

FIVE (SOB) TO THREE

It's All Over for Seals

By SPENCE CONLEY
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After last night, there is no today for the Oakland Seals.

Going into last night's National Hockey League West Division Stanley Cup semifinal windup against the Los Angeles Kings, there was no tomorrow for somebody.

Out-skated and out-defended and the victims of a season-long power-play deficiency and errors of inexperience,

the Seals slipped under, 5-3, sending the Kings into the West Division finals tomorrow against the St. Louis Blues.

So today the Seals are looking for summer employment and the Kings are after plane and hotel reservations in St. Louis, richer by \$1,750 per man, and with an option on even more playoff gold.

Fred Glover, the dedicated Seal pilot who had instilled

pride and purpose in the NHL's scruffiest tailenders, inspiring them to a second-place finish this season, was resolute in defeat.

"I'm disappointed, yes," said Glover, the NHL's Coach of the Year this season. "But I'm proud of them. They came a long way and they have every reason to hold their heads up high."

"They can be proud of what they accomplished this year.

We had an image to change and we did it and we did it with a team second youngest in the entire league. Our biggest weakness was inexperience, but we overcame that most of the time, but it caught up with us tonight," Glover said.

Inexperience defensively was the specific problem and what with the pressure of the

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Kings Beat Seals, 5-3, Win Chance to Oppose St. Louis

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playoffs, Glover decided to go with just four defensemen — Carl Vadnais, Bert Marshall, Doug Roberts and Dick Mattiussi.

Those four men shared the blueline chores in each of the seven playoff games and last night it was obvious, they were tired.

Unable to clear the puck out of trouble, the Seal defense let Ted Irvine score a pair of first period goals on nearly identical plays, and although the Oaklanders had tied it 1-1 at one point, on Vadnais' 40-foot ice-level slap shot, it was evident they were in for a rough night.

In that first period, the Seals had five power-play

advantages, once a two-man edge for 1:16, but they couldn't score.

Earl Ingarfield, the Seals' fine old pro who enjoyed an outstanding playoff series, eventually tied it again at 2-2 in the second period, but the hustling Kings broke it open with a score by Bill Flett on a little tip in at 14:54.

Then in the third period, Lowell MacDonald swiped the puck from Norm Ferguson at center ice and wheeled in all alone on goalie Gary Smith to make it 4-2 at 7:53.

Gerry Ehman got that one back at 10:36 when he banked a shot off goalie Gerry Desjardins' left shoulder, but that was the end of it.

Howie Menard heaved a hard backhand shot past Smith

at 18:26 after capturing a wide rebound from defenseman Bill White's shot to complete the scoring.

"We played well offensively," said Kings' coach Red Kelly. "Our guys just weren't going to lose this one. They wanted it too much, but take nothing away from Oakland. They played a terrific series and they have a very good team."

Eddy (The Jet) Joyal, the scampering Kings' centerman who was one of the heroes of the series, agreed: "We seemed to have a little more zip. Their defense looked a little tired, but we had one of our best games, I think."

The Kings won their four games by scores of 5-3, 5-4 (OT), 4-2, and 4-3. The Seals won three, 4-2, 5-2, and 4-1.

First period—1, Los Angeles, Irvine (MacDonald) 2:13; Oakland, Vadnais 3 (Marshall, Ingarfield) 4:09; Los Angeles, Irvine 5 (Innis, MacDonald) 12:14. Penalties—Marshall, Oak., 0:46; White, L.A., 2:45; Cahen, L.A., 4:50; Perry, Oak., 4:00; Krake, L.A., 4:33; Vadnais, Oak., 4:35; Roffe, L.A., 7:07; Peters, L.A., 7:51; Nicke, Oak., 9:35; Cahen, L.A., 14:29; Cahen, L.A., 17:38.

Second period—4, Oakland, Ingarfield 4 (Hampson, Marshall) 9:51; 5, Los Angeles, Flett 2 (Menard, White) 14:54.

Third period—7, Los Angeles, MacDonald 2, 7:52; 7, Oakland, Ehman 2, Ingarfield, 10:36; 8, Los Angeles, Menard 3, (White) 18:26. Penalties—Roberts, Oak. misconduct, 18:26.

Shots on goal by:
Los Angeles 11 9 18-30
Oakland 12 7 8-27
Goalies—Los Angeles, Desjardins, Oakland, Smith,
A-9,284.