Regier called a “high-quality” person and player, a couple of weeks ago.

They don’t have a first-round selection in June and wouldn’t dish their second, so Regier said the Sabres focused on second-rounders.

With only five defensemen, the Sabres will recall defenseman Adam Parady from Rochester, Regier said.

The Sabres also summoned Luke Adam, igniting speculation the Sabres will move a forward. But Regier said winger Ville Leino (muscle strain) won’t be available for a few days.

TVA Sports in Montreal reported Monday the Sabres have asked the captain Jason Pominville for a list of eight teams he would refuse a trade to.

Pominville bristled Friday at the suggestion he could get traded, saying, "It makes no sense to me right now. Again, I have a contract that has a clause in it. I haven't been asked anything."

Still, earlier Monday, Pominville said he understands Regier must explore every option to fix the broken Sabres. Regier's disappointing club is stumbling toward a second consecutive playoff DNQ entering tonight's tilt against the scorching Penguins, winners of 15 straight games.

Constructing a new roster in season has never been his style. In more than 15 years in charge, Regier has refused to overhaul at the trade deadline.

But this year he could operate much differently. With each game, it has become increasingly evident the Sabres' current roster will likely never get far. Regier might also be fighting for his job.

That could be why Regier said Saturday he must listen to "anything and everything" – including trading Pominville, franchise goalie Ryan Miller and prospects – to improve the Sabres, losers of four straight (0-2-2).

"I think he's just doing his job," Pominville said about Regier on Monday. "That's part of his job. I mean, you have to listen to what other teams have to say. It doesn't mean that everyone's going to be gone."

But some big pieces could be gone.

"Wayne Gretzky got traded, so anyone can get traded," Pominville said.

Whatever happens, the Sabres have started piling up draft picks. They acquired a second-round choice and a conditional fifth-rounder on Saturday from St. Louis for defenseman Jordan Leopold. They also received a fifth-round selection last month from Florida for defenseman T.J. Brennan.

Sabres defenseman Tyler Myers said he wouldn't be surprised if there are more deals.

"I don't think any guy would be surprised," he said. "I think we know there's action going on right now, whether it's going to fall through or not."

The Sabres' initial deal for Regehr in June 2011 fell through when he wouldn't waive his no-trade clause. He changed his mind quickly, though, and his acquisition set off a string of high-profile moves by the Sabres, who believed they were building a contender.

Regehr, a big, stay-at-home defenseman, was viewed as a missing piece. But the 13-year veteran only had a minimal impact during his 105 games.

He will be reunited with Kings coach Darryl Sutter, who coached him with the Flames.

The deal is contingent on Regehr passing a physical.

The rampant trade speculation has overshadowed tonight's tilt inside the Consol Energy Center. The Penguins' epic 15-game winning streak is tied for second all-time in NHL history, just two wins short of, ironically, the mark the 1992-93 Penguins set.

For some perspective, the Sabres have 13 wins all season.

Even with superstar Sidney Crosby sidelined indefinitely after breaking his jaw Saturday, the powerhouse Penguins could keep rolling.

They arguably possessed one of the deepest rosters in recent memory before trading for Dallas captain Brenden Morrow and Calgary icon Jarome Iginla, the prize of the deadline hunt, last week.

"They're deep. Obviously, they have the firepower," Sabres winger Thomas Vanek said. "But I think what makes them different, they have a good defense, they have two good goaltenders. They got three, four lines that can score."

Winning could be a season-charger, or perhaps a final hurrah for some veteran Sabres.

Pominville wishes they could end the Penguins' run with Crosby playing.

"To be honest with you, if we're going to beat them and put an end to it, I'd like to play them with their full roster and see what they bring, what they have and what they've been doing to have that much success," Pominville said. "It is not good for the game. Everyone wants to see him out there."

Sabres' Rolston believes Ott's embellishment penalty wrong

By Bill Hoppe
Olean Times Herald
April 2, 2013

PITTSBURGH – At the 12:01 mark of the first period in the Buffalo Sabres' 2-0 loss to Boston on Sunday, hulking Bruins defenseman Zdeno Chara cross-checked Steve Ott, sending the agitator flying into the boards.

Ott hit his head and skated off to the dressing room before returning. But in addition to Chara's minor penalty, Ott received an unsportsmanlike conduct embellishment penalty.

Did interim Sabres coach Ron Rolston agree?

"No, unless you want to launch yourself head-first into the boards as an embellishment," Rolston said Monday inside the First Niagara Center after the Sabres prepared for tonight's tilt against the Penguins. "I know Otter plays hard, but I'm not sure he's going to actually do that to get a call."

A banged-up Ott missed Monday's practice but is expected to play tonight.

Meanwhile, winger Thomas Vanek (muscle strain) practiced but will likely miss a fourth straight game.

"He is doing a lot more out there," Rolston said. "He can move a lot more. But there's just some things that he can't do yet that we wouldn't put him in that situation to play if he can't do the things that he needs to do."

Vanek added: "Today I didn't have any setbacks. It's one of those things where I'll just have to wait to see how I feel tomorrow and make a decision from there."

Winger Ville Leino (muscle strain) didn't skate Monday and will miss a few days. The injury isn't related to the hip problem that sidelined Leino much of the season, Rolston said.

xxx

Did center Cody Hodgson, who was demoted from the first line to the fourth Sunday for poor defensive play, get the message?

"Yeah, it's a work in progress," Rolston said. "Cody's a young player. I think Cody's been really exceptional for us this year with the position he put in on the team as a young player and the responsibility that get and the role he's in. It's just part of the process of him to develop his overall game more than anything."

Hodgson, whose 12 goals and 28 points rank second behind Vanek, played most of Sunday between Patrick Kaleta and John Scott, who have zero points this season.

xxx

Ryan Miller's next appearance will be his 492nd, the all-time franchise for a goalie. Miller tied Dominik Hasek on Sunday.

Sabres busy shuffling roster before trade deadline

By John Wawrow

Associated Press

April 1, 2013

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP) — It was unusual seeing Sabres general manager Darcy Regier chatting outside Buffalo's locker room on Monday minus the cellphone that's been glued to his ear for much of the past week.

That led someone to wonder whether Regier's overworked phone had run out of juice.

"It's charged," he said, with a laugh.

It must have been. Before the day was over, Regier continued retooling his underperforming roster by trading veteran defenseman Robyn Regehr to the Los Angeles Kings.

In exchange, the Sabres received two second-round picks, one next year and another in 2015.

The move was not unexpected because Regier is regarded as among the league's most sought-after executives after saying he's open to entertaining offers for any of his players — including goalie Ryan Miller — in advance of the NHL's trading deadline Wednesday afternoon.

"Where our hockey club is right now, we have to be open to listening to just about anything and everything," Regier said as recently as Saturday, after he traded defenseman Jordan Leopold to St. Louis in exchange for two draft picks. "It could involve any player. And I think the players are aware of that."

They were, as defenseman Tyler Myers indicated before the team left town Monday to prepare for its game at Pittsburgh the following night.

"I don't think any guy would be surprised," Myers said. "I think we know there's action going on right now. And whether it's going to fall through or not is a matter of Darcy and the GMs."

Miller, leading scorer Thomas Vanek and captain Jason Pominville have all been mentioned in trade speculation, as has been struggling forward Drew Stafford.

Regehr was aware his future was uncertain in Buffalo because he is in the final year of his contract. He had indicated he was prepared for the team asking him to waive his no-trade clause in the event a deal came up.

"That's all being worked out behind the scenes right now," Regehr said. "I'd have to see the situation. I can't say 'yes,' or 'no' right now about a hypothetical. There's 29 other teams. It would really depend on the situation."

Regehr is the third player — all defensemen — the Sabres have dealt in three weeks after also sending rookie T.J. Brennan to Florida on March 15.

The Sabres find themselves in a position of holding a trade-deadline fire sale because the high-priced roster Regier assembled has been a flop.

At 13-17-6, Buffalo sits 13th in the Eastern Conference with 12 games left. The team's in jeopardy of missing the playoffs for a second straight year and for the fourth time in six seasons.

Buffalo's already in transition after longtime coach Lindy Ruff was fired in February after a 6-10-1 start. And the switch failed to put a charge into a team that's 7-7-5 under interim coach Ron Rolston, and 0-2-2 in its past four.

The Sabres are having difficulty holding third-period leads, which they've squandered a league-worst 10 times, and have six times blown two-goal leads, according to STATS LLC.

Their special teams are struggling, too. Buffalo's power play ranks 29th, and has allowed an NHL-high six short-handed goals. The penalty-killing unit is hardly better, ranking in a tie for 27th.

Not at all close to what was expected of a team owner Terry Pegula vowed would become a bona fide contender after he purchased the Sabres a little more than two years ago. He then backed his words by committing nearly \$140 million in salary to add talent and resign players before the 2011-12 season.

"We're really struggling coming up with a 60-minute effort, and it's been the case not only this year, but we struggled with it last year and also the year before," Myers said. "I'm definitely frustrated. I'm sure everyone else in the room is frustrated."

Pominville, who has a partial no-trade clause in his contract, said it's Regier's job to make an attempt to improve the team.

"It doesn't mean that everybody's going to be gone. But it means that he's got to listen," Pominville said. "Wayne Gretzky got traded, so anybody can get traded. It's part of his job to listen and make the best decisions."

NOTES: Vanek (upper body) practiced Monday, but Rolston called it "highly unlikely" he'll be ready to play against Pittsburgh. Vanek has missed three games. ... C Steve Ott was held out of practice, and should be ready to play Tuesday. ... LW Ville Leino (upper body) was being evaluated after missing a 2-0 loss to Boston on Sunday.

LA Kings acquire D Robyn Regehr from Buffalo

By John Wawrow

Associated Press

April 1, 2013

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP) -- Veteran defenseman Robyn Regehr dropped his no-trade clause to allow the Buffalo Sabres to deal him to the Los Angeles Kings, where he'll be reunited with his former coach, Darryl Sutter.

The trade was announced by both teams on Monday night, with the Kings saying the deal is contingent on Regehr passing a medical exam. In exchange, the Sabres acquired the Kings' second-round picks in 2014 and 2015.

The move was completed with the NHL trading deadline approaching on Wednesday afternoon.

The 13-year NHL veteran will be an unrestricted free agent this summer. He has two assists in 29 games this season, but Los Angeles covets Regehr's physical defensive play while defensemen Matt Greene and Willie Mitchell remain out with long-term injuries.

Regehr spent the past two seasons with Buffalo after 11 seasons with Calgary, where he played for Sutter.

The underachieving Sabres (13-17-6), who are 13th in the Eastern Conference, are retooling for the future. Regehr becomes the third blue-liner traded by defense-rich Buffalo in three weeks.

On Saturday, the Sabres dealt veteran Jordan Leopold to St. Louis in exchange for a second- and conditional fifth-round picks in this year's draft. On March 15, they acquired a 2013 fifth-round pick for sending rookie T.J. Brennan to Florida.

Sabres general manager Darcy Regier said Regehr wasn't going to fit in the team's long-term rebuilding plans.

"We're certainly going to focus on next season versus this season," Regier said in a taped interview released by the Sabres. "For us, it was an opportunity to get draft picks and allow us to really strengthen our organization."

Regier said the Kings first expressed interest in Regehr about two weeks ago. The Sabres settled on two second-round picks over the next two years because Los Angeles didn't have a first-round pick this year. Regier added, the Kings also weren't willing to trade their second-round pick this year.

The bruising, playoff-tested Regehr should fill one of the few remaining needs for the surging Kings, who have earned seven points in the first four games of their five-game road trip after beating Dallas on Sunday. Los Angeles (20-12-3) began Monday in fifth place in the West, and plays at Phoenix on Tuesday.

Greene injured his back in the Kings' season opener, and the veteran isn't likely to return before the postseason. Mitchell likely won't play for Los Angeles this season after undergoing knee surgery.

Rob Scuderi has logged heavy minutes on the Kings' penalty kill in his veteran teammates' absence, and Regehr should provide steady physical play alongside him.

Beyond rising star Slava Voynov, the rest of the Kings' defensemen have been inconsistent this season, including Drew Doughty, Alec Martinez, newcomer Keaton Ellerby and youngster Jake Muzzin.

Regehr isn't a prolific scorer, topping 20 points just three times in his career, but the Kings know about his toughness firsthand: Regehr ended Los Angeles forward Justin Williams' season in March 2011, separating his right shoulder with a hard, clean hit along the boards.

In Buffalo, he was also regarded as a veteran leader on a young, patchwork team.

Regehr was held out of practice in Buffalo on Monday, before the Sabres traveled to Pittsburgh, where they'll play on Tuesday night. Interim head coach Ron Rolston said Regehr was given a "maintenance day" to rest, but also hinted the Sabres might be trading a defenseman.

When asked if the Sabres intend to carry six defensemen on their roster, Rolston said: "We've got six. That's the plan as of right now."

Regehr did speak to reporters in the locker room after practice and acknowledged the possibility he could be dealt, calling it "part and parcel" of the job.

He showed no disappointment in his playoff-free two seasons with the Sabres after waiving his no-trade clause to join the high-priced disappointments.

The Sabres were so intent on getting Regehr two years ago that owner Terry Pegula, his wife, Kim, and former Sabres coach Lindy Ruff left the draft in Minnesota to meet with Regehr at his cabin in northern Saskatchewan.

"It's the way it's gone, unfortunately," Regehr said. "It's the situation we're in. So we'll see what happens."

Buffalo isn't thought to be done dealing before Wednesday, with general manager Darcy Regier saying no player is untouchable. Underperforming forward Drew Stafford is thought to be on the market, while captain Jason Pominville has also been mentioned.

Defenseman Adam Pardy was recalled from AHL Rochester to replace Regehr's roster spot.

The Sabres also called up center Luke Adam fill in for injured forward Ville Leino, who will miss his second game with an upper-body injury.

Would the Buffalo Sabres trade Thomas Vanek?

By Geg Wyshynski

Yahoo! Sports

April 1, 2013

Thomas Vanek is undeniably one of the most talented offensive players in the NHL, the sort that can carry a team on his back for stretches.

At 29, he's someone the Buffalo Sabres can build around as they attempt to reverse course under a new general manager next season. (Unless Darcy Regier has another James Bond-level escape from execution up his sleeve.)

Or he's the kind of player you ship out to hasten that reversal, with a package of players coming back the other way.

Could Vanek, who has one more year left on his considerable contract, move at the trade deadline?

As Vanek told the Buffalo News:

"I think every year you think about that, but obviously this year probably more than any other year because of the position we're in and one year left on my contract," Vanek said. "Obviously, you think about it, but at the same time it's part of the business. If it happens, it happens, and we'll move on."

But at 29 years old, would he even want to play through some kind of rebuild in Buffalo?

Said Vanek:

"To me, there's different types of rebuild. There's rebuilds like the Penguins and the Oilers did, consistently draft in the top five, or you go and get good players through trades, free agency and rebuild your team quicker in the summer. ... Rebuild is not a bad word, it's just which direction you choose to go."

No, rebuild's a bad word in this case. It's a terrible word. It's the last thing anyone expected just under two years ago when Christian Ehrhoff and Ville Leino were brought in under the Terry Pegula "Starting today, the Buffalo Sabres' reason for existence will be to win a Stanley Cup" mandate.

In fairness to Terry, he didn't tell us when they'd be winning that Cup.

But then again, he didn't indicate that, within two years, the Sabres would be an Eastern Conference also-ran with an interim coach and players like Thomas Vanek and Ryan Miller potentially on the block at the trade deadline, either.

Kings acquire Robyn Regehr from Buffalo for two draft picks

By Helene Elliott
Los Angeles Times
April 1, 2013

The Kings acquired defenseman Robyn Regehr from the Buffalo Sabres on Monday for two second-round draft picks, hoping the brawny 32-year-old will fill the void created by injuries to defensemen Matt Greene and Willie Mitchell.

The trade was first reported by Darren Drager of TSN.

Regehr, who can become an unrestricted free agent after this season, played in Calgary for current Kings Coach Darryl Sutter. He was traded from the Flames to Buffalo in June 2011.

The Kings have missed the physical presence of Mitchell, who has yet to play this season after experiencing post-surgical knee problems, and of Greene, who played only one game before undergoing back surgery. Greene is expected to return within a month, but it would be unrealistic to think he could easily make the jump to the intensity and grind of playoff hockey.

Regehr, 6 feet 3 and 226 pounds, is a left-handed shooter. In his NHL career he has 30 goals, 170 points and 879 penalty minutes in 931 games. With Buffalo this season he had two assists and 21 penalty minutes in 29 games and a -4 defensive rating.

The Kings next face the Phoenix Coyotes on Tuesday in Glendale, Ariz. It's not yet clear whether Regehr will join them in time for that game.

[Update, 7:25 p.m.: The Kings formally announced the trade shortly after 7 p.m. PDT, saying it was contingent on Regehr passing a medical exam. The two second-round draft picks they agreed to give up are in the 2014 and 2015 draft.

"We will withhold comment on the trade until after the medical exam is completed," Kings General Manager Dean Lombardi said in a statement.

In addition, the Kings announced that forward Dustin Penner had been placed on injured reserve retroactive to Sunday, due to a lower-body injury.]

Changes anticipated with slumping Sabres

By James Fink

Business First

April 1, 2013

With the National Hockey League's trade deadline fast approaching, Buffalo Sabres' general manager Darcy Regier said he "open to listening about anything" when it comes to moving players from this year's squad.

Regier spoke with the media Saturday night just a few hours after he traded veteran defenseman Jordan Leopold to the St. Louis Blues for a pair of draft picks. He said he is talking with his fellow GMs around the league and, yes, they are calling him, too.

Given the team's disappointing season Regier stopped just short of saying there are any sacred cows on the current squad who can't or won't be traded. The NHL's trade deadline is Wednesday, April 3, at 3 p.m.

Representatives from 13 NHL teams were at Saturday's Sabres-Washington Capitals game at First Niagara Center. Buffalo lost that game, 5-4 in a shootout and followed up with a 2-0 loss Sunday night to the Boston Bruins.

"I get asked about every player," Regier said.

Doesn't include star goalie Ryan Miller.

"Ryan, sure," Regier said.

Not that he is willing to trade Miller, who has one year left on his current contract. Yet, rumors abound in the league - among gadflies and others - that Miller may be traded, even though he has a "no trade clause" in his contract and appears to want to remain a Sabre.

"Where our club is right now, we have to be open to and listen to anything and everything. I am listening," Regier said. "I think the players recognize that too."

Leopold had been scouted by a number of teams. St. Louis sweetened the pot by offering a second round pick and a fifth rounder in this year's draft. If the Blues, who are currently in eighth spot in the NHL's Western Conference, win one playoff round, the fifth round pick will be upgraded to a fourth rounder.

Goalie Jhonas Enroth said the players were not upset or surprised by the Leopold trade.

"It wasn't a shock," he said. "As pro athletes, you get used to it."

Interim coach Ron Rolston agrees.

"They are pros," he said of his players. "They understand what time of the year it is."

SABRES PROSPECTS REPORT

By Kris Baker

Sabres.com

April 1, 2013

Mikhail Grigorenko (2012, first round) opened scoring just 3:47 into the first period Sunday as Quebec advanced to the second round of the QMJHL playoffs with a 4-3 overtime triumph over Chicoutimi. The goal, Grigorenko's third of the postseason, gives the 18-year old centerman a team-best 12 points and a 48.7 percent success rate on faceoffs as the Remparts closed out the Saguenéens in six games.

Grigorenko has dominated statistically since re-joining Patrick Roy's squad for the final day of the regular season, getting on the scoresheet in all seven of his appearances for 16 points (4+12) in total. Quebec moves on to face either PEI or Rouyn-Noranda beginning Saturday.

OHL

Dan Catenacci (2011, third round) scored twice in the first five minutes of play Friday to help Owen Sound to a 5-3 victory over Sault Ste. Marie in game five of the Western Conference quarterfinal. The double helping, which was rewarded with the game's number two star, snaps Catenacci's five-game goal drought going back to the regular season. The Attack wrapped up the series on Sunday with a 4-3 win, setting up a semifinal matchup with Plymouth.

On Saturday, Brady Austin (2012, seventh round) was plus-two with a secondary assist as Belleville smoked Mississauga 5-0. Austin has three helpers and a steady plus-six rating for the top-seeded Bulls, who take a 3-2 series lead into Mississauga for Monday's game six. A Belleville victory would set up an Eastern Conference semifinal versus Sudbury.

Barrie defenseman Alex Lepkowski (2011, fifth round) finished with an even rating as the Colts hammered Kingston 8-2 on Wednesday to earn the first-round playoff sweep. Barrie moves on to face one of Oshawa or Mississauga, with the rugged lefthander looking to step up his game with regular partner Ryan O'Connor suspended for the entire second round.

Justin Kea (2012, third round) saw his hard work nullified Thursday as Saginaw was swept from the playoffs with a 6-2 loss to London. Kea recorded a goal and a fighting major in the four games as the eighth-seeded Spirit were simply overmatched by the deeper Knights squad.

WHL

Logan Nelson (2012, fifth round) came to life in the third period Saturday, notching an assist on the game-winning goal and racing to score an empty-netter as Victoria staved off elimination with a 4-2 doubling of Kamloops. Nelson has posted two goals and four assists in five postseason games, and a total of 17 points (8+9) in his last 15 tilts going back to the regular season. The Royals face a 3-2 deficit with the series heading back to Victoria for Monday's game six.

Andrey Makarov made 25 saves Wednesday, but the Saskatoon Blades were bounced from the WHL playoffs with a 3-1 loss to Medicine Hat. The East Division champion Blades, who were swept in four straight games, will now wait over a month-and-a-half before hosting the 2013 Memorial Cup starting May 17.

NCAA

Sophomores Jake McCabe (2012, second round) and Brad Navin (2011, seventh round) saw their seasons come to an end Friday as Wisconsin was blown out by Lowell 6-1 in the NCAA Tournament East Regional semifinal. McCabe finishes the year with 21 points (3+18) and a plus-14 rating in 38 games for the Badgers, while Navin contributed a goal and three assists in a checking line role.

In the West Regional semifinal, Christian Isackson (2010, seventh round) skated in fourth line minutes as top-seeded Minnesota was ousted by Yale 3-2 in overtime. The native Minnesotan finishes his sophomore season with four goals and 20 points while appearing in all of the Gophers' 40 contests.

USHL

Judd Peterson (2012, seventh round) was unable to connect as Cedar Rapids entered the home stretch with wins in the week's three contests. The St. Cloud State commit has an assist and eight shots on goal in four games since returning from an arm injury. Winners of four straight but already eliminated from playoff contention, the RoughRiders go for their fourth-straight victory Friday when they visit Chicago.

European Leagues

In Swedish junior action, Linus Ullmark (2012, sixth round) made 18 saves Sunday as MODO J20 earned a place in the Anton Cup championship game with a 1-0 shutout win over Frölunda HC. Ullmark has been stellar in the SuperElit playoffs, winning all four of his starts while posting a 0.74 GAA and .970 save%. MODO shoots for the national junior title Monday versus HV71. Following the championship, Ullmark will join Sweden's national team for exhibitions versus Slovakia on Wednesday and Friday.

Finnish sniper Joel Armia (2011, first round) was unable to score Wednesday as Ässät Pori eliminated KalPa from the SM-Liiga playoffs with a 3-0 victory. Armia connected for two goals, including a game winner, plus an assist in the Aces five-game triumph. Next up for red-hot Ässät is a best-of-seven semifinal round against defending league champion JYP Jyväskylä beginning Monday.

Kings trade for defenseman Robyn Regehr

By Mike Brehm

USA Today

April 1, 2013

The Los Angeles Kings, seeking help on their banged-up blue line, might have found it with Robyn Regehr.

The Kings sent second-round picks in the 2014 and 2015 draft to the Buffalo Sabres to land the 6-3, 225 defenseman, who first must pass a physical.

"We will withhold comment on the trade until after the medical exam is completed," said Kings general manager Dean Lombardi.

Regehr, 32, has two assists and 21 penalty minutes in 29 games. He also has plenty of playoff experience, going to the 2004 Stanley Cup Final with the Calgary Flames.

The Sabres had worked hard to land Regehr in a trade two summers ago, with owner Terry Pegula making a personal appeal. Regehr had to waive a no-trade clause to go the Kings.

"This provides him an opportunity to challenge for a Stanley Cup and be with the team that won last year and could deep," Sabres general manager Darcy Regier said in a conference call.

If the deal is complete, Regehr will help the Kings make up for the loss of Willie Mitchell and Matt Greene, who have missed most of the season. Los Angeles acquired defenseman Keaton Ellerby earlier this season.

Greene (back surgery) started skating recently and he's expected to return in three weeks. Mitchell (knee) has been out all season and has no timetable for his return.

Meanwhile, the Kings placed forward Dustin Penner (lower body) on the injured list.

The Sabres recalled defenseman Adam Pardy.

Sabres trade Regehr to Kings for a pair of picks

By Mike Repertorio

NY Hockey Journal

April 1, 2013

Continuing to build up their stock of draft picks, the Buffalo Sabres moved another one of their defenseman Monday night.

After much speculation, defenseman Robyn Regehr was asked to waive his no-movement clause to accept a trade to Los Angeles. Coming back Buffalo's way are two second-round picks.

The 32-year-old Regehr had last waived his no-movement clause on draft day in 2011 to accept a trade to Buffalo. In 105 games with the Sabres Buffalo, Regehr scored one goal and added six assists. He had 0-2-2 totals and a minus-4 rating through 29 games this season.

Regehr's current five-year deal, which carries a cap hit of \$4.02 million, expires at year's end.

Buffalo began the day in 13th place in the Eastern Conference with a 13-17-6 record. Los Angeles is fifth in the West at 20-12-3.

A steady defender capable of logging 20 minutes a night, Regehr makes the defending Cup champion Kings all the more dangerous in their quest to repeat.

NHL notes: Sabres trade Robyn Regehr, ask Jason Pominville for list of teams

Owen Sound Times

April 1, 2013

Buffalo Sabres defenceman Robyn Regehr has been sent packing and captain Jason Pominville could be next.

On Monday, the club asked Pominville for a list of eight teams he would not accept a trade to, as per the terms of his limited no-trade clause.

According to TSN, Regehr was traded to the Los Angeles Kings in exchange for two second-round draft picks.

With Pominville now available and the trades of Regehr and Jordan Leopold -- sent to the St. Louis Blues Saturday -- the Sabres appear to be in full sell-mode ahead of Wednesday's trade deadline.

After a hot start to the season during which he scored six goals and eight assists in the first 10 games, Pominville has gone cold, scoring four goals and five assists in the 26 games since.

Regehr has just two assists with Buffalo this season.

The Sabres are in 13th place in the Eastern Conference with a 13-17-6 record and 32 points, three back of the eighth-place New York Rangers heading into Monday's games.

FOUR TEAMS IN ON LUONGO

The Roberto Luongo trade watch got a little more intriguing Monday.

Vancouver Canucks general manager Mike Gillis revealed to TSN that the team is in talks with four clubs regarding the 33-year-old netminder.

"We're talking to four teams with varying levels of activity and various proposals," Gillis said.

Gillis added that "it might not be the right time" to deal the goaltender and that it would be easier to do so in the off-season.

Gillis' comments come a day after Vancouver assistant GM Laurence Gilman told the network that trade talks regarding Luongo are "beyond the tire-kicking stage."

Luongo has a 7-4-3 record this season with a 2.44 goals-against average and a .904 save percentage.

CALLAHAN FIRES BACK AT AVERY

New York Rangers captain Ryan Callahan has responded to Sean Avery seemingly speaking out of turn.

After Avery attempted to reignite a feud with Rangers bench boss John Tortorella on the weekend via Twitter, Callahan stuck up for his coach, dispelling Avery's cheapshot.

"Sean Avery's comments solely represent his own thoughts and opinions," a statement issued by Callahan said, according to the Bergen Record. "(Avery) did not speak for us as a team when he was here and certainly does not now."

Avery made it clear following the Rangers' 3-0 loss to the Montreal Canadiens Saturday night what he thinks of his former head coach, submitting a tweet that can only be read one way.

"Fire this CLOWN, his players hate him and wont play for his BS.... @imseanavery is #winning," Avery, 32, wrote, undoubtedly referring to Tortorella.

Avery and Tortorella have some history, with the coach having publicly lambasted the winger while working as an analyst for TSN in 2008.

Heading into Monday night's action, New York was hanging on to eighth place in the Eastern Conference with 35 points in 34 games.

CLOWE COMES TO GRIPS

Ryane Clowe knows full well the San Jose Sharks are trying to trade him.

The team asked his agent about waiving his no-trade clause, a situation he has come to grips with.

"I'm aware of what's going on. Obviously, anything that happens with me, has to go through me," Clowe told CSNBayArea.com Monday.

The Montreal Canadiens, Vancouver Canucks, Boston Bruins and Philadelphia Flyers are reportedly interested in the unrestricted free-agent-to-be.

"If I go somewhere and get traded somewhere I'm not just going to sign unless I see potential," Clowe said. "That's something I'd definitely be open to. On the other hand, if it had to come down to going somewhere as a rental, it would probably be more towards a team that's a top team and looking at making a run. It's all on the table if it happens."

SHERO DONE DEALING

Despite losing Sidney Crosby indefinitely to a broken jaw, the Pittsburgh Penguins won't hunt for a replacement centre before the NHL trade deadline.

After acquiring Brenden Morrow, Douglas Murray and Jarome Iginla – the prize of this year's trade deadline – Pittsburgh Penguins general manager Ray Shero said he's done tooling his roster for the upcoming playoff run.

“What centre can you get to replace Sid, honestly?” Shero told the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review Monday. “We’ve made the moves we’re going to make, I think.”

There’s also a chance Crosby could be ready for the playoffs, which start April 30.

Another player the Penguins expect back before or during the post-season is defenceman Paul Martin, who had surgery for a broken hand Sunday and is out 4-6 weeks.

BROKEN TALBOT

Max Talbot will be out of the Philadelphia Flyers lineup indefinitely with a broken left leg.

The winger suffered the injury in the second period of Sunday’s overtime 5-4 win against the Washington Capitals. Talbot missed a check on defenceman Mike Green and crashed into the boards.

In a remarkable display of toughness, the 29-year-old, unable to put any weight on the broken limb, attempted to skate off the ice under his own power before he was helped by teammates.

Talbot has five goals and five assists in 35 games with the Flyers this season.

CANUCKS SWITCHING AFFILIATES

The Vancouver Canucks could be shooting for a three-way deal involving AHL affiliates.

On Monday, the team announced the purchase of the Peoria Rivermen from the St. Louis Blues, pending AHL approval.

The Canucks have been using the Chicago Wolves as their farm team affiliate but do not own the team.

According to reports, the Canucks want to move the Rivermen to Abbotsford, B.C., where the Calgary Flames’ affiliate, the Heat, currently play. The deal would see the Flames move their farm team to New York and the Blues use the Wolves as their new affiliate.

TRADE BRIEFS

The Chicago Blackhawks acquired Michael Handzus from the San Jose Sharks in exchange for a fourth-round draft selection. The pick was originally owned by San Jose and traded for by Chicago at the 2012 draft ... The Philadelphia Flyers and Anaheim Ducks swapped wingers. Harry Zolnierczyk heads to Anaheim while former Toronto Maple Leafs tough guy Jay Rosehill goes to Philly. Zolnierczyk has played seven games this season while Rosehill remained in the AHL.

Penguins aim to extend streak against Sabres

By Joey Olszewski

NHL.com

April 1, 2013

SABRES (13-17-6) at PENGUINS (28-8-0)

TV: NBCSN, ROOT

Last 10: Buffalo 4-3-3; Pittsburgh 10-0-0

Season series: It's the second of three meetings.

Big story: The Penguins look to extend their win streak to 16, which would give them the second longest win streak in NHL history and one shy of their own record of 17, set during the 1992-93 season.

Team Scope:

Sabres: Don't count the Sabres out of the playoff picture just yet. Although they sit 13th in the conference, Buffalo is only five points back of the eighth-place New York Rangers. However, there is not much room for error if they plan on making it.

The Sabres were held off the scoreboard against the Bruins on Sunday, but they played a solid 60 minutes. Ryan Miller hasn't been as brilliant of late, but he also hasn't had much help. The team's leading scorer, Thomas Vanek has been sidelined with an injury and they are struggling to replace his points. Buffalo's defense is also sitting towards the bottom of the NHL, currently ranked 25th with a goals-against average of 3.00.

In addition to the current adversaries the Sabres are facing, the Penguins seem to have had Miller's number for quite some time. In 19 career games against Pittsburgh, Miller is 5-11-3 with a 3.44 GAA and .881 save percentage. Numbers that don't really reflect the silver medalist's usual stellar play.

Penguins: The Penguins lost captain Sidney Crosby on Saturday, after he got hit with a shot that broke his jaw. How long he will be out remains to be seen, but it's up to the Pens to continue to march on without him in the meantime.

"Obviously, it's a huge loss and the way Sid's been playing has been unbelievable," teammate James Neal said. "Losing him stinks, but at the same time we've got some good depth on this team and that gives a chance for some guys to step up, and definitely for some new guys we just acquired to step up."

In previous years, the Penguins have been able to continue their winning ways without Crosby, but obviously would rather have the star center on the ice. What's different about this season is Ray Shero's acquisitions of Brenden Morrow, Douglas Murray and Iginla.

Who's hot: Pittsburgh goaltender Tomas Vokoun has recorded back-to-back shutouts.

Injury report: Crosby (broken jaw) and Paul Martin (broken hand) join Kris Letang, who is sidelined with a lower-body injury. ... Vanek and Ville Leino are both suffering from upper-body injuries for the Sabres. They will also be without Corey Trop (knee) and Alexander Sulzer (lower body).

Sabres-Penguins Preview

Associated Press

April 1, 2013

PITTSBURGH (AP) -- - The streaking Pittsburgh Penguins have lost their captain.

But that's OK, they say. Not only have the Penguins grown accustomed to playing without Sidney Crosby in recent years, they also just traded for two other team captains.

Pittsburgh went through its first practice Monday since learning that NHL scoring leader Crosby underwent surgery for a broken jaw that will keep him out indefinitely.

Winners of 15 consecutive games, two shy of the NHL record for the longest streak, the Penguins (28-8-0) insist they can keep rolling without the face of their franchise.

"Obviously, it's a huge loss and the way Sid's been playing has been unbelievable," winger James Neal said. "Losing him stinks, but at the same time we've got some good depth on this team and that gives a chance for some guys to step up, and definitely for some new guys we just acquired to step up.

"I'm sure we'll be OK."

Pittsburgh's streak will be on the line Tuesday night against visiting Buffalo (13-17-6).

Crosby was still hospitalized early Monday while his team went through a lengthy and spirited practice. It was the first time Jarome Iginla practiced with Pittsburgh after he was acquired from the Calgary Flames early Thursday. He made his Penguins debut during Saturday's 2-0 win over the New York Islanders.

It was during Crosby's first shift of that game that he was struck in the mouth by a puck from Brooks Orpik's slap shot that was deflected into an unsuspecting Crosby.

Crosby had dental work performed in addition to facial surgery and the repairing of his jaw. The team also said there would be additional procedures performed this week.

In the week before Crosby was knocked out, the Penguins added former Flames captain Iginla and former Stars captain Brenden Morrow as well as eight-year veteran defenseman Douglas Murray via trade. Pittsburgh also welcomed back reigning league MVP Evgeni Malkin after he missed 13 of 16 games due to an upper-body injury.

Even before Crosby went down, the Penguins learned they would be without their top two defensemen. Kris Letang is day to day with a lower body injury - he skated on his own before practice Monday - and Paul Martin is out four to six weeks after breaking an unspecified bone in his upper body.

"We've lost some players ... who aren't with us on the ice right now, but there are capable guys in that room who are ready to go," coach Dan Bylsma said. "You saw that last game. ... Guys ready to go who know how to play and are ready to play in their absence. We saw that last game, and we'll see it going forward."

As painful as this jaw and mouth injury might be, there appears to be no long-term danger to Crosby or any suspicion he will be out for an extended period - meaning multiple months.

During practice, Tyler Kennedy was slotted into Crosby's spot as the No. 1 center between Pascal Dupuis and Chris Kunitz. Iginla remained on a line with Malkin and Neal, and Morrow was still with Brandon Sutter and Matt Cooke.

"We're just trying to keep doing what we're doing and keep playing the same way," Sutter said. "Obviously, Sid's a pretty special player here, but it's an opportunity for someone - or a couple guys - to step up.

"And we've still got Evgeni Malkin, the MVP. I think we'll be all right. No one needs to change their game."

The Penguins beat the Sabres 4-3 on Feb. 17, handing Buffalo the first of four straight losses. That began the Sabres' current stretch of 14 defeats in 21 games, and they tied their season-worst skid at four with a 2-0 home loss to Boston on Sunday.

Buffalo fell into 13th place in the Eastern Conference, and there continues to be speculation the Sabres will continue shaking up their roster before the NHL trading deadline Wednesday.

After dealing veteran defenseman Jordan Leopold to St. Louis on Saturday and fellow defenseman Robyn Regehr to Los Angeles on Monday, general manager Darcy Regier suggested he's open to any deal for any player - including goaltender Ryan Miller - for the right price.

Miller appeared in his 491st career game Sunday, matching the Sabres franchise record among goalies set by Dominik Hasek.

"I wouldn't be surprised if there's a few more (trades)," said leading scorer Thomas Vanek, who missed his third straight game with an upper-body injury.

The Penguins have won 11 of 14 overall and five of six at home in this series. The Sabres lost 8-3 in their last visit to Pittsburgh on Dec. 17, 2011, as Malkin had three goals and two assists.