

## WESTERN HOCKEY LEAGUE

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### STANDINGS

The 1965-66 Western Hockey League season took up right where it left off last season as regular season action got under way over the past weekend. The LESTER PATRICK CUP winners of last season, the Portland Buckaroos, and the team they beat out to become Champions the Victoria Maple Leafs, both racked up two wins apiece in the first weekend and are tied for top spot in the standings.

Portland swept a home and home series with Seattle to continue its mastery over the Totems -- it was the tenth straight victory for the Bucks over the Totems in regular season games. Victoria swept two from Vancouver before bowing to Seattle in the Seattle Center Coliseum. San Francisco staged a powerful come-from-behind attack in overtaking the Los Angeles Blades on Friday night in San Francisco for the first Seals victory in the young campaign.

After the first week of play Portland and San Francisco are the only two teams as yet undefeated and Los Angeles and Vancouver are still looking for their first win.

### UP-COMING ACTION

The San Francisco Seals embark upon their toughest road trip of the season this week as they are slated for eight straight road games beginning Wednesday night against the PATRICK CUP Champions of last season in Portland. On Friday night next all W.H.L. teams except Victoria will be in action. San Francisco will be at Seattle, Portland will be at Vancouver and the Los Angeles Blades will make the first appearance by a W.H.L. Club in the American League. The Blades will go against the Baltimore Clippers in Baltimore in the first of six straight games in the American League. On Saturday night the Blades will be at Cleveland, Vancouver will make its first appearance on Seattle ice and the Portland

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Buckaroos will return to the scene in Victoria where they won the PATRICK CUP last Spring. A lone Sunday contest, Victoria at Portland, will round out the action for the week.

#### SCORING LEADERS

Two centermen who were scoring leaders for their respective teams last season got off to a fast start over the weekend and lead the League in the individual scoring race. Portland's ART JONES, who was edged for the scoring championship in the last game of the season by Seattle's GUYLE FIELDER, scored two goals both of which were game-winners over Seattle and assisted on three others for a 5 point weekend. Victoria's MILAN MARCETTA also picked up two markers and helped on an additional three for a 5 point total and a tie for top spot.

#### MOST GOALS -- MOST ASSISTS

Three players started the season in high-flying fashion as they all notched the three goal Hat Trick in games over the weekend. Two of the tricks were turned in one game as San Francisco winger AL NICHOLSON led his mates to a 9-5 victory over the Los Angeles Blades and WILLIE O'REE, defending the goalscoring title which he won last season with 38 markers, fired three for the Blades in a losing cause. On Saturday night TOMMY McVIE of the Portland Buckaroos fired three goals past Seattle's JIMMY McLEOD before the home crowd to lead the Bucks to a 6-3 victory. All three players are tied for top spot in the goals department.

Centermen ART JONES and MILAN MARCETTA of Portland and Victoria respectively set up three goals over the weekend to tie with winger ANDY HEBENTON of the Maple Leafs and WAYNE CONNELLY of San Francisco for the lead in the assist department.

#### GOALKEEPERS

Two veteran goalkeepers in the Western League head the list

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in the goakeeping statistics after the first week of play. Portland's DON HEAD allowed only four goals in two games against Seattle for an even 2.00 average and the League lead. Victoria's AL MILLAR, with seven goals against in three contests, is in second place with a 2.33 average. There were no shutouts in the first week's play.

#### PENALTIES

Veteran defenseman JIM "RED EYE" HAY of the Portland Buckaroos wasted no time in taking the League lead in the penalty department. HAY was assessed two minors, one major and a misconduct in the first game of the season in Seattle for a 19 minute total, two more than the amount chalked up by San Francisco centerman LARRY LUND in his initial contest of the season.

#### PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Player of the Week Honors after the first week of regular scheduled play go to Portland centerman ART JONES. JONES gained five points in two games to tie for the League lead in the individual scoring race with Victoria's MILAN MARCETTA. The smooth playmaker gets the nod over MARCETTA for the outstanding player laurels, however, as his five points came in two games and both of his goals scored were game-winners which put the Bucks at the top of the heap in the League standings.

#### NEW TYPE LEAGUE STATISTICS

New type League statistics which will, among other things, bring some recognition to the outstanding defensemen in the League, is already doing just that after the first week of play. In the first game of the season by each of their teams, Portland's MIKE DONALDSON and San Francisco's TOM THURLBY were defensive standouts. DONALDSON blocked ten shots against Seattle, more than twice as many as any other player, and THURLBY blocked seven against Los Angeles as well as scoring two goals.

INTER-LOCKING PLAY BEGINS

History will be made in the Western League this week as the first game of the all-new interlocking schedule between the American and Western Hockey Leagues on the West Coast will be played this week. The Cleveland Barons, led by playing Coach FRED GLOVER, will make their first appearance in the Western League on Friday night, October 29, 1965, in Seattle and continue on to Victoria where they will clash with the Maple Leafs on Saturday night. The first West Coast game in the pact that, for the first time ever, presents professional hockey on a truly national scale, will pit the two all-time scoring Champions of each League against each other. GUYLE FIELDER, who started this season with 1,236 W.H.L. points in 880 games played will go against Barons playing Coach FRED GLOVER, the man who has scored more goals, assists and total points, and has more penalty minutes than any other player in American Hockey League history. GLOVER started the current campaign with 1,193 points in 1,024 American League games and also had 2,089 minutes in penalties in the League.

In other games this week the Los Angeles Blades will be at Pittsburgh on Wednesday, October 27th and the San Francisco Seals will make their first appearance in Victoria. On Friday night, in addition to the Cleveland-Seattle match, San Francisco will go against Vancouver in the Vancouver Forum. On Saturday Los Angeles will be at Springfield as the Blades near the end of their American League swing, Vancouver will be at Seattle and Cleveland at Victoria. On Sunday Los Angeles will go against Providence in Providence while San Francisco will be at Portland in a game that will begin at 7:00 P.M. (though previously scheduled for 2:30).

STANDINGS

The Victoria Maple Leafs, tied for first place after the first

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week of play, took over sole possession of top spot by sweeping a pair of games from the Portland Buckaroos last week. The Leafs edged the Bucks 3-2 in Victoria Saturday night and then repeated with a close 4-3 victory in Portland on Sunday giving them 4 wins against 1 loss in 5 outings. Portland is alone in second place with an even .500 record after six games, winning 3 and losing 3, for a total of 6 points. San Francisco and Seattle are tied for third place each with 4 points, the Seals after 3 games, Totems after 5. Vancouver is in fifth spot with one win in four games played while the Los Angeles Blades, after 3 games played, are still looking for their first win.

SCORING LEADERS

Vancouver centerman BILLY McNEILL, the League's Most Valuable Player last season, vaulted to the top of the individual scoring statistics as he picked up 3 goals and 4 assists in two games played last week. McNEILL now has an even 10 points on 4 goals and 6 assists in 4 games played, one more than Portland centerman ART JONES. Two opposing players came up with exceptionally fine scoring games on Saturday night past. As Seattle edged Vancouver, 7-6, the Totems GUYLE FIELDER and the Canucks BRUCE CARMICHAEL both assisted on five goals for their teams.

MOST GOALS -- MOST ASSISTS

Portland centerman ART JONES fired three goals last week in four games played to up his total to 5 in six games and the League lead in the goalscoring department.

Vancouver winger BRUCE CARMICHAEL assisted on 6 goals in two games played by the Canucks last week to up his total to 8 assists in four games played. The two-assists-per-game average by CARMICHAEL is enough to give him the League lead in the playmaking department.

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GOALKEEPERS

Veteran goalkeeper AL MILLAR took a commanding lead in the goalkeeping statistics, allowing only five goals in two games played last week, reducing his average to 2.40 goals against per game after five games played. MILLAR is the only goalkeeper with a better than 3.00 average as Portland's DON HEAD is in second place with 3.17, allowing 19 goals in 6 games played.

PENALTIES

Team mate CONNIE MADIGAN took over the lead in the penalty parade from last week's leader, JIM "RED EYE" HAY. MADIGAN added three minors and a misconduct to his total in 4 games played last week for 24 minutes in 6 games, an average of 4 minutes per game. His blueline partner, JIM HAY, follows closely with 23 minutes in the same number of games.

PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Player of the Week honors for the second week of regular season play go to Vancouver centerman BILLY McNEILL. McNEILL elevated himself from 16th place in the individual scoring race last week to first place this week and it only took him two games to do it. The free-wheeling centerman got three goals and four assists in the two games played and became the first player to hit double figures in scoring points. He now has an even 10 points in 4 games played, made up of four goals and 6 assists.

AROUND THE LEAGUE.....

Seattle winger JIM POWERS became the third player in the League to fire the three goal Hat Trick when he notched his three markers against Vancouver last Saturday. WILLIE O'REE of Los Angeles and AL Nicholson of San Francisco are already part of this select group in a season that could set a record for Hat Tricks if the trend continues.

STANDINGS

The Victoria Maple Leafs staged a come-from-behind surge against San Francisco to preserve a home-ice tie and then came on strong to defeat the American League Cleveland Barons, 7-3, in two games played last week. As a result the Leafs are all alone at the top of the standings with 11 points made of 5 wins and a tie against one loss. Coach FRANK MARIO's smooth-skating attackers have scored more goals than any other team in the league, 29, and have had less scored against, 18, than any other team. The Portland Buckaroos hold down second spot with 4 wins against 3 losses for an even 8 points after playing 7 games. Seattle edged San Francisco for third place in last week's play. The Totems have a 3-4-0 record after 7 games while the Seals, after 6 games, sport a 2-3-1 record for 5 points. Vancouver, with only two wins in six starts, is in fifth place with 4 points while the road-weary Los Angeles Blades have been able to win only once in six tries, all on the road.

UP-COMING ACTION

The Los Angeles Blades complete their American League swing tonight against the high-flying Quebec Aces, leaders in the Eastern Division of the A.H.L., in the French City. Two games are on tap for Wednesday night as the Cleveland Barons will provide the first American League competition for the Portland Buckaroos in the Glass Palace and the San Francisco Seals will go against the League-leading Victoria Maple Leafs at the Memorial Arena in Victoria. One Thursday contest will feature the home-opener of the Los Angeles Blades. Having just completed six straight games in the American League the Blades, come next Thursday, may get the feeling that they are permanent members of the A.H.L. as the first opposition in the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum

will be the American League Cleveland Barons. It will be the final West Coast appearance for the Barons. On Friday San Francisco will be at Seattle and the Pittsburgh Hornets, highly rated in the A.H.L.'s Western Division, will open their West Coast swing against the Vancouver Canucks in the Forum in Vancouver. Three Saturday night games will find San Francisco at Los Angeles, Pittsburgh at Portland and Seattle at Victoria. To round out the week's action two Sunday contests are on tap. Vancouver will be at Portland and Victoria will play at Seattle, where the front-running Leafs suffered their only defeat in 7 starts a couple of weeks back.

#### SCORING LEADERS

Though his team played only one game last week, ART JONES of the Portland Buckaroos used it to full advantage and regained a share of top spot in the individual scoring race. JONES fired a goal and 3 assists in the Bucks 8-1 victory over San Francisco. Defenseman FRED HUCUL duplicated the feat by scoring a goal and setting up three others in the Leafs 7-3 win over Cleveland, and, as a result, enjoys the unique distinction of being in first place in the individual scoring race, a position that few defensemen ever achieve. Big ED LITZENBERGER came up with a premium performance in the same Cleveland-Victoria clash as the agile playmaker fired two goals and set up three others for a five point night, the highest total for any player in a single game last week.

#### MOST GOALS -- MOST ASSISTS

Three players are tied for the goalscoring lead with 6 markers apiece. Portland centerman ART JONES has scored a goal in six of the seven games played by the Bucks while his team mate, CLIFF SCHMAUTZ fired a Hat Trick on Sunday night to go with 3 previous counters for his 6

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goal total. Seattle winger JIM POWERS has also scored six times, all in the last 4 games for the Totems.

Seattle centerman GUYLE FIELDER has moved into the familiar spot, for him, of assist leader in League play. He has set up 11 goals but has yet to score his first one. Defenseman FRED HUCUL follows closely with 10 helpers in 7 games played.

### GOALKEEPERS

Victoria and Portland goalkeepers, AL MILLAR and DON HEAD, have once again renewed their annual rivalry. In seven games played HEAD has allowed 20 goals, two more than has MILLAR in the same number of contests. As a result MILLAR "heads" the goalkeepers with a 2.57 average and burly DON HEAD is right on his heels with a 2.86 average. They are the only two goalkeepers with better than 3.00 averages.

### PENALTIES

San Francisco centerman FORBES KENNEDY vaulted to the lead in the penalty parade in a most decisive fashion. KENNEDY went penalty-less in his first game last week and then picked up 39 minutes in his next two games for an over-all total of 58 minutes in 6 games, made up of 9 minors, 2 majors, 2 misconducts and a game misconduct. No one is even close to his total.

### PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Player of the Week honors for action during the past week go to Victoria defenseman FRED HUCUL. FREDDIE picked up six points in 2 games played last week to move from seventh spot in the individual scoring race to first place, a rare occurrence for any defenseman in any League, with a total of 13 points in 7 games played. In addition to offensive leadership he is also playing his usual strong defensive game.

STANDINGS

The fast-starting, high-flying Victoria Maple Leafs are becoming more impressive with each outing as they took 5 of the possible six points in three games played again last week. The Leafs have scored the first goal in 7 of their first 10 games and have seldom looked back as they ride the crest in the League standings with 16 points in 10 games played on an impressive record of 7 wins and 2 ties against one loss. The Portland Buckaroos are not letting the Leafs out of range, however, as last season's Champions are close behind in second place with 14 points as a result of 3 straight wins in as many games last week. After 10 games the Bucks boast a 7-3 win-loss record. The team that could well be the one to watch in the next few weeks, though, is the San Francisco Seals who return home to begin a prolonged home stand after 8 straight games on the road. During that rugged road grind the Seals were able to perform at a very respectable .500 clip, winning 3 and tying 2 while dropping only 3 decisions. As a result the Seals are alone in third place with 10 points in 9 games played. Vancouver and Seattle are tied for the fourth and last play-off spot at the present time, both teams having 6 points. Vancouver have 6 points after only 8 games while the Totems have come up with 6 in 10 games played. The Los Angeles Blades remain in the basement as they dropped a second straight decision to San Francisco after leading the Seals by a 4-1 score in the second period. The Blades have 4 points in 9 games played.

UP-COMING ACTION

Ten games are slated in this week's action beginning tonight as the Vancouver Canucks play host to the Seattle Totems in an effort to

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break the fourth-place deadlock in the standings. On Wednesday the American League Pittsburgh Hornets continue their tour through the Western League as they face the San Francisco Seals on Wednesday night and in Los Angeles against the Blades on Thursday. The Portland Buckaroos will get an excellent opportunity to draw even with Victoria as they host the League-leaders on Wednesday night in the Glass Palace. On Friday the Vancouver Canucks will visit San Francisco and Portland will be in Seattle. Two Saturday contests will find Vancouver at Los Angeles and Portland at Victoria. Rounding out the action for the week will be two Sunday contests, Vancouver at Portland and Los Angeles at Seattle.

#### SCORING LEADERS

At first it doesn't sound too impressive to say that Portland centerman ART JONES was able to outscore a defenseman in 3 games played by each last week. However, when it is understood that the defenseman is Victoria's FRED HUCUL and that the two players were tied for the League lead in the individual scoring race at this time last week, it all adds up to quite a measure of accomplishment. JONES leads the League with 18 points on 7 goals and 11 assists in 10 games and his totals are one more than FRED HUCUL, who has scored 4 markers and set up 13 others for a 17 point total in the same number of games. San Francisco's CHARLIE BURNS moves into third place with 15 points in 9 games played.

#### MOST GOALS -- MOST ASSISTS

Right-winger CLIFF SCHMAUTZ of the Portland Buckaroos took over the League lead in the goalscoring department as he notched three goals in three games played last week for a total of 9 in ten games played.

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Defenseman FREDDIE HUCUL took over the League lead in assists as he set up 3 goals in 3 games played last week. The 3 helpers now give the clever blueliner a total of 13 assists in 10 games played.

GOALKEEPERS

Victoria's AL MILLAR and Portland's DON HEAD have both played 10 games and both have allowed 25 goals for identical League-leading averages of 2.50. San Francisco's JACK McCARTAN has moved into the thick of the race as he improved his average to a commendable 2.67 after 6 games played, as compared to 3.33 after half as many games at this same time last week.

PENALTIES

Centerman FORBES KENNEDY, though departed for Boston to play with the Bruins, still holds a comfortable lead in the penalty parade with 48 minutes. HOWIE YOUNG of Los Angeles and CONNIE MADIGAN of Portland follow with 33 minutes each.

PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Player of the Week honors go to Victoria winger ANDY HEBENTON who picked up six points in three games played for a two a game average. With the sudden surge HEBENTON moved into 12th place in the individual scoring race.

LINE UP CHANGES

Add to Los Angeles.....# 21.....RAY LAROSE.....Defense  
Add to Victoria.....# 19.....DAVID PARENTEAU..Left Wing  
Remove from Victoria.....MARTY DEMARAIS

STANDINGS

In their battle for top spot in the League standings the Portland Buckaroos and the Victoria Maple Leafs are beginning to draw away from the other four teams that are battling it out for the third and fourth spots in the standings. At the present time Portland holds down the top spot on the strength of ten wins in 14 games for 20 points. The Bucks have won 7 of their last 8 games and appear to be in top-notch form as they prepare for their tour through the American League cities next week. Victoria is only two points behind the Bucks and have played two less games. The Leafs have a record of 8 wins, 2 ties and 2 losses for 18 points and they are the only team in the League who have yet to suffer defeat on home ice. In 7 home games the Leafs have won 5 and tied two. The Vancouver Canucks moved into third place with an even .500 record of 6 wins against 6 losses for 12 points in as many games. The OLMSTEAD-led charges picked up their first wins on the road in the young season when they upset both San Francisco and Los Angeles in the California cities. The San Francisco Seals, after a fine road trip, returned home to a goal famine. The Seals were unable to score at home in two games played last week, losing to Pittsburgh, 4-0, and to Vancouver, 3-0, and have a total of 10 points in 11 outings. The Los Angeles Blades moved out of the basement for the first time this season by winning two of three games played. The hapless Seattle Totems have yet to win a game in November, losing six straight, and are in last place with 6 points in 13 games.

UP-COMING ACTION

Nine games are on tap as the schedule moves into its fifth week of regular season play. A single game on Tuesday will find the Los Angeles Blades in Vancouver to challenge a red-hot Vancouver sextet. Two

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Wednesday games will find Seattle at Portland and Los Angeles at Victoria. On Thursday the Los Angeles Blades will be at home for their third game in as many nights against the Portland Buckaroos. Two Friday games will pit the Seattle Totems against the San Francisco Seals at the Cow Palace in San Francisco and the two Canadian rivals, Vancouver and Victoria, will do battle in Vancouver. A full slate of games on Saturday will round out the action for the week. Seattle will be at Los Angeles, Portland will be at San Francisco and Vancouver will travel to Victoria.

#### SCORING LEADERS

Centerman ART JONES was hit with sickness and played in only two of Portland's four games last week. Yet the crafty playmaker scored once and set up two others to maintain his League scoring lead. He now has 21 points in 12 games played, made up of 8 goals and 13 assists. Vancouver's BILLY McNEILL picked up 5 assists in a game against Seattle and seven points in four games to follow closely with 20 points.

#### MOST GOALS -- MOST ASSISTS

Two red-hot wingers, Victoria's BOBBY BARLOW and Portland's CLIFF SCHMAUTZ, are tied for the League goalscoring lead with ten goals apiece. SCHMAUTZ rifled his ten markers in 14 games while BARLOW hit for ten in 12 contests.

Vancouver's BILLY McNEILL set up 5 goals against Seattle and added two more before the week was out to up his assist total to a League leading 14 for the season in 12 games played. Seattle's GUYLE FIELDER and Los Angeles Blades defenseman JACK HENDRICKSON follow with 13 each.

#### GOALKEEPERS

Portland goalkeeper DON HEAD played 163 minutes and 12 seconds of consecutive shutout hockey in the four games played by the Buckaroos last

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week. The brilliant play of the robust backstop did not earn him a new League record (presently held by the Bucks other goalkeeper DAVE KELLY, who played 235 minutes and 22 seconds of consecutive shutout hockey two seasons back) but it gave him a commanding lead among active goalkeepers in League play. He has allowed 31 goals in 14 games played for a 2.21 average and has two shutouts to his credit. Victoria's AL MILLAR is in second place with a 2.67 average after 12 games played. Vancouver's GILLES VILLEMURE chalked up his first whitewash of the young season when he blanked the Sna Francisco Seals, 3-0, at the Cow Palace last Friday.

#### PENALTIES

Los Angeles defenseman HOWIE YOUNG played in only two of the three Blades games last week but in those two games he received 7 minor penalties and one misconduct to move way out in front in the penalty parade. YOUNG now has a total of 57 penalty minutes in 11 games played.

#### PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Player of the Week honors for action during the past week go to veteran Vancouver centerman PHIL MALONEY. MALONEY moved into the list of top 12 scorers in League play by picking up 8 points in four games played for a 2-per-game average, and, more remarkable, three of the four Canucks games were played on the road. The eight points were made up of 4 goals and 4 assists including a Hat Trick in Los Angeles that led the Canucks to their second road win in their last three road games.

#### LINE-UP CHANGES

Remove from Seattle, add to Vancouver....MAURICE MANTHA....Def...#3  
 Remove from Vancouver, add to Seattle....LES HUNT.....Def...#4  
 Remove from Los Angeles, add to Vancouver...GORDON VEJPRAVA...Cen  
 Remove from Vancouver, add to Los Angeles...BUDDY BOONE.....R.W...#16  
 Remove from Los Angeles, add to San Francisco...HARLEY HODGSON....Def.  
 Remove from Portland.....RICK CHARRON.....Goal  
 Add to Portland.....DAVE KELLY.....Goal

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STANDINGS

The neck-and-neck battle for top spot in the Western League standings between Portland and Victoria endures, as both teams finished the week deadlocked at the top with 24 points each. Victoria's total comes after the Maple Leafs have played two less games than the Buckaroos, 15, and have 11 wins and 2 ties as against only two losses. The Buckaroos boast a League-leading 12 wins in 17 games played, having suffered only 5 defeats. The Vancouver Canucks hold down third spot despite having lost two straight games and their fourth straight this season to their arch-rivals, the Victoria Leafs. The Canucks have 14 points on 7 wins and 8 losses. The San Francisco Seals finally got untracked at home and handed the Portland Buckaroos their worst defeat of the season, 7-3, and gained sole possession of fourth place. The Bucks had not had more than five goals against in a single contest all season before the Seals caught fire against them. After being shut out in two successive games last week at home it was a welcome victory for the Seals and brought their record to 5 wins and 2 ties against 6 losses in 13 games for a total of 12 points. The Los Angeles Blades defeated the Seattle Totems in Los Angeles on Saturday night to remain one jump ahead of last place Seattle. The Blades record stands at 5 wins against 11 losses for a 10 point total while the Totems with 4 wins and 12 losses remain in the basement with 8 points.

UP-COMING ACTION

Twelve games are on tap for Western League teams during the coming week as the Portland Buckaroos get set to travel east to provide the competition for three American League teams this week and three more again next week. The Western League teams, on the other hand, are making preparations to host the American League Springfield Indians, led by MR. HOCKEY himself, EDDIE SHORE, as the Indians play two of their four West Coast games this week. Portland opens in Buffalo on Wednesday night and then moves on to Pittsburgh for a

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Saturday night clash. On Sunday the Champions of the two Leagues Portland (Patrick Cup Champs) and Rochester (Calder Cup Champions) will meet head on in Rochester. Springfield, meanwhile, will open against the Seals in San Francisco on Saturday night and travel to Seattle on Sunday to take on the Seattle Totems. In games within the League the Los Angeles Blades will be in Victoria tonight and, on Wednesday, the Blades will travel to Seattle to do battle with the Totems while Vancouver will be at San Francisco. A single Thursday contest will find Vancouver at Los Angeles and a lone Friday encounter will see Victoria at San Francisco. On Saturday night, in addition to the Springfield-San Francisco game, Victoria will be at Los Angeles and Vancouver at Seattle. The two Sunday inter-locking games, Portland at Rochester and Springfield at Seattle, will round out the action for the week.

SCORING LEADER

Two centermen, Portland's ART JONES and Vancouver's BILLY McNEILL, both have played 15 games and both are tied at the top of the individual scoring statistics with 24 points. JONES has 9 goals and 15 assists while McNEILL has 6 goals and 18 assists. JONES has a most commendable scoring streak going at the present time.-- he is the only player in the League to score a point or more in every game played to date. He has picked up a goal or an assist or more in every one of the 15 contests in which he has participated. The crafty playmaker will be hard-pressed to continue his scoring streak this week, however, as the Bucks have 3 games scheduled, all against A.H.L. teams in A.H.L. cities.

MOST GOALS -- MOST ASSISTS

The League goalscoring race is turning into quite a scramble with each passing game as three players are involved in a nip and tuck battle for the honor. Portland's CLIFF SCHMAUTZ presently leads with 13 goals in 17 games but

Vancouver's HOWIE HUGHES and Victoria's BOBBY BARLOW are right on his heels with 12 markers each in 15 games played. SCHMAUTZ and HUGHES each scored 3 times in 3 games played last week while BARLOW fired two counters in 3 games played.

Canuck centerman BILLY MCNEILL added four assists to his totals in 3 games last week to take over the lead in the assist department. MCNEILL now has 18 set-ups in 15 games played. Defenseman JACK HENDRICKSON of the Los Angeles Blades is second with 17 assists in 16 games played.

#### GOALKEEPERS

Portland's DON HEAD still maintains a slight lead over Victoria's AL MILLAR in the goalkeeping department. HEAD has allowed 44 goals in 17 games played for a 2.59 average and MILLAR has seen 41 lights blink behind him in 15 games for a 2.73 average. Both HEAD and MILLAR may soon have additional competition for the top spot as Seattle's ERNIE WAKELY, in his first five games, has allowed only 12 goals for a 2.40 average and, if he keeps up the pace, will be listed at the top after playing ten games.

#### PENALTIES

Despite having been suspended by the Blades management before the start of last week's action, defenseman HOWIE YOUNG still maintains a comfortable lead in the penalty statistics. YOUNG has 57 minutes in 11 games. His closest challenger is Portland's CONNEI MADIGAN with 43 minutes in 17 games.

#### PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Player of the Week honors go to Victoria's MILAN MARCETTA. The lanky playmaker scored 7 points in 3 games last week and has picked up a goal and an assist or more in each of his last 4 games. He leads the League in Most First Goals of Game with 3, he is tied for Most Game-Winning Assists with 4 and he is challenging for the League lead in both total goals (11) and total points (22).

STANDINGS

The Vancouver Canucks came up with 5 of a possible 6 points in three games played last week to close the gap on the two leaders, Victoria and Portland, who have been threatening to run away from the rest of the pack in recent weeks. The third place Canucks did it the hard way, too, as all five points came on the road and they now have a better than .500 average with 9 wins and a tie against 8 losses for a total of 19 points, 5 less than the second place Portland Buckaroos.

The high-flying Victoria Maple Leafs were finally upended by Los Angeles for their first loss in seven straight games. As a result of the hot streak by the Maple Leafs and combined with "road troubles" being encountered by the Portland Buckaroos, the Leafs have moved into a comfortable lead in the Western League standings. They have a total of 28 points made up of 13 wins and 2 ties against only three losses. The second-place Buckaroos are finding Eastern hospitality is just non-existent as the Patrick Cup Champions dropped three straight to American League teams last week. The Bucks were defeated on Sunday night by the American League Champions, the Rochester Americans, in overtime by a 4-3 score and it marked the first time in 24 overtime contests that Portland had been defeated in sudden-death play. The last time the Bucks were handed a defeat in overtime came on October 20, 1963, when the Los Angeles Blades upset the Bucks, 5-4, in Portland after 3:23 of overtime when ex-Buck GORD HAWORTH rifled home the winner. As a result of the loss to Rochester the Bucks record now stands at 12 wins and 8 losses for 24 points, 4 behind the leading Maple Leafs.

Despite having trouble getting untracked on home ice, the San Francisco Seals maintain their grip on third place with 14 points, one more than the fifth place Seattle Totems. The Seals have a 6-8-2 record after 16 games while Seattle has 6-12-1 for 13 points. Los Angeles, with 6 wins against 14 losses, is in last place with 12 points.

UP-COMING ACTION

A grand total of 14 games are slated for the

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six Western League teams as the schedule grinds its way toward the Christmas season. The Portland Buckaroos will play the second half of their American League tour beginning tonight as they visit the high-flying Frenchmen from Quebec City, the first place Aces. On Saturday the Bucks will be in Hershey to battle the Bears and will wind up their tour on Sunday in Springfield against the Indians. A second W.H.L. team will be in the East along with Portland. The Vancouver Canucks start their six game sojourn with a game in Quebec on Thursday, against Springfield on Saturday and against Providence on Sunday.

Meanwhile, back on the West Coast, the Springfield Indians will be going after their first win in W.H.L. territory as they battle Vancouver tonight. On Wednesday the Indians will be in Victoria and Seattle will visit San Francisco. On Thursday the Seattle Totems will visit the Los Angeles Blades and on Friday the two California rivals, the Blades and the Seals, will meet in San Francisco. On Saturday San Francisco will play a return match with Los Angeles in Los Angeles and Seattle will be in Victoria. On Sunday night, League-leading Victoria will take on the Totems in Seattle.

### SCORING LEADERS

A brand new name appears at the head of the individual scoring list this week. For the first time this season Victoria centerman MILAN MARCETTA moves into the top spot all alone on the strength of 7 points in 3 games played. The smooth-skating play maker scored the Hat Trick, his first of the season, against Los Angeles and then set up his linemate BOB BARLOW for his second Hat Trick of the season against San Francisco by assisting on all three of BARLOW's goals. Three players are tied for second spot, all with 25 points.

### MOST GOALS -- MOST ASSISTS

Victoria winger BOBBY BARLOW posted his second Hat Trick of the season to take over sole possession of the goal scoring lead in the individual statistics. BARLOW now has 15 goals in 17 games this season, one more than linemate MILAN MARCETTA.

Seattle's GUYLE FIELDER moved back into a familiar spot, for him, as he took over the League assist lead. He now has 23 set-ups to his credit and, in addition to the League lead, scored

his first goal of the season on Sunday against Springfield.

#### GOALKEEPERS

Two relative newcomers to the top spot in the goal-keeping department came to the fore during the past week. San Francisco's JACK McCARTAN gets the nod for top spot (as he has played more than 10 games) with a 2.72 average after 11 games and Seattle's ERNIE WAKELY will, at his present pace of 2.50 goals against in 6 games, provide formidable competition. HEAD of Portland and MILLAR of Victoria are down the list with 2.90 and 2.89 averages respectively.

#### PENALTIES

Los Angeles Blades HOWIE YOUNG is still suspended but he still holds the lead in the Western League's penalty parade with 57 minutes in 11 games played.

#### PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Player of the Week honors for action during last week go to Seattle centerman GUYLE FIELDER. FIELDER outscored all other players last week with a goal and 7 assists in 3 games played. Honorable mention goes to Victoria centerman MILAN MARCETTA, who scored 3 goals and 4 assists in 3 games to take over the number one spot in the individual scoring race.

AROUND THE LEAGUE..... Portland goalkeeper DON HEAD, who was sailing along with a healthy 2.22 average in League play 2 weeks ago, suddenly ran into a rough streak..the 2 California teams put 12 goals by him in the 2 games before the Bucks headed east and 3 A.H.L. teams have fired another 14 past him...As a result his average for the past 5 games (26 goals against) is 5.20..... Last season's Most Gentlemanly Player, Victoria's ANDY HEBENTON was assessed his first 2 penalties of the season over the past weekend, one in San Francisco and one in Los Angeles and his teammate, LOU JANKOWSKI, the winner of the HUME AWARD two seasons back when he toiled with Denver also received his first of the season in the Los Angeles game.....Victoria leads the League and Vancouver are in the thick of the battle due to the dominance the Canadian teams are showing over the California entries ..The Canucks have won 6 straight, 3 each from the Seals and Blades an Victoria beat the Blades twice before suffering its first setback last Saturday and has a win and 2 ties against San Francisco....

STANDINGS

In another routine week the Victoria Maple Leafs swept to 3 straight wins to maintain their comfortable six point first place edge in the Western League standings. The Leafs took two games at home and one on the road to up their record to an outstanding 16 wins, 3 losses and 2 ties in 21 outings for 34 points. The two home wins makes it 12 consecutive games at home without a loss and the Leafs are beginning to eye a few records, not the least of which is the Longest Winning Streak at Home, 15, set by Denver in the 1963-64 season. The second-place Portland Buckaroos remain in the running for the top spot as they were able to pick up 4 points last week on a win and 2 ties as they wound up their longest road trip of the season -- 8 straight games on the road. The Bucks have 28 points on 13 wins and two ties against 8 losses for a 28 point total after 23 games played. The Vancouver Canucks, presently in the midst of their lengthy sojourn through the American League, hold down third place on the strength of 21 points coming from 7 wins and two ties against 10 losses in the first 22 games for the Canucks. The two California rivals, Los Angeles and San Francisco, clashed head on last week with the resurgent Blades coming out on the long end of the count in both contests. As a result the series between the two teams is tied at two wins apiece and the teams are also tied in the standings with 16 points each. The Blades have played 4 more games than the Seals, however, having a record of 8 wins against 15 losses while the Seals have 7 wins and 2 ties against 10 losses. The Seattle Totems, winning only one contest in four last week, bring up the rear with 15 points on 7 wins and a tie against 15 losses.

UP-COMING ACTION

Inter-locking play between the Western and the American Leagues make six of the nine games scheduled for the up-coming week. Tomorrow night the

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Hershey Bears, the Green Bay Packers of professional hockey, make their initial appearance on the West Coast as they go against the San Francisco Seals in the Cow Palace. On Friday Hershey will face the Los Angeles Blades while the Vancouver Canucks will continue their American League swing with a game in Buffalo. Three Saturday games will find Los Angeles at San Francisco, Vancouver at Cleveland and Hershey at Victoria. Another three Sabbath day contests will round out the action for the week. Los Angeles will be at Portland where the Bucks will make their first appearance before home fans since November 17th, Victoria will be at Seattle and Vancouver will go against Rochester.

#### SCORING LEADERS

Victoria centerman MILAN MARCETTA added a goal and three assists in three games played last week to strengthen his hold on the individual scoring lead. He now has 15 goals and 18 assists in 21 games for a 33 point total, four more than his linemate BOBBY BARLOW who is in third place with 29 points in the same number of games. Vancouver's BILLY McNEILL picked up five points in four games to move into second place with an even 30 for the season made up of 10 goals and 20 assists in 22 games.

#### MOST GOALS -- MOST ASSISTS

Victoria winger BOB BARLOW hit for another two goals in three games last week to up his League lead in the sniping department to 17 for the season. Linemate MILAN MARCETTA and Portland winger CLIFF SCHMAUTZ follow closely with 15 markers apiece.

Seattle centerman GUYLE FIELDER added another three assists to his totals last week in four games played and holds a commanding lead among the League's playmakers. He now has 26 assists in 22 games played, four more than his nearest rival, Los Angeles centerman NORM JOHNSON.

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GOALKEEPERS

EDDIE JOHNSTON returned to the Western League over the weekend and took it by storm. The agile netminder took over the goalkeeping duties for the Blades and allowed but one goal in two games for a sparkling 0.50 average in 2 games played. San Francisco's JACK McCARTAN continues to impress and still holds the number one spot, however, with a 2.64 average after 14 games played. Portland's DON HEAD chalked up his third shutout of the season as he blanked the Hershey Bears, 1-0, in Hershey last week.

PENALTIES

HOWIE YOUNG returned to the Los Angeles line-up last week and almost immediately added minutes to his League-leading penalty totals. YOUNG was assessed two minor and a misconduct in three games played to up his total to 71 minutes in 14 games played.

PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Player of the Week honors are divided among goalkeepers in the League for their outstanding efforts in League play last week. Newcomer EDDIE JOHNSTON in the nets for Los Angeles gets the nod for Player of the Week for his outstanding play in two hard-fought wins by the Blades over their State rivals, the San Francisco Seals. JOHNSTON allowed only 1 goal in the 2 games for a 0.50 average and chalked up his first shutout of the season in W.H.L. play. Honorable mention goes to JACK McCARTAN of the San Francisco Seals and DON HEAD of Portland. McCARTAN allowed only 7 goals in 3 contests last week, improving his average to a leading 2.64 from 2.89 last week. HEAD gained his third shutout and improved his average a full 20 percentage points to 2.70 this week.

AROUND THE LEAGUE....Interlocking play between the A.H.L. - W.H.L. teams is proving quite competitive and balanced in the early going..... After 27 games between teams of the two Leagues, A.H.L. teams have won 13 games, W.H.L. teams have won 12 and two contests were tied.....

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### STANDINGS

The Victoria Maple Leafs split two games last week, taking a third straight game from the A.H.L. in a 5-2 victory over the Hershey Bears and then succumbing to a 2-0 blanking, only the second time this season that the powerful Leafs have been shited, at the hands of the last place Seattle Totems. The Leafs still hold a comfortable 6 point edge over the second place Portland Buckaroos, however, with a 17-4-2 record for 36 points in 23 games played. The Buckaroos played only one game, their first at home in nearly a month, and made it exciting for the home town fans as they edged the Los Angeles Blades, 6-5, after leading by a 5-1 margin at one point. The Bucks now have a 14-8-2 record after 24 games and an even 30 points along with a firm grasp of second place in the League standings. The Vancouver Canucks were able to muster only one win during their six game American League swing, that being an impressive 1-0 win over the Cleveland Barons in Cleveland, but still are comfortable lodged in third place as they return to friendly confines of the Vancouver Forum. The Canucks have 23 points in 25 games on an 11-13-1 record. The San Francisco Seals are still performing at a .500 clip at home, dropping a close one to the A.H.L. Hershey Bears and then evening up with a big victory over Los Angeles to keep a step ahead in fourth place. The Seals have an 8-11-2 record and 18 points in 21 games. The Seattle Totems moved into fifth place the hard way, by knocking off the League leading Victoria Maple Leafs in Seattle on Sunday, 2-0, and now have 17 points on an 8-15-1 record. Los Angeles dropped into the depths with 3 straight losses and have 16 points on an 8-18-0 record.

### UP-COMING ACTION

Eight games are on tap in action for the coming week with two games slated for each of four different evenings. Tonight the American League Hershey Bears wind up their tour of the Western League as they go against the returning

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Vancouver Canucks in the Forum. It will be the eighth straight game against A.H.L. opposition for the Canucks as they hosted the Springfield Indians just before departing on a six game swing of the Eastern circuit. The Bears have already assured themselves of the best record to date while playing in the cities of the opposing League as they have won two games and are assured of at least a .500 record on the West Coast. A win over the Canucks tonight would give the well-coached Hershey sextet a record that may be unparalleled by any other team, 3 wins in 4 road outings, in their tours through opposition territory. Also tonight the Los Angeles Blades will attempt to hand the Victoria Maple Leafs their first home loss and move out of the basement at the same time. On Friday night the League leading Leafs will be the visitors in a game against the San Francisco Seals and the Seattle Totems will go against the Canucks in Vancouver. On Saturday Victoria will face the Seals in the Cow Palace for the second time in as many nights and Los Angeles will be at Seattle. Two Sunday contests will find Los Angeles at Portland and Vancouver at Seattle.

### SCORING LEADERS

As the schedule approaches the halfway mark the race tightens for the lead in the individual scoring race. Victoria centerman MILAN MARCETTA still leads the pack with 34 points in 23 games played even though he was able to pick up only 1 assist in two games played last week. He is being closely chased by another centerman, Vancouver's BILLY McNEILL, however, who has 33 points in 25 games and is looking ahead to a lengthy home stretch to improve upon his totals. McNEILL picked up 3 assists, one in each game played in the A.H.L. last week by the Canucks.

### MOST GOALS -- MOST ASSISTS

Victoria winger BOBBY BARLOW went two games last week without scoring a goal but still leads the League with 17 in 23 games. His lead is in danger,

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however, as two California sharpshooters, Los Angeles winger LEO LABINE and San Francisco's WAYNE CONNELLY, have pile up 16 markers each in 26 and 21 games respectively. LABINE staged a one man offensive in a losing Los Angeles cause in Portland Sunday night as he fired four goals and assisted on the fifth as the Blades were edged, 6-5. His effort was the first four goals performance of the season in the W.H.L. play and Hat Trick number fourteen in the League.

Seattle centerman GUYLE FIELDER has a League leading 26 assists to his credit, one more than Los Angeles centerman NORM JOHNSON who has 25. FIELDER had a streak of nine straight games of picking up one or more assists before being held scoreless by Victoria one week ago in a game in Seattle.

#### GOALKEEPERS

Top spot in the goalkeeping department is up for grabs in the Western League. San Francisco's JACK McCARTAN, playing the best hockey of his career for the Seals, still holds the number one spot with a 2.68 average after having played 16 games but his lead is in jeopardy as he is closely followed by Victoria's AL MILLAR with 2.74 and Portland's DON HEAD with 2.79. Also, a couple of newcomers, EDDIE JOHNSTON of Los Angeles (1 shutout and a 2.08 average in 4 1/3 games) and ERNIE WAKELY of Seattle (1 shutout and 2.82 average in 11 games) promise trouble for the leaders in the future. WAKELY got his first shutout over Victoria last week while Vancouver's GILLES VILLEMURE chalked up his second over Cleveland in the A.H.L. city last week.

#### PENALTIES

HOWIE YOUNG moves out to a big lead in the penalty parade with 88 minutes in 17 games played. His closest competitor is San Francisco's LARRY MCNABB with 65 minutes in 20 games played.

PLAYER OF THE WEEK.....Los Angeles winger LEO LABINE picked up seven points in 3 games played, more than any other player, to move into 9th place in the individual scoring race. He also leads in man-advantage goals with 8 for the season.

STANDINGS

The Victoria Maple Leafs dropped two of their three games played last week but still managed to hold a commanding lead over the rest of the teams in the League. The Leafs dumped the Los Angeles Blades at home and then lost two straight decisions to the on-coming San Francisco Seals and now have a record of 18 wins, 6 losses and 2 ties for 38 points. Portland's Buckaroos played only one game and were edged, 4-3, by the Los Angeles Blades in Portland for only their second loss on Glass Palace ice this season. The Bucks record now stands at 14 wins, 9 losses and 2 ties for 30 points. The Vancouver Canucks and the Seattle Totems took turns embarrassing each other this weekend, the Totems winning the first game, 5-0, in Vancouver on Friday and the Canucks roaring back with a decisive 9-3 victory on Sunday, their first win in 12 consecutive outings in Seattle. As a result the Canucks were able to hold on to third place in the standings with a 12-15-1 record for 25 points. Coming on strong in fourth place is San Francisco. The Seals won two big ones from the League leaders to move within 3 points of Vancouver. Their record now stands at 10-11-2 for 22 points in only 23 games played. The Los Angeles Blades, with two wins in three road contests, moved out of the cellar into fifth place. The Blades have a 10-19-0 record and an even 20 points. The Seattle Totems dropped an overtime decision to the Blades and this, along with the Vancouver loss, pushed the Totems back to the bottom rung of the ladder with 19 points on a 9-17-1 record..

UP-COMING ACTION

There is plenty of action scheduled for Christmas Week in the 1965-66 season. Seven big games are on tap beginning on Wednesday night when the Vancouver Canucks travel to Portland to do battle with the Buckaroos. A full slate of games are on tap for Christmas night as all W.H.L. teams will see action. The San Francisco Seals will forego the traditional turkey dinner to be ready to

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give their all against the Portland Buckaroos as that rivalry resumes in Portland. The Los Angeles Blades will attempt to gain ground as they go against the Vancouver Canucks in the Forum in Vancouver and the Seattle Totems will attempt to become the first team to upset the powerful Victoria Maple Leafs on their home ice as they will be the visitors in the Island City clash. On Sunday, December 26th, the Victoria Maple Leafs will go against their nearest rivals for the coveted top spot, the Portland Buckaroos, in Portland and the Los Angeles Blades and the Seattle Totems will again attempt to dump each other into the basement in a contest in the Seattle Coliseum. A lone Monday game will wind up the action for the week as the San Francisco Seals will skate against the Canucks in the Vancouver Forum.

#### SCORING LEADERS

Whether he plays at home or on the road doesn't seem to bother Victoria centerman MILAN MARCETTA. The lanky playmaker picked up another six points in three games played last week, two on the road, to up his League leading totals to 18 goals and 22 assists for an even 40 points. He opened a 5 point gap over his nearest rival, Vancouver's BILLY McNEILL, who holds the second spot with 35 points on 12 goals and 23 assists. Projecting his  $1\frac{1}{2}$  points-per-game average to date over the 72 games he will play this season, MARCETTA will end the season with some 110 points for the campaign, a total that will be mighty difficult to top.

#### MOST GOALS -- MOST ASSISTS

Victoria winger BOBBY BARLOW scored two goals in one game last week and preserved his hold on the League goalscoring lead with 19 goals in 26 games. He is being hard-pressed, however, by his centerman, MILAN MARCETTA, and Los Angeles winger LEO LABINE, both of whom have scored 18 goals.

Seattle centerman GUYLE FIELDER is staying one "play" ahead of Los Angeles Centerman NORM JOHNSON in the assist department. FIELDER has 29 helpers

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in 26 games while JOHNSON has set up 28 goals in 29 games.

### GOALKEEPERS

San Francisco goalkeeper JACK McCARTAN was able to hold the League lead in the goalkeeping department in one of the tightest races ever among the League's backstops. MCCARTAN has allowed 49 goals in 18 games for a 2.73 average, 4 percentage points better than Victoria's AL MILLAR with 2.77 average. Portland's DON HEAD follows with a 2.84 average. Seattle's ERNIE WAKELY put together back-to-back shutouts over Victoria a week ago and over Vancouver last week only to have the Canucks bring the roof down on him with a 9 goal onslaught on Sunday night.

### PENALTIES

Los Angeles defenseman HOWIE YOUNG has dropped below his five penalty minutes per game average but still holds a comfortable lead in the parade to the sin-bin. YOUNG now has played an even 20 games and has accumulated a total of 98 penalty minutes, some 30 minutes more than his nearest rival.

### PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Player of the Week honors go to scoring leader MILAN MARCETTA of the Victoria Maple Leafs. MARCETTA scored six points last week in three games, more than any other player, to solidify his hold on first place in the individual scoring race with an even 40 points in 26 games played.

### LEAGUE ATTENDANCE CLIMBS

After the first ten home games by each of the six Clubs in the Western Hockey League, attendance is up a full 12 % over the same number of games by each Club last season. An over-all total of 260,293 hockey enthusiasts have paid to see Western League action in the first ten home games by each of the Clubs as compared to 249,550 during the same ten game period last season, an increase of 30,743 paid customers. The Victoria Maple Leafs have shown the greatest single increase as the League-leaders have drawn a full 53.2% more paid customers this season than in the first 10 contests last season.

STANDINGS

The Victoria Maple Leafs were held to only one point in two games played last week and, as a result, the second place Portland Buckaroos were able to gain valuable ground on the League-leaders! The Buckaroos took 5 of a possible 6 points in three games played last week and now are only four points behind after having played the same number of games. The Leafs have 18 wins and 3 ties against 7 losses after 28 games for a 39 point total while the Bucks have 16 wins and 3 ties against 9 losses in the same number of games for 35 points. The third place Vancouver Canucks split in two game played to maintain a firm grip on third place in the standings. The Canucks have 27 points after having played 30 games, made up of 13 wins, 16 losses and 1 tie game. The biggest gain of the week was made by the Seattle Totems as they came up with a perfect week, two wins in as many starts, and moved from last place last week into fourth place and play-off contention this week. The Totems upset the Victoria Maple Leafs on Christmas night in Victoria for the Leafs first home loss of the season as they had been undefeated in 14 straight games in the Victoria Memorial Arena. They then eaked out a squeaker over the Los Angeles Blades in overtime and the four points vaulted them past the Blades and the San Francisco Seals into the fourth and last play-off spot. The Totems now have a record of 11wins and a tie for 23 points in 29 games, one point more than the San Francisco Seals who played only one game last week. The Seals were defeated, 5-2, by Portland and are left with a 10-12-2 record and 22 points in 24 games played. Los Angeles, after 31 games, has won 10 and lost 21 for an even 20 point total.

UP-COMING ACTION

Nine games are on tap for the coming week as the heads toward the New Year and the half-way point in the 216 game season on the West Coast. On Wednesday night Coach CHARLIE BURNS will lead his San Francisco Seals into Victoria in an attempt to hand the Leafs their second home loss of the season. Two games are slated for New Year's Eve as the California rivals will engage in their own special type of celebration (each at the expense of the other) when the Blades host the Seals in Los Angeles. The second New Year's Eve contest will pit the Portland Buckaroos against the Seattle Totems in Seattle. A full slate of games are on tap for New Year's Day. Los Angeles and San Francisco will go at it again, this time in San Francisco. Seattle and Portland will also return the favor to each other in a game scheduled for the Coliseum in

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Portland and the two Canadian entries, Vancouver and Victoria will do battle in Victoria. All six teams will go again on Sunday, January 2, 1966. The Los Angeles Blades will travel to Portland to take on the Buckaroos. The San Francisco Seals will also move north to Seattle to go against the Seattle Totems in Seattle and Victoria and Vancouver will meet for the second time in as many days in an afternoon contest slated for 2:30 in the Vancouver Forum.

### SCORING LEADERS

All three members of the Victoria Maple Leafs "Big Line" were held completely scoreless last week and, as a result, the individual scoring race tightened considerably. Leaf centerman MILAN MARCETTA still leads the pack with an even 40 points after having played 28 games. Coming on strong are two other centermen, BILLY McNEILL of Vancouver and NORM JOHNSON of Los Angeles, both of whom have 38 points and a tie for second place in the point race. McNEILL has played 30 games and has 12 goals and 26 assists while JOHNSON has played in 31 contests and has scored 8 times while setting up 30 others. The biggest gain of the week was made by Portland winger CLIFF SCHEMAUTZ as he moved from eighth place in the individual scoring race to fourth place by picking up eight points in three games.

### MOST GOALS -- MOST ASSISTS

Los Angeles rightwinger LEO LABINE took over the League goal-scoring lead from Victoria leftwinger BOBBY BARLOW as LABINE fired two more goals, his nineteenth and twentieth of the season while BARLOW was held scoreless. BARLOW held the lead since mid-November but LABINE has hit a red-hot scoring streak that has seen him net 13 goals in his last 11 games while BARLOW has been held to but four in his last ten contests. In taking over the lead LABINE has been particularly effective while his team has had the man-advantage. The scrappy winger has scored ten man-advantage goals to date to lead the League in that department while making up exactly half of his total goal output. With five games yet to go before the Blades reach the halfway mark in the 1965-66 season, LABINE could well be headed for a 40-goal-plus season and if it happens, it will be the first such season for the fourteen year veteran of professional hockey.

Los Angeles centerman NORM JOHNSON set up two goals in two games last week to move him into a tie for the League assist lead with 30 helpers for the season, the same total as has Seattle centerman GUYLE FIELDER. JOHNSON's total comes in 31 games while FIELDER's 30 set-ups have taken place in 28 games played to date.

GOALKEEPERS

Portland goalkeeper DON HEAD utilized his fourth shutout of the season to move back into the number one spot among the active goalkeepers in the League in last week's action. HEAD blanked the Vancouver Canucks, 8-0, for his fourth whitewash of the season, three of which have been against Western League teams (Victoria, Seattle and Vancouver) and one against the American League Hershey Bears. His average now stands at 2.68 as he has allowed 75 goals in 28 games played. His constant competitor for the top spot, Victoria's AL MILLAR, is a close second once again with a 2.82 average 2.82 resulting from 79 goals against in the same number of games. HEAD's four shutouts are twice as many as any other goalkeeper in the League at the present time and are four shy of the record for most shutouts in one season which was set by MARCEL PELLETIER, now with Los Angeles, and then with Victoria in 1955-56 and duplicated again when he was with Vancouver in 1957-58. Last week's leader JACK McCARTAN of San Francisco was pushed into third place with a 2.84 average after 19 games played.

PENALTIES

Los Angeles defenseman HOWIE YOUNG broke the 100 minute mark in penalties for the 1965-66 season in his 22nd game. YOUNG now has 102 minutes and a comfortable lead in the penalty parade.

PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Player of the Week honors for action during the past week go to Portland winger CLIFF SCHMAUTZ. SCHMAUTZ outscored all other players in the League in the three games played by the Buckaroos as he picked up two goals and added six assists in leading the Buckaroos to two wins and a tie in their three games played. The sudden scoring splurge boosted the hard-shooting winger to fourth place in the individual scoring race from his eighth place position of one week ago.

LINE-UP CHANGE

Add to Los Angeles.....JACK NORRIS.....#1.....Goal

AROUND THE LEAGUE.....It's been feast or famine for the Vancouver Canucks of late....They were shutout, 5-0, by Seattle two weeks ago only to turn around and wallop the Totems, 9-3, in Seattle in retaliation....Then the Canucks were again blanked, 8-0, in Portland only to come storming back with a 7-3 win against Los Angeles.....Seattle's GUYLE FIELDER has scored a point or better in 16 of his last 17 games.....Portland's "defensive" centerman, LARRY LEACH, has scored 5 points in his last three games.....

STANDINGS

The Victoria Maple Leafs carried a five game winless streak into last week's action but pulled a sudden revival against their arch-rivals, the Vancouver Canucks, in two weekend games and thus maintain a firm grip on first place in the League standings -- at least for another week -- as they are one full game, two points, ahead of the onrushing Portland Buckaroos. The Leafs once again exercised their hypnotic powers over Vancouver in taking two straight weekend contests from the Canucks. They now have won six straight games from Vancouver in as many meetings between the two teams this season. The Portland Buckaroos were able to narrow the gap between first and second place by following the same pattern -- taking their fifth and sixth straight games from the Seattle Totems without a loss this season. The Buckaroos have now beaten the Totems in 14 straight contests dating back more than one full year, some 54 weeks, to extend their League record in consecutive wins over one opponent. Victoria has 43 points on 20 wins, 8 losses and 3 ties and Portland has 41 points on 19 wins, 9 losses and 3 ties. The Vancouver Canucks were able to win only one game in three last week but they beat the right team, the fourth place San Francisco Seals, and thus hold third place by a three point edge over the SEals. Vancouver has 29 points on 14 wins, 18 losses and a tie in 33 games while the Seals, in 29 games, have 26 points on 12 wins, 15 losses and 2 ties. The fifth place Seattle Totems moved back to within one point of the last play-off position as they rebounded from the Portland losses to an 8-4 win over the Seals on Sunday night. The Totems now have 25 points on 12 wins and a tie against 19 losses in 32 games played. Los Angeles, with one win in three starts last week, remain in the basement with 22 points on a 11-23-0 record after 34 games played.

UP-COMING ACTION

Eight games are slated for the first full week of action in the New Year. The Vancouver Canucks will host the Los Angeles Blades in the week's first contest tonight in Vancouver. The Blades will be looking for their first win over the Canucks this season and the first win by a California team over Vancouver this season. The Canucks have taken three straight from the Blades and another four without a loss from San Francisco in seven games against California competition. On Wednesday San Francisco, the only team in the League that has yet to suffer defeat in Victoria, will go against

will again face the League-leaders in Victoria and attempt to keep their string intact. A lone Thursday contest will find Victoria in Los Angeles. Two Friday games will see Victoria at San Francisco and Seattle at Vancouver. On Saturday Vancouver will visit Portland while two Sunday contests will pit San Francisco against Los Angeles in Los Angeles and finally, the game that could well decide first place in the League standings, the Victoria Maple Leafs against the Portland Buckaroos in Portland.

#### SCORING LEADERS

Victoria centerman MILAN MARCETTA came on strong in weekend action with 2 goals and 3 assists to up his totals to an even 20 goals and 25 assists for 45 points and the League lead. Portland winger CLIFF SCHMAUTZ jumped into second place with 43 points on 22 goals and 21 assists which includes his second Hat Trick of the season against Los Angeles on Sunday night. Vancouver centerman BILLY McNEILL is the only other player to top the 40 point mark -- he has 41 points on 13 goals and 28 assists and third place in the race.

#### MOST GOALS --- MOST ASSISTS

Last week only one player had reached the coveted 20 goal mark in League play. This week five other players join Los Angeles winger LEO LABINE at the 20 goal plateau and Portland winger CLIFF SCHMAUTZ leads the way with a Hat Trick, his second of the season, and a 22 goal total for the League lead. SCHMAUTZ scored five markers in three games last week and is followed by Victoria's BOBBY BARLOW with 21, and Victoria's MARCETTA, Vancouver's HUGHES, San Francisco's CONNELLY and Los Angeles' LABINE, all with an even 20 goals to date.

Two centermen, NORM JOHNSON and GUYLE FIELDER of Los Angeles and Seattle respectively are tied for the assist lead for the second straight week. Both players have set up 31 goals, FIELDER in 31 games, JOHNSON in 34 contests.

#### GOALKEEPERS

A new name appears at the head of the goalkeepers list this week. Portland's DAVE KELLY substituted for DON HEAD in the Portland nets on Sunday night against Los Angeles and came up with a big shutout in his first game of the season. He stopped 27 shots in posting his 0.00 average in his first game. Right behind KELLY in the standings is DON HEAD with a 2.63 average, better than any other goalkeeper playing regularly this season. Vancouver's GILLES VILLEMURE posted his third shutout of the season with a 4-0 win over San Francisco. It marked the second time he shutout the Seals this season.

PENALTIES

Los Angeles Blades defenseman HOWIE YOUNG picked up only one minor penalty in three games played last week. His total in penalty minutes now stands at 104 in 25 games played and he is the only player in the League to crack the 100 minute mark in penalty box time.

PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Player of the Week honors, for the second consecutive week, go to Portland winger CLIFF SCHMAUTZ. SCHMAUTZ outscored all other players in the League by firing five goals and adding an assist for six points in three games played. He also fired his second Hat Trick of the season to take over the goalscoring lead in League play and, as well, moved up into second place in the individual scoring race, just two points behind the leader, MILAN MARCETTA of Victoria.

LINE-UP CHANGES

Add to San Francisco.....#17.....DEL TOPOLL.....Center

Add to San Francisco.....# 9.....STAN GILBERTSON...L. Wing

HOCKEY HALL OF FAME INFORMATION

The growth and popularity of hockey throughout the world is reflected in the ever-increasing interest and attendance at the Hockey Hall Of Fame, located in the very center of the grounds of the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto, Canada.

All the major trophies in both professional and amateur competition, including the Stanley Cup, emblematic of world supremacy in professional hockey, are displayed in special glass cases. Pictures of professional and amateur Championship teams and many other pictures of famous teams of olden times from Canada, United States and Europe are assembled there. There is a large collection of hockey sticks used by famous players of the past and present, together with a fine collection of old time skates. A cordial invitation is extended to all to visit the Hall which is open every day of the year from 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. ( extra time on special days) at no charge.

For those unable to visit the Hall an impressive, top-quality Hockey Hall Of Fame Book is available. An outstanding souvenir item, the Book contains glossy pictures and art work, lists of members and picture stories to go with them. The charge for the Book is only \$1.00 and can be ordered by mail by sending cash, check or money order (Add 15 cents to each check) to R. W. HEWITSON, Curator, Hockey Hall Of Fame, C.N.E. Grounds, Toronto 2B, Canada. Phone EM 6-7551 in Toronto.

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STANDINGS

Amid a flurry of shutouts, hat tricks and good solid wins the Portland Buckaroos made a determined bid to take over, or at least gain a share of, first place in the League standings last week but they are still two points shy of the summit. The Victoria Maple Leafs played twice as many games as did Portland but ended the week with the same number of wins as the Buckaroos as they were able to hit only .500 for the week, 2 wins in 4 attempts. As a result, the Leafs still hold top spot in the standings with 47 points in 35 games played on a 22-10-3 record while the Buckaroos, with two games in hand over the League-leaders, follow closely with 45 points on a 21-9-3 record. The Bucks have not been beaten in 9 of their last 10 games and this record can be credited to outstanding individual scoring performances by some players and the backing of superb defensive play in recent efforts. Last week the Bucks fired two more Hat Tricks, the fifth and sixth of the season, the first coming from the stick of CLIFF SCHMAUTZ, his second three goal performance in as many games and his third of the season, and the other by ART JONES, his first this season. As well back-up goalie DAVE KELLY chalked up his second shutout in three games played by blanking the leading Leafs on Sunday night in Portland. For the Leafs, it was the second consecutive game without a goal as they were blanked by San Francisco in the Bay City on Friday night.

The third place Vancouver Canucks took two of three games played last week to solidify their hold on third place in the League standings. The Canucks now have 33 points in 36 games, five more than fourth place San Francisco. The Seals, with one win against two losses in the week's action, have 28 points in 32 games played. Fifth place Seattle lost its only game played last week but still remain one point ahead of the last place Los Angeles Blades. The Totems have 25 points in 33 games while the Blades have 24 in 37 contests.

UP-COMING ACTION

Nine games are scheduled for the coming week, four against American League competition as the inter-locking schedule resumes for the first time since the festive season. The Providence Reds, led by former Vancouver favorite MARCEL PAILLE in the nets, will play four games on the West Coast this week beginning on Tuesday night in Seattle when they face the Totems. On Wednesday they will appear in the Coliseum in Portland to go against the red-hot Buckaroos and on Friday they will be in Vancouver to battle the Canucks in the Forum. The Reds will wind up their west coast swing with a Saturday night contest in Victoria against the leading Maple Leafs.

In action within the League, the Portland Buckaroos will get another chance to wrest first place away from Victoria as the two teams clash in Victoria on Tuesday night. On Thursday the Seattle Totems will travel south to Los Angeles for a game against the Blades and on Friday will be in San Francisco to do battle with the Seals. On Sunday the Totems will again be in Los Angeles for a second encounter with the Blades before departing on a six game swing of the American League cities. Also on Sunday, the Portland Buckaroos are scheduled to go against the Vancouver Canucks in an afternoon game beginning at 2:30 P.M.

#### SCORING LEADERS

For the first time since late November a new name appears at the head of the individual scoring column. Portland winger CLIFF SCHMAUTZ turned back to back Hat Tricks in successive games against Los Angeles and Vancouver to pad his lead in the goalscoring race and take over sole possession of the number one spot in the point scramble. SCHMAUTZ now has 47 points in 33 games played, one more than last week's leader, Victoria's MILAN MARCETTA, who has 46 in the same number of contests. MARCETTA has missed the last two Victoria games because of injury and perhaps it is not coincidence that the Maple Leafs have failed to score a single goal in either of the two games. Two other centerman, BILLY McNEILL of Vancouver and NORM JOHNSON of Los Angeles, are within striking distance of the top rung also as they both have 45 points in a third place tie, McNEILL with 15 goals and 30 assists and JOHNSON with 9 goals and 36 assists, after 36 games each.

#### MOST GOALS -- MOST ASSISTS

With his two Hat Tricks, numbers two and three for the season, CLIFF SCHMAUTZ upped his goal total to 25 in 33 games played. This total is two more than his nearest rivals, HOWIE HUGHES of Vancouver and LEO LABINE of Los Angeles, both of whom have scored 23 goals. With three Hat Tricks to his credit, SCHMAUTZ takes over the lead in three goal performance from Victoria's BOBBY BARLOW, with whom he was tied last week.

Los Angeles centerman NORM JOHNSON set up five goals in two games played last week as well as scoring himself once, and, as a result, has the assist lead in League play all to himself this week. He now has 36 helpers in the same number of games played, five more than Seattle's GUYLE FIELDER.

#### GOALKEEPERS

Portland's DAVE KELLY has only played three games in the 1965-66 season, but they have been three fine performances indeed as he allowed a total

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of only three goals thus leaving his average at 0.67 and his shutout total at two for the season. In second place with a very respectable average of 2.63 goals against after an even 30 games, yet no doubt feeling deeply concerned for his job, in Portland regular goalkeeper DON HEAD. HEAD was playing outstanding hockey for the Bucks before being forced to rest an injured knee and had compiled a League-leading 4 shutouts along with the best average in the League. In just three games, however, his young substitute has bettered his goals against average and has gained half as many shutouts. In third place, and the only other goalkeeper to sport an average under 3.00 is Victoria's AL MILLAR as he has allowed 102 goals in 35 games for a 2.91 average and is still looking for his first shutout.

San Francisco goalkeeper JACK McCARTAN gained his first shutout of the season in San Francisco last Friday when the Seals dumped the leading Victoria Maple Leafs by a 6-0 score. As big a victory as that was for McCARTAN, it was even a bigger one for the Seals as it marked the first time San Francisco had shutout an opponent since March 22, 1963, when JIMMY MCLEOD, now playing with the Seattle Totems, blanked the Spokane Comets by a 7-0 score in a game in San Francisco. There were a total of 177 games between shutouts for the Seals before they were able to come up with the big zero for McCARTAN in the 178th contest. The 177 games without a shutout is a new League mark.

#### PENALTIES

Los Angeles defenseman HOWIE YOUNG was assessed five more minor penalties in three games played last week. YOUNG is the only player in the League to have more than 100 minutes in penalties. He has played in 28 games to date. His closest rival for the lead in the penalty parade is a distant one. He is Vancouver defenseman LARRY CAHAN who has 74 minutes after 36 games played.

#### PLAYER OF THE WEEK

All of the scorers and outstanding offensive performances will be by-passed this week in naming a Player of the Week in Western League action. Instead, the honor will be given to Portland goalkeeper DAVE KELLY, the man who stepped in as a substitute replacement for regular netminder DON HEAD and allowed only two goals in three games played since taking over. It isn't often that an outstanding DEFENSIVE performance or performances can be singled out or measured for special honors but two shutouts in three games and a 0.67 average after his first three starts is just such an occasion. Player of the week for action during the past week: Portland goalkeeper DAVE KELLY.....

STANDINGS

For the second straight week, some outstanding individual goal-keeping performances paved the way in leading at least a couple of teams to "perfect weeks" in the win-loss column. Vancouver's GILLES VILLEMURE allowed only one goal in two games as the Canucks took two wins in two outings to close the gap on second place Portland and Seattle's JIMMY McLEOD allowed only six goals in the last four games, three of which were on the road, to allow the Totems to vault over San Francisco into fourth place, only four points back of the third place Vancouver Canucks.

The Providence Reds, visitors from the American League, were the first A.H.L. team to invade the West Coast in the New Year and found the going rough. The Reds failed to win a game in four outings and were limited to only two goals in the four games while being shutout twice. ALDO GUIDOLIN scored the first Providence goal against Seattle in the Reds first game of their Coast swing at 11:10 of the first period and it wasn't until three games later in Victoria at the 6:35 minute mark of the second period that BOUDREAU was able to dent the twine again. In all, the Reds went scoreless in 155 consecutive minutes and 25 seconds during their W.H.L. swing.

The Victoria Maple Leafs were able to win both of their scheduled games last week, one victory being considered the biggest and most important of the season as they came from behind to edge the second place Portland Buckaroos, 5-4. As a result the Leafs are still comfortably lodged in first place in the standings with 51 points on a record of 24 wins, 10 losses and 3 ties after 37 games. If the Leafs are able to duplicate their first half record in the second half they would be in line to break several records, not the least of which would be the Most Games Won In A Season (present record is 44 held by five teams) and Most Points In One Season (presently held by Vancouver as the Canucks compiled 94 points in 1959-60) as Victoria could hit the 100 point mark. The second place Portland Buckaroos dropped two very close decisions in three games played last week but still maintain a full ten point edge on third place Vancouver. The Bucks have 47 points in 36 games on a record of 22 wins and 3 ties against 11 losses. Third place Vancouver came up with two victories in two games to up its total to 37 points for the season on an 18-19-1 record after 38 games played. With four wins in the past week Seattle now has 33 points on 16 wins and a tie against 20 losses in 37 games. The three road wins last week give the Totems a road record (7-9-0) which is second only to League-leading Victoria (8-8-0). San Francisco failed to win in its only outing last week

and is left in fifth place with 28 points on a 13-18-2 record while the Los Angeles Blades trail the pack with 24 points, made up of 12 wins against 27 losses.

#### UP-COMING ACTION

Twelve games are on tap for Western League teams as they prepare for the heaviest part of the 1965-66 schedule. The Seattle Totems will be the fourth Western League entry to tour the American League beginning with a game tonight in Baltimore. On Wednesday the Totems will play in Pittsburgh and on Friday in Rochester. Saturday Seattle will play at Cleveland and Sunday they will go against the Buffalo Bisons in Buffalo. Here on the Coast Portland will be at San Francisco on Wednesday and Vancouver will attempt to overcome the Victoria jinx as the Canucks go against the Leafs in Victoria. A lone Thursday contest will find Portland at Los Angeles. On Friday the Los Angeles Blades will be at Vancouver and on Saturday the Blades will cross the water to meet the leading Victoria Maple Leafs. Rounding out the action on Sunday will be two games -- Portland will again be at San Francisco and the Victoria Maple Leafs will face the Vancouver Canucks at the Forum in Vancouver in a Sunday afternoon affair beginning at 2:30 P.M.

#### SCORING LEADERS

Portland's CLIFF SCHMAUTZ becomes the first player to pass the 50 point mark in regular season play as the clever winger picked up four more points, two goals and two assists to up his total to 51 for the season after 36 games played. He now has a four point edge over Vancouver's BILLY McNEILL, who is in second place with 47 points. Victoria's injured MILAN MARCETTA has slipped to third place with 46 points after 33 games. Seattle's GUYLE FIELDER made the biggest individual gain of the week as he picked up eight points and moved from tenth place last week into a tie for the number five spot this week.

#### MOST GOALS -- MOST ASSISTS

Two goals in two games played last were enough for CLIFF SCHMAUTZ of Portland to maintain his lead in the goalscoring department. CLIFF now has used his bullet-like shot to advantage no less than 27 times in 36 games played to give three more goals than his nearest rival for goalscoring honors in League play.

Seattle's GUYLE FIELDER picked up seven assists in four games last week in leading the Totems to four straight wins. His seven helpers moved him back into the lead in the assist department as the crafty playmaker has now 38

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helpers, one more than centerman NORM JOHNSON of the Los Angeles Blades.

#### GOALKEEPERS

Two more shutouts were recorded in League play last week as Portland's DAVE KELLY chalked up his third whitewash in four game played by blanking the American League Providence Reds, 4-0. Then Vancouver's GILLES VILLEMURE racked up his fourth blanking of the season over the same team to move into a tie for most shutouts with Portland's DON HEAD. KELLY finally proved that he wasn't totally superhuman as he allowed two goals against on Sunday by the Vancouver Canucks while suffering his first loss in five games played by a 2-1 score. His average now stands at a fantastic 0.80 after five games. DON HEAD still leads with a 2.71 average and is followed closely by Victoria's AL MILLAR who has a 2.89 average.

#### PENALTIES

Tempestuous HOWIE YOUNG of the Los Angeles Blades added five more minors to his totals in two games played last week to hit the 124 minute mark in penalties after playing an even 30 games. His closest competitor in the penalty department is San Francisco defenseman LARRY McNABB who was assessed a minor, a major and a misconduct in the one game played by the Seals last week to up his total to 91 minutes in the cooler.

#### PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Player of the Week honors for action during the past week go to Seattle centerman GUYLE FIELDER. A regular for this honor in past seasons, this is the first time in the 1965-66 campaign that the Totem pivot has been accorded the honor. In four games played last week he notched a goal and seven assists for an eight point total, more than any other player in the League. Six of the eight points came in three road games and the other two in a lone home contest. As a result of his scoring splurge FIELDER is now back in the running for League scoring honors, which he has won eight times in the past, as he moved from tenth place last week into a tie for fifth spot this week. He will get lots of opportunity to display his scoring talent on the road this week as the Totems start a six game tour of American League cities.

#### LINE-UP CHANGES

Add to San Francisco.....STAN GILBERTSON...#9.....Left Wing

Add to Seattle.....BOBBY TAYLOR.....#22.....Defense

AROUND THE LEAGUE.....Goalkeeper JIMMY McLEOD and Centerman GUYLE FIELDER, both of Seattle, received their first penalties of the season over the weekend in games in California.....Portland winger FRED HILTS has scored 11 points in his first 8 games with the Bucks, scoring in all but two of the 8 contests.....

STANDINGS

The League leading Victoria Maple Leafs had 14 goals scored against in three games played last week while scoring only 9, yet ended the week with two wins in the three games played. The Leafs edged Vancouver 3-2 in overtime last Wednesday then scored a goal in the last minute of play to slip by the Los Angeles Blades by the same score on Saturday. On Sunday, however, it all caught up to them as the Vancouver Canucks broke the Victoria jinx which has been plaguing them through seven previous contests this season by waxing the League leaders 10-3. The second place Portland Buckaroos also won two of three games played, all on the road, to stay within four points of the League leaders. The Bucks also have the added advantage of having played one less game than Victoria.

Victoria has played an even 40 games and has won 26 of them and tied 3 others while losing 11 for a total of 55 points. Second place Portland has won 24 of 39 contests while tying 3 and losing 12 for a 51 point total. Third place Vancouver displayed considerable offensive strength in three games played last week, scoring 19 goals in the three contests for an average of over 6 goals per game. The Canucks won two of the three games and, in so doing, reached the .500 mark for the season with 20 wins and a tie against the same number of losses in 41 games played. The 41 points amassed by the Canucks are 10 points shy of the second place Portland Buckaroos and 6 points better than the amount compiled by the fourth place Seattle Totems. The Seattle Totems started the week by continuing their perfect road record of last week, but then the roof fell in. The Totems upset the Baltimore Clippers in the first game of their American League swing by blanking the East Coasters 3-0 right in Baltimore for their fourth consecutive road win. They have been unable to win in four games since and now are left with only one more chance to come up with a second win in A.H.L. territory as they go against the Hershey Bears in Hershey on Wednesday before returning home. Despite their recent losses the Totems still hold a seven point bulge over the fifth place San Francisco Seals as the Seals have been unable to take advantage while the Totems were enduring their 9 game road trip. The Seals dropped two straight decisions to the Portland Buckaroos last week in the only games scheduled in San Francisco. Seattle has 35 points after 42 games made up of 17 wins, 24 losses and a tie while the Seals have 28 points but have played a full seven games less than Seattle. After 35 games the Seals record stands at 13 wins,

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20 losses and two ties for 28 points. The Los Angeles Blades came up with a big win over Portland in Los Angeles last week but the victory was counter-acted by two road losses to Victoria and Vancouver. The Blades have 26 points after 42 games on 13 wins and 29 losses.

#### UP-COMING ACTION

Eleven games are scheduled for the final week of January in the 1965-66 season. Beginning tonight, the San Francisco Seals will be in Vancouver to go against the high-scoring Canucks in the Forum. On Wednesday three games are scheduled for Western League teams as Vancouver will be at Los Angeles, San Francisco will be at Portland and the Seattle Totems will wind up their tour of the American League cities with a game in Hershey, Pennsylvania, against the Bears. Two Friday games will find the Vancouver Canucks at San Francisco and the Victoria Maple Leafs at Seattle. On Saturday Vancouver will visit the Blades in Los Angeles and the Portland Buckaroos will once again challenge for top spot in the League standings as they go against the Maple Leafs in Victoria. All six teams will see action in the last scheduled games in January on Sunday the 30th. Vancouver will be at San Francisco for the second time in the week in an afternoon contest slated for 2:30 P.M. in the Cow Palace. Victoria will be at Portland in another crucial match between the first and secondplace teams while the Los Angeles Blades will attempt to gain ground as they go against the Seattle Totems in Seattle.

#### SCORING LEADERS

Just when it looked as though Portland winger CLIFF SCHMAUTZ, through persistent and consistent scoring efforts, was going to move into a comfortable lead in the individual scoring race, the Vancouver Canucks, led by BILLY McNEILL, came up with another 10 goal game. As a result, McNEILL garnered 2 goals and 4 assists and his 6 point effort moved him into a tie with SCHMAUTZ for top spot in the point parade. Both players have 56 points, McNEILL in 41 games and SCHMAUTZ in 39 games. Victoria centerman MILAN MARCETTA returned to the Leaf line-up after missing 4 games through injury and immediately showed that he has not lost his scoring touch as he nicked five points in the three games played last week and is alone in third place with 51 points, five behind the leaders.

#### MOST GOALS -- MOST ASSISTS

Portland winger CLIFF SCHMAUTZ came up with two more goals in the

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three games played by the Buckaroos last week to up his goal production to 29 in 39 games played, two more than that of his nearest rival, Vancouver's HOWIE HUGHES, who came up with his second Hat Trick of the season in the Canucks 10-3 pasting of the Victoria Maple Leafs on Sunday. Another Portland player, rather unheralded of late, scored his first Hat Trick of the season against San Francisco. BILL SAUNDERS fired number 15, 16 and 17 against the Seals on Sunday afternoon.

Los Angeles centerman NORM JOHNSON added two assists to his totals and Seattle centerman GUYLE FIELDER added one in action last week. As a result both players are again tied for the League assist lead with 39 each for the season.

GOALKEEPERS

Portland goalkeeper DAVE KELLY played all three road contests last week and allowed 12 goals. His average now stands at an even 2.00 after 8 games played. As a result of being bombed with 10 goals against on Sunday afternoon, Victoria's AL MILLAR ended the week with an average of 3.03, thus leaving only the two Portland goalkeepers, DON HEAD and DAVE KELLY with better than 3.00 averages. JIMMY McLEOD gained his first shutout of the season and the 15th for W.H.L. goalkeepers this season as he blanked the Baltimore Clippers, 3-0, in Baltimore.

PENALTIES

Los Angeles Blades defenseman HOWIE YOUNG moved almost beyond reach in the penalty race in League play as he added two minors and two misconducts to his lofty totals in three games played last week. He now has 148 minutes in penalties in 33 games played for an average of 4.48 minutes per game.

PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Player of the Week honors go to Vancouver centerman BILLY McNEILL who outscored all other players in the League by gaining a total of 9 points in the three games played for a 3-point-a-game average. The 9 points actually came in two games as McNEILL was blanked last Wednesday in Victoria but then came back with 3 points (2 goals, 1 assist) against Los Angeles and then 6 points (2 goals, 4 assists) against Victoria. As a result the fleet centerman is tied for number one spot in the individual scoring race with a 56 point total.

AROUND THE LEAGUE.....Another League record was tied last week as Seattle goalkeeper JIMMY McLEOD stopped 57 shots in a game in Cleveland. He now shares the record for Most Saves In One Game with BEV BENTLEY (New Westminster) and MARCEL PELLETIER (Vancouver).

February 1, 1966.

STANDINGS

The Portland Buckaroos have yet to win a game in Victoria this season while the Maple Leafs have been able to muster a win and a tie in five tries in Portland and therein lies the story of first place in the Western Hockey League. The two teams met in a home and home series this weekend and split the points with each team winning at home. Thus, the Maple Leafs still hold sole possession of first place in the League standings with 59 points and enjoy a four point bulge over the second place Portland Buckaroos. The Leafs have 28 wins and 3 ties against only 12 losses while the Bucks have 26 wins and 3 ties against 13 losses. Portland also has a game in hand over the League-leaders. The third place Vancouver Canucks dropped a close decision at home and then took 5 of a possible 8 points in 4 straight road contests. As a result the Canucks gained a point on the second place Portland Buckaroos. The Canucks, with 46 points, are 9 back of the Bucks and will get the opportunity to narrow the gap further when the two teams meet in Vancouver this week. The Canucks, despite four road games, were able to maintain their pace of .500 hockey, as they ended the week with 22 wins, 22 losses and 2 ties for 46 points. The fourth place Seattle Totems wound up the most successful American League tour to date among Western League teams as they dumped the Hershey Bears for their second win in the Eastern cities. They returned home with an impressive 5 wins in 9 road games only to bow to Victoria in their first game back. A Sunday win over Los Angeles left the Totems with 39 points after 45 games on a record of 19 wins, 25 losses and 1 tie, 7 points back of the third place Vancouver Canucks. Fifth place San Francisco won two and lost two in four games played to up their totals to 32 points after 39 games played on a 15-22-2 record. Last place Los Angeles were able to muster only a tie in three games played and were left with 27 points on a record of 13 wins, 31 losses and 1 tie in 45 games, some 5 points behind fifth place San Francisco and 12 points behind the Seattle Totems and the fourth and last play-off spot.

UP-COMING ACTION

Thirteen games are slated for the first week of February as the San Francisco Seals make preparations to become the fifth Western League team to travel through the cities of the American Hockey League in the new interlocking schedule. Two games are scheduled for this first day of February, with the San Francisco Seals visiting Seattle and the Los Angeles Blades going against the Vancouver Canucks in the Vancouver Forum. Another two contests are on tap for

Wednesday night as Los Angeles will be at Portland and San Francisco at Victoria. On Thursday, a lone contest will find the Victoria Maple Leafs providing the competition for the Blades in Los Angeles. Two Friday games will find the Portland Buckaroos in Vancouver to do battle with the Canucks at the Forum and San Francisco will open its swing through the American League by taking on the top A.H.L. team, the Rochester Americans, in Rochester. Every team but Vancouver will see action on Saturday night as Victoria will again go against Los Angeles in the California city, San Francisco will face the Cleveland Barons in Cleveland and the Seattle Totems will renew their rivalry with Portland and attempt to break the jinx that the Bucks hold over them in a game in Portland. Three more games on Sunday will wind up the action for the week. San Francisco will be at Buffalo, Victoria will attempt to draw out from the second place Buckaroos in a game in Portland and Vancouver will be at Seattle.

#### SCORING LEADERS

Vancouver centerman BILLY McNEILL took full advantage of a heavy five game week to score 6 points and elevate himself into the top spot in the individual scoring race. McNEILL, in the process, by-passed Portland winger CLIFF SCHMAUTZ, who was able to gain only two points in three games played. McNEILL thus becomes the first player to pass the 60 point mark and has a total of 62, made up of 21 goals and 41 assists, in 46 games played. CLIFF SCHMAUTZ was pushed into second place but has four games in hand over the fleet Canuck centerman in which to regain the top rung in the individual point race. SCHMAUTZ now has 30 goals and 28 assists for a 58 point total in 42 games played. Victoria centerman MILAN MARCETTA did not lose any of his scoring touch while sidelined by injury a few games back. He is back in the running with 57 points, good enough for third place in the points race, as he picked up 6 points in 4 games played last week.

#### MOST GOALS -- MOST ASSISTS

Portland winger CLIFF SCHMAUTZ was pushed out of first place in the individual scoring race but he also became the first player in League play to hit the 30 goal mark in the 1965-66 season. It was his only goal of the week but pushed him two goals ahead of his nearest rival in the goal race, Vancouver winger HOWIE HUGHES. HUGHES also picked up one goal last week to up his total to 28 after 44 games played. SCHMAUTZ has four games in hand over the Canuck sharpshooter, however, in which to increase his goal lead. Two other wingers, Victoria's

BOB BARLOW and Los Angeles Blades LEO LABINE, are the only other contenders at present with 26 and 25 goals respectively.

Seattle's GUYLE FIELDER added four more assists in three games played last week to up his League-leading assist total to 43 in 43 games played. At this pace he will finish the season with 72 assists, one a game, and will not have to add greatly to his 8 goal total to place him in contention for the League individual scoring crown. Vancouver centerman BILLY McNEILL gained four assists last week to move into second place in the assist department with 41 helpers to his credit.

#### GOALKEEPERS

Portland's DAVE KELLY allowed 10 goals in 3 games played last week an average of 3.33 for the week, but kept his average at a highly respectable 2.36 for the season as he has allowed a total of 26 goals in 11 games played. He is followed by team mate DON HEAD with his 2.71 average after 31 games played. Victoria's AL MILLAR regained the 2.00 bracket as he allowed 6 markers in 3 games last week and now has an over-all average of 2.95. San Francisco goalkeeper JACK McCARTAN returned to the line-up after a brief rest and promptly blanked the high-scoring Vancouver Canucks, 3-0, on Sunday afternoon for his second flawless performance of the season. McCARTAN's performance marks the first time since the 1962-63 season, when JIMMY McLEOD racked up four shutouts for the Seals, that a San Francisco goalkeeper has gained any prominence through shutout performances.

#### PENALTIES

Los Angeles defenseman HOWIE YOUNG played two games last week and added four more minor penalties to his totals, two in each game, and now has 158 minutes in 35 games. San Francisco defenseman LARRY McNABB became the second player to pass the 100 minute mark in penalties as he now has 107 minutes in 38 games played. As a result of his efforts, San Francisco leads in total penalty minutes with 584, four more than the total amassed by the Portland Buckaroos.

#### PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Several players were tied with six points in games played last week but one deserves special mention over all others. Vancouver defenseman LARRY CAHAN was one of the players who came up with a six point week, the only defenseman among the high scorers in the week's play. CAHAN's six points all came in road games as he fired a goal and added 2 assists in the Canucks first game in Los Angeles; added an assist in San Francisco and then returned to Los Angeles to set up another 2 markers. In recent weeks he has become an impressive scorer for the Canucks and now has 7 goals and 21 assists for a 28 point total after 46 games.

STANDINGS

The first weekly release of the 1965-66 season had the Victoria Maple Leafs and the Portland Buckaroos tied for first place with four points each. Each team had won 2 games, but the Leafs had lost one while the Buckaroos were undefeated and had a game in hand over the Canadian leaders. Now, sixteen weeks and the same number of releases later, the identical situation prevails. The two teams are tied for the top spot in the standings with 62 points apiece. Victoria has a record of 29 wins and 4 ties against 14 losses while the Buckaroos have a record of 29 wins and 4 ties against 13 losses and still boast that all-important game-in-hand over Victoria. Despite the game in hand, the Leafs feel confident that they can wrap up first place in the standings because the two teams have two games left to play against each other and both are scheduled for Victoria.

The Vancouver Canucks, in an up and down week that saw them lose two games at home before coming on to win a big one on the road, solidified their hold on third place in the League standings as they upset the Seattle Totems in Seattle on Sunday night. As a result of the victory the Canucks moved 7 points ahead of the fourth place Totems and now have 48 points in 49 games played. The Totems were able to win only one of three games as well, and they, too, were able to knock off the "right" opponent as they defeated the San Francisco Seals, 3-1, to stay a full 7 points ahead of the fifth place Seals. Seattle has 41 points in 48 games played while San Francisco has 34 points in 44 games. Los Angeles split four games last week, winning and losing on the road and then doing the same at home to remain in last place with 31 points after 49 games played.

UP-COMING ACTION

Eleven games are on tap for the six Western League teams as four of the six cities make preparations to greet one of the more famous of the American Hockey League teams, the Quebec Aces, as interlocking schedule play again resumes on the West Coast. The Aces will open their four game swing in Seattle on Saturday and will play in Vancouver next Tuesday before heading for California for two games against the League's southern-most teams. The San Francisco Seals, meanwhile, will be looking for their first eastern win as they wind up their American League tour with three games this week. The Seals will in Baltimore on Friday, in Hershey on Saturday and wind it up in Providence on Sunday.

This week's action will get under way tonight when the Los Angeles Blades will skate onto Forum ice in Vancouver to do battle with the Canucks.

On Wednesday night the Victoria Maple Leafs and the Portland Buckaroos will once again attempt to decide which team deserves that number one spot in the League standings when the two teams clash head on in the "big game" of the week on Wednesday night in Victoria. On Friday night the Los Angeles Blades will be in Seattle to go against the Seattle Totams and the Canadian rivals, the Victoria Maple Leafs and the Vancouver Canucks will meet in Vancouver. On Saturday, in addition to the two interlocking games, Vancouver will be at Portland and Los Angeles will be in Victoria. A lone Sunday night encounter on the West Coast will find the Los Angeles Blades in Portland.

#### SCORING LEADERS

Portland winger CLIFF SCHMAUTZ made a noble attempt but fell 2 points short of gaining at least a share of the lead in the individual scoring race last week. The hard-driving winger picked up nine points in 4 games played, 2 goals including a game-winner, and 7 assists to up his totals to 32 goals and 35 assists in 46 games. His 67 point total is two shy of the lead held by Vancouver centerman BILLY McNEILL who picked up 7 points in 3 games played. Five of McNEILL's 7 points were goals as he upped his totals to 26 goals and 43 assists in 49 games played. Portland centerman ART JONES moved from fifth place last week into third place this week in the individual point race as he picked up nine points in 4 games played along with his linemate CLIFF SCHMAUTZ. JONES now has 61 points on 22 goals and 39 assists in 44 games.

#### MOST GOALS -- MOST ASSISTS

Portland winger CLIFF SCHMAUTZ still holds the honor of being the only player in the League to have passed the 30 goal mark in the 1965-66 season. He hit for two more markers last week, one of which was a game winner that moved him into a tie for the most game-winning goals this season with BOB BARLOW of Victoria. Both players have fired the winning goal 7 times and SCHMAUTZ has upped his leading goal total to 32 for the season, three more than that of his nearest rival. Vancouver winger HOWIE HUGHES added another to reach the 29 goal mark, a "Hat Trick" away from the League lead in the goals department. Los Angeles centerman NORM JOHNSON scored his first Hat Trick of the season last week as the Blades routed the leading Victoria Maple Leafs by a 7-2 score in Los Angeles. Earlier in the week Portland winger FREDDIE HILTS, who has been watching closely and making notes while CLIFF SCHMAUTZ piled up the points, came up with his first Western League Hat Trick against JACK NORRIS in the Los Angeles nets. The two Hat Tricks bring the three goal efforts for the season to 23, with Portland leading the way. No

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less than seven Hat Trick efforts have been recorded by Portland players to date this season, with goalscoring leader CLIFF SCHMAUTZ paving the way with three three goal nights.

Seattle centerman GUYLE FIELDER maintains a slight edge in the assist department as he added 3 more helpers to his totals last week, making 46 set-ups in the same number of games for the clever pivot. Los Angeles centerman NORR JOHNSON is second with 44 and Vancouver's BILLY McNEILL is close behind with 43.

#### GOALKEEPERS

Portland's DAVE KELLY still rests comfortable atop the goalkeeper standings in the Western League. KELLY allowed 10 goals in 4 games last week and improved his average by two percentage points as he now has a 2.53 average after 15 games played. Team mate DON HEAD is in second place with 2.71 and Victoria's AL MILLAR is desperately attempting to stay under the 3.00 average but is having his difficulties. He allowed 14 goals in 4 games this week and now has an even 3.00 average.

#### PENALTIES

Los Angeles defenseman HOWIE YOUNG, though suspended for six games and inactive through all of last week, still leads the penalty parade with 158 minutes. San Francisco defenseman LARRY McNABB is in second place with 113 minutes to his credit, and Vancouver defenseman LARRY CAHAN became the third player in the League to reach the 100 minute mark in sin-bin time for the 1965-66 season.

#### PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Two Portland linemates, scoring leader CLIFF SCHMAUTZ and his centerman ART JONES, share Player of the Week honors for action during the past week. The two players fired nine points each in four games played to lead all other scorers in individual performances. CLIFF rifled two goals and added seven assists while JONES scored three times and set up six others. Portland shares first place in the League standings at the present time due mainly to the scoring efforts of these two players who stand number one and number three in the individual scoring race.

AROUND THE LEAGUE.....Portland centerman ART JONES has a 16 game scoring streak going for him....this surpasses by one game his streak at the start of the season when he scored a point or better in each of his first 15 games..... he has been held off the scorekheet in only 8 of the 44 games in which he has participated in this season and is again threatening the consecutive game scoring mark of one point or more in 23 straight games.....

STANDINGS

The Los Angeles Blades have only 19 games left to play in the 1965-66 season, but if they play the remaining 19 like they played three of their four games last week, the Blades could well be around for the post season play-offs to compete for the LESTER PATRICK CUP. In four games played, all on the road, the Blades knocked off the third, second and first place teams in order to move into fifth place in the standings, only 6 points behind the fourth place Seattle Totems. The Los Angeles "hot streak" may have happened along at just the right time for the Blades as they have only 4 remaining games away from home while the other 15 will be played in the friendly confines of the Los Angeles Sports Arena.

The Portland Buckaroos broke last week's first place deadlock by moving four points ahead of the second place Victoria Maple Leafs. The Bucks edged the Leafs in Victoria for their first win of the season in the Canadian city and then outscored Vancouver at home for two wins while the Maple Leafs were not able to come up with a victory in three tries, two of which were at home. The Buckaroos now have 66 points after 49 games, made up of 31 wins and 4 ties against 14 losses. The Leafs follow with 62 points in an even 50 games, with a 29-17-4 record. In third place the Vancouver Canucks continue to hover close to the .500 mark with a record of 24 wins, 26 losses and 2 ties in 52 games for a total of 50 points. The fourth place Seattle Totems remain 7 points back of the Canucks after 50 games played. The Totems have 21 wins and a tie against 28 losses. Los Angeles, in fifth place, has now won 18 games and tied one while losing 34 for a total of 37 points after 53 games. The San Francisco Seals failed to win a game through an extended road trip that carried them through six American League cities and are left in the basement with 34 points after 47 games played.

UP-COMING ACTION

Eight games are scheduled for the third week of February. Three of the games will be of the interlocking variety as the Quebec Aces open the action tonight in the Vancouver Forum as they attempt to gain their second straight victory in Western League cities against the Canucks. On Wednesday the Aces will travel to San Francisco to do battle with the homecoming San Francisco Seals and on Friday Quebec will wind up its four game tour of the Western League in a contest against the Blades in Los Angeles. Another Wednesday game will find the Victoria Maple Leafs in Los Angeles attempting to cool off the onrushing Blades. Two more Friday games will find the Victoria Maple Leafs in San Francisco to go against the Seals while the Seattle Totems will travel to Vancouver with the

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intention of closing the gap on third place at the expense of the hosting Vancouver Canucks. Two Sunday contests will pit the Los Angeles Blades against the San Francisco Seals in San Francisco and the Portland Buckaroos against the Canucks in Vancouver. Both of these games will be Sunday afternoon affairs starting at 2:30 P.M.

### SCORING LEADERS

Vancouver centerman BILLY McNEILL was able to add only two assists to his totals in three games played last week but that was enough to allow him to hold his two points edge and first place in the individual scoring derby. McNEILL has a total of 71 points in 52 games, two more than Portland winger CLIFF SCHMAUTZ who also came up with two points in three games played last week. Both McNEILL and SCHMAUTZ were held off the scoresheet last week in games against the Los Angeles Blades as the Blades upset both Vancouver and Portland at home. Biggest individual gain of the week was made by Los Angeles winger WILLIE O'REE, who came up with nine points in four games played to top all other individual performers.

### MOST GOALS -- MOST ASSISTS

Portland winger CLIFF SCHMAUTZ was unable to find the goalscoring range in three games played last week but he still leads in goals scored as his nearest rival, winger HOWIE HUGHES of Vancouver, was also held scoreless in the same number of games. As a result, other players inched ever closer to the leaders. Los Angeles winger LEO LABINE fired his 28th of the season and Victoria's BOBBY BARLOW hit for number 27. SCHMAUTZ leads with 32 goals and HUGHES is second with 29 for the season.

Seattle centerman GUYLE FIELDER added three more assists last week to maintain his assist-per-game average. He now has 49 helpers after 48 games played, two more than his nearest rival, Los Angeles centerman NORM JOHNSON.

Hat Trick number 24 for the current season was recorded last week as Los Angeles centerman WARREN HYNES fired three goals in the Blades decisive 9-2 victory over Vancouver last week. It was the second Los Angeles Hat Trick performance in two weeks as NORM JOHNSON, also a centerman, recorded one, his first of the season, the week before.

### GOALKEEPERS

Allowing only 6 goals in three games played by the Buckaroos last week goalkeeper DAVE KELLY improved his average by nine percentage points to 2.44 goals against per game. He has allowed 44 goals against in 18 games played to date.

STANDINGS

The only change in the standings last week was brought about by the San Francisco Seals as they vaulted past the Los Angeles Blades into fifth place on the strength of three straight wins at home. It took an overtime decision over the Blades on Sunday afternoon in the Cow Palace, however, to do it as the Blades were forced back into last place.

The Portland Buckaroos were able to muster a tie on the road in their only game played last week and increased their lead to five points over the Victoria Maple Leafs. The Bucks have 67 points on 31 wins and 5 ties against 14 losses. The second place Victoria Maple Leafs are in the midst of their longest "slump" of the season as they have gone winless in their last 7 straight games. After 52 games the Leafs have 62 points made up of 29 wins and 4 ties against 19 losses. A win, a loss and a tie by the Vancouver Canucks last week brought their totals to within nine points of second place Victoria. The Canucks have 53 points on a record of 25 wins, 27 losses and 3 ties after 55 games played. The Seattle Totems came up with a big win on the road in their only game played last week to solidify their hold on the fourth and last play-off spot. The Totems now have 45 points after 51 games with a record of 22-28-1 in the win-loss and tie columns. San Francisco has played an even 50 games and last week's three consecutive wins equals their longest winning streak of the season. The Seals have an even 40 points on a 19-29-2 record. The Last place Los Angeles Blades are still in the running for a play-off position as they are only one point back of the Seals and 6 behind Seattle. The Blades record stands at 19-36-1 after 56 games.

UP-COMING ACTION

Eight games are scheduled for the last week in February as the 1965-66 regular playing season narrows down. High-lighting the week's action will be the visit to the West Coast of the American League's leading team in the Western Division. Considered by many to be the finest professional team outside the National Hockey League, the Rochester Americans will play the first of four games on the West Coast in Los Angeles against the Blades on Thursday, February 24th and then will travel to Victoria to go against the Leafs on Saturday, February 26th. In action within the League the Portland Buckaross will travel to Los Angeles for a game against the Blades tonight. Two Wednesday night contests will find Portland at San Francisco and Seattle at Victoria. The lone

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Rochester-Los Angeles clash on Thursday night will be followed by another single contest on Friday night when the Seattle Totems will go against the Canucks in Vancouver. On Saturday night, Seattle will be at San Francisco and Rochester will be at Victoria. Winging up the action for the week will be a single Sunday encounter that will find Seattle at Los Angeles.

#### SCORING LEADERS

Scoring leader BILLY McNEILL took full advantage of three games last week to add another 5 points to his already impressive totals. McNEILL is comfortably entrenched in first place in the individual point race with 76 points, five more than that of his nearest rival, Portland winger CLIFF SCHMAUTZ. McNEILL now has 28 goals, making him a definite threat suddenly for the goal-scoring crown as well as the point title, and 48 assists for 76 points in 55 games played. SCHMAUTZ is second with 71 points and Los Angeles centerman NORM JOHNSON moved into third place with 66 points.

#### MOST GOALS -- MOST ASSISTS

In one game played last week Portland winger CLIFF SCHMAUTZ added another counter to up his total to 33 goals for the season, four more than his nearest rival, Vancouver winger HOWIE HUGHES who has missed the last five games with a severe case of chicken pox. Several other players are closing in, however, as McNEILL now has 28 goals, as has Los Angeles winger LEO LABINE and San Francisco winger WAYNE CONNELLY.

Another Hat Trick, the 25th of the season in League play, was recorded last week as Los Angeles centerman WARREN HYNES blinked the light three times in a losing cause last Sunday afternoon in the Cow Palace in San Francisco. The last three Hat Trick performances have been accomplished by Los Angeles players. It was the 2nd three goal game of the season for HYNES, who has been the hottest of a red-hot band of Los Angeles scorers in recent games.

Seattle centerman GUYLE FIELDER failed to pick up a point in the only game played by the Totems last week but still leads in assists with 49 in 49 games played. Scoring leader BILLY McNEILL is pressing him, however, as he has 48 helpers in 55 games played.

#### GOALKEEPERS

Two rookie goalkeepers took over the duties of the regulars in games played last week and now every team in the League has employed more than one goalkeeper during the course of the season. KEN BRODERICK, the goalkeeper for

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Canada's National Team, stepped in for the injured GILLES VILLEMURE and performed admirably for three games, then left for Europe to compete in the World Games. BRODERICK allowed 8 goals in the three games and chalked up a win, a loss and a tie along with a 2.67 average. He stopped 161 shots in the three games. In Victoria, the Leafs called upon young GARY HOLLAND to go against San Francisco last Friday in the Bay City. HOLLAND allowed only two goals in a losing effort in his first complete Western League game. Portland's DAVE KELLY leads the way with a 2.42 average, having allowed 46 goals in 19 games. DON HEAD is second with a 2.71 average while Victoria's AL MILLAR holds down the number three spot with a 3.14 average after 51 games played.

PENALTIES

Los Angeles defenseman HOWIE YOUNG has not played in over two weeks but still sits comfortable atop the standings in the League's penalty parade. YOUNG has 158 minutes in 35 games this season. Vancouver defenseman LARRY CAHAN is slowly narrowing the gap, however, as he has 122 minutes in 55 games. Portland's CONNIE MADIGAN became the fourth player to pass the 100 minute mark in penalties for the season. YOUNG, CAHAN, San Francisco's LARRY McNABB and now CONNIE MADIGAN are all over the 100 minute mark.

PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Player of the Week honors for action during the past week go to San Francisco winger WAYNE CONNELLY. CONNELLY outscored all other players in the League last week as he fired three goals, his 26th, 27th and 28th of the season, and added four assists to up his total to 55 points for the season. The seven point outburst moved the fleet winger into 11th spot from 13th last week in the individual scoring race.

AROUND THE LEAGUE..... Three records were tied or broken by two of the six teams in Western League play last week.....Vancouver Canucks played to their biggest paid crowd ever in their seventeen years of play in the Western League last Tuesday night when they defeated the Quebec Aces, 6-2..... San Francisco tied the record for most power-play goals in one game when they fired five counters against the hapless Quebec Aces while the flying Frenchmen where playing shorthanded.....Also, the Seals set a new team record for the most goals scored in a game when they fired 13 past GARY BAUMAN in the nets for the Aces.....The previous high for the Seals in one game was 11 goals...

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STANDINGS

The Seattle Totems played four games last week while all other teams, except Los Angeles, played only two or less contests, and the Totems took advantage of the situation to close in on third place in the standings. Last week at this time the Totems were a full 8 points back of the third place Vancouver Canucks but, thanks to three victories in four games and their second straight win over the Canucks in Vancouver, they are only a mere two points back today. The three wins last week gave the Totems a string of four consecutive road victories, a mark which equals their longest win streak ever on the road. Seattle now boasts the best road record in the League for the 1965-66 season with 13 wins against 15 losses. If the Totems can continue to win at a better-than-.500 clip on the road in their remaining 8 road games, they will stand a chance to equal or surpass the League record for Most Games Won Away in One Season, a record which presently stands at 18 and is shared by four different teams.

The Portland Buckaroos, meanwhile, split two road games last week to maintain a comfortable lead atop the League standings. The Bucks were subjected to their worst defeat in Western League play in Los Angeles, a 10-0 trouncing, but bounced back the next night for an impressive 6-4 win over San Francisco. Portland now has 69 points after 52 games made up of 32 wins and 5 ties. Second-place Victoria were ready and waiting for their biggest challenge of the season as they dumped the American League Rochester Americans, 6-4, in Victoria. The victory allowed the Leafs to split two games at home last week and they are left with 64 points in 54 games made up of 30 wins, 20 losses and 4 ties. Third place Vancouver dropped a big decision to Seattle in their only game played, but still cling to third place with 53 points in 56 games on 25 wins and 3 ties. Seattle, in 55 games, has the same number of wins as Vancouver, but only one tie, for a total of 51 points.

Los Angeles won two of three games played last week to slip by the San Francisco Seals into fifth place. The Blades have 43 points in 59 games, three more than the Seals who were winless in two outings last week and have 40 points after 52 games.

UP-COMING ACTION

An even ten games are on tap for the first week of March as the 1965-66 season enters into the "crucial stage" for all six teams. Four of the ten games will be of the interlocking variety as two American League teams make

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appearances in West Coast cities. The Rochester Americans, with tremendous advance notices and seething over a stinging defeat at the hands of the Victoria Maple Leafs last week, will attempt to make amends at the expense of the Portland Buckaroos at the Portland Coliseum on Wednesday night. It could well be listed in advance as the Game of the Week in the Western League as the Buckaroos, last season's Western League Champions, have a score to settle with last season's American League Champions as the Americans edged the Bucks, 4-3, last November in Rochester. The Americans will travel to Seattle on Thursday to take on a surging band of Seattle Totems to complete their swing. On Friday the Baltimore Clippers will go against the San Francisco Seals at the Cow Palace and will face the Seattle Totems on Sunday in Seattle in the first two games of their four game swing.

Action for the week begins tonight with San Francisco at Vancouver. As well as the Rochester-Portland game on Wednesday night, San Francisco will be at Victoria attempting to carry on their mastery over the Leafs. On Thursday, Portland will be at Los Angeles and Rochester at Seattle while two Friday contests will find Victoria at Vancouver as well as Baltimore at San Francisco. On Saturday Portland will be at San Francisco and Seattle will be at Victoria and the Baltimore-Seattle game will round out the action for the week.

### SCORING LEADERS

The top two point-getters in League play failed to hit the scoreboard in games last week but still maintain their positions in the individual point race. Vancouver's BILLY McNEILL leads with 76 points after 56 games and Portland's CLIFF SCHMAUTZ is second with 71 points after 52 games but the race is tightening. Los Angeles centerman NORM JOHNSON is in third place, and pressing for second, with an even 70 points after 58 games and Seattle centerman GUYLE FIELDER, a perennial threat for the scoring championship, moved from 7th place last week to 4th this week. He now has 67 points in 53 games.

### MOST GOALS -- MOST ASSISTS

Portland winger CLIFF SCHMAUTZ failed to score a goal last week in two games but still leads the League with 33. He had better not go another week without a marker, however, as the competition is closing in. Los Angeles winger LEO LABINE has 31 goals in second place and HOWIE HUGHES, back in action with Vancouver, San Francisco's WAYNE CONNELLY and Los Angeles' WILLIE O'REE are right there with 29 goals each.

Seattle's GUYLE FIELDER added six assists in four games last week to

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once again take over sole possession of the assists lead in League play. He now has 55 helpers in 53 games played. Los Angeles playmaker NORM JOHNSON is in second place with 51 assists in 58 games.

Two more Hat Tricks, numbers 26 and 27 of the season were recorded by Los Angeles players LEO LABINE and BUDDY BOONE in their big win over Portland. The last five 3 goal performances have been by Los Angeles players.

GOALKEEPERS

Portland's DON HEAD is the top goalkeeper in the League with a 2.71 average in 31 games played. His partner, DAVE KELLY, is next best with 2.86 after 21 games.

The 17th shutout of the season was recorded last week by Seattle goalkeeper JIMMY McLEOD. It was his second of the season as he blanked the high-scoring Maple Leafs, 3-0, in Victoria. His first came against Baltimore in the American League city. The Seattle baskstop also recorded his second penalty of the season in the game against San Francisco last Friday night.

PENALTIES

Los Angeles defenseman HOWIE YOUNG, with 158 penalty minutes to his credit, is still well ahead in the penalty parade. Vancouver defenseman LARRY CAHAN is in second place with 124 minutes in 56 games played.

PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Two players came up with 8 points apiece last week to lead all others in individual scoring performances. Seattle's GUYLE FIELDER scored two goals and added six assists in four games played and Los Angeles Blades winger WILLIE O'REEE, fast establishing a reputation as a "strong finisher", fired 4 goals and added a like number of assists in three games played. FIELDER took over the assist lead in the League and again established himself as a threat for the scoring Championship as he now is only 9 points off the pacè. O'REEE, last season's leading goalscorer in League play with 38 goals, now has 29 and only four behind the League leader, Portland's CLIFF SCHMAUTZ. These two players could well be repeat winners in the goals and points departments.

AROUND THE LEAGUE..... Seattle's FIELDER has a scoring streak of 11 games going.....He picked up a goal and an assist in the Totems last game in January and then scored a point or better in all ten games played in February, picking up a total of 5 goals and 13 assists in the 11 games.....

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STANDINGS

In games played last week, Portland maintained its 5 point lead over Victoria, Victoria held onto its 11 point spread over Vancouver and the Canucks moved 4 points ahead of the fourth place Seattle Totems. The Totems, meanwhile, are 9 points in front of the San Francisco Seals, who vaulted past the Los Angeles Blades into fifth place leaving the Blades in the basement.

The Portland Buckaroos won two of three games played last week to up their totals to 34 wins and 5 ties in 55 games for a total of 73 points. Another win at home last week gave the Buckaroos number 23 on home ice along with 2 ties. The Bucks now have 48 points at home and are only 11 away from equalling the League record for Most Points At Home, a mark that stands at 59 and is shared by Calgary ('60-'61) and Portland ('61-'62). Portland has only lost three times at home this season and, with 8 remaining tilts at the "Glass Palace", the Bucks could be headed toward one more record.

The second place Victoria Maple Leafs also took two of three played last week and now have 68 points after 57 games, made up of 32 wins and 4 ties against 21 losses. Third place Vancouver swept both games played last week and now have 57 points in 58 games played, having won 27 and tied 3 while dropping 28 decisions. Fourth place Seattle was able to win only one of three and are left with 53 points after 58 contests on a 26-31-1 record.

San Francisco was able to win only two of four games played, but it was enough to allow the Seals to vacate the basement and by-pass the Los Angeles Blades. The fifth place Seals have a 21-33-2 record for 44 points, one more than Los Angeles which is left with 43 points on a 21-38-1 record.

UP-COMING ACTION

Twelve games are on tap in one of the most action-packed weeks of the entire 1965-66 schedule. Ten of the 12 games will take place on the West Coast as interlocking games take place throughout both Leagues. The Baltimore Clippers, after a staisfying 2-1 overtime victory over Seattle, will play two games to wind up their West Coast tour. The Clippers will be at Vancouver tonight to do battle with the Canucks and will travel to Portland for a Wednesday night clash with the Buckaroos. Victoria, meanwhile, will play two games in California -- Wednesday night in San Francisco and Thursday night in Los Angeles -- before heading to Pittsburgh to open a six game American League swing on Saturday night. On Sunday the Maple Leafs will travel to Providence to take on the Rhode Island Reds.

Seattle and Portland will renew what once was a rivalry when the two

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teams meet in a home-and-home weekend series. The Totems are bound and determined to break a 15 game losing streak against the Buckaroos when they meet on Friday night in Seattle and again Saturday night in Portland. The Vancouver Canucks will be in San Francisco on Friday night to go against the Seals and will travel to Los Angeles for a Saturday night encounter with the Blades.

San Francisco will be at Portland on Sunday night and Vancouver will be at Seattle.

#### SCORING LEADERS

The Vancouver Canucks played only two games last week but scoring leader BILLY McNEILL pounced on every opportunity in the two contests to come up with six points, five in one game, to increase his League point lead to a full seven over his nearest rival. McNEILL now has 82 points in 58 games, made up of 31 goals and 51 assists. The six point week boosted McNEILL's point average per game to 1.41 and, projecting that amount over the full 72 game schedule, he will end the season with more than 100 points. Portland winger CLIFF SCHMAUTZ is still in second place with 79 points in 55 games but he is being pressed by Seattle centerman GUYLE FIELDER who moved up another notch last week into third place. FIELDER now has 72 points in 56 games as he came up with 5 points in 3 games last week.

San Francisco's WAYNE CONNELLY made the biggest individual gain in the point race as his six points in four games last week moved him from ninth place into the sixth spot in the individual standings.

#### MOST GOALS -- MOST ASSISTS

Portland winger CLIFF SCHMAUTZ was able to add two more markers in three games played last week to up his total to 35 goals for the season. He will be forced to maintain this pace in order to win the goalscoring championship, however, as the pressure is on. Three more players hit the 30 goal plateau last week and are aiming right for SCHMAUTZ and the top spot. Victoria winger BOB BARLOW hit for three last week to bring his total to 30 even. Scoring leader BILLY McNEILL notched the three goal Hat Trick, his first of the season, to reach the 31 goal mark and San Francisco's WAYNE CONNELLY came up with four in four games to bring his total to 33 goals in 56 games. A second Hat Trick was recorded last week as Seattle winger BILL MACFARLAND poured in three markers against Rochester goalkeeper BOB PERREAULT. It was his first of the season and upped his goals total to 27 in 58 games.

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Seattle's GUYLE FIELDER came up with another five assists in three games played by the Totems last week. The crafty playmaker now has a total of 60 assists to go with his 12 goals in 56 games, nine more than his nearest rivals, Vancouver's BILLY McNEILL and Los Angeles' NORM JOHNSON, both of whom have 51 helpers for the season.

#### GOALKEEPERS

Portland's DAVE KELLY exhibited championship form last week as he returned to the scene of his worst defeat, Los Angeles, where he was clobbered 10-0 only a week earlier and promptly shut out the Blades for his fourth white-wash of the season. He is now tied with teammate DON HEAD and Vancouver goalkeeper GILLES VILLEMURE for the most shutouts this season. All three players have blanked the opposition four times. KELLY's shutout was the twenty-third recorded in League play this season.

KELLY brought his average down to 2.83 after 24 games played but it is still not as good as team mate DON HEAD's mark. HEAD leads all baskstops with a 2.71 average. Vancouver GILLES VILLEMURE and Seattle's ERNIE WAKELY are vying for third spot with 3.29 and 3.27 averages respectively.

#### PENALTIES

Los Angeles defenseman HOWIE YOUNG still leads the penalty parade, even though he has not played in the last several Blades games. Vancouver defenseman LARRY CAHAN is in second place and Portland defenseman CONNIE MADIGAN holds down the number three spot. YOUNG has 158 minutes in 35 games played while CAHAN follows with 126 minutes in 58 contests and MADIGAN rounds out the big three with 113 minutes in 55 games.

#### PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Player of the Week honors for action during the past week go to San Francisco centerman MICHEL HARVEY. It is the first time HARVEY has ever won such honors but he is most deserving as he outscored all other players in games played last week. In four games by the Seals he came up with eight points -- five goals and three assists. He now has 46 points in 45 games played with the Seals for a better than a point-a-game average. Of the 46 points, two have been game-winning goals and four have been game-winning assists as he has become the sparkplug in the Seals attack as they attempt to land the fourth and last play-off spot in League play.

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STANDINGS

The third place Vancouver Canucks made the most headway last week as they took to the road in their attempts to overtake the second place Victoria Maple Leafs and came up with 7 out of a possible 8 points. As a result the Canucks have widened the gap to 9 points over fourth place Seattle and have moved to within 8 points of the second place Victoria Maple Leafs. BERT OLMSTEAD's fast-skating charges are presently the hottest team in the League as they have gone undefeated in their last six outings, five wins and a tie, for their longest undefeated streak of the season. They now have a total of 64 points after 62 games on 30 wins, 28 losses and 4 ties. The Canucks have 10 games remaining in the season and they are evenly divided at home and on the road. Two of the five away games are in Victoria and could well loom as the most important of the season for both Clubs as the Canucks eye second place money.

The Portland Buckaroos, meanwhile, continue to sail along in first place, a full five points ahead of the Victoria Maple Leafs. The Bucks split a home and home weekend series with Seattle as the Totems won their first game in 16 attempts against Portland, and then the LAYCOE-led Bucks edged San Francisco on Sunday night to up their totals for theseason to 36 wins, 18 losses and 5 ties in 59 games for a total of 77 points. As a result of the two wins at home this past week, the Bucks now stand an excellent chance of setting new League marks for Most Games Won At Home and Most Points At Home, One Season. In 31 home games Portland has only lost four and tied two. If the Bucks can win four of the five remaining on Coliseum ice they will tie the mark for wins and, should they win all five, will set new marks in both of the above departments.

The Victoria Maple Leafs suffered their first defeat of the season at the hands of the American Hockey League as they were edged 4-3 in overtime by the Providence Reds on Sunday night. Before this the Leafs had won five straight on the West Coast against A.H.L. opposition and had dumped Pittsburgh in the Steel City, 2-1, in an overtime contest on Saturday night. The Leafs finished the week with 72 points in 61 games with a record of 34 wins and 4 ties against 23 losses. They will have further opportunity to better their record against the A.H.L. teams as they play three more games in the East this week.

Fourth place Seattle won only one of three games played last week but it was enough to allow them to maintain their 9 point edge over the fifth place San Francisco Seals. Seattle has 55 points in 61 games on a 27-33-1 record while the Seals, who also won one in three last week, are left with 46 points on a 22-

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35-2 record after 59 games. Last place Los Angeles is one full game behind the Seals as the Blades have 44 points after 62 games played.

### UP-COMING ACTION

Eleven games are scheduled for the third week in March as the play narrows down to the final stages of the 1965-66 season. Two games are slated for tonight as the San Francisco Seals do battle with the high-flying Vancouver Canucks at the Forum in Vancouver and the Victoria Maple Leafs go against the Baltimore Clippers in the East Coast city. A single Wednesday contest will find Victoria in Hershey, Pennsylvania, to take on the Bears. On Thursday the San Francisco Seals will face the Seattle Totems in Seattle in a "big one" for both teams while the League-leading Portland Buckaroos will attempt to gain victory at the expense of the Blades in Los Angeles. Two Friday night games will find Portland at San Francisco and the Seattle Totems in Vancouver to go against the Canucks. On Saturday Portland will be in Los Angeles for the second time in the week while Victoria will be in Springfield battling EDDIE SHORE's Indians. A pair of Sunday contests will round out the action for the week. Seattle will be at San Francisco in another "crucial" between the two teams and Victoria will be in Quebec attempting to upset the Aces.

### SCORING LEADERS

The two top scorers in the League continue to rack up the points as they fight for individual honors. Portland winger CLIFF SCHMAUTZ came up with 6 points in 4 games only to be topped by the scoring leader of the past several weeks, Vancouver's BILLY McNEILL, who hit for 7 points in the same number of games. McNEILL now has 34 goals and 55 assists for 89 points in 62 games and, with 10 games remaining to play, is leaving little doubt that he will finish the season well over the 100 point mark. Last week's output allowed him to remain a full 7 points ahead of SCHMAUTZ who now has 38 goals and 43 assists for an 81 point total in 59 games played. Two centermen, Portland's ART JONES and Seattle's GUYLE FIELDER, are tied for third spot with 74 points each.

### MOST GOALS -- MOST ASSISTS

Portland winger CLIFF SCHMAUTZ was able to find the range three times in four games played last week to up his leading goal total to 38 in 59 games. This almost guarantees that the League will have at least one 40 goal scorer and, from the scoring pace in past two or three weeks, could well see several more. San Francisco winger WAYNE CONNELLY is in second place in the goalscoring race and

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is only a "Hat Trick" behind the leader as he hit for another two goals in three games last week, giving him 35 in 59 games. Scoring leader BILLY McNEILL is in third place with 34 goals.

Seattle's GUYLE FIELDER added one assist in three games last week and now has 61 assists in 59 games played to lead the League in this department. Vancouver's BILLY McNEILL is a threat for the triple crown -- the scoring championship, the goalscoring crown and the assist leader -- as he is six points back of FIELDER with 55 helpers.

#### GOALKEEPERS

DON HEAD took over for DAVE KELLY in the Portland nets for 3 games during the past week and used the time to good advantage, improving his goals-against average one percentage point to a League-leading 2.82. KELLY still holds second place in the race among the goalies as he has allowed 73 goals in 25 games for a 2.92 average.

#### PENALTIES

Los Angeles defenseman HOWIE YOUNG returned to action last week and picked up one minor penalty to up his total to 160 minutes in 37 games played. Three other defensemen, San Francisco's LARRY McNABB, Portland's CONNIE MADIGAN and Vancouver's LARRY CAHAN are all in a tight race for second place with 136, 133 and 132 minutes respectively.

#### PLAYER OF THE WEEK

San Francisco winger WAYNE CONNELLY came up with one of his biggest scoring weeks of the season as he hit for 8 points and gained Player of the Week honors. His two goals and 6 assists moved him from sixth place last week in the individual scoring race into a tie for fifth. His 35 goals make him a definite threat to become the League's goalscoring Champion this season and his scoring outburst of last week kept alive a scoring streak that now stretches over the past 15 games and will soon be reaching record heights. CONNELLY has gained a point or better in each of his last 15 games, scoring 26 points in that span, and will have to keep the streak alive in 8 more games in order to tie the current consecutive game scoring mark.

#### LINE-UP CHANGES

Remove from Victoria.....AL MILLAR  
 Add to Victoria.....JOHN HENDERSON.....# 1.....Goal  
 Add to San Francisco.....DOUG FAVELL.....# 1.....Goal

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STANDINGS

The Portland Buckaroos continued their winning ways last week, taking two of three games played. The League-leading Bucks now have 38 wins, 19 losses and 5 ties for 81 points in 62 games played. The second place Victoria Maple Leafs won their first game on a six game tour of the American League and then proceeded to lose 5 straight to A.H.L. Clubs. The Leafs record against American League competition now stands at 6-5-0 with one game remaining in Victoria. Over-all, the Leafs have 72 points on 34 wins, 27 losses and 4 ties after 65 games. With only 7 games remaining, the Leafs stand little chance of catching Portland and gaining a first place finish in League play. The Vancouver Canucks, a red-hot team just a week ago, pulled a sudden reversal, dropping two straight games at home. They are now left with 64 points in 64 games, made up of 30 wins, a like number of losses and 4 ties. The fourth place Seattle Totems are managing to maintain their 7 point edge over the fifth place San Francisco Seals, but they are doing it the hard way with three straight overtime games last week -- all without suffering defeat. The Totems and the Seals battled to two sudden-death deadlocks which leave the Totems with 28 wins and 3 ties against 33 losses for 59 points and the Seals with 24 wins and 4 ties against 35 losses for 52 points. The Seals won two and tied two on the week's play, but the two ties against Seattle were the big ones as San Francisco was able to narrow the fourth place gap only from 9 points last week to 7 this week. The Los Angeles Blades set a new Club record for Longest Winless Streak at Home as they have been able to muster only a tie in their last five home outings and are in the basement with 44 points after 64 games.

UP-COMING ACTION

Only eight games are on tap this week as the last of the American Hockey League teams makes its swing through four of the six Western League cities. The two Canadian teams start the action for the week as the returning Victoria Maple Leafs host the Vancouver Canucks in a big game that could well set the stage for a battle to the wire for second place in the standings. Three games are scheduled for Friday as the touring Buffalo Bisons face the Los Angeles Blades in their first West Coast appearance, the Seattle Totems will once again attempt to stave off the San Francisco Seals and the Portland Buckaroos will be in Vancouver to go against the Canucks. Three more Saturday games will find Seattle at Los Angeles, Buffalo at San Francisco and

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Portland at Victoria. A lone Sunday encounter will find the Portland Buckaroos playigg host to the American League Buffalo Bisons.

#### SCORING LEADERS

With the schedule narrowing down to the point that each team has 10 games or less to play, the individual scoring race is showing signs that it, too, might well develop into a battle to the wire. Last week, Van ouver's BILLY McNEILL held a comfortable 8 point edge atop the scoring standings but this week that lead has been cut down to 5 points. McNEILL failed to score in two games last week while Portland's CLIFF SCHMAUTZ picked up three points in the same number of games to close the gap to five. McNEILL leads with 89 points on 34 goals and 55 assists after 64 games while SCHMAUTZ is second with 84 points in 62 games made up of 40 goals and 44 assists. The biggest gain of the week, though, was made by Seattle centerman GUYLE FIELDER. The crafty Totem playmaker is attempting to defend his scoring title which he won last season for the eighth time and, with eight points in three games last week, perhaps looms as the biggest threat for the crown. He now is in third place with 82 points on 16 goals and 66 assists after 62 games played. Portland's ART JONES is in fourth place with 81 points in 60 games played. McNEILL has 8 games remaining, SCHMAUTZ and JONES have 10 games to go and FIELDER has eight left.

#### MOST GOALS -- MOST ASSISTS

Portland rightwinger CLIFF SCHMAUTZ became the first player in almost two full seasons to hit the 40 goal mark in Western League play. SCHMAUTZ, scoring consistently in the stretch, has fired 8 markers in his last 12 games and presently has a scoring streak going in which he has picked up a point or better in each of his last 10 games. In that time he has scored 13 points. He will have to pick up a goal a game in his last 10 games if he is to set a new Club record. The record stands at 50 in one season and was set in 1948-49 by PAT DESBIENS who now works as a linesman in Portland.

It's not likely that GUYLE FIELDER will break his own League record for Most Assists in One Season, but he will accumulate enough to win the assist title handily in the 1965-66 season. So far, he has set up 66 goals, 13 more than that of his nearest rival, Portland centerman ART JONES. In the 1958-59 season FIELDER assisted on 95 goals for the League mark which still stands.

#### GOALKEEPERS

Portland goalkeeper DON HEAD played one and one-third games

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last week but his League-leading goals against average remained virtually unchanged. HEAD has allowed an even 100 goals in 35 1/3 contests for a 2.83 average. His partner DAVE KELLY took over for the other one and two thirds games and he improved upon his average. KELLY is in second place with a 2.89 average allowing 77 goals in 26 2/3 games.

#### PENALTIES

Los Angeles defenseman HOWIE YOUNG came up with four minor penalties in two games played against Portland last week to up his total to 168 minutes in 39 games played. Since the Blades have only 8 games remaining it is unlikely that YOUNG will come close to the League mark for Most Penalties In One Season, a mark that stands at 227 minutes and one that was set last season by HOWIE himself.

#### PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Player of the Week honors for action during the past week go to Seattle centerman GUYLE FIELDER. FIELDER set up five goals and scored three others in three games played last week to outscore all other players. Two of the three goals scored were of the "crucial" variety as he rifled the game-tying marker against San Francisco with only 20 seconds left in the game to earn his team a point. He then came right back the following night to score the goal that brought his team into a tie with Vancouver at the 19:59 mark of the third period and they went on to win in overtime on a goal set up by -- FIELDER.

AROUND THE LEAGUE.....It is often stated in sports that, over the long season "things have a way of evening up". On March 11th the Vancouver Canucks, by their own admission, "stole" a game from the Seals in San Francisco as they scored a goal (by CAHAN) at the 18:20 mark of the third period to move into a tie, 3-3, with the Seals. Then, with just 0:42 seconds remaining in regulation time the Canucks fired another (by McNEILL) at the 19:12 mark to win the game..... Last Friday night in Vancouver the Canucks were not only leading the game but had a 2-0 shutout going over the Seattle Totems. Then, at 19:17 of the third period Seattle (by SINCLAIR) scored its first goal. Pulling the goalie, Seattle scored again at 19:59 (by FIELDER) to force overtime. Then, at the 29 second mark of sudden-death overtime, the Totems again scored (by POWERS) for the Victory..... After that one, the Totems should be ready for an "evener-upper" if that's the way things are supposed to happen.....The fastest three goals scored in League play happened way back in 1949 when Vancouver fired three in 0:25 seconds against L.A...

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STANDINGS

The League-leading Portland Buckaroos won only one game in three last week but it was a big one at home over the Buffalo Bisons of the American League. The Bucks now have 83 points after 65 games on 39 wins, 21 losses and 5 ties. The "magic pennant number" now for the Bucks is two, -- any combination of Portland wins and Victoria losses that total two will give the Buckaroos their second consecutive pennant and fourth in six seasons. The second place Victoria Maple Leafs intend to make it interesting for Portland, however, as they won both contests last week to up their totals to 76 points in 67 games on 36 wins, 27 losses and 4 ties. The Leafs have five games remaining, four of which are at home where they have lost only six games in 32 played to date this season. The third place Vancouver Canucks played .500 hockey last week, winning one and losing one, and, as a result, are .500 for the season. The Canucks have won 31, have lost the same number and have tied 4 for 66 points after the same number of games. They hold a five point edge over fourth place Seattle. The Totems have 61 points after 66 games on 29 wins, 34 losses and 3 ties. The fifth place San Francisco SEals are still in hot pursuit of the Totems and, with a game in hand, still have a chance to make up the five points necessary to overtake the fourthplace Club. The last place Los Angeles Blades lost their 42nd game of the season and were eliminated completely from play-off contention after their 66th game.

UP-COMING ACTION

The 1965-66 season has narrowed down to the second last week of regular season play and it could well be the week of decision for the five teams still in contention for the four play-off spots. The final inter-locking game of the season takes place in Victoria on Wednesday night as the Buffalo Bisons wind up the initial season of A.H.L.-W.H.L. competition in a game against the Maple Leafs. The Bisons are still looking for their first win on the Coast after three starts. On the same night the Vancouver Canucks will be in Los Angeles to go against the Los Angeles Blades. A single Thursday night contest will find the Vancouver Canucks in San Francisco to battle the Seals at the Cow Palace in a real big one for both teams. On the first day of April, Friday, the Portland Buckaroos and the Seattle Totems clash in the Seattle Coliseum. All six teams will see action on Saturday night as a full slate of games are scheduled. San Francisco will be at Los Angeles, Vancouver will be at Portland and the Seattle

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Totems will go against the Maple Leafs in Victoria. Two Sunday games will find the Los Angeles Blades at Portland and the San Francisco Seals at Seattle in the game that could well determine which team will gain the fourth and last play-off spot in League play.

#### SCORING LEADERS

Scoring leader BILLY McNEILL of the Vancouver Canucks picked up two assists in two games played last week to hold on to his League lead in the individual scoring race but, with only two weeks of regular season play remaining, the race has become so intense that any one of four players are in good positions to topple McNEILL from his lofty perch and walk away with the laurels. McNEILL has 91 points in 66 games made up of 34 goals and 57 assists. In second place is CLIFF SCHMAUTZ of Portland with 88 points on a League leading 41 goals and 48 assists. SCHMAUTZ' centerman, ART JONES, climbed back into third place with 5 points in three games last week. JONES now has 86 points on 30 goals and 56 assists. In fourth place is Seattle centerman GUYLE FIELDER who has 85 points on 17 goals and 68 assists. FIELDER has won the crown in each of the last three seasons and eight times in his Western League career. The two Portland players have a game in hand over McNEILL and FIELDER as the Bucks have 7 games remaining while Vancouver and Seattle have 6 each.

#### MOST GOALS -- MOST ASSISTS

CLIFF SCHMAUTZ, Portland winger, added another marker in two games played last week to up his League lead in goals to 41 for the season. As impressive as is this total is, he is still no "cinch" to win the goalscoring crown as he is being hardpressed. San Francisco winger WAYNE CONNELLY has 39 goals to his credit and has scored 16 goals in his last 20 games. He has scored a point or more in 19 of his last 20 contests and, with the prospects of the goalscoring title in sight, will be driving hard in the remaining games of the season. Both players have seven games remaining. One Hat Trick was recorded in League play last week when San Francisco winger AL NICHOLSON hit for three big ones in the game against the American League Buffalo Bisons. It was the third three goal night of the season for NICHOLSON, tying him with Portland's CLIFF SCHMAUTZ for the lead in Hat Tricks in the 1965-66 season.

Seattle's GUYLE FIELDER added two more assists to his League leading total and now has 68 helpers to go with his 17 goals in the 64 games he has played. He holds an 11 point edge over his nearest rival in the assist depart-

ment as scoring leader BILLY McNEILL follows with 57 helpers.

#### GOALKEEPERS

Portland's DAVE KELLY played in all three games for the Buckaroos last week and watched a total of 15 goals zip by in the hectic action. As a result his average zoomed over the 3.00 mark for the first time this season. After 29 3/4 games his average stands at 3.09 which is still the second best mark in the League. Now his partner, DON HEAD, is the only goalkeeper in the League to boast a better than 3.00 average. HEAD has a 2.84 average, having allowed an even 100 goals in 35 1/4 contests.

#### PENALTIES

HOWIE YOUNG came up with one minor penalty in two games played last week and now his League leading penalty total stands at an even 170 minutes after 41 games played. Portland's CONNIE MADIGAN is in second place with 149 minutes in 65 games while San Francisco's LARRY McNABB and Vancouver's LARRY CAHAN are tied for third spot with 138 minutes each in 64 and 66 games respectively.

#### PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Player of the Week honors for action during the past week go, for the first time this season, to San Francisco winger WAYNE MAXNER. MAXNER, who just returned to the Seals after a brief stint with the National League Boston Bruins, scored two goals in two games played last week and set up five others in leading the Seals to two wins in two games played as they drive for the fourth and last play-off spot. MAXNER has played in six games with the Seals since returning from Boston and has scored three goals while setting up 10 others for a better than two-point-per-game average. The Seals have not lost a game since MAXNER has returned to the line-up, winning four and tying two, and MAXNER has set up the winning goal in three of the last four wins.

AROUND THE LEAGUE.....New team records will be set by most all of the teams in the last two weeks of regular season play and some League marks are in jeopardy as the schedule nears completion.....One of the more prominent records that may be erased is that of Most Game-Winning Assists In One Season, a mark that was set only a season ago by Seattle's GUYLE FIELDER when he set up 15 game-winning markers.....Victoria centerman MILAN MARCETTA added two more game-winning assists last week, his 13th and 14th of the campaign, and has six games remaining in which to set up two more winning goals for the new mark.

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IMPORTANT NOTE!!!

DISCOUNTING A TIE FOR FOURTH PLACE, THE BEST OF SEVEN SEMI-FINAL PLAY-OFF SERIES (BOTH SERIES "A" AND SERIES "B") WILL OPEN ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 1966, IN VANCOUVER AND IN VICTORIA RESPECTIVELY. THE FIRST PLACE TEAM WILL GO AGAINST THE THIRD PLACE TEAM AND THE SECOND PLACE TEAM WILL BATTLE THE FOURTH-PLACE FINISHERS. THE COMPLETE PLAY-OFF SCHEDULE WILL BE RELEASED THURSDAY A.M., APRIL 7, 1966.

IN THE EVENT OF A TIE FOR THE FOURTH AND LAST PLAY-OFF SPOT, THE TWO TEAMS WILL PLAY A SUDDEN-DEATH GAME IN THE HOME ARENA OF THE TEAM HAVING WON THE GREATER NUMBER OF GAMES. SHOULD BOTH CLUBS HAVE WON THE SAME NUMBER OF GAMES THEN THE GAME WILL BE IN THE HOME ARENA OF THE TEAM HAVING THE BEST GOALS FOR AND AGAINST AVERAGE. SHOULD THE CLUBS BE TIED IN EACH OF THE FOREGOING DEPARTMENTS THEN THE GAME WILL BE PLAYED IN THE ARENA OF THE CLUB WITH THE BEST SEASON RECORD AGAINST THE OTHER.

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THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WESTERN HOCKEY LEAGUE, PREVIOUSLY SCHEDULED FOR LOS ANGELES, HAS BEEN CHANGED AND NOW WILL TAKE PLACE IN SAN DIEGO ON MONDAY AND TUESDAY, MAY 23 AND 24, 1966.

STANDINGS

The Portland Buckaroos clinched their second straight Championship in regular season play with three straight victories in three week-end games. It marks the fourth time in six seasons in Portland that the Buckaroos have won the Governor's Cup, emblematic of the League Championship. The Bucks now will prepare to meet the third place Vancouver Canucks in a best four of seven semi-final series in defense of the LESTER PATRICK CUP. The Bucks wound up the week's play with a smashing 13-7 victory over the last place Los Angeles Blades, a game that set a new League record and tied two others. The record of Most Assists One Game By Both Clubs was erased as 35 assists were handed out in the contest and the League mark for Most Goals One Period, Both Clubs was equalled as the two teams hit for 11 goals in the third period. Also, the mark for Most Hat Tricks One Game, Both Clubs also was tied as three players came up with three goal nights. The second place Victoria Maple Leafs also won both of their games last week and have cinched second place. They will now await the outcome of the Seattle-San Francisco struggle which will determine their opponents in semi-final series "B". The third place Vancouver Canucks won only one of three games last week but still maintain a 5 point bulge over the fourth place Seattle Totems as the season narrows down. It is still possible for Seattle to overtake Vancouver but the prospects are remote as the Totems are more concerned in staying in front

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of a battling San Francisco team that just won't give up. The Seals came into Seattle on Sunday night past with a recent record of 9 wins, 2 ties and 2 losses in their last 13 games. The Totems managed to come from behind to edge the Seals 5-3, and hold their grip on the fourth and last play-off spot. Seattle has three games left while San Francisco has four and the race could well go right to the wire on Easter Weekend. Los Angeles, in last place, lost three more games last week and have 46 points with 3 games remaining.

#### UP-COMING ACTION IN FINAL WEEK OF PLAY

Ten games are on tap in the final week of regular season play. The San Francisco Seals resume their desperate struggle for the fourth and last play-off spot as they take on the Vancouver Canucks in Vancouver on Tuesday night and then travel to Portland on Wednesday to battle the Portland Buckaroos. On Wednesday the Los Angeles Blades will be in Victoria. Three Friday games will find Los Angeles at San Francisco, Victoria at Seattle and Portland at Vancouver. On Saturday night San Francisco will be at Los Angeles, Portland will be at Seattle and Vancouver will be at Victoria. A single Sunday contest that will pit the Seattle Totems against Portland in Portland will complete the schedule.

#### SCORING LEADERS

Vancouver's BILLY McNEILL all but "sewed up" the scoring crown with a six point night against Los Angeles early in the week, but Portland's CLIFF SCHMAUTZ had other ideas as he came right back with one better -- a seven point night against the same team to take the League lead away from McNEILL going into the last week of play. The 7 point night gave SCHMAUTZ 11 points for the week in three games and ups his total to an even 100 points. He has 45 goals and 55 assists. McNEILL is one point back with 99 points on 38 goals and 61 assists. This battle could well be waged to the final game of the season as SCHMAUTZ has four game left and McNEILL three.

#### MOST GOALS -- MOST ASSISTS

Portland's CLIFF SCHMAUTZ came up with his fourth Hat Trick of the season to up his goal total to 45 for the season, four more than that of his nearest rival, San Francisco winger WAYNE CONNELLY. Four Hat Tricks were recorded last week as, in addition to SCHMAUTZ' three goal night against Seattle in Seattle, Portland wingers LEN RONSON, with a four goal night, and TOMMY McVIE picked up Hat Tricks as did Los Angeles centerman WARREN HYNES. It was the first for RONSON, the second for McVIE and the third for HYNES.

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Seattle centerman GUYLE FIELDER added two assists to his total and now has an even 70 helpers for the season and the League lead in this department.

#### GOALKEEPERS

Although CLIFF SCHMAUTZ and BILLY McNEILL will be battling down to the wire in the scoring race, it appears as though the goalkeeping team of burly DON HEAD and youthful DAVE KELLY have the League Goalkeeping Award all but cinched as the teams enter the final week of play. HEAD has played 35 1/4 games and has an average of 2.84 while KELLY, in 32 3/4 games, has come up with a 3.09 average, giving the two goalies a combined team average of 2.96 after 68 games. San Francisco's regular goalkeeper JACK McCARTAN was knocked out of action with a bad knee injury and the Seals were forced to call in JOE DALEY from Memphis in the Central Pro League. DALEY fitted right into the Seals winning pattern as he knocked off the Vancouver Canucks, 4-2, and edged Los Angeles, 5-4, before suffering his first defeat at the hands of the Seattle Totems, 5-3, on Sunday night. DALEY, who played in 57 1/3 games for Memphis this season and chalked up a 3.16 average including one shutout, will serve as an emergency replacement for San Francisco until such time as any one of the goalkeepers on the San Francisco eligibility list becomes available. As well as playing well in goal DALEY picked up an assist in the game against Los Angeles. Seattle goalkeeper JIMMY McLEOD also helped to set up the Totems lone goal in Friday's 6-1 loss against Portland.

#### PENALTIES

Los Angeles defenseman-winger HOWIE YOUNG failed to pick up a penalty last week and still has an even 170 minutes. Portland defenseman CONNIE MADIGAN is fast closing the gap, however, as he now has 155 minutes in 68 games. MADIGAN has four games remaining while YOUNG has only three left to play to complete the season.

#### PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Player of the Week honors in the second last week of regular season play go to scoring leader CLIFF SCHMAUTZ of the Portland Buckaroos. SCHMAUTZ enjoyed the most productive week of the season as he hit for his fourth Hat Trick against the Seattle Totems on Friday night, added an assist in a close 2-1 win over Vancouver on Saturday night and then came storming back to score one and set up six others against Los Angeles on Sunday night. The 11 points brought his total to 100, one more than the amount gained by BILLY McNEILL, and his efforts clinched the pennant for the Bucks in the 1965-66 season.

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PLAY-OFF ACTION BEGINS

The 1965-66 post season competition in the Western Hockey League for the LESTER PATRICK CUP will get under way on Wednesday, April 13, 1965.

Series "A" will pit the regular season Champions, the Portland Buckaroos, against the third place finishers, the Vancouver Canucks. That series will begin in Vancouver on Wednesday night and the second game will also be played in the Canadian city on Friday night, April 15th. The series will then move to Portland for two games next week.

In Series "B" the second place Victoria Maple Leafs will play host to the fourth place finishers, the San Francisco Seals, when the Series opens in Victoria on Wednesday night, April 13th. The second game will be played in Victoria on Saturday, April 16th. After the first two games the Series will move to San Francisco for three games next week.

STANDINGS

It took the full 252 games before the final decision was reached! And when the dust settled, the onrushing San Francisco Seals had edged past the Seattle Totems to claim the fourth and last play-off spot in 1965-66 regular season play.

Led by playing Coach CHARLIE BURNS, the Seals amazed every team and everyone within the League by losing only three times in the final 18 games of the season. Their record of 13 wins and 2 ties in the 18 contests moved them by the then fourth place Seattle Totems and put all the pressure on the Totems in their final game of the season. The Totems won three of their last four games, but it was the fourth one that did the damage and ended the season as Portland downed Seattle, 4-2, in the game that completed the 252 game schedule.

SCORING LEADERS

Portland rightwinger CLIFF SCHMAUTZ began the last week of play with a game in hand over Vancouver centerman BILLY McNEILL. As it turned out CLIFF took full advantage of the extra contest as he scored a goal, the winner, and an assist to win the League scoring Championship and also the Leading Scorer Award. In his finest season ever in six professional seasons, SCHMAUTZ scored 104 points, two more than his centerman ART JONES and Vancouver centerman BILLY McNEILL who tied for second place with 102 points each, which included 46 goals,

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one more than the amount accumulated by San Francisco winger WAYNE CONNELLY. The 104 points is the fourth highest total ever scored by an individual in one season in the history of the Western League. Seattle centerman GUYLE FIELDER hit for 122, 119 and 111 in different seasons in his long career in the Western League while Eddie Dorohoy scored 109 points with Calgary in the 1958-59 season. This season marks the first time ever that three players passed the 100 mark in total points in Western League play and also the first time that two players on the same team ever passed the century mark in total points in a season. It is a banner year for CLIFF SCHMAUTZ in accomplishment, and will likely be in bonus as well, as he led the League in points, in goals, in first goals of games, in game-winning goals and in Hat Tricks.

Three Hat Tricks were recorded in the final week of play as Victoria's GORD REDAHL rifled four markers against MARCEL PELLETIER in leading the Leafs to a 10-0 trouncing of the last place Blades, his team mate BOB BARLOW hit for three against Vancouver, his 40th, 41st and 42nd, and Portland centerman ART JONES notched three in the final game of the season against Seattle.

### MOST GOALS -- MOST ASSISTS

CLIFF SCHMAUTZ, with the winning goal midway through the third period in the final game of the season against Seattle, won the League Goalscoring Crown with his 46th goal in his 72nd game. He edged San Francisco's WAYNE CONNELLY by one marker as CONNELLY fired his 44th and 45th, the winner, against Los Angeles in the Seals final game of the season in Los Angeles on Saturday night.

Seattle centerman GUYLE FIELDER maintained his reputation as the League's top playmaker as he once again led all players in assists with 75 for the season. Combined with his 19 goals it gave him a total of 94 points and fourth place in the individual scoring race.

### GOALKEEPERS

With two shutouts in the final week of play that provided his team with the spark that lifted it into the play-offs, goalkeeper JOE DLAEY is the talk of the Western Hockey League. DALEY blanked Vancouver, 4-0, in Vancouver to start last week's action and then shutout Los Angeles, 8-0, in San Francisco Friday night as the Seals moved into fourth place ahead of Seattle. In 7 games played with the Seals he allowed only 17 goals for a 2.43 average. Meanwhile, the team of DON HEAD AND DAVE KELLY in Portland walked off with the Best Goalkeeping honors as their accumulated average for the season was 3.01. HEAD allowed an even 100

April 12, 1966.

goals against in 35 1/4 games and KELLY allowed 117 goals against in 36 3/4 contests. Victoria goalkeeper JOHN HENDERSON chalked up his first shutout of the season when he blanked Los Angeles, 10-0, in Victoria last week and Vancouver goalie GILLES VILLEMURE blanked Portland, 4-0, to lead the League in whitewashes with 5 for the season.

#### PENALTIES

Los Angeles defenseman <sup>HOWIE YOUNG</sup> finished the season with 170 penalty minutes in 44 games played, more than any other player in the League, and thus earned for himself the Most Minutes In Penalties for the second consecutive season. Portland's CONNIE MADIGAN finished second with 159 minutes in 72 games and Vancouver's LARRY CAHAN was third with 156 minutes in 72 games.

#### PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Player of the Week honors for action during the final week of play go to Portland winger CLIFF SCHMAUTZ. SCHMAUTZ became only the second player ever in the League to score the most points and also score the most goals in one season.

#### PLAY-OFF CONTESTANTS RECORDS AGAINST EACH OTHER

In 12 games played against each other in League play this season the Portland Buckaroos emerged as decided victors over the third place Vancouver Canucks by winning 7 games and tying one while losing only four to the Canucks. The Bucks won all six contests at home against Vancouver and, in six games in the Canadian city, won one and tied one. DON HEAD shutout the Canucks once in Portland in December, 8-0, while VILLEMURE blanked the Bucks only once, 4-0, last week in Vancouver.

The fourth place San Francisco Seals have the most impressive record in the League against second-place Victoria. In 12 games the Seals won 7 and tied 2 while losing only three times. The Seals were the only team in the League to finish their games in Victoria without a losing record. The Seals won two, tied two and lost two in Victoria while they won five of six games in the Cow Palace in San Francisco. LONG JOHN HENDERSON could well be a deciding factor in the series against San Francisco. HENDERSON, now playing with Victoria, spent most of the season with San Francisco before he was sold to the Leafs. He has practiced numerous times against the players he will now face in the semi-final play-off series and, by the same token, the players he will go against have had many opportunities to study the strengths and weaknesses of the lanky backstop.