

Dubinsky Out Due To Injury

By Gavin Landry

Brandon Dubinsky, who plays hockey for the Columbus Blue Jackets, was injured during Sunday's practice at the Columbus, Ohio Nationwide Arena.

The Reports say he suffers from a strained muscle. There is no information on how he injured himself, but he was seen leaving practice in pain.

I was able to speak with Marc Gosselin, the corporate account executive of the Columbus Blue Jackets, who gave his opinion about Dubinsky being hurt. Marc also stated that that he is not allowed to get into great detail about the players; however, since my questions were not too invasive, he was able to answer them. Gosselin said "Having Dubinsky out definitely hurts. He is a big part of the team and came into this season really prepared to make an impact. We hope he comes back sooner than later because he is a key part to this team success."

This is not the first time Dubinsky has been hurt. Last year he had a broken eye socket. Dubinsky has dealt with injuries in the past and has still been successful.

Dubinsky is from Anchorage, Alaska, and started playing hockey at a very young age. Dubinsky was drafted into the NHL In 2004, and started playing with the New York Rangers. He joined the Columbus Blue Jackets in 2013. He is a major contributor to the team. Dubinsky is a family man. He is married and has a son and currently lives in Columbus.

Along with Marc Gosselin, I interviewed two additional people. The first person I interviewed was Lucia Thayer from Grove City, Ohio. Lucia is a Women's hockey player, a hockey coach, and a fan of the Columbus Blue Jackets. My

second interview was with Peter Landry, who also played hockey through his childhood, was on the Junior Olympic team for gymnastics, and was a National champion on the gymnastics team at The Ohio State University.

Everyone I interviewed, had similar responses about Dubinsky's recovery. Marc Gosselin stated "We believe Dubinsky will make a full recovery, but certainly will not rush things. We have a team of individuals of the ice who are monitoring his progress and will make sure he is ready to go when the time comes." Lucia Thayer commented "Last season was a bust after the orbital fracture. I think head injuries are particularly tough to recover from because in hockey they move so fast. So any lag and perception, timing, or situational awareness can have a substantial effect on their play. On the one hand, he's a veteran who has put up consistent, respectable numbers over the years and he has come back from worse. On the other hand, he's getting older and this is a very physically punishing sport. Overall I think he probably will recover." Peter Landry's opinion on Dubinsky's recovery is " With the correct rehabilitation and resting the injury properly, I would expect that he can make a full recovery. Athletes at that level will experience injuries throughout their career and experience setbacks. You need to be tough mentally and physically which Dubinsky is and I expect him to be back stronger than before."

Everyone I interviewed expects Dubinsky to make a full recovery. I think Dubinsky will come back just as strong because he only has a strained muscle, and because he's a tough athlete who has doctors and a great team to work with him.

During my interview I also asked "What kind of season do you think the Blue Jackets are going to have?" Marc Gosselin believes "The one great thing about our team is that we have depth. Even though Dubinsky is injured we have players who are ready to fill in. We do miss him playing every night, but other players are stepping out to make sure we continue to be successful." The season is about 6 months long, so Dubinsky does have time to get back into the game and help his team. Lucia Thayer comments that "Hockey is a marathon and not a sprint." Although the team may have depth, I believe we will see Dubinsky back out on the ice after the 6 weeks of rest.