

## The Hockey News May Be Teasing Dallas Stars Fans

Written by Matthew Coller  
Friday, 16 July 2010 23:06

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LeBron's staying! No, he's going to Chicago. No, he's going to Maimi! No, New York. Wait, that's over. Now several hockey reporters are squirming in their chairs over whether the Dallas Stars will be sold to Calgary billionaire Bill Gallcher for \$225 million.

[The Hockey News](#) columnist Ken Campbell reported this morning that Tom Hicks (who is also wrapped up in a messy bankruptcy and sale of the Texas Rangers as highly covered on

[Biz of Baseball](#)

) will sell the team despite his original \$350 million asking price (the team is worth \$247 million according to Forbes.) Campbell only says that THN "learned" of an "agreement in principle," but does not say how. Sounds like Report-a-Bron Syndrome, huh.

No problem if Campbell's right, but those who cover the Dallas Stars are calling shenanigans.

[Mike Heika of Dallas News](#)

says he talked to two sources who say the report is inaccurate. Heika said in his Stars Blog, "They say the sale process is ongoing and that Gallacher is a candidate to buy the team, but that they have not gotten as far in the process of agreeing to a price with any buyer. One said the reported price was too low."

[Former ProHockey Talk](#) editor Brandon Worley was just plain puzzled by the conflict. Worley tweeted: "Ok...it seems that the THN report may be grossly inaccurate. Which is....odd, to say the least." And then 40 minutes later: "I just can't see how Campbell would write a report that is this....off. Something isn't adding up."

Stars fans probably feel like they're in "Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure" and have been warped through time to Cleveland. Since Hicks ran into money problems, they have run into winning problems. The Stars have missed the playoffs for two straight seasons (in a league where everyone with a functioning Zamboni makes the playoffs) and as of right now have \$13.3 million in cap space. Stars fans would give Brett Hull's Cup ring for a new owner.

Don't start thinking Mark Cuban. Heika said he contacted Cuban and the spunky, tight-T-shirted Mavericks owner wasn't even giving Stars ownership a shot. That's LeBron to Miami. Any franchise would love an owner with Cuban's passion for winning. However, even if he was interested, Cuban was turned down for a minority ownership spot with the Pittsburgh Penguins by the NHL Board of Governors last year, so if they won't let him sit in the dark for the

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Pens, they aren't going to let him bang the glass for the Stars.

One person begging for Campbell's report to come to fruition is Stars GM Joe Nieuwendyk, who is probably spending his days making paper airplanes while waiting on an ownership change. Only then will Nieuwendyk be able to start improving the Stars.

The obvious question is if not Gallacher then who? But, the lingering question is: If Campbell's report isn't true, who can fans follow for Stars sale information? At least Stephen A. Smith had Bron-Bron going to South Beach. Campbell is one of the most respected in the business, so for his sake and that of Stars fans, hopefully Gallacher buy the team.

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