

# NOVEMBER 2011

The past four weeks have been quite revealing in the land of goalie prospects. For the first time ever, I had the luxury of watching top dog Jacob Markstrom go 2-2-1 with a .944 save percentage before Scott Clemmensen was recalled in early-November. From what I learned, it's only a matter of time before Markstrom is back with the Panthers and playing in the NHL full-time.

Swedish prospects are all the rage right now, as Jhonas Enroth is making big waves in Buffalo due to his perfect 5-0-0 start and Ryan Miller's well-documented struggles. In fact, four of the Top-5 Prospects are Swedish, so it's safe to say these guys are starting to take over the realm of prospects.

I was so excited to see Mark Dekanich make his debut for Columbus, but with another setback, it looks like I'll have to wait until sometime in December. This injury puts Matt Hackett and Thomas Greiss in the Top-10 for the first time. Greiss continues to establish himself as a legit NHL backup with starter upside, while Hackett is one of the top AHL goalies to begin his sophomore season.

Ben Scrivens was the other Top-30 prospect in the spotlight over the past few weeks, as an unfortunate whiplash incident with James Reimer opened the door for the former Cornell standout to step in and display his terrific footwork and calm demeanor for the Leafs. Unfortunately, he has struggled on home ice through his first four games, so be sure to temper your projections heading into the holiday season.

The Islanders, who have three-goalie rotations in both the NHL and AHL, finally suffered from the over-abundance of talent - Mikko Koskinen was loaned to KalPa of the SM-liiga on 11-12. This doesn't eliminate him from their depth chart, but the odds he reaches his true potential have been greatly reduced!

Because of this move, the long-term value of, yep, you guessed it, Swedish native Anders Nilsson continues to rise at a steady pace. Check out all of this and much more in the November release, so I hope you enjoy it! ~ J. Goldman



# PROSPECTS RANKINGS

RK	GOALTENDER	NHL	DRAFT	UPDATE	LM	+/-
1	<a href="#">JACOB MARKSTROM</a>	FLA	2008-31	Now that Markstrom logged four starts in five games with the Panthers this season, there is no mistaking that he continues to be touted as our #1 prospect. What impressed us so much about his 2-2-1 record and .944 SP% was his athleticism combined with his size. The win in Montreal was also a sign of his poise amidst major pressure on the road. Everything you want in a prospect, he has.	1	0
2	<a href="#">ANDERS LINDBACK</a>	NSH	2008-207	Even though Pekka Rinne signed a new seven-year contract, Anders still holds the #2 spot through 11-10. He has only appeared in two games and stopped 49-of-54 shots, but his technique and overall game continues to improve. As I learned through a phone convo with Mitch Korn, Lindback has improved his stick and rebound control, as well as his overall positioning in the crease.	2	0
3	<a href="#">BRADEN HOLTBY</a>	WAS	2008-93	Through October 21, Holtby had only played three games, as he split time with Dany Sabourin. The time split played a role in his slow start, as he went just 4-3-0 with a 2.35 GAA and .901 SP% through 11-9. So his numbers aren't where he wants them to be, but I think this experience of having to push through a slow start is good for him to manage, both mentally and technically, in the long run.	3	0
4	<a href="#">ROBIN LEHNER</a>	OTT	2009-46	Robin earned an early recall to Ottawa due to an undisclosed injury to Alex Auld and earned the 3-2 win against the Maple Leafs on 10-30. Before the recall, he was 4-2 with a .927 SP%. After the recall, he was 0-2-1 with a .925 SP%. Overall, Lehner's value holds firm, as he continues to display an extremely confident demeanor, and aggressive positioning for his size.	4	0
5	<a href="#">JHONAS ENROTH</a>	BUF	2006-46	With a perfect 5-0-0 record, a .956 SP% and a 1.34 GAA through 11-11, Enroth has bolstered his reputation as one of the finest young backups in the NHL. In his five games, he has not allowed more than two goals, and he has stopped 175-of-183 total shots. Enroth continued his awesome work in the shootout as well, as he came up big against the Senators on 11-5 for the 3-2 OT win.	5	0
6	<a href="#">ALEX SALAK</a>	CHI	Undrafted	Due to his wife giving birth to their child, Salak missed a week's worth of play in mid-October. His debut for Rockford was on 10-21, and despite losing 2-0 to Chicago, he still stopped 28-of-30 shots. He would go on to lose his next two games until earning his first win on 10-9 against the Griffins (39 saves on 42 shots). Salak will need some time to get into a rhythm, but at least he's playing again.	6	0
7	<a href="#">JACK CAMPBELL</a>	DAL	2010-11	Before his trade to the Soo Greyhounds, Campbell was 6-3-2 with a .906 SP% and one shutout. After the trade, which happened on 11-2, Jack won his first two games and stopped 54-of-57 shots. The trade is a good learning experience for him; he'll gain wisdom in terms of changing teams and adjusting on the fly. It can only help him on the long run, regardless of what kind of stats he posts.	7	0
8	<a href="#">EDDIE LACK</a>	VAN	Undrafted	Listed at 6-foot-5, Lack continues to build his reputation as one of the top sophomore AHL goalies. But now that he's partnered with Matt Climie, he won't be playing every game. In fact, through 11-10, Lack was just 2-3-2 in seven games, but has posted a very solid 2.24 GAA and .927 SP% with one shutout. Expect the workload to continue to be split, which is not a bad thing for Lack long-term.	8	0
9	<a href="#">THOMAS GREISS</a>	SJS	2004-94	Not only did Greiss have great stats through 11-10 with a 3-2 record, a 1.99 GAA and .928 SP%, but he's proving with every minute he plays that he's a legit NHL goaltender. I think his relief performance against the Penguins on 11-3 (Niemi was pulled just 2:08 into the game) truly established himself as a top-flight prospect. He has obstacles in his future (Niittymaki), but I still think he's here to stay.	17	8
10	<a href="#">MATT HACKETT</a>	MIN	2009-77	Not only is Matt 6-1-2 through his first 10 games, but he didn't suffer his first regulation loss until his 10th game, on 11-10 against Abbotsford. By establishing himself as the starter in his sophomore season over Dennis Endras, Hackett continues to be touted as a top-flight prospect. It also helps that Josh Harding is playing so well; if he's eventually traded, the door is wide open for Matt.	15	5



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11	<a href="#">MARK DEKANICH</a>	CBJ	2006-146	Because Steve Mason continued to struggle mightily with Columbus through 11-10, the door couldn't be any more wide open for Dekanich's return. Set to appear in a few AHL games for Springfield over the weekend of 11-11, things went from promising to devastating when he suffered a groin injury in the warmup. Now he's back on the IR for anywhere from 1-to-4 weeks, so the long wait continues.	10	-1
12	<a href="#">KEVIN POULIN</a>	NYI	2008-126	With Anders Nilsson starting to break out in Bridgeport, Poulin has had to battle to regain the form he had before suffering the season-ending knee injury last season. Through his first five games, Poulin is just 2-3-0 with a .868 SP% and 4.29 GAA. Those are bloated numbers, so expect a better November. It would really help if the team got rid of their three-goalie rotation in Bridgeport as well.	11	-1
13	<a href="#">MARTIN JONES</a>	LAK	Undrafted	Jones had a good start to the season, going 3-1-0 in his first four games. But since then, he has only won one game in his previous six. In those losses, he allowed four, five, two, three and four goals respectively. The sophomore jinx is definitely frustrating Jones, but with a 4-6-0 record, a .918 SP% and a 2.66 GAA, he is still playing with confidence and battling through his recent rough patch.	13	0
14	<a href="#">MIKE MURPHY</a>	CAR	2008-165	Due in large part to a four-game winning streak from 10-22 to 10-29, Murphy has completed his leap-frog of Justin Peters in Carolina's depth chart. As a result, he is essentially in a position to become Cam Ward's next backup. The path has been paved thanks to a 6-4-0 record, a .932 SP% and a 2.54 GAA through 11-10. The only obstacle long-term is Brian Boucher's two-year contract.	16	2
15	<a href="#">JAKE ALLEN</a>	STL	2008-34	After setting records as a rookie for Peoria last season, Allen has played miserably to begin his sophomore year. Through six games, he's 1-3-1 with a 4.46 GAA and .866 SP%. His first win didn't come until 11-11, something that wouldn't have been noted had I not taken an extra day to adjust these rankings. Let's hope the recent win is a step in the right direction for a big rebound month.	12	-3
16	<a href="#">ALEX STALOCK</a>	SJS	2005-112	Stalock continues to slowly nurture his way back to health after a severed nerve in his left leg. Things are going well, as he is on the ice at the DCU Center before regular practices begin. He is wearing pads and moving in the crease, but not taking shots. He still doesn't have full feeling in his left foot, but he will continue to work hard, and might begin taking shots before December arrives.	14	-2
17	<a href="#">HENRIK KARLSSON</a>	CGY	Undrafted	Through 11-10, Karlsson was 0-2-1 with a 2.95 GAA and .910 SP%. His second start, which was on 10-20, was a tough 3-2 loss in OT to the Rangers. His third start was his most impressive game in a Flames uniform, as he stopped 42-of-44 shots against the Sabres, but again, he suffered a tough 2-1 loss. So while he's not getting rewarded for his efforts, he's still displaying solid improvements.	19	2
18	<a href="#">DUSTIN TOKARSKI</a>	TBL	2008-122	No change for Tokarski, as he continues to bounce back and forth between wins and losses. Through 11-10, Dustin was 4-4-0 with a 2.60 GAA and .900 SP% and two shutouts. His first shutout was only a 14-save effort back on 10-21, but his second blanking was a 37-save effort on 11-06 in Providence. He's splitting time with Janus, so a winning streak in DEC would really help his cause.	18	0
19	<a href="#">CEDRICK DESJARDINS</a>	COL	Undrafted	In his first game back from the treacherous shoulder injury on 10-30, Desjardins proved why he's one of the best goalies not in the NHL with a 29-save shutout over the Marlies. From there, he has gone 2-2-0 with a 1.76 GAA, so clearly he's back on track and playing well for a team that is starving for some leadership. Through 11-10, Desjardins was 3-2-0 with a solid 1.41 GAA and .953 SP%.	22	3
20	<a href="#">BRAD THIESSEN</a>	PIT	Undrafted	As of 11-11, Thiessen was riding a red-hot eight-game winning streak. It includes two shutouts and only 12 total goals against. For the season, he's 9-2-0 with a 2.00 GAA and .921 SP%. This continues to build his reputation as Marc-Andre Fleury's next backup. Furthermore, Brent Johnson is set to become an UFA at the end of this season. This goes a long way in legitimizing Brad's rise.	23	3
21	<a href="#">RICHARD BACHMAN</a>	DAL	2006-120	After going just 3-3-0 with a 3.99 GAA through October, Bachman has rebounded a bit in November, going 2-0-1 in his first three games with a 1.62 GAA and one shutout. It is crucial that he improves his stats and gains consistency before the calendar year comes to an end. Like Thiessen, he's a "smaller" goalie that could be an NHL backup next year - Andrew Raycroft is an UFA this summer.	20	-1
22	<a href="#">BEN SCRIVENS</a>	TOR	Undrafted	With James Reimer still suffering from whiplash, Scrivens has been tossed into the Toronto fire, but has thrived on the road. His footwork is sublime compared to Reimer and Jonas Gustavsson, making him one of Francois Allaire's finest pupils since he joined the Leafs. It also helps that he's an even-keeled 25-year-old, so he's likely to handle the mental pressures better than Gustavsson.	27	5
23	<a href="#">LELAND IRVING</a>	CGY	2006-26	Despite possibly feeling the squeeze from a new two-year contract for Karlsson and the arrival of Joni Ortio, Leland has been rolling right along in Abbotsford. Through 11-11, he was 9-4-0 with a 2.17 GAA, a .913 SP% and one shutout. His value is tough to evaluate, but without Ortio playing any games, Irving's an essential part of their depth chart. He should hover around #25 all season long.	25	2
24	<a href="#">BEN BISHOP</a>	STL	2005-85	Big Ben had big problems to begin the season. He was just 1-3-0 in his first four games, but that first win was a 28-save shutout on 10-21. Since then, he has wrestled the starting role away from Allen by winning four games in a row. As of 11-10, Bishop was 5-4-0 with a 2.25 GAA and .929 SP%. He'll need to clamp down the starting role for good if he expects to be the next backup for the Blues.	26	2
25	<a href="#">ANTON KHUDOBIN</a>	BOS	2004-206	As I have witnessed in seasons past, Khudobin has been up and down to begin his first full campaign with the Providence Bruins. He was 4-5-0 with a 3.33 GAA and .904 SP% in October, but has started to play better in November, going 2-1-0 with a shutout and a .957 SP%. He'll continue to play close to 80% of the games for the Bruins as he does his best to prove he can be a full-time NHL goalie.	24	-1
26	<a href="#">JEREMY SMITH</a>	NSH	2007-54	Now that Rinne is locked in for seven years, Jeremy has a great opportunity to become the next Predators backup. This comes on the heels of the likely scenario in which Lindback is traded over the next year. Smith is already 6-1-1 with a remarkable 1.60 GAA and .942 SP% through 11-10.	30	4
27	<a href="#">MIKKO KOSKINEN</a>	NYI	2009-31	An unfortunate turn of events took place on 11-12. Due to a three-man rotation in Bridgeport, the Islanders allowed KalPa (SM-liiga) to sign Koskinen after they traded Ari Ahonen to a KHL team. Now that he's headed back to Finland, the odds he returns to Bridgeport have been greatly reduced.	21	-6
28	<a href="#">DARCY KUEMPER</a>	MIN	2009-161	Through 11-10, Kuemper was not only a perfect 4-0-0 with Ontario (ECHL), but he had the best combined goalie stats in the league with a 1.45 GAA and .941 SP%. He followed up a successful first month by earning a recall to the Wild on 11-12 to spend time with goalie coach Bob Mason.	29	1
29	<a href="#">CHAD JOHNSON</a>	NYR	2006-125	Johnson didn't lose a game until 11-4, going 3-0-2 in October with a 1.69 GAA and .942 SP% and one shutout. His last start was his worst statistical game of the year, as he gave up five goals in a loss to Saint John's. Expect good stats in November as he continues to split time with Cam Talbot.	33	4
30	<a href="#">JUSSI RYNNAS</a>	TOR	Undrafted	After a shutout in his first game of the season (21 saves against Lake Erie on 10-16), Jussi has lost five consecutive games through 11-10. With a 3.50 GAA and .884 SP% overall, he was surpassed by Scrivens and is now splitting time with Mark Owuya while the Leafs wait for Reimer to return.	28	-2