

Arena Fans Fight After Seals Routed

By JOHN PORTER
Tribune Sports Writer

The referee saw the fight, but didn't call a penalty. The Oakland Seals didn't complain for two reasons.

The game was over and fans, not players did the fighting.

"There was a guy behind our bench," said Seals interim Coach Fred Glover, "who was mouthing off at everybody on the team. Who needs that?"

Apparently, a Seals season ticket holder sitting behind the players' bench, didn't. The scoreboard showed Montreal 6, Oakland 1. The game was over when the two squared off.

According to Glover, the heckler wound up doing a full gainer over a protective railing into the box that separates the team benches. It was a dive of nearly six feet. His face bloodied, the man climbed back into the stands

and the two were about to go at it again.

"I jumped up there when that happened," related Glover. "I wanted someone to move them apart, but nobody would move them."

Finally, a security guard removed the heckler, but several other guards were having a tough time with the other fan.

"He said he'd go if they'd leave him alone," said Glover, "but there were four of them on him."

What was the heckler saying that upset everyone so?

"He was yelling at Ivan, 'You're nonchalant, Boldirev, nonchalant, Boldirev,'" said Seals defenseman Bob Stewart.

"I'm not nonchalant," protested Ivan. "I'm deceptive."

"Oh," said Glover, "he was saying things like, 'Quit holding Stewart back.' He was bad-mouthing all the players—except for Morris Mott. say, 'Go get 'em Morris, that's

the way to hustle Morris,' and things like that."

Mott was surprised.

"I don't know him," said the Seals' helmeted winger. "Was he saying that? I didn't hear him."

"We were trying to win the third period," Mott said, explaining his preoccupation. "That's all we could do when we were five down against Montreal."

Indeed, the Seals played the first-place Canadiens evenly in that last period. No goals were scored.

"The thing that cost us goals earlier," said Glover, "was that our defense would stand up in position, but the wingmen were out of position and Montreal would bust in and score."

"It was a different kind of game," the coach said. He wasn't enthralled with the Seals' attitude in four straight losses on the last road trip.

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Canadiens Fly Past Seals, 6-1

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The club leaves tomorrow for four more on the road.

"We made similar mistakes in this one," said Seals right winger Marshall Johnston, who scored Oakland's lone goal. "We play too wide open, but we still had it in our power to come back. But on your home rink, they get 39 shots and six goals.

"Let's be realistic," he continued. "You're not going to beat the Canadiens when you're down 6-1, but maybe that third period got back a little self-confidence and self-respect for us."

Referee Art Skov did call penalties on hockey players. A misconduct to Seals center Walt McKechnie was unusual.

"I think the officiating has been against us," offered McKechnie.

"It is," interjected Glover, "because they know they can get away with it."

"Maybe we're looking for excuses," added McKechnie, "but if the referee had called the earlier penalties on them, these other incidents never would start."

McKechnie was fouled going in for a shot late in the second period. There was no call. He and Montreal's Yvan Cournoyer then tried to slice each other with their sticks, and a punch or two was thrown.

"I think he gave me the misconduct for pushing the linesman," said McKechnie.

Saturday night in St. Louis, the Blues' Phil Roberto shoved a linesman to the ice. Garry Unger, a teammate, tripped the linesman to the ice again. There was no misconduct call.

"We've been getting the short end of the stick all season from the referees," said Boldirev, "but it didn't make that much difference tonight. Montreal was flying."

McKechnie agreed. "When I



... Savard's stick slams Michel Plasse's stomach

was in the penalty box," he said, "the guard asked me why the team wasn't going well tonight and I said, 'Have you ever played hockey? Buddy, we're playing against the Montreal Canadiens. They're a dynasty.'"

Two of the Canadiens were first-round draft picks that the Seals traded. Chuck Lefley scored a goal and two assists and Guy Lafleur picked up an assist.

Jacques Lemaire had two goals — Nos. 33 and 34 for him. Serge Savard, Marc Tardif and Murray Wilson scored the others.

Hil Graves, the Seals rookie 20-goal scorer, was close a couple of times last night. He said the outspoken fan "was trying to tell us how to play the game.

"He was getting a little dirty about the coach and said we were all playing as individuals instead of as a team. I've heard fans say a lot worse."

The injury report wasn't too bad. According to a Coliseum spokesman, one fan had a bruised nose, the other a sore hand.

Glover may not be as lucky.

When he jumped back to the ice, he banged up his left heel and limped away.

"I want you to have that x-rayed before you go on the road," team physician Dr. Tom Richmond told the coach. "It might be cracked or broken."

"If it is," said Glover, smiling wryly, "don't worry. This team has a lot of crutches around here."

Montreal 3 3 6-6
Oakland 1 0 0-1

FIRST PERIOD

1 0 Montreal Lemaire (33)
(Lefley) 7:53
2 0 Montreal Lefley (15)
(unassisted) 13:33
2 1 Oakland Mc Johnston (7)
(Lacramboise, Maggs) 16:24
3 1 Montreal Lemaire (34)
(Wilson, Laperriere) 17:50
Shots on goal: Mon 14, Oak 13.
Penalties: None.

SECOND PERIOD

4 1 Montreal Savard (5)
(Houli) 6:42
5 1 Montreal Tardif (19)
(Lafleur, Savard) 8:19
6 1 Montreal Wilson (10)
(Larose, Lefley) 13:49
Shots on goal: Mon 19, Oak 9.
Penalties: Boldirev, Oak (slashing)
9:21, Maggs, Oak (holding) 17:44,
Cournoyer, Mon (slashing, roughing)
18:43, McKechnie, Oak
(slashing, roughing, served by
Hall, misconduct) 18:43.

THIRD PERIOD

No scoring.
Shots on goal: Oak 9, Mon 6.
Penalties: Wilson, Mon (tripping)
2:12, Roberts, Mon (hooking)
4:39.
Total shots: Mon 29, Oak 21.
Goalies: Mon, Plasse; Oak, Meloche.
3 stars: 1 Lemaire, Mon, 2 Lefley,
Mon, 3 Savard, Mon.
Referee: Art Skov.
Att: 9,022.