

Seals play at Toronto

TORONTO (AP) — As the season nears the halfway point, the California Seals find themselves with time running out on efforts to lift themselves from their National Hockey League division cellar and gain a playoff berth.

The Seals faced their closest rivals, the Toronto Maple Leafs, in a holiday afternoon contest today at Maple Leaf Gardens. Going into the game, the Seals trailed the third-place Leafs by nine points.

Despite California's fourth loss in a row Tuesday in Chicago, Coach Jack Evans expressed confidence that his players' experience in the minor leagues will start paying off "when our players overcome their mistakes."

And Black-Hawks Coach Billy Reay agreed, predicting the lowly Seals will be "the team of next year — the team that is going to shake up the National Hockey League."

In Toronto, fans don't miss a thing

Which game would you rather see: The California Golden Seals against the Toronto Maple Leafs live, or the Soviet Army vs. the Montreal Canadiens on television?

It's not a hard choice to make, even if you're a Maple Leaf fan.

The Toronto management, apparently recognizing that fact, did the only thing it could do to avoid an empty house; namely, postpone last night's Maple Leafs-Golden Seals game until this afternoon.

"Seals play at Toronto" from Jan. 1, 1976 Palo Alto Times

"In Toronto, fans don't miss a thing" from Jan. 1, 1976 Boston Globe