Taking a look the ice time, shot total and production of Western Conference pivots and giving a buy or sell recommendation in the final part of this month-long series.

NOTE: These ramblings are based on one-year leagues and not meant for keeper/dynasty leagues.

Anaheim

Name
Ryan Getzlaf

Points
16

SOG
49

TOI
22:25

PPTOI
4:17

Status

Buy Low

Saku Koivu

11

30

17:54

2:10

Watch

Andrew Cogliano

9

32

14:13

1:01

WW

Brandon McMillan

3

26

11:30

0:03

WW

Maxime Macenauer

2

9

10:40

0:04

WW

Peter Holland

1

1

7:42

0:12

WW

Ben Maxwell

0

5

7:30

0:08

WW

Nick Bonino

0

2

11:49

0:00

WW

Getzlaf's overall ice-time leads all centers, while his PP TOI is third behind only Evgeni Malkin and Brad Richards, which is why it's kind of surprising to see him with just 16 points at the moment. His current minus 13 rating is also the only time in his career that he's posted a negative plus/minus rating. The Ducks are just too talented for him to play to a 57-point level, so look for the scoring to pick up as the season progresses. Koivu has posted 45+ points and 100+ SOG for seven consecutive seasons. Once the Ducks' offense rights the ship, look for him to make it eight.

Calgary

Name

Points

SOG

TOI

PPTOI

Status

Olli Jokinen

14

62

18:00

3:13

Stand Pat

Roman Horak

7

15

12:51

0:55

WW

Matt Stajan

4

16

11:14

0:03

WW

Paul Byron

2

3

10:16

0:04

WW

Brendan Morrison

1

12

14:08

1:02

WW

Mikael Backlund

1

19

15:50

1:48

Watch

There isn't a ton of fantasy value amongst the centermen in Calgary, but there are a few bright spots. Jokinen has a pretty decent stat-line for someone who's only 23 percent Yahoo! owned at the moment. Look for him to finish the season on par stats-wise as last campaign. Backlund is an interesting "watch" candidate. During the last three contests, he's spent nearly two-thirds of his overall ice-time alongside Jarome Iginla. It hasn't produced much on the fantasy front just yet, but if it continues, it just might down the road. So keep a close eye on that situation.

Chicago

Name

Points

SOG

TOI

PPTOI

Status

Jonathan Toews

25

81

20:15

3:50

Stand Pat

Patrick Kane

23

78

19:26

4:03

Stand Pat

Dave Bolland

9

35

16:30

2:09

Watch

Marcus Kruger

7

29

12:54

1:10

WW

Brandon Pirri

1

1

15:43

0:12

WW

It still looks completely bizarre to me to see Kane listed under the C column, but he's performing according to plan so I can't complain too much. Toews is on pace to finish above the 80-point plateau for the first time in his career. The secret to his success might be related to him shooting the puck a lot more. He's expected to finish with a career-high of 276 SOG if he keeps continuing to fire at his current pace. Watch this YouTube clip if you want justification (thanks to Ethan Long for posting this on his Facebook feed), on why he'll maintain his current 16 percent shooting efficiency. Bolland won't ever be a primary scorer for the Hawks, but the TOI that he's receiving should be good for those in need of a depth 40-45 pointer.

Columbus

Name

Points

SOG

TOI

PPTOI

Status

Ryan Johansen

10

38

13:05

1:58

Watch

Antoine Vermette

9

49

18:13

2:17

Buy

Jeff Carter

8

46

20:33

4:14

Buy Low

Mark Letestu

4

25

14:03

2:33

WW

Derek MacKenzie

4

25

9:57

0:04

WW

Derick Brassard

4

20

14:03

2:43

Sell

Sammy Pahlsson

3

18

14:19

0:03

WW

Cody Bass

1

13

9:16

0:05

WW

Johansen has had himself a very under-the-radar start to the season. He needs to have his leash loosened a bit in order for him to garner optimal fantasy value. Vermette's career-low in terms of shooting percentage was 9.2 percent back in the 2008-09 season, which kind of puts his current 4.3 shooting efficiency into perspective. Expect a turnaround given the amount of optimum ice-time that he's been given by Scotty Arniel. Since October 18th, the Jackets went 3-8 without Carter in the lineup (2.36 goals scored per game), and 3-2-2 with his return (2.57 goals scored per game). Is Carter the spark that will ignite the Columbus offense?

Colorado

Name
Matt Duchene

Points
17

SOG
57

TOI
17:13

PPTOI
2:43

Status

Buy

Paul Stastny

14

63

18:07

2:49

Stand Pat

Ryan O'Reilly

14

43

17:54

2:19

Watch

Joakin Lindstrom

5

22

13:55

2:17

WW

Jay McClement

4

22

12:22

0:05

WW

Kevin Porter

1

14

10:05

0:06

WW

Peter Mueller

0

5

13:57

2:30

WW

After starting the season with just four points in the first nine contests, Duchene has turned the corner with 13 points in the last 15. He's proven in the past that he can maintain a pace that's pretty close to point-per-game, so look for something along those lines moving forward. If you break down Stastny's career stats, he can be generalized as a "second-half" guy. The Avs are still trying to find their identity, and when they do, Stats could perform at a point-per-game pace. I'd look for this as an opportunity to "buy low" on him. O'Reilly has always been considered a solid two-way player, he'll undoubtedly surpass his career-high of 26 points, but it won't be by more than 15.

Dallas

Name

Points

SOG

TOI

PPTOI

Status

Mike Ribeiro

15

50

19:14

2:56

Buy

Vernon Fiddler

9

32

13:08

0:10

WW

Toby Petersen

1

23

8:31

0:55

WW

Tom Wandell

1

17

8:39

0:00

WW

Jake Dowell

0

9

11:58

1:13

WW

Tomas Vincour

0

9

8:52

0:03

WW

Lost in all of the hoopla surrounding Jamie Benn and Loui Eriksson, Ribeiro currently sits third in team scoring despite connecting on a career low of just four percent. He's averaged 20 goals per season since 2003, so expect the goals to start trickling in from here on out.

Detroit

Name	Points	SOG	TOI	PPTOI	Status
Valtteri Filppula	19	39			

16:54

2:51

Sell

Pavel Datsyuk

19

70

19:28

3:41

Stand Pat

Jiri Hudler

12

29

13:25

2:38

Watch

Darren Helm

4

37

14:40

0:10

WW

Cory Emmerton

2

20

8:41

0:02

WW

Gustav Nyquist

0

0

11:07

1:06

WW

After starting the season with seven points in the first 11 games, Filppula has busted out with 12 points in the last 11. He's never been a big shooter, which is what's going to hold him back offensively. His career-high has only been 40 points, which is why I wouldn't count on him to continue along his 70-point pace. Datsyuk also started 2011-12 off fairly slowly, but has rebounded with nine points in his last six contests. He's back to where we all expect him to be. Hudler doesn't have the stats to justify being completely fantasy worthy, but the second unit PP TOI is certainly "watch worthy".

Edmonton

Name

Points

SOG

TOI

PPTOI

Status

Ryan Nugent-Hopkins

25

50

16:47

3:26

Stand Pat

Shawn Horcoff

16

39

20:30

3:06

Watch

Eric Belanger

6

33

15:36

1:49

WW

Sam Gagner

6

34

14:41

2:44

WW

Lennart Petrell

3

7

10:06

0:02

WW

Anton Lander

2

24

11:08

0:06

WW

RNH is leading the team in scoring despite averaging just 16 minutes of ice-time per game. I'd hate to see what could happen if he gets into the 20s. With that said, rookies tend to hit a wall sometime during the season, so don't fully expect him to continue on this torrid pace for the entire campaign. Horcoff is quietly stringing together a fairly under-the-radar season. He might not end up amongst the top-25 in league scoring, but top 60-75 isn't out of the question.

Los Angeles

Name

Points

SOG

TOI

PPTOI

Status

Anze Kopitar

24

75

22:04

4:07

Stand Pat

Mike Richards

20

61

19:52

3:49

Stand Pat

Jarret Stoll

7

45

16:07

2:02

WW

Andrei Loktionov

2

8

13:53

0:24

WW

Colin Fraser

1

7

8:45

0:00

WW

Brad Richardson

1

16

10:29

0:09

WW

Trevor Lewis

1

30

12:41

0:02

WW

After a superhot start to 2011-12 with 21 points in the first 17 contests, Kops has cooled down a bit with just three in the last seven. Don't get me wrong, I think he has plenty of offensive talent, but I wonder if he has it in him to ever reach Sidney Crosby, Evgeni Malkin or Steven Stamkos (gamebreaking), levels of production? Richards is on the other end of the spectrum with 10 points in the first 14, but has 10 in the last 10. I have a feeling that it's going to run hot/cold/hot/cold between Kops and Richards all season long. Richards is 31 of 65 (48 percent), on the draw in PP situations, while Stoll is 21 of 39 (54 percent). I wonder if the Kings' coaching staff would consider utilizing Stoll a bit more on the PP just to help gain a bit more puck control in the offensive zone. Just some food for thought…

Minnesota

Name

Points

SOG

TOI

PPTOI

Status

Mikko Koivu

19

56

20:45

3:58

Buy Low

Matt Cullen

12

56

18:10

2:40

Watch

P.M. Bouchard

12

45

15:37

3:27

Buy

Kyle Brodziak

10

44

17:37

0:57

WW

Darroll Powe

4

29

13:02

0:02

WW

Warren Peters

1

2

8:12

0:00

WW

David McIntyre

0

1

9:07

0:00

WW

Much like a few of the centers listed above, Koivu was also off to a very slow start (10 points in the first 18 contests), before turning on the jets the last couple of games (nine in the last six). One of the main reasons could be because of the chemistry developing between the newly formed Dany Heatley, Cal Clutterbuck and Koivu trio. During the last three contests, Bouchard is garnering a lot of top unit PP ice-time alongside the “big guns”. He’s always had offensive potential, so if he can manage to stay relatively healthy and maintain his current PP role a 65-point season could certainly be attainable.

Nashville

Name

Points

SOG

TOI

PPTOI

Status

Craig Smith

17

66

15:29

2:42

Stand Pat

David Legwand

15

34

18:56

2:35

WW

Colin Wilson

12

43

16:58

2:55

WW

Mike Fisher

10

32

19:02

2:33

Watch

Jerred Smithson

1

16

14:19

0:07

WW

Smith has had a great start to his NHL career. Similar to what I mentioned about RNH, rookies tend to hit a wall sometime during the season, so don't expect Smith to continue at this pace all season long. Legwand has been a pretty consistent producer during the last four seasons. Look for him to settle right around the 40-point mark once again. Fisher missed the start of the season due to off-season shoulder surgery, but has been operating at a 60-point pace since returning. Expect somewhere around the 45-50 point mark come April.

Phoenix

Name

Points

SOG

TOI

PPTOI

Status

Martin Hanzal

12

55

19:11

3:22

Stand Pat

Daymond Langkow

10

29

17:13

2:17

Watch

Boyd Gordon

10

32

16:26

0:09

WW

Patrick O'Sullivan

3

21

10:13

1:28

WW

Kyle Chipchura

3

11

9:22

0:00

WW

Cal O'Reilly

2

5

14:05

1:51

WW

Andy Miele

0

1

9:25

0:59

WW

Entering the season I was really high on Hanzal, and so far so good as he's right on pace of where I expected him to be. Look for him to finish right around 50 points along with 200 SOG. During the last three contests, Langkow has spent 92.1 percent of his overall ice-time alongside Shane Doan. It's certainly not a bad thing to be spending that much ice-time alongside the most offensive player on the team, so watch his status.

San Jose

Name

Points

SOG

TOI

PPTOI

Status

Joe Thornton

21

41

20:51

3:50

Buy

Logan Couture

15

61

18:03

2:38

Stand Pat

Michal Handzus

5

26

14:59

0:32

WW

Torrey Mitchell

5

22

12:35

0:03

WW

Andrew Desjardins

5

21

7:38

0:02

WW

Andrew Murray

2

24

8:17

0:03

WW

Tommy Wingels

1

9

13:20

1:24

WW

The 120-point days are well and truly over for Jumbo Joe, but he still has plenty of “game” left to post 85-95 points by season’s end. Couture picked up exactly where he left off last season, but being behind Thornton, Patrick Marleau, and Joe Pavelski on the Sharks’ depth charts, his production is always going to be limited.

St. Louis

Name	Points	SOG	TOI	PPTOI	Status
Alex Steen	16				

74

19:13

2:23

Sell

T.J. Oshie

15

44

18:55

2:09

WW

Jason Arnott

10

44

15:11

2:05

WW

Vladimir Sobotka

9

32

16:11

0:47

WW

Patrik Berglund

7

45

17:41

2:24

Sell

It’s near impossible for me to tell you how it’s all going to unfold in St. Louis.

Here are the numbers in the “Hitch-era”:

Rank	Player	Pos	Team	GP	Total
1	BACKES, DAVID	R	STL	10	00:20:49
2	OSHIE, T.J.	C	STL	10	00:20:01
3	STEEN, ALEXANDER	C	STL	10	00:19:56
4	BERGLUND, PATRIK	C	STL	10	00:18:41
5	SOBOTKA, VLADIMIR	C	STL	9	00:16:11
6	D'AGOSTINI, MATT	R	STL	10	00:16:07
7	LANGENBRUNNER, JAMIE	R	STL	10	00:14:46
8	STEWART, CHRIS	R	STL	7	00:14:45
9	ARNOTT, JASON	C	STL	10	00:14:41

Rank	Player	Pos	Team	GP	Points	Pace
1	BACKES, DAVID	R	STL	10	8	66
2	STEEN, ALEXANDER	C	STL	10	7	57
2	OSHIE, T.J.	C	STL	10	7	57
3	SOBOTKA, VLADIMIR	C	STL	9	4	36
4	STEWART, CHRIS	R	STL	7	3	35
5	D'AGOSTINI, MATT	R	STL	10	3	25
5	LANGENBRUNNER, JAMIE	R	STL	10	3	25
6	PORTER, CHRIS	C	STL	5	1	16
6	BERGLUND, PATRIK	C	STL	10	2	16
6	ARNOTT, JASON	C	STL	10	2	16

Rank	Player	Pos	Team	GP	Total
1	ARNOTT, JASON	C	STL	10	00:02:41
2	STEEN, ALEXANDER	C	STL	10	00:02:37
3	BACKES, DAVID	R	STL	10	00:02:26
4	BERGLUND, PATRIK	C	STL	10	00:02:17
5	OSHIE, T.J.	C	STL	10	00:02:15
6	D'AGOSTINI, MATT	R	STL	10	00:02:14
7	LANGENBRUNNER, JAMIE	R	STL	10	00:01:41
8	STEWART, CHRIS	R	STL	7	00:01:26
9	STERLING, BRETT	L	STL	3	00:01:23