

Freak Goal Beats Seals

Second Game Tonight

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PITTSBURGH, Pa. — If tonight's second game between the Oakland Seals and the Pittsburgh Penguins in the West Division Stanley Cup playoffs is anything like the one last night then they'd better have the police TAC squad and the National Guard ready for immediate duty.

The Penguins took the first game 2-1 on as controversial a goal as has ever been scored on the Seals.

You could have cut the air of bitterness, disgust and pure anger with a knife in the Oakland dressing room after it was all over.

There was plenty of cursing and slamming down of equipment and Coach Fred Glover was seething.

The Seals, who had played a good hockey game, had reason to be angry.

The score was tied 1-1 mid-way through the third period when Pittsburgh's Glenn Sather picked up the puck in his zone, circled once, turned

on the speed and zig-zagged into Oakland ice.

He laid a pass off to Wally Boyer and banked into the corner, as he came out he was checked by Bert Marshall.

Sather went into the crease and collapsed all over goalie Gary Smith. In the meantime, Boyer got off a shot and Smith blocked it. But Sather stayed put, blocking Smith and Nick Harbaruk got the rebound and tipped it into the net.

The lamp behind the goal burst red and the Seals exploded as referee Bruce Hood allowed the goal.

Clearly Sather WAS in the crease at the time the goal was scored and that is illegal. Unless, of course, he was being held there by a Seal and was unable to get out.

"That was an illegal goal," barked Glover, releasing all the frustrations which he felt. "That man (Sather) had all the time in the world to get out!

"Nobody was holding him. He must have had at least five seconds anyway. It was an illegal goal and he (referee Hood) blew it. And he knows he blew it.

"If he had been pushed into the crease and held there, that's something else. But this wasn't the case.

"We could have won it. The guys played great, all of them. This is a tough way to lose a hockey game. Damn tough," Glover said.

He then told Executive Vice President Bill Torrey, who was nearby, he wanted an immediate conference with Dutch Van Deenan, the supervisor of West Division officials, who was at the game.

"There are no protested games in the NHL," Glover admitted, "but we want to talk about this one."

Smitty was in a rage, too. "He was in the back of the net," he explained hotly. "Never mind being in the crease. He was in the BACK of the net. It's just disgusting."

Not long after the goal was scored the action got pretty heated and in one instance, Carol Vadnais and Mike Briere were jostling each other and Pittsburgh's Bryan Watson blind-sided Vad with a shoulder check and a couple of punches.

Vad only got in one punch before the officials broke it up, but the blow caught Watson right in the left eye and puffed it up like a golf ball.

Tonight's game could be a blood bath.

As for the game last night, the two teams traded first period goals. Pittsburgh got the first on a power play against Vadnais at just 1:05 with Jean Pronovost getting the score. Gerry Ehman tied it up at 9:26 on a power play against Sather.

They played a scoreless second period and even seemed headed toward a possible sudden-death overtime until the Sather incident decided the finish.

First period—1 Pittsburgh, Pronovost 1 (Wojtowich, Morrison) 1:05, 2 Oakland, Ehman 1 (Laughlin, Roberts) 9:26.

Penalties—Vadnais, Oakland (hooking) 0:59, Harbaruk, Pittsburgh (charging) 1:24, Marshall, Oakland (interference) 5:12, Sather, Pittsburgh (cross-checking) 8:15, Jarrett, Oakland (tripping) 14:14, Pratt, Pittsburgh (cross-checking) 16:31.

Shots: Oakland 6, Pittsburgh 13.
Second period—0 scores.
Penalties—Innesfield, Oakland (interference) 7:34, Schinkel, Pittsburgh (cross-checking) 10:49, Innesfield, Oakland (cross-checking) 11:53, Briere, Pittsburgh (slashing) 13:53.

Shots: Oakland 13, Pittsburgh 9.
Third period—3 Pittsburgh, Harbaruk 1 (Boyer, Sather) 12:47. Penalties—Vadnais, Oakland (interference) 3:35, Watson, Oakland (roughing) 13:49, Watson, Pittsburgh (charging minor, roughing) 13:49.

Shots: Oakland 10, Pittsburgh 14.
Total shots: Oakland 29, Pittsburgh 36.

Goalies—Oakland, G. Smith, Pittsburgh, Binkley.

Attendance—2,651.