

Luke

What is up everyone? Welcome to the die by the blade podcast where Josh and I sit down and talk about everything buffalo hockey. I'm your host Luke, the other guy on My screen is my co host Josh, and we're gonna get right on into another JAM PACKED episode

Josh, what is up? How are you?

Josh

Oh, I'm just lovely. Really tired. Played a lot. I played about three hours a hockey this morning. Four hours close to it. Maybe? I don't know. No, three hours. Three hours. Yeah. Um, played a lot of goalie. So that's fun. I'm gonna get more into that. I'm getting better at it,

Luke

too. So that's good, he says.

Josh

But other than that, not too bad. Just working a bunch looking forward to Christmas and looking forward to a few few days off coming up here.

Luke

Yep, Christmas is in four days. Yeah, it is important is

Josh

crept up on me because you know, I have to wrap my presents still. Yeah. But other than that, I'm doing pretty good. Just like I said, just kind of tired. But and you know, bored because there's just no hockey to watch. But how about you?

Luke

Yeah, I can definitely agree on that one, as we'll get into pretty soon here on the die, by the blade podcast, but myself. I've just been. I don't know. It's been a little weird. My girlfriend is currently in New York City with her mom and her sister. So I've had the apartment myself for the past couple days. And I need to clean, party at Luke's house. Let's go. I need to clean because I told her I would clean and I haven't done so yet. And she comes home tomorrow. Luckily, I'm off tomorrow.

Josh

Oh, no,

Luke

I'm off. I'm off all day tomorrow. So I'm just going to clean my entire apartment. Make it look nice from when she comes back. And probably

Josh

what you're saying, oh, Hardy tonight.

Luke

No. But other than that, like I said, we got jam packed show. We're gonna get right into it. And you know, as Josh mentioned, we've been unable to watch hockey and that is due to COVID. And the recent outbreak across all the sports leagues honestly.

Josh

Yeah, so the NHL announced today on their this is on their Twitter, the NHL, PR Twitter. There's a bit of a lengthy explanation here but the abbreviated version is the NHL and NHL pa have agreed to begin the holiday break after Tuesday's games. As in Tuesday, the 21st. The day we are recording practices will resume on December 26. That is the day after Christmas on Sunday. And the league's regular season schedule will resume on December 27, which is next Monday. So that's how it stands right now. Most of the games for tonight I believe have also been canceled. So I don't think there's any games on the schedule anymore tonight.

Luke

I want to say there's still one game.

Josh

I know the capitals cracking I believe. I know. I know. I saw the capitals were

Luke

one game sick, Tampa bay and Vegas.

Josh

That's the two teams not to sound terrible, but that's the two teams I thought would have more of the COVID issues just given their states. Um, but yeah, so tonight, even though they said after Tuesday's games, the hurricanes Bruins game postponed blues senators postponed caps flyers postponed. Devils penguins, jets, predators Panthers, Blackhawks, ducks, flames, coyotes, Kraken and Canucks sharks all postponed. So that's good. Um as we saw on Monday, the 20th the Sabres game was postponed between the Sabres and the blue jackets. was supposed to be Alex talks first game. Very sad. That didn't happen. But I'm glad that he's going to be back when the league comes back. And it'll actually I mean, honestly, this is more beneficial. He has even more time to recover now and it's got at least an extra week. Right but it's also not like the rest of the league is playing. So in a way, this is like your best case. This is like a like the best

case scenario sort of thing for him and for the team. Because as we saw before this little outbreak, the Sabres were kind of doing something

Luke

they had new IPL changed a lot of things. They had

Josh

five out of six possible points on a three game road trip. Pretty good. We'll get more into the Sabres hot streak, quote unquote hot streak in a minute, but we do want to touch on some League news. I know we're mostly Sabres podcast, but there's been a lot going on in the league. Big News besides canceling till after Christmas, is no NHL players are going to China for the Olympics. I think this is a fantastic move. I think it's smart on the NHL PA to say this and not let any players because I don't think anyone would have wanted to go. But for the few that may have wanted to go, it's better that they're not. Because after we heard what would happen to a player, if they tested positive, it would not be good for the player for the team.

Luke

Or I just think that none of them wanted to take that chance. And obviously, there's other extenuating circumstances as to why some players don't want to go to China. Um, that is going to be left out of this conversation right now. Yeah, but there's other extenuating circumstances and the protocols for COVID. If you test positive there, a lot of players or even a lot of players were like, it sucks, I really want to go but I do what's best for me, my family and I do what's best for and what the NHL kind of tells me to do so

Josh

right and essentially, like, basically what would have happened, say, you were to go there and you test positive. You could be stuck there for up to a month. Even after six weeks. That was

Luke

what six weeks four to six weeks. Wow.

Josh

So yeah, so you could test positive the first day you get there and be stuck there for six weeks.

Luke

That's that's that's the main reason Robin letter and immediately said, No, I'm not going.

Josh

Yeah, because he has. So another thing with that is you're completely isolated. It's not like you have like a quarantine buddy. You're stuck in a room by yourself for six weeks. And right with Robin Lehner specifically as I'm sure there might be a few other players like this. Lennar have

we as everyone knows, he has. He's very outspoken about mental health and things like that. Part of his mental health issues is being isolated. So that would not be very good for him.

Luke

Yeah, it's a big thing with bipolar disorder in general. Um, being isolated is very bad, especially when you have when you're bipolar depressive, so him with that would not it just wouldn't be good. And there's I'm sure there's a few players that are like that, that they just would not be good for them to be isolated that long. Right he that constant interaction.

Josh

Yeah, I mean, that's kind of how everyone is really I mean, think about it. That's That's all a lot of the world works is you need social interaction. But regardless of all that it's very smart that they're not going to not and then I don't want to get all political this is nothing against China. It's just it's not the right place right time.

Luke

Yeah, and and with that, too, that gives the NHL a chance all these postponed games we have while they're just going to play them over the Olympic break,

Josh

right? Yeah. So the NHL is gonna stay on schedule. Because like this week is basically just like the week they would have taken it well that week, but the time they would have taken off for the Olympics.

Luke

Yeah, so all those all the postponed games that they've had this year, they'll be able to reschedule for during that week. Those two was like I think like they had three weeks off two and a half weeks off something like that.

Josh

And you can also make them if they need to, which I don't think they will they might even eat up a little bit of the all star break but I don't think they need to do that. Now

Luke

they won't they won't touch or mess with the all star break. You might see the all star game be a little bit more toned down due to the outbreak right now. We'll see what happens in the next month. But

Josh

honestly, I want them to I don't want them to do an all star game this year. I know this is a little far ahead. I don't I wouldn't mind them picking people and being like, hey, here's one. But like

Yeah, I mean, the NBA did an all star game last year and everyone hated it because they were all like, we don't want to get hurt. And like there's always that that idea in a player's head during an all star game of hey, we don't want to get hurt because playoffs are right around the corner. But last year I remember what the NBA fans hated it and players hated it because it's like hey, we don't want our our team's player to get COVID and not be able to play so honestly, I wouldn't mind us bus me saying I wouldn't mind the NHL not doing an all star game

Luke

now now it's ours were the ones hosting the all star game

Josh

where the NHL um, but no, I don't know what your thoughts are on that. I love the all star game but like maybe hold off on it again.

Luke

I mean like like I said, I think it's gonna come down to where we're at in the COVID situation come the all star break at the end of January. So we got a whole month to figure out if you know this is still going on or if we figured out how to slow it down. Who knows update on some people in code protocol at least for the Sabres three were added to it. And that is Jeff Skinner, Vinnie hinostroza And Simon zemgus Girgensons. Skinner and ministros are asymptomatic. However Girgensons is symptomatic. So best wishes to him. Hope he hope he is fine. He

Josh

had it, I think in the office He's in as well. He I can't remember. I thought one of the guys in the team had it. And

Luke

um, yeah, that'd be a Rasmus Ristolainen

Josh

Oh, that guy. Yeah, I

Luke

have it and he

Josh

had he or Girgensons had it.

Luke

He might have, but I know Ristolainen Diggs, he had a lot of kid a lot of complications with it. Oh,

Josh

I remember that now. Yeah, I remember how he was saying, Yeah, yep. I don't want to go into that. It's kind of dark and scary. But yeah, no. And then we also learned that. So Tokarski we all thought was on injured reserve for a concussion, which I think he was for a little bit, but he also was on the COVID list, because he did test positive for COVID and was symptomatic.

Luke

I don't know how he stuck in Florida during that time.

Josh

Yeah. And I don't remember how long ago that was. And I don't know if he's still in COVID protocol, but I think

Luke

he's no, he's out of COVID protocol. Now. As far as I'm aware. Yeah. I don't change I'm pretty sure he came out of it because he's been at practices and whatnot.

Josh

Oh, okay. I didn't know that. He might be he's been there. Yeah. And he might not be 100% yet, but again, this week, we'll give him chance to be 100%. So I didn't

Luke

know this. He may have watched you may have lost his role on the team though.

Josh

Well, well, hold on we'll get there. Um, so like, I have this question here, Luke. What effect will this have first real quick on the league? And then more specifically, the Sabres because as I said, the Sabres were on a little bit of a good streak. They had won against Winnipeg, and a very good game came back against Minnesota first time we've seen them really come back all year, and then came back against Pittsburgh, but just couldn't get it done in overtime. Because Jeff Garner is a whiner.

Luke

Dad guide Cody, he can try to win it forward for some reason, and was on the ice and overtime.

Josh

Well, Jeff Carter also complains to the ref and gets the face off in the neutral zone and then bang, boom, it's a penguins win.

Luke

Either way you don't need I'd send her icy Do not try to win a face off forward.

Josh

No, no, you don't you never do that.

Luke

I don't know what Cody was thinking there. But that's that's besides the point. And

Josh

he's honestly in it narrow enough. Weirdly enough. He has been a decent faceoff guy for us this year. So that's really surprising.

Luke

That's I think he can he's been able to do well on this team this year. But hey, I

Josh

mean, that's now good. No, I'm not saying he.

Luke

I want him. I don't want him in the lineup after this break.

Josh

No, I. What I'm trying to say with him, though, is is like that's like his only redeeming factor. Yeah. But it's a very important role. You're winning possession for your team. Now then when you pass it away five seconds later, doesn't matter. But anyway, so as I was saying, What will this what will this brake have on? What effect will this brake have on the league and on the Sabres in general?

Luke

So the league in general, I don't think it's going to have that much. There might be a couple players size change with some extenuating circumstances on that, depending on how, you know if people ended up being symptomatic when they thought they're asymptomatic vice for like, whatever. But I don't think it had that big of an impact on the league just because now with them not going to the Olympics. They can play other postponed games then so that we don't have to add on a couple extra weeks at the end of the season. For the Sabres itself, I honestly think it's going to be good, weirdly enough. And that's a because our talk gets an extra week to rest

himself. And Tomer as we know now if we had underwent an MRI, I have no idea on what just an MRI on something. Um, his he's had a lot of soreness and issues somewhere in his body who knows they don't disclose that apparently anymore.

Josh

I don't understand. NHL injury reports that that

Luke

could be a whole two hour episode on another. But it gives him a chance to to get himself healthy so that when we come back, we have tuck and Tomer coming back into the lineup ready to go. Hopefully at that point to Skinner and hinostroza At the very least are also back off of COVID

Josh

Kevin Adams in his presser today just to go back to the Thompson thing real quick. He said the team got good news from th Thompson's MRI he would have been a game time decision. And the 20th game against a Columbus

Luke

exactly like I said, good news on an MRI MRI on what you're right.

Josh

I was reading it as I was reading it out loud and then I was like oh wait they don't say anything and ya know

Luke

what it actually was he got an MRI is like okay, Shoulder, leg, knee, ankle, arm hip. Like what? What, what kind of MRI? Because, right? What kind of timetable would it be? If it

Josh

wasn't honestly awesome. I'm gonna think about it. mittelstadt is gonna have more time to recover. He's like, this is a free week.

Luke

Yes, but he's gonna be out probably until that Olympic break.

Josh

Yeah, no, but like, like I was saying with talk. It's like, now you're you're getting better without your team. And you're not missing per se. Yeah, right. Right. Like everyone's out. So it's like, somebody edited a Elliott Freeman tweet today and it said, and all NHL players waivers.

Luke

Said league in parentheses, NHL on waivers.

Josh

Anyway, sorry, I didn't mean to wrap your continue.

Luke

No, I guess I think it's gonna be good. I think it was like our goaltending situation and chance to kind of recoup itself to you know, I mean, UPS played very well, Sudan played very well in that penguins game.

Josh

Credit. is back on the ice headed back on the ice. I didn't think we were gonna see Craig Anderson ever again. A weird thing

Luke

that I think might happen after scrolling Twitter a little bit today and seeing what Kevin Adams said is that they're missing Craig Anderson on the bench. Oh, so because he's been basically a player coach when he's when he's not starting. Helping the defense.

Josh

So when Craig Anderson to be part of this coaching staff, when Yes,

Luke

what I'm thinking might happen, though, is you'll see him consistently be the backup for the rest of the season when he's healthy again. So I think it'd be UPL starting with him as a backup. And then the next game would be Soobin, starting with him as a backup and UPL scratched just so that I

Josh

feel like he'll get in there a little bit. Yeah, I don't think he's never gonna play again.

Luke

No, I think he'll play I think, depending on when he does come back. I think he'll get another like five to 10 games, Max.

Josh

Yeah. Because he

Luke

UPL does.

Josh

Yeah. And it also depends on how he is coming back from this injury. Because if he's back to form, screw it, play him as much as you need, because he was doing great in the first seven, eight games that he played. Yeah, that was, you know, when the seasons looked bright, and I mean, I think we still have a very good season ahead of us here. Without coming in, with Thompson getting a chance to get healthy. With mitts getting a chance to get healthy and Anderson and UPL. Looking like he does. I mean, I heard a point the other day about UPL. He, when he was in Rochester,

Luke

hey, you know who you heard that point from? Who's that? You know, you know, I'll let you finish first before I before I spoil it for you.

Josh

I think I think I think I know who you're talking about. Um, when he was in Rochester, though he was slower. Or he was faster than the shots. Like he had the reaction and he was in the right spot. But he would get ahead of the shot. And like, like, say he was going over to make a pad save. He'd be there. And then he asked it, and then the puck would go into five hole and it's like,

Luke

and then he'd be out of position. Yeah.

Josh

Who did I hear that

Luke

point from Luke? Oh, a good buddy of ours. From a show entitled the Frozen Four podcast? Yeah. Yeah. That'd be a one. Stephens diversity.

Josh

Yeah. Yeah. I don't know. He's got. He's right. He's right, though. Like, it's it.

Luke

I don't disagree with the idea behind and the logic behind that is hard for me to get behind. But I can understand the point being made. Well,

Josh

I like like, like I said, before with him. Is he playing to the level that he's at? Like, the HL? Yeah, some guys are good. Some guys are bad. EC HL, everyone's bad. But in the NHL, everyone's good. And UPL is playing very good. So it's like, is it like he's just playing to the level that his competition is? It's possible. And also, it could be a weird mental thing like that. You know,

Luke

the other thing that I've thought about UPL is that he has been the epitome of consistency. Mm hmm. He has allowed only rules. Yeah, every game.

Josh

Yeah. It's it's, I mean, you could look at it one way and say, Oh, he let up 10 goals in five games. But that

Luke

that's bad. Yeah, that's not bad.

Josh

Like, as a goalie in the NHL. Like that's what you're looking for.

Luke

Yeah. It's it's been good to see the see out of him. Obviously, you're you're hoping you know, one of one or two of these he can stop you know, all the shots are one more shot.

Josh

But I mean, the kids got five games played to should have four wins, let's be honest. And then the overtime loss Well, that's whatever.

Luke

To mostly So technically, we know Yeah, so technically he's he allowed three and all that was too bad. Nevermind

Josh

Yeah, so he has two wins two losses one overtime loss 164 saves in five games. A 1.96 goals against average and point three or point 939 save percentage.

Luke

That is an average of 32.8 shots per game for those wondering. Yeah, that's so he's averaging over 30 shots faced.

Josh

That's 164 saves made on 174 shots faced in five games at the ripe old age of 22. His birthday is a month and seven days before mine,

Luke

so he's February baby. No, no,

Josh

he's March Madness march, march 9 1999. And here I am playing beer league hockey goalie a

Luke

Hey Josh. Shut up. I'm older than you.

Josh

I don't care.

Luke

But I like I said, I think this this break is actually gonna be good for the Sabres as weird as it sounds, it gives them a chance to refocus their game. So let's wait and see, especially if the league does start off on Monday. If the if it does, the Sabres will be taking on the New York Islanders, who are still in search of Matt barzal

Josh

who are still in search of playing well in their new arena. So

Luke

So my thing is for those that listening that understood that reference, it's from Twitter, and they saw I saw I don't know what the joke behind they're searching for Matt barzal is ah, I really I really don't know. So if someone's you

Josh

know, is he just hiding from Lula, Morello and Barry. So here

Luke

here's the only thing I've gotten out of it so far is the fact that he got COVID and I had to stay in Detroit.

Josh

Like he says, lose him.

Luke

I don't know. That's why I'm so confused about why half of my Twitter feed says still searching for Matt bars on like,

Josh

What do you mean? How do you lose a person?

Luke

Like I'm so confused what the story behind this is? I'm sure it's something hilarious.

Josh

But real quick. The Vegas Golden Knights just tweeted out. Oh, now of getting to Dan and Alex are TransFlo unavailable for tonight's game due to COVID-19 Bro going so good. So we might not have any hockey game.

Luke

That's only two. That's only two. Yeah,

Josh

but I don't know, man. I said just shut it down. Just shut it down.

Luke

I say stop testing vaccinated players every day.

Josh

Let's not get on that. I don't wanna anyway, I'm too tired for this conversation.

Luke

It's as a point I hope no one no one comes to my head for that comment. But with that, there is one thing of hockey still going on as scheduled. And that is the World Junior classic. Coming up. It starts on Sunday, I believe.

Josh

The day after this Yes. 26.

Luke

Yes. And the Sabres have three prospects that really be a part of that. I feel like there's more but like, I don't know at this. We

Josh

don't have anyone on USA. No, I guess Ron Johnson is not there. Oh, wait, Ryan Johnson's Canadian, isn't he?

Luke

He's not either. He's he's just stay in school.

Josh

Well, that's dumb. Um, yeah. Oh, wait, hold on you. You keep talking. I found I found the the whole the whole shebang

Luke

here. Oh, I was gonna do that.

Josh

Um, oh, okay. Well, the World Juniors website just isn't working. That's cool. All right. Well, so the three that we do know, own power is captain of Canada, I believe. No, no,

Luke

he did not even say he's not even an assistant. Yeah, I was just thinking it's Caden. guli. Cole perfetti. And Jake neighbors are the assistant

Josh

shake neighbors who make it on power?

Luke

Um, no, he's too young.

Josh

No one power big process guy. Big process guy. Did you see that tweet? What? No. Um, so the NA, or the Team Canada did like oh, what do you call it? Like, player profiles. And basically, he was like, they asked him like, best way you would describe yourself and he said, humble. I, I don't know if that's an oxymoron to describe yourself as humble. I'm god, no, I can't find it. That's great. He just basically said trust the process and surrender the outcome or something like that. He said, That was the best advice he was ever given. So big rebuild guy. Oh, and power. Hopefully he can trust the process long enough in Buffalo, but I'm excited to see what he does for Canada. He's been lighting it up. In Michigan, um, with a lot of points in a lot of games, um,

as a defenseman, too, so, and they have they do you really do you think Canada has better defenseman or better forwards this year? forwards, forwards, yeah, yeah.

Luke

So I like Katie and Gulino and power being there along with Ryan will work but their forwards are just It's unreal. Therefore we line up. Oh,

Josh

yeah, I mean, they have Connor Bedard. Johnson, Dylan Gunther I mean, those three right there. Yeah. Let's not forget me so McTavish Cole perfetti. Jake neighbors. Logan St. COVID. Shane, right, Justin sort of Shane. Right. And I actually know Connor Bedard. 16 years old doing this so that's fun. Ya know their defenseman. I mean, the standouts are gonna be Carson Lambos Oh, and power and Caden ghuli. So yeah, there's time for power to shine and show off his skills of scoring 23 points in 18 games with Michigan. Tied with his World Juniors teammate Ken Johnson for the points lead in Michigan. Oddly enough, both of them have under double digits goals, but lead Michigan in in points. Nice job. He dropped something. I mean, power has got three goals and 23 assists. Johnson has four goals and 19 assists. I can't remember who's Kent Johnson's NHL team. Oh, Columbus. That sucks. It'd be cool if we could draft him. But anyway, so yeah, on power is gonna look great in Canada. I think. As much as I hate to say this, I think Canada is gonna win this one. I mean that that forward lineup is just too good.

Luke

But we thought I would say we thought the same thing. We thought

Josh

that we thought that last year when they had Kirby doc Dylan cousins. Well, I'm blanking on everyone else.

Luke

Names are hard.

Josh

Cole perfetti, I think was still there last year. But yeah, I mean, you can say oh, look at all the star power they have but can they work together? You know? And that's something we always say with USA is USA doesn't ever really that much star power but they work together well, just because of the end DTP or whatever the acronym is. And the National NT NT and TD ntdp national team development program. Anyway, next guy on the next team as I couldn't remember his name during the warm up, so I had put in the doc of Russian guy from Russia. That would be Nikita Novikov the only Russian prospect that the Sabres head that made the Russian World Juniors team Luke, do you want to tell us a little bit about the big bad Russian defenseman?

Luke

Yeah, so Nikita Novikov is not is not that flashy defenseman, like we have in like dolly and an O and power and whatnot. He's not going to be putting up you know, 50 6070 points this season. He's your stay at home six foot six that he's he's he's Rasmus Ristolainen. But hopefully better.

Josh

Don't say that. I was excited about this guy.

Luke

Sorry. Sorry. I'm just talking about and I'm just like, yeah, he's that stay at home defenseman. He's a big dude. He can skit that was that was Australia behind Restall it wasn't it.

Josh

More Olympics news, real quick to intervene. I know I've been intervening a lot, but there's a lot of breaking news that's been coming out in the league. While we're recording this hearing that with the NHL out of the Olympics, that means Bill Guerin of the Minnesota Wild will not be Team USA GM expect John Van breeze breeze Brock of USA Hockey to run point on putting non NHL team together for Beijing.

Luke

Interesting right they're still gonna send it team kind of forgot about that

Josh

Brian Johnson gonna go. I mean, he could. Um, but yeah, back to back to my cute note golf.

Luke

Novikov last season had 12 points in 54 games with I want to say that M H L or the Oh, okay. I don't I don't know. Whatever.

Josh

I know. I know he plays for what like Dynamo Moscow right now.

Luke

Yeah, maybe cage I don't know. What are those year? Oh,

Josh

no, Dynamo Dynamo. Dynamo Moscow is in the cage. Oh,

Luke

yeah. But um, he I believe is like six points through 20 Some games this year. Maybe four. He's just your stay at home D. He's going to get the job done. He's going to try to outwork you in his own corners and just make that first pass or Bayko pass around. The boards

Josh

I mean don't not the patch on the board

Luke

but like like it'll be it'll be slower though won't be a slap shot.

Josh

Yeah won't be it won't be just a shot around the boards it'll be a pass around the boards. Um, but honestly I could see a guy like Novikov being paired with a guy like Darlene power, one of those offensive defenseman because if you're a Smart Stay at home defenseman that knows how to stay at home on like Rasmus. Ristolainen

Luke

your one mark Pysyk

Josh

part Mark Pysyk Henry okie, are you a kind of will butcher

Luke

or no budget will victory is very much offensive.

Josh

Yeah, I'm trying to think who Well, I would say Bryson too, but Bryson's even been racism

Luke

on offensive offensive. Like Robert hag.

Josh

Yeah, there you go. That's what I'm looking for

Luke

someone that will give you almost nothing offensively but we'll do well, everybody has enhanced case. Decent defensively. Yeah. But yeah, I'm excited to watch him this Russian team is actually probably pretty decent. Yeah. Maybe not goaltending wise but forward and defenseman wise will probably

Unknown Speaker

know because they have they have askarov I think he got laid off last year. That was

Josh

last year. Um, they also have Matt vai Mitch Cobb, who is as everyone has been saying, the comparable to Ovechkin as Bedard is Crosby. And it's funny because both of them are being drafted next year or draft eligible next year. Unlike Crosby and Ovechkin, but it'll be interesting to see which one of those two goes first. But well, you

Luke

might get hopefully, you might get another fun story out of it like the Aiko McDavid thing.

Josh

Yeah, but hopefully the Sabres won't be interested. Well, not that we wouldn't be interested in either of them, but hopefully won't be we won't be discussing. Which one are they going to take it number one.

Luke

Thanks for Bedard. Got it.

Josh

Uh, but yeah, anyway, the last of our three prospects in the World Juniors championship to look for is none other than first round pick. 14th Overall, Isaac Rosen of Sweden. Honestly, it's hard to say what he's gonna do because of how little he still plays in the SHL. I hate his SHL team in the burning passion. You got to play him five minutes a night. It's so frustrating. You

Luke

got to remember to with the SHL that a lot of people forget with these prospects at play there. It's in pro league. It's a legitimate League. These coaches are playing for their jobs. It's not like it's the you know, you 20 program league like it's a pro league. He's playing with 30 year olds and close to 40 year olds half the time Yeah. Former NHL owners Yeah, a lot of \$4 million play over there now so

Josh

but the bright the bright side is to look at here in the Sweden you 20 International Junior tournament, whatever. He had three points in nine games last year in the World Junior Championship under eight teams. He had nine points in seven games. So we're looking for him to improve here in the World Juniors this year.

Luke

He I think he's gonna get a chance he's gonna get a chance to so if you if you look at Sweden lineup, it's actually a pretty decent lineup that they have. But you're gonna see him probably play with one William Eklund, at least that point probably at least on the powerplay too, so watch for Rosen to actually have a pretty decent World Juniors tournament. Helping lead Sweden probably I'm gonna say like a top five finish.

Josh

They've also got sent Simon Edmonson of the Red Wings fabyan lifestyle of the Bruins. And just for walstad, the goaltender for the Minnesota Wild so Sweden could very well be a bit of a sleeper team this oh

Luke

very much so especially with just for wild stat is if he if he can play like he has been and the why he got drafted in the first round by Minnesota then sweet it'll be fine.

Josh

Sebastian CASAS a better goaltender than wall said but that's my own opinion.

Luke

I don't disagree with you I don't agree with you. I kind of think that they're at the same level right now.

Josh

He's bigger that's why I like him more. Yeah, I mean, if you yo is six five and an absolute tank

Luke

yeah like we said like we said before, it's it's really hard to tell how good guys are going to be

Josh

especially 18 years old. Yeah against other 18 year olds.

Luke

Exactly. So look for was set to have a good series and look for Isaac rose to actually get some playing time on the Sweden was on your team. I'd like you to get some SHL and if you if you look to with don't even

Josh

get me started, that's just I know it's I know it's there for you.

Luke

Got it, you're gonna put your foot out who you think will get you the best results and your best line chemistries. And right now Rosen's buried on the fourth line because of how good his team is.

Josh

That's fair. I mean, I hope he can come over to Rochester next year. I don't know how that all works. But

Luke

I mean, he'll as long as he signs a contract with us, he'll be he'll be allowed to because he'll be of age. At that point. I'll be 20. So it'll be able to play in the AHL.

Josh

That's true. Speaking of the HL, the AMEX have postponed I believe, Thursday night's game,

Luke

I believe. I believe there's another game because they're postponed like next like, there's another game is postponed, like next week.

Josh

I think the HL should just do with the NHL, just

Luke

I think they're in route to doing so.

Josh

Yeah. I mean, it would just make sense at this point. You know, like it. Honestly, not all sports, but the NHL of hockey should just kind of stop for a second. Um,

Luke

just pause for a minute. Just hang on.

Josh

Yep. Just wait a minute. So yeah, tomorrow's game as in Wednesday, the 22nd was postponed. I think they're still practicing, which is good. I mean, that's nice. They did practice this morning. So that's good. But it's gonna kind of take time for the whole league and all their adjacent leagues to get COVID under control, because, I mean, you got to think if someone gets called up to the NHL club and sent back down, it's could lead to COVID transmission between the league so it's gonna take a few days or a few weeks to get everything under control, but I think they'll do fine.

Luke

Definitely. It's funny. It kind of sucks for a case of Australia's he was just loaned back to the AMEX and

Josh

he takes for so he did so good. In his first game, he looked awesome. I think he looked great.

Luke

I didn't get a chance to see that game. Unfortunately, he honestly no, he had a fight and assist. So here's a goal away from getting Gordie Howe hattrick. He

Josh

would have been one of 11 players to get a Gordie Howe hattrick in their first game. Not including Gordie Howe.

Luke

I think I don't know for what's the little bits of like, you know, replays and whatnot that I've seen and like footage I saw of case Michelle from that game looks pretty good. He was

Josh

really the way I put it was like because I want to say he was a stay at home defenseman, but he did join the Russia bunch. Yeah, but he was very smart in his own zone. He seemed to be very

Luke

aware like that he was collected. Yeah, especially

Josh

for a guy in his first NHL game. I think that was the most surprising thing was that he was that. He looked that ready in his first game. Like he didn't look frazzled. He didn't look nervous, or like yeah, or he or and on the flip side, he didn't try too much because oh my god, I'm in the NHL, I got to do everything. He played his role and it paid off he got an assist and he got into a fight which scared the shit out of his mom and made his dad really excited

Luke

his dad was in the stands he's like I Yeah. And it's funny to his dad is is the GM or assistant GM of the devils he is the GM of the New Jersey Devils

Josh

and he used to work in the Sabres system so what

Luke

I'm hearing is he was just scouting his son to make a case to be like Hey, we should trade for this guy.

Josh

I mean, he's the GM you can trade for we want case if it's real for miles would one for one. Um,

Luke

no. No. Even to be like is that'd be like Hey, so love Yeah, but uh, nah,

Josh

bring miles wood back to Buffalo please. Um

Luke

I don't hate the Fisher Oh, call up. I kind of wish it was Samuelson instead. And that's kind of my like, Yeah, but counterpoint to Fisher Oh, coming up. Samson's ready.

Josh

But here's, here's, here's the counterpoint to that. They know Samuelson is ready. So they want to try other people out and see how they're all looking. Oh,

Luke

that and I think they're kind of waiting until to kind of figure out you know, Hey, are we making a playoff push? Are we not and then they're pretty much just going to call up. Quinn grabs Turkey and samisen just, hey, send him off. Get him some games.

Josh

But see, like butcher and hag have been playing pretty steadily.

Luke

I think you can easily take them out of a lineup though. Right?

Josh

I'm just worried if you do get into that mode of we're making a playoff push. If you do anything to the team, it's gonna kill their momentum.

Luke

Well, that's what I'm saying. Like if we're not making a playoff push, don't call. Don't call him up. Let them play. Well know that that push there?

Josh

No, that's what I'm saying though. Yeah. But no, what I'm saying is it's like if you have a playoff push going and say you bring up Quinn Krebs for Turca and you put him in for I don't know he can Girgensons and

Luke

insert the girl come on line up it'd be he can Aiden and like cuz you're gonna keep burgers is like both in the lineup because he

Josh

says he can Hayden and Bjork yeah like put will will pulling them out of the lineup ruin no momentum the rest of the team has like well like kill the vibe kind of sorta it could but you don't want to you know like I'm I for I am like nervous to do anything like that because like if it ain't broke don't fix it but at the same time would guys like I mean those guys like that would definitely help your case to make playoffs

Luke

definitely but that's that's what I'm saying. If we're making the playoff push leave them in da let them keep playing let them make their playoff push in the A but if we're not making that playoff push, give them some games. Let it Oh, you're saying the Yeah, I we're not making a playoff push.

Josh

I was completely miss hearing you. I thought you were saying bring them on. Oh, you're making a play. I

Luke

know if we're not making if we're not making a playoff push. Give them some games. Let them guys the NHL.

Josh

That was a big brain fart on my part. I was calling at all I was like, You're you're you're not understand.

Luke

No, no, no, you're not understanding me. Yeah,

Josh

no, I got you. Um, I don't know. I mean, I, I just want them to all like, I want to just can we just build a time machine and go four years in the future? And two

Luke

years, two years. I literally just two years, two years.

Josh

So we're like, Hey, we're here but like for

Luke

you. That's what I what? Here's the thing. I want to see that. Hey, we're here. You're gonna see us I want to see us do amazing and also bad at some points. Yeah. Which I want to see. The you know, oh, look at what Quinn Quinn credit for target just did and the next game and like five games later. I wanna see a What's the deal with Queen crows? Patrika. Like, what's the issue? I'll be like, Okay, it's because they're growing still.

Josh

Right. It's kind of like what cousins and mittelstadt and Darlene are going through right now. So it's coming together

Luke

it'll be but it'll be better because come the two years from now, because of milset and Darlene will be set and ready. i Well, we hope hopefully but be that you know, hey, we're here we're good. And then it's like bringing these guys is like oh we can get really good. We just need just like another year to get like that much better for them to get accustomed to the game. At this high of a level. There's a lot to look forward to in the Sabres in the Sabre system that hopefully we can continue to say. And not like we have in the past where it's like yeah, there's so much to look forward to and then well yeah, again. AR once again,

Josh

speaking of, well, this isn't exactly Buffalo Sabres news, but I just think it's funny and I want to talk about it because I was kind of hoping the Sabres would make a push for this guy. The Arizona Coyotes are supposedly taking calls on Jacob Chychrun defensive defenseman from Arizona, and I was like, wow, hey, maybe the Sabres could give them like a couple like second or third round picks and like maybe like a prospect. I don't really want to give up a prospect at this point. But maybe you could or just like some sort of a piece. And then they come out and say they want a comparable to the Jack Eichel trade. So Arizona wants a player for right now. A prospect like Peyton Krebs and at least one first round pick for Jacob Chychrun. Who mind you has been very injury bug yet and very inconsistent. He's had fantastic seasons. Don't get me wrong, but like right now. He's injured.

Luke

I'd say. I'd say best bet for a tray for children is a middle of the high round Second. And a prospect. Yeah, maybe maybe a mid to late first, paying what you guys call her side of somebody but his best

Josh

season was last year he had 41 points in 56 games as a defenseman pretty good this year. Why did he do that? Last year in 56 games he had 41 points. Before that his season high was 26. He was drafted in 2016 and

Luke

16th. Overall, he came out he was highly touted to

Josh

Yeah, he came right into the league and played and had 20 points in his first season pretty good. This year, though. Seven points in 26 games at a minus 29. Hey,

Luke

we gotta remember that. He's on though. You're

Josh

You're right. You're right, but he is injured right now. So

Luke

again, actually being defensive in on that team.

Josh

This would be this would be if they're looking for a Jack Eichel trade. This would be the flip of what the saber Did where they traded the long term injured player for the pot for the players and prospects they would get right now. So if a team was to do this, they would be the buffaloes or they would be the Vegas Golden Knights in this situation. I can see what Arizona is trying to do here. I mean, Arizona is trying to load up refill the tank. I mean,

Luke

so high by medium.

Josh

I guess. Um, I mean, they've got a lot coming up. Oh, Connor Timmons is injured. Nevermind. He's not. He's hurt. Um, nevermind. They don't have this guy. I thought they did. I mean, Barry Eaton looks okay. Clayton Keller has looked nothing like what they drafted him for they do have Gillen, Dylan Gunther, which is good. Victor Soderstrom. Other than that, not too much. They

do have three first round picks and five second round picks in this draft. A lot of second round picks in 2020 for a bunch of second round pick or third round picks and then 2023 and 2024. So Arizona is like kind of just trying their best and throwing as many darts as they can. But I don't know it's not looking good in the desert. And I hear Quebec calling. Bring back in right here.
Houston

Luke

calling.

Josh

Oh, yeah. Used to be nice, too. Anyway,

Luke

with that, though, as we know, we got away from some of the sabers talk.

Josh

Yeah, sorry about that. It's been it's been hard going on. Yeah. Really? We can't really do. I mean, we couldn't do. We couldn't do a what's it called Three stars of the week at all, because, you know, they didn't play it to happen. But if we were to do three stars of last week, cuz I know we didn't record UPL would be the only star.

Luke

I probably have UPL and oppo,

Josh

and cousins too. So yeah, okay. There's your

Luke

here's something for yourself. The funny I am, you know, pretty certain that that's who we had. When we started three stars. It was no it wasn't UPL it was Thompson. Yeah, it was Thompson. Oh, postwhen cousins. Was Skinner being a honorable mention? Yes. Now it's UPL. Okposo and cousins. It's almost like weirdly enough, a poster with cousins works.

Josh

Yeah. I mean, he's still leading the team and points so

Luke

20 points in 30 games. I mean,

Josh

if only he did that five years ago, if we did that every year he's

Luke

been under contract. Yeah. But with that as we're getting to the end of this episode that by the way, podcast Josh, what is one thing you were looking forward to in this next week?

Josh

So it's not I don't really have anything I'm well and that's I don't have anything I'm looking forward to. I am looking forward to Christmas spending time my family stuff like that. Hoping it starts getting it keeps getting colder so the lakes freeze over please weather can you cooperate for ones? Other than that, though? Not too much. I do have a funny tweet. Well, not funny tweet, but a fun tweet. On this day in Buffalo sports history. In 1991. The Buffalo Sabres Alexander Mogilny ties in NHL record by scoring five seconds into the game versus the Toronto Maple Leafs. And that just makes me happy

Luke

Sabres have have some kind of NHL record. He died. Joe Wright only had the record for being like the most losing team

Josh

and the first team to lose or first teams ranked 31st in the league. Yeah, no. This is kind of fun to watch though, because it's just Mogilny dicing through for leafs players and then just firing a shot past whoever their goaltender was at the time. So that's fun. But other than that, that's all I got. Luke, how about you?

Luke

Um, oh, no, I Christmas is coming up. So this it's that's about what I have excited for coming up this week. So, you know, Christmas Eve, both my girlfriend's mother's and my place. And then Christmas day, my place and my girlfriend's mother's and then that following Monday, we're going to my girlfriend's father's so a lot of Christmas coming up. Yeah, a lot of Christmas coming up, I'm finally meeting her father's side of the family. So that's going to be interesting. That's interesting. I've met no one on her father's side of the family. So it's gonna be very interesting. But with that, we're gonna be wrapping up here and that way they have a podcast. So I hope everyone out there has a very Merry Christmas and a Happy Holidays. And stay safe. Stay smart. Merry Christmas.

Josh

See you next year. Maybe, we'll be back. Merry Christmas.

Transcribed by <https://otter.ai>

