



1965-66 EDMONTON OIL KINGS

2016 ALBERTA HOCKEY HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE



The year 2016 marks the 50th anniversary for the 1965-66 Edmonton Oil Kings of winning the Memorial Cup championship in Toronto's Maple Leaf Gardens.

The Oil Kings defeated the Oshawa Generals in six games to claim the national junior championship. The Generals' roster was dotted with recognizable names, including the then-15-year-old phenom defenceman Bobby Orr, Wayne Cashman and Nick Beverly, along with coach Bep Guidolin and manager Wren Blair.

Oshawa had jumped out to a 2-1 lead in the best-of-seven series, before the Oil Kings fought back with three consecutive victories to clinch the series. In game six, with the score tied 1-1 in the third period, Orr stepped on the stick of Ross Perkins of the Oil Kings and fell. Ted Hodgson went in on a breakaway and scored the Cup-winning goal for the Oil Kings as the team held on for a 2-1 victory. Game scores in the series were:

- Game 1: 7-2, Edmonton
- Game 2: 7-1, Oshawa
- Game 3: 6-2, Oshawa
- Game 4: 5-3, Edmonton
- Game 5: 7-4, Edmonton
- Game 6: 2-1, Edmonton

It was the first time a team from western Canada captured the Memorial Cup in eastern Canada since 1930. This was the seventh straight year that the Oil Kings had gone to the Memorial Cup during a run where the team qualified for the national championship a staggering nine times in 12 years. The Oil Kings played in the Central Alberta senior league, as there was no junior league in Alberta. In fact, they had tied the Drumheller Miners for the provincial senior championship that year.

The Oil Kings advanced to the national championship as the Abbott Cup champions. They had eliminated New Westminster, B.C. (four games to none) and Estevan, Sask (four games to two) in the Western Canada Memorial Cup playoffs.





Team members were: Ron Anderson, Garnet Bailey, Doug Barrie, Bryan Bennett, Don Caley, Craig Cameron, Bob Falkenberg (captain), Brian Hague, Al Hamilton, Jim Harrison, Galen Head, Ted Hodgson, Kerry Ketter, Jim Knox, Swede Knox, Ross Lonsberry, Don McLeod, Jim Mitchell, Harold Myers, Pete Neukomm, Eugene Peacosh, Ross Perkins, Murray Pierce, Dave Rochefort, Ted Rogers, Jim Schraefel, Walter Serediak, Red Simpson, Ron Walters, coach Ray Kinasewich, and manager Bill Hunter. Hodgson, Lonsberry and Harrison were added to the roster after the Estevan series, while Caley was an injury replacement from Weyburn for Neukomm.

The 1965-66 team, along with the Oil Kings squad that won the 1962-63 Memorial Cup, was inducted into the Alberta Sports Hall of Fame in 2011. Three players were members of both Cup-winning teams: Anderson, Rochefort and Bob Falkenberg.

A number of team members went on to play professionally in the National Hockey League or World Hockey Association. Many players continue to reside in the Edmonton area, and are involved in numerous charitable fundraising events (including the Oil Kings Alumni Charity Golf tournament).

