

Maple Leafs Unmask Seals

By JOHN PORTER
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Fred Glover reached up to the shelf and pulled down the yellow mask.

The Oakland Seals dressing room in the Arena was deserted except for the trainers picking up some dirty towels.

The coach juggled the protective face device in his hand, eyeing it from different angles, then tried it on to see what he could see. It wasn't much.

He became a caricature of his 6-foot-4 goaltender Gary Smith. Earlier last night Smithy, looking like the Phantom

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from the Opera, had worn the mask and Toronto weasled pucks by him to humble the Seals, 6-0.

"See, now if I look straight ahead I know where the puck

is," Glover was saying. "Now, when you're standing there (right in front of him) I can see your feet.

"If I look down I can see your toes," he continued.

"But if I want to see any more than that, I have to move my head."

So the goaltender missed those shots because of the mask?

"When you wear one of these," the coach said while removing the mask, "you have to concentrate, otherwise you'll lose sight of the puck.

"On one of his average nights? He would have stopped them all."

Glover wasn't singling Smith for criticism. There were several players, in his opinion, who lacked concentration against Toronto.

Norm Ullman scored twice and Dave Keon, Darryl Sittler, Ron Ellis and Brad Selwood put in singletons. The goaltender isn't the only one making mistakes with a score like that.

Ron Stackhouse was on the ice for the Seals only once when Toronto scored and the young defenseman willingly accepted the blame. He also felt he should have scored three goals.

"He played me right and you've got to give him credit," Stack said of Jacques

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Plante, who smothered a breakaway chance by the rookie. "He stopped the pucks."

Glover said it another way. "Switch goaltenders and we would have been ahead by nine."

Maple Leaf Coach John McLellan obliged too late. Plante, who pioneered those

Seals Attendance

Last night	3,891
26 dates 1970-71	211,318
36 dates 1969-70	229,349

goalie face masks, complained the head piece was irritating a boil on his nose, so Bernie Parent pulled the duty for the final period.

The Seals were down 1-0 early in the first period when Bert Marshall hit the ice behind the Toronto net and was taken to Merritt Hospital with a jammed hip.

Glover said it was important to the outcome because Marshall is one of the few who will do some hitting for the Seals.

St. Louis is next in line in the season waning. The Blues will be at the Arena tomorrow night.

"Another great night at the biggies," the coach said with a forced grin.