

THE COMMISH'S 2nd ANNUAL SUMMER FRANCHISE VALUE REPORT (2009)

Preamble: Basically what I've done is taken all the protected players and put them in order as if 22 teams re-drafted today. I've tried to take into account the overall consensus of all the players. The associated value with each player is the spot they were drafted in. For example, Brad Boyes would be the consensus 95th overall choice and he would have a value of 95. Now obviously the team with the lowest score has the best overall franchise value. Then further to that, I've only counted each team's lowest ranked 10 players (or top 10 players). Figuring that 10 players is a team's core and the final two players will just be two throw away guys. So the average score for a team should be 1,105 (Picking 1st in a 22 team redraft gives you the 1, 44, 45, 88, 89, 132, 133, 176, 177 & 220 picks). Trust me all 22 spot add up to 1,105. If your team value is below 1,105, you've created value and if you're team value is above that number, you've lost value. It's confusing, especially writing this, but you get the idea.

There are some limitations of course. Firstly, not everyone will agree with my rankings of who should be ranked higher Horcoff or Arnott, but does it really matter when they're 1 or 2 slots away in the grand scheme of things? Not really. The overall number might change 20/30 points, but the ranking should be accurate. Secondly, there are certain teams like the 79ers who have a number of high-end monsters, but their depth destroys their ranking, but any GM could easily swing that around in one draft.

Obviously some teams hold some pretty high picks entering the draft next month, but there has to be some kind of cut off. Next year's rankings will reflect those luscious snipes. So do you get it? I'm not going to disclose the entire list, but I will disclose certain rankings of notable players. PS – This is in no way a prediction of season preview! I can't stress that enough; it's only the value of a team, not what they'll do with it this year.

22) DENROCHE REGIME (1,717) – Last year's ranking 22nd - 1,767

What else is there to say about the Regime? You can make it two years in a row for the Regime at the bottom. After an 0-fer season did you expect anything less? Even though the Regime have known how bad they are for sometime, they still managed to lay an egg on the 2008 draft day, by drafting a mediocre goalie 8th overall. The Regime did pick up Kyle Turriss during the season, however, and he checks in as their top pick in any re-draft at 102. It did cost him a pretty penny. The Regime have a number of middle range guys that fill up the core of their roster, but most of them are young and require more farming. Brian will hope they can continue to increase their point totals to see any improvement in their team value. The good news, like last year, is the Regime hold a top pick in this year's draft. But it's not a top pick they can mess up, it's the first overall and it's surely going to boost overall team value. It will take a hell of a lot more than just that top pick to turn this ship around and I'm not sure Brian understands that. - Will the Regime turn out a one-and-done performance at this year's draft?

21) SAMPSON BRAHMAS (1,647) – Last year's ranking 20th - 1,508

Soon to be 22nd, the Brahmas drop one spot from last year to 21st. Nothing has changed...more first rounders down the toilet on either over the hill forwards and crappy goalies and what do you have? A team a Savard (32nd) and a Wideman (79th) away from resembling the SCHL Waiver Wire. It must be pretty sad when Daryl tells his friends about his SCHL team and they've not heard of one player on his roster. Draft picks seem to be a problem for this franchise. If they're not using them to draft fodder, they're trading them for fodder. Nothing says rebuild like moving a precious draft pick for Oduya (207th) before August 1st. Now the Brahmas have only having one draft pick in this year's draft (enabling them from drafting a

prospect) and couple that with moving Zidlicky for Umberger and you have yourself one big dog's breakfast. – I thought Milbury got out of the GM racket?

20) DAY EXPRESS (1,500) Last year's ranking 21st - 1,522

Definitely on the rise, with four first round picks in 2009. The fruits of their labour have yet to bear out in these rankings. Last year's top dog has been replaced with Bobby Ryan, who jumped from 194th to 45th from 2008 to 2009. Derek has seen increases to Havlat's value to 84th and Oshie rounds out the top 3 and look for his stock to sky rocket as he builds on an impressive rookie season. This once embarrassed franchise is finally being run like a real team and it should only improve September 26th. Look for a dramatic increase in the 2010 rankings. – Will the Express Umberger their way through the first round?

19) DEDRICK DEVILS (1,474) – Last year's ranking 18th - 1,452

You're probably wondering how a team that adds Stamkos (17th) and has a Mike Green (20th) score over a PPG fall one spot? And I'm thinking the same thing as I just typed that. Lemme go check that out. Well for starters losing Seto hurts. He would have been their #3 guy on their team now they're left with a high pick, which won't show results until next summer. Bergeron and Lupul's values have both dropped after meh seasons and they've traded youngsters Seabrook and Stafford away for aging players. Gilbert has seen his stock rise from 181st to 130th with a 40+ point season. Since taking over the team, GM Dedrick has seen a carousel of players come on and off the team in the year and half he's ran the team. It's time to lay down some roots and build on some unbelievable players they own, with solid young bucks and to stop the additions of crummy old guys and stop gaps goalies. And since the Devils only have 10 players, the addition of MAB (259th) isn't helping their cause...not to mention losing a 2nd rounder in doing so. – Steve was voted most likely to bring a gun to the draft. Do you agree?

18) DIAMANTAKOS SPARTANS (1,344) – last year's ranking 19th - 1,481

Moving up one spot and trimming 130 points is decent, but the Spartans are expecting more. So how does it all come to that? Unlike the Devils, their expansion cousins, the Spartans haven't made too many trades, but haven't seen any breakouts. Big things were expected from Sheppard, but he's fallen out of the top 10 used for this ranking. Horcoff has dropped from what would be a pick in the 4th round to 6th round. Pete is hoping Quinn will bring his value back up. Horcoff is slowly becoming a Prospal one year on, one year off. Ward has remained static jumping ten spots to 28th overall. And finally, the Spartans big 2008 draft addition, Filatov (52nd) offsets some of the erosion of value elsewhere. Kesler (142nd) and Letang (66th) have also been positives. The Spartans are hoping to add value with the 6th overall and are dying for one of the young guns to step and breakout. It's seriously overdue. – Have you decide how you'll draft this year, Pete? MSN or phone?

17) MORAN ASSASSINS (1,334) – Last year's ranking 18th - 1,409

For all the negative press surrounding the Assassins, it's surprising to see that they built value from last year to this year...albeit they've dropped down 1 spot to 17th. Well last year the Assassins didn't have a player higher than 85th and now they have two: Mason (29th) and Doughty (54th). Mason was the real gem, drafted 62nd overall and winning Snipe of the Draft in the process. They have a four forwards that would range in the 5th to 6th rounds, which is the reason why they're always struggling for points. The Assassins will be hoping for some more snipes in the 2009 draft, which they'll need as they lack a 1st rounder (which would have been 2nd overall), and will hope their four or so young forwards all take the next step in their development to gain on their 17th place ranking. – Any thoughts on how the ADD Master will destroy team value this year?

16) TARPAN HORSES (1,313) – Last year's ranking 14th - 1,274

The Horses slide down two spots, but pretty much remain the same value from last year to this year. Their 2009 draft yielded next to no results and their 9th overall pick Matthias (255th) has only dropped in value. Matthias wouldn't be counted normally, but with valueless Alzner (256th) and Pavelec (258th) on the roster, well he's gotta count. That's the negative...the positive is Richards (33rd), Weber (51st) and Krejic (211 to 71) have made increases, while JVR has remained stable. If he doesn't touch an NHL ice this year his value will plummet though. What's his problem? Mueller had a sophomore slump and saw his value drop by a round and a half, but if he shows signs of being the player most of us think he can be, his stock with sky rocket. Let's also not forgot Tomas Kaberle and the fact the Horses own the 8th and 15th overall draft picks this year...their ranking and direction is headed in the right direction. – Are the Horses planning on another goalie prospect?

15) MA BAY TORNADOES (1,293) – Last year's ranking 15th - 1,354

Two things haven't changed here...their ranking and the fact Luongo (16th) is their number one guy. After that it's a whole lotta change. Last year the Tornadoes had Cheecho, Nylander and Arnott as their 2-4 players. Cheech has dropped from 94th to 212th, Nylander and been dropped and Arnott has been traded. Enter in your new 2-4 Tornadoes and you've got Bogo (63rd), Brassard (65th) and Hodgson (91st). Little and Staal make up the next two, with former increasing and the latter remaining stable. So things are up for the Tornadoes. They've kept value, but only gotten younger, so there is loads of room for value creation. The Tornadoes own the 5th overall and will look to add to the stable only increasing their value. – When will the perfect storm arrive for the Tornadoes?

14) STEIER 79ERS (1,225) – Last year's ranking 13th - 1,250

Little has changed here. Their top four of Sid (1st – I think when push comes to shove most of you guys would pick him first), Joe (7th), Lunqvist (21st) and Gagne (75th) have basically remained unchanged. After that the 79ers are rich with plumbers, enough to give Daryl a woody. Their bottom three players average a ranking of 230th. Does it really matter though? Ever since "acquiring" Crosby, the 79ers have retreated into this style of GMing and with their top three players, it works. The 79ers will finish higher than 14th because of their top guns and are one of maybe two teams on this list who aren't fairly valued. – Will Ash even read this?

13) UPTOWN HEARTBREAKERS (1,222) – Last year's ranking 12th - 1,189

Like the 79ers, the Heartbreakers love having limited draft picks. Not counting the 2007 draft and the goofy Sid draft, the Heartbreakers have averaged 2.33 draft picks per a 4 round draft. The Heartbreakers last year picked up a drop and Hiller in the 2008 draft. Hiller (108th) effectively replaces Giguere on their depth charts, but the real big bright spot for this team saw Parise climb to 8th overall. Players such as Jokinen (74th), Chara (78th) and Tanguay (88th) have all dropped as they continue to age. For this team to continue to maintain the 12th/13th spot on the ranking they will need a break out from young gun Hensick (199th) and for some other youth injections by way of trade or draft. – How will the impatient Heartbreakers find a way to bring their team back to the winner's circle?

12) RATTRAY ROWDY KILTS (1,139) – Last year's ranking 7th - 928

Like the 79ers (deja vu!), the Rowdy Kilts are unfairly valued because of their extremely talented high-end guys. Datsyuk (9th) & Zetts (18th) both would be drafted in round 1 and with Brodeur (38th) and Boyle (40th), the Kilts top four is rivalled by only a handful of teams. Where it gets messy; however, is near the bottom. Nilsson (235th) and Malone (232nd) are effectively droppable players. The loss of Briere from 2008 to 2009 also contributes to a lower value, but GM Rattray is hoping Eriksson will prove the critiques wrong. Brian Lee has failed to make the

cut. If the once 9th overall draft pick of the Sens can make his way on to the PP, his value will rocket. Sekera (197th) is looking like a nice addition in the off-season, and if he can also take over the PP his value will rise. There is room for some improvement in these younger players and the Kilts will have to make the most of their four late round draft picks to increase their value ranking for 2010. – Are the Kilts drinking their own kool aid these days?

11) VANCOUVER MILLIONAIRES (1,085) – Last year's ranking 17th - 1,414

Despite two brutal seasons, the Millionaires have climbed 6 spots to 11th and become the first team over 1,105 barrier. So what's changed from last year to this year? Any Alffy controversy has gone by the wayside now that Carter has increased to 34th - the addition of Setoguchi (64th) and Cam Barker has increased exactly 100 spots to 82nd. Last year's top pick Boedkker also lowers some of their mid range player values, while AndyMac (94th) continues to have a renaissance in his career. This is a far cry from last year when Rick D was their most valuable player. Last year was a bit of an embarrassment for the Millionaires with no goalie, but they've solved that problem acquiring Bryz. Nightmares of the 2007 draft still linger for this franchise, but when you look at their crop of players and note they've got the 2nd overall pick, you can see that those nightmares will soon be forgotten. – How many sleepless nights has Rick had pondering who to take 2nd overall?

10) PAIK GRYPHONS (998) - Last year's ranking 6th - 790

The Gryphons have experienced a drop in value from this year to last. Across the board players have moved down slightly. Heatley from 5th to 10th, Gaborik from 27th to 43rd and falling, Stastny has also dropped after an injury plagued season. Giroux has spiked to 58th and I'm expecting this guy to continue to climb. I thought a lot of teams were sleeping at the switch in the 2007 draft not grabbing this guy. But what really drags down the Gryphons' ranking is the final two protection players counted...Purcell (202nd) and Stralman (231st). Both players provide upside, especially in Purcell's case. Compare that to their worst player from last year's addition at 129th. The Gryphons do hold the 3rd overall and 12th overall in this year's draft...you know they're going to make those picks count. Look for a dramatic increase into the top 5ish next season. – How many words do you expect Ryan to say at the draft?

9) FRANSON SHRUBDOGS (995) – Last year's ranking 10th - 1,099

Up one spot from last year, the Shrubdogs are the middle of the road team. If we re-drafted today, most teams would look like the Shrubdogs. Spezza once again is their top guy at (11th), slightly down from 4th of last year. St. Louis (35th), Rafalski (70th) make up the top three. What lowers the Shrubs value, as compared to the Kilts, is the back portion of their line up. Kariya, The Emergence and Berglund have given some clarity to what would normally be fodder. But like the Barracudas and others, the Shrubs continually move their 1st rounder. So gaining on this ranking will take some astute drafting or a trade with the Assassins. – What's nerdier, your fantasy logo on a t-shirt or golf ball?

8) HESKETH GOLDMINERS (994) - Last year's ranking 11th - 1,164

The Goldminers creep slowly into the teams who have created value, just one stroke ahead of the Shrubs. Pretty good for an expansion team. The addition of Briere (59th) has been a big boost to the team's value, but his status is very questionable at this point. Koivu (77th) has seen a big jump in value, which offsets Burns' loss in value as he drops to (106th). Hudler would have had a solid drop in value, but now he's gone and Karlsson's 196th value is used instead. Overall, the Goldminers have maximized everyone of their rosters spots to their advantage and with no decent picks this year, like a lot a teams, the 'Miners will need guys like AK (158th) to turn it around or will need some draft day heroics. - Does the pinto have another gear?

7) BELLAMY BARRACUDAS (929) - Last year's ranking 9th - 1,007

Up one spot from last year, the Barracudas remain relatively stable. Increases to Perry (50th) are offset by drops by Price (42nd). Another year older and new shoulder and knee have knocked Gonchar down to 68th. The Barracudas have a solid group of middle/upper forwards who can score on a consistent basis. Players such as Richards (76th) and Horton (100th) will need to rebound from meh seasons for this team to increase their value further, as it won't come from young guns blossoming or drafting. The Barracudas are another anti-draft pick team and this season is no different with only 2 late picks. Their 2009 1st was traded for Corvo and their 2010 1st was traded for Brunette...who they've already dropped. - Can you tell the Barracudas are spenders and not savers?

6) LEE TRIADS (920) Last year's ranking 8th - 1,003

Dropping 83 value points, the Triads continue to push their team into the top tier of the SCHL. Acquisitions of Alfie and Tim Thomas have given this team real credibility. Just goes to show what extra picks will do to a team. Gagner was looking mighty tasty after his rookie year, but crashed in year two and his stock went from 77th to 104th. Overall, the Triads are a solid top to bottom team with their worst counted player McCabe (149th) and their best Hossa (24th). Hossa's stock is sure to drop in the coming years as he bounces from team to team and from shoulder to shoulder. Couple a great team with 6 draft picks and you begin to have a team that will be insulated at all positions. The Triads could be one of the most well rounded teams around and will probably finish in the top 5 in the 2009/2010 WG race. – Can the Triads 3rd/4th upgrade their way to the top?

5) MITCHELL VANGUARD (834) - Last year's ranking 4th - 705

Now we're getting into the sexier teams of the SCHL. But what has caused this squad to increase 130 pts, considering its top 4 players would be drafted before the end of the 2nd round: Getzy (5th), Staal (14th), Lecavs (15th) and Dion (37th). The answer lies in their lower end players: Gerbe (215th) and Jovo (181st). Jovo stock has plummeted into almost a near drop and Sundin's departure has left this team scrambling to even protect 11. That's good news, as this team doesn't rely on its lower end players to win and should be the favourite to win the Gold Division. It'll be tough, but the Vanguard can increase value going into next year's ranking as some of their young guns develop further and with the 19th overall pick. – Is it time to take off the training wheels?

4) WILSON BULLETS (817) - Last year's ranking 1st - 588

Last year's top team steps aside to the 4th position...what's the deal? An obvious answer is Zherdev's 81st ranking to 262nd drop. Another flake Russian. Yawn. This is somewhat offset by Suter's rise to 112th. Outside of that though, the Bullets remain one of the top teams led by Iggy (12th), Kane and Toews (13th, 19th) and MAF (22nd) - All first round draft picks. Kops had a slight drop into the second round, but nothing substantial. There is plenty of room to increase in value without lifting a finger...and it'll mainly come from their defence...an area they lack vs some of the better teams around. Notwithstanding that, the Bullets do own a 1st rounder and will continue to push this already sexy team further up the charts. – It's 2005 all over again, time to tank, Lorne?

3) NORTH SHORE SCREAMIN' JAWAS (803) - Last year's ranking 2nd - 602

Slipping 1 slot to 3rd and adding 200 value points. The Jawas have experienced great increases in Hank and Dank (25th, 26th) as they established themselves as top ranked, consistent players. Streit (53rd), I think, has proven most of us wrong as he continues to rack up the points...56 last year on a dreadful Islanders team. And let's not forget 3rd overall Malkin.

So what explains the decrease? For starters O'Sullivan (138th) went from a sexy young buck to a 7th round choice. MacKinnon moved a top pick Alffy (73rd) for a Yandle, who doesn't even register on the Jawas totals and Bernier continues to be on the never-never plan in LA. The Jawas do hold two first round choices, so holding tight at 3rd should be a realistic goal. - Can the Jawas resist rebuilding?

2) GROSSMAN FLASH (800) - Last year's ranking 5th - 735

So the Flash are worse off, but move up to 2nd on the list. Keith has been the Flash's biggest riser, going from 163rd to 81st. Kovy (9th), Nabby (23rd) and Roy (46th) are once again the top dog's on the Flash. Their top 8 players would have be drafted before the end of the 5th round. The Flash are hoping Gomez (89th) can regain his touch moving the Flash closer to the top of the WG. Lidstrom (92nd) will def out score his ranking...but his age really hampers him at this point...this could be his last season. Scary news for all the pretenders out there, here's another top team with two 1st round picks...only will cement their place at the top of the value rankings. – Have you heard Jon has taken over the lead role in See No Evil, Hear No Evil?

1) JOHNSTON TYCOONS (612) - Last year's ranking 3rd - 626

So you're asked if you could switch your team with anyone...your answer is the Tycoons. Best forwards, best D and top tier goaltending. The Tycoons top 7 players will all have been drafted by the end of the 3rd round. They're led by Ovechkin (2nd),Backstrom (4th), Kipper (30th). Selanne (219) and Whitney (168th) aren't even counted as part of their top 10. The Tycoons have distanced themselves from the second place Flash by more than any other two side-by-side teams in this ranking with 188 points more. Frolik has seen his stock rise from 193, to 117th. Kronwall (61st) has seen an uptick, but it seems like more teams have flattened out compared to the Tycoons, while they've held strong. With a 1st rounder this year and with some younger players stepping up to add value, it'll be difficult to knock off the Tycoons from the top spot next season. - It's all downhill here from.

Rank	Team	Score
1	Tycoons	612
2	Flash	800
3	Jawas	803
4	Bullets	817
5	Vanguard	834
6	Triads	920
7	Barracudas	929
8	Goldminers	994
9	Shrubdogs	995
10	Gryphons	998
11	Millionaires	1085
12	Rowdy Kilts	1139
13	Heartbreakers	1222
14	79ers	1225
15	Tornadoes	1293
16	Horses	1313
17	Assassins	1334
18	Spartans	1344
19	Devils	1474
20	Express	1500
21	Brahmas	1647
22	Regime	1717

For the SCHL, I'm Blake Johnston.