



Buffalo Sabres

Daily Press Clips

December 8, 2013

Sabres-Bruins Preview

Associated Press

December 20, 2013

The Buffalo Sabres are after their first three-game winning streak since April.

To get it, they'll have to complete a home-and-home sweep of Atlantic Division-leading Boston on Saturday, when the Bruins will go for a seventh straight win at TD Garden.

The Sabres (9-23-3) evened the season series at 1-all with a 4-2 home victory over the Bruins (23-10-2) on Thursday in Buffalo. They've scored four goals in back-to-back games for the first time this season.

"We've been coming together," forward Marcus Foligno said. "Goals have been coming together. If we're putting the work in, points will start happening. That's what guys are believing in. That's the system here, and everyone's on board."

Buffalo, 3-1-1 in its last five with nine goals allowed, last took three straight April 13-17.

Foligno had a goal and an assist Thursday, as did Brian Flynn. Foligno's goal tied it at 2-all late in the second, and Drew Stafford and Tyler Myers scored third-period goals to secure the victory.

Foligno has four points in two games against the Bruins this season. Flynn has three points in his last two contests after managing three in his first 32.

"It helps winning games. It's fun coming to the rink. It just boosts the morale," Flynn told the team's official website. "We knew we were getting closer and closer. It's a matter of just scoring the goals that we have the past two games.

"We've had the chances, we just haven't bared down. The past few games we've been able to do that."

Brad Marchand scored both Boston goals as the Bruins outshot the Sabres 36-23, including a 15-5 third-period advantage.

"We deserved a better fate, I think, than what happened," Bruins coach Claude Julien said. "I thought we controlled the game pretty good, but their goalie made some pretty big saves to keep them in the game."

Ryan Miller has been in goal for four of the five contests and made 34 saves against the Bruins. He's 3-1-0 with a 1.72 goals-against average in his past four starts.

Miller, 6-1-1 in his last eight starts in Boston, will have a new teammate trying to give him some offensive support Saturday.

The Sabres acquired left wing Linus Omark from Edmonton on Thursday for a conditional sixth-round pick in the 2014 draft. Omark played in one game this season with the Oilers, though he led their Oklahoma City AHL affiliate with 29 points in 29 games.

He's expected to be in the lineup for this game.

After the Bruins started Chad Johnson in goal Thursday, Tuukka Rask will likely make his return to the net. Rask, though, has struggled against Buffalo, going 0-4-1 with a 4.25 GAA in his last six matchups.

The Bruins have dropped two of three, allowing 10 goals in the losses. They'll be happy to return home, where they've given up two or fewer goals six times during their seven-game win streak there.

Boston has gone 11-0-2 in its last 13 at home, giving up as many as three non-shootout goals once in that span.

Buffalo, however, won both meetings in Boston last season and took three of five matchups overall.

"It's nice that we play them again this week and have another crack at them," Marchand said.

Boston defenseman Adam McQuaid practiced Friday and Julien didn't rule him out for this game. McQuaid has missed all eight December games with a lower-body injury.

Physical play helps Foligno get minutes

By Amy Moritz

Buffalo News

December 20, 2013

It was obvious by the stat sheet that Ted Nolan wanted more out of Marcus Foligno.

The 22-year-old forward was watching his ice time dwindle and his new coach was asking where the “power” was in the power forward’s game.

As November wore on, he was playing fewer shifts. On Nov. 24 he saw his season-low in ice time – just 7 minutes, 33 seconds.

Nolan challenged Foligno. Slowly, he started playing up to his abilities and, more important, began doing so on a consistent basis.

His reward? More ice time and more offense. After going 11 games without a point, Foligno has his first two-game goal streak of his career, with tallies this week against Winnipeg and Boston.

He will look to extend the streak tonight as the Sabres complete the home-and-home series at Boston.

“Marcus is a power forward,” Nolan said. “He had to be a little bit more aggressive and use his size to his advantage and his skating ability and his hockey sense. He’s going to be a real good player but like all young players you have to do it on a consistent basis.”

When Nolan decreased Foligno’s ice time it became an opportunity. Foligno understood the onus was on him to earn his playing time and that would come through consistent hard work.

“I think it was just a message and it was well received,” Foligno said. “It wasn’t like he shut down my ice time for no reason. He told me why and it’s in my hands really. I’m the one who has to hold myself accountable for the ice time I get.

“I’m eager to get out there and work hard. I’ve been rewarded with the ice time, and if I keep up this play then for myself I’m going to see a lot of playing time. And that’s what you want. I want to be a dominant player in this league, an elite player, and you have to have the minutes to do that.”

At 6-foot-3, 223 pounds, Foligno is a big body. Add in his skating and stick skills and he has the ability to be dangerous in front of the net. That’s where his two goals this week came from – being in front of the net. Thursday night against Boston, he was able to put in a loose puck on the goal line.

Tuesday against Winnipeg he drove hard to the net on a rush and got his stick on a pass from Cody Hodgson to direct the puck into an empty net.

“I think I’m just playing a little simpler, a little harder, going to the net,” Foligno said. “That’s how I scored the two goals recently. It’s not shying away from the net. I definitely want to be a big-body presence and be physical every night.”

The goals are a reward and a confidence boost for Foligno after a disappointing game against Calgary in which he took three penalties in a rough outing.

“Every time he touched it, I don’t know if they were really his fault but he was called for them,” Nolan said of the penalties.

“It just wasn’t his game. But he came back and the way he played, the way he skated, the way he went to the net, the way he used his body. He had three hits in one shift, I think. ... He plays that way he’s going to be a powerful force in this league.”

But resiliency is one of the keys of the new-look Sabres and head-hanging isn’t part of the formula for success.

“Work first, points second,” Foligno said.

Sabres' Omark will face Bruins

By Amy Moritz

Buffalo News

December 20, 2013

The newest addition to the Buffalo Sabres' roster will take the ice tonight when the team faces the Boston Bruins in the second half of a home-and-home series.

Linus Omark, 26, acquired from the Edmonton Oilers for a conditional sixth-round draft pick, met the team in Boston and interim coach Ted Nolan said he would be in the lineup for tonight's 7 p.m. faceoff.

"I'm not 100 percent sure where we'll put him yet but he'll play tomorrow night," Nolan said after the team practiced Friday morning at First Niagara Center.

Omark spent all but one game this season with the American Hockey League team in Oklahoma City. He ranks fourth in the AHL with 14 goals and 29 points in 29 games. In 66 NHL games with Edmonton over three seasons he had eight goals and 22 assists.

"Edmonton had a lot of players similar to Linus' skill set and ability," his agent, Kevin Epp, said Friday afternoon. "Others were drafted higher or came in with more credentials or more clout. There were a lot of players similar to him in that organization. I'd say early on it started as a good opportunity but other young players came into their own and there wasn't that opportunity for a future there."

But Epp sees a future for Omark with the Sabres.

"Buffalo is in a new stage of their franchise rebuilding," Epp said. "They have a lot of draft picks and lot of young guys and Linus fits into that really well. He's a young player and offensive player with real good potential to play."

While Nolan wasn't sure where Omark would slide into the lineup, there certainly is room.

Cody Hodgson is out with an upper body injury after a blocked shot went off his wrist late in the first period Thursday. Nolan was unsure how long Hodgson would be out.

"I'm not too sure, maybe a week or two or three," Nolan said.

Add to that Cody McCormick, who is out for four to six weeks with a lower body injury, and there's room for another forward.

...

Brian Flynn's short-handed goal may have been a random act of beauty, but the Sabres' penalty-killing unit has been steady and solid for the last five games.

The Sabres have killed off opponents' last 14 power plays. The last time the unit gave up a power-play goal was Dec. 5 to the New York Rangers.

"We realize that we were struggling to score goals so we had to be better on the penalty kill," Flynn said. "We can't give up a power play goal. We were starting a goal behind every night and scoring one or two goals – you can't win games like that. We knew we had to pick it up a little bit and we've been doing a good job and our goalies obviously have been making some big saves too."

And then there's the gritty play that defenses are built on, which unfortunately may also contribute to injuries in the lineup.

"We're getting in front," Nolan said. "Maybe that's why we have a couple guys hurt. They're starting to get in front of shots and it hurts a little bit. They're starting to pay the price and getting in those shot lanes, using their sticks much better and competing harder."

...

Sabres prospect J.T. Compher was cut from the United States National Junior team roster and will not participate in the IIHF World Juniors Championship in Sweden.

Compher, a forward at the University of Michigan, suffered a left foot injury in practice on Monday while blocking a shot. He was in a walking boot on Tuesday.

U.S. coach Don Lucia said the injury is what kept Compher off the team but with his birth year as 1995 he will have another opportunity.

"The disappointment is in Compher getting hurt; he could have played a lot of different roles on this team," Lucia said. "It would have been a good bet that he probably would have made this team, but now it gives someone else an opportunity."

...

Fans have three chances to take part in The Good Neighbor Skate Drop Off that collects unwanted ice skates, regardless of condition or size, to be refurbished for use at the Martin Luther King Jr. Park ice skating program.

Dropoffs will be:

Dec. 27 from 7:30-10:30 a.m. at the BlueCross BlueShield of Western New York Headquarters (corner of West Genesee and 7th Street).

Dec. 28 from 1-5 p.m. at Pure Hockey (3265 Sheridan Drive in Amherst).

Dec. 29 from 3-5 p.m. at First Niagara Center.

Fans will be able to meet Sabres forward Zemgus Girgensons at Pure Hockey from 4-5 p.m. on Dec. 28.

For more information, call 887-8951 or visit www.facebook.com/BCBSofWNY.

Bruins seek split of home-and-home vs. Sabres

By Mike Battaglino

NHL.com

December 20, 2013

SABRES (9-23-3) at BRUINS (23-10-2)

TV: MSG-B, NESN

Last 10: Buffalo 4-4-2; Boston 7-3-0

Season series: The Buffalo Sabres defeated the Boston Bruins 4-2 on Thursday after trailing 2-1 late in the second period. Boston won the first game, also at Buffalo, 5-2 on Oct. 23, with two third-period goals from defenseman Torey Krug.

Big story: Buffalo has won two in a row in regulation for the first time this season; it has not won three in a row in any manner. Of the Sabres' nine wins, three are against the Bruins, Los Angeles Kings and San Jose Sharks (sixth, fourth and seventh in the NHL standings prior to Saturday).

"I expect [Boston] to probably be a little upset about the loss," Sabres defenseman Mike Weber told the team website. "I think we've always played them hard and it's always been a hard-fought game. I'm not too worried about anything. It's always better when you're into the game when people are hitting you and you're hitting them back, and you're into the battles in front of the net."

Team Scope:

Sabres: Buffalo acquired forward Linus Omark in a trade Thursday and will put him to work Saturday.

"He'll take a spot in the lineup," interim coach Ted Nolan said Friday, according to the Buffalo News. "I'm not 100 percent sure exactly where we'll put him yet but he'll play tomorrow night."

The Sabres are short a forward after Cody Hodgson sustained a wrist injury blocking a shot by Krug in the first period Thursday. Nolan said Hodgson would be out "maybe a week or two or three. I'm not sure."

Omark, 26, played one game this season for the Edmonton Oilers, who received a conditional sixth-round draft pick in return. He was fourth in the American Hockey League with 29 points in 29 games for Oklahoma City.

Bruins: After having defensemen Kevan Miller and David Warsofsky each make his NHL debut in the past month, veteran Adam McQuaid is on the verge of returning to play his 209th game.

"He's getting pretty close," coach Claude Julien told the Boston Herald after practice Friday. "Honestly it's a matter of game-to-game right now. I don't know yet [about the game Saturday], but I wouldn't write him off."

McQuaid hasn't played this month because of a lower-body injury reported to be a groin pull, missing eight games (5-3-0). The Bruins could wait until after the three-day Christmas break to give him a little more recovery time.

"I hope that's not the case," McQuaid told the Herald. "I want to be back playing as soon as I can. I definitely don't want to be going through that cycle of coming back a little bit too soon [and getting hurt again]. But when I'm ready, I'll be ready. Hopefully that's sooner rather than later."

Who's hot: The Sabres have killed 14 penalties in a row; they haven't allowed a power-play goal since Dec. 5. Forward Brian Flynn has three of his season's six points in the past two games. Forward Drew Stafford has three points in four games, including his first goal since Nov. 5. Defenseman Christian Ehrhoff has five points in the past six. ... Bruins forward Brad Marchand had two goals Thursday, and defenseman Zdeno Chara had two on Tuesday. Forward David Krejci has 11 points in his past 10 games.

Injury report: Sabres forward Cody McCormick (upper body) is out. ... Bruins forward Daniel Paille (concussion) is skating. Forwards Loui Eriksson (concussion) and Chris Kelly (leg), and defenseman Dougie Hamilton (lower body) are out.

Ryan Miller could be top free agent with Alex Steen off market

By Chris Stevenson

Ottawa Sun

December 20, 2013

Christmas came early for St. Louis Blues forward Alex Steen.

Enjoying a career year with 24 goals — matching his previous season-high — he signed a three-year, \$17.4 million extension with the St. Louis Blues the other day, taking him out of the unrestricted free agent mix this summer.

The 29-year-old (30 in March) was shaping up as one of the best of the class (assuming Joe Thornton, Patrick Marleau and Dan Boyle will re-sign with the San Jose Sharks, which is the prevailing thought right now).

Which brings us to the rest of the players who are poised to be unrestricted free agents next summer: their Christmas will come in July and in a big way.

As the salary cap era has evolved, teams have been locking up their stars to long-term deals with the effect each summer there have been fewer and fewer elite talents on the market. Look at the frenzy over the likes of forwards like Zach Parise and defenceman Ryan Suter hitting the market two summers ago or Brad Richards before that.

They pretty much had the stage to themselves.

The closest thing might be Buffalo Sabres goaltender Ryan Miller, should he decide to pass on the Sabres rebuilding program and play for a contender, preferably one closer to his actress wife's work in California.

With the salary cap expected to be in the neighbourhood of \$71 million next summer (up about \$6 million from this season) and the free agent pool shallower than the Caddy Shack sequel, there are going to be some guys who are going to get way, way overpaid.

I see the potential UFAs this summer, now minus Steen, in four categories:

- “Miller and The Rest”: Miller might wind up being the star of free agency and cause a trickle-down effect as teams move their goaltenders to try and accommodate him. He's a guy for an elite team that needs an upgrade, like Anaheim or St. Louis, and it's interesting to note the main guys in both those cities, Jonas Hiller and Jaroslav Halak, are also poised to be UFAs.

- “Boy, Did I Pick The Right Time To Be A UFA, Guys”: The players who are about to enter or are in the back nine of their prime, who, because of the scarcity of talent in this summer's class are going to get a handsome pay day: Dion Phaneuf (likely to be off the market), Mike Cammalleri, Matt Moulson, Thomas Vanek, Derek Roy, Alex Hemsky, Ryan Callahan, Marian Gaborik, Brooks Orpik and Paul Stastny. They

aren't at the absolute best at their positions, but they are going to get paid like superstars. Cha. Ching.

- “Guys Who Are Never Going To Live Up To Their Deal”: Like David Clarkson before them, these are guys who are probably never going to perform up the level of their paycheque. It's not their fault. They're in the right place at the right time. Get used to it because it's going to happen more and more frequently. Could be guys like Dustin Penner, Radim Vrbata, Devon Setoguchi, Marek Zidlicky, Mikhail Grabovski and Raphael Diaz.

- The “Travelling Legend Road Show Guys”: These are 40-something players like Jaromir Jagr, Daniel Alfredsson, Saku Koivu and Jarome Iginla, whose best days are way behind them, but can still play a role for a team. They've got no interest in playing for anybody but a contender and will have to take a relatively modest amount to play for a cap team.

Sabres' Brian Flynn embracing checking role, starting to showcase slick offensive skills

By Bill Hoppe

Olean Times Herald

December 21, 2013

BUFFALO – Brian Flynn, the undersized scorer, still wasn't ready for NCAA hockey. So following two years of prep school, the Sabres center spent a season playing junior in New Hampshire.

"I scored a lot. But then you realize it's not all about scoring," Flynn said Friday inside the First Niagara Center after the Sabres prepared for tonight's game in Boston against the Bruins. "I weighed probably 160 pounds. Trying to go to college (at) 160 pounds, it's not going to work. I had to play a year of junior hockey, started to learn more of the defensive game."

Flynn kept scoring once he reached Maine in 2008, compiling 69 goals and 156 points in 153 collegiate games. But by then he had realized if he ever wanted to crack the NHL and stay, he had to be sound defensively.

"You got to be a guy they can trust to put out there every single night, because that's what it's all about in this league is being consistent," Flynn said. "There's a lot of skill players. There's not much difference between skill level and top guys in the American League and kind of bottom six guys in the NHL."

Right now, the 180-pound Flynn's working his way up the Sabres' depth chart as a checker. The 25-year-old has mostly skated as a fourth-liner recently, centering Kevin Porter and Matt Ellis, an intriguing combination interim coach Ted Nolan plays regularly.

But Flynn's starting to display the offensive skills that made him a sought-after college free agent in 2012.

The Boston native enjoyed arguably his best NHL game Thursday, recording a goal and his first two-point performance in the Sabres' 4-2 victory against the Bruins.

In the first period, Flynn scored a nifty short-handed breakaway goal, beating two defenders before backhanding the puck in the net.

Nolan compared the goal, Flynn's first in 20 games, to one Chicago star Patrick Kane scored earlier this week.

In the third period, after earning a promotion between Marcus Foligno and Matt D'Agostini with Cody Hodgson out, Flynn made a terrific pass to Tyler Myers, stopping in the left circle before pausing and feeding the streaking defenseman perfectly for an insurance goal.

Nolan said the poise Flynn showcased dishing to Myers was a sign of his increasing comfort. A few weeks ago he would've simply shot the puck.

“It’s tough to score when you’re scared to make plays and you’re not playing with confidence,” Flynn said.

Transitioning to a new role hasn’t been easy for Flynn, who has points in consecutive games for the first time in his 59-game career.

“It’s really hard to score goals if you’re playing fourth-line center and playing almost half your ice time penalty killing,” he said. “It’s also tough when you’re used to scoring goals your whole life, and then you get here and your role changes. A little difficult. There’s definitely an adjustment period. You have to adapt to it.

“I feel pretty comfortable with the role I need to play, and as you build confidence, more offense will start to come.”

So far, Flynn has nine goals and 17 points in his NHL career.

Will he simply be a solid checker or eventually morph into a more consistent scorer?

“I don’t think you even want to just put a cap on what your potential’s going to be,” said Flynn, who’s been switching between center and wing. “I obviously have confidence in myself that I can score in this league. I just got to earn some more minutes and earn the chance to be in more offensive situations. For right now, I still got a lot to work on.”

Ellis said he’s seeing that confidence growing.

“The biggest thing with any player is when you can start growing into your own skin, realize what you bring to the table and how to use those assets, your confidence grows,” Ellis said. “Flynn, first and foremost, is one of the fastest guys in this league, and when he skates and he’s on the puck, look out, because good things tend to happen.”

Nolan has lauded Flynn’s on-ice intelligence. Incredibly, he has one penalty in his NHL career, a hooking call in his 53rd game. Nolan also likes his quiet demeanor and hardworking style.

“This is a hardworking city,” Nolan said. “They want to see hardworking guys. Flynn’s one of those guys. He just goes about his business.”

At times, Nolan said, he doesn’t even realize Flynn’s on the ice.

“Sometimes you don’t even know he’s at practice unless you just watch him,” he said. “He’s so quiet. He was sure loud the way he played (Thursday).”

Linus Omark to meet Sabres in Boston; Cody Hodgson possibly out weeks

By Bill Hoppe

Olean Times Herald

December 20, 2013

BUFFALO – Newly acquired winger Linus Omark will meet the Sabres later today in Boston and play Saturday against the Bruins, interim coach Ted Nolan said.

“He’ll take a spot in the lineup,” Nolan said after the Sabres’ brief practice this morning inside the First Niagara Center. “I’m not 100 percent sure exactly where we’ll put him yet. But he’ll play tomorrow night.”

The Sabres dealt a conditional sixth-round draft pick to Edmonton on Thursday for Omark.

The Sabres have a roster spot with center Cody Hodgson (hand) out after blocking a shot in Thursday’s 4-2 win against Boston.

Nolan said Hodgson, who’s on injured reserve, is out “maybe a week or two or three.”

“I’m not 100 percent sure yet,” he said.

Brian Flynn centered Marcus Foligno and Matt D’Agostini today, Hodgson’s old spot.

Meanwhile, captain Steve Ott had a maintenance day today.

Sabres Omark will play in Boston

By Paul Hamilton

WGR 550

December 20, 2013

Buffalo, NY (WGR 550) -- Newly acquired Linus Omark will meet his new team in Boston on Friday and then play Saturday against the Bruins.

Cody Hodgson, Cody McCormick and Steve Ott missed practice Friday. Hodgson blocked a shot with his wrist or hand on Thursday night. Ted Nolan said, "Early indications are I'm not too sure, maybe a week, or two, or three, I'm not 100% sure." Ott had a maintenance day and will play Saturday.

Brian Flynn played his best game of the season against the Bruins which earned him time in Hodgson's spot when he got hurt. Flynn made a beautiful rush bringing the puck up the left wing side finding a streaking Tyler Myers down the slot for the fourth goal.

Buffalo's penalty killing went from horrendous to excellent the past nine games being perfect for eight of them. Nolan said, "We're getting in front and maybe that's why we have a couple of guys hurt there, we've been getting in front of shots and it hurt a little bit, but they're starting to pay the price and getting in those shot lanes and using their sticks much better and competing harder." Brian Flynn has a few opinions on why it's turned around, "I'd say first it's our goaltenders have been great all year, we've gotten big saves at the right times. Maybe it's one of those things as the season goes on, I think we've gotten some pairs solidified, you know who you're going to go out with. Most of the time, Otter and I are going to start in the D zone, he's done a great job on faceoffs, we get it out and kill 20 or 30 seconds right there. We focus more on shorter shifts, then you can rotate more pairs through and keep it fresh."

The reason Flynn mentions playing with the same guy is you start to read off each other and cover the other's mistake or work in unison. Flynn said, "We talk a lot off the ice, watch video of other team's power plays and have a good game plan now of what each other wants to do going into the games so it helps out and you can execute better."

A huge part of it is the number of penalties has decreased. Buffalo has only had to kill 19 penalties in the past nine games. Under Ron Rolston the discipline of this team was horrendous and it did carry over in Nolan's first six games. Nolan said, "I've been stern on playing the game the right way. If you play the game the right way, usually the penalties don't occur very much. If you're staying on the defensive side of the puck, if you're not reaching, if you're not putting the stick on someone, if you're not crosschecking in the open ice for no apparent reason, you stay out of the box. We've been playing the game right for a vast majority since that point."

The Sabres will not be able to have a morning skate in Boston on Saturday due to the Celtics afternoon game against the Wizards.

FRIDAY UPDATE

By Chris Ryndak

Sabres.com

December 20, 2013

Forward Linus Omark, whom the Buffalo Sabres acquired from the Edmonton Oilers organization during Buffalo's 4-2 win over the Boston Bruins on Thursday, did not practice with the team Friday morning at First Niagara Center.

He will, however, be in Buffalo's lineup Saturday night for their rematch against the Bruins. The team travels to Boston this afternoon and it looks like Omark will meet them there.

"I believe he'll be waiting in Boston for us, either waiting or getting there soon after we arrive. We'll see him today," Sabres interim coach Ted Nolan said. "He'll take a spot in the lineup. I'm not 100 percent sure exactly where we'll put him yet, but he'll play tomorrow night."

Buffalo traded a conditional sixth-round pick to the Oilers for Omark, 26, who led the Oklahoma City Barons of the American Hockey League in scoring with 29 points (14+15) in 29 games. He was also the fourth-leading scoring in the AHL at the time of the trade.

Omark is a veteran of 66 NHL games who has totaled 30 points (8+22) over parts of three seasons.

Captain Steve Ott did not practice with the team nor did center Cody Hodgson, who sustained an upper-body injury Thursday night. Nolan declared it a maintenance day for Ott.

Hodgson will miss anywhere from one to three weeks after he blocked a shot in the first period. Nolan said that Hodgson has been placed on injured reserve.

With the two teams meeting again Saturday night, Sabres defenseman Mike Weber expects the Bruins to come out even harder on their home ice.

"I expect them probably to be a little upset about the loss, but we've always played them hard. It's always been a hard-fought game so I'm not too worried about anything," he said. "It's always better when you're into the game and people are hitting you and you're hitting them back and you're into the battles in front of the net. That's the type of game I like anyways."

Nolan said that a solid effort up and down the lineup will be key for Buffalo to have success. In their past two games, in which they've scored four goals each, the Sabres have been able to receive contributions from all four of their lines.

"The heavyweights of the League, you're not going to go blow-for-blow with them and see how you do. If you do that, it's not going to turn out very well," Nolan said. "So what we want to do is have more of a balanced attack and use all four lines because they have some pretty big forwards and a big defense."

Weber got into a bit of a scuffle with Bruins forward Milan Lucic on Thursday, but when Weber went to drop the gloves, Lucic didn't follow suit. On the play, Weber received minor penalties for holding and roughing while Lucic got two for roughing.

"I always try to play hard against every guy I play against but when a big guy like that staring back at you, you always want to throw first," Weber said. "He wasn't allowed to fight so I got the extra one, but just to play hard, that's my job, that's my role."

26 Matt Moulson – 63 Tyler Ennis – 28 Zemgus Girgensons
82 Marcus Foligno – 65 Brian Flynn – 27 Matt D'Agostini
23 Ville Leino – 21 Drew Stafford
12 Kevin Porter – 37 Matt Ellis

10 Christian Ehrhoff – 52 Alexander Sulzer
20 Henrik Tallinder – 57 Tyler Myers
6 Mike Weber – 4 Jamie McBain
32 John Scott – 5 Chad Ruhwedel

30 Ryan Miller
1 Jhonas Enroth