

Atlanta tops California 4-2

KINGSTON (Special) — Atlanta Flames, minus a half dozen of their top players, took charge in the final period to defeat California Golden Seals 4-2 here Sunday night in a National Hockey League pre-season game.

Flames scored three times in the final period and are undefeated in two exhibitions. They played the Montreal Canadiens to a 1-1 tie in Ottawa's Civic Centre Friday night.

Atlanta returned to Ottawa — their training camp base — for two more workouts today. Tomorrow they have a charter flight to Moncton, N.B., and a game against the Canadiens and Wednesday they're back at the Civic Centre against Toronto Maple Leafs.

Goals by Keith McCreary, Bob Leiter, Jerry Byers and Hilliard Graves carried Flames to the win. Larry Wright and former Ottawa 67's defenceman Terry Murray scored for California.

Dan Bouchard played the first half of last night's game and didn't allow a goal. Phil Myre worked the last 30 minutes in Flames' nets.

Tom Lysiak, Curt Bennett, Buster Harvey and veteran defencemen Noel Price, Randy Manery, Pat Quinn and Arnie Brown were all left in Ottawa as coach Bernie Geoffrion wanted a look at many of his rookies.

One oddity in the game was the awarding of the experimental free shot midway through the game. Myre was

given a misconduct penalty for arguing the call of delaying the game but the puck was placed on the right face-off circle and at the time of the infraction California had all left-hand shots on the ice. Which meant that Larry Wright took the free shot on his backhand and got it up too high, rattling it off the glass.