

# Stars Defense Seals, 2-1

## Gump Stingy In Nets

By JOHN PORTER  
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The defensive-minded Minnesota North Stars and Gump Worsley, their little old goalie with the gnome-like face, brought their stingy reputations and lived up to them last night when they lifted a 2-1 win from the Oakland Seals at the Arena.

Not until late in the game were the Seals able to penetrate the 42-year-old goaltending marvel. Wayne Carleton, at 17:20 of the final period cut Minnesota's lead to 2-1.

With 55 seconds left in the game, Seal goaltender Gilles Meloche made a dash for the Oakland bench and Carleton hopped over the boards as the club's sixth attacker.

Seals defenseman Dick Redmond blistered a shot at Worsley from the point and the 5-foot-7 Gumper shoveled the puck aside. The North Stars never controlled the puck, but the Seals were unable to get a clear shot until Carol Vadnais lofted an easy blue line desperation try as the clock ran out.

"I don't know if he (Worsley) played that well," said a disquised Vadnais afterward. "Did we really test him?"

The seals had 35 shots at

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Gump, one of two goalies left in the National Hockey League who doesn't wear a mask.

"We had 35?" Vadnais said in disbelief. "How many did they have?" Twenty-nine was the answer.

"Oh, my God," the Oakland captain exclaimed. "What a funny game this is."

For a while, it appeared the game could go all the way without either team scoring a goal. The North Stars, who have given up just one goal in each of their last four games and are undefeated in their last six, couldn't get the puck past Meloche.

"They were both rebounds," said Gilles of the two goals that came within three minutes of each other in the second period.

The first one rolled across the goal line just inside of the post to Meloche's left. The rookie goalie had made stops on Jude Drouin and Bill Goldsworthy, but J. P. Parise did the damage on the third try at 13:46.

Then at 16:56 Minnesota's Murray Oliver cut in on Gilles from the left wing and shot. "I made the save and put it right back on his stick," recounted Gilles.

Oliver flipped the puck over Meloche and that made it 2-0, although the Seals kept trying right to the finish.

When Carleton scored in the third period on Gary Jarrett's pass from the side boards, the arena throng of 7,310 went wild. It was the third largest home crowd of the season and the largest ever to see a game (not counting playoffs or Stick Night) between two expansion clubs here.

Jarrett, who had several good chances at Worsley, was mystified in the Seals dressing room after the game.

"I'd have the puck and see a spot," he said. "I'd shoot

and he would stop the bloody thing every time. Gilles played well for us, too, you know. They had plenty of chances and he looked good.

"We can't feel good about this game even though we played well," added Jarrett. "We could have been in third place if we won this one."

Instead, Oakland remains a point behind third-place Philadelphia and Pittsburgh in the West Division, while the North Stars used the Seals to pull two points ahead of second-place Chicago.

"Minnesota's whole team played well defensively," said Seal Winger Norm Ferguson, who was set back by Worsley a couple of times. "We had shots, sure but many of them were from the point and not clear-cut. As a team they're playing great. Worsley did play well."

Meloche, half as old as his counterpart at the other end of the rink, said he learned something.

"Oh, did he (Worsley) play well," said Gilles. "He knows all the angles, when to come out and when to stay back. He played the rebounds perfect. It looked easy watching him."

The Seals may run up against Worsley again sooner than they like. The North Stars will play Cesare Maniago tonight in Los Angeles and guess who will be in the nets next Wednesday in Bloomington, Minn. when the seals show up?

Oakland coach Vic Stasiuk isn't sure whether he'll use Lyle Carter or Meloche tomorrow night when the Seals meet Buffalo for the third time this season. Faceoff is 7 pm at the Arena.

Penalties—Vadnais, Oak (interference) 2:57, Mohr, Min (holding) 14:11, Harris, Min (spearing) 19:55.

### THIRD PERIOD

2-1 Oakland ..... Carleton (4)  
(Jarrett, Marshall)

### Shots on Goal

Oakland 10, Minnesota 10  
PENALTIES—Worsley, Min, (delay of game served by Parise) 13:21, Boldirev, Oak (kneeling) 13:57.

Total shots on goal: Oak 35, Min 29.  
Goalies: Worsley, Min; Meloche, Oak.  
Referee: John Ashley  
Att: 7,310.

### FIRST PERIOD

M 0  
O 0 No Scoring

### Shots on Goal

Oakland 10, Minnesota 10.

Penalties — Marshall, Oak (interference) 2:46, Reid, Min. (holding) 13:46.

### SECOND PERIOD

1-0 Minnesota ..... Parise (4)  
(Goldsworthy, Drouin) ..... 13:44

2-0 Minnesota ..... Oliver (1)  
(Prattica, Reid) ..... 14:16

### SHOTS ON GOAL

Oakland 15, Minnesota 9.