

# Seals Find the Good Times

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The clock struck midnight and none of the Seals turned into pumpkins.

Nor Black Hawks, Flyers, Bruins, Canadiens.

"We can put this thing together now without making a trade," said Garry Young, director of hockey for the Seals, minutes before the National Hockey League's witching hour came and went to end all deals this season.

There were several Seals who thought of that deadline as the wishing hour. Now they could care less.

"I just wish," said Reggie Leach, "that Marshall Johnston had taken over as coach at the beginning of this season. This game has been fun since the new management took over and I've got nine goals since then."

Reggie whipped in three last night for his second hat trick of the season. It was enough to shame the Boston Bruins single-handedly, but the other Seals' right wings chipped in with three goals for a stunning 6-2 win at the Arena.

"I thought I was going to be traded and I kind of talked myself into wanting to be traded," said Hil Graves, who scored twice last night. "I'm happy now, real happy. I had a little talk with them (he motioned toward the coach's office) and everything is straightened out."

Another who seems headed in the right direction is center



Tribune photo by RUSS REED

**Hil Graves scores an amazing goal, backhanding shot under Ross Brooks (30) even though Dallas Smith had him in a bear hug**

Ivan Boldirev, who didn't score. His puck-starved linemates—Graves and Gary Croteau—had a feast.

"It's nice to play like this every night. I like to be out there all the time until I'm too tired to move," said Ivan, who got the word earlier this

week from Young to go ahead and buy that new house out in the Walnut Creek area.

There was one other Seal who was looking to different colors.

A week ago on his birthday he didn't get the trade he expected. Instead, Young

presented him with a cake aboard the team's charter flight from Montreal to New York. FAA regulations were observed and Joey Johnston's present was decorated with 25 swizzle sticks, instead of candles.

"I've forgotten 'all' about

that," captain Joey said last night when reminded about the trading deadline. "That was the thing with the old management. We're not thinking that way anymore because it's fun to play again."

Joey picked up three assists. Boldirev had two as did

center, Ron Huston and defenseman Terry Murray. Mini-hero Morris Mott scored the other goal.

Boston Bruins goalie Ross Brooks, not exactly a typical streaker, had an imposing

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streak going, nonetheless. After the game, though, it was gone.

The 36-year-old rookie entered the game with 14 consecutive wins, a new National Hockey League record. The Seals set a mark of their own, the four-goal difference in the score being the widest margin ever for them against the East Division leaders.