




WEDNESDAY UNSUSTAINABLE EDITION

TOTAL RUN TIME: 25-30 minutes

COLOR GUIDE

	BRANDON
	GAMBI
	OPEN

MAIN SEGMENT 1: WESTERN CONFERENCE SPECIAL

- Western:

- ANA

- High hopes for Kase still there, but to be realized.
 - Ice time and PP deployment are stifling what looks to be a volume shooter
- Raks showing off nights and position eligibility are going to be his main draw
- Gibson is actually having a bad year.
 - ANA doing reasonably well with shot suppression
 - Bad mid and low danger sv%
 - Would expect improvement here
- Getzlaf's increased shot production and PIM keeps him interesting, but still probably a 60 point player
- Still nothing particularly interesting on defense unfortunately

- LAK

- Kopitar was undervalued quite a bit this season, but only gives points.
- Not much to like here outside of Kopi and Doughty.
- Jeff Carter's shot production and triple eligibility are great, would love to see more PP1 time
- LAK is a good team on paper
 - 3rd in the league in CF/60

- 8th best in CA/60 although they're actually best in the league at SA/60 so they're blocking well
 - Would assume they will deal some players (Toffoli? Carter?) around the deadline
- CHI
 - Alex DeBrincat's reduced sh% is where we see the big dip here.
 - Line changes also aren't helping. Might only be a ~60 point guy, especially if he doesn't get tons of Kane time
 - Jonathan Toews back to pedestrian number without Kane
 - Everyone on this offense is tied to Patrick Kane
 - Erik Gustafsson slows down, expectedly. On a 33 point pace, though better lately
 - Lehner (.927) proving he should be a clear #1, but still splitting starts with Crawford (.909)
 - This is just a bad team. They don't control anything and are basically reliant on Kane.
- SJS
 - Sharks play a boring game but terrible goaltending just kills them
 - Expected breakouts in Meier and Labanc haven't resolved, and a regression from Burns are pointing to even worse things to come
 - SJS needs offense and goaltending
 - Martin Jones and Aaron Dell are first and fourth worst GSAA at 5s in the league. Hell of a tandem
 - Lack of cap space makes all of this interesting for them
 - Evander Kane is on pace for 191 PIM...
- VAN

- Currently averaging over 3.75 PP opps/game, the highest since the 2012-13 season. Not sure this will keep up.
- Jacob Markstrom is proving himself as a commodity, a resigning could create issues for Demko dynasty owners
- Elias Pettersson's shot production increase makes his crazy numbers more sustainable
- Jake Virtanen's 90% IPP on the season is interesting. Would love to see him given 17+ minutes on a nightly basis, even if it means a different team.
- Tons of draft value from this team this year, as every draftable player is outperforming projections

○ NSH

- I don't understand this one. Controlling shot share, but somehow being let down by a tandem of Rinne and Saros?
- Two seasons of getting Vezina votes are followed by the worst season of Rinne's career.
- Only Josi and Ellis really stepping up this season (honorable nod to Forsberg)
- The PP is still trash, but maybe having no dangerous offensive threats is to blame
- Forsberg is the only forward currently on pace for over 60 points. This is bad news
- Maybe I do understand it, this team controls shot share, but they don't put up dangerous shots

○ MIN

- Despite an awful start, MIN has turned it around behind Stalock and Kahkonen somehow
- Nothing special about this team though, not very dangerous offensively, but fairly good defensively

- Still doesn't strike me as a playoff team, especially with the aging core
- Eric Staal leading the way with 30 points in 36 games, but has reduced minutes, shot pace, and PP time YoY balanced by an absurd sh% and oISH%
- There are no offensive threats on this team, they will need solid defense and goaltending to make playoffs
- Nobody on this team should be considered a rest of season hold as things stand now, Including goaltending. Might be the only team like this.
- Dumba is an enigma and by all counts should be playing better than he is

o CGY

- A team due for regression after last season looks like its gone too far
- The line blender has come out and we're seeing players rotated all over the place lately making long term projections difficult
- David Rittich has been a bright spot on this team, placing 3rd in the league at HDGSAA (which probably indicates regression). 913 doesn't sound like much, but it's better than expectations and CGY could improve
- 6th worst sh% as a team, but with a much better offense than the other 5 (LAK, CBJ, DET, NJD, ANA)
- From what we saw last season, I would expect an improvement from several players including Gaudreau and Monahan, but not unless that dynamic top line is reunited. Some buy low candidates here if that happens.
- Giordano's career year might've just been a flash in the pan, but his 36% IPP suggests he should be better

than he is right now. 50-55 pace with good blocks RoS seems reasonable

o EDM

- They're in a playoff spot! With Mike Smith somehow!
- Smith has been truly awful, but Koskinen's .919 has earned him the starting role (pay attention CHI). Acquiring him cheap is a pretty decent option.
- Block king Oscar Klefbom emerged with a bang earlier in the season, but the points have since dried up.
- His role w/ Larsson has him being deployed more defensively, so he can be expected to be a 40-45 point defenseman with good shots and apparently absurd blocks
- McDavid and Draisaitl finally calmed down, and being separated has hurt both of them but given EDM a more balanced attack
- Expect an uptick in production from Ryan Nugent-Hopkins if he keeps his first line deployment. His 42% IPP with bad linemates are making him look significantly worse than he is, especially at 20+ TOI

o WPG

- Hellebuyck must be in Vezina consideration, right? Without him the Jets are not in the playoff hunt to say the least
- Second only to Kuemper in GSAA of goalies that have played 20+
- Worst HDCF% in the entire league and third worst HDCA/60 behind NYR and CHI, bad company to keep. They really have to make their shots count and rely on big saves from Hellebuyck often
- Neal Pionk has broken out since joining PP1 and is likely for a career year. Exactly what WPG needed for PP1

- Patrik Laine is finally getting assists, but his goal scoring is down. oISH% is high, but he could still be close to a point per game pace if he can get more done on the PP.
- Wheeler's C assignment looked like a death sentence at first, but he's converted it into a 100 point pace for a month now. Most of his damage is done on the PP, somewhat unsurprisingly, but you'd expect his point pace to tail off somewhat
- Loving Connor's shot increase, 70+ seems likely for him. A steal for GMs that grabbed him late.
- Ehlers is an interesting on this season as his 60-65 pace and good shooting makes him interesting, but hard to recommend long term in leagues that have PPP as a category
- Mark Scheifele just keeps plugging along at what looks like unsustainable shooting numbers for four years now...is he just the best sniper in the league?
- Josh Morrissey's lack of PP deployment and peripherals means he'll likely be relegated to the waiver wire in most leagues

o VGK

- Flower still has it in net, posting a .915 and positive GSAA despite fairly difficult shots against
- Scoring depth has always been a strength for VGK, but Patches' resurgence is hard to deny and that's with a lower shooting % than usual. A decent bet for point per game and team lead in points
- A disappointing, and baffling, start from Theodore is finally turning around. Liking him for 50+ again as I did to start the season.
- Seems like Marchessault is showing his colors. A 55-60 point player with hat trick potential and good

peripherals. His oiSH% is low though (7.5%) so seeing him flirt with 70 is plausible. Needs more PP time.

- After an up year and a down year, I think we're seeing WK's norm as a 65 point pace player with bad peripherals. Reminds me of Krejci but with slightly more shots.
- Reilly Smith and Nikolaj Ehlers are the same player fantasy wise. 60-65, not much PPP, decent shot production...they're both honestly a bit of a trap as they don't produce quite enough to be kept (other than maybe in points leagues)
- With VGK's usage of Theodore on the PP, there's not a ton of room for other fantasy relevant D on the team other than for bangos

o ARI

- Taylor Hall!
- Still a defensive-minded team despite the acquisition.
- Good at keeping teams to the outside, but bad at getting chances themselves
- Darcy Kuemper has been nothing short of outstanding, sitting at the top of GSAA and with an almost unbeatable 98.3% LDSV (average is 96.5%). You have to have a dangerous position to beat him this year, no bad goals.
- Not a lot to recommend for points, unfortunately. Even Hall won't really shine with this system.
- Christian Dvorak is the only good faceoff man on the team, so a long term line of Hall/Dvorak/Kessel makes sense, but this is the NHL so who knows.
- OEL and Chychrun both deserve a few more points due to weirdly low IPP and oiSH%, but neither one makes much sense except in bangers leagues

- Clayton Keller has finally begun to arrive, but it may be too little too late as he's now at best the third most offensive wing on the team. A high IPP with a low oiSH% makes it seem like this 55 point pace is what to expect. The PPP upside now is nice though

- DAL

- What a whirlwind.
- A team that looked great after addressing their depth issues, but just isn't playing up to snuff offensively.
- They do seem to be able to get into dangerous positions placing third in the league in HDCF/60
- Somehow 6th best in the league in xGF%
- I truly don't know what's going on here. There should be more goals on either side in DAL games, but it just doesn't happen.
- Hard to recommend any forward outside of Seguin and Radulov long term on this team. Radulov showing particularly well over the last month when healthy
- Benn's IPP and oiSH% are very low this year, even compared to last year. Do expect an uptick, but not sure I expect above a 60 point pace player, if he can even get there
- Klingberg took back over PP1, putting any drama there to rest. Should resume his nothing-but-points ways going forward.

- COL

- Like DAL, COL went out and got depth with Burakovsky, Kadri, and Donskoi
- Despite a myriad of injuries, COL still finds themselves second in the west, much of which can be attributed to Grubauer and Francouz

- Makar is paving his way to becoming a low peripheral, high point defenseman like Klingberg and Krug before him, but a 14% sh%, 55% IPP, and 13.8 oiSH% coupled with COL's 3.69 PP opps/GP are propping him up a bit. Expect 55-60 point pace when he gets going again.
- MacKinnon is making a case that he can produce with anyone, which might be bad news for Landeskog and Rantanen down the line, but probably not
- I would expect a bit of a downtick in PPP pace for MacKinnon, Rantanen, and Makar down the stretch
- Landeskog really needs MacKinnon, the toying with his deployment back from injury makes me a little nervous considering his draft position in a lot of leagues.
- COL has great banger D such as Ryan Graves, Ian Cole, and Nikita Zadorov always ready to dust things up and get hits and blocks
- Girard is no slouch when given PP1 himself. His current 14% ownership seems low while Makar is out.

○ STL

- What a show. Jake Allen is among the best backup options in the league and his playing the best hockey of his career
- Binnington has been great himself, although his below average LDSV% suggests he's been letting some long range flub shots sneak in now and then
- David Perron has emerged as an excellent winger threat since Tarasenko went down. Will need a little bit of luck to hit point per game, but a high PPP total and 75 points with decent peripherals seems pretty reasonable. Increased shooting is the most encouraging thing from him.

- Brayden Schenn has slowed from a blistering start, but should still be good for 65 ish with bad shots and OK hits and PPP
- Pietrangelo looks poised to get 50+ for the first time in a few years, due entirely to PP1 deployment.
- Ryan O'Reilly's up and down season has been annoying, but it's the drop in shots that hurts the most. Still appears a good 70 point bet, but the peripherals (other than faceoffs) are atrocious.
- Jaden Schwartz was fun for a while, but has regressed into a meh-shooting 50 something player.
- Not the year for any of Robert Thomas, Jordan Kyrou, or Oskar Sundqvist, but all should be on the brain for next season if they get top six, top PP