



NHL LOCKOUT

This NHL lockout and labour dispute is really starting to piss me off. I am getting so sick of reading about these rich Mo'Fo's in a battle of who gets more money.

However, that being said, I kind of think I am siding more with the league than the players. I mean, I am all for free enterprise and paying what market demands, but in this instance, I am actually sickened by the players and their greed. I do not think that playing hockey for a living warrants these kinds of salaries. If you want to make the huge bucks, learn how to market yourself and get endorsements and movie roles, and things of that nature. Treat yourself as a business, and find out other ways of using your notoriety to make yourself money.

Take a look at all of our Olympic athletes, that train like dogs to try to accomplish their dreams. And what are they getting paid to entertain us with their immense talent. Shit all is what. They make their money, by getting endorsements and excelling at their sport.

When you really think about it, the people who are really suffering here are the fans. We are the ones who are paying exorbitant amounts for hockey tickets and barely able to afford a couple games a year out of our budgets. It is absolutely ridiculous! And why, because some guy wants to make \$5 million dollars a year playing a sport. And now, you have this labour dispute, and the players likely wanting more money or whatever this is all about. What, do

they want to add another \$300,000 to their already huge salaries.

To be perfectly honest, I think there are tons of players that are not in the NHL that are just as good, or dam close. So dam good and so talented, that we would never see or know the difference in skill level. But we as a society perhaps allow this to happen because maybe we get caught up on the whole NHL thing and trick ourselves to think that the only talented great hockey we will see is in the NHL. Well this is ridiculous, just take a look at the Olympics. This involves many people who are not in the NHL making immense salaries. And it also includes non-professionals who are very capable of keeping up with our professional hockey players, yet they are not famous and earning salaries as the pros are. Or the junior teams. Still dam exhilarating to watch and entertaining as heck, but hey, they are not being paid millions. I am willing to bet that there are tons of players like that who if approached and told, how would you like to make \$400,000 a year to play in the NHL, would say, hell yes!!!!!!! And I am willing to also bet we would get the same entertainment as fans, as with the current NHL players who make 5 times that.

So my opinion, lets drop the salaries down big time, and lets drop the prices for tickets so the average fan is able to afford to go to a game. Again, I am surprised I am saying this as I very much believe in free enterprise, but I also think there is a point where enough is enough and I

get tired of seeing the greed. And quite frankly, I don't really think that anyone is worth that much money to play hockey. Again, if the players want to make more, use their celebrity status to get product endorsements, etc and make a ton of cash that way. Look at Michael Phelps for example. The guy is an Olympic swimmer, but he is rich as hell, I have even heard a billionaire. And why....because of his product endorsements and whatnot. Not because he is being paid to swim and entertain. But lets face it people, watching that stuff is dam entertaining, and we still watch it.... Why? Because those athletes are freakin talented...that's why! They are not bleeding our pockets dry in order to watch them though.

Oh, and another question, why is there a union in hockey? Are you freakin kidding me? What, you need a union to argue for you that you deserve another \$500,000 in pay? LOL That is a joke. What purpose are they serving in this area? This is not like a heavy industry mining operation or something where the well being of the workers needs to be protected against greedy businessmen. This is hockey and there seems to be a lot of rules regarding conduct from the NHL itself. Is the union there just to argue salary matters? If so, get real.

Anyway, enough said I guess. That's my rant.

Tattle