

New Seals Do It Again to Get Tie

By SPENCE CONLEY

Holy equalizers! The "Dynamic Duo" has done it again!

Ted Hampson and Johnny Brenneman aren't exactly

Batman and Robin, but they've done as much for the Oakland Seals lately as the Caped Crusader and the Boy Wonder ever did for the Gotham City Police.

And last night was no exception as once again the Hampson-Brenneman combination was the focal point of action in the Seals' 1-1 tie with the Pittsburgh Penguins at the Coliseum Arena.

Brenneman's power-play goal in the second period, initiated by Hampson, was the extent of the Seal scoring, although both were involved in a controversial non-goal which could have proven the game-winner.

In any event, since the pair arrived from the Detroit Red Wings along with defenseman Bert Marshall, the Seals haven't been losing as much — they haven't been winning either for that matter. Last night's tie was their fourth in the last six games.

Since Ted and John joined up, the Seals are 1-2-1.

After a scoreless opening period, Brenneman scored at 9:55 of the second period, with Pittsburgh's Leo Boivin off the ice for hooking Hampson.

Eleven seconds after Boivin went into the penalty box, Ted passed perfectly to Alain Caron driving in from the right

Continued Page 41, Col. 1

Pair Combine to Produce 1-1 Tie for Seals Sextet

Continued from 1st Sports Page

point for a 30-foot slap shot which Brenneman deflected past goalie Les Binkley at the last instant.

The Penguins, who have yet to lose to Oakland in six games this season (3 wins, 3 ties), tied it up at 12:56 of the period, when Andy Bathgate rifled a screened 40-foot slop-shot between goalie Charlie Hodge's legs.

But four minutes later, Hampson targeted Brenneman splitting free at the Pittsburgh blue line. Bathgate tripped him and referee Tom Smith hoisted his arm to signal a delayed penalty.

Brenneman skidded head-first toward the Penguin net with the puck coming hard right behind him. He jumped to his feet and suddenly the light blinked on signalling a goal.

But Smith said nothing doing, Brenneman kicked the puck in and that's illegal. The

Seals blew their collective corks.

"I took the puck off my hand and directed it toward my stick. I took a one-handed swipe at it while I was skidding along," Brenneman explained. "The puck banged off Binkley and hit me and went in. Now that's got to be a goal."

"Now I know kicking the puck into the net intentionally is illegal, but when I jumped up, I didn't know where it was. It just rebounded off Binkley, hit my skate and went in. It was hardly intentional," Brenneman explained.

Smith wasn't buying the explanation, however, and 1-1 was how it stayed and how the game ended.

Credit to Bert Marshall, the third man from Detroit, who made a big play on Bathgate in the last 29 seconds when he blocked a booming shot on a Pittsburgh two-on-one breakaway.

Brenneman has been a pleasant surprise to the Seals since he was advertised as a speedskater not a goalscorer.

"I've never played with a good center before," says the exciting left wing. "I always played on a checking line before."

"But Ted's great. He has the puck a lot and he knows what to do with it. Before, I wasn't getting the puck and I didn't feel I was doing anything. Hampson has been the difference in my play," Brenneman says.

"Look, this team is getting a little confidence and we are going to break out soon. We're starting to get the feeling that we've got it," he says.

Well, whatever the Seals have, Hampson and Brenneman have got to be big men—key men—in the club's bid for the playoffs.