

WSHL WEEKEND WRAP-UP; November 8-12, 2018



The WSHL's new Provincial Division got their first look outside their group this week as the four Northwest Division teams headed up to Western Canada. At press time, there are still four games to be played on Monday. The same teams will make a repeat trip next week for more inter-divisional play.

Elsewhere in the league, two high-profile series took place as Fresno visited Long Beach and Utah went down to El Paso.

Fresno Monsters @ Long Beach Bombers

The series between the Fresno Monsters and Long Beach Bombers at The Rinks, Lakewood showed two things – that the parity in the Western Division is maybe at its best point ever, and that the Long Beach Bombers still deserve the top spot. The Bombers won two of three games to maintain their top spot in the division over the second-place Monsters, extending their lead atop the standings to 11 points.

Long Beach 5, Fresno 2 – Five different Bombers scored and Domenic Bosetti stopped 35 of 37 shots as Long Beach kicked off the week with a 5-2 home win over the Fresno Monsters on Thursday.

Fresno out-shot Long Beach, 15-10, in the first period but Bosetti stopped everything and Joseph Wheeler and Erik Sillerstrom scored in the final 4:07 of the period to give the Bombers a 2-0 lead.

Petr Philopov put the Monsters on the board at 7:08 of the second period, but Diego Gluck restored the Bombers' three-goal lead 2:19 later.

Filip Nordin assisted on three of the five Long Beach goals and Fresno's Tyler Mathews made 32 saves.

Fresno 4, Long Beach 2 – The Monsters had leads of 1-0 and 2-1 on Friday, but each time the Bombers tied it up. Long Beach was unable to tie the game a third time, however, and Fresno evened the series at a game apiece with an impressive 4-2 road win over the division leaders.

Zack Turpin put Fresno on the board 20 seconds after the opening faceoff. Gustaf Wranghede cycled the puck to Cole Beckman below the goal line to the right of the Long Beach goal and he hit Turpin with a sharp centering pass that he banged home to make it 1-0 Fresno.

As time expired at the end of the second period, the Bombers knotted the game, 2-2. With Long Beach on the power play, Fresno's Max Karlenzig made a nice glove save and held on to set up a faceoff in the Fresno end with :04 left.

The Bombers won the faceoff and the puck came back to Maxwell Kahn at the point. His hard, low shot was stopped but, in the ensuing scramble for the rebound, Eric Lovestrand popped it into the net at the buzzer.

Turpin's second goal of the game, 4:15 into the third period, gave Fresno their third lead of the game and this time they made it stand up.

Wranghede again got the puck to Beckman, this time square in front of the Long Beach net. Two Bomber defensemen quickly converged on Beckman, but he slipped the puck over to Turpin at the side of the crease and he popped it past a sprawling Matthew Genter (21 saves) to give the Monsters their third lead of the game.

Deakan Fielder sealed the win for the Monsters by backhanding the puck into the empty net from inside his own blue line in the final minute of play.

Karlenzig (34 saves) stopped all nine Bombers shots in the third period, preventing their comeback.

Long Beach 5, Fresno 3 – Three goals in a span of 5:51 in the second period gave the Bombers a 3-0 lead and they held on to defeat Fresno, 5-3, on Saturday.

The two division rivals played through a scoreless first period, but the Bombers got to work early in the second, with Tomas Urbanec scoring two of the three quick goals.

The Monsters went back to Karlenzig in net and he played well again, making 39 saves, but the Long Beach offense prevailed. Wheeler scored the game-winning goal and picked up a pair of assists.

Ty Wright got the Monsters on the board 3:54 into the third period, and Fresno rallied to within a goal, but Bosetti (24 saves) and the Bombers ran out the clock.

San Diego Sabers @ Valencia Flyers

Valencia 6, San Diego 3 – The San Diego Sabers struck first on the road, but the Flyers took the lead, 3-1 by the end of the first period, and went on to a 6-3 win in Valencia Thursday night.

Tristan Warr scored to give the Flyers a 2-1 lead at 13:32 of the first period and added a second tally to make it 4-2 Valencia in the second period.

San Diego's Jakub Vesely scored twice in the second period, the second goal getting the Sabers within a goal at 4-3 with under four minutes to go in the period. The Flyers clung to a one goal lead until they added two late for the 6-3 final.

Mack Willy came up huge for Valencia, making 41 saves, while Aaron Parsons turned aside 37 shots in his Sabers debut.

Utah Outliers @ El Paso Rhinos

The Utah Outliers showed that, once again, they have assembled a team that can play with the league's elite. The Outliers picked up a win and were right in the other

two games, although the El Paso Rhinos ultimately picked up seven of a possible nine points on their home ice.

El Paso 2, Utah 0 – Johan Burman and Jacob Wickman scored 37 seconds apart for the El Paso Rhinos early in the second period. That was the only goal support Nils Velm (22 saves) needed as the Rhinos posted a 2-0 shutout over the Utah Outliers at County Events Center on Friday.

El Paso's first goal came on a power play. Ryan Radtke's point shot was stopped, but Burman pulled the puck out of some skates in front and backhanded the puck into the net as he fell to the ice.

Just 37 seconds after the ensuing faceoff, Daniel Silar sent the puck back to Wickman at the point and his wrist shot made it through traffic and past Utah netminder Oscar Wahlgren to further excite the El Paso crowd.

It may have felt at the time that more goals were coming for the Rhinos, but that would be it – no more goals for either team over the final 35:23 of the game. Fortunately for them, the Outliers couldn't light the lamp either. Velm made 12 of his 22 saves in the third period as the Outliers pressed to get on the board.

Wahlgren stopped all 14 shots he faced in a scoreless first period and made 32 saves in the game.

Utah 3, El Paso 2 (OT) – Matt Bartel's goal 32 seconds into overtime on Saturday ended a tremendous junior hockey game and gave the Outliers a 3-2 win.

The game went into the third period tied 2-2 and, as it got deeper into the third period, it started to feel like the next goal would win and that proved to be the case. The Rhinos had a power play with about six minutes left in regulation but could not convert. Then Utah got their chance but they couldn't score either and the game went to overtime.

Not long after the faceoff to start OT, the Rhinos took a penalty and gave the Outliers another man-advantage opportunity. Jakub Lelek tried to get the puck on net from the point, but it hit a defender and was re-directed across the slot to the left-handed Bartel in the right circle and he made no mistake, burying a quick shot to give Utah a statement road win.

Velm took the loss despite stopping 29 of the first 31 shots he faced. The Rhinos managed just 24 shots on Wahlgren, who repelled 22 of them.

The Outliers led, 2-0, on first period goals from Brad McCloskey and Anthony Masanotti.

Donald Alchin and Maximilian Kamper scored the El Paso goals. Kamper's goal tied it up 4:47 into the second period and the two teams battled for the next 35:45 without a goal or a great many scoring chances being generated in a tight playoff-like game.

El Paso out-shot Utah, 8-3, in the scoreless third period.

El Paso 4, Utah 2 – The Rhinos got back in the win column on Sunday, scoring three times in the first 6:29 of the contest and holding on for a 4-2 win.

El Paso broke the ice just 1:55 after the opening faceoff. Dominik Sedlacek barely kept a puck in at the point and threw it down the right wall to Samuel Sykes in the right corner. Sykes fired a severe-angle shot that snuck between Utah goalie Kenton Kim and the left post.

A little over three minutes later, Utah was unable to hold a puck in at the line and that resulted in a two-on-one for El Paso's Blaire Maguire and Adam Stalzer. Maguire held onto the puck to draw the defender to him, then fed it over to Stalzer, who buried a wrist shot to make it 2-0 El Paso.

Just 1:11 later, the Rhinos opened up a three-goal lead. Martin Dubsy skated the puck from the left-wing circle, behind the Utah net, and all the way back to the right point. From there, he wristed a low shot on net. Justin-Cole Dubecky, who had pinched in from his spot at the point, re-directed the shot and the Rhinos had a three-goal lead.

Jake Papesh scored for Utah 1:28 into the second period, but that would be the only goal scored in the frame in which the Outliers out-shot their hosts, 7-6. The Outliers were not able to close the gap any more in the second period, but the Rhinos didn't build on their lead, either.

Utah did manage to get within a goal 4:37 into the third period. Early in a power play, Jan Dvorak won a draw back to Nicholas Ness. Ness went point-to-point to Christian Bundschuh who's shot was blocked in front of the El Paso net. Dvorak

gathered the rebound on his backhand, quickly moved the puck to his forehand and shoveled it past Velm to get the Outliers within a goal at 3-2.

Sykes gave the Rhinos some breathing room when he scored again midway through the third period to make it 4-2 El Paso. Dillon Manchester's shot was stopped, but dropped right at the goal line and Sykes tapped it across.

Velm stopped 16 of 18 shots in the game, which saw four fights late in the first period and 140 penalty minutes handed out in all.

Ogden Mustangs @ Cheyenne Mustangs

It was another weekend of promising play, but no results in the standings for the Cheyenne Stampede, who continue to play much better than their record – or the scores – indicate.

Ogden 13, Cheyenne 2 – The Ogden Mustangs scored six times in the first period and rolled to a 13-2 win at Cheyenne on Friday.

Rhett Rampinelli scored three goals and collected as many assists to lead the scoring barrage. Shane Gilbert, Harry Gulliver and Bryson Bartell all scored two goals each.

Dawson Nelson and Bryan Watters scored for the Stampede and Danny Yockey made 35 saves for Cheyenne – 16 of them in the first period.

Ogden 7, Cheyenne 1 – Three different Ogden players scored twice in the game, and Owen Zdunski stopped 18 of 19 shots, as the Mustangs pulled away with five unanswered goals in the second period to win 7-1 on Saturday.

Despite a 12-7 shot advantage, the Mustangs managed just one goal in the first period, but they got to work early in the second. Just 1:16 in, Ammon Anderson pounced on the rebound of a Rhett Rampinelli shot to make it 2-0 Ogden.

The Stampede were not deterred and kept competing with the Mustangs – breaking up plays and getting to loose pucks – but Ogden's skill eventually broke through with three goals in a span of 1:59.

Harry Gulliver broke in on a two-on-one and rifled a low shot that Cheyenne's Brendan Carew kicked out, but Lukas Vacin swept the rebound into the net to make it 3-0 for the Mustangs. Just 26 seconds later, Gulliver made it 4-0 Ogden and the air went out of the Stampede.

Gulliver (2-2-4), Rampinelli (2-1-3), and Vacin (2-1-3) all scored two goals in the game.

The last goal of the game was scored by Cheyenne's Dawson Nelson.

Carew kept the Stamps in the game as long as he could, making 42 saves.

Ogden 9, Cheyenne 0 – The Stampede held Ogden to a pair of goals in the first period Sunday, but the Mustangs blew the game open with five in the second and cruised to a 9-0 win. Zdunski posted a 25-save shutout as the Mustangs kept their undefeated record intact.

Bryson Bartell (3-1-4) had a hat trick and Lucas Kucera had a goal and two assists.

Carew went the distance for Cheyenne, making 53 saves.

Northern Colorado Eagles @ Dallas Snipers

The Northern Colorado Eagles visited their new division rivals in Dallas and managed to come back with all nine points from a three-game series, but the Snipers continue to play well, and almost came up with a win – or at least a point – in a wildly entertaining game on Saturday.

Northern Colorado 7, Dallas 1 – A five goal outburst in the second period propelled the Northern Colorado Eagles to a 7-1 win over the Dallas Snipers at Dr. Pepper Star Center on Friday.

The Eagles struck five times in a span of 7:45 to blow open what had been a pretty equally-played game up to that point. Nikita Sheberov scored twice in the spree and finished the game with four points (2-2-4). Eric Hildebrand also scored twice for the Eagles and picked up three assists to boot.

Marshall Murphy (20 saves) stopped all 17 Dallas shots through the first two periods, losing his shutout with just 3:24 left on a Gasper Konc goal – the only scoring in the third period.

Alexander Aleshkin entered the Dallas crease late in the second period and stopped all seven Eagles shots in the third period to stop the bleeding, but the game was out of hand at that point.

Northern Colorado 3, Dallas 2 – Jakob Elik scored for the Eagles with 0.8 seconds showing on the clock to win Saturday's thriller.

There was a faceoff in the Dallas end with :13 left in the third period. The Eagles managed a quick shot off the draw but the puck went wide and into the corner. Michael Petrotto was first on it and, instead of wildly throwing it on the net, showed some poise under pressure and bumped it into the corner to Sean McMahon who had some space. McMahon slid the puck to the front of the net where Elik got a stick on it and re-directed it past Dallas goalie Alexander Aleshkin for the game-winner.

The Eagles scored first, 7:14 into the first period. Cameron Braun's shot was stopped, but Mark Revniaga swatted the rebound past Aleshkin.

Later in the period, the Eagles won a neutral zone faceoff, but the puck was knocked off the defenseman's stick it popped into the middle of the ice where Hunter Best picked it up, skated in on Eagles goalie Marshall Murphy and converted the breakaway to tie the game.

Dallas took a 2-1 lead into the third period thanks to Karolis Krasilnikovas scoring the only goal of the middle frame on a spectacular individual effort. He accepted a pass at the Dallas blue line, wheeled through the neutral zone and into the Northern Colorado end down the right wing. He took the puck from his forehand, pulled it between his skates from back to front and picked it back up on his backhand, taking two more strides before backhanding the puck on net.

Northern Colorado's Zach Vanderwal tied the game up 2-2, appearing to set up overtime, until Elik's last-second heroics. Trent Hines blasted a shot from the point. Aleshkin made a great toe save, but Vanderwal was there to bang home the rebound.

Northern Colorado 8, Dallas 5 – The Eagles scored six unanswered goals to take a five-goal lead in the second period of Sunday's series finale, but Dallas kept coming at them. The Snipers scored twice late in the second period, and two more in the third, but came up short by a score of 8-5.

Sheberov (2-1-3) scored twice for the Eagles and Elik had a goal and three assists.

Jasa Jenko scored two of the Dallas goals and assisted on a third.

The Snipers out-shot the Eagles, 14-10, in the third period.

San Diego Sabers @ Ontario Avalanche

The San Diego Sabers continue to show that they are for real, taking five of a possible six points in Ontario, and moving to within three points of second place in the Western Division standings.

San Diego 3, Ontario 2 (SO) – San Diego's Samuel Kapusta scored the game-tying goal in the third period to force overtime, and also scored the deciding goal in the shootout, as the Sabers came back for a 3-2 shootout win at Ontario on Friday.

Brett Ruiz scored both Ontario goals less than four minutes apart late in the second period. On the first, Jeremy Van Dyke cycled the puck down the left-wing boards to Ruiz who curled through the left circle and fired a low shot that found the back of the net.

With just under three minutes to go in the period, Ruiz struck again to give the Avs their first lead of the game. Seconds after Connor Duffy made a big save for the Avs at the other end, the puck turned up ice and Ruiz carried it over the blue line at the left-wing boards. Using a San Diego defender as a screen, he fired a wrist shot that beat Sabers goaltender Aaron Parsons.

San Diego tied the game back up midway through the third period.

The game ended with Ontario on the power play trying to win it in regulation. They could not, and each team banked a crucial point in the tight Western Division standings.

Parsons made 33 saves over 65 minutes of regulation and overtime and stopped all four shooters he faced in the shootout.

Duffy made more saves (38) during the game, but was only able to stop one of three Sabers in the shootout, taking a tough loss.

In the shootout, right-handed Declan Curtis tried to go forehand-backhand on the southpaw Parsons who made a glove save.

San Diego's Alexis Leskinen made a nice stutter-step move and scored stick side on Duffy.

Ruiz tried to go five-hole on Parsons and was turned aside.

Samuel Kapusta scored glove side along the ice to put the Sabers in the driver's seat.

Ontario's Kyle Barrett again tried Parsons' five-hole but missed the target.

Karel Kankovsky missed a chance to clinch the win for San Diego, but Parsons stuffed Van Dyke to secure a second point in the standings for the Sabers.

Kapusta and Tyler Balok scored in regulation for the Sabers.

San Diego 6, Ontario 3 – The Sabers scored twice early in Saturday's game, led 3-0 by the first intermission, and went on to a 6-3 victory.

Kankovsky scored two goals and assisted on two others.

Tanner Turcotte scored the first of three Ontario goals five minutes into the second period but, each time the Avs scored, the Sabers replied to restore their three-goal lead.

Kurt Yano started between the pipes for Ontario but was lifted early in favor of Duffy, who made 32 saves in relief.

San Diego's Aleksei Vereshchagin faced 31 shots, stopping 28.

West Sound Admirals @ Hinton Wildcats

Hinton 5, West Sound 3 – Brendan Auger scored three goals, including the game-winner, as the Hinton Wildcats topped the West Sound Admirals, 5-3, at Hinton's Murray Rec Center Saturday night.

Dawson Basnett and Jacob Delorme scored for the Wildcats 34 seconds apart late in the first period and the West Sound Warriors never recovered.

Hinton broke through on the power play. Ryland Strauss contained a clearing attempt at the left point, played it down the wall to Ryoto Inukai and he threw it across to Basnett on the right point. His long shot eluded West Sound's Noah Bird and the Wildcats took a 1-0 lead at 13:09.

Hinton was put right back on the power play 19 seconds later and cashed in again. Jacob Delorme's shot from the point knuckled on Bird (26 saves), who got a piece of the puck with his glove, but it fluttered into the net.

Samuel Gendron made 12 saves for the Wildcats.

Southern Oregon Spartans @ Meadow Lake Mustangs

Southern Oregon 13, Meadow Lake 2 – The Southern Oregon Spartans scored six unanswered goals in the third period to pull away for a 13-2 win at Meadow Lake on Saturday.

Eric Vanderhoff (3-3-6), Axel Low (3-2-5) and Miroslav Smid (3-1-4) all notched hat tricks for Southern Oregon and Hayden Moistner picked up six points (1-5-6).

Austin Johnson stopped 28 of 30 shots for the Spartans, stymying every Mustangs except Chase Caron, who scored both of the Meadow Lake goals.

Bellingham Blazers @ Cold Lake Wings

Bellingham 7, Cold Lake 1 – The Bellingham Blazers showed the Cold Lake Wings what the Northwest Division was about, posting a convincing win at the Imperial Oil Palace.

Seattle Totems @ Edson Aeros

Edson 6, Seattle 1 – Brayden Gyurkovits turned aside 44 of 45 shots and Kevin Lundin scored twice to lead the Edson Aeros to a 6-1 win over the Seattle Totems on Saturday as the Aeros showed that they could compete outside the Provincial Division.

After the Aeros won a faceoff in their own zone, Emil Johansson chipped the puck off the boards and into the neutral zone where Sebastian Heden skated into it and out-skated two Totems to break in alone and make a quick backhand move to score through the five-hole.

Heden, the WSHL's leading scorer, also collected an assist for the Aeros.

Wyatt Monear (23 saves) started in net for Seattle but was lifted amid a three-goal second period for Edson.

West Sound Admirals @ Edson Aeros

Edson 7, West Sound 2 – Emil Johansson scored three goals and Brayden Gyurkovits stopped 19 of 21 shots as the Edson Aeros defeated the West Sound Admirals, 7-2, on Sunday.

Quentin Stempfel scored twice for the Aeros while Sebastian Heden and Kevin Lundin had a goal and three assists each.

The West Sound goals came from Oliwer Stensson and Robby Larson, 1:26 apart late in the second period, getting the Admirals to within a goal at 3-2, but that was as close as they would get.

West Sound's Josh Breznik made 47 saves.

Bellingham Blazers @ Meadow Lake Mustangs

Bellingham 11, Meadow Lake 1 – Four different Bellingham skaters scored two goals apiece and Avery Heath stopped 16 of 17 shots to lead the Blazers to an 11-1 win over the Mustangs in Meadow Lake Sunday.

Spencer Vockel, Thomas Steven, Timothy Prexler and Veaceslav Pinin each found the net twice and the Blazers opened up the game with six unanswered goals in the third period to pull away, 11-1.

Trevor Buckmeier made 21 of his 39 saves in the first period.

Seattle Totems @ Hinton Wildcats

Seattle 10, Hinton 5 – Seattle's Linus Eriksson scored three times in the first period and Michael Shippee also recorded a hat trick as the Totems won in Hinton Sunday night by a 10-5 score over the Wildcats.

The first period ended with Seattle up, 3-1, and all three Totems goals coming off the stick of Eriksson.

Ryoto Inukai scored at the 6:22 mark of the second period to get the Wildcats within a goal again at 4-3, but the Totems rattled off four goals before the end of the period, and added the first tally of the third period, to open up a 9-3 lead.

Seattle's Denis Kozev picked up three assists in the game while Hintons five goals came from five different players, including Brendan Auger, who also collected a pair of assists.

Both teams used two goaltenders in the game. Michael Eastman started for Seattle, and stopped 15 of 16 shots in the first period, but was lifted in the second.

--- Compiled by Scott Harrington for Harrington Sports Media