

Luke

What is up everyone? Welcome to the die by the way podcast where Josh and I sit down and talk about everything buffalo hockey. I'm your host Luke, the other guy my screens my co host Josh, I want to get right on into another JAM PACKED Episode

Unknown Speaker

What is up? How are you? Hey,

Josh

bills one. Bills did win. Um, I'm very happy about that. Very, very excited for this weekend. I unlike most of Western New York, I'm not nervous for Kansas City. Feel like we're going to be fine. Um, but hey, we're hockey podcasts. So we'll get away from that a little bit. Unless you guys want us to talk about bills? No, I

Luke

can easily talk about the bills for hours but that's besides the point because that's Josh didn't say we are a hockey podcast. And there's been plenty of actually pretty decent Sabres hockey going on.

Josh

Yeah, except for that game against the red wings on the same night that the bills played I'm sure none of you watched it. So the last for nothing there. But the game before that they did win four to one against Nashville who was 12 One and one going into that game and their last 14 So the Sabres kind of stamp them out a little bit. Um, Aaron Dell got his first NHL or well first win as a buffalo saber that night. Finally took him 11 games I believe. No, sick. No, no, it took him Sam. He

Luke

was he was Oh in six and he got his first one.

Josh

Yeah, I don't know where I got 11 from anyway. Um, yeah, Aaron delegates. First one is a saber and then lays an absolute goose egg. The next game?

Luke

Yes, but it was worth it. Because we know both buffalo teams can not win on the same day. And we needed to build victory over the Patriots after 20 years of torment.

Josh

That is fair. Yeah. The Sabres needed to take an L for the city that day. And they did. So we thank them for it. Anyway. So then, on Monday, yeah, Monday, the 17th. The Sabres played the Redwings started off real good. They were winning 3121

Luke

to nothing

Josh

to nothing. Yeah, right. And then they let up a goal. I believe. I believe this is how it went. So they I think they let up a goal. Jeff Skinner scores. Detroit Black coach Detroit challenge.

Luke

They let up all the second goal. Okay.

Josh

Yeah, so Skinner scores. Technically Alex Tuch scored when he was offsides. Thanks a lot offsides review. Um,

Luke

he was blatantly offside though. Yeah, it was

Josh

pretty bad. But anyway, so then Skinner scores, they call for goalie interference. They get it wrong. So Detroit goes to the penalty kill and we're like, oh wow, we're up to nothing. We have a power play. There's like 15 minutes left in the third. And then, you know,

Luke

break down and do line Vladan domestic cost is packaway Shorty,

Josh

the Redwings going to shorty? sabers answer right back with a goal their own is three one still looking fine

Luke

now. No sabers did not answer back.

Josh

Oh right right it ended three two and overtime Yeah, so they don't lark and don't Larkin is a Sabres killer and ties the game up to two with about like I think three minutes ago. And then it's just all Detroit from then on out Detroit controls game in overtime the Sabres don't get a single shot. I don't think they even had control of the puck in the neutral zone, let alone the Detroit zone. So, you know one bad path leads to another and Dylan Larkin scores the game winner and the Sabres lose three two in overtime and go to zero and four against the Redwings on the season. Gotta love it. But they bounced back the next day house money Michael freaking Houser comes out of nowhere and posts a 43 Save beauty against the Ottawa Senators the Sabres win three to one. Dylan cousins scores of fluky goal, Mark Jen Koski scores a fluky goal and then Alex talk to secure me my betting money scores an empty nester

Luke

so so we need to talk about this Janikowski goal real quick, yet somehow have not seen this play happen yet. Please go watch it if you haven't, because let me missing out on the best play was honestly one of the best dumbest plays of the season for the same race.

Josh

Let me describe it for you. So Kyle Okposo gets ran into the board. right between the benches this pisses off every savers player on the ice the Sabres are mid change. At the time of the hit. I believe there were three savers on the ice.

Luke

The Senate Oh, everyone was on. Oh, yeah, they were coming out of the ice.

Josh

The senators were also mid change. So they had about six guys or seven guys on the ice. Technically. So then I believe it was John Hayden who stepped in first. props for stepping up late.

Luke

No, because Hayden was already on the bench. It was Matisse, Samuelson and Bjork. Maybe no

Josh

Pysyk Pysyk. Yeah. So, yeah, so Pesic and Samuelsson we're gonna say, stepped in to help Okposo that a bunch of Senators step in Josh Brown of the Ottawa Senators has the park in the senators zone.

Luke

mind with all the open ice

Josh

Yes, marching cows. He's behind him and I think Paul Byron or whatever the hell his name is, is behind them. No whistle has been blown. Josh brown skates kind of towards center ice but also kind of towards the scuffle, Mark Jen Kelsey Boomstick lips comes out of nowhere it takes the puck goes back down the other way to the other end of the ice. In scores. Beautiful,

Luke

beautiful breakaway

Josh

breakaway goal finally gets one whistle still isn't blown. Sabres goal is a good goal. Fight is still ensuing along the boards. ReFS don't know what the hell happened. Although his coach is losing it. But hey, it counted as a goal for the Sabres they were up to one I believe or maybe it was to nothing at that point.

Luke

I believe it was to nothing at that point. Yeah, so it was as it was one one. It was too Oh right.

Josh

Yeah, cuz the senator scored in the second period because they kind of took control within the Sabres got back in third. And then as I said, Jeff Skinner assisted Alex talk, which got me a win in my bet. So that's cool. Also, if for those of you that don't know betting is now legal in New York State mobile sports betting is not illegal. We don't encourage sports betting but it is very fun. Please do not do that if you have you know, if you get addicted to things very easily because it is quite addicting. But if you have the means to do so. It's a it's a good time. It gets you more interested in a lot of different games. Like I bet on basketball, and I'm actually probably gonna watch basketball tonight, which I've never done in my life. But anyway, no,

Luke

I I made my very first bet on that Tuesday game, not the same as one. I've been on the hurricanes Bruins game you won big. I want big thanks to the hurricanes doing what I wanted them to do. Also, thanks

Josh

to me for sending you a referral code but it's fine.

Luke

I mean, I would have put that much down anyway. But yeah, thank you.

Josh

Anyway, so we're not a betting podcast either. We just wanted to throw that out there so but yeah, so the Sabres in the last week go to into well, technically 211

Luke

and one Oh, that's a winning record.

Josh

That is a winning record the Sabres get

Luke

that'd be the guy that 500 That'd be

Josh

five points in the last four games. It's pretty good. Pretty good. Not perfect, obviously. But pretty good. So

Unknown Speaker

we're making a push make it a push to get make push.

Josh

Listen, I missed her optimism but like no.

Luke

It's It's good to see though guys stepping up. You know, Hayden had the fight against could shock. Um, yeah. In that game. Hayden did not, you know, like, well, but he stepped up absolutely like to see

Josh

Yeah, props to him for like stepping up, but like, Good god, get this man. A fighting lesson with Ryan.

Luke

Um, but again, back to that drink. Koskela just so fine to me because Jen Koski is so excited like guys into the thing. And the team's just like, cool. Can we go fight this guy now? Like, come on. I don't care. Like no,

Josh

I see. It was funny because the Sabres just like left the fight and went over to Jen Koski and celebrate. I think that's better than actually like fighting and winning. The fight is like, Hey, you guys are so stupid and distracted that we actually just scored a goal on you. Like, huh, that's funny. Well,

Luke

I didn't hear you embarrass a rival.

Josh

I did hear a comparison though that the saber or the senators are what the Sabres were, like four years ago. They have like all the pieces, but it's like, we're not quite there yet. Like, it wasn't really the Sabres had like Michael Reinhart Ristolainen. Like, like that core and like this. The senators have Chuck Stewart's law. I mean, they have Sanderson coming up. They have Batterson who for some reason is like actually playing well. Like they have all these pieces but they just get Do it

Luke

well I'm having formants into and even Zach Stanford and all these all these like kind of quote unquote no name guys it helps them out. Right and hopefully in a sense I kind of want them to get relatively decent because I would love to see a buffalo auto arrival rivalry oh

Josh

yeah like I remember being a kid in like 2005 2007 I was terrified of the Ottawa Senators but I loved when we played them because it was such a good game it was usually like either right down to the wire and overtime like two to one or it was like a gold fast of like seven to six. Yeah,

so yeah, but like just to like further like prove my point here. They got pretty good truck trick Patterson, Zach Sanford. Adam godet. Josh Norris, Tim stood Tesla.

Luke

They also put Sabres legend on that team right

Josh

now. I was about to say Tyler Ennis. And then I

Luke

thought of it. What's that? Hear me out, bring him back for the fun of it.

Josh

But then you got Thomas Shabbat, Josh Brown who is like, okay as like a veteran defenseman Victor medpay. Erik brannstrom, who they got in the trade with oh god Vegas, I believe it was Yeah, Vegas. We

Luke

have a lot of potential especially with Sanderson coming up that defensive core being Shabbat Branson and Sanderson.

Josh

Mind you uninjured reserve. They also have Cullen white, and Shane Pinto.

Luke

Yeah. Well, Pinto has potential to be a solid, like, third line guy. Yeah. But Conway has kind of run his course in Ottawa.

Josh

I mean, Colin White is 24 I think he still has hockey left in him, but just me.

Luke

Oh, yeah. Yeah, he definitely needs a change of scenery. He's one of those that he can probably put up 40 or 50 points if he you know, had a good, good line around him. But he hasn't really had that in Ottawa. Because Ottawa has been Ottawa.

Josh

Yeah. They do have one interesting goalie, prospect, Luke, and I know this guy from our days in NHL video game, Mads. So guard. He has he's there now. Yeah, he currently has been put he has played 16 games for the Belleville senators and has a goals against average of two and a half and I say percentage of 913. But anyway,

Luke

that'd be a solid backup.

Josh

So you look at that, and then you look at who the Savers have coming up with like Casey mittelstadt, age Thompson, Dylan cousins, I went power jack Quinn, Jeju pataka. And it's like, Oh, my God, like these two teams could have that rivalry back. And they could constantly just beat the crap out of teams like Boston.

Luke

And it was it was fun too, because that entire game against auto it was just it was a hit Fest and it was very not even dirty, just very physical game and you love that. So sticking with it,

Josh

right? That's how all the Sabres Ottawa games are and I love it. But it's, it's like, that's what it used to be like to that. That was like the hockey that me and you grew up with Luke. It's exactly fun to watch. And like I said, back in the day, during that time, Boston was like, pretty bad. Montreal wasn't the greatest and like, it'd be the Sabres and senators running that division. And I think that's gonna happen again, I think in the next few years, as long as the senators do everything right. I think the Sabres will but you never know a lot of I don't know why we're talking about so much. Um, well, let's

Luke

face it. Um,

Josh

I think in the next few years, you could see the top three in the Atlantic being the Sabres not in this order being the Sabres, the Panthers and the senators. Possibly. I mean, Mike

Luke

will always be there. No, no, we're gonna fall off

Josh

by the time by the time the Sabres are up there that the lightning will have fallen off

Luke

Vasilevsky I have to say who else Khusrau is probably gonna stay there for a while admin still got good years left in him and start tracking

Josh

let's look at the ages of all these players. Kucherov is 28. Yes, Sam. COEs 31. Braden point is 25. So I'll give you that one.

Luke

The only the only reason the only reason I say Tampa look at Pittsburgh.

Josh

That's fair. But Headman 31. McDonald's 32

Yeah, but if true,

Luke

they still have a sore neck. Oh, sorry. I hate saying that name. Um, who? Oh, sir neck. Yeah. Um, and like they'll have point they have plenty of guys coming out Roscoe or Colton Ross Colton Roscoe.

Josh

Roscoe. Yeah. Yeah. But like Andre Milan, Alex corn. I mean, Corey Perry.

Luke

There's gonna be a lot of changing in Tampa in the next three years. Yeah. But they don't always

Josh

close like they drafted well, but like, I just don't know if like, like, I don't know if those guys They're all going to be what the lightning are now.

Luke

Like I said, Tampa is probably always going to be there. Toronto is gonna be pushing. Boston I think is gonna be the one team that falls off. Yeah, I think so next couple years.

Josh

They're kind of already doing it.

Luke

Especially you know, Marsha is gonna be retiring probably in the next five, six years burrs Ron's gonna be retiring probably the next three years. They're losing those Max three years. Yeah, and two cars gonna probably be done after this season or next season. So they're losing a lot. And it's gonna be fun. It's honestly, it's gonna it's gonna be fun to see them just

Josh

rebuild with nothing. Yeah.

Unknown Speaker

Because three picks and rolls take debrusk Boral. And who's the other one?

Josh

URL back in 19?

Luke

Yeah. Yeah, instead of, I don't know, like Barzal or wasn't point that draft as well.

Josh

He No, no, no,

Luke

I think point was dropped before

Josh

that. Yeah, point was 2014. Yeah, um, the only real prospects they, they have, in my opinion are Jeremy Swayman. The goaltender and Fabien Lecellier from this past draft

Luke

Fabian lifestyle I think will be a solid top six forward.

Josh

Yeah, that's funny. They have a prospect named Curtis Hall. He's like a combination of Curtis Lazar and Taylor Hall and anyway

Luke

we traded them both Hall and Lazar anyway with that though last thing I want to touch on about the now Sabres is this Cousins-Tuck-Skinner line is like our forever line honestly loci that

Josh

better be a line in tonight's game against the Stars. I would be so mad if it's not. Well, Michael Hauser should also be playing tonight. By the way.

Luke

I actually believe that he's most likely going to get the start. Good. Good. Because not 100% on that. I know. Weirdly enough, though, I don't have like, utter disbelief in Dell, right?

Josh

Yeah, I mean, Dell, Dell played really good in that loss to the Red Wings honestly, the threats

Luke

like this. Yeah. The second one, the team around him just didn't know we gave we gave up in that third period and let them come back after that short-handed goal.

Josh

Yeah, I just hope that tonight's team doesn't get too high on themselves and just

Luke

I'm really not worried about Dallas just because they're like always that Loki dumpster fire that no one really talks about? Yeah. But tacos, it's getting us to stay together. They've been scoring non stop. And Danny grado had a another great comeback at Ralph Kruger. And it was great.

Josh

Yeah, yeah. I just love that he just constantly like throws him under the bus like low key but also like high key at the same time. Yeah,

Luke

I mean, Skinner how to talk you know, we should be playing our players where they want to be played if they're if they're doing well enough. And that's what we're gonna do.

Josh

Also, by the way, Alex talk has seven points in seven games as a buffalo saber. Two goals five assists. You love to see it.

Luke

It's it's great. hometown boy, not talented hometown boy, but hometown boy, you'd love to see it. He's the hometown boy.

Josh

He's though I

Luke

also the it has been announced the all the postponements have been scheduled. Yeah, yeah. So I will get to see them. Oh, really? 19th.

Josh

February 19. That's what it is. That's

Luke

awesome. One o'clock, though, on a Saturday.

Josh

I'll probably be working for that. That'll be fun. Um, what was it gonna say? Oh, um, it's just like, it's really nice to see talked doing all this stuff. I mean, like, Oh, it's great. He's coming in. Just so ready to score. Like

Luke

he's been the most consistent player on this team. Yeah.

Josh

Yeah. He has been like, I mean, seven points in seven games. What else do you want from him, but it's also running. It's running off because it's rubbing off on Skinner. Like Skinner is on pace

for like 30 goals. Skinner hasn't been on pace for 30 goals in his first year here. His 14 goals and 24 points in 37 games. That's the best Jeff Skinner we've seen since he got here. And you want to know who I blame solely? That's stupid German soccer coach Ralph Kruger.

Luke

Oh, most definitely. It was it was like 98% his fault.

Josh

2% COVID fault.

Luke

I'll give 1% to COVID and 1% to Skinner just not wanting to play on the bottom six anymore.

Josh

Yeah, that's fair. That's fair.

Luke

But with that someone that is going to be playing probably not in our bottom six. I could play tonight. He's been called up to the taxi squad is a Jack Quinn with

Josh

a formal formal apology. From both you lose And our buddy Steve.

Luke

No. So I wasn't as hard on Quinn. I wanted Rossi over Kwame. But I said, you know, we'll give him the chance.

Josh

Steve on the other hand, yes, even though you're listening, I would like a formal apology from you, please. I think you kind of already given one. I'm all ears crafted. When the Sabres drafted Jack when Steve looked like he was gonna throw a remote through the TV. I was upset. But I was like, You know what? This guy played on Ross's wing. He's got 75 points in the OHL. That's not something you just like shake your finger at. Maybe what maybe he'll be good. Let's give him the benefit of the doubt. And look at him now. Now, obviously, Rossi's career has been changed because of COVID. So we can't really compare the two. But Jacquin had six I think six goals and three assists and four games in Rochester since being sent down from his first NHL game

Luke

a couple of weeks ago. Last week, last Tuesday.

Josh

Yeah, it was last Tuesday. Right? Um, I mean, that is just absurdly good. Like, yeah, they're here to six goals and three assists in four games. The Emmerich's? That's nuts. That's nine really

Unknown Speaker

and one of those was a four goal game.

Josh

Right. And it was a four goal loss. Which is insane. They lost to Belleville that night. Because remember, Rochester doesn't really have a goalie. Right. Late Robson, Nate Robson and the local No, it's Matt Robson, actually, and the local Rochester bartender.

Luke

Yes. But Jacquin is on the taxi squad. We might see him tonight. We might not we'll have to wait until lions come out from morning skates and whatnot. Also,

Josh

oh, morning skate. I just saw this. Um, Casey mittelstadt. Is skating at morning skate today. I don't think he's he's nowhere near full participant. But Casey mittelstadt is back on the ice.

Luke

Interesting. But that man,

Josh

he'll do not play him. Oh, yeah. No.

Luke

Coronado even said, like, we want everyone to be healthy. We're waiting. Like, we know this is kind of a last season like, let's get get these guys healthy. Let's get them playing and whatnot. So

Josh

and you know what's great, though. I mean, I'm, I'm not happy that Coronado had to admit that, hey, this is kind of a last season, but I'm glad that one he recognizes it. And he's not going to push us guys to get back and get healthy and throw him into the game right away to I'm happy because he's still pushing them. I mean, oh, yeah. You could tell after the Detroit game on Monday. He was pissed. Like he was not happy with how that team finished. And he probably let them know about it. He probably laid into him like we saw how Lindy refused to do to the guys. And that's something that I want to see out of a Sabres coach, which I think we can definitely see out of rough rule. Now Ralph Kruger we were talking about him I'm sorry. That's definitely something we can see out of Don Granado is yes, he's gonna be a nice guy. Nice coach. Nice, you know, friend, I guess you could say but he's also gonna know when to you know, buckle down and be like, Hey, guys, get your shit together, you know?

Luke

Yeah, also another update for morning skates powerplay units for today's case populate too I'm gonna read that one first because it's asked when all of a sudden cousins grabs and butcher that's p p two. p p one. p p one at morning. Skate right now is a talk. Thompson. Skinner. Darlene and Jacquin

Josh

Oh, wait, where's cousins? Oh, he's on the second one. Yeah. So Jacqueline's playing tonight?

Luke

Most likely from the looks of it.

Josh

Oh, he's gonna score I could feel it.

Luke

Oh my god. I really feel especially at the Dallas team. That's always you know, a shit show.

Josh

Hey, speaking of breaking news, wow, we're just like getting a bunch of stuff this morning. I hope I hope all of you can listen to this before tonight's game, but this this doesn't really matter for tonight's game. So the Sabres PR just tweeted out their injury report. Which, while we all know there's not much in here because the injuries are listed as upper body upper lower and COVID COVID. Craig Anderson still month to month Jacob Bryson day to day with a lower body injury. Drake cadoola week to week with an upper body zemgus Girgensons. Day to day with a lower body. Vinnie hinostroza and Luca pakka Lukin and both week to week with lower body injuries. Collin Miller upper week to week Casey mittelstadt. Upper day to day interest.

Luke

I thought it was a lower body injury.

Josh

I don't know No, he was always upper body Kyler posto upper body week to week That's kind of concerning.

Luke

That's that probably explains why Jacquin got called out to the practice squad. Yeah, but that's the squad

Josh

that's concerning just because of all the issues like post has had in the past or this concussions and whatnot.

Luke

That hit took a lot out of them. You saw him go to the dressing room immediately. Yeah, well, last

Josh

time you got to ban is still upper month a month and doesn't Tokarski is still COVID week to week. I really hope to Karski is okay. I mean, I only know he's been out for about two or three months now. About two. That's sad. Makes me makes me not happy. makes me unhappy. Um, but yeah, so glad we could bring you the updated Sabres injury report. It is lengthy, but it looks like it will be shortening soon.

Luke

Whoa, maybe. That explains Jacqueline's call up.

Josh

It does. I was wondering why he got called up because I'm like, nobody has COVID Yeah, but he really got injured that we know of

Luke

taking a gun or hate it out of a lineup finally.

Josh

I don't understand. I mean, I guess, I guess like you're just kind of keeping them there. Because you don't want to rush your young guys, but at the same time, like can we just move on from that little experiment? That didn't work?

Luke

Yeah. And with Bryson still being hurt, and column Miller still being hurt. Let's Matisse Samuelson stay in the lineup, and honestly, I believe he has earned his spot.

Josh

I think so to Samuelsson. I mean, he's had his moments. He definitely had a bad one in Monday against Detroit. He kind of just stood there next to the net. While Larkin diced up the Sabres defense pass it out front or No, it wasn't Larkin. It was I think it was Raymond diced up the defense pass it out front the Larkin Larkin was just wide open and Samuelson you can just watch him follow the puck with his eyes and not move at all. So,

Luke

but if you take a look at that Ottawa game, he was he was how do you break a check in the corner all

Josh

games? Yes, he was a lot better in the Ottawa game.

Luke

He took away a breakaway at one point or potential breakaway. He took away a potential two on one and he's shown decent puck movement to

Josh

Yeah, yeah, like he looks more of a defensive defenseman type but he can move the puck. Um, but as we've seen, it's good to pair defensive defenseman with offensive defenseman case in point. Rasmus tahle and Henri Jokiharju. I love those two together,

Luke

and I love Joker is more of a two way.

Josh

Yeah, but but I've just seen a lot of improvement in Joker's defensive game this year that I really like. Um, is Samuel isn't right or left.

Luke

Samuelsson is a left shot.

Josh

Darn. I was gonna say maybe pair him with power when that comes up.

Luke

I see it being Darlene power. Samuelson down that left side,

Josh

huh? Yeah, but

Luke

what about Bryson? Bryson can play on the right side with Samuelson

Josh

bracing can play on the right side with power

Luke

that to that too,

Josh

because Bryson offensive defenseman.

Luke

No, no, not. Oh, right. Way too fast and way too shifty.

Josh

Yeah, yeah, you're right.

Luke

I'd rather see him with someone like Samuelsson. I'd rather see power with someone like a Colin Miller and Mark Pysyk type.

Josh

Yeah, but not Colin Miller or mark or.

Luke

Okay. I'm okay with Mark Pysyk being with power. Yeah, but

Josh

remember Mark Pysyk is 32. I don't care.

Luke

He's still a good defenseman. I say we, I say we resign him. That sounds to him.

Josh

Peace. Casey Fitzgerald needs to get a shot. I think I think in the few games he's played this year, he's looked good.

Luke

Yes. But we sat him down in place of Matisse Samuelsson?

Josh

That's fair, but at the same time, if you think about it, like if, when, if Colin Miller doesn't come back, I think I think Fitzgerald is the first call up.

Luke

Well, yeah, most definitely doesn't be the first call up. Um,

Josh

because I mean, in four games, Fitzgerald had only at one point, but he had an even plus minus. So I mean, that's kind of a better defensive stat.

Luke

Better than Ristolainen is minus 45.

Josh

Hell yeah. Um, I wonder how he's doing.

Luke

Apparently he could be on the move come the trade deadline. Oh, according to insiders and Elliot Friedman.

Josh

You know, I feel really I kind of feel bad for Risto because I feel like he really could have had a very good NHL career. If he had better foundations in Buffalo. Like,

Luke

I just I just think that we everyone hyped him way more than he was. I think he is a top four defenseman Max. Yeah. And everyone was like, Oh, he's a top two. He's elite. He's gonna be great. And it's no

Josh

see if I think if Risto was coming up in now now. Yeah, pipeline. Oh my god like

Luke

we we probably would be looking at him like we are at Samuelsson right now.

Josh

Exactly. Yeah. I mean, I think Samuelsson is definitely a step down from Risto at least at this point in their career.

Luke

And points wise because Russell was more offensive minded,

Josh

right. But you look at like, you look at Risto at Samuelson's age of 21, even though Samuelsson looks like he's 35 and has two kids a house and like a dog, and like three mortgages. Yeah, like, like, they showed him an A player profile the other night, my dad was like, Who's this guy? And I'm like, that's been to Santos. And he's like, when do we get him? I'm like, it just says right there. We just drafted him. And he's like, This guy looks like he's 35 And he's like, at the end of his NHL career.

Luke

Oh my god, it's I always feel for him.

Josh

I think it's like five o'clock shadow he's got

Luke

but I feel like low key like not not not making a festive I don't know if he can grow more. Like I think that's where he can grow and he just keeps it. And that's what makes him look so much older.

Josh

Anyway, so that's kind of where we're at. With our little prospect. Round up. One more prospect actually hit on Devin Levi. Oh, nice, man. Oh, by now I'm a goalie nerd at heart. Like the shit fascinates me. Devin Levi earned his ninth shutout of the season the other night. And that is three shutouts in their first four games since their holiday break. So Levi, has now played 22 games this year for Northeastern has a 131 goals against average and a 955. Same percentage with a record of 16 five and one. That is incredible. Mind you. He is 20 years old.

Luke

Hey, also quick reminder because we are on a record watch with him. He is four shutouts away from breaking the record for a season in the NCAA. Yeah, cuz it's 12. Right? Yep. held by Greg Garner in 1999 2000.

Josh

And you know, he's in second place.

Luke

Ryan Miller,

Josh

you know what Miller and Levi also have in common? The last goaltender to win the Hobey Baker was Ryan Miller, I believe. Devin Levi, is being talked about as a possible finalist for the Hobey Baker. Over guys like oh, and power Matty burners. Um, who else is there? John Johnson.

Luke

At this point, I believe it's the two top the top two names are definitely v i n o n power.

Josh

Yeah. And both of those are saving process. And I feel like if Eric Portillo had a little bit of a stronger season he could also be in that conversation. So that's he's very on the outskirts of it. That's really good to see as a Sabres fan.

Luke

I useless It's unreal with Devon Levi's doing I don't care these playing for you know, not a top tier quote unquote,

Josh

putting up these numbers against teams like Boston College. Likely Jack Eichel came from Boston College. Say what you will about him but Jimmy VC came from Boston College. I know it's a big step down. But that's still NHL talent coming ECBC

Luke

was good in college, though. That's the thing. Yeah.

Josh

But that's NHL talent that Devin Levi is beating and that just shows that he is even though at Northeastern he is a NHL talent goaltender and I think if he was at Michigan, he would still be just this just as good.

Luke

Yeah, I was mad. I was mad about this trade. Sam Reinhart we lost him we brought him in Levi. I'm like, Who is this guy? Like he's got like a little bit potential and you know him putting up these numbers like it's making this trade look better and better if I miss Sam Reinhart, clearly he was my favorite player. I miss him dearly. But definitely by playing like this, it makes up for it in a sense that you know, hopefully, he can transition this to the NHL ice.

Josh

Yeah, I mean, Sam Reinhart would be a nice piece to have right now. Especially with this core coming up. He's got 31 point in 36 games in Florida. Good for him. Happy

Luke

pain, pain.

Josh

He would be so good. With like, I mean, we already talked about cousins Skinner talk imagine cousins imagine cousin Skinner talk is your first line Reinhardt centering your second line of Thomson Reinhardt and all of a sudden oh my god

Luke

or even if Reinhardt's okay with it, send it back to the rain put crabs in the middle and put all this in with them. Oh, yeah, yeah, yeah.

Josh

Damn. Yeah. But hey, I think the ship had sailed on Reinhardt just like it did on gold just like it did on resto it. It was just one of those things.

Luke

And it was just time But with that, the Sabres do play tonight they take on Dallas. I know you won't give score predictions, honestly. For to Buffalo

Josh

interesting. I will probably be betting on this game just because Dallas came off of a shit game the other night against Montreal which kind of scares me actually I'm a little nervous that that's gonna like push them a little bit um but we'll have to see

Luke

my my guess for to Buffalo I don't know why I'm just feeling especially Jacquin this lineup

Josh

you know what? Oh long shot but tonight would be but I think it could actually happen Jacquin goal Jacquin point. Not fair point.

Luke

Fair. I might do that.

Josh

I'm gonna do that right now. Actually, I might go do that when we're when we're done with this. But again, we are not pushing anyone to start gambling. But it is very fun. Yes.

Luke

And they look up coming Philly on Saturday at one o'clock. Honestly, I think that's gonna be good game weirdly enough. 2 million teams.

Unknown Speaker

You know, we never know and then we got Ottawa seven o'clock Tuesday night.

Luke

You know, a rematch from this past Tuesday. So it's always gonna be a fun game. We face them and what wait and see what happens with that. But it's definitely something look forward to lightsabers. It's kind of fun to watch them again. We had that little span where it was like okay, I don't I don't care because they just kind of shit the bed. All our goalies kept getting hurt, whatever. They're fun again, tucks in the lineup. Skinner's going off. The young guys are going off. It's good to see

Josh

this is what I think we could see next year. This team right here, this fun, energetic hockey team. They don't always do good, but they're like right there. And that's what I hope to see all of next year.

Luke

Well, especially you know, up I'll be healthy. Yep. And maybe we'll be healthy

Josh

and healthy.

Luke

Better. A better backup for them. Yeah. Boom.

Josh

And in the offseason in free agency. Johnny Kenosha. We draft reagent. Johnny Kudrow is a free agent Timo Meyer is a free agent Tomash hurdle I believe is a free agent. There are a lot of big names out there that are veteran guys that have had shit teams for a while that you could

say, Hey, look at this young talent. You want to be a part of this and help us be successful. Bring in your veteran talent. Help us score goals. Help us kick ass. That's what I would sell to a guy like Johnny Kudrow or Tomas hurdle or Timo Meyer. It'd be hard. But I also remember, I think you could sell

Luke

it. Yes. And remember Egon Hayden are gone after this year.

Josh

Yeah, he can Hayden are gone. And then probably one year left. A poster was one year left on the \$6 million deal.

Luke

If he's not, you know, dead by then. Don't say that. Not dead. But dead to the NHL. Yeah, that's fair.

Josh

All of sins money will come off but you got to resign him. hinostroza is gone. I think you could bring ministros back actually.

Luke

You probably can. We'll see. We'll see how he's

Josh

gone. Butchers gone. Hag. Bryson or not Bryson, I don't want rice and gone. I'm like, Who else is Oh, Colin Miller as well. Colin Miller. Yep. Johnny Boychuk. Now just kidding.

Luke

With that though, we are running out of time here the die by the way podcast. So Josh, what is one thing you are looking forward to in the coming week?

Josh

It's not really one thing I'm looking forward to. It's one thing that I've appreciated over the past like month or so. The Sabres social media team has really stepped up their game. Like they saw what the bills were doing and they're like, I got you. I'm going to do that too. They did a video with Henri jokiharju called Henry's hot takes. If you haven't seen it yet, you need to and

Luke

I haven't seen that what I've been seeing the Skinner one though. Oh, the Skinner one

Josh

went with? Would you rather listen to Nickelback for the rest of your life or have to fish ice fish for food every day? These videos are absolutely hilarious. So like if anyone knows the bill, social media they do like walk off interviews where like there's a camera set up with a question

and the players are all like Oh, like what's that? The Sabres are doing that now too. And I love it. I absolutely love it. But I also love is the attention to detail that the Sabres social media team now has. They posted a picture of Brian Johnson the other day for some reason. That was that one confused me actually. But today or yesterday was Thomas Mannix birthday, and they made a birthday post for Thomas Vanek. That is refreshing to see. I know it doesn't matter at all for what happenings what's happening on the ice. But it shows you that hey, maybe the franchise is starting to turn around and the organization is starting to pay attention to what the fans want and want the fans not that now that's obviously not what the fans want, but it's like

Luke

it's the little things it's a good moment.

Josh

It's the good moments it's the little things it's funny I like I said though check out Henry's hot takes I agree with all of them except for the first one

Luke

I got I got definitely there are there are only

Josh

three but I still agree with the the last two.

Luke

I definitely got check that out you guys should as well. One thing I'm looking forward to Sunday night 630 bills chiefs rematch of last year in the playoffs. It's gonna be fine. That's all it's on my mind. I guess I love hockey. You guys know that but the bills I just need I need them to win this game.

Josh

The country needs them to win this game so that they don't have to see Jackson mahomes on the sidelines anymore.

Luke

I don't want to see Jackson mahomes on the sidelines at Superbowl. No, I don't need to see that. No. Very low key classless guy.

Josh

Yeah, anyway, not to get on that hole.

Luke

I have a lot of issues with Jackson mahomes And what he's done this year in the shadow of Patrick mahomes. But that's besides the point because this is all about hockey. And you should definitely go check out the Sabres because they played a night

Transcribed by <https://otter.ai>

Luke

What is up everyone? Welcome to the die by the way podcast where Josh and I sit down and talk about everything buffalo hockey. I'm your host Luke, the other guy my screens my co host Josh, I want to get right on into another JAM PACKED Episode

Unknown Speaker

What is up? How are you? Hey,

Josh

bills one. Bills did win. Um, I'm very happy about that. Very, very excited for this weekend. I unlike most of Western New York, I'm not nervous for Kansas City. Feel like we're going to be fine. Um, but hey, we're hockey podcasts. So we'll get away from that a little bit. Unless you guys want us to talk about bills? No, I

Luke

can easily talk about the bills for hours but that's besides the point because that's Josh didn't say we are a hockey podcast. And there's been plenty of actually pretty decent Sabres hockey going on.

Josh

Yeah, except for that game against the red wings on the same night that the bills played I'm sure none of you watched it. So the last for nothing there. But the game before that they did win four to one against Nashville who was 12 One and one going into that game and their last 14 So the Sabres kind of stamp them out a little bit. Um, Aaron Dell got his first NHL or well first win as a buffalo saber that night. Finally took him 11 games I believe. No, sick. No, no, it took him Sam. He

Luke

was he was Oh in six and he got his first one.

Josh

Yeah, I don't know where I got 11 from anyway. Um, yeah, Aaron delegates. First one is a saber and then lays an absolute goose egg. The next game?

Luke

Yes, but it was worth it. Because we know both buffalo teams can not win on the same day. And we needed to build victory over the Patriots after 20 years of torment.

Josh

That is fair. Yeah. The Sabres needed to take an L for the city that day. And they did. So we thank them for it. Anyway. So then, on Monday, yeah, Monday, the 17th. The Sabres played the Redwings started off real good. They were winning 3121

Luke
to nothing

Josh
to nothing. Yeah, right. And then they let up a goal. I believe. I believe this is how it went. So they I think they let up a goal. Jeff Skinner scores. Detroit Black coach Detroit challenge.

Luke
They let up all the second goal. Okay.

Josh
Yeah, so Skinner scores. Technically Alex Tuch scored when he was offsides. Thanks a lot offsides review. Um,

Luke
he was blatantly offside though. Yeah, it was

Josh
pretty bad. But anyway, so then Skinner scores, they call for goalie interference. They get it wrong. So Detroit goes to the penalty kill and we're like, oh wow, we're up to nothing. We have a power play. There's like 15 minutes left in the third. And then, you know,

Luke
break down and do line Vladan domestic cost is packaway Shorty,

Josh
the Redwings going to shorty? sabers answer right back with a goal their own is three one still looking fine

Luke
now. No sabers did not answer back.

Josh
Oh right right it ended three two and overtime Yeah, so they don't lark and don't Larkin is a Sabres killer and ties the game up to two with about like I think three minutes ago. And then it's just all Detroit from then on out Detroit controls game in overtime the Sabres don't get a single shot. I don't think they even had control of the puck in the neutral zone, let alone the Detroit zone. So, you know one bad path leads to another and Dylan Larkin scores the game winner and the Sabres lose three two in overtime and go to zero and four against the Redwings on the season. Gotta love it. But they bounced back the next day house money Michael freaking Houser comes out of nowhere and posts a 43 Save beauty against the Ottawa Senators the Sabres win three to one. Dylan cousins scores of fluky goal, Mark Jen Koski scores a fluky goal and then Alex talk to secure me my betting money scores an empty nester

Luke

so so we need to talk about this Janikowski goal real quick, yet somehow have not seen this play happen yet. Please go watch it if you haven't, because let me missing out on the best play was honestly one of the best dumbest plays of the season for the same race.

Josh

Let me describe it for you. So Kyle Okposo gets ran into the board. right between the benches this pisses off every savers player on the ice the Sabres are mid change. At the time of the hit. I believe there were three savers on the ice.

Luke

The Senate Oh, everyone was on. Oh, yeah, they were coming out of the ice.

Josh

The senators were also mid change. So they had about six guys or seven guys on the ice. Technically. So then I believe it was John Hayden who stepped in first. props for stepping up late.

Luke

No, because Hayden was already on the bench. It was Matisse, Samuelson and Bjork. Maybe no

Josh

Pysyk Pysyk. Yeah. So, yeah, so Pesic and Samuelsson we're gonna say, stepped in to help Okposo that a bunch of Senators step in Josh Brown of the Ottawa Senators has the park in the senators zone.

Luke

mind with all the open ice

Josh

Yes, marching cows. He's behind him and I think Paul Byron or whatever the hell his name is, is behind them. No whistle has been blown. Josh brown skates kind of towards center ice but also kind of towards the scuffle, Mark Jen Kelsey Boomstick lips comes out of nowhere it takes the puck goes back down the other way to the other end of the ice. In scores. Beautiful,

Luke

beautiful breakaway

Josh

breakaway goal finally gets one whistle still isn't blown. Sabres goal is a good goal. Fight is still ensuing along the boards. ReFS don't know what the hell happened. Although his coach is

losing it. But hey, it counted as a goal for the Sabres they were up to one I believe or maybe it was to nothing at that point.

Luke

I believe it was to nothing at that point. Yeah, so it was as it was one one. It was too Oh right.

Josh

Yeah, cuz the senator scored in the second period because they kind of took control within the Sabres got back in third. And then as I said, Jeff Skinner assisted Alex talk, which got me a win in my bet. So that's cool. Also, if for those of you that don't know betting is now legal in New York State mobile sports betting is not illegal. We don't encourage sports betting but it is very fun. Please do not do that if you have you know, if you get addicted to things very easily because it is quite addicting. But if you have the means to do so. It's a it's a good time. It gets you more interested in a lot of different games. Like I bet on basketball, and I'm actually probably gonna watch basketball tonight, which I've never done in my life. But anyway, no,

Luke

I I made my very first bet on that Tuesday game, not the same as one. I've been on the hurricanes Bruins game you won big. I want big thanks to the hurricanes doing what I wanted them to do. Also, thanks

Josh

to me for sending you a referral code but it's fine.

Luke

I mean, I would have put that much down anyway. But yeah, thank you.

Josh

Anyway, so we're not a betting podcast either. We just wanted to throw that out there so but yeah, so the Sabres in the last week go to into well, technically 211

Luke

and one Oh, that's a winning record.

Josh

That is a winning record the Sabres get

Luke

that'd be the guy that 500 That'd be

Josh

five points in the last four games. It's pretty good. Pretty good. Not perfect, obviously. But pretty good. So

Unknown Speaker

we're making a push make it a push to get make push.

Josh

Listen, I missed her optimism but like no.

Luke

It's It's good to see though guys stepping up. You know, Hayden had the fight against could shock. Um, yeah. In that game. Hayden did not, you know, like, well, but he stepped up absolutely like to see

Josh

Yeah, props to him for like stepping up, but like, Good god, get this man. A fighting lesson with Ryan.

Luke

Um, but again, back to that drink. Koskela just so fine to me because Jen Koski is so excited like guys into the thing. And the team's just like, cool. Can we go fight this guy now? Like, come on. I don't care. Like no,

Josh

I see. It was funny because the Sabres just like left the fight and went over to Jen Koski and celebrate. I think that's better than actually like fighting and winning. The fight is like, Hey, you guys are so stupid and distracted that we actually just scored a goal on you. Like, huh, that's funny. Well,

Luke

I didn't hear you embarrass a rival.

Josh

I did hear a comparison though that the saber or the senators are what the Sabres were, like four years ago. They have like all the pieces, but it's like, we're not quite there yet. Like, it wasn't really the Sabres had like Michael Reinhart Ristolainen. Like, like that core and like this. The senators have Chuck Stewart's law. I mean, they have Sanderson coming up. They have Batterson who for some reason is like actually playing well. Like they have all these pieces but they just get Do it

Luke

well I'm having formants into and even Zach Stanford and all these all these like kind of quote unquote no name guys it helps them out. Right and hopefully in a sense I kind of want them to get relatively decent because I would love to see a buffalo auto arrival rivalry oh

Josh

yeah like I remember being a kid in like 2005 2007 I was terrified of the Ottawa Senators but I loved when we played them because it was such a good game it was usually like either right down to the wire and overtime like two to one or it was like a gold fast of like seven to six. Yeah, so yeah, but like just to like further like prove my point here. They got pretty good truck trick Patterson, Zach Sanford. Adam Godet. Josh Norris, Tim Stoudt, Tesla.

Luke

They also put Sabres legend on that team right

Josh

now. I was about to say Tyler Ennis. And then I

Luke

thought of it. What's that? Hear me out, bring him back for the fun of it.

Josh

But then you got Thomas Shabbat, Josh Brown who is like, okay as like a veteran defenseman Victor Hedqvist. Erik Brannstrom, who they got in the trade with oh god Vegas, I believe it was Yeah, Vegas. We

Luke

have a lot of potential especially with Sanderson coming up that defensive core being Shabbat Branson and Sanderson.

Josh

Mind you uninjured reserve. They also have Cullen White, and Shane Pinto.

Luke

Yeah. Well, Pinto has potential to be a solid, like, third line guy. Yeah. But Conway has kind of run his course in Ottawa.

Josh

I mean, Colin White is 24 I think he still has hockey left in him, but just me.

Luke

Oh, yeah. Yeah, he definitely needs a change of scenery. He's one of those that he can probably put up 40 or 50 points if he you know, had a good, good line around him. But he hasn't really had that in Ottawa. Because Ottawa has been Ottawa.

Josh

Yeah. They do have one interesting goalie, prospect, Luke, and I know this guy from our days in NHL video game, Mads. So guard. He has he's there now. Yeah, he currently has been put he has played 16 games for the Belleville senators and has a goals against average of two and a half and I say percentage of 913. But anyway,

Luke

that'd be a solid backup.

Josh

So you look at that, and then you look at who the Savers have coming up with like Casey Mittelstadt, age Thompson, Dylan Cousins, I went power Jack Quinn, Jeju Pataka. And it's like, Oh, my God, like these two teams could have that rivalry back. And they could constantly just beat the crap out of teams like Boston.

Luke

And it was it was fun too, because that entire game against Auston Matthews it was just it was a hit fest and it was very not even dirty, just very physical game and you love that. So sticking with it,

Josh

right? That's how all the Sabres Ottawa games are and I love it. But it's, it's like, that's what it used to be like to that. That was like the hockey that me and you grew up with Luke. It's exactly fun to watch. And like I said, back in the day, during that time, Boston was like, pretty bad. Montreal wasn't the greatest and like, it'd be the Sabres and Senators running that division. And I think that's gonna happen again, I think in the next few years, as long as the Senators do everything right. I think the Sabres will but you never know a lot of I don't know why we're talking about so much. Um, well, let's

Luke

face it. Um,

Josh

I think in the next few years, you could see the top three in the Atlantic being the Sabres not in this order being the Sabres, the Panthers and the Senators. Possibly. I mean, Mike

Luke

will always be there. No, no, we're gonna fall off

Josh

by the time by the time the Sabres are up there that the lightning will have fallen off

Luke

Vasilevsky I have to say who else Kucherov is probably gonna stay there for a while Auston still got good years left in him and start tracking

Josh

let's look at the ages of all these players. Kucherov is 28. Yes, Sam. COEs 31. Braden Point is 25. So I'll give you that one.

Luke

The only the only reason the only reason I say Tampa look at Pittsburgh.

Josh

That's fair. But Headman 31. McDonald's 32

Yeah, but if true,

Luke

they still have a sore neck. Oh, sorry. I hate saying that name. Um, who? Oh, sir neck. Yeah. Um, and like they'll have point they have plenty of guys coming out Roscoe or Colton Ross Colton Roscoe.

Josh

Roscoe. Yeah. Yeah. But like Andre Milan, Alex corn. I mean, Corey Perry.

Luke

There's gonna be a lot of changing in Tampa in the next three years. Yeah. But they don't always

Josh

close like they drafted well, but like, I just don't know if like, like, I don't know if those guys They're all going to be what the lightning are now.

Luke

Like I said, Tampa is probably always going to be there. Toronto is gonna be pushing. Boston I think is gonna be the one team that falls off. Yeah, I think so next couple years.

Josh

They're kind of already doing it.

Luke

Especially you know, Marsha is gonna be retiring probably in the next five, six years burrs Ron's gonna be retiring probably the next three years. They're losing those Max three years. Yeah, and two cars gonna probably be done after this season or next season. So they're losing a lot. And it's gonna be fun. It's honestly, it's gonna it's gonna be fun to see them just

Josh

rebuild with nothing. Yeah.

Unknown Speaker

Because three picks and rolls take debrusk Boral. And who's the other one?

Josh

URL back in 19?

Luke

Yeah. Yeah, instead of, I don't know, like barzal or wasn't point that draft as well.

Josh

He No, no, no,

Luke

I think point was dropped before

Josh

that. Yeah, point was 2014. Yeah, um, the only real prospects they, they have, in my opinion are Jeremy swayman. The goaltender and Fabien lilec from this past draft

Luke

fabian lilec I think will be a solid top six forward.

Josh

Yeah, that's funny. They have a prospect named Curtis Hall. He's like a combination of Curtis Lazar and Taylor Hall and anyway

Luke

we traded them both Hall and Lazar anyway with that though last thing I want to touch on about the now Sabres is this cousins tuck Skinner line is like our forever line honestly loci that

Josh

better be a line in tonight's game against the stars. I would be so mad if it's not. Well, Michael Hauser should also be playing tonight. By the way.

Luke

I actually believe that he's most likely going to get the start. Good. Good. Because not 100% on that. I know. Weirdly enough, though, I don't have like, utter disbelief in Dell, right?

Josh

Yeah, I mean, Dell, Dell played really good in that loss to the Redwings honestly, the threats

Luke

like this. Yeah. The second one, the team around him just didn't know we gave we gave up in that third period and let them come back after that short handed goal.

Josh

Yeah, I just hope that tonight's team doesn't get too high on themselves and just

Luke

I'm really not worried about Dallas just because they're like always that Loki dumpster fire that no one really talks about? Yeah. But tacos, it's getting us to stay together. They've been scoring non stop. And Danny grado had a another great comeback at Ralph Kruger. And it was great.

Josh

Yeah, yeah. I just love that he just constantly like throws him under the bus like low key but also like high key at the same time. Yeah,

Luke

I mean, Skinner how to talk you know, we should be playing our players where they want to be played if they're if they're doing well enough. And that's what we're gonna do.

Josh

Also, by the way, Alex talk has seven points in seven games as a buffalo saber. Two goals five assists. You love to see it.

Luke

It's it's great. hometown boy, not talented hometown boy, but hometown boy, you'd love to see it. He's the hometown boy.

Josh

He's though I

Luke

also the it has been announced the all the postponements have been scheduled. Yeah, yeah. So I will get to see them. Oh, really? 19th.

Josh

February 19. That's what it is. That's

Luke

awesome. One o'clock, though, on a Saturday.

Josh

I'll probably be working for that. That'll be fun. Um, what was it gonna say? Oh, um, it's just like, it's really nice to see talked doing all this stuff. I mean, like, Oh, it's great. He's coming in. Just so ready to score. Like

Luke

he's been the most consistent player on this team. Yeah.

Josh

Yeah. He has been like, I mean, seven points in seven games. What else do you want from him, but it's also running. It's running off because it's rubbing off on Skinner. Like Skinner is on pace for like 30 goals. Skinner hasn't been on pace for 30 goals in his first year here. His 14 goals and 24 points in 37 games. That's the best Jeff Skinner we've seen since he got here. And you want to know who I blame solely? That's stupid German soccer coach Ralph Kruger.

Luke

Oh, most definitely. It was it was like 98% his fault.

Josh

2% COVID fault.

Luke

I'll give 1% to COVID and 1% to Skinner just not wanting to play on the bottom six anymore.

Josh

Yeah, that's fair. That's fair.

Luke

But with that someone that is going to be playing probably not in our bottom six. I could play tonight. He's been called up to the taxi squad is a Jack Quinn with

Josh

a formal formal apology. From both you lose And our buddy Steve.

Luke

No. So I wasn't as hard on Quinn. I wanted Rossi over Kwame. But I said, you know, we'll give him the chance.

Josh

Steve on the other hand, yes, even though you're listening, I would like a formal apology from you, please. I think you kind of already given one. I'm all ears crafted. When the Sabres drafted Jack when Steve looked like he was gonna throw a remote through the TV. I was upset. But I was like, You know what? This guy played on Ross's wing. He's got 75 points in the OHL. That's not something you just like shake your finger at. Maybe what maybe he'll be good. Let's give him the benefit of the doubt. And look at him now. Now, obviously, Rossi's career has been changed because of COVID. So we can't really compare the two. But Jacquin had six I think six goals and three assists and four games in Rochester since being sent down from his first NHL game

Luke

a couple of weeks ago. Last week, last Tuesday.

Josh

Yeah, it was last Tuesday. Right? Um, I mean, that is just absurdly good. Like, yeah, they're here to six goals and three assists in four games. The Emmerich's? That's nuts. That's nine really

Unknown Speaker

and one of those was a four goal game.

Josh

Right. And it was a four goal loss. Which is insane. They lost to Belleville that night. Because remember, Rochester doesn't really have a goalie. Right. Late Robson, Nate Robson and the local No, it's Matt Robson, actually, and the local Rochester bartender.

Luke

Yes. But Jacquin is on the taxi squad. We might see him tonight. We might not we'll have to wait until lions come out from morning skates and whatnot. Also,

Josh

oh, morning skate. I just saw this. Um, Casey mittelstadt. Is skating at morning skate today. I don't think he's he's nowhere near full participant. But Casey mittelstadt is back on the ice.

Luke

Interesting. But that man,

Josh

he'll do not play him. Oh, yeah. No.

Luke

Coronado even said, like, we want everyone to be healthy. We're waiting. Like, we know this is kind of a last season like, let's get get these guys healthy. Let's get them playing and whatnot. So

Josh

and you know what's great, though. I mean, I'm, I'm not happy that Coronado had to admit that, hey, this is kind of a last season, but I'm glad that one he recognizes it. And he's not going to push us guys to get back and get healthy and throw him into the game right away to I'm happy because he's still pushing them. I mean, oh, yeah. You could tell after the Detroit game on Monday. He was pissed. Like he was not happy with how that team finished. And he probably let them know about it. He probably laid into him like we saw how Lindy refused to do to the guys. And that's something that I want to see out of a Sabres coach, which I think we can definitely see out of rough rule. Now Ralph Kruger we were talking about him I'm sorry. That's definitely something we can see out of Don Granado is yes, he's gonna be a nice guy. Nice coach. Nice, you know, friend, I guess you could say but he's also gonna know when to you know, buckle down and be like, Hey, guys, get your shit together, you know?

Luke

Yeah, also another update for morning skates powerplay units for today's case populate too I'm gonna read that one first because it's asked when all of a sudden cousins grabs and butcher that's p p two. p p one. p p one at morning. Skate right now is a talk. Thompson. Skinner. Darlene and Jacquin

Josh

Oh, wait, where's cousins? Oh, he's on the second one. Yeah. So Jacqueline's playing tonight?

Luke

Most likely from the looks of it.

Josh

Oh, he's gonna score I could feel it.

Luke

Oh my god. I really feel especially at the Dallas team. That's always you know, a shit show.

Josh

Hey, speaking of breaking news, wow, we're just like getting a bunch of stuff this morning. I hope I hope all of you can listen to this before tonight's game, but this this doesn't really matter for tonight's game. So the Sabres PR just tweeted out their injury report. Which, while we all know there's not much in here because the injuries are listed as upper body upper lower and COVID COVID. Craig Anderson still month to month Jacob Bryson day to day with a lower body injury. Drake cadoola week to week with an upper body zemgus Girgensons. Day to day with a lower body. Vinnie hinostroza and Luca pakka Lukin and both week to week with lower body injuries. Collin Miller upper week to week Casey mittelstadt. Upper day to day interest.

Luke

I thought it was a lower body injury.

Josh

I don't know No, he was always upper body Kyler posto upper body week to week That's kind of concerning.

Luke

That's that probably explains why Jacquin got called out to the practice squad. Yeah, but that's the squad

Josh

that's concerning just because of all the issues like post has had in the past or this concussions and whatnot.

Luke

That hit took a lot out of them. You saw him go to the dressing room immediately. Yeah, well, last

Josh

time you got to ban is still upper month a month and doesn't Tokarski is still COVID week to week. I really hope to Karski is okay. I mean, I only know he's been out for about two or three months now. About two. That's sad. Makes me makes me not happy. makes me unhappy. Um, but yeah, so glad we could bring you the updated Sabres injury report. It is lengthy, but it looks like it will be shortening soon.

Luke

Whoa, maybe. That explains Jacqueline's call up.

Josh

It does. I was wondering why he got called up because I'm like, nobody has COVID Yeah, but he really got injured that we know of

Luke

taking a gun or hate it out of a lineup finally.

Josh

I don't understand. I mean, I guess, I guess like you're just kind of keeping them there. Because you don't want to rush your young guys, but at the same time, like can we just move on from that little experiment? That didn't work?

Luke

Yeah. And with Bryson still being hurt, and column Miller still being hurt. Let's Matisse Samuelson stay in the lineup, and honestly, I believe he has earned his spot.

Josh

I think so to Samuelsson. I mean, he's had his moments. He definitely had a bad one in Monday against Detroit. He kind of just stood there next to the net. While Larkin diced up the Sabres defense pass it out front or No, it wasn't Larkin. It was I think it was Raymond diced up the defense pass it out front the Larkin Larkin was just wide open and Samuelson you can just watch him follow the puck with his eyes and not move at all. So,

Luke

but if you take a look at that Ottawa game, he was he was how do you break a check in the corner all

Josh

games? Yes, he was a lot better in the Ottawa game.

Luke

He took away a breakaway at one point or potential breakaway. He took away a potential two on one and he's shown decent puck movement to

Josh

Yeah, yeah, like he looks more of a defensive defenseman type but he can move the puck. Um, but as we've seen, it's good to pair defensive defenseman with offensive defenseman case in point. Rasmus tahle and Henri Jokiharju. I love those two together,

Luke

and I love Joker is more of a two way.

Josh

Yeah, but but I've just seen a lot of improvement in Joker's defensive game this year that I really like. Um, is Samuel isn't right or left.

Luke

Samuelsson is a left shot.

Josh

Darn. I was gonna say maybe pair him with power when that comes up.

Luke

I see it being Darlene power. Samuelson down that left side,

Josh

huh? Yeah, but

Luke

what about Bryson? Bryson can play on the right side with Samuelson

Josh

bracing can play on the right side with power

Luke

that to that too,

Josh

because Bryson offensive defenseman.

Luke

No, no, not. Oh, right. Way too fast and way too shifty.

Josh

Yeah, yeah, you're right.

Luke

I'd rather see him with someone like Samuelsson. I'd rather see power with someone like a Colin Miller and Mark Pysyk type.

Josh

Yeah, but not Colin Miller or mark or.

Luke

Okay. I'm okay with Mark Pysyk being with power. Yeah, but

Josh

remember Mark Pysyk is 32. I don't care.

Luke

He's still a good defenseman. I say we, I say we resign him. That sounds to him.

Josh

Peace. Casey Fitzgerald needs to get a shot. I think I think in the few games he's played this year, he's looked good.

Luke

Yes. But we sat him down in place of Matisse Samuelsson?

Josh

That's fair, but at the same time, if you think about it, like if, when, if Colin Miller doesn't come back, I think I think Fitzgerald is the first call up.

Luke

Well, yeah, most definitely doesn't be the first call up. Um,

Josh

because I mean, in four games, Fitzgerald had only at one point, but he had an even plus minus. So I mean, that's kind of a better defensive stat.

Luke

Better than Ristolainen is minus 45.

Josh

Hell yeah. Um, I wonder how he's doing.

Luke

Apparently he could be on the move come the trade deadline. Oh, according to insiders and Elliot Friedman.

Josh

You know, I feel really I kind of feel bad for Risto because I feel like he really could have had a very good NHL career. If he had better foundations in Buffalo. Like,

Luke

I just I just think that we everyone hyped him way more than he was. I think he is a top four defenseman Max. Yeah. And everyone was like, Oh, he's a top two. He's elite. He's gonna be great. And it's no

Josh

see if I think if Risto was coming up in now now. Yeah, pipeline. Oh my god like

Luke

we we probably would be looking at him like we are at Samuelsson right now.

Josh

Exactly. Yeah. I mean, I think Samuelsson is definitely a step down from Risto at least at this point in their career.

Luke

And points wise because Russell was more offensive minded,

Josh

right. But you look at like, you look at Risto at Samuelson's age of 21, even though Samuelsson looks like he's 35 and has two kids a house and like a dog, and like three mortgages. Yeah, like, like, they showed him an A player profile the other night, my dad was like, Who's this guy? And I'm like, that's been to Santos. And he's like, when do we get him? I'm like, it just says right there. We just drafted him. And he's like, This guy looks like he's 35 And he's like, at the end of his NHL career.

Luke

Oh my god, it's I always feel for him.

Josh

I think it's like five o'clock shadow he's got

Luke

but I feel like low key like not not not making a festive I don't know if he can grow more. Like I think that's where he can grow and he just keeps it. And that's what makes him look so much older.

Josh

Anyway, so that's kind of where we're at. With our little prospect. Round up. One more prospect actually hit on Devin Levi. Oh, nice, man. Oh, by now I'm a goalie nerd at heart. Like the shit fascinates me. Devin Levi earned his ninth shutout of the season the other night. And that is three shutouts in their first four games since their holiday break. So Levi, has now played 22 games this year for Northeastern has a 131 goals against average and a 955. Same percentage with a record of 16 five and one. That is incredible. Mind you. He is 20 years old.

Luke

Hey, also quick reminder because we are on a record watch with him. He is four shutouts away from breaking the record for a season in the NCAA. Yeah, cuz it's 12. Right? Yep. held by Greg Garner in 1999 2000.

Josh

And you know, he's in second place.

Luke

Ryan Miller,

Josh

you know what Miller and Levi also have in common? The last goaltender to win the Hobey Baker was Ryan Miller, I believe. Devin Levi, is being talked about as a possible finalist for the Hobey Baker. Over guys like oh, and power Matty burners. Um, who else is there? John Johnson.

Luke

At this point, I believe it's the two top the top two names are definitely v i n o n power.

Josh

Yeah. And both of those are saving process. And I feel like if Eric Portillo had a little bit of a stronger season he could also be in that conversation. So that's he's very on the outskirts of it. That's really good to see as a Sabres fan.

Luke

I useless It's unreal with Devon Levi's doing I don't care these playing for you know, not a top tier quote unquote,

Josh

putting up these numbers against teams like Boston College. Likely Jack Eichel came from Boston College. Say what you will about him but Jimmy VC came from Boston College. I know it's a big step down. But that's still NHL talent coming ECBC

Luke

was good in college, though. That's the thing. Yeah.

Josh

But that's NHL talent that Devin Levi is beating and that just shows that he is even though at Northeastern he is a NHL talent goaltender and I think if he was at Michigan, he would still be just this just as good.

Luke

Yeah, I was mad. I was mad about this trade. Sam Reinhart we lost him we brought him in Levi. I'm like, Who is this guy? Like he's got like a little bit potential and you know him putting up these numbers like it's making this trade look better and better if I miss Sam Reinhart, clearly he was my favorite player. I miss him dearly. But definitely by playing like this, it makes up for it in a sense that you know, hopefully, he can transition this to the NHL ice.

Josh

Yeah, I mean, Sam Reinhart would be a nice piece to have right now. Especially with this core coming up. He's got 31 point in 36 games in Florida. Good for him. Happy

Luke

pain, pain.

Josh

He would be so good. With like, I mean, we already talked about cousins Skinner talk imagine cousins imagine cousin Skinner talk is your first line Reinhardt centering your second line of Thomson Reinhardt and all of a sudden oh my god

Luke

or even if Reinhardt's okay with it, send it back to the rain put crabs in the middle and put all this in with them. Oh, yeah, yeah, yeah.

Josh

Damn. Yeah. But hey, I think the ship had sailed on Reinhardt just like it did on gold just like it did on resto it. It was just one of those things.

Luke

And it was just time But with that, the Sabres do play tonight they take on Dallas. I know you won't give score predictions, honestly. For to Buffalo

Josh

interesting. I will probably be betting on this game just because Dallas came off of a shit game the other night against Montreal which kind of scares me actually I'm a little nervous that that's gonna like push them a little bit um but we'll have to see

Luke

my my guess for to Buffalo I don't know why I'm just feeling especially Jacquin this lineup

Josh

you know what? Oh long shot but tonight would be but I think it could actually happen Jacquin goal Jacquin point. Not fair point.

Luke

Fair. I might do that.

Josh

I'm gonna do that right now. Actually, I might go do that when we're when we're done with this. But again, we are not pushing anyone to start gambling. But it is very fun. Yes.

Luke

And they look up coming Philly on Saturday at one o'clock. Honestly, I think that's gonna be good game weirdly enough. 2 million teams.

Unknown Speaker

You know, we never know and then we got Ottawa seven o'clock Tuesday night.

Luke

You know, a rematch from this past Tuesday. So it's always gonna be a fun game. We face them and what wait and see what happens with that. But it's definitely something look forward to lightsabers. It's kind of fun to watch them again. We had that little span where it was like okay, I don't I don't care because they just kind of shit the bed. All our goalies kept getting hurt, whatever. They're fun again, tucks in the lineup. Skinner's going off. The young guys are going off. It's good to see

Josh

this is what I think we could see next year. This team right here, this fun, energetic hockey team. They don't always do good, but they're like right there. And that's what I hope to see all of next year.

Luke

Well, especially you know, up I'll be healthy. Yep. And maybe we'll be healthy

Josh

and healthy.

Luke

Better. A better backup for them. Yeah. Boom.

Josh

And in the offseason in free agency. Johnny Kenosha. We draft reagent. Johnny Kudrow is a free agent Timo Meyer is a free agent Tomash hurdle I believe is a free agent. There are a lot of big names out there that are veteran guys that have had shit teams for a while that you could

say, Hey, look at this young talent. You want to be a part of this and help us be successful. Bring in your veteran talent. Help us score goals. Help us kick ass. That's what I would sell to a guy like Johnny Kudrow or Tomas hurdle or Timo Meyer. It'd be hard. But I also remember, I think you could sell

Luke

it. Yes. And remember Egon Hayden are gone after this year.

Josh

Yeah, he can Hayden are gone. And then probably one year left. A poster was one year left on the \$6 million deal.

Luke

If he's not, you know, dead by then. Don't say that. Not dead. But dead to the NHL. Yeah, that's fair.

Josh

All of sins money will come off but you got to resign him. hinostroza is gone. I think you could bring ministros back actually.

Luke

You probably can. We'll see. We'll see how he's

Josh

gone. Butchers gone. Hag. Bryson or not Bryson, I don't want rice and gone. I'm like, Who else is Oh, Colin Miller as well. Colin Miller. Yep. Johnny Boychuk. Now just kidding.

Luke

With that though, we are running out of time here the die by the way podcast. So Josh, what is one thing you are looking forward to in the coming week?

Josh

It's not really one thing I'm looking forward to. It's one thing that I've appreciated over the past like month or so. The Sabres social media team has really stepped up their game. Like they saw what the bills were doing and they're like, I got you. I'm going to do that too. They did a video with Henri jokiharju called Henry's hot takes. If you haven't seen it yet, you need to and

Luke

I haven't seen that what I've been seeing the Skinner one though. Oh, the Skinner one

Josh

went with? Would you rather listen to Nickelback for the rest of your life or have to fish ice fish for food every day? These videos are absolutely hilarious. So like if anyone knows the bill, social media they do like walk off interviews where like there's a camera set up with a question

and the players are all like Oh, like what's that? The Sabres are doing that now too. And I love it. I absolutely love it. But I also love is the attention to detail that the Sabres social media team now has. They posted a picture of Brian Johnson the other day for some reason. That was that one confused me actually. But today or yesterday was Thomas Mannix birthday, and they made a birthday post for Thomas Vanek. That is refreshing to see. I know it doesn't matter at all for what happenings what's happening on the ice. But it shows you that hey, maybe the franchise is starting to turn around and the organization is starting to pay attention to what the fans want and want the fans not that now that's obviously not what the fans want, but it's like

Luke

it's the little things it's a good moment.

Josh

It's the good moments it's the little things it's funny I like I said though check out Henry's hot takes I agree with all of them except for the first one

Luke

I got I got definitely there are there are only

Josh

three but I still agree with the the last two.

Luke

I definitely got check that out you guys should as well. One thing I'm looking forward to Sunday night 630 bills chiefs rematch of last year in the playoffs. It's gonna be fine. That's all it's on my mind. I guess I love hockey. You guys know that but the bills I just need I need them to win this game.

Josh

The country needs them to win this game so that they don't have to see Jackson mahomes on the sidelines anymore.

Luke

I don't want to see Jackson mahomes on the sidelines at Superbowl. No, I don't need to see that. No. Very low key classless guy.

Josh

Yeah, anyway, not to get on that hole.

Luke

I have a lot of issues with Jackson mahomes And what he's done this year in the shadow of Patrick mahomes. But that's besides the point because this is all about hockey. And you should definitely go check out the Sabres because they played a night

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