STATS | PREVIEWS | PREDICTIONS | PROSPECTS

mckeen's HOCKEY POOL YEARBOOK 2017-18

THE ESSENTIAL HOCKEY ANNUAL

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TOP 250 PROSPECTS
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UNDER THE RADAR

FANTASY ALL-STARS

PLAYERS TO WATCH:
BREAKOUTS AND HIDDEN GEMS

LATE, LATE ROUND STEALS

TOP 30 ROOKIES

OVER 1000 PLAYER PROFILES

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Without the support of our families this publication is not possible. Ian, Rob, and Gus all want to acknowledge the essential support of Germaine, Theresa, and Reba.

Ryan would like to particularly thank his wife Maya and his daughter, Georgia, "for their patience and understanding through my literal and virtual absences all year."

We would like to thank the global scouting team, without whose eyes on the ice, and valuable input, our prospect coverage would have been impossible. Listed alphabetically, they are: Marco Bombino (Finland), Scott Crawford (OHL), Tom Dorsa (AHL), Vince Gibbons (WHL), Jimmy Hamrin (Sweden), Jeremy Houghtaling (AHL), Kevin Olexson (WHL), Brock Otten (OHL), Mike Sanderson (QMJHL), Dennis Schellenberg (Central Europe), Alessandro Seren Rosso (Russia), Craig Smith (QMJHL), Romon Solovyov (Russia), Leslie Treff (AHL/NCAA).

We would also like to recognize these tremendous resources:

Corsica.Hockey
Puckalytics.com
HockeyAnalysis.com
NaturalStatTrick.com
HockeyViz.com
Corey Sznajder (Passing Data)
Ryan Stimson (Passing Data)
Hockey Reference
HockeyStats.ca
Rotoworld
Robb Tufts (Data Viz)

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RICK-AND-MORTAR

REVIEW / STATE OF PLAY

— Arizona an organization in a perpetual state of rebuilding made significant personnel changes that will alter the culture significantly. They have not made the playoffs in five seasons finishing with the third worst record in the league.

Change begins at the top with new President and CEO Steve Patterson. He brings NFL and NBA experience and was appointed after **Andrew Barroway** bought the team outright after working with nine co-owners for the past few years. This should provide some singular focus and a committed management with a new arena a dominant issue. Uncertain management has hindered the organization in the past.

General Manager **John Chayka** was promoted to President of Hockey Operations and General Manager. A strong show of faith in the young man, in particular with the departure of long time coach Dave Tippett, who had a strong influence on the organization.

Chayka tapped past Coyote **Rick Tocchet** as the new head coach after winning the cup twice with the Penguins. In Pittsburgh he oversaw the forwards and the power play and wants to emphasize speed and offense around his skill players. He has an impressive stable of young talent to work with and is looking to unleash their creativity and aggressiveness.

Other changes included parting ways awkwardly with Shane Doan after a 21-year career with the franchise. Leading scorer Radim Vrbata left in free agency. Goalie Mike Smith was traded to the Calgary Flames as a precursor to a busy draft day with two significant trades to boost both offense and defense.

AGGRESSIVE OFFSEASON ACQUISITIONS

— Stalwart defender and premier shot blocker 6'3" **Niklas Hjalmarsson** was acquired from Chicago and the 10 year veteran provides a stabilizing presence on a blueline that allowed the second most shots against in the NHL last season. It is anchored by fellow Swede and superstar Oliver Ekman-Larsson who was hampered by a broken thumb without missing any time last season and will return to elite level with an improved supporting cast. Surprising rookie **Jakob Chychrun** played solid defense at 19-years old, while 31-year old Alex Goligoski turned in a solid season with 36 points.

Trading their seventh overall pick to the New York Rangers plus Anthony DeAngelo they acquired a number one center in Derek Stepan and their starting goalie for next season in **Antti Raanta**. It is his first shot at carrying the load for a team, but appeared in 30 games with the Rangers last season with impressive stats (2.26 GAA, 0.922 SV%).

ONE STEP AT A TIME FOR YOUNG FORWARDS

— Stepan should provide a catalyst for budding superstar **Max Domi** and allow him to hit careers numbers in his third season. The 27-year old provides further leadership and is a consistent producer (four consecutive seasons between 53 and 57 points) and responsible defensively. He will be a fixture on both the powerplay and penalty kill.

Beyond Stepan the forward group will be relying upon a very young group. **Christian Dvorak** made the jump from prolific offense with the London Knights in the OHL to appear in 78 games in his rookie season. He will be asked to center the second line. He will likely be flanked by a couple of 24 year olds in newly acquired Nick Cousins and reliable **Tobias Reider**. Skilled youngsters include **Brendan Perlini** (21) who made the jump to the NHL last season and **Anthony Duclair** (21) who endured a miserable season in both the NHL and AHL after firing 20 goals as a rookie along with 6'4 inch 21-year old **Lawson Crouse**. He appeared in 72 games as a rookie and is projected as a power forward, but had little offensive impact last season. He will compete for a role in the bottom six as well.

Rookies that should make an impact include skilled 18-year old **Clayton Keller** and 20-year old **Dylan Strome** who looked strong in the development camp. With a new coach in Tocchet how he deploys the youngsters is hard to predict and will create fierce competition in camp to determine the extent of their roles.

OUTLOOK

— Arizona emerged out of the off-season with a meaningfully improved team in adding Stepan and Hjarmalsson while giving up Connor Murphy from their lineup. The loss of Shane Doan's leadership will be an interesting development to watch. Not all of the kids are going to make an impact and more moves to add experience may be in order for Chayka if the waters are rough early, and the youngsters begin to get frustrated. They should all continue to develop, but that process will need to be handled with care and could mean they are a season or three away.

PLAYERS TO WATCH

Christian Dvorak — Upgraded supporting cast bodes well for the former London Knight - and his surge up the production charts.

Clayton Keller — Injects creativity, imagination and youthful exuberance into a lineup desperately searching for solutions to scoring goals.

NEW ARRIVALS

Andrew Campbell-D (Tor) .. Adam Clendening-D (NYR) .. Nick Cousins-F (Phi) .. Emerson Etem-F (Ana) .. Joel Hanley-D (Mtl) .. Brandon Hickey-D (Cgy) .. Niklas Hjalmarsson-D (Chi) .. Mario Kempe-F .. Michael Latta-F (Chi) .. Merrick Madsen-G (Phi) .. Hunter Miska-G .. Antti Raanta-G (NYR) .. Zac Rinaldo-F (Bos) .. Mike Sislo-F (Col) .. Derek Stepan-F (NYR)

DEPARTURES

Alexander Burmistrov-F (Van) .. Craig Cunningham-F .. Laurent Dauphin-F (Chi) .. Anthony DeAngelo-D (NYR) .. Shane Doan-F .. Grayson Downing-F (Edm) .. Peter Holland-F (Mtl) .. Chad Johnson-G (Buf) .. Josh Jooris-F (Car) .. Jamie McBain-D (TB) .. Zbynek Michalek-D .. Jeremy Morin-F .. Mitchell Moroz-F .. Chris Mueller-F (Tor) .. Connor Murphy-D (Chi) .. Chris Pronger-D .. Teemu Pulkkinen-F (VGK) .. Garret Ross-F .. Mike Smith-G (Cgy) .. Jarred Tinordi-D (Pit) .. Branden Troock-F .. Radim Vrbata-F (Fla) .. Brendan Warren-F (Phi) .. Joe Whitney-F

2017-18 PREDICTIONS

RK	PACIFIC	W	L	OTL	GF	GA	PTS
1	Edmonton	49	22	11	252	219	109
2	Calgary	49	26	7	240	197	105
3	Anaheim	46	27	9	228	209	101
4	San Jose	40	31	11	222	226	91
5	Los Angeles	39	35	8	209	212	86
6	Arizona	34	40	8	197	255	76
7	Vancouver	25	45	12	199	268	62
8	Vegas	23	51	8	168	279	54

RANK	NAME, TM	GP	G	A	PTS	PPG
1	Max DOMI	80	22	33	55	0.69
2	Derek STEPAN	82	17	35	52	0.63
3	Oliver EKMAN-LARSSON	82	15	31	46	0.56
4	Tobias RIEDER	82	21	23	44	0.54
5	Clayton KELLER	74	14	27	41	0.55
6	Christian DVORAK	81	15	22	37	0.46
7	Brendan PERLINI	76	19	15	34	0.45
8	Dylan STROME	72	9	22	31	0.43
9	Alex GOLIGOSKI	82	4	24	28	0.34
10	Brad RICHARDSON	80	10	17	27	0.34
11	Anthony DUCLAIR	64	9	15	24	0.38
12	Nick COUSINS	74	8	15	23	0.31
13	Jordan MARTINOOK	81	8	11	19	0.23
14	Jamie MCGINN	74	8	9	17	0.23
15	Jakob CHYCHRUN	65	5	12	17	0.26
16	Lawson CROUSE	65	7	8	15	0.23
17	Niklas HJALMARSSON	79	3	12	15	0.19
18	Adam CLENDENING	44	2	7	9	0.20
19	Christian FISCHER	27	3	4	7	0.26
20	Luke SCHENN	78	1	6	7	0.09

TEAM STATS REPORT

CATEGORY	STAT	RANK	CATEGORY	STAT	RANK
RECORD	30-42-10	27	GF	197	27
HOME	18-18-5	27	GA	260	28
ROAD	12>24>5	27T	PP	16.2	26
SHOOTOUT	6>2	3	PK	77.3	27

FORWARDS

YELLOW HIGHLIGHT DENOTES **ABOVE LEAGUE AVERAGE** ON **METRICS**.

ixG	Individual expected goals	G/60	Goals per 60 minutes
CF%	Corsi For%	P/60	Points per 60 minutes
CF% Rel	Corsi For% Relative	On-Ice Sh%	On-Ice Shooting Percentage
xGF%	Expected Goals For %	iSh%	Individual Shooting Percentage

21 Derek STEPAN — C-CR

AGE: 27 H/W: 6-0/195 NHL: 7 SALARY: 6,500,000 CONTRACT: 2021

YR	TEAM	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	MIN	PPG
14-15	NY Rangers (NHL)	68	16	39	55	22	18.1	0.81
15-16	NY Rangers (NHL)	72	22	31	53	20	17.5	0.74
16-17	NY Rangers (NHL)	81	17	38	55	16	18.4	0.68
	Career	515	128	232	360	130		0.70
	Prediction	**82**	**17**	**35**	**52**			**0.63**

Scouting: Poised and creative playmaker with soft hands, who can utilize mid-sized frame to dart into heavy patrolled areas .. strong and balanced on a wide base, aside from a slushy start up and efficient stride that lacks explosiveness with good cruising speed .. shields the puck well and adept at creating plays in traffic .. deceptively skilled and unpredictable in an unflashy way .. difficult to read when carrying the puck, offering few tells and disguising intentions .. patient in scoring areas - well-prepared with stick and body .. could be more assertive with a good hard wristshot - and make quicker decisions .. gets stuck on the puck sometimes as openings appear .. plays a methodical two-way game, guided by solid positional sense .. takes smart checking angles - gets to loose pucks simply by being in the right place.

Metrics:

Sit	TOI	ixG	CF%	CF% Rel	xGF%	G/60	P/60	On-Ice Sh%	iSh%
5v5	1111.93	11.71	50.68	3.78	53.46	0.49	1.67	8.23	5.81
5v4	195.02	3.23	91.03	4.05	93.17	1.23	5.23	12.83	16.67

Analysis: Traded to the Arizona Coyotes at the NHL Entry Draft, coming off a fourth consecutive mid-50's finish in points, playing almost full schedule, sitting out one game .. a four-game point streak in Q4 ended a 29-game funk with only one goal – and a reason for the reduction in goals .. decline was at 5v5 – spent most with Mats Zuccarello and Chris Kreider (509 mins, 57.9 GF% & 54.9 CF%) or Rick Nash and Jimmy Vesey (224 mins, 55 GF% & 50.1 CF%) .. career highs in 5v4 points, and pts/60 by only a small margin .. steps into the 1C role immediately, expect more in the mid-50's.

16 Max DOMI — LW

AGE: 22 H/W: 5-10/200 NHL: 2 SALARY: $863,333 CONTRACT: 2018

YR	TEAM	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	MIN	PPG
14-15	London (OHL)	57	32	70	102	66		1.79
15-16	Arizona (NHL)	81	18	34	52	72	16.2	0.64
16-17	Arizona (NHL)	59	9	29	38	40	17.0	0.64
	Career	140	27	63	90	112		0.64
	Prediction	**80**	**22**	**33**	**55**			**0.69**

Scouting: An offensive dynamo, prodigy of Tie Domi, is a dynamic skater - light and explosive with sharp lateral agility .. stride is compact and powerful, generates tremendous quickness in crossovers powering an elite top gear and superb pivoting ability .. shifty and highly-skilled possession, with a repertoire of slick skating moves and puckhandling tricks.. stays low to the ice and is always selling head fakes and dekes to confuse the opposition .. small in stature yet extremely tough to knock off the puck due to exceptional balance and strength on his skates .. a force in down-low situations and especially along the boards, deadly in the slot .. better utilizes linemates .. playmaking patience is developing, yet can still be guilty of over-handling the puck and dead-ending himself .. shows a hunger for the puck in the offensive zone - and solid physical intensity - which is usually not matched in defensive pursuits .. can lose enthusiasm when plays diffuse - and shows little interest getting back and covering his man.

Metrics:

Sit	TOI	ixG	CF%	CF% Rel	xGF%	G/60	P/60	On-Ice Sh%	iSh%
5v5	799.03	6.94	45.00	1.36	40.54	0.45	2.03	9.36	7.41
5v4	141.90	1.92	90.52	10.72	90.80	0.42	2.96	14.29	6.25

Analysis: Scored his first goal 11 games into the season and put up five more in the following 15 when a hand injury requiring surgery cost him 23 games, courtesy of a rare fight with Calgary's Garnet Hathaway .. would score only four times upon return – with a drop in shot rates from 2.23 pre-injury to 1.5 afterwards, amid a dive in Coyotes shot rates over the second half .. led the team in 5v5 Pts/60, despite a 33% drop in shooting percentage from his rookie campaign .. scored only three 5v4 points after injury return, three in the final five games .. injury concerns aside, there are career highs on the horizon.

18 Christian DVORAK — C-CR

AGE: 21 H/W: 6-0/195 NHL: 1 SALARY: $839,167 CONTRACT: 2019

YR	TEAM	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	MIN	PPG
14-15	London (OHL)	66	41	68	109	24		1.65
15-16	London (OHL)	59	52	69	121	27		2.05
16-17	Arizona (NHL)	78	15	18	33	22	15.4	0.42
	Career	78	15	18	33	22		
	Prediction	**81**	**15**	**22**	**37**			**0.46**

Scouting: Smart, skilled playmaker with good size and keen hockey sense .. skating lacks explosiveness - mechanics appear a touch stiff in parts - yet uses his power efficiently and sustains a steady high stride tempo .. skilled and savvy with the puck, makes clever shifts to create lanes and openings - with slick passing ability, including finding lanes that don't initially appear to be there .. best weapon though is a heavy wristshot, featuring a sneaky and reflexive shooting release .. alert and hard-working away from the puck, excellent in support and quick on assignments .. applies backside pressure, feet always moving, an impressive understanding of a complete two-way game .. upgrades in strength have factored prominently in his rise - translating into improved speed and physical play .. transforming into a solid penalty killer.

Metrics:

Sit	TOI	ixG	CF%	CF% Rel	xGF%	G/60	P/60	On-Ice Sh%	iSh%
5v5	989.52	8.46	43.32	-2.49	41.34	0.79	1.52	9.16	18.57
5v4	107.73	2.21	87.04	1.01	84.67	1.11	2.78	8.57	16.67

Analysis: Assigned to Tucson twice early in the season .. scored four goals over a disappointing first half (45-4-9-13) .. placed on a line with Shane Doan and newly recalled Brendan Perlini (292 mins, 66.7 GF% & 47.6 CF%) finishing strong (33-11-9-20, firing 22% at 5v5) prompting a 30% increase in on-ice shot metrics with a noticeable jump in individual scoring chance generation rates .. Q3/Q4 high shooting percentage could be a bit of a red flag on sustainability .. secondary 5v4 minutes featured a team high points on 83.33% of on-ice goals scored – 66.67% primary points .. second-most among rookies faceoff wins (471) .. only player with a positive plus/minus (plus-7) .. scoring crown challenger under the right circumstances .. exciting upside here.

8 Tobias RIEDER — LW-LR

AGE: 24 H/W: 5-11/185 NHL: 3 SALARY: $2,225,000 CONTRACT: 2018

YR	TEAM	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	MIN	PPG
14-15	Arizona (NHL)	72	13	8	21	14	16.5	0.29
14-15	Portland (AHL)	9	4	1	5	0		0.56
15-16	Arizona (NHL)	82	14	23	37	10	17.2	0.45
16-17	Arizona (NHL)	80	16	18	34	6	17.2	0.43
	Career	234	43	49	92	30		0.39
	Prediction	**82**	**21**	**23**	**44**			**0.54**

Scouting: Undersized, skilled winger with keen instincts .. low hunched over skater, gets quick bursts and adequate first step quickness, but lacks top end speed .. jumps off his blades sometimes on crossovers and lateral shifts, yet good on his edges, with a wide stance in cruising speed that fends off errant sticks in pursuit and in close .. hands aren't exceptionally quick or deceptive, but can fire pucks with minimal windup that are more accurate than hard .. excels in-tight around the net .. gets lost in soft areas and pouncing with quick strikes .. takes up good support positions defensively, but can also be an effective F1 on the forecheck .. utilitarian that can be used up and down the lineup.

Metrics:

Sit	TOI	ixG	CF%	CF% Rel	xGF%	G/60	P/60	On-Ice Sh%	iSh%
5v5	1042.17	12.40	45.18	0.20	42.24	0.58	1.32	5.92	8.85
5v4	92.28	1.37	87.43	1.71	93.28	1.30	2.60	10.00	22.22

Analysis: Doubled his Q1 expected goals (3.5) en route to seven goals in the first 22 games that included two missed games with lower body injury .. scored once in the next 21, and eight in the next 29, ending the season pointless in the last eight games .. points aside, the underlying shot metrics at 5v5 weren't bad, with his individual metrics outpacing the declining team metrics – teaming at 5v5 with Jordan Martinook and Brendan Perlini – his most stable linemates all season .. traditionally low amount of penalties, put up six penalty minutes in '16-7 .. may lack upper echelon creativity to remain on scoring units, but could still hit that elusive 20-goal mark if his individual shot rates return to the 189 level of previous two seasons.

POWER PLAY

FIRST UNIT

LW	C	RW
Max Domi	Derek Stepan	Clayton Keller
LD		**RD**
Oliver Ekman-Larsson		Alex Goligoski

SECOND UNIT

LW	C	RW
Brendan Perlini	Dylan Strome	Christian Dvorak
LD		**RD**
Kevin Connauton		Niklas Hjalmarsson

DEPTH CHART

LW	C	RW
Max Domi	**Derek Stepan**	**Clayton Keller**
Tobias Rieder	**Dylan Strome**	**Christian Dvorak**
Brendan Perlini	**Brad Richardson**	**Nick Cousins**
Lawson Crouse	**Jordan Martinook**	**Jamie McGinn**
Anthony Duclair	Tyler Gaudet	Christian Fischer
Zac Rinaldo	Ryan MacInnis	Michael Latta
Emerson Etem	Lane Pederson	Mike Sislo

LD	G	RD
Oliver Ekman-Larsson	**Antti Raanta**	**Niklas Hjalmarsson**
Jakob Chychrun		**Alex Goligoski**
Kevin Connauton		**Luke Schenn**
Adam Clendening		**Brandon Hickey**
Kyle Capobianco	Louis Domingue	Kyle Wood
Andrew Campbell	Adin Hill	Dysin Mayo
Joel Hanley	Marek Langhamer	Cam Dineen
	Hunter Miska	

29 Brendan PERLINI — LW

AGE: 21 | H/W: 6-3/210 | NHL: 1 | SALARY: $863,333 | CONTRACT: 2019

YR	TEAM	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	MIN	PPG
14-15	Niagara (OHL)	43	26	34	60	22		1.40
15-16	Niagara (OHL)	57	25	20	45	28		0.79
16-17	Arizona (NHL)	57	14	7	21	20	14.5	0.37
16-17	Tucson (AHL)	17	14	5	19	14		1.12
	Career	57	14	7	21	20		0.37
	Prediction	**76**	**19**	**15**	**34**			**0.45**

Scouting: Offensively driven speedster, with a solid release and skating prowess to facilitate controlled zone entries .. a solid F1 option, but optimally slotted into support layer on forecheck .. will cut to the slot, try to beat a defender wide .. doesn't create many openings or skating lanes, but senses openings and exploits small passages .. solid stick prep, blade always on the ice .. blinding skater whose mechanics, speed and crisp edge work standout in situations with limited time and space .. covers the ice in two swooping strides .. vision supplemented by a strong sense of growing pressure and rarely over-handles the puck .. makes quick decisions then darts in prime scoring areas .. hard, heavy shot features a tricky release point that can handcuff goaltenders .. instincts of a goal scorer more than a playmaker .. strays from system structure in backside pressure, but positions as a winger in the defensive zone .. sporadic compete level without the puck is still an area for improvement

Metrics:

Sit	TOI	ixG	CF%	CF% Rel	xGF%	G/60	P/60	On-Ice Sh%	iSh%
5v5	723.28	6.55	43.56	-1.85	39.19	0.83	1.24	8.14	14.29
5v4	95.93	2.95	82.61	-3.17	88.97	1.88	3.13	10.81	17.65

Analysis: Season's second recall after an AHL assignment to Tucson prior to season onset proved permanent .. scored in clusters and dried up for long periods, typical of a goal scorer, only to a greater feast or famine degree .. skated well with Shane Doan and Christian Dvorak (292 mins, 66.7 GF% & 47.6 CF%), riding a decent 9.68% on-ice shooting percentage .. late season move on a line with Tobias Rieder and Jordan Martinook (119 mins, 50 GF% & 35.5 CF%) yielded less savory results – and a sign of potential based on slotting.

10 Anthony DUCLAIR — RW-RL

AGE: 22 | H/W: 5-11/185 | NHL: 2 | SALARY: $ 1,200,000 | CONTRACT: 2017

YR	TEAM	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	MIN	PPG
14-15	NY Rangers (NHL)	18	1	6	7	4	12.1	0.39
14-15	Quebec (QMJHL)	26	15	19	34	24		1.31
15-16	Arizona (NHL)	81	20	24	44	49	14.2	0.54
15-16	Arizona (NHL)	58	5	10	15	14	13.2	0.26
15-16	Tucson (AHL)	16	1	7	8	4		0.50
	Career	157	26	40	66	67		0.42
	Prediction	**64**	**9**	**15**	**24**			**0.38**

Scouting: Enigmatic and frustrating at times, boasts attractive individual skills and quick, soft hands .. smooth puckhandler, heads up passer, with solid one-touch skills .. executes in full flight .. top weapon is a hard shot and explosive release .. minimal effort for top power .. puck management is erratic, strange decisions at odd times .. elegant skater - turns, transitions are tight and fast .. swiftly reaches a blistering top gear, driven by a strong lower core and explosive stride power .. dangerous when isolating defenders 1-on-1 and getting that inside lane to make his cut .. getting pucks to the net in a hurry is a prime feature .. work ethic and courage are questionable .. operates on the fringe of hard areas, and won't sacrifice body for positioning .. must attack the net and develop a tougher edge .. hockey sense and passion are a concern as a prospect .. chronic underachiever.

Metrics:

Sit	TOI	ixG	CF%	CF% Rel	xGF%	G/60	P/60	On-Ice Sh%	iSh%
5v5	680.35	7.94	46.39	1.50	50.07	0.44	1.15	8.10	8.20
5v4	72.92	2.06	83.81	-5.38	90.65	0.00	1.65	7.84	0.00

Analysis: Disappointing sophomore campaign featured one goal scored by Christmas (31-1-4-5) – and a string of healthy scratches, culminating in a mid-season AHL assignment to Tucson (16-1-7-8), underachieving expectations in two professional leagues .. relegated to his trademark outside game and rendered ineffective partnered mostly with Jamie McGinn (42.1 GF% & 43 CF% in 268 5v5 minutes) .. scored twice and put up five points after a trade deadline recall (with three healthy scratches) .. strong finish with an uptick in shot metrics and on-ice goals success, partnered with Max Domi and Aelxander Burmistrov (66.7 GF% & 40 CF%) .. risky pick.

67 Lawson CROUSE — LW

AGE: 20 | H/W: 6-4/220 | NHL: 1 | SALARY: $894,167 | CONTRACT: 2019

YR	TEAM	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	MIN	PPG
14-15	Kingston (OHL)	56	29	22	51	70		0.91
15-16	Portland (AHL)	2	0	0	0	0		0.00
15-16	Kingston (OHL)	49	23	39	62	56		1.27
16-17	Arizona (NHL)	72	5	7	12	48	11.5	0.17
	Career	72	5	7	12	48		0.17
	Prediction	**65**	**7**	**8**	**15**			**0.23**

Scouting: Hard-working and physical competitor with a mean streak and not afraid to drop his gloves to defend a teammate .. quick release, firing at will – a somewhat sign of lacking creativity .. skates hard and digs into the ice with slightly bow-legged, but long and powerful strides .. good off the mark, quick and agile .. strong cuts and pivots allows him to charge to the middle of the ice to make a strong play .. hasn't exposed the forceful inside game from junior .. creative making plays along the boards and in tight spaces, but not a dangler .. modest stickhandling and finesse skills .. strong forearms and a quick shooting release .. complementary middle-six forward who supplies size, toughness and occasional scoring .. good in neutral zone eliminating players angles and taking away their passing lanes ..

Metrics:

Sit	TOI	ixG	CF%	CF% Rel	xGF%	G/60	P/60	On-Ice Sh%	iSh%
5v5	741.40	7.27	45.38	0.09	42.58	0.32	0.89	4.91	5.19
5v4	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

Analysis: Failed to make significant offensive impact scoring, relegated to a lower roster role after being acquired from Florida in the off season .. late season surge in shots when lining up with Josh Jooris and Shane Doan (40 GF% & 52.7 CF%, 4.44% on-ice sh%) .. good end to the season, the spike in shots wasn't supported by an increase in scoring chances, or goals .. replacement level metrics, but potential to become a lower roster role player.

2016-17 TEAM SCORING

PPG BY QTR 1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q		GP	G	A	Pts	BST	YR	+/-	PIM	S	S%	MIN	PLAYOFFS GP	G	A	PTS	+/-
0.70	0.62	0.95	0.42	Radim VRBATA	81	20	35	55	63	14-5	-18	16	233	8.6	16.53	-	-	-	-	-
0.50	0.62	0.48	0.35	Oliver EKMAN-LARSSON	79	12	27	39	55	15-6	-25	48	145	8.3	24.36	-	-	-	-	-
0.70	-	0.77	0.60	Max DOMI	59	9	29	38	52	15-6	-9	40	108	8.3	16.58	-	-	-	-	-
0.40	0.24	0.57	0.55	Alex GOLIGOSKI	82	6	30	36	46	10-1	-9	28	112	5.4	23.19	-	-	-	-	-
0.50	0.33	0.43	0.45	Tobias RIEDER	80	16	18	34	37	15-6	-8	6	155	10.3	17.18	-	-	-	-	-
0.44	0.24	0.48	0.55	*Christian DVORAK	78	15	18	33	33	16-7	7	22	88	17.0	15.37	-	-	-	-	-
0.30	0.29	0.38	0.58	Shane DOAN	74	6	21	27	78	07-8	-3	48	144	4.2	15.02	-	-	-	-	-
0.50	0.21	0.39	0.20	Jordan MARTINOOK	77	11	14	25	25	16-7	-8	40	109	10.1	15.40	-	-	-	-	-
-	0.44	0.43	0.25	*Brendan PERLINI	57	14	7	21	21	16-7	-4	20	92	15.2	14.50	-	-	-	-	-
0.27	0.18	0.41	0.32	*Jakob CHYCHRUN	68	7	13	20	20	16-7	-14	47	86	8.1	16.40	-	-	-	-	-
0.47	0.19	0.21	0.12	Jamie MCGINN	72	9	8	17	39	15-6	-23	23	116	7.8	13.10	-	-	-	-	-
0.21	0.22	0.30	0.15	Connor MURPHY	77	2	15	17	17	16-7T	-13	45	81	2.5	19.10	-	-	-	-	-
0.11	-	0.47	0.71	Alexander BURMISTROV	49	5	11	16	28	11-2	-7	12	45	11.1	13.21	-	-	-	-	-
				…Wpg	23	0	2	2			-6	6	13	0.0	11.02					
				…Ari	26	5	9	14			-1	6	32	15.6	15.24					
0.20	0.28	-	0.35	Anthony DUCLAIR	58	5	10	15	44	15-6	-7	14	76	6.6	13.17	-	-	-	-	-
0.67	0.27	-	0.31	*Anthony DEANGELO	39	5	9	14	14	16-7	-13	37	60	8.3	17.05	-	-	-	-	-
0.14	0.36	0.20	0.24	Peter HOLLAND	48	5	7	12	27	15-6	-16	22	79	6.3	12.45	-	-	-	-	-
				…Tor	8	0	1	1			-2	4	13	0.0	10.43					
				…Ari	40	5	6	11			-14	18	66	7.6	13.09					
0.06	0.14	0.27	0.20	*Lawson CROUSE	72	5	7	12	12	16-7	-20	48	84	5.9	11.53	-	-	-	-	-
0.14	0.13	0.33	0.25	Josh JOORIS	54	4	8	12	24	14-5	-2	16	75	5.3	12.11	-	-	-	-	-
				…NYR	12	1	1	2			1	6	11	9.1	8.36					
				…Ari	42	3	7	10			-3	10	64	4.7	13.13					
0.56	-	-	-	Brad RICHARDSON	16	5	4	9	31	15-6	-1	15	25	20.0	15.20	-	-	-	-	-
0.06	0.10	0.14	0.10	Luke SCHENN	78	1	7	8	22	11-2T	-9	85	94	1.1	18.02	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	*Christian FISCHER	7	3	0	3	3	16-7	0	0	10	30.0	12.19	-	-	-	-	-
0.13	-	-	-	*Laurent DAUPHIN	24	2	1	3	3	16-7	-2	12	32	6.3	10.54	-	-	-	-	-
0.13	-	-	-	Teemu PULKKINEN	13	2	0	2	12	15-6	-2	6	10	20.0	9.30	-	-	-	-	-
				…Min	9	1	0	1			-1	2	4	25.0	9.23					
				…Ari	4	1	0	1			-1	4	6	16.7	9.45					
-	-	-	-	*Clayton KELLER	3	0	2	2	2	16-7	-3	0	0	0.0	12.40	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	*Tyler GAUDET	4	0	1	1	3	15-6	0	0	3	0.0	12.59	-	-	-	-	-
0.14	-	-	-	*Dylan STROME	7	0	1	1	1	16-7	-5	0	6	0.0	13.41	-	-	-	-	-
0.14	-	0.00	-	Kevin CONNAUTON	24	0	1	1	21	14-5	-1	24	21	0.0	13.07	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Jamie MCBAIN	3	0	0	0	30	10-1	-1	0	3	0.0	16.40	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Zbynek MICHALEK	3	0	0	0	28	06-7	1	0	3	0.0	17.39	-	-	-	-	-

DEFENSEMEN

23 Oliver EKMAN-LARSSON — D

AGE: 26 | H/W: 6-2/200 | NHL: 7 | SALARY: $5,500,000 | CONTRACT: 2019

YR	TEAM	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	MIN	PPG
14-15	Arizona (NHL)	82	23	20	43	40	25.1	0.52
15-16	Arizona (NHL)	75	21	34	55	96	24.5	0.73
16-17	Arizona (NHL)	79	12	27	39	48	24.4	0.49
	Career	494	88	160	248	316		0.50
	Prediction	**82**	**15**	**31**	**46**			**0.56**

Scouting: Tall, silky-smooth skating workhorse .. swift and effortless in all directions .. closes gaps effortlessly, transitioning from forwards to backwards skating with remarkable ease and grace .. hands are quick and dexterous – and power a heavy shot .. adept at opening lanes with quick little shifts and firing rapid strikes from any angle .. generates impressive velocity from merely snapping his wrists and massive wingspan .. composed in possession – taking time to find proper outlets – eschewing the propensity for rash or blind clearances .. quick thinker – makes good spontaneous decisions under pressure – difficult to contain .. uses space more efficiently with experience .. provides a subtle physical presence, injecting bursts of intensity .. NHL model transitionary blueliner..

Metrics:

Sit	TOI	ixG	CF%	CF% Rel	xGF%	G/60	P/60	On-Ice Sh%	iSh%
5v5	1429.37	4.48	45.07	-0.14	41.39	0.13	0.76	8.14	3.23
5v4	275.98	2.46	88.79	11.18	89.79	0.65	3.04	10.60	8.82

Analysis: Played most of the season with a broken thumb, suffered on November 29 but never missed any time .. produced career low G/60 at 5v5 – with career low iSh% - and 5v4 as a result .. failed to score a goal in 22 games after potting five goals in the first seven out of the gate .. followed by a 21 game funk from February until mid-March .. depressed shot metrics across the board, but drop in points primarily precipitated by a reduction in personal shot attempt events, both at even strength and at 5v4 .. partnered most with now departed Connor Murphy (481 mins, 39.5 GF% & 47.7 CF%) over the first half, and then switched with Luke Schenn (655 mins, 45.7 GF% & 42.9 CF%) .. perennial leader among defensemen goal scorers fired full season career low, with an almost 40% reduction in shot attempts at 5v4 by the team as a whole while on the ice .. bounce-back to elite level will depend on better supporting cast.

33 Alex GOLIGOSKI — D

AGE: 32 | H/W: 5-11/185 | NHL: 9 | SALARY: $5,475,000 | CONTRACT: 2021

YR	TEAM	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	MIN	PPG
14-15	Dallas (NHL)	81	4	32	36	24	23.5	0.44
15-16	Dallas (NHL)	82	5	32	37	34	23.5	0.45
16-17	Arizona (NHL)	82	6	30	36	28	23.2	0.44
	Career	644	61	252	313	228		0.49
	Prediction	**82**	**4**	**24**	**28**			**0.34**

Scouting: A smooth puckmoving rearguard with keen instincts and good feet .. sneaky on outlets, deciphers pressure well and delivers soft feeds .. lacks explosive footspeed and some backward mobility, yet moves well laterally and is always in control thanks to a wide, balanced stride .. pinpoint one-timer or a quick wrist shot, has a knack for getting pucks to the net .. intuitive – quick to spot openings and pinch to the net .. not overly big or strong and can be guilty of soft defensive marking .. can be turnstiled if gap is too wide .. must focus on positioning as he gets caught flat-footed 1-on-1 .. thrives when jumping up and supporting the rush and at the point in the offensive zone, an aging blueliner with future game skills.

Metrics:

Sit	TOI	ixG	CF%	CF% Rel	xGF%	G/60	P/60	On-Ice Sh%	iSh%
5v5	1449.40	3.79	45.48	0.67	41.36	0.17	0.91	8.05	4.26
5v4	171.33	0.90	85.16	-2.02	89.47	0.35	2.10	9.65	7.69

Analysis: A solid presence and bright spot on the squad .. heated up over the second half (38-5-18-23) after scoring only once prior to February 9th .. contributed to career-high 40.7% 5v5 goals scored, following rises in shot and expected goals rates over Q3 and Q4. performed best slotted with lower roster lines, rather than scoring lines, a point to remember as a depth defenseman .. split time with Michael Stone (481 mins, 42.4 GF% & 42.7 CF%) and Conor Murphy (351 mins, 41.7 GF% & 45.5 CF%) .. skated over 1400 mins in three straight seasons, with exemplary durability, missing three games in the last five seasons .. mid-30s scoring range is adequate for the veteran.

6 Jakob CHYCHRUN — D

AGE: 19 | H/W: 6-3/205 | NHL: 1 | SALARY: $925,000 | CONTRACT: 2019

YR	TEAM	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	MIN	PPG
14-15	Sarnia (OHL)	42	16	17	33	37		0.79
15-16	Sarnia (OHL)	62	11	38	49	51		0.79
16-17	Arizona (NHL)	68	7	13	20	47	16.4	0.29
	Career	68	7	13	20	47		0.29
	Prediction	**65**	**5**	**12**	**17**			**0.26**

Scouting: An imposing defender with size, speed and hockey sense .. remarkably agile and coordinated for his size, a superb skater with crisp acceleration and exceptional lateral agility – a trait that will translate well in the quicker NHL .. can spearhead a rush and loves to push the pace with the puck .. excels in transition, making qualified first passes or gaining the zone all on his own .. stretched his boundaries in a baptism by fire, increasingly accepting of challenges and working through pro level struggles .. has a good touch backing up in the neutral zone, and making attempts to close the gap in an effort to knock pucks loose of onrushing forwards .. needs to continue to simplify his approach and should be fine with additional coaching .. a complementary first pairing defenseman.

Metrics:

Sit	TOI	ixG	CF%	CF% Rel	xGF%	G/60	P/60	On-Ice Sh%	iSh%
5v5	988.40	4.03	44.96	-0.35	41.23	0.36	1.09	7.31	8.00
5v4	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

Analysis: Surprised all by making the team following his draft year as an 18 year old .. led Coyotes blueliners in shot attempts and shots/60, involved in 56.3% of the on-ice 5v5 goals scored .. led the blueline in 5v5 Pts/60 and primary Pts/60 (0.67) .. missed 13 games as a healthy scratch, including two, four-game stretches .. second four-gamer led to a drop in on-ice shooting metrics over Q4 partnered up with Anthony DeAngelo (139 mins, 22.2 GF% & 42.6 CF%) .. experimented with late season 5v4 time – averaging 1:11/gm in Q4 (1-1-2) .. finished the season with one assist in the last 11 games .. rookie learning curve aside, with some coaxing, could see a jump in points to the 30's.

GOALTENDERS

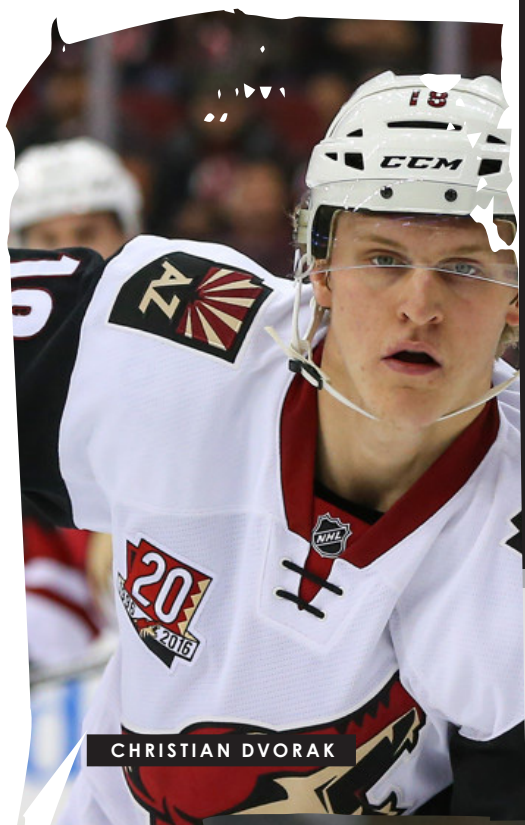
32 Antti RAANTA — G

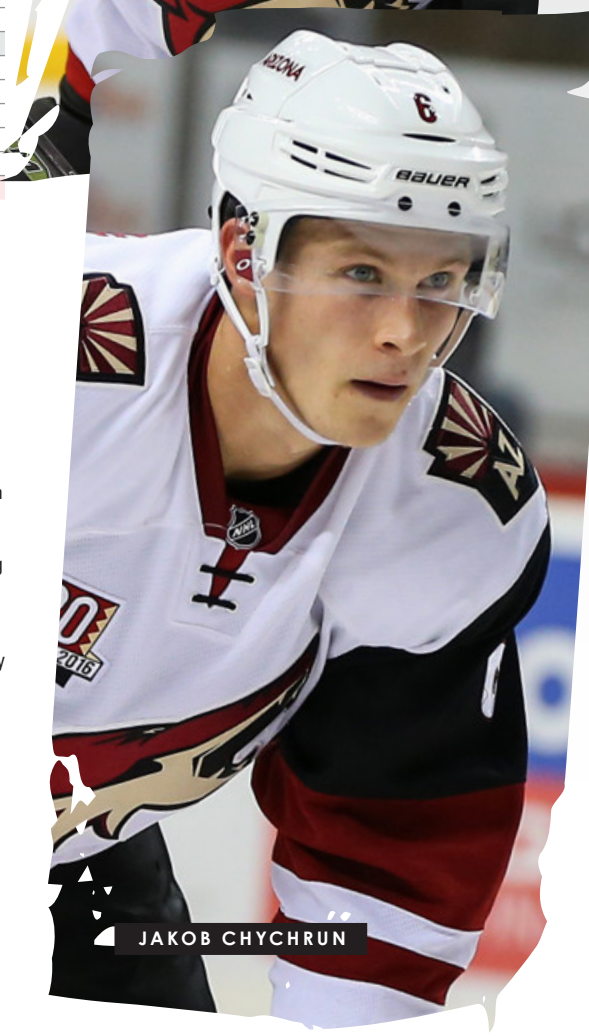
AGE: 28 | H/W:6-0/195 | NHL: | SALARY: $1,000,000 | CONTRACT: 2018

YR	TM	GP	W	L	T	GAA	SO	SV%
14-15	Chicago (NHL)	14	7	4	1	1.89	2	0.936
14-15	Rockford (AHL)	11	8	1	1	2.39	2	0.918
15-16	NY Rangers (NHL)	25	11	6	2	2.24	1	0.919
16-17	NY Rangers (NHL)	30	16	8	2	2.26	4	0.922
	Career	94	47	23	9	2.32	8	0.917
	Prediction	**49**	**22**	**24**	**6**	**2.52**	**3**	**0.914**

Scouting: Not an imposing goaltender physically he relies on solid positioning and athleticism to limit opportunities .. owns excellent agility and quickness, quick feet and an active glove .. makes up for size as a spirited competitor and aggressive in both protecting his crease, clearing his sight lines, and challenging shooters .. possesses excellent balance and maintains his positioning while still remaining nimble .. technically strong sealing the ice on low shots and remaining in control .. durability remains to be seen with only 94 NHL games to date over four seasons.

Analysis: Rangers back up appeared in 30 games last season in support of Henrik Lundqvist and posted a sparkling 0.922 SV% and a 2.26 save percentage – he was terrific on the road with even better numbers (1.99 GAA, 0.935 SV%) and earning 12 of his 16 wins .. that was the most games he had played in four NHL seasons .. GM Chayka has declared him his number one to start the season, but his ability to manage the grind of 60 games remains to be seen .. he finished the season strongly starting nine games in March (9-4-3-2, 2.08 GAA, 0.927 SV%) .. he is ably backed up by Louis Domingue who started 31 games last season and could challenge for the crease .. playing behind Arizona's defense (2nd most shots against in the NHL) will make him nostalgic for Broadway .. not a lock for number one and you should draft cautiously as a result.





PROSPECTS

SYSTEM OVERVIEW

As one of the first teams to whole-heartedly embrace analytics as a driving factor in team building, the Coyotes have been a fascinating case study on how to acquire prospects under the new-aged rubrics.

The analytics era in Arizona can be directly traced to the hiring of John Chayka as General Manager in May 2016, approximately one month prior to the 2016 Entry Draft. Between his two draft classes, the Coyotes have added 14 players to the system, five in his first go round and nine this summer. It is clearly too early to come to any sort of conclusion, but there are some patterns that can be discerned in the tea leaves.

Before we look too closely into the Chayka drafts, we should recap how the team had previously made their selections, as a number of players featured on their top 20 are from previous draft classes. In the two draft classes before Chayka (BC), the Coyotes selected 18 players, 11 of whom were taken out of the CHL, three out of the US National Development Program, and the other four all out of Sweden. The forwards all had two-way ability in addition to above average offensive production as juniors, while the defensemen were rarely drafted at all – only three in the last two years of BC drafting.

Looking at that last note, it seems that one of the first commitments of the Analysts Draft (AD) era in Arizona has been to add positional balance to the system, using nine of the first 14 AD picks on blueliners. With one very notable exception, the forwards drafted have been as noteworthy for their unrealized tools as for previous production.

As for the AD defensemen drafted, they can be characterized by above average skating at minimum, relatively mature hockey sense and, like their forward brethren, toolsiness. It is still too early to analyze the Coyotes' AD strategy for goalie development, as they had not drafted any, but have acquired two from the collegiate ranks, one as a free agent and one in trade for one of the forwards drafted BC. AD drafts have also stuck with Sweden as the only geographical talent overseas from which they have selected, which could be a function of available scouts, but is more likely a matter of small sample sizes. That said, they have been very open to drafting from lower profile amateur leagues in North America, having selected players from the OJHL, MJHL, and CCHL, in addition to the non-USNTDP portion of the USHL, demonstrating a belief in player characteristics being able to trump the more easily projectable numbers accrued in the well-scouted CHL leagues.

As a result of these four draft classes, both BC and AD, as well as the other means of prospect acquisition employed by both regimes, the Coyotes have a system mixed with both past production and projections for future production. The team has high end athleticism as well as heightened hockey sense. For an organization whose NHL roster is still being roughed into shape, there will be a lot of options available internally depending on how specific players develop in juniors, college, Europe or the AHL and how openings arise at the NHL level. At least a few spots should open up this year, which leads us to the two players most likely to gobble them up.

1. CLAYTON KELLER — RW-RC

YR	TEAM	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	PPG
15-16	USA (NTDP-18)	62	37	70	107	40	1.73
16-17	Arizona (NHL)	3	0	2	2	0	0.67
16-17	Boston University (HE)	31	21	24	45	26	1.45

AGE: 19 H/W: 5-10/170 The early front-runner for the 2017 Calder Trophy, Keller is a magical puck player. He has breakaway speed, but can change up his gears in order to fool opposing defenders, or to help create a gap for hitting a teammate in stride. His offensive vision is near elite and he adds high-end agility to his speed to keep his body safe from bigger players. After excelling at the USNTDP, he barely needed one dominant season with BU before turning pro. His two assists in his first three games with the Coyotes are a nice preview of what is to come.

2. DYLAN STROME — C

YR	TEAM	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	PPG
15-16	Erie (OHL)	56	37	74	111	44	1.98
16-17	Arizona (NHL)	7	0	1	1	0	0.14
16-17	Erie (OHL)	35	22	53	75	18	2.14

AGE: 20 H/W: 6-3/200 He was never as good as former Erie teammate Connor McDavid, nor the 2015 2nd overall pick Jack Eichel, and his career has not taken off like pick #4 Mitch Marner, but Strome is definitively not a bust. He has improved his skating to the average level. Everything else is plus-plus. He has an elite shot with power, speed and timing. He is a top tier playmaker and very good in the faceoff circle. If Keller is the Calder frontrunner, Strome is close behind.

3. NICK MERKLEY — RW-RC

YR	TEAM	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	PPG
15-16	Kelowna (WHL)	43	17	31	48	44	1.12
16-17	Kelowna (WHL)	63	23	40	63	73	1.00

AGE: 20 H/W: 5-11/190 While Strome's failure to immediately launch into the stratosphere is not a disappointment, Merkley's relative stagnation has been. Drafted late in the 2015 first round as a skilled, agitating big moment player, he seriously hurt his knee in his post draft year and has not really returned to previous levels. That said, he still has plus hands and is a very skilled puck mover. His edge work also still flashes plus. He is ready for pro hockey.

4. CHRISTIAN FISCHER — RW-RC

YR	TEAM	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	PPG
15-16	Windsor (OHL)	66	40	50	90	34	1.36
16-17	Arizona (NHL)	7	3	0	3	0	0.43
16-17	Tucson (AHL)	57	20	27	47	28	0.82

AGE: 20 H/W: 6-2/215 A strong skater for a wide body, Fischer has impressive jump. Like those ranked above him in this list, he sees the ice very well and can execute tricky and creative passes. Unlike those others, the big winger is more a goal scorer than a playmaker. He goes to the net and can beat most goalies with his sharp wrist shot from the slot area on in. While his AHL rookie numbers were strong, he needs to cut down on forcing plays, which lead to too many turnovers.

5. PIERRE-OLIVIER JOSEPH — D

YR	TEAM	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	PPG
15-16	Charlottetown (QMJHL)	48	1	7	8	30	0.17
16-17	Charlottetown (QMJHL)	62	6	33	39	54	0.63

AGE: 18 H/W: 6-2/165 Tall and very lanky, Pierre-Olivier is the younger brother of Tampa Bay prospect Mathieu Joseph. He is an exceptional skater with a keen understanding of the game and high-end athleticism. He clearly needs to add weight to his 6-2", 165 frame, but his smarts, skating and ability to play the puck will allow him to play a critical two-way blueline role wherever he plays on his way up the hockey ladder. His development will not be quick, but his upside is quite high.

6. KYLE WOOD — D

YR	TEAM	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	PPG
15-16	North Bay (OHL)	49	8	31	39	18	0.80
16-17	Tucson (AHL)	68	14	29	43	16	0.63

AGE: 21 H/W: 6-5/210 Among rookie defenders in the AHL, Wood finished third in scoring with 43 points, including 14 goals. Including all of the top 20 scoring AHL rookies, none had a worse +/- than Wood's -23. While he has elite size, a booming point shot and is comfortable and precise with the puck, Wood has one glaring deficiency to his game and that is skating. He has slow feet and poor acceleration. Will always need to be sheltered.

7. BRANDON HICKEY — D

YR	TEAM	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	PPG
15-16	Boston University (HE)	36	5	3	8	28	0.22
16-17	Boston University (HE)	35	4	11	15	41	0.43

AGE: 21 H/W: 6-2/190 After rebounding from a down sophomore year (offensively, at least) Hickey was dealt by Calgary to Arizona in the days leading up to the draft as the main part of the package that sent starting goalie Mike Smith to Alberta. Quicker than fast, Hickey plays with good alertness in his own zone, allowing him to pick off many a loose pass or from sloppy stickwork. He has a decent enough shot to profile on a second power play unit, but his best work is in his own zone.

8. MACKENZIE ENTWISTLE — RW-RC

YR	TEAM	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	PPG
15-16	Hamilton (OHL)	60	6	8	14	17	0.23
16-17	Hamilton (OHL)	54	12	13	25	25	0.46

AGE: 18 H/W:6-3/180 A high-risk, high-reward projection pick, the Coyotes selected Entwistle in the third round

this year after a stellar WU18 tournament put a bow on what was otherwise a disappointing draft year with Hamilton in the OHL between injury and lack of production. He is an above average skater who has decent puck protection skills, but struggled to convert that into good scoring opportunities in league play. With some offensive refinement, could be a two-way threat.

9. FILIP WESTERLUND — D

YR	TEAM	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	PPG
15-16	Frolunda (Swe Jr 18 E)	21	4	8	12	18	0.57
15-16	Frolunda (Swe Jr 18)	18	0	4	4	2	0.22
16-17	Frolunda (Swe Jr)	23	1	6	7	8	0.30
16-17	Frolunda (Swe)	33	0	4	4	6	0.12

AGE: 18 H/W: 5-11/180 A strong skater with great puck skills for a blueliner, as well as high hockey IQ. In spite of those gifts, it is easy to underrate Westerlund as he is quite undersized and has a weak shot from the point. He will be a more effective skater for his real NHL team than for fantasy hockey players. In other words, he will be key in getting the puck out of his own zone, but once in the offensive end, he will mostly leave it to his teammates.

10. CONOR GARLAND — RW

YR	TEAM	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	PPG
15-16	Moncton (QMJHL)	62	39	89	128	97	2.06
16-17	Tucson (AHL)	55	5	9	14	37	0.25

AGE: 21 H/W: 5-8/165 After leading the CHL in points in two consecutive seasons with Moncton, Garland struggled to reach the scoresheet in his first pro season with Tucson. With his diminutive stature, he can sneak up on people, and when he is on his game, can be a pest. He is an active puck hunter in his own zone and has plus hand-eye coordination. He tries to make up in bravery what he lacks in size/strength, but he is easily nullified when he spends too much time in the dirty areas of the ice.

11. ADIN HILL — G

YR	TEAM	GP	W	L	T	GAA	SO	SVPC
15-16	Portland (WHL)	65	32	27	6	2.96	3	0.917
16-17	Tucson (AHL)	40	16	14	6	3.16	1	0.906
16-17	Rapid City (ECHL)	5	1	3	1	3.59	1	0.890

AGE: 21 H/W: 6-4/200 Although the raw numbers behind Adin Hill's first pro season do not stick out, particularly after a rougher go of things in the season's second half, he was Tucson's most reliable (if not consistent) goaltender across the grand scheme of the season. He is a calm netminder who limits second chances and is unfazed by heavy traffic or a heavy workload. The Coyotes brought in two other young goalies to compete for the title of "Goalie of the Future" in the desert, but Hill should still be the front-runner.

12. KYLE CAPOBIANCO — D

YR	TEAM	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	PPG
15-16	Sudbury (OHL)	68	7	36	43	58	0.63
16-17	Tucson (AHL)	4	0	0	0	0	0.00
16-17	Sudbury (OHL)	65	10	35	45	66	0.69

AGE:20 H/W: 6-1/180 A decent two-way defenseman who spent his entire OHL career on a Sudbury team that was unable to rebuild competently, Capobianco has been their leading blueline scorer for each of the past three seasons. Although he skates well when underway, he is slow to transition. Further, his shot, while heavy, is too often off-target. He will be tested more seriously in his upcoming rookie pro season.

13. NOEL HOEFENMAYER — D

YR	TEAM	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	PPG
15-16	Ottawa (OHL)	45	2	3	5	18	0.11
16-17	Ottawa (OHL)	62	14	26	40	36	0.65

AGE: 18 H/W: 6-0/190 A bit under the radar with a middling Ottawa 67s team this year, Hoefenmayer took a big step forward in his draft year, impressing primarily with his hockey IQ and puck moving skills. His skating, particularly his turns, can let him down when it comes to dealing with speedy rushes down the wing. His shot is also a solid weapon, and he is able to hit the target from the point with any of his wrist, slap or snap shots.

14. CAM DINEEN — D

YR	TEAM	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	PPG
15-16	North Bay (OHL)	68	13	46	59	18	0.87
16-17	North Bay (OHL)	29	6	8	14	8	0.48

AGE: 19 H/W: 5-11/185 After taking the brunt of a knee-on-knee hit in December, Dineen missed the second two-thirds of the season with an MCL injury. Despite his down numbers before the injury, his draft year performance should not be forgotten. He has significant offensive upside from the blueline with above-average mobility and puck skills. Also shows promise off the puck, despite his lack of size. His positioning is advanced and he has a knack for cutting down the passing lanes in his own end.

15. NATE SCHNARR — C

YR	TEAM	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	PPG
15-16	Waterloo (GOJHL)	45	26	28	54	40	1.20
15-16	Guelph (OHL)	6	1	3	4	0	0.67
16-17	Guelph (OHL)	54	18	18	36	27	0.67

AGE: 18 H/W: 6-3/180 Nate Schnarr bears more than passing resemblance to the aforementioned MacKenzie Entwistle, but without the standout performance at the WU18s. Physically gifted, with strong potential in both his shooting ability as well as his stickhandling skills, he was unable to get much going offensively with a putrid Guelph team this year. Tall, lanky, and very young, there could be much more here. Check back in a few years.

16. PATRICK KUDLA — D

YR	TEAM	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	PPG
15-16	Oakville (OJHL)	50	13	53	66	86	1.32
16-17	Dubuque (USHL)	58	8	30	38	71	0.66

AGE: 21 H/W: 6-3/175 Drafted as an overager out of Oakville in the OJHL, Kudla moved up the hockey ladder to play with Dubuque of the USHL, and was none the worse for wear in the new league. He took on a central role for the Fighting Saints, leading rushes, using his stick very well in the defensive zone, flashing a heavy slap shot. As an example of his two-way potential, Dubuque often used him on the wing in the second half of the season. He is going to continue his career next year with Arizona State.

17. RYAN MACINNIS — C

YR	TEAM	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	PPG
15-16	Kitchener (OHL)	59	38	43	81	49	1.37
16-17	Tucson (AHL)	68	8	9	17	50	0.25

AGE: 21 H/W: 6-4/185 The son of Hockey Hall of Famer Al MacInnis, Ryan MacInnis is, to be both fair and blunt, not the player his father was. A versatile forward, he was a decent scorer at the OHL level, although never elite in that regard. In his first professional season, he looked lost more often than not. While his wheels are above average, particularly in terms of straight-ahead speed, the pace of the game seemed to be faster than he could process. He needs to step up in his sophomore campaign.

18. MERRICK MADSEN — G

YR	TEAM	GP	W	L	T	GAA	SO	SVPC
15-16	Harvard (ECAC)	29	18	7	3	2.00	4	0.931
16-17	Harvard (ECAC)	36	28	6	2	2.11	3	0.923

AGE: 22 H/W: 6-5/190 One of the two collegiate goalies brought in this offseason to challenge Adin Hill for future starts in Arizona, Madsen has been very strong for the past three seasons with Harvard, taking the team to the Frozen Four as a junior this year. Physically resembling Matt Murray (very tall very lean), he reads plays well and has good balance. His athleticism is only moderate and he needs improvement in his technical game, but there are the seeds of an NHL netminder here.

19. JALEN SMERECK — D

YR	TEAM	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	PPG
15-16	Oshawa (OHL)	63	5	20	25	65	0.40
16-17	Tucson (AHL)	2	1	1	2	0	1.00
16-17	Flint (OHL)	60	9	36	45	62	0.75

AGE: 20 H/W: 6-0/190 An unheralded defenseman with Bloomington of the USHL during his first draft year, Smereck moved north of the border to play in the OHL and the gamble paid off. After one solid season in Oshawa, he was offered an ELC by Arizona after a strong rookie camp. His follow-up OHL season, now with Flint, was even more impressive. Never the biggest, and sometimes rough on his feet, he has a strong shot and is tough to play against in his own zone.

20. TYLER STEENBERGEN — C

YR	TEAM	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	PPG
15-16	Swift Current (WHL)	67	20	26	46	18	0.69
16-17	Swift Current (WHL)	72	51	39	90	22	1.25

AGE: 19 H/W: 5-10/190 An undersized one-way player in his first draft year, Steenbergen exploded for 50 goals in his second draft eligible year in Swift Current, earning the chance to hear his name called by Arizona in the fifth round. In a draft class characterized by tools over production, Steenbergen was the exception for the Coyotes. His game is based on offense, but he has made strides in his own zone, particularly in terms of positioning.

Having taken a portfolio approach to player acquisition since taking over the helm, GM John Chayka now has player types available for all occasions in the system. The cream of their crop – Keller and Strome – should be in the NHL right away, but the battle of attrition to be among that second wave of graduating prospects should make for a better NHL team in the near future.