

# Another Oakland Rivalry Born

By Jay Greenberg

A Member of the Sports Staff

Vancouver—Bep Guidolin left Oakland in a huff and arrived here in a fog yesterday as his Kansas City Scouts reached stop No. 7 on their 8-game season-opening odyssey.

The Scouts plane was forced to circle Vancouver for an hour because of a dense fog before landing, but Bep seemed to take the delay in better stride than he had remarks from California Golden Seals' officials about their 4-4 tie Wednesday night with the Scouts.

The Seals were upset with the result and said so in the morning papers. "It was our worst game this year, very disappointed," said Bill McCreary, the Seals general manager. "The comeback (the Scouts had led, 4-1) means nothing. We had to have a save on a breakaway (by Wilf Paiement) to avoid losing to a team which hasn't won all year."

franchise has been putting people to sleep all over the National Hockey League. They used to put the whole Boston Gardens to sleep last year when they came in.

"Now they're talking like they're Mr. Hockey or something. They're just as bad off as we are. Give us seven years and see what we do. Give us two years and we'll smoke right by them."

By this time most of the smoke in the Bay Area had risen out of Bep's head and he had cooled off, so he was ready to talk a little bit about how much better he felt now that the Scouts (0-5-1) had finally broken into the points column.

"The pressure is off," he said. "Everybody is more relaxed. It was important to them. But it's a good thing we held on and got the tie, because if we would have lost,

we would have been so down that . . ." His voice trailed off, probably because he couldn't think of anything quite so down as blowing a 3-goal lead to the Seals and losing.

Still, the point revived the team and sent it looking hopefully for another one or two tonight against the Canucks at 10 p.m. (Kansas City time) at the Pacific Coliseum. A year ago, the California-Vancouver swing was always good for a few points, but the Canucks are playing improved hockey and are tied with Chicago with eight points for the lead of the Conn Smythe Division (Division 3).

The Canucks were cellar-dwellers for their first four years of existence and were going nowhere under the before-mentioned McCreary when Phil Maloney took over as coach and general man-

ager midway through last year. The team finished strong and has started fast this year, highlighted by a 4-goal, third-period rally in Toronto Saturday night to dump the Maple Leafs, 5-4.

From here, the Scouts return to the East Coast to play Boston Sunday night. Monday they can come home, which, besides a point or two, is all anyone here really wants.

LOOSE PUCKS. . . The Scouts have two former Canucks making home-comings tonight, Richard Lemieux, who played here three years before being selected in the expansion draft in June, and John Wright, who was traded to St. Louis last year before being taken in the expansion draft. . . Maloney is cautious about getting caught up with the Canucks fast start. "Let's wait a while," he said, "it's a long season."

That irritated Bep a bit until he read a little farther and saw that Marshall Johnston, the Seals coach, had said the Seals had trouble getting up for an expansion team. "Maybe it'll convince them (the Seals) in the future that playing teams like Kansas City, Washington and Vancouver you have to prepare for like any other team," Johnston said.

With that, Bep demanded equal time. "Any guy who makes a statement like that has to have rocks in his head," Bep said. "He couldn't get that team up, huh? They haven't been able to get that team up for seven years. That