



Buffalo Sabres

Daily Press Clips

February 17, 2015

Sabres-Devils preview

By: Nicolino Dibenedetto

Associated Press

February 16, 2015

The Buffalo Sabres are certainly making plans for the future, and this six-game homestand likely determines if the New Jersey Devils will, too.

The Devils will try to avoid matching their longest slide of the season Tuesday night, when they attempt to beat the Sabres at home for the fourth straight time.

Buffalo (16-37-3) owns the fewest points in the NHL with 35 and continued its season-long rebuild for 2015-16 with a pair of trades last week.

Well behind Boston for the final wild-card spot in the Eastern Conference, New Jersey (21-26-9) seems headed towards a third straight season out of the playoffs while currently on the cusp of its third five-game slide of the season.

"You get calls on both sides," general manager and co-coach Lou Lamoriello said as the March 2 trade deadline looms. "Whereas if you're in the playoffs, most of the time you get calls as far as what you need. You still get those calls, but you also get those calls 'what are you doing?'"

"It'll all still will depend on the individual situation of a team and what their thoughts are."

Issues in the third period have worsened New Jersey's situation. The Devils allowed three goals in the third in Friday's 3-1 loss at Chicago, and they gave up two more in Saturday's loss by the same score at Nashville.

They've been outscored 14-5 in four games, but Cory Schneider isn't completely to blame. The goaltender, who should be back in net, has started three of those games, compiling a 2.38 goals-against average and .927 save percentage. He had 35 saves Saturday, making 19 on 20 shots in the opening period.

Schneider only needed to make 20 stops in a 4-1 win over Buffalo on Jan. 6, as New Jersey improved to 4-0-1 in its last five home meetings.

Patrik Elias had a season-high three points against the Sabres last month. The All-Star center has nine in his last six matchups versus Buffalo, and he also has scored in each of the Devils' last two home games.

Buffalo has lost 18 of its last 20 games, including three in a row following Sunday's 2-1 defeat to Philadelphia.

The losses aren't the only thing mounting for the Sabres, who will be without forward Patrick Kaleta for at least a month due to minor surgery. It's unclear if they'll have defenseman Josh Gorges back after he missed Sunday's loss with a lower-body injury.

One of the Sabres' trades last week delivered Evander Kane from Winnipeg, but he was already out for the season following shoulder surgery.

The injuries, combined with the trades, have allowed 19-year-old Nikita Zadorov to be included in the lineup for a fourth straight game Sunday, scoring a goal. The defenseman has seven points in his last seven games - a stretch that also includes being a healthy scratch three times.

Michal Neuvirth may get a second straight start after Buffalo sent Jhonas Enroth to Dallas in exchange for Anders Lindback and a draft pick. Neuvirth had 28 saves Sunday and has a 3.76 GAA while losing 10 straight starts.

He's lost five straight starts against New Jersey behind a 2.87 GAA.

Lindback owns a 2.56 GAA while splitting four meetings with the Devils - all at Prudential Center.

Sabres' Zadorov riding what passes as a hot streak

By: Amy Moritz

Buffalo News

February 16, 2015

Nikita Zadorov has seven points in his last seven games for the Buffalo Sabres.

On a team that's struggling offensively, that's a hot streak.

In some ways, it felt as if Sabres coach Ted Nolan wished that information could be kept from Zadorov.

"Oh, we just won't tell him about the streak though I'm quite sure he knows about it," Nolan said.

Of course he knows about the streak, which he brings into Tuesday's game against the New Jersey Devils at the Prudential Center.

Zadorov has one goal and six assists in his last seven games, but those games haven't been consecutive.

During that time he sat two games for missing practice after the All-Star break and was a healthy scratch as the coaching staff saw some bad habits creeping into his game.

The 19-year-old defenseman from Moskova, Russia, is learning what it takes to be an NHL player and embracing the difficulty of playing the game at this level.

"I think be more mature off the ice and on the ice, too, you know," Zadorov said. "It's just hard. It's men's league. You can't make the mistakes here because it's going to cost you goals against and losing the game. It's hard to play here. Just probably be more focused on the ice.

"I knew this was the best league in the world. The best players. I knew it was going to be hard just how I thought. You just gotta keep working."

There's no doubt in Zadorov's mind that he's NHL ready.

He came to the Sabres this season with junior eligibility left and there was a strong possibility he would return to the London Knights for one more year of experience. The business of hockey happened and he stayed.

Paired mostly with 20-year-old Rasmus Ristolainen, the duo looks to be the future defensive core of the Sabres. They already have great dressing-room rapport with each other.

Ask Zadorov where his points are coming from and Ristolainen chimes in, "good D partner."

Zadorov easily agrees.

"Good D partner," he repeated, "and the forwards they set me up, they're scoring from my assists so it's more them, you know. Every time I'm on the ice I try to make some plays, try to help my team to score goals and bring some offense."

Offense has come easily to Zadorov. He has a hard, heavy shot and a hockey IQ coaches love to see in their players.

Two years ago with the London Knights he put up 25 points in 63 games. He spent seven games with the Sabres last year, scoring his first NHL goal before the organization returned him to London. He put up 30 points in 36 games with the Knights and had a solid showing for Team Russia at the World Junior Championships.

His first full NHL season may be on a last-place team with plenty of potential distractions, but Zadorov is too in love with the game to notice most days.

"It's unreal you know. I feel great," Zadorov said. "It's awesome to play hockey and do what you like."

What he likes to do is jump into plays and shoot the puck. What he's starting to get better at is playing defensive angles and finding consistency to his game.

"I think I'm working on my stick in defense zone," Zadorov said. "I gotta keep it in the lane pass to cut the lane passes and don't let the forwards too much room for pass and make the plays."

"He's going to get his points but right now we're not so concerned with his point total as with his overall play," Nolan said. "When he's going to jump up in the play, how he's defending. How to eliminate miscues here and there. You know the points are really nice right now because he has an offensive touch to him. I think as the years go he's going to get better and better but the thing is we want to improve his overall play."

Surgery will send Kaleta to sidelines

By: Amy Moritz

Buffalo News

February 16, 2015

Hard play sometimes leads to hard injuries. In the case of Pat Kaleta, those injuries add up.

Kaleta has had his share of major physical ailments including losing most of last season after he tore his ACL with a run-in with a goalpost in Rochester. He missed the start of his year after he had a run-in with a slapshot in a preseason game that essentially broke his face.

The Buffalo native is again on the injured list and will miss at least a month according to Sabres coach Ted Nolan.

"He'll have a minor surgery to clear up a couple of things so it looks like he'll be out anywhere from four to six weeks," Nolan said Monday after the team practiced in First Niagara Center before leaving for Newark and Tuesday's meeting with the New Jersey Devils.

The undisclosed lower body injury wasn't the result of any one incident but rather a cumulative impact from the way the winger plays the game.

"Somebody who plays as hard as he does and what this team means to him and this organization and this city. He wears everything on his sleeve, boy. Heart's on his sleeve," Nolan said. "When you play that way, sometimes certain things are going to break down. Unfortunately he got the puck and then when he's getting called up a year ago he ran into the goalpost those things happen when you put your body on the line."

Also out with an undisclosed lower body injury is Josh Gorges.

"We're still waiting on word back. We're still not 100 percent sure what's going to transpire there," Nolan said.

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The New Jersey Devils enter Tuesday's game on a four-game losing streak including dropping back-to-back overtime loses in Chicago and Nashville.

There's a possibility that center Stephen Gionta will return to the Devils lineup. On Monday he went through his first full practice with the team since breaking his hand Dec. 29 against Pittsburgh. He missed the last 18 games had has six points (three goals, three assists) in 38 games for the Devils this season.

Of course older brother Brian will be on the opposite side and close to a milestone. The current Buffalo Sabres captain is one point shy of 500 for his career with 312 of those points coming when he played for the Devils from 2001-09.

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Get ready for your overtime challenge because odds are good when the Sabres and Devils meet, there's going to be extra hockey.

Nine of the last 17 games between the clubs have been decided in overtime or a shootout including six of the last nine.

The Sabres have had 11 shootouts with the Devils since the beginning of the 2007-08 season – more than any other non-divisional opponent. The Sabres are 7-4 in those shootouts.

Devils look to snap four-game skid against Sabres

By: Brian Hunter

NHL.com

February 16, 2015

SABRES (16-37-3) at DEVILS (21-26-9)

TV: NBCSN

Season series: Patrik Elias, Jordin Tootoo and Travis Zajac all scored in the first period as the New Jersey Devils raced out to an early lead and cruised in their first game against the Buffalo Sabres. Elias (1-2-3), Zajac (1-1-2) and Mike Cammalleri (1-1-2) all had multipoint games.

Sabres team scope: Forward Patrick Kaleta needs surgery and will miss 4-6 weeks, coach Ted Nolan said Monday. Kaleta missed most of last season with a torn ACL and had his start to this season delayed when he was hit in the face with a puck during the preseason. He has three assists in 33 games. Defenseman Josh Gorges (lower body) will not make the road trip. Defenseman Nikita Zadorov, who turns 20 in April, has seven points in as many games, including his fourth NHL goal in a 2-1 loss to the Philadelphia Flyers on Sunday. "The thing we want to see from him and every young player is that consistency," said coach Ted Nolan in a video posted on the Sabres' website. "He's going to get his points, but right now we're not so concerned with his point total as his overall play; how he's going to jump up on a play, how he's defending, how to eliminate his little miscues here and there. But the points are really nice right now because he's got an offensive touch to him. And I think as the years go he's going to get better and better."

Devils team scope: Cory Schneider gets the start in goal as New Jersey begins a six-game homestand. Schneider made 35 saves Saturday, 19 in the first period alone, but the Devils lost their fourth straight, 3-1 to the Nashville Predators. Forward Stephen Gionta, who sustained a broken hand Dec. 29 against the Pittsburgh Penguins, has been cleared for contact, general manager Lou Lamoriello told Northjersey.com. A decision won't be made until Tuesday whether Gionta plays against the Sabres and his older brother Brian Gionta. He alternated with Jacob Josefson centering Dainius Zubrus and Martin Havlat on the fourth line at practice Monday, according to NJ Advance Media. Steve Bernier, who had the only goal against the Predators, was on the first line with Adam Henrique and Elias. Scott Gomez centered Tuomo Ruutu and Jaromir Jagr on the second line, with Zajac between Cammalleri and Tootoo on the third.

Countdown to the deadline: Sabres

By: Katie Strang

ESPN.com

February 16, 2015

The 2015 NHL trade deadline is weeks away, but the Buffalo Sabres already made the splash of the season, acquiring embattled forward Evander Kane from the Winnipeg Jets in a blockbuster deal that also brought defenseman Zach Bogosian. Drew Stafford, Tyler Myers, two high-end prospects and a conditional first-round pick were sent to Winnipeg in the deal. And if that wasn't enough action for one day, Sabres general manager Tim Murray unloaded one of his pending unrestricted free agents by trading goaltender Jhonas Enroth to the Dallas Stars for netminder Anders Lindback and a conditional third-round pick. It's no surprise to see the Sabres so aggressive in moving pieces. An abysmal 2014-15 season that has them in last place in the NHL with a dreadful record makes them the clear front-runner in the Connor McDavid sweepstakes.

Status: SELLER.

Available: Though the Sabres have already unloaded a trio of players from their roster -- as well as prospects Joel Armia and Brendan Lemieux -- it's safe to assume there could still be more Sabres on the move in advance of the March 2 deadline. As one NHL scout offered, watch for Chris Stewart and Cody Hodgson to be in play.

Let's begin with the former because his name always seems to pop up this time of year. Though the 27-year-old forward has had a difficult season (9 goals, 22 points and a minus-30) that included a stint as a healthy scratch, Stewart could still provide an attractive option for a team looking to add size and strength on the wing. Meanwhile, Hodgson has had one of the most curious declines of any top prospect in recent history, but the first-round pick could benefit from a change in scenery. After a 20-goal season in 2013-14, Hodgson has seen his play regress and his role diminish to the point of being a healthy scratch recently. But, he's still just 24. There's plenty of hope that he could reclaim his career elsewhere.

Buying Or Selling?

What's your team's plan for March 2?

Finances: Considering the Sabres are in sell mode, cap constraints are hardly an issue, with almost \$10 million remaining in cap space, according to NHLNumbers.com. That remains true even with the contracts recently added in the trade for Kane and Bogosian. In acquiring Kane for the long term (he recently underwent shoulder surgery and is out for the season), the Sabres took on his contract, which pays him \$6 million annually for the next three seasons. Bogosian is in the second season of a seven-year deal that is worth \$36 million in total, averaging out to \$5.143 annually.

Scouting the GM: Murray has never shied away from making the bold move. Even before the multiplayer deal that dramatically changed both the Sabres and Jets, Murray has made significant trades since taking on the GM role in Buffalo. He moved franchise goaltender Ryan Miller and veteran forward Steve Ott in a trade with the St. Louis Blues last season, and he landed Josh Gorges this past summer, after the veteran blue-liner refused to waive his no-trade clause to join the Toronto Maple Leafs. It's been a busy past few seasons for Murray and the rebuilding Sabres and he may not even be done yet.

Sabres' Kaleta to miss 4 to 6 weeks

By: Paul Hamilton

WGR 550

February 16, 2015

Buffalo, NY (WGR 550) -- Pat Kaleta received more bad news on the injury front. Ted Nolan said the injury he'd been playing through will require him to have minor surgery and miss four to six weeks. Nolan said, "Anybody that plays as hard as he does and what this team means to him and this organization and the city, he wears everything on his sleeve, boy his heart's on his sleeve and when you play that way, sometimes certain things are going to breakdown."

Josh Gorges is still being evaluated and won't go on the two game road trip.

With Gorges out, more falls on Mike Weber to be a leader and wear the "A" on his sweater. That's an honor Weber takes seriously, "It's a huge honor to play in this league, it's an even bigger honor to wear a letter on your sweater."

"I've always tried to bring the same game and the same leadership my whole career whether back 5 years ago or a healthy scratch for 20 games straight, I've always tried to be the same guy in the locker-room and it was a huge honor last night to be able to wear that letter for the boys."

Weber's game has been very steady for about a month now. He's always been a favorite whipping boy for the fans, but Ted Nolan said they've been using him differently during games, "I think Danny Flynn's been doing a wonderful job with him on the backend, especially this year, by putting him in a position of success versus putting him in a position of failure. Last year I thought we put him into some real tough situations and this year tough situations too and then we learned how to curb that a little bit so, Danny did a great job with that."

Weber just seems to be playing with some confidence for at least a month. He said, "I feel like I've just been trying to stay as consistent as possible. We've been a team that's been so inconsistent over the last two to three seasons, it's been my main focus to try to stay as consistent as possible and bring some stability."

With Kaleta out long term, this will give Johan Larsson the chance he's been craving. It's up to him to impress Tim Murray to keep him here.

Sabres' Patrick Kaleta to be sidelined 4-6 weeks after surgery

By: Bill Hoppe
Olean Times Herald
February 16, 2015

BUFFALO – Oft-injured Sabres winger Patrick Kaleta will be sidelined four to six weeks after he undergoes “minor surgery to clear up a couple things,” coach Ted Nolan said.

Kaleta had played 21 straight games before a lower-body injury sidelined him for Sunday's 2-1 loss to Philadelphia. The injury isn't related to one specific incident.

“I think it's a combination of just the way he's been playing and just to clean up some mess,” Nolan said this afternoon following practice inside the First Niagara Center.

Kaleta's aggressive style has led to a constant string of injuries over the years. The Angola native tore his ACL last season and broke his face blocking a shot in September.

“Somebody who plays as hard he does, and what this team means to him and this organization, this city, he wears everything on his sleeve,” Nolan said. “Boy, his heart's on his sleeve. When you play that way, sometimes certain things are going to break down.”

Kaleta, a free agent following the season, has likely lost most of his trade value.

Meanwhile, Nolan said the Sabres don't have any update on defenseman Josh Gorges, who's battling a lower-body injury. Gorges won't accompany the team to New Jersey this afternoon.

Some of the Sabres mourn Montador

By: Paul Hamilton

WGR 550

February 16, 2015

Buffalo, NY (WGR 550) -- Former Sabre Steve Montador was found dead in his home Sunday morning and being a former Sabre, some of the guys here played with him. Pat Kaleta and Cody McCormick were former teammates of Steve as was Mike Weber. The big defenseman said, "It's a terrible thing that happened. We lost a good man, a great teammate, a great friend." Weber added, "It's an extremely tough loss, a few of us were talking to him last week, so this one really hits home, it's just extremely sad to see."

Weber was just a kid breaking in back then and he got a lot of wisdom from Montador, "He was one of those guys, on the plane he'd grab you and tell you a million stories, help you out with anything, if you had family issues, whatever your problem was or even if you didn't have a problem, he was a guy that was a wealth of knowledge, an open book, he'd talk to you about any topic, he was extremely intelligent."

Montador seemed to be looking past his playing days. Weber said he actually went back to college, "When we were playing with him he was taking University classes, he was just a man that was constantly busy and was working to better himself and better the people around him."

Tyler Ennis spent his rookie season with Montador and made plans with him just three days before his death, "I just talked to him on Thursday, we were planning on going for dinner, he was coming to town, so it was pretty shocking, pretty sad, pretty devastating. He was great, he helped me along my rookie year, he was great for me. He was definitely a leader, he was a no nonsense guy, he was focused, he was prepared, he fought, he did it all and it's extremely sad."

Ennis said character was what Montador came to the rink with, "He was a great guy, funny, intense, a guy everyone would want on their team, so it's really sad and a shock throughout the league."

When talking about his former teammate, Matt Ellis just couldn't believe what's happened, "Words can't describe what has happened, but first and foremost he was a an unbelievable person, he could light up a room, the type of personality that made everyone welcome, made everyone feel a part of things, always upbeat, always had something to say, a great person and even a better teammate. He was the kind of guy that exemplified what being a pro was and I don't think he ever took a day of that for granted."

Both Weber and Ennis said Montador helped them as they broke into the NHL. Ellis said, "He was one of those guys that walked the walk, day in and day out with his habits, with the way he took care of himself, the way he lived his life he was a true professional."

Kaleta out 4-6 weeks

By: Steve Vesey

WIVB

February 16, 2015

BUFFALO, N.Y. (WIVB) - Sabres forward Patrick Kaleta will miss four-to-six weeks with a lower body injury requiring surgery, Sabres head coach Ted Nolan said Monday.

Injuries have plagued Kaleta the last few seasons, although this latest setback does not appear to be quite as serious as some of his other ailments.

"Somebody who plays as hard as he does and what this team means to him, this organization, this city. He wears everything on his sleeve, his heart's on his sleeve. When you play that way, sometimes certain things are going to break down," said Nolan.

Defenseman Josh Gorges will also not join the Sabres for their two-game road trip this week, but Nolan said the doctors have not given him a report on his status just yet.

Buffalo visits New Jersey Tuesday night, before taking on the Flyers in Philadelphia on Thursday.

Minor surgery will cause Kaleta to miss 4-6 weeks

By: Chris Ryndak

Sabres.com

February 16, 2015

While the Buffalo Sabres waiting to learn of Josh Gorges' prognosis from team doctors, forward Patrick Kaleta will miss four to six weeks after he undergoes minor surgery.

Kaleta did not play in Sunday's game against the Philadelphia Flyers due to a lower-body injury and on Monday, Sabres coach Ted Nolan told reporters that the rough and tumble, physical style Kaleta likes to play has led him to go under the knife to "clean up some mess."

Over the past four seasons, Kaleta has only played in 38 games over the past two seasons, missing most of that time due to injuries or suspensions.

"He wears everything on his sleeve. Boy, his heart's on his sleeve and when you play that way, sometimes certain things are going to break down," Nolan said. "But I do feel [for him]."

A CONSISTENT EFFORT

After a big trade on Wednesday, defenseman Mike Weber suddenly found himself among the longest-tenured players on the team.

Buffalo sent Drew Stafford and Tyler Myers to Winnipeg as part of the deal that brought in Evander Kane and Zach Bogosian. Both Myers and Stafford had previously served at various points in time as alternate captains for the Sabres.

With their departures and with Gorges also out with a lower-body injury, Nolan made Weber, a veteran of 287 NHL games, an alternate captain for the team's game Sunday night against the Flyers.

"It's a huge honor to play in this League. It's an even bigger honor to wear an extra letter on your sweater," Weber said Monday after practice at First Niagara Center. "I've always tried to bring the same game, same leadership my whole career, whether I was back five years ago or a healthy scratch for 20 straight.

"I've always tried to be the same guy in the locker room and obviously it was a huge honor last night to wear that letter for the boys."

Weber's play has been steady since he returned from minor knee surgery after Christmas. Nolan credited assistant Danny Flynn with putting Weber in situations where he may not be biting off more than he can chew.

Nolan also feels that Weber has brought consistency into the dressing room, being the same guy he's always been.

"He comes out and competes all the time," Nolan said. "I don't think I've seen anything more. I've just seen the consistent message from him coming all the time."

As far as his recent stretch of play goes, Weber gave credit to the various defensemen he's been paired with this year and their ability as a corps to adapt to differing styles.

"I feel like I've just been trying to stay as consistent as possible. We've been a team that's been so inconsistent over the last two, three seasons and a lot this season, it's been my main focus to just stay as consistent as possible and bring some stability.

STEPPING UP

The injury to Gorges, who hasn't skated since Tuesday, has also opened the door for Andre Benoit to play a bigger role with the team. He'd been a healthy scratch the past three games, but found himself on the top pair with Bogosian, playing 17:57.

They matched up mostly against Philadelphia's top players like Claude Giroux and Jakub Voracek.

"It was definitely fun to be able to contribute more," Benoit said. "Playing with Bogo, it's fun. He's a good player and it was a good challenge for us."

REMEMBERING STEVE MONTADOR

On Sunday, news broke that former Sabres defenseman Steve Montador passed away in his home in Mississauga, Ontario at the age of 35. Montador played in Buffalo from 2009-11 and recorded 49 points, 158 penalty minutes and a plus-16 rating in 151 games.

Weber remembers his old teammate being easy to talk to about virtually anything, describing him as a "wealthy of knowledge, an open book."

On the plane, he'd pull guys aside to tell stories or try to help them with any problems they may be facing. Weber also remembers that during his tenure with the Sabres, Montador was taking university classes and would start doing his homework right when they got on the plane after a game.

"He was a man who was constantly busy and always working to better himself and better the people around him," Weber said. "It's an extremely tough loss. There were a few of us that were just talking to him last week. This one really hits home."

Matt Ellis saw Montador set an example for many of the younger players on the team like Weber and Tyler Ennis.

"He was one of those guys that walked the walk. Day in and day out with his habits, the way he took care of himself, the way he would work out, the way he lived his life – he was a true professional," Ellis said. "He is one of those guys you look at and he kind of exemplifies what being a pro in the National Hockey League was all about."

MONDAY'S PRACTICE

80 Chris Stewart – 28 Zemgus Girgensons – 63 Tyler Ennis
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22 Johan Larsson – 37 Matt Ellis – 19 Cody Hodgson

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51 Nikita Zadorov – 55 Rasmus Ristolainen
6 Mike Weber – 41 Andrej Meszaros
24 Tyson Strachan

34 Michal Neuvirth
35 Anders Lindback

Did Not Skate: 4 Josh Gorges (lower-body injury), 36 Patrick Kaleta (lower-body injury)
Injured Reserve: 8 Cody McCormick (blood clots), 9 Evander Kane (shoulder)

Sabres prospects report

By: Kris Baker

Sabres.com

February 16, 2015

Notre Dame goaltender **Cal Petersen** continued his excellence Friday, stopping all 38 shots sent his way to pick up his third shutout of the year as Notre Dame skated to a 2-0 triumph over No. 10 Providence. The reigning Hockey East Defensive Player of the Week, Petersen was active all night, battling through traffic to see pucks and using his quickness to make a handful of show-stopping saves.

Petersen returned to the Fighting Irish crease on Saturday, making another 32 saves as Notre Dame dropped a 3-2 decision to the Friars. A tipped shot from the point beat Petersen at 5:16 of the second period to end the freshman's shutout streak at 137:53.

The starting netminder in 12 of Notre Dame's last 15 contests, Petersen has posted an 8-12-2 record with a 2.52 GAA and .913 save%.

WHL

Brycen Martin (2014, third round) earned one assist Sunday to extend his point streak to 11 games as Saskatoon got past Kootenay 5-4 in overtime. The top-pair defender collected five points (1+4) in the week's four games, in which the Blades won two, giving him a total of 20 (4+16) in 16 games since being traded to the Blades. He had previously posted 16 points in 39 games with Swift Current.

Sam Reinhart (2014, first round) scored a power-play goal Wednesday as Kootenay doubled up Medicine Hat 6-3. Reinhart, who logged a minus-three rating in Friday's 5-1 loss to Moose Jaw, capped the week Sunday with one assist in the overtime loss to Saskatoon. Reinhart has points in 27 of 32 games this season en route to collecting a total of 44 (13+31).

OHL

Justin Bailey (2013, second round) connected for his 31st goal of the year Wednesday and added an assist as Sault Ste. Marie toppled Sarnia 5-2. Bailey registered one assist Friday in a 7-1 win at Saginaw, and then another on Saturday as the Hounds pitched a 5-0 shutout of Plymouth. Bailey has points in three straight games and a total of 63 (31+32) in 51 contests with Kitchener and the Soo. The Greyhounds have won 14 of 16 contests since acquiring Bailey from the Rangers.

Sault Ste. Marie forward **Jean Dupuy** did not factor as the Greyhounds pushed their winning streak to three games with victories at Saginaw and Plymouth. Through 41 games, the gritty leader has posted career highs in goals (11), points (33) and a plus-29 rating.

After sitting out Wednesday's 6-3 loss to Guelph due to illness, Erie winger **Nicholas Baptiste** (2013, third round) saw his seven-game point streak snapped Friday as the Otters edged Owen Sound 4-3. The speedy winger was blanked Saturday for the second straight night in Erie's 5-4 overtime loss to the Attack. Baptiste has 20 goals and 41 points this season, including 30 (14+16) in 27 games since being dealt to Erie.

Eric Cornel (2014, second round) went without a point in losses to Kingston and Oshawa, but connected for a pair of assists Saturday as Peterborough was outgunned 7-5 by Belleville. The helpers give Cornel 43 points (13+30) through 51 games with the Petes.

QMJHL

Vaclav Karabacek (2014, second round) struck for a goal and two assists Thursday as Baie-Comeau lost to Moncton 6-5 in a shootout. The season-high three-point night gives him seven multi-point efforts this season. It was his first game with two or more points since December 5. Karabacek returned on Saturday with three shots on goal as Baie-Comeau was trounced 6-1 by Victoriaville, and finished the week with a minus-one rating in a 4-1 loss at Blainville-Boisbriand. The Czech winger has four goals and 10 points in 17 games since his January trade to the Drakkar, and season totals of 15 goals and 28 assists in 48 outings.

NCAA

Sean Malone (2013, sixth round) notched one goal and one assist Friday as No. 14 Harvard defeated Colgate 4-1. Malone played another up-tempo game on Saturday, producing three shots on goal in a 3-3 tie with Cornell. The speedy sophomore has collected nine points (4+5) in eight games with the Crimson.

In Friday action, **Hudson Fasching** notched one assist and a team-high five shots on goal as Minnesota cruised past No. 12 Michigan 6-2. Fasching duplicated the effort on Saturday, producing another one assist and five-shot effort as the Gophers earned the conference sweep with a 2-0 shutout of Michigan. The powerful winger now has 15 points (8+7) in 27 games.

Christian Isackson (2010, seventh round) combined for one shot on goal in the wins over Michigan, keeping his season totals at two goals and three assists in 28 contests.

Michigan winger **J.T. Compher** (2013, second round) came away empty over the weekend as the Wolverines were swept by Minnesota. The sophomore logged a career-low minus-four rating in a 6-2 loss on Friday, and contributed three shots on goal in Saturday's shutout defeat. The fiery competitor has gone without a point in five consecutive games for his longest dry spell since entering college. He currently ranks 10th in team scoring with 13 points (4+9) in 24 appearances.

Newly-acquired netminder **Jason Kasdorf** allowed three goals on 13 shots being getting pulled early in the second period Friday as RPI was defeated by Brown 6-3. Kasdorf got the nod again on Saturday, making 24 saves in a 4-1 loss to Yale. Kasdorf has lost six consecutive starts to slip to 9-15 on the year with a 3.06 GAA and .896 save%.

Connor Hurley (2013, second round) went without a point over the weekend as Notre Dame split a conference set with No. 10 Providence. The freshman center has one assist in his last 11 games, and a total of 12 points (3+9) in 31 collegiate contests.

Anthony Florentino (2013, fifth round) recorded a combined four shots on goal as No. 10 Providence went 1-1 in their series with Notre Dame. The sophomore defender has 11 points (2+9) in 29 appearances this season while co-leading the Friars' defensive corps with a plus-12 rating.

Providence defenseman **Mark Adams** (2009, fifth round) finished the series against Notre Dame with one shot on goal and a plus-one rating. In 23 games with the Friars, the fifth-year senior has three points (1+2) and 12 shots on goal.

Max Willman (2014, fifth round) was kept off the score sheet as Brown extended their winning streak to three with victories at RPI (6-3) and Union (1-0). Since scoring Brown's first goal of the season on October 31, Willman has recorded just one assist in his last 23 games.

Brad Navin (2011, seventh round) had two shots on goal Friday in Wisconsin's 2-1 loss at Ohio State, and sent another two shots on goal Saturday as the Badgers earned their first Big Ten conference victory of the season with a 3-2 triumph over the Buckeyes. The senior co-captain has one assist in his last 11 games.

Judd Peterson (2012, seventh round) was blanked in a 4-2 loss to Minnesota-Duluth on Friday. Peterson returned the next night with one shot on goal as the Huskies evened the weekend set with a 4-1 victory over the Bulldogs. The freshman winger has one point, a goal, in his last 11 games and a total of five (3+2) through his first 28 collegiate contests.

USHL

Christopher Brown (2014, sixth round) registered one assist and 12 PIM over the weekend as Green Bay dropped a pair of 3-2 decisions at Fargo. Brown has 30 points at the 40-game mark. The Boston College-commit has collected a team-best 13 goals on the year, but just one in his last 13 games.

Sweden

Linus Ullmark (2012, sixth round) was magnificent in stopping 37 of 38 shots Tuesday as MODO edged Djurgardens IF 2-1. The 21-year-old remained superb on Thursday, making 35 saves as overmatched MODO fell 3-2 to Vaxjo Lakers HC in a nine-round shootout. Ullmark allowed six goals Saturday, including five in the final 20 minutes as last-place MODO was belted by first-place Skelefftea AIK 6-1.

Gustav Possler (2013, fifth round) went without a point in the week's three games as MODO won once in three tries. The left-winger has 20 points (9+11) with just eight dates remaining on the regular-season schedule.

Victor Olofsson (2014, seventh round) scored his second goal since being loaned to Timra IK Saturday in a 2-0 win over HC Vita Hästen. In three contests with Timra, Olofsson has two goals and seven shots while enjoying big minutes on the team's top offensive unit.

Jonas Johansson (2014, third round) has been loaned from Brynas IF to Almtuna IS of HockeyAllsvenskan. On Tuesday, Johansson made 26 saves in a 4-2 victory over Sodertalje SK. He returned to work Saturday, stopping 21 of 23 shots in 3-2 win over Asploven HC. Through four starts with his new club, the 6-foot-4 goaltender has racked up a 2-2 record with a 2.57 GAA and .895 save%.