

THE COMMITTED

INDIAN

THE REAL FAN'S PROGRAM



secondcityhockey.com

April 12th, 2009

committedindian@gmail.com

NOW THAT ALL IS SAID AND DONE...

Note: Due to our printer's Easter closing, we had to print these on Friday. So with that, and the fact that we'd rather not talk about Scum any more than we have to, we decided to make this a Season Review Issue. It'll look a little different than what you're used to. All our regular contributors have chimed in with what they're feeling after this most amazing season. Don't worry, we'll be back to our normal form for Game 1 (or 3), full of dumbass observations, and you better believe we'll call someone "fuckwad" and "asshat".

Though we hate cliches, and even more so quoting The Grateful Dead, what a long, strange trip it's been, no? Well, it hasn't been that long, in fact it's flown by. That would be due to just how superlative the Hawks play has been for most of the season. When the puck dropped in October, we thought a 95-97 points season was to be expected, and probably somewhere around the sixth-seed in the conference. We also said that if everything went right, the Hawks could challenge for home-ice in the first round. Well, not only did they challenge for it, but they had to hit a major stumbling block to even make it a discussion.

Like Lane Staley, We Don't Know Anything

We looked back at our Teaser Issue to see what our biggest questions were heading into training camp. The first was obviously the goaltending. No where did we ever mention the possibility that Nikolai Khabibulin (or Nikolai Harvey Bird Man, as we're very tempted to call him now) would put forth a stellar season. We didn't see any indication that it was possible. Yeah, well, he did. Maybe it's the free agent year thing, maybe it's the personal insult he felt at being replaced and the attempted ship-out to Russia, but whatever it was, the spur he needed on his ass for the first three years as a Hawk finally arrived. The fact that he sits in touching distance of the top-five in save-percentage and goals-against says enough.

Huet turned out to be more solid than we thought. We surmised that Huet would not totally let you down, but wasn't a premier goaltender. He's proven to be, despite some hiccups, more than the former, and pretty much the latter.

Our other big question was the forward line, and in particular the hole -- that we saw then -- for a #2 center. We weren't sure Dave Bolland was up to the task, if not skills-wise than certainly physically, as he'd missed significant time in each of the last three years.

Biffed that one, too. Bolland missed only one game, and made that #2 center question become a #3 center question. When put between Havlat and Ladd, that line produced some of the best hockey around. Not only were they a force in the offensive zone, but they spent a fair share of time making other teams' top offensive threats look like The Gimp from Pulp Fiction. It was a unique trick. Bolland's RFA status this summer makes us urpy, he's proven far too much to be let go now.

Our other question was where would the scoring come from outside of Daydream Nation and The Sharp-Shooter. We scoffed at the idea of Kris Versteeg, and instead focused on Jack Skille. Whoopsie. VerStud has been a God-send, and even though the pace he set early in the year has slowed, he still shows vision and hands that don't come around that often. Thanks to his and Bolland's emergence, the Hawks could hurt you from three different lines. When was the last time you said that? Don't worry, get back to us. We'll wait.

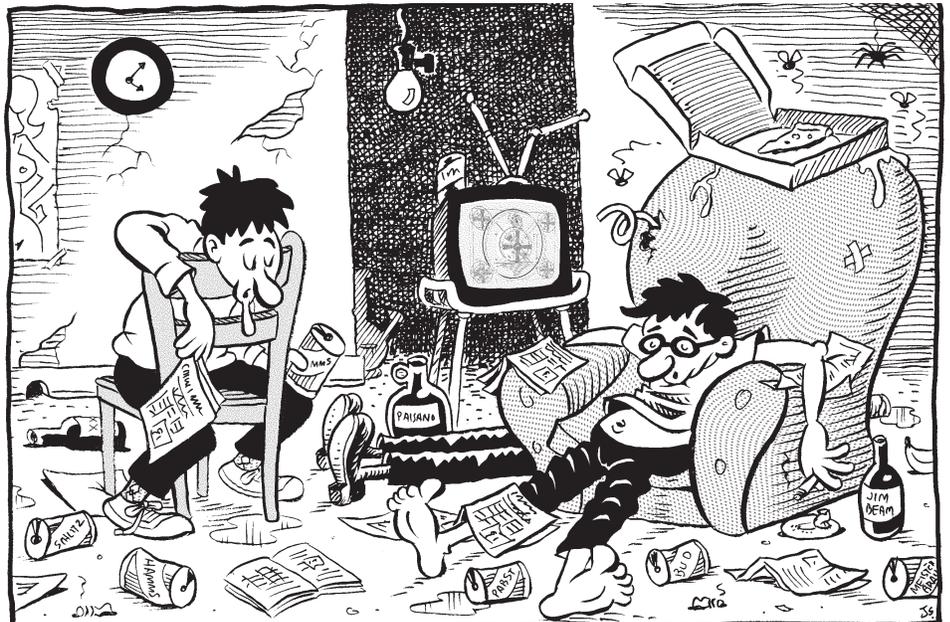
Also from that issue, we were terrified that Tallon would not have the flexibility to add a piece the Hawks would need, and were worried that Barker or even Seabrook would have to exit to make room. Well, both of them stayed. Though Pahlsson's true value will only be seen in the days (hopefully weeks)

to come, he's show flashes of that, and the Hawks merely had to lose their #5 d-man, at best.

Yesterday's Got Everything For Us

Looking ahead there are many questions, for the playoffs and this offseason. But that's for next week. Today is about recalling the most enjoyable Hawks season in at least seven years, maybe longer. There are too many moments we look back on and smile -- though some of that stems from surprise we can remember so many, due to our raging alcoholism.

The 6-1 demolition of the Flames in November when some of the Hawks passing was, for lack of a better term, cum-on-tits sweet. The first three games of the Circus trip, which had been a disaster in years past. December's March To The Sea. The Winter Classic, though the result definitely sucked. Walker pulverising Jovanovski's face. Jesus Martin Havlat reclaiming his status as one of the more electrifying players in the league. The win in San Jose. Captain Marvel emerging as an absolute force on both ends and willing his team to victory some nights. His hat trick. Havlat's OT winner vs. Anaheim. The gutted-out win over Carolina. The back-to-back barn-burners over the Sharks and Devils. The win over St. Louis that clinched the playoff berth. There's been so much, let's hope there's much more. -The Management



Committed Indian editors relax after completing their first season

FROM THE EDITOR

So, we survived. I guess I lose that bet. Anyway, this wraps up our first regular season as your unofficial waste of time but incredible toilet reading. The rest of this column will probably be totally sappy, and you'll probably feel an urge to call me a name that rhymes with "hag" when you're done reading it. I won't stop you.

When I contacted Mark Weinberg, the editor of The Blue Line, about exhuming something like it for this season, neither one of us was convinced that something like this could be done, or be successful again. Too many years had gone by, we didn't know what Hawks fans were like these days, and frankly we didn't know how quickly the United Center security would want to throw me in the back of a cop car. Thankfully, due to Mark's incredible support, and my overwhelming refusal to grow up and get a real job, we decided to press ahead. I'd like to take this moment to send a special thank you to Mark for being my counsel on this, I probably wouldn't have tried it if he didn't think I could do it. Still may need your legal advice some day soon, Mark.

I have been rewarded more than I could ever dream, and it's all thanks to you for blowing a small portion of your disposable income on this thing. It has been more fun than I thought it would be, which is saying something. I can't express how appreciative I, and the rest of my contributors, are that you've continued to support us this year, even when things looked a little bleak in November and December. It's been an experience and a half, and I'm jonesing to do the playoff issues, and may there be lots of them.

There have been so many rewarding parts to this job, and I hesitate to call it that, because it's hardly ever felt like work. Well, maybe that night against Buffalo in January when it was -10. Anyway, the most rewarding part has been meeting so many of you from my post outside Gate 3 on Madison.

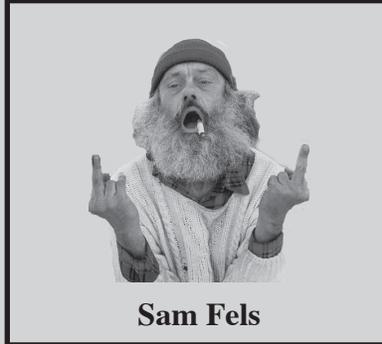
The pats on the back I've received and the compliments you all happily dish out so freely have made those nights never seem cold. Sure, what little money we've profited is fantastic, and doing the writing has been a blast. But it's those of you who feel the need to stop by and meet me or tell me how much you love this that's really been the special part. So thanks so much. Hmm, this is starting to sound like a resignation letter, which it most certainly isn't. We'll be here next year, and hopefully for many more, and I hope you will be, too.

For the second time in this space, I'd also like to send a shout-out, if I'm allowed to use that term, to Sean Gallagher in St. Louis, who writes *St. Louis Gametime*. He's been incredibly understanding

about the tons of ideas I've stolen from him, and generous enough to make me feel like less of a hack by stealing some of mine, but he hardly needed them. Nice to know there's someone out there who shares your dementia.

Anyway, for those I haven't met and chatted, or shared a beer with, I hope we will soon. And we'll see you Thursday night for Game 1 (hopefully).

-Some of you pointed out that in Wednesday's issue I forgot to label Scum their proper name in the standings. We've tried to make up for it on page 5 of this issue. Consider it our apology.



Sam Fels

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NHL STANDINGS

*as of 4/9

EASTERN CONFERENCE

WESTERN CONFERENCE

| | W | L | OTL | PTS | GF | GA | HOME | AWAY | | W | L | OTL | PTS | GF | GA | HOME | AWAY |
|-------------------------------|----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|---------|-----------------------------|----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------|---------|
| 1 <i>Boston</i> | 52 | 18 | 10 | 114 | 267 | 188 | 29-6-6 | 23-12-4 | 1 <i>San Jose</i> | 53 | 17 | 11 | 117 | 254 | 200 | 32-5-4 | 21-12-7 |
| 2 <i>Washington</i> | 50 | 23 | 8 | 108 | 268 | 238 | 29-9-3 | 21-14-5 | 2 <i>Jizz Stains</i> | 51 | 19 | 10 | 112 | 293 | 237 | 27-8-5 | 24-11-5 |
| 3 <i>New Jersey</i> | 50 | 27 | 4 | 104 | 241 | 207 | 27-12-1 | 23-15-3 | 3 <i>Vancouver</i> | 44 | 27 | 10 | 98 | 245 | 220 | 24-12-5 | 20-15-5 |
| 4 <i>Philadelphia</i> | 43 | 26 | 11 | 97 | 258 | 232 | 24-12-4 | 19-14-7 | 4 <i>HAWKS</i> | 44 | 24 | 12 | 100 | 257 | 214 | 23-9-8 | 21-15-4 |
| 5 <i>Carolina</i> | 45 | 29 | 7 | 97 | 237 | 223 | 26-14-1 | 19-15-6 | 5 <i>Calgary</i> | 45 | 29 | 6 | 96 | 249 | 242 | 26-10-4 | 19-19-2 |
| 6 <i>Pittsburgh</i> | 44 | 28 | 9 | 97 | 261 | 238 | 25-13-3 | 19-15-6 | 6 <i>Columbus</i> | 41 | 29 | 10 | 92 | 222 | 221 | 25-12-3 | 16-17-7 |
| 7 <i>NY Rangers</i> | 42 | 30 | 9 | 93 | 206 | 215 | 26-11-4 | 16-19-5 | 7 <i>Anaheim</i> | 41 | 33 | 6 | 88 | 237 | 230 | 19-18-3 | 22-15-3 |
| 8 <i>Montreal</i> | 41 | 29 | 11 | 93 | 248 | 244 | 24-9-7 | 17-20-4 | 8 <i>St. Louis</i> | 39 | 31 | 10 | 88 | 229 | 232 | 22-13-5 | 17-18-5 |
| 9 <i>Florida</i> | 40 | 30 | 11 | 91 | 227 | 227 | 21-12-7 | 19-18-4 | 9 <i>Nashville</i> | 40 | 33 | 8 | 88 | 209 | 225 | 24-13-4 | 16-20-4 |
| 10 <i>Buffalo</i> | 40 | 32 | 9 | 89 | 244 | 233 | 22-15-3 | 18-17-6 | 10 <i>Minnesota</i> | 38 | 33 | 9 | 85 | 205 | 193 | 22-11-7 | 16-22-2 |
| 11 <i>Ottawa</i> | 36 | 34 | 11 | 83 | 215 | 232 | 22-12-7 | 14-22-4 | 11 <i>Edmonton</i> | 37 | 34 | 9 | 83 | 228 | 243 | 17-17-6 | 20-17-3 |
| 12 <i>Toronto</i> | 33 | 35 | 13 | 79 | 245 | 291 | 15-16-9 | 18-19-4 | 12 <i>Dallas</i> | 36 | 35 | 10 | 82 | 227 | 253 | 20-16-5 | 16-19-5 |
| 13 <i>Atlanta</i> | 34 | 41 | 6 | 74 | 251 | 278 | 17-21-2 | 17-20-4 | 13 <i>Phoenix</i> | 35 | 39 | 7 | 77 | 203 | 248 | 22-15-3 | 13-24-4 |
| 14 <i>Tampa Bay</i> | 24 | 39 | 18 | 66 | 208 | 273 | 12-18-11 | 12-21-7 | 14 <i>L.A.</i> | 33 | 37 | 11 | 77 | 203 | 231 | 17-15-8 | 16-22-3 |
| 15 <i>NY Islanders</i> | 26 | 45 | 9 | 61 | 197 | 270 | 17-16-6 | 9-29-3 | 15 <i>Colorado</i> | 32 | 44 | 4 | 68 | 199 | 255 | 18-20-1 | 14-24-3 |

teams that have clinched playoff berth in italics
teams that have clinched division in bold italics

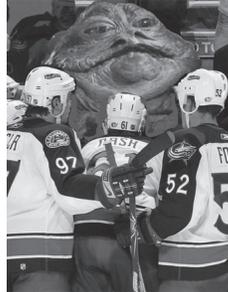
TOP 10 SPOTLIGHT PICS OF THE SEASON



Tim Connolly



Jarome "Iggy" Iginla



Ken Hitchcock



Nikolai Zherdev



Brett Hull



Mikko "Suave" Koivu



Joe Sakic



Mark Streit



Alex Burrows & Ryan Kesler



T.J. "O-ren" Oshie

THIRD RAIL
TAVERN

puttin on the Foil

1133 W. Madison Street, Chicago

CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS 44-24-12

as of 4/9

We're not quite sure what to make of it, but according to the Behind The Net numbers, Brouwer is the Hawks 2nd most valuable power play player, and its best on the penalty kill. Yes, he blows chance after chance, but he helps create and prevent more by getting dirty and working.

It's time to get behind everyone, so here's your nickname back.

We ask again, Q, why?

| # | Pos | Player | Ht | WT | AGE | GP | G | A | P | +/- | PIM | PP | SH | GW | S | S% | Salary (Cap Hit) |
|----------|------------------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|----|------------|------------|----|-----|---------------|-----------|-----------|----|---------------|-------------|---------------------|
| 24 | R | The Perfect Beard | 6' 2" | 217 | 27 | 79 | 29 | 45 | 74 | 26 | 30 | 5 | 0 | 5 | 245 | 11.8 | \$6,000,000 |
| 88 | R | Patrick Kane | 5' 10" | 187 | 20 | 78 | 25 | 44 | 69 | -4 | 42 | 13 | 0 | 4 | 253 | 9.9 | \$3,725,000 |
| 19 | C | Captain Marvel | 6' 2" | 209 | 20 | 80 | 33 | 35 | 68 | 10 | 51 | 12 | 0 | 7 | 190 | 17.4 | \$2,800,000 |
| 32 | L | VerStud | 5' 10" | 180 | 22 | 77 | 22 | 30 | 52 | 15 | 55 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 138 | 15.9 | \$491,667 |
| 51 | D | 51 Phantom | 6' 0" | 188 | 29 | 80 | 7 | 42 | 49 | 2 | 22 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 107 | 6.5 | \$7,142,875 |
| 36 | C | Dave Bolland | 6' 0" | 188 | 22 | 79 | 18 | 28 | 46 | 19 | 48 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 108 | 16.7 | \$845,833 |
| 16 | L | Andrew Ladd | 6' 2" | 198 | 23 | 80 | 13 | 33 | 46 | 23 | 28 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 189 | 6.9 | \$1,550,000 |
| 10 | L | The Sharp-Shooter | 6' 1" | 197 | 27 | 61 | 26 | 18 | 44 | 6 | 41 | 9 | 0 | 4 | 184 | 14.1 | \$3,900,000 |
| 2 | D | Duncan Keith | 6' 1" | 194 | 25 | 76 | 8 | 36 | 44 | 32 | 60 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 171 | 4.7 | \$1,475,000 |
| 25 | D | Cam Barker | 6' 3" | 213 | 22 | 66 | 6 | 34 | 40 | -5 | 65 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 96 | 6.3 | \$2,768,587 |
| 33 | R | Dustin Byfuglien | 6' 3" | 247 | 23 | 75 | 14 | 15 | 29 | 5 | 79 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 195 | 7.2 | \$3,000,000 |
| 22 | R | Troy Brouwer | 6' 2" | 213 | 23 | 67 | 10 | 16 | 26 | 8 | 50 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 126 | 7.9 | \$675,000 |
| 7 | D | Brent Seabrook | 6' 3" | 220 | 23 | 80 | 8 | 16 | 24 | 21 | 62 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 129 | 6.2 | \$3,500,000 |
| 26 | C | Samuel Pahlsson | 6' 0" | 204 | 31 | 64 | 7 | 11 | 18 | -18 | 34 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 88 | 8 | \$301,000 |
| 46 | C | Colin Fraser | 6' 1" | 188 | 23 | 79 | 6 | 11 | 17 | 3 | 55 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 66 | 9.1 | \$500,000 |
| 55 | L | Ben Eager | 6' 2" | 220 | 24 | 73 | 10 | 4 | 14 | 1 | 161 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 75 | 13.3 | \$568,000 |
| 8 | D | Matt Walker | 6' 3" | 214 | 28 | 63 | 1 | 13 | 14 | 8 | 77 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 83 | 1.2 | \$600,000 |
| 37 | R | Adam Burish | 6' 1" | 189 | 26 | 64 | 6 | 3 | 9 | 3 | 89 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 80 | 7.5 | \$712,500 |
| 23 | D | Aaron Johnson | 6' 1" | 211 | 25 | 36 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 18 | 33 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 27 | 11.1 | \$600,000 |
| 5 | D | Brent Sopel | 6' 1" | 211 | 32 | 23 | 1 | 1 | 2 | -4 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 15 | 6.7 | \$2,333,333 |
| 4 | D | Hammer | 6' 2" | 200 | 21 | 19 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 13 | 0 | \$643,000 |
| *injured | Totals/Averages | | 6' 1" | 202.5 | 24.4 | | 253 | 442 | | | 14.3/g | 69 | 10 | | 32.9/g | 9.6% | \$44,607,000 |

Pretty impressive considering he gets left out to dry so much, though maybe he should have taken one when the puck eluded him at the line on Wednesday, leading to the Jackets 2nd goal.

| # | Goalie | HT | WT | AGE | GPI | Min | GAA | W | L | OT | SO | SA | GA | Sv% | G | A | PIM | Salary |
|----|------------------------|--------------|------------|-----------|-----|------|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|---------------|------------|--------------|----------|----------|-----------|---------------------|
| 39 | Nikolai Khabibulin | 6' 1" | 209 | 36 | 41 | 2407 | 2.39 | 24 | 8 | 7 | 2 | 1155 | 96 | .917 | 0 | 2 | 8 | \$6,750,000 |
| 38 | Cristobal Huet | 6' 1" | 205 | 33 | 40 | 2291 | 2.54 | 19 | 15 | 4 | 3 | 1064 | 97 | .909 | 0 | 0 | 2 | \$5,625,000 |
| | Totals/Averages | 6' 1" | 207 | 35 | | | 2.59 | 44 | 24 | 12 | 5 | 28.6/g | 207 | 0.909 | 0 | 2 | 10 | \$12,375,000 |

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| TOTAL CAP NUMBER: | \$57,283,000 |
| CAP SPACE: | \$274,000* |

*space also affected by buyouts and injured players

Probable Lines

| Left Wing | Center | Right Wing |
|------------|-------------|--------------|
| 24 Havlat | 19 Toews | 88 Kane |
| 22 Brouwer | 36 Bolland | 32 Versteeg |
| 16 Ladd | 26 Pahlsson | 33 Byfuglien |
| 37 Burish | 46 Fraser | 55 Eager |

Probable Pairings

| | |
|-------------|---------------|
| 2 Keith | 7 Seabrook |
| 51 Campbell | 4 Hjalmarsson |
| 8 Walker | 25 Barker |

Injury List

Brent Sopel- Out (Talent)
Patrick Sharp- Questionable (Knee)

COMMITTED INDIAN T-SHIRTS....

SCUM 51-19-10

as of 4/9

It's a measure of how good everyone else is on this team that they can carry around the anchor that is this aged cocksucker. He's simply awful. He's their only player with a negative Corsi, is by far the worst PK'er they have, and they are 3 goals worse for every 60 minutes he plays. Oh, he wins draws? You know who else does? EVERY FUCKING ONE ELSE ON THIS TEAM!

We're still figuring out exactly what they mean, but Scum's collection of five players with 20+ in Corsi is awfully imposing.

| # | Pos | Player | Ht | WT | AGE | GP | G | A | P | +/- | PIM | PP | SH | GW | S | S% | Salary (Cap Hit) |
|-----------|------------------------|------------------------------|-------|-------|------|----|-----|-----|----|-----|--------|----|----|----|--------|------|------------------|
| 13 | C | <i>Ding Fries Are Done!</i> | 5-11 | 185 | 30 | 79 | 32 | 65 | 97 | 37 | 22 | 11 | 1 | 3 | 243 | 13.2 | \$6,700,000 |
| 40 | C | <i>Queer</i> | 6-0 | 190 | 28 | 75 | 30 | 42 | 72 | 15 | 36 | 12 | 2 | 5 | 305 | 9.8 | \$2,900,000 |
| 81 | R | <i>Front Runner</i> | 6-1 | 210 | 29 | 74 | 40 | 31 | 71 | 27 | 63 | 10 | 0 | 8 | 307 | 13 | \$7,450,000 |
| 93 | L | <i>Mule Cock</i> | 6-2 | 210 | 29 | 69 | 34 | 25 | 59 | 23 | 42 | 11 | 1 | 8 | 240 | 14.2 | \$1,150,000 |
| 5 | D | <i>Jerk Ass</i> | 6-1 | 190 | 38 | 77 | 16 | 43 | 59 | 33 | 28 | 10 | 0 | 4 | 179 | 8.9 | \$7,450,000 |
| 28 | D | <i>Moron</i> | 5-10 | 195 | 35 | 76 | 10 | 48 | 58 | 20 | 20 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 136 | 7.4 | \$6,000,000 |
| 26 | L | <i>Faggy McFagFag</i> | 5-9 | 178 | 24 | 80 | 23 | 33 | 56 | 7 | 16 | 6 | 0 | 2 | 149 | 15.4 | \$1,150,000 |
| 55 | D | <i>Doofus</i> | 6-0 | 185 | 27 | 78 | 6 | 45 | 51 | 3 | 48 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 112 | 5.4 | \$3,000,000 |
| 37 | R | <i>Queer 2</i> | 6-2 | 211 | 32 | 79 | 19 | 21 | 40 | 1 | 50 | 7 | 0 | 1 | 249 | 7.6 | \$1,200,000 |
| 51 | C | <i>Fuckwad</i> | 5-11 | 202 | 24 | 78 | 11 | 28 | 39 | 9 | 38 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 124 | 8.9 | \$2,000,000 |
| 11 | R | <i>Drunk</i> | 6-0 | 211 | 30 | 72 | 14 | 25 | 39 | 2 | 46 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 161 | 8.7 | \$2,500,000 |
| 96 | R | <i>Donkey</i> | 5-11 | 185 | 35 | 51 | 14 | 23 | 37 | 21 | 38 | 8 | 0 | 1 | 71 | 19.7 | \$2,250,000 |
| 82 | L | <i>Whatever</i> | 6-3 | 205 | 26 | 77 | 6 | 13 | 19 | -7 | 46 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 108 | 5.6 | \$525,000 |
| 33 | C | <i>Maltby's Cum Dumpster</i> | 5-10 | 190 | 37 | 79 | 7 | 10 | 17 | -13 | 40 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 93 | 7.5 | \$1,850,000 |
| 22 | D | <i>Ass Butt</i> | 5-10 | 195 | 26 | 63 | 6 | 10 | 16 | 9 | 46 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 69 | 8.7 | \$650,000 |
| 23 | D | <i>Douchebag 1</i> | 6-2 | 220 | 29 | 65 | 2 | 13 | 15 | -2 | 26 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 103 | 1.9 | \$3,750,000 |
| 3 | D | <i>Pussy</i> | 6-3 | 228 | 33 | 60 | 2 | 11 | 13 | 13 | 66 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 60 | 3.3 | \$1,250,000 |
| 18 | R | <i>Draper's Cum Dumpster</i> | 6-0 | 190 | 36 | 76 | 5 | 6 | 11 | -9 | 28 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 58 | 8.6 | \$950,000 |
| 14 | D | <i>Future Cocksucker</i> | 5-11 | 185 | 24 | 39 | 2 | 5 | 7 | -12 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 44 | 4.5 | \$475,000 |
| 52 | D | <i>Who?</i> | 6-4 | 206 | 25 | 17 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 13 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 24 | 4.2 | \$203,000 |
| 43 | C | <i>Future Asshat</i> | 5-11 | 172 | 22 | 16 | 0 | 1 | 1 | -7 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 29 | 0 | \$103,000 |
| 24 | D | <i>Judas</i> | 6-1 | 190 | 46 | 26 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 18 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 14 | 0 | \$750,000 |
| * injured | Totals/Averages | | 6' 0" | 198.3 | 31.1 | | 287 | 506 | | | 10.1/g | 89 | 5 | | 36.3/g | 9.8% | \$45,142,000 |

Maybe we'll regret saying this, but this is your playoff starter? Okay...

| # | Goalie | HT | WT | AGE | GPI | Min | GAA | W | L | OT | SO | SA | GA | Sv% | G | A | PIM | Salary |
|------------------------|---------------------|------|-----|-----|-----|------|------|----|----|----|----|--------|-----|-------|---|---|-----|-------------|
| 30 | <i>Chris Osgood</i> | 5-10 | 178 | 36 | 45 | 2603 | 3.09 | 26 | 8 | 8 | 2 | 1185 | 134 | 0.887 | 0 | 2 | 8 | \$1,417,000 |
| 29 | <i>Ty Conklin</i> | 6-0 | 184 | 33 | 39 | 2186 | 2.5 | 25 | 10 | 2 | 6 | 1008 | 91 | 0.91 | 0 | 0 | 4 | \$750,000 |
| Totals/Averages | | 5-11 | 181 | 34 | | | 2.91 | 51 | 19 | 10 | 8 | 27.8/g | 233 | .897 | 0 | 2 | 12 | \$1,078,000 |

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| TOTAL CAP NUMBER: | \$57,436,000 |
| CAP SPACE: | \$1,107,000 |

*space also affected by buyouts and injured players

Probable Lines

| Left Wing | Center | Right Wing |
|---------------|---------------|------------|
| 96 Holmstrom | 13 Datsyuk | 81 Hossa |
| 93 Franzen | 40 Zetterberg | 11 Cleary |
| 37 Samuelsson | 51 Filppula | 26 Hudler |
| 18 Maltby | 33 Draper | 82 Kopecky |

Probable Pairings

| | |
|-------------|-------------|
| 5 Lindstrom | 28 Rafalski |
| 23 Stuart | 55 Kronwall |
| 52 Ericsson | 24 Judas |

Injury List

Andreas Lilja- Out (Concussion)

...COMING SOON. CHECK SECOND CITY HOCKEY.COM FOR DETAILS

For the past couple weeks, we've been running our favorite Page 6's of the year. With today being the last regular season issue, we thought we'd run our favorite.

THE EDDIE 'O' TALKING DOLL!

NOW ALL YOUR FAVORITE OLCZYK SAYINGS CAN BE HEARD IN EVERY PART OF YOUR LIFE!





The Fight Card



FIGHTS OF THE YEAR

Fight Stats provided by Hockeyfights.com

| GAME | FIGHT | TIME | Bloody Nose | Black Eye | Bruised Ego | Just Dancing | Analysis |
|----------|-----------------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|-----------------|--|
| 3-29-09 | Eager v. Biekša | 3rd. 5:50 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | During Burish-inspired melee, Eager drops Biekša with a left hook that leaves him bloodied and half-naked, like us at the bar. |
| 1-6-09 | Walker vs. Jovanovski | 3rd. 10:28 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | Technically not a fight, but only because Walker flattens Jovo-fraud before he can get his gloves off. Gretzky and Yotes' fans have first recorded simultaneous period among 14,000 people |
| 11-14-08 | Buff vs. Tkachuk | 1st. 11:18 | | ✓ | ✓ | | Buff puts geriatric on his ass and then lands a big left and right, putting serious hamper on Tkachuk's dentures. |
| 12-7-08 | Versteeg v. Turrís | 3rd. 19:58 | | ✓ | ✓ | | Great for comedic element as well. Turrís starts this, which Gretz conveniently forgets, and VerStud lands two huge rights, leading to more bleeding Gretzky vagina. |
| 11-14-08 | Seabrook v. Woywitka | 1st. 10:45 | | ✓ | ✓ | | We'd forgotten this one, but Seabrook really pounded the living shit out of the St. Louis pansy, which is kind of redundant. |

Power Play

| Team | Opp | PPG | PP% | Team | OPP | PPG | PP% |
|------------|------------|-----------|-------------|------|-----|-----|------|
| DET | 346 | 89 | 25.7 | TOR | 326 | 62 | 19.0 |
| WSH | 334 | 84 | 25.2 | VAN | 355 | 67 | 18.9 |
| SJS | 354 | 84 | 23.7 | CAR | 370 | 68 | 18.4 |
| BOS | 305 | 71 | 23.3 | TBL | 338 | 60 | 17.8 |
| ANA | 301 | 70 | 23.3 | PIT | 355 | 62 | 17.5 |
| PHI | 310 | 68 | 21.9 | CGY | 352 | 61 | 17.3 |
| BUF | 355 | 74 | 20.8 | NYI | 314 | 54 | 17.2 |
| STL | 343 | 70 | 20.4 | EDM | 349 | 59 | 16.9 |
| MIN | 317 | 62 | 19.6 | FLA | 307 | 50 | 16.3 |
| MTL | 371 | 72 | 19.4 | COL | 313 | 50 | 16.0 |
| CHI | 356 | 69 | 19.4 | NSH | 314 | 49 | 15.6 |
| OTT | 336 | 65 | 19.4 | DAL | 347 | 53 | 15.3 |
| NJD | 302 | 58 | 19.2 | PHX | 338 | 48 | 14.2 |
| LAK | 355 | 68 | 19.2 | NYR | 342 | 47 | 13.7 |
| ATL | 350 | 67 | 19.1 | CBJ | 319 | 41 | 12.8 |

Penalty Kill

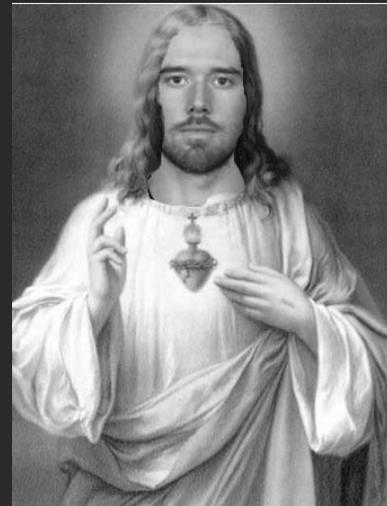
| Team | TS | PPGA | PK% | Team | TS | PPGA | PK% |
|------|-----|------|------|------------|------------|-----------|-------------|
| NYR | 326 | 39 | 88.0 | OTT | 342 | 64 | 81.3 |
| MIN | 284 | 35 | 87.7 | WSH | 386 | 74 | 80.8 |
| STL | 354 | 58 | 83.6 | NYI | 354 | 69 | 80.5 |
| CGY | 344 | 57 | 83.4 | CHI | 323 | 63 | 80.5 |
| LAK | 356 | 59 | 83.4 | NJD | 320 | 63 | 80.3 |
| SJS | 301 | 50 | 83.4 | CAR | 296 | 59 | 80.1 |
| NSH | 333 | 56 | 83.2 | ANA | 375 | 75 | 80.0 |
| PHI | 386 | 66 | 82.9 | COL | 314 | 64 | 79.6 |
| FLA | 308 | 53 | 82.8 | DAL | 323 | 70 | 78.3 |
| PIT | 344 | 60 | 82.6 | TBL | 398 | 87 | 78.1 |
| CBJ | 334 | 59 | 82.3 | DET | 320 | 70 | 78.1 |
| BOS | 300 | 53 | 82.3 | PHX | 289 | 65 | 77.5 |
| MTL | 365 | 65 | 82.2 | EDM | 332 | 76 | 77.1 |
| BUF | 332 | 60 | 81.9 | ATL | 361 | 87 | 75.9 |
| VAN | 369 | 69 | 81.3 | TOR | 305 | 77 | 74.8 |

Player of The Year

Duncan "The Flash" Keith



Runner Up: Jesus Havlat Christ



We went back and forth on this one, and these weren't the only two candidates. Captain Marvel has been everything you could ask of the youngest captain in the league. Nikolai HarveyBirdMan has been better in net than any of could have imagined. VerStud came out of nowhere to provide scoring threats on three lines. Dave Bolland made our fears over a #2 center become fears over a #3 center. All of these were critical components to this season. But it came down to these two. Though Havlat since Dec. 3rd vs. Anaheim has been other-wordly (signhimnowsignhimnowsignhimnow), we awarded Keith our Player of The Year based on this observation: There were games when Havlat was still in mutant-form, but the Hawks lost. Whenever Keith was bad, the Hawks lost. When he was good, they won. When he missed games in January due to a concussion, the Hawks dropped all of them. When he suffered a dip in form in March, the Hawks had their worst stretch of the season. It became obvious that the straw that stirred the drink was the shaggy, wiry d-man from Manitoba.

Keith is the only Hawk who could, and should, be a finalist for a major year-end award -- The Norris. Versteeg will be beat out in the Calder race by Ryan, Mason, and possibly Rinne from Nashville, and all three of those players will be much more important to their teams in the years to come. Keith won't be exiting the Norris discussion any time soon. Even after his blip in March, he still ranks 3rd amongst all blue-liners in Plus-Minus at +32, and has put up 40+ points from the backend without getting regular power play time. When he was on, the Hawks PK was lights-out. We'll need him to be again. We love Jesus Havlat, but Keith has proven to be the most important Hawks player.

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The Other Brother

by Adam Fels

Hey look at me, I'm Steve Rosenbloom....

End of year. So instead of one big pile, little piles with bullet points.

* I think I want Vancouver more than I want Calgary in the first round. That might seem kind of daft seeing as how Vancouver destroyed us last time we played and we were perfect against Keenan's crew. But Kip-prusoff has a tendency to rev it up in the post season and I mean, who do you want to see across from you on the other side of the ice come big boy time, Jerome Iginla or the other Sedin twin? Thought so.

* I might be the only person who thinks this but I simply do not care: I actually like "Chelsea Dagger" by the Fratellis as a goal song. It's loud and energetic and when the people are clapping in unison it can be quite intense too. Some people have a problem with the song being Amstel Light's song. I don't know what to say to that. Other people really preferred AC/DC's "Shook me all night long". And while I love AC/DC, don't you find this song a tad old? I applaud Blackhawk management for living in the now. Us holding on to "Shook me All night long" is like Bulls holding on to that fucking Alan Parsons opening. ALAN FUCK-ING PARSONS people. He was dead back in the 70's when he recorded the song. You can imagine how it plays now.

* While we're on the subject of music, congrats to The Edge, Larry Mullen and Adam Clayton for putting the rest of the band back into U2 again. U2 is the signature band of my generation and while I didn't want to write them off, it was getting hard to see the love of that band in the shadow of the lead singer's self-importance. To me the Edge was always the center of the band and that they were at their best when they "stumble" onto some sweet grooves and sounds and got lost in those sounds. "Unforgettable Fire" is where it kind of started. Joshua Tree and Achtung Baby are prime examples. This latest album is right behind those and while I won't be shelling out for their Soldier Field show, it's good to have U2 back.

* How awesome is Marty Havlat? Did you know he could play defense? I did not know he could play defense. But he plays excellent D. And he's eating up any "Discounted price" on a renewed contract. I mean he was at 6. He's definitely worth 5, maybe a little more. What are we really going to do with the saved 400,000 dollars? It's probably just

smoother to give #24 his old contract (maybe better health incentives) and find other ways to trim the fat. Of course it's probably going to take something good (IE Sharp, Barker...) to help get rid of something bad (Byfuglien, just Byfuglien...).

* How many points do you think Q got us this year? Hawks are at 100 points. How many do you think the Hawks get with Savard? My guess is 10 to 15 points, based on the Hawks being more disciplined and never wavering through the highs and lows. So 10 to 15 points, which is the playoffs. Hard to argue with that.

* This might piss some people off and might make me sound elitest. It is not intended as that as all. But can Hawk fans who call talk radio be a little more intelligent? Quit threatening to beat up the hosts, quit getting so upset when talk show hosts dump on hockey about fighting. The best way to get rid of these ridiculous stereotypes is to not act like a neanderthal when you're on WGN, WSCR, WMVP...

* Is anyone surprised that the next outdoor game is at Fenway? When did we figure this out? I don't know, maybe the day after the Wrigley Field worked. I'll be happy to be on the couch next Jan. 1

* Now that we have the ice crew does anyone really give a damn about the hot chick shooting the puck?

* Favorite game this year: Jan.31st against the Sharks

* Least favorite game: Maybe the Winter Classic. As an experience it was fantastic, but blowing leads and just looking out classed.

* Most important game of the year: April 15th. Hopefully against the Vancouver Canucks. Go Hawks!!!

Adam Fels lives in New York, after a youth spent in the standing room of the Old Stadium, where he raised his younger brother into a real piece of shit, but an entertaining piece of shit. He works in advertising and patiently waits for the call to come that is his brother asking for bail.

GAMES OF THE YEAR

Jan 31st, 2009: Hawks 4, Sharks 2

The signature performance of the season. Hawks walk into the building of the best team in hockey and proceed to out-Shark them. Captain Marvel leads the way with two goals.

March 27th, 2009: Devils 2, Hawks 3 (OT)

Perhaps the most competitive game of the season, with tension and passion through the roof. Seabrook beats Brodeur from 60 feet to win it.

Nov. 12th, 2008: Bruins 2, Hawks 1 (SO)

Though Hawks come up short, this one contained everything you could ask for between two O6 teams. Hitting, chances, big saves, it had everything.

Dec. 19th, 2008: Hawks 3, Flames 2 (OT)

Another game with everything, chances for both teams, some solid physical play between two second-tier Western Conference powers. Keith wins it in OT after Captain Marvel undresses the criminally-overrated Phaneuf.

The Fifth Feather

Through the course of an 82-game NHL season, the difference between making the playoffs and heading to the golf course in early spring is tiny. Last year, the Blackhawks mustered 88 points. The eighth seed of the Western Conference, Nashville, had 91. If the outcome of five games were different, the Hawks would have found themselves playing meaningful hockey in April. If only the Hawks decided to play defense against Edmonton in a 6-5 overtime loss down the stretch or if Denis Savard tapped someone other than Cam Barker in a must-score shootout opportunity against Colorado, things may have been a bit different.

With that said, the biggest reasons the Hawks find themselves in the position they are in this year can be found in five games: ten points the Hawks acquired that have them in fourth place of the Western Conference rather than tenth.

What makes them more important than the rest? Well, the answer is multiple. Anyone can tallywack the Phoenix Coyotes and Dallas Stars eight times a year, but the ten points acquired in the following games were instrumental in defining this team and their position in the standings. Without further ado, here are the five most important wins of the 2008-'09 regular season.

5. November 18th, Blackhawks

3, Coyotes 2 (Shootout) -- The two points weren't as important as what happened in this one. At the beginning of the second period, Patrick Sharp and Patrick Kane each took a lazy penalty.

In his twelfth game behind the Hawk bench, Joel Quenneville clearly had seen enough, promptly benching Sharp and Kane for the remainder of the period. The Hawks went on to win, and even if it was already there, respect for Coach Q was demanded in the dressing room. It also set the tone for one of the most successful Thanksgiving trips since Mike Keenan waxed his mustache in the Stadium's basement.

What Fifth Feather said at the time: "With the game on his stick [during the shootout], Peter Mueller put it right in the glove of Khabibulin. With that, the Hawks had their second shootout win of the year and their first win on the road trip that will save all of humanity."

4. March 11th, Blackhawks 3, Hurricanes 2 (Shootout) -- Perhaps the biggest key to any season is limiting losing streaks and collecting valuable points during the bad times. In hindsight, these were two enormous points because without them, the Hawks would have had an eight-game losing streak late in the season. Patrick Kane, Jonathan Toews and Kris Versteeg each beat Cam Ward in the shootout after Dave Bolland blew a tire with twenty seconds left in regulation to give ex-Hawk Tuomo Ruutu the tying goal.

What Fifth Feather said at the time: "When the NHL first came up with a 4-on-4 overtime concept a few years ago, this was the type of action they expected. From the drop of the puck, there were glorious chances at both ends. Kane was denied on another semi-breakaway. Just a minute earlier, he hit the crossbar on a rebound attempt. Carolina's Eric Staal was brushbacked on a wraparound attempt and then

later on a breakaway as time expired."

3. February 19th, Blackhawks 4, Panthers 0 -- On the surface, this game doesn't look very special. What fans forget about this one is that it was a 1-0 game for 50 minutes. Moreover, the Panthers were one of the hottest teams in the league at that point. In a stretch of 21 games, this was only Florida's fifth loss in regulation. On the other side of the proverbial coin, the Hawks were in the midst of playing 12 of 14 games on the road. Games like this were landmines for 'Hawk teams of the past, usually resulting in thrashings that sent us into therapy.

What Fifth Feather said at the time: "After 40 tight minutes, the game came down to the third period, and the Hawks dominated the frame for the second straight game. Just as they did up the road in Tampa Bay on Tuesday, the Hawks took control with 19 third period shots and three goals."

2. November 22nd, Blackhawks 5, Maple Leafs 4 (OT) -- On Hockey Night in Canada and the evening of Wendel Clark's retirement ceremony, the Leafs came out to do some harm. (This was obviously before they decided to pack it in and actually gave a damn.) They led 3-0 halfway through and 4-2 heading into the third period.

The Hawks looked like they wanted no part of this one and very easily, could have given up. Twenty minutes later, it was tied and Dave Bolland finished it off with a wrap-around in overtime for two points.

What Fifth Feather said at the time (in a running journal): "Two points in Toronto! They come back from down three to win in OT. Unbelievable!"

1. January 31st, Blackhawks 4, Sharks 2 -- The San Jose Sharks have only lost four games at home in regulation this year. This was one of them. Had the Hawks not had a goal taken off the board thanks to a little known high-sticking penalty rule, the game could've been a rout. Instead, the Hawks fought through the adversity and played their most complete game of the season in a building that has been a house of horrors for them. (It was their first win in San Jose since 2003.) Captain Serious was the star, netting two goals, including a beauty where he roofed it right over Evgeni Nabakov's shoulder from five feet out.

What Fifth Feather said at the time: "Was this a 'statement game?' Were the Hawks really looking to show the Sharks and the rest of the NHL what they're made of? Maybe. But, the statement was probably more of a statement to themselves: 'We're alright.'"

The Fifth Feather is comprised of Bob and John, one of which is the only Hawks blogger to nail a Shoot-the-puck bimbo. But that's a race we're gonna try and make competitive. Anyway, check it out, it's an excellent Hawks blog.



From The 300 Level by Stuy

Who's your MVP?

Finally, playoff hockey is back in Chicago. What a year it has been. The UC is sold out on a nightly basis and the Hawks are the talk of the town. Well, except for maybe Jay Cutler, Cubs-Sox season opener, the Bulls and Blago. It's been a really great year and it's been a long time since we as fans could say that. The days of "Bobo" Mironov and Alexander Karpovtsev are far behind us and the days of Kane and Toews have just begun.

I posted a poll this week asking everyone who they thought there MVP was for the year. It was a close vote with Havlat winning by three votes over Johnny Toews. But if you ask most people they will tell you it should have been a tie.

Havlat finally stayed healthy and broke a personal record for points in a season. For the first time in his career, he did it playing at both ends of the ice. Havlat is a special talent. I witnessed it first hand living in Ottawa, Ontario and watching him play. I knew back then he was going to be a force. Then the injury bug bit him and it followed him to Chicago. This is the year I've been waiting for Havlat to have. I'd always thought he would have done it for the Senators, though. So what a treat to see him do it in the Indian head. Havlat had some more highlight goals this year but also some highlight defensive plays. "The Shoulder" -- as he's known on the 300 Level -- even threw his weight around this year. Most people will call it a "contract year" type performance. I hope not. Even if Havlat doesn't remain in a Hawks jersey, I hope he continues to put this effort in every game for the rest of his career. It's a pleasure to watch.

JT got off to a slow start but has since scored 30+ goals and has been the great at both ends of the ice as well. A leader in every sense of the word, Hawks fans are lucky watch this guy on a nightly basis. Toews reminds me of Steve Yzerman and Joe Sakic all wrapped into one. I hope he wears the "C" for the rest of his career in a Hawks jersey while holding the Stanley Cup over his head numerous times.

Playoffs? Yes, Jim Mora, playoffs. What team we will get in the postseason? The team that beat New Jersey 3-2 in overtime or the one that got mauled by Vancouver 4-0? It's hard to say. There is some playoff experience on the Hawks but compared to the elite teams in the postseason, that pales in comparison. So I look forward to a team that will gain some playoff experience and maybe even steal a round. What I do know is that I'm going to enjoy ever minute of it. You should to.

Stuy is is the Administrator of the definitive Hawks Message Board, the 300 Level.

Forklift

This has been a memorable season for the Chicago Blackhawks. While it would be easy to look at specific games, we at HOC-KEENIGHT have found moments that made this season memorable:

July 1: The Blackhawks break open the bank and sign Brian Campbell and Cristobal Huet, two expensive, high-profile free agents. Blackhawk fans find out what it's like to cheer for the Rangers.

October 10: Martin Havlat amazes the world by not being the first Blackhawk to be injured this season. That distinction goes to Niklas Hjalmarsson. This night also marks the return of Pat Foley to the Hawks' television booth, immediately followed by the first thing he said that was filled with double entendre. Don't ask us what it was, there's been hundreds since then.

October 16: Four games into the regular season, Denis Savard is fired as head coach of the Blackhawks. He is replaced by Joel Quenneville, This is an unpopular move in Chicago, until the city realizes that his moustache makes him a Canadian Swerski.

November 18: The Hawks begin their Circus Trip in Phoenix, with Jonathan Toews gaining entrance onto NHL fight cards by dropping one glove and doing some rasslin'. The Hawks win their first three games, followed by a Tim Sassone article asking why they can't win all six games of the trip. Needless to say, the next three games the Hawks go pointless.

January 1: For one cold day, the shivering inhabitants of Wrigleyville are named Ch-Ch-Ch-Ch-Chad and T-T-T-T-Trixie. The Hawks lose, but at least the stench of Red Wings fans is not confined to an indoor space. Call it even.

January 14: Google servers almost crash from the odd combination of "Blackhawks" and "Nip Slip" in the search bar, in the aftermath of an excited shoot-the-puck bimbo who puts the puck in the net during the Hawks' game against Buffalo.

February 27: Jonathan Toews records his first NHL hat trick on Construction Helmet Night, sending thousands of helmets flying throughout the United Center. This was made worse by the fact that his first-third-goal was disallowed, giving Hawks fans the opportunity to throw helmets twice. This was something that nobody could have seen coming. And by "nobody" we mean "the entire world with the exception of the Blackhawks' Promotion Department."

April 12: The Blackhawks end their regular season for the first time in 7 years by not going to the golf course, but by preparing to play more hockey. This team has matured throughout the year, and are unbothered by any possible religious ramifications from playing on Easter.

They aren't afraid of Hell.

After all, they've been to Detroit.

Forklift is one-half of HOC-KEENIGHT.com, a Hawks blog, and also a Hawks podcast that we occasionally wash up on.

Matt's Musings

by Matt McClure

For Far Too Long These Voices Muffled By Distances...

Here we are, game 82, 100 points and counting, and nearly 900,000 drawn for the year. Nothing puts asses in the seats like a winner, and the Hawks have certainly fulfilled their end of the bargain by putting a quality team on the ice this year. For the first time in my adult life, no opponent is insurmountable for the Blackhawks. But the next foe that the Blackhawks will have to overcome is going to be their own success.

With postseason hockey just over the horizon on West Madison for the first time in 7 years, the Hawks are going to surprise nobody on the ice. There will be no opponent that takes them lightly in the quest for Lord Stanley's Cup. The Hawks have the firepower, depth, and goaltending to make a deep postseason run. But, at the end of that run, whether it's in late April, late May, or dare we dream, mid June, some serious issues will arise.

Will Dale Tallon be able to keep his core in tact, given his history of salary cap numbskullery? Hard decisions will have to be made, and feelings could potentially get hurt with who gets paid, and who does not. Of particular interest will be restricted free agents Kris Versteeg and Dave Bolland, both of whom had breakout years, and could be targeted by a GM willing to poach that market, and drive up the price on the Hawks. Additionally, finding a way to keep Marty Havlat in an Indian Head sweater will require cap acrobatics. After a season of remaining healthy, he has proven just how dominant and valuable he is to this young team. There will also be a large question mark between the pipes, with Nik likely to find a new home in July. While Huet has been statistically solid, the eye-test does not inspire confidence, and neither Corey Crawford or Antti Niemi have more than a cup of coffee's worth of experience in the show, even as a backup. Can Huet realistically carry the load? And no fan wants to even think about how Tallon will manage to keep Toews, Kane, and Keith all happy and compensated in a declining economy, and likely cap, once their contracts near their term.

Further upstairs, this year has been a wild success for Rocky and McDonough. The incredible spectacle of the Winter Classic will be an experience all who watched and attended will hold onto until senility (or in the case of this writer, brain damage from excessive alcohol consumption) sets in. Here's hoping that McDonough's way of keeping the UC packed on a nightly basis involves winning first and foremost, and not the continued distortion of what should be a respectful game presentation for an Original Six franchise. From fan-cams, fan-o-meters telling us when to cheer (as if we didn't know on our own), the incessant beating of the drum by Tommy Hawk while the play is going on, and Gene Honda suddenly feeling the need to scream at us when the Hawks have a power play, the games are becoming everything we as fans came to the rink to escape from during other sporting events. While it's electrifying to see a packed arena come to its feet for a goal, the rapid increase of business attire on the 100 level makes me long for the days of barely 8,000 in attendance all in Black and Red, both in clothing and in their blood, and the straightforward, minimalist game presentation. I hope that all of the new fans and their needs are not aquired at the expense of the desires of that core. But that's not what McDonough has made his reputation or his money on to date, so enjoy what little there is left of a real hockey experience while it's still here.

This year, the Hawks finally broke down the playoff door, and believe it or not, have started to pry open their championship window. It will take a great amount of skill and resources to keep that window open, both on and off the ice. So enjoy every second of spring hockey for as long as its here, and with any damn luck, the Hawks can start to make it a yearly thing.

Matt McClure is one-third of our cyber-wing, Second City Hockey, and often is kind enough to not make fun when the editor is crying into his beer at the bar. But sometimes he's not, but that's ok.

Killion's Irish Rants

by Matt Killion

So before I get into any kind of season review – let me tell you a story about what happened to me during Wednesday's game.

It's probably going to surprise no one when I tell you that when I go to Hawks games, I'm sitting up in the 300 level, right? As a twenty something with a drinking problem (a common theme in this magazine/blog, yeah?), I don't exactly have a ton of money to burn so my usual seats in Sec. 313 were about all I could afford.

But never let it be said that writing/working on this doesn't have its perks. Sure, I've met some other great Hawks fans and made friends, but who really cares about that sappy shit? Before last Wednesday's game against Columbus I was helping Sam out, selling at the intersection of Damen and Monroe. Close to puck drop time I changed my sales pitch to practically begging people to buy the damn thing so I can hurry up and get inside. That's when some unknown man, a goddamn saint if you ask me, walks up and says "well, here's your ticket". I was expecting the joker to have handed me a piece of trash but on closer inspection it was a seat in section 102, 10 rows off ice.

By far, they were the best seats I've ever had for a Hawks game. I've snuck into the 100 level before but the last time that happened was in 2006-07 season when seats were still readily available. At the time I wanted a chance to see Roenick up close for the first time because it was rumored it could be the last time he was in Chicago (stop me if you've heard that before). JR didn't let me down though, he had a goal and an assist in a 4-2 beating of the Hawks. I got a bonus of seeing Peter Bondra score too, remember when that happened?

Now I'm guessing if you're reading this, you're probably up in the 300 level too. It's where the "real fans" sit, right? And I bet you're expecting me to shit on all the suits who use their company seats to impress clients.. and I am, at least a little. After taking a piss, (and by the way, the 100-level sections have urinals on both sides of the bathroom and a separate hallway for sinks. Talk about luxury), there were at least two douchenozzles standing in front of the mirror making sure their hat was on just right. Some guys are worse than women. There were also more guys in suits than I cared to count who came back to their seats about 13 minutes into the period.

But guess what? Sitting around me there were plenty of great fans too. The middle-aged man next to me yelled during every play and the guy in front of me was even reading this paper (sorry for calling Nash a pussy in front of your daughter). So there's plenty to mock about people who sit so close to the ice but don't also forget that there's some real fans down there too – they just have more money than me.

Oh, and again, seriously, thank you to the random guy who gave me the ticket – that was awesome. You're allowed to get a free issue of this paper anytime you want, as if that's any kind of compensation.

So on to some kind of season review – it's pretty amazing what happens to the fan base when management actually gives a shit, isn't it? Look at what happened when something simple like putting home games on TV happens.

It used to be what, just TheThirdManIn.com as far as it goes, right? Now there's us (www.secondcityhockey.com! Tell your friends!), HockeeNight.com, FifthFeather.com, and more are popping up all the time. Just check out the Hawks blogroll at www.secondcityhockey.com (seriously, fucking go there).

I started the blog with no real plans and no idea what to expect. The fact that I've teamed up with this paper, that someone with some credibility like James Mirtle asked us to join his network and that people actually read it is beyond anything I expected, especially within the first year. It has been insanely fun so far and once Matt Walker is no longer allowed to suit up for the Hawks, things are only going to get better. So to everyone, let me say thanks.

Matt Killion is head of our cyber-division at Second City Hockey.com, a title he has grown to adore, so we should probably take it away from him sometime soon.

Block Party

How Could It Have Gone Any Better? Can It Get Much Better?

It's what Hawks fans should be asking themselves today. In a season in which the 8,000 or so who braved through the last ten years can only describe as a "bi-zarro season," the Blackhawks are on top of the NHL world. Attendance has shot up at an unfathomable rate. TV ratings and local awareness has reached all-time levels. The organization appears, at least most days, to be fan-friendly. Rocky Wirtz spends money, the team is young, talented, and healthy. And in theory, they have as much chance to drink from Lord Stanley's Cup as each of the other fifteen teams ticketed for postseason.

On the crust of this group's renaissance is an ever-improving foundation of young defense. As little as two seasons ago Duncan Keith was a mess. Now he's the most well-rounded Hawks' blue liner and has fans and league pundits wide jumping the gun touting him as a Norris Trophy finalist. Cam Barker gets better every game and is a season away from running the first power play unit. He already leads Hawks' d-men in points with the man-advantage. Ever since Drew Stafford's hit on Keith in mid-January, Brent Seabrook has been a monster. If this continues, together with Brian Campbell, the Hawks will boast one of, if not the, best top-4 defensive units in hockey a year from now.

Sure, Dale Tallon overpaid for Brian Campbell. Everyone knew he'd have to. The Hawks weren't the darlings of the NHL on July 1st and Campbell was the premier puck-moving backliner on the market, one the likes Chicago hasn't seen since Doug Wilson's perm patrolled the Stadium. Campbell's first season has been predictably inconsistent, as are most professional athletes trying to live up to a contract they themselves know is slightly ridiculous. He's sometimes unfairly criticized by paycheck-envious fans for not being able to do everything, when we knew when he arrived what he was, and what he isn't is Chris Chelios circa 1993. The day will come when Keith gets his big payday. And if it is with Chicago, his supporters will suddenly be spying for the things Keith doesn't do, instead of those he does.

A year later the Andrew Ladd-Tuomo Ruutu deal can be argued two ways. Undeniably, Ladd has brought a respectable and consistent two-way game. He's an anchor on the team's third line, and this year's most-reliable trio with Dave Bolland and Marty Havlat. But Ladd's ceiling on a great team is the third line. He's able to make cameos on the scoring lines, but doesn't have the scoring touch to exist there on a nightly basis. Best analogy when discussing his abilities is former Hawk Stephane Matteau. Not bad.

Ruutu, on the other hand, is flourishing on Carolina's top line, setting career marks in goals, assists and points (26-28-54). It's a spot he couldn't hold onto a year ago, returning from bouts with lingering ankle and groin injuries, Ruutu had enough trouble keeping his balance as he did providing scoring depth. He was miscast by thespian head coach Denis Savard and needed a change of scenery as much as the Hawks needed a two-way forward they could rely on. In that respect, the trade benefited all parties involved. Ruutu's has missed just three games this year and is finally developing into the player he was projected, though he'll never be what the Hawks shyly hyped him as, the next Peter Forsberg.

There shouldn't be much to complain about when the name Patrick Kane surfaces. Only 20, the kid is an unbelievable talent poised to be the face of USA Hockey for the next fifteen years. But in Year Two, his numbers are nearly identical to those of his rookie season. Kane's shooting more (though not of late), but that hasn't resulted in more goals. With Kane's big contract negotiations an offseason away, he enters the summer with one purpose: get stronger. If Kane can improve his pull-away quickness through endless leg workouts this summer he'll add twenty points to next season's stats easily. Thirty-five goals and ninety-five points will be a starting point.

Dale Tallon has had his ups and downs as head of the talent division. He showed little foresight last January when he locked up Brent Sopel for another three years and seven million. The veteran mulleted-one was clutch last year, but when he signed his extension he was also just three months removed from Detroit training camp without a contract. Too much money to give a guy who was going to get bumped out of the top four in the first year of his new deal by emerging youngster Cam Barker and UFA headliner Brian Campbell.

And Tallon must've had his keyboard-warrior cap on the day he decided to give restricted free agent Dustin Byfuglien 3 years and \$9 million. An unfathomable contract to a guy who had zero leverage to work with, Byfuglien will never get the benefit of the doubt nor have the desire to live up to the deal he signed.

Now Tallon enters an off season he's faced with the challenge of ridding himself of those mistakes. Further challenging, he'll somehow have to accomplish this feat without taking in any bad contracts. Yeah, are you thinking what I'm thinking? See you in September Big Buff, Soaps.

But Tallon's worst move of all was one some believe wasn't his to begin with. Just about everyone was left scratching their heads on July 1 when the Hawks announced, minutes after spending \$56.8M on Campbell, they'd also signed Cristobal

Huet to a 4-year deal that would pay him \$5.625M annually. All this while maintaining the \$6.75M Khabibulin was on board too. We'd learn a few days into training camp that was a lie. Tallon feverishly attempted to get rid of the Bulin Wall unsuccessfully and was forced to replicate his fictitious tale in lieu of failed trade attempts.

Nikolai Khabibulin responded by figuratively egging Tallon's house this entire season by beating out the big free agent signing for the starting job. Now, as the Hawks play the most important games of the season, the head coach has put his trust in Khabibulin, who will certainly walk away from Chicago this summer. Next year, Joel Quenneville will have to deal with rebuilding everyone's confidence in Huet, and Huet's as well.

On the other hand, Tallon has made his share of good moves. Avoiding a bad money deal with Jason Williams, who seems to play well only for the first couple months after he's traded to a new team, is near the top of that list. There were the obvious ones in dropping Koci, Zyuzin, Perreault and Kevyn Adams. He chose to move Rene Bourque to Calgary for a draft pick. No matter how well Bourque was playing there before he got hurt, he wasn't playing that way here and Bourque and Ladd essentially fill the same role. In Ladd, Tallon made the correct choice.

Wisely, he trimmed some fat at the trade deadline. Fans besieged Tallon with scorn upon James Wisniewski's one-way air voucher to Duckland. Wisniewski on his best day is a marginal depth defender. Not great in any category, barely good at anything, damaged goods, and not the 'team guy' most perceive him as. Tallon avoided an eventual arbitration battle with a big-headed 'Wiz', and what was almost certainly going to be another bad, unmovable contract. In turn he picked up a playoff-hardened veteran, underrated center icemen who excels in an area every center, save for the captain, flares; faceoffs. Good move.

For the first time in many years, the Hawks have eluded serious injuries. Brent Sopel's season-sidelining elbow surgery in hindsight was a blessing both on the ice and on the team's salary cap. Fans

cringe every time Marty Havlat nears contact, but somehow he's skirted to obligatory shoulder injury and missed just one game this year. Keith was out four games after carelessly putting himself in a bad spot against the Sabres. Patrick Sharp has missed much of the last two months with leg injuries and Kane has played through pain, though that was a mistake, but other than that the team has been very fortunate.

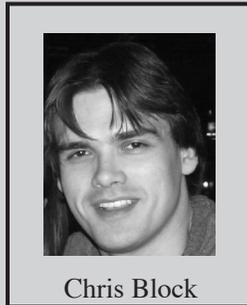
On the horizon is the organization's first foray into the NHL's second-season in exactly seven years. Considering negotiations with the team's best player, Havlat, still unsettled, and questions as to how much better this team will really be next year if it's without he and the '08-09 version of Nikolai Khabibulin, its not unreasonable to wonder if this really IS the Hawks' chance?

The Central is going to improve again next year. Columbus will be at least as good as the Hawks and probably better. Detroit will still be great. St. Louis is ready to take the next step and Nashville will be good enough to hang around, even if they don't get Alexander Radulov back. Chicago can't afford any missteps if they want to keep pace in what will be the league's best division.

Deeper concerns are in development. Rockford isn't the breeding ground it was thought of this time last year. Brouwer, Brent, Pelletier, Hendry, Dowell, Bickell and Berti won't help much. Blunden's gone and his replacement (Adam Pineault) is a bust. The Hawks will choose between Crawford and Niemi and let the other walk. There are no pipe-tending studs in waiting otherwise. Kyle Beach will step right in on the Bolland line next fall and the hope is Akim Aliu will be ready, too. Their presence will bring some much needed muscle and team toughness. It should also spell the end of Brouwer and Byfuglien. If Burish wants to stick, he'd better work on his faceoffs.

Havlat (at no more than \$5.5 a year), Barker, Bolland, Pahlsson, Eager and Versteeg! will all need new paper. Plans accordingly will be made for the following year when big money will be dished to Kane, Toews, and Keith. Though at least one of the latter two could be done by this summer's convention.

As magical as this season's been, next year is no guarantee. With a little luck and a 2004-like goal line stand from the Bulin-Wall, they could make a nice run. But will they be any closer to a Cup in September than they are now? Interesting question.



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Hockey Sabermetrics

CHICAGO

Every game, we provide you with the Behind The Net numbers. These are at even strength, 5-on-5. **Key: QUALCOMP-** A measure of the quality of competition each player faces on the ice. Calculated by averaging +/-160 for opponents on the ice against player. **QUALTEAM-** A measure of the quality of teammates each player plays with. Calculated by averaging +/-160 for teammates on ice with player. **TOI/60-** Time on ice, per 60 minutes, that player spends on ice at full-strength. **GFON/60, GAON/60-** Goals for and against team per 60 min. player is on ice. **+/-ON/60-** Team's Plus/minus, per 60 minutes, while player is on ice. **+/-OFF/60-** Plus/minus of team while player is off ice, per 60 minutes. **RATING-** +/-ON/60 subtracted by +/-OFF/60.

| NAME | QUALCOMP | QUALTEAM | TOI/60 | GFON/60 | GAON/60 | +/-ON/60 | GFOFF/60 | GAOFF/60 | +/-OFF/60 | RATING |
|------------------|----------|----------|--------|---------|---------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|--------|
| Aaron Johnson | -0.04 | -0.18 | 11.68 | 3.57 | 1.43 | 2.14 | 2.19 | 2.03 | 0.15 | 1.99 |
| Andrew Ladd | 0.11 | 0.14 | 12.88 | 3.49 | 2.33 | 1.16 | 2.32 | 2.04 | 0.28 | 0.89 |
| Martin Havlat | 0.05 | 0.13 | 13.57 | 3.69 | 2.63 | 1.06 | 2.23 | 1.92 | 0.31 | 0.75 |
| N. Hjalmarsson | 0 | -0.13 | 12.66 | 1.5 | 1.25 | 0.25 | 2.47 | 2.95 | -0.48 | 0.73 |
| Duncan Keith | 0.08 | 0.09 | 18.58 | 3.19 | 2.21 | 0.98 | 2.46 | 2.17 | 0.29 | 0.68 |
| Dave Bolland | 0.09 | 0.24 | 12.61 | 3.25 | 2.41 | 0.84 | 2.42 | 2.05 | 0.37 | 0.47 |
| Adam Burish | -0.07 | -0.14 | 7.15 | 2.23 | 1.44 | 0.79 | 2.71 | 2.24 | 0.47 | 0.32 |
| Troy Brouwer | 0.02 | -0.09 | 11.51 | 2.41 | 1.71 | 0.7 | 2.75 | 2.28 | 0.47 | 0.23 |
| Matt Walker | -0.03 | -0.12 | 14.12 | 2.63 | 1.96 | 0.67 | 2.52 | 1.98 | 0.54 | 0.13 |
| Brent Seabrook | 0.09 | 0.23 | 16.6 | 2.76 | 2.17 | 0.59 | 2.59 | 2.1 | 0.49 | 0.09 |
| Jonathan Toews | 0.02 | -0.04 | 13.4 | 2.91 | 2.35 | 0.56 | 2.54 | 2.03 | 0.51 | 0.05 |
| Dustin Byfuglien | 0 | -0.05 | 11.95 | 2.08 | 1.54 | 0.54 | 2.93 | 2.4 | 0.53 | 0.01 |
| Kris Versteeg | 0.02 | -0.11 | 12.12 | 2.44 | 1.99 | 0.45 | 2.76 | 2.24 | 0.51 | -0.06 |
| Colin Fraser | -0.11 | -0.17 | 7.77 | 2.15 | 1.76 | 0.39 | 2.79 | 2.17 | 0.62 | -0.23 |
| Ben Eager | -0.1 | -0.14 | 8.33 | 2.17 | 1.87 | 0.3 | 2.74 | 2.1 | 0.64 | -0.34 |
| Patrick Kane | 0.02 | -0.04 | 13.86 | 2.55 | 2.39 | 0.17 | 2.57 | 2.06 | 0.51 | -0.34 |
| Patrick Sharp | -0.01 | 0 | 12.94 | 2.58 | 2.13 | 0.46 | 2.88 | 1.94 | 0.94 | -0.48 |
| Brian Campbell | -0.03 | -0.02 | 16.96 | 2.61 | 2.43 | 0.18 | 2.68 | 1.94 | 0.74 | -0.56 |
| Cam Barker | -0.03 | -0.05 | 13.4 | 2.04 | 2.37 | -0.34 | 2.8 | 2.02 | 0.78 | -1.12 |
| Samuel Pahlsson | 0.07 | -0.67 | 12.57 | 1.64 | 2.53 | -0.89 | 2.85 | 1.99 | 0.86 | -1.76 |
| Brent Sopel | -0.11 | -0.05 | 10.89 | 2.16 | 3.11 | -0.96 | 3.22 | 2.25 | 0.97 | -1.93 |

Corsi Rating

Shots attempted for a team vs. how many are attempted against while a given player is on the ice, per 60 min.

| NAME | CORSI |
|------------------|-------|
| Jonathan Toews | 17.7 |
| Martin Havlat | 16.7 |
| Brian Campbell | 14.5 |
| Troy Brouwer | 14.2 |
| Andrew Ladd | 14.1 |
| Patrick Kane | 14 |
| Duncan Keith | 13.1 |
| Patrick Sharp | 12.9 |
| Brent Seabrook | 12.4 |
| Kris Versteeg | 12.3 |
| Dustin Byfuglien | 11.5 |
| Dave Bolland | 11.3 |
| Cam Barker | 10.4 |
| Matt Walker | 9.5 |
| Ben Eager | 8.5 |
| Adam Burish | 8 |
| Aaron Johnson | 6.6 |
| N. Hjalmarsson | 3.5 |
| Colin Fraser | 3.4 |
| Brent Sopel | -4.3 |
| Samuel Pahlsson | -10.1 |

Penalties Drawn vs. Taken

| NAME | PDRAW/60 | PTAKE/60 |
|------------------|----------|----------|
| Adam Burish | 1.8 | 1.3 |
| Ben Eager | 1.5 | 2.4 |
| Kris Versteeg | 1.4 | 0.6 |
| Colin Fraser | 1.4 | 0.6 |
| Patrick Kane | 1.4 | 0.9 |
| Jonathan Toews | 1.3 | 0.8 |
| Patrick Sharp | 1.3 | 0.8 |
| Andrew Ladd | 1.2 | 0.6 |
| Dave Bolland | 1.2 | 0.7 |
| Troy Brouwer | 1.2 | 0.9 |
| Martin Havlat | 1.1 | 0.6 |
| Dustin Byfuglien | 1.1 | 1.2 |
| Aaron Johnson | 0.9 | 1.7 |
| Brent Sopel | 0.5 | 1 |
| Brian Campbell | 0.4 | 0.4 |
| Samuel Pahlsson | 0.4 | 1 |
| Matt Walker | 0.3 | 0.6 |
| Brent Seabrook | 0.3 | 0.8 |
| Duncan Keith | 0.1 | 0.8 |
| Cam Barker | 0.1 | 0.7 |
| N. Hjalmarsson | 0 | 0 |

Power Play Ratings

This is a measure of a team's goals-for per 60 minutes of player being on the ice on the power play.

| Player | GFON/60 |
|------------------|---------|
| Cam Barker | 9.98 |
| Troy Brouwer | 8.55 |
| Patrick Kane | 8.04 |
| Patrick Sharp | 7.93 |
| Jonathan Toews | 7.62 |
| Brian Campbell | 7.12 |
| Duncan Keith | 5.84 |
| Martin Havlat | 5.79 |
| Dustin Byfuglien | 5.62 |
| Brent Seabrook | 5.37 |
| Kris Versteeg | 4.84 |

Penalty Kill Ratings

This measures how many goals a team gives up per 60 minutes the player is on the ice on the PK.

| Player | GA/60 |
|-----------------|-------|
| Troy Brouwer | 5.07 |
| Adam Burish | 5.68 |
| Aaron Johnson | 5.71 |
| Brent Sopel | 6.43 |
| Duncan Keith | 6.5 |
| Brent Seabrook | 6.73 |
| Colin Fraser | 6.86 |
| Samuel Pahlsson | 7.25 |
| Matt Walker | 7.51 |
| Kris Versteeg | 7.54 |
| Cam Barker | 7.67 |
| Dave Bolland | 8.84 |
| N. Hjalmarsson | 15.56 |

Face-offs

| Player | Face-Offs Taken | FO% |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Jonathan Toews | 1264 | 54.6 |
| Samuel Pahlsson | 1221 | 53.2 |
| Colin Fraser | 765 | 48.1 |
| Dave Bolland | 1154 | 44.4 |
| Total | Rank: 24th | 48.0 |

Hockey Sabermetrics

SCUM

| NAME | QUALCOMP | QUALTEAM | TOI/60 | GFON/60 | GAON/60 | +-ON/60 | GFOFF/60 | GAOFF/60 | +-OFF/60 | RATING |
|-------------------|----------|----------|--------|---------|---------|---------|----------|----------|----------|--------|
| Pavel Datsyuk | 0.03 | 0.52 | 13.47 | 4.46 | 2.17 | 2.29 | 2.4 | 2.54 | -0.14 | 2.43 |
| Tomas Holmstrom | 0 | 0.77 | 11.85 | 3.85 | 1.42 | 2.43 | 2.64 | 2.53 | 0.11 | 2.32 |
| Nicklas Lindstrom | 0.08 | 0.45 | 16.6 | 3.38 | 2.04 | 1.33 | 2.83 | 2.75 | 0.08 | 1.25 |
| Marian Hossa | 0.02 | 0.56 | 13.09 | 3.83 | 2.14 | 1.7 | 2.79 | 2.33 | 0.46 | 1.24 |
| Johan Franzen | 0.04 | 0.27 | 13.91 | 3.3 | 1.9 | 1.4 | 2.87 | 2.54 | 0.33 | 1.07 |
| Brian Rafalski | 0.06 | 0.51 | 17.27 | 3.2 | 2.18 | 1.02 | 2.87 | 2.5 | 0.37 | 0.65 |
| Andreas Lilja | -0.06 | -0.31 | 13.47 | 3.41 | 2.67 | 0.74 | 2.83 | 2.3 | 0.53 | 0.21 |
| Valtteri Filppula | -0.01 | -0.09 | 13.06 | 2.69 | 2.03 | 0.66 | 3.07 | 2.59 | 0.48 | 0.18 |
| Henrik Zetterberg | 0.05 | 0.3 | 13.88 | 3.1 | 2.45 | 0.64 | 2.99 | 2.33 | 0.66 | -0.02 |
| Brett Lebda | -0.11 | -0.41 | 13.03 | 2.38 | 1.56 | 0.82 | 3.5 | 2.59 | 0.91 | -0.1 |
| Jiri Hudler | -0.03 | -0.32 | 10.55 | 3.02 | 2.52 | 0.5 | 2.97 | 2.37 | 0.6 | -0.1 |
| M. Samuelsson | 0 | -0.06 | 12.36 | 2.36 | 2.05 | 0.31 | 3.21 | 2.56 | 0.64 | -0.33 |
| Dan Cleary | 0.02 | 0.17 | 12.71 | 3.06 | 2.79 | 0.27 | 2.96 | 2.27 | 0.69 | -0.42 |
| Niklas Kronwall | 0 | 0.01 | 16.59 | 2.96 | 2.77 | 0.19 | 3.01 | 2.27 | 0.75 | -0.56 |
| Brad Stuart | 0 | -0.04 | 16.13 | 2.91 | 3.02 | -0.12 | 2.9 | 2.08 | 0.82 | -0.94 |
| Judas | -0.16 | -0.47 | 10.17 | 2.04 | 1.82 | 0.23 | 3.19 | 1.82 | 1.37 | -1.14 |
| Jon Ericsson | -0.06 | -0.13 | 15.04 | 2.49 | 2.99 | -0.5 | 3.17 | 2.35 | 0.82 | -1.32 |
| Tomas Kopecky | -0.05 | -0.55 | 9.49 | 2.08 | 2.83 | -0.75 | 3.11 | 2.31 | 0.8 | -1.55 |
| Kirk Maltby | -0.11 | -0.87 | 7.81 | 1.74 | 2.66 | -0.92 | 3.22 | 2.33 | 0.88 | -1.8 |
| Derek Meech | -0.13 | -0.6 | 9.68 | 2.22 | 3.97 | -1.75 | 2.83 | 2.53 | 0.29 | -2.04 |
| Kris Draper | -0.09 | -0.59 | 9.56 | 1.85 | 3.3 | -1.45 | 3.28 | 2.14 | 1.14 | -2.59 |
| Darren Helm | -0.04 | -0.23 | 11.27 | 1.33 | 3.33 | -2 | 3.52 | 2.67 | 0.85 | -2.85 |

Corsi Rating

This measures how many shots are attempted for a team vs. how many are attempted against while a given player is on the ice, per 60 min.

| NAME | CORSI |
|-------------------|-------|
| Darren Helm | 24.6 |
| Pavel Datsyuk | 23.4 |
| Marian Hossa | 22.3 |
| Johan Franzen | 22.1 |
| Henrik Zetterberg | 20.2 |
| Tomas Holmstrom | 20 |
| Mikael Samuelsson | 18.9 |
| Judas | 18.8 |
| Nicklas Lindstrom | 18.1 |
| Brian Rafalski | 18 |
| Jiri Hudler | 17.9 |
| Niklas Kronwall | 17.7 |
| Andreas Lilja | 14.8 |
| Dan Cleary | 14.4 |
| Valtteri Filppula | 13.5 |
| Brett Lebda | 11.5 |
| Derek Meech | 11.1 |
| Brad Stuart | 6.2 |
| Tomas Kopecky | 4.6 |
| Jon Ericsson | 4 |
| Kirk Maltby | 3.6 |
| Kris Draper | -3.3 |

Penalties Drawn vs. Taken

| NAME | PDRAW/60 | PTAKE/60 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|
| Darren Helm | 3.3 | 0.7 |
| Marian Hossa | 1.8 | 1.1 |
| Kirk Maltby | 1.7 | 0.7 |
| Valtteri Filppula | 1.6 | 0.7 |
| Henrik Zetterberg | 1.6 | 0.5 |
| Pavel Datsyuk | 1.3 | 0.5 |
| Tomas Kopecky | 1.3 | 1.6 |
| Jiri Hudler | 1.2 | 0.4 |
| Tomas Holmstrom | 1.1 | 1.3 |
| Judas | 1.1 | 1.8 |
| Dan Cleary | 1 | 1 |
| Johan Franzen | 0.8 | 0.6 |
| Mikael Samuelsson | 0.7 | 0.9 |
| Kris Draper | 0.6 | 1.2 |
| Jon Ericsson | 0.5 | 1 |
| Niklas Kronwall | 0.4 | 0.9 |
| Brad Stuart | 0.4 | 0.6 |
| Andreas Lilja | 0.3 | 1 |
| Brett Lebda | 0.3 | 1.5 |
| Nicklas Lindstrom | 0.2 | 0.6 |
| Brian Rafalski | 0.2 | 0.3 |
| Derek Meech | 0.2 | 1 |

Power Play Ratings

This is a measure of a team's goals for per 60 minutes of player being on the ice on the power play.

| Player | GFON/60 |
|-------------------|---------|
| Tomas Holmstrom | 12.02 |
| Pavel Datsyuk | 10.85 |
| Marian Hossa | 9.73 |
| Brian Rafalski | 9.64 |
| Nicklas Lindstrom | 9.5 |
| Niklas Kronwall | 8.94 |
| Henrik Zetterberg | 8.64 |
| Jiri Hudler | 8.49 |
| Johan Franzen | 8.26 |
| M. Samuelsson | 8.12 |

Penalty Kill Ratings

This measures how many goals a team gives up per 60 minutes the player is on the ice on the PK.

| Player | GAON/60 |
|-----------------|---------|
| Kirk Maltby | 5.18 |
| Marian Hossa | 5.25 |
| H. Zetterberg | 6.3 |
| V. Filppula | 6.34 |
| Andreas Lilja | 6.42 |
| N. Lindstrom | 6.84 |
| Pavel Datsyuk | 7.53 |
| Judas | 7.72 |
| Brian Rafalski | 7.96 |
| Niklas Kronwall | 8.08 |
| Brad Stuart | 8.26 |
| Jon Ericsson | 8.31 |
| Dan Cleary | 8.98 |
| Kris Draper | 9.34 |

Face-offs

| Player | Face-Offs Taken | FO% |
|-------------------|------------------|-------------|
| Kris Draper | 993 | 60.4 |
| Pavel Datsyuk | 1144 | 56.6 |
| Henrik Zetterberg | 1137 | 53.6 |
| Valtteri Filppula | 741 | 52.1 |
| Total: | Rank: 1st | 55.4 |

The Hawks Record When...

| | | | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|--|---------|--|----------|
| Playing at home..... | 23-9-8 | Allowing a short-handed goal..... | 2-4-1 | Getting obliterated on face-offs..... | 18-11-4 |
| Playing on road..... | 21-15-4 | Taking 30 or more shots..... | 33-16-8 | Are even close on face-offs..... | 26-13-8 |
| Scoring first..... | 31-5-5 | Taking less than 30 shots..... | 11-8-4 | Eddie O tells crew to "stop it right here!"... | 37-18-12 |
| Opponent scores first..... | 13-19-7 | Allowing 30 shots or more..... | 17-9-6 | Eddie O tells us D have the forwards and forwards have the D | |
| Shoot the puck bimbo scores..... | 5-2-1 | Allowing 30 shots or less..... | 27-15-6 | during 4-on-4..... | 37-17-12 |
| Shoot the puck bimbo doesn't score..... | 18-6-7 | 100 Level doesn't cheer for anthem. | 22-8-8 | Pat Foley screws up a name..... | 42-19-12 |
| Shoot the puck bimbo blows editors of Committed Indian..... | 0-0-0 | 1st of a back-to-back..... | 5-6-3 | Ice Crew wear skirts..... | 7-1-3 |
| Committed Indian Editor scares small children outside | 23-10-8 | 2nd of a back-to-back..... | 8-5-2 | Ice Crew wear pants..... | 3-1-0 |
| Playing on a Monday..... | 2-2-1 | Opponent played night before.... | 10-5-2 | Ice Crew wear shorts.... | 13-7-5 |
| Playing on a Tuesday..... | 7-4-0 | Taking more than 5 penalties..... | 16-16-5 | Member of Ice Crew hilariously falls on her shapely ass.... | 0-1-0 |
| Playing on a Wednesday..... | 10-1-4 | Taking 5 or less penalties.... | 28-8-7 | Leading after 2 periods..... | 34-2-4 |
| Playing on a Thursday..... | 2-3-0 | Seabrook gets a flat-footed penalty.... | 8-5-7 | Losing after 2 periods..... | 2-17-4 |
| Playing on a Friday..... | 6-4-4 | Burish takes a penalty..... | 8-6-2 | Tied after 2 periods..... | 8-5-4 |
| Playing on a Saturday..... | 7-5-3 | Keith takes a penalty..... | 14-5-3 | In overtime..... | 6-5 |
| Playing on a Sunday..... | 10-5-0 | Sharp takes a penalty..... | 10-3-2 | In shootout..... | 4-7 |
| Savard changes lines during game... | 1-2-1 | Toews takes a penalty..... | 10-3-3 | Cam Barker plays..... | 36-20-9 |
| Coach Q keeps lines as they are..... | 43-22-11 | Havlat takes a penalty.... | 8-3-1 | Cam Barker is in Rockford due to GM incompetence.... | 6-2-3 |
| Are out-muscled by opponent.... | 10-18-4 | Sopel takes a penalty..... | 3-2-1 | Lacking a #2 center..... | 38-22-9 |
| Outshoot opponent..... | 33-14-7 | Sopel looks 6 steps slow..... | 7-5-5 | In 1-goal games..... | 12-7-12 |
| Are outshot by opponent.... | 11-10-5 | 51 Phantom blows a coverage..... | 28-20-9 | In 2-goal games..... | 15-7-0 |
| Havlat shies from contact..... | 16-6-6 | Toews is trying too hard..... | 3-8-3 | In 3-goal games..... | 8-6-0 |
| Patrick Kane scores..... | 12-7-3 | At least 1 fight in 300 Level... | 4-3-4 | In 4+ goal games..... | 8-3-0 |
| Jonathan Toews scores..... | 16-3-6 | No fights in 300 Level..... | 19-5-4 | Scoring 3+ goals..... | 40-7-8 |
| Martin Havlat scores..... | 18-4-2 | Playing Eastern Conference.... | 9-7-3 | Scoring less than 3 goals..... | 4-16-4 |
| Patrick Sharp scores..... | 16-4-2 | Playing Western Conference.... | 35-18-9 | PA plays Ministry..... | 0-0-0 |
| Dustin Byfuglien scores..... | 8-2-1 | Playing Central Division..... | 8-7-7 | PA plays Modern Cock-Rock..... | 23-9-8 |
| Dustin Byfuglien wins a foot-race?!!!!!!..... | 2-1-0 | Playing Northwest Division.... | 12-6-1 | PA plays Stranglehold..... | 8-3-4 |
| Andrew Ladd scores..... | 11-0-1 | Playing Pacific Division..... | 15-5-1 | PA plays P.J. Harvey..... | 0-0-0 |
| Dave Bolland scores..... | 11-1-5 | Playing Atlantic Division..... | 2-3-2 | Fraser fights..... | 7-3-1 |
| Adam Burish scores..... | 3-2-1, and totally ruins that joke | Playing NASCAR Division..... | 4-1-0 | Burish fights..... | 5-2-0 |
| 51 Phantom scores..... | 3-2-1 | Playing Northeast Division.... | 3-2-1 | Seabrook fights..... | 1-0-0 |
| Duncan Keith scores..... | 5-3-0 | Playing in October.... | 4-3-3 | Barker fights..... | 0-0-2 |
| Brent Seabrook scores..... | 5-1-2 | Playing in November.... | 6-3-3 | Buff fights..... | 1-1-2 |
| VerStud scores.... | 13-7-1 | Playing in December..... | 10-1-1 | Sharp fights..... | 1-0-0 |
| Troy Brouwer scores.... | 8-0-0 | Playing in January..... | 7-6-1 | Eager fights..... | 10-4-2 |
| Scoring a Power Play goal..... | 29-10-10 | Playing in February..... | 7-4-1 | On Comcast..... | 34-13-9 |
| Not scoring a Power Play goal... | 15-13-2 | Playing in March..... | 6-7-2 | On WGN..... | 10-7-3 |
| Allowing a Power Play goal..... | 19-18-10 | Playing in April..... | 4-0-1 | On Vs..... | 0-3-0 |
| Not Allowing a Power Play goal..... | 25-6-2 | UC plays really stupid goal song.... | 23-5-8 | On NBC.... | 0-1-0 |
| Scoring a short-handed goal..... | 6-2-0 | Huet's five-hole open like Lindsay Lohan's.... | 3-11-4 | Judd Sirott hates Adam Creighton | 43-24-12 |

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