

Gulls Plain Gulls Overwhelm Rude to Seals, 11-2 New Seal Goalie

Special to The Tribune
S A N DIEGO—Tommy Green knew what his chances were.

After all, as a parimutuel clerk he was no stranger to sporting odds.

But the courageous 30-year-old amateur stepped into the nets last night for the California Seals and predictably was bombed 11-2 by the San Diego Gulls.

The season-ending debacle was witnessed by 13,363 fans, a figure which shoved the

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Gulls' home attendance to 315,021 an all-time North American minor professional league record.

Green, whose only appearance with the Seals previously this season had been on practice ice, managed to stop 37 Gull shots, not counting the 11 that got past him.

It was hardly a night of defensive hockey for the Seals, but what did it really matter.

About the most important aspect of the game was that for the first time in 30 games

Adhered to Rules

The California Seals and San Diego Gulls played penalty-less hockey last night—the first infraction-free game of the Western Hockey League season and on the final date of play.

Interestingly enough, there have been just three penalty-free games in the WHL in the last six seasons and the Seals have been involved in all of them.

goalie Jack McCartan was able to have a well-deserved rest.

"There's absolutely no reason why we should have played McCartan," coach Charlie Burns explained. "We didn't want to take a chance of having Jack injured in a meaningless game.

"We came awfully close Saturday night to real trouble when Jack was struck in the head against Los Angeles. They put nine stitches in his head and we weren't going to sacrifice him last night."

McCartan will be back in the nets Wednesday night, however, when the Seals open their semi-final playoff series with Seattle on Totem ice.

"It was a very bad game from our standpoint," Burns said, "but after all, with absolutely nothing at stake it was hard to get up for the game."

The goals however, were flying, particularly by Gull wing Fred Hills, who scored a three-goal hat trick and boosted his league-leading goal total to 45.

It was Hills' fifth hat trick of the year, tying the league mark set by Bronco Horvath of Edmonton in 1954-55.

Al Nicholson, Eddie Panagabko and Larry McNabb, a trio of former Seals, also contributed to the scoring deluge: Nicholson had two goals and an assist, McNabb had a goal and two assists, and Panagabko had three helpers.

The Seals' puny offense put only two goals on the scoreboard. Forbes Kennedy clicked in the first period and Burns in the second.

Meanwhile, the Gulls scored three times in the opening period, and four times each in the final two periods.

The Seal-Gull series concluded with the Seals on the long end of a 9-3-0 record.

The Seals' final regular season record consisted of 32 victories, 30 defeats, and 10 ties for 74 points and fourth place.

First period—1, San Diego, McNabb (Nicholson, Wilkie), 3:18. 2, San Diego, MacMillan (Panagabko), 6:07. 3, California, Kennedy (Manner), 14:52. 4, San Diego, Hills (McNabb), 16:25. Penalties—None.

Second period—5, San Diego, Ronson (McMillan, Panagabko), 9:03. 6, California, Burns (Panagabko), 9:46. 7, San Diego, Hills (Hynes), 12:28. 8, San Diego, Hills (Hynes, Carruthers), 12:14. 9, San Diego, Sinclair (Panagabko, Ronson), 19:20. Penalties—None.

Third period—10, San Diego, Nicholson (Haley, McNabb), 8:09. 11, San Diego, Faulkner (Hills, Wilcox), 8:40. 12, San Diego, Wilcox (Hynes), 9:51. 13, San Diego, Nicholson (Panagabko), 14:40. Penalties—None.

Saves
Green 12 13 12—28
Binkley 7 9 11—27
Attendance 13,363.

WESTERN HOCKEY LEAGUE

(Final Standings)

By The Associated Press

	W	L	T	Pts.	GF	GA
Portland	41	24	7	89	255	209
Seattle	38	26	7	85	228	185
Vancouver	28	37	2	78	278	215
California	27	30	10	74	228	242
Victoria	20	38	8	48	224	227
Los Angeles	29	38	1	63	260	286
San Diego	32	47	3	47	222	246