

# Seals Win Patrick Cup Again



**PUCK SAVER**—San Francisco goaltender Bob Perreault reaches out and grabs wild puck in the first period action last night of the Lester Patrick Cup

playoff at the Cow Palace. Seals won the cup by edging Los Angeles Blades 4-3 in the sixth game of the Western Hockey League title showdown.

## But Goalie, 6 Others To Be Axed

By SPENCE CONLEY

The San Francisco Seals, a bunch of lovable bums who barely managed to gain fourth place in the regular season standings, did last night what no other team in Western Hockey League history could do — they won the Lester Patrick Cup two years in a row.

And what was their reward for their smashing 4-3 victory over the Los Angeles Blades that earned them the league championship?

It was a solid declaration from Vancouver's Coleman E. Hall, the club owner, that at least seven members of the team will be gone from next year's club and the first to go will be goalie Bobby Perreault.

It is ironic that the 32-year-old French Canadian has been labeled expendable, for it was Perreault's excellent—if sometimes erratic play that got the Seals fourth spot, the playoffs, and eventually the WHL title.

A season-high crowd of 11,229 cheered wildly at the conclusion of the match as Capt. Eddie Panagabko, the Seals' leading scorer in the playoffs, proclaimed "Thanks for sticking with us through thick and thin. We're a team with a big heart."

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# Seals Edge Blades, Take Patrick Cup

Continued from 1st Sports Page who won it for a city with a big heart."

The city will get a chance to honor the champions at a special rally 12:15 p.m. Monday in front of the San Francisco City Hall.

But retaining the league crown was not an easy task.

From the very start it was obvious that the Blades were going to make a desperate last effort to win and return the series to L.A., which probably would have meant victory for them.

Ray Cyr, a slick centerman with a bad right arm, paced the Seal effort by recording two goals. Gerry Brisson, one of the club's leading goal-getters during the regular season, broke a scoring drought, and Al Nicholson, continuing his steady play, blinked the red light.

Leo Labine, the Blades' all-star left wing, got a pair of goals and an assist. Willie O'Ree got the final L.A. marker.

Amid the champagne and well-wishers coach Nick Mickoski, who allowed that "I've never been so tired in all my life," described his team:

He took over with 15 games left on the regular seasons and finished with a record of 18 wins, eight losses and a tie, not bad for a rookie coach.

"Everybody seemed to knit. We grew together as a family. They wanted to get into the playoffs — they wanted to win. They had guts. It was a great

inspiration to me," Mickoski said.

"I guess things began with the Vancouver series up north. From that point on we started to win. We went out last night and hustled as well as we could, that is — eight of our 16 players were hurt in one way or another."

If I could recall the turning point, it would have to have been when Harley Hodgeson got that two minute penalty for slashing our Charlie Burns. There was little more than two minutes left and we were leading 4-3. I knew we had won it then."

"A fourth place club finishing first—this is the greatest thrill of my life."

It is unlikely that Mickoski will ever play hockey again but it is likely that he will be around in civvies next year to handle the job as regular non-playing Seal coach.

Hall said many changes will be made.

Although Perreault performed admirably during the playoffs, his season play was disappointing. He will be released, Hall said.

Five other players—unnamed by the owner—also will be released. Two others will be traded. Hall has declared that the player salaries will be increased and better players will be signed by the club next year.

Everyone played like champions last night however.

Cyr got his first score at 15:54 of the opening period on a 15-foot wrist shot that whistled un-

seen past Blade goalie Jack Norris.

Gerry Brisson, who hadn't scored a goal in the entire series, got one of the biggest of his career, when he reached back for a bad Panagabko pass, faked Norris out of his shoulder pads and lit the light at 18:21.

That goal gave the Seals the psychological lift they needed for victory.

In the second period Labine got the only goal of the stanza at 13:49.

Willie O'Ree took a wild pass from Seal defenseman Gerry Odrowski and hammered it past Perreault for the second L.A. goal after Al Nicholson got the third Seal score at 12:49 on a crackling 10-footer.

Cyr got his final goal on a full-length dash climaxed by a swiping 20-foot shot that slipped under Norris' stick into the left corner.

Labine scored again at 11:52 and the Blades pressed harder on Perreault, but the portly Seal goalie's big stops were back-breaking.

Still the Blades threatened to tie it and force an overtime until Hodgeson slashed Cyr and was given two minutes in the penalty box. Only two minutes plus remained on the clock.

If any single individual can be given credit for the win, besides Cyr, Brisson, Nicholson, and coach Mickoski, it must be trainer Bill Gray.

Gray's expert patchwork was responsible for the presence of no less than eight Seals on the ice—one-half of the entire team.

Everybody agreed with Panagabko, however, that the 1964 Seals, the product of penny-pinching management and constant front-office squabbles, really were "a team with a heart."

First period—1. San Francisco, Cyr Nicholson, Haley 13:54. 2. San Francisco, Brisson Panagabko 18:21. Penalties—Thurby SF 4:45; Burego LA 8:12; Nicholson SF 12:14.  
Second period—3. San Francisco, Singleton Mickoski, Mantha 12:49. 4. Los Angeles, Labine Johnson 12:09. Penalties—Madigan LA 12:35; Picard SF 12:24.  
Third period—5. Los Angeles O'Ree Labine, Bedard 4:31. 6. San Francisco, Cyr Haley, Nicholson 8:43. 7. Los Angeles, Labine Maxwell, Johnson 11:32. Penalties—Brisson SF and Bellone LA 3:12; Haley SF 11:02; Hodgeson LA 17:48.  
SAVES  
Norris ..... 5 7 11—23  
Perreault ..... 7 9 11—27  
Attendance — 12,229.