

Seals' First Win*



... BUFFALO'S JOE DALEY BLOCKS SHOT, BUT RIGHT INTO THE PATH OF CAROL VADNAIS . . .

Buffalo Beaten, 6 to 1

By JOHN PORTER
Tribune Sports Writer

The Oakland Seals finally discovered water in what has been a desert of a schedule and toasted a 6-1 downing of the Buffalo Sabres last night at the Coliseum Arena.

The win ended a parched stretch of nine games without a victory for the Seals. The expansion Buffalo club lost its third straight.

Just over two minutes into the final period, the Seals' Carol Vadnais rocketed his favorite shot from just inside the blue line. Sabre goaltender Roger Crozier never had a chance.

It was Vadnais' second goal, added to two by Billy Hicke, Ted Hampson's singleton, plus Earl Ingarfield's deflection score in the last minute to give the Seals six goals. In their first nine games, they had made only 11.

The Seals were forechecking, hitting—and shooting. They wound up with a season high of 48 shots on goal.

In the second period, Oakland put a blitz on Sabre goal-

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Tribune photos by Prentice Brooks

... AND VADNAIS EASILY SCOOPS PUCK INTO NETS FOR SEAL SCORE . . .

Seals Score 6-1 Victory

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ie Joe Daley, who took an Ingarfield shot on the temple. Crozier took Daley's place in the nets. It took 12 stitches to sew up the gash on Daley.

The Seals didn't look like a club that had gone nine games without a win after the opening faceoff.

Defenseman Harry Howell picked up the puck in the Oakland zone and passed to Billy Hicke. The veteran right wing caught Hampson who was streaking across center ice on the right side with a perfect pass.

Hampson charged into the Sabres' side and was checked until defenseman Doug Barrie trapped him 15 feet past the blue line. So the Seals' captain shuttled the puck between Barrie's feet, faked right and found himself face-to-face with Daley. It was no contest.

Hampson backhanded the 15-footer and it was 1-0 Oakland with just 22 seconds having ticked off the Arena scoreboard.

Daley had to make some terrific saves after that. Gary Jarrett, Gary Croteau and Ernie Hicke all came close to scoring. Hicke's came after Gary Smith gloved a Sabre shot and skated to his blue line, hit Paul Andrea with a pass, who in turn, sent Hicke alone on Daley.

Daley stopped Hicke's 30-foot slap with his stick, but the Seals continued the pressure.

Vadnais got his second goal of the season at 13:40. Hampson found Jarrett loose at the faceoff spot to Daley's right, but the left winger's shot smashed off the Sabre goalie's pads.

The puck dribbled straight back and Vadnais zoomed in to scoop it into an open net.

With 13:25 left in the second period, Ingarfield's shot caught Daley, and the former Pittsburgh Penguin fell next to his goal post. He was helped off the ice with the wound bleeding heavily.

Crozier got two minutes to warm up. Then the pressing Seals went to work on him.

Howell brought the puck out of the Seals' zone and fed Ernie Hicke across the Seals' blue line, and the rookie stormed in on Crozier. The shot smacked off the new goalie's pads as he was moving laterally.

Hicke kept coming and took Crozier into the boards behind the net.

Crozier was under constant pressure, and by the end of the period Billy Hicke had his first two goals of the season, the first on Gary Croteau's helping pass from behind the net, the second on a rebound of Wayne Muloin's sizzler from the left point on a power play.

Buffalo's Jim Watson was in the penalty box on the play for holding after breaking up a rush at Crozier by Gerry Ehman and Ingarfield.

Buffalo's goal was wedged between Hicke's pair at 16:52 of the second period. Rookie sensation Gil Perreault flew down the left side and rifled a 45-footer into the lower right corner of Smith's net.

First period — 1, Oakland, Hampson 3 (B. Hicke, Howell) 6:22, 2, Oakland, Vadnais 2 (Jarrett, Hampson) 13:40.

Penalties — J. Watson, Buf (interference) 12:16.

Second period — 3, B. Hicke 1 (Croteau, Ingarfield) 12:25, 4, Buffalo, Perreault 3 (Andrea, Schmautz) 16:52, 5, Oakland, B. Hicke 2 (Muloin, Howell) 18:32.

Penalties — J. Watson, Buf (holding) 12:44.

Third period — 6, Oakland, Vadnais 3 (unassisted), 2:02, 7, Oakland, Ingarfield 1 (Roberts, Ehman), 19:47. Penalties — Croteau, Oak (hooking), 2:29; Krako, Buf. (major, fighting), 13:34; Vadnais, Oak (major, fighting), 13:34.

Shots on goal:

Buffalo 8 7 6-21

Oakland 13 17 18-48

Goalies — Buffalo, Daley, Crozier; Oakland, Smith.

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