

The Herb Brooks Memorial Packet

Written by Em Gunter

1. When explaining to his team why they would be engaging in this drill Herb Brooks said: “the legs feed the wolf.” Brooks forced his players to engage in this drill for around an hour(+) after an exhibition game in Europe resulted in an embarrassing tie. One player said that the amount of this conditioning exercise they were forced to engage in that night was exhausting and excessive. However, this drill was essential in enabling the Americans to outskate the Soviets in the medal round of the Olympic tournament. This exercise involves players skating blue line (*) back, red line back, far red line back, and far blue line back all in one go. For ten points, name this hockey drill referred to by the players of the 1980 US Olympic hockey team as “Herbies.”

ANSWER: Suicide Sprints [or Herbies before being read; accept reasonable equivalents]

2. When asked what he was thinking about when the US won the gold Herb Brooks said he was thinking of this player. This man was drafted by the Boston Bruins in the 1977 NHL Amateur(+) draft during its 7th round. This player went on to play for the University of New Hampshire where he served as their lead goal-scorer for 3 years. This man was kept on the Olympic team through exhibition(*) matches despite recovering from a seriously injured ankle. Brooks knew exactly what this player was going through as the US won the gold because he suffered a similar fate 20 years earlier. For ten points, name this final player to be cut from the 1980 US Men’s Olympic Hockey team.

ANSWER: Ralph Cox

3. Outshooting their opponent for the fourth time in the Olympic tournament, the United States came from behind once again to win a critical game against this team. Prior to the third period of the game against this team(+) Herb Brooks famously told his players: "If you lose this game, you'll take it to your fucking graves. Your fucking graves." The Americans then came out strong in the third period to score 3 goals(*) against this team, securing the gold. If the United States had lost to this team they would have gone home medalless. For ten points, name the final opponent of the United States men’s hockey team in the 1980 Olympics.

ANSWER: 1980 Olympics US-Finland hockey game [Do not accept or prompt on “1980 Olympics hockey gold medal game”]

4. In 1979 a series of international hockey games at this location replaced the NHL's all-star festivities for the 1978–79 season. That series of games at this location resulted in the Soviet(+) Union winning the Challenge Cup following a 3rd game blowout. A goaltender later pulled during the gold medal round of the Olympic tournament, defended his country’s net the entirety of a later game played at *this* location. (*) Boris Mikhailov skated around this stadium holding the Challenge Cup prior to that game at *this* location. For ten points, name the arena where the United States suffered a crushing 10-3 defeat to the Soviet Union just three days before the opening ceremonies at Lake Placid.

ANSWER: Madison Square Garden [accept The Garden or MSG; prompt on “New York City” before stadium]

5. Inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame in 1983, this man originally thought he had been drafted by the Montreal Canadiens but did not find out until years later that he was drafted by the Boston Bruins.(+) This former Montreal Canadien allowed 7 Soviet goals during the 1979 Challenge Cup playing the entirety of 2 games in that series. In order to help learn the names of the players in the Olympic tournament, this man and

his partner played table hockey together. Following West Germany's defeat by the United States, (*) this man drove to Ottawa to sit the Canadian Bar Exam just one day before the US-Soviet game. For ten points name this commentator who sat next to Al Michaels as he famously called "Do you believe in Miracles?"

ANSWER: Ken Dryden

6. Description Acceptable. These things were secretly collected in a blue notebook by John Harrington, Dave Silk, and Mike Eruzione from 1979-80. Many of these things were used to motivate the players(+) of the US Olympic team by insulting their play or their manhood. "I'm going to bury that stick down your goddamn throat" was one of these things that were created during a game against Czechoslovakia. One of these *things* was famously shouted anger countless times in anger following a tie to the Norwegian National Team in the winter of 1979(*) during exhibition play. "Again" is an example of one of these things that were repeatedly shouted at the players due to their lackluster performance in that game. For ten points name these things created by the head coach of the 1980 US Olympic hockey team.

ANSWER: Brookisms or Sayings by Herb Brooks [accept reasonable equivalents]

7. A group play game won by this team was the only shut-out involving a team that would advance to the medal round of the Olympic tournament. The final game of the Olympic tournament involved 9 Soviet goals against this team in the first two periods. This team did not score any goals in that game until the the 3rd period(+) was nearly halfway over. The final seconds of a game against this country were the only time that the United States' primary goaltender, Jim Craig, was absent from his net. Bill Baker scored an essential goal (*) in the final seconds of that game against *this* country which later allowed the US to win the gold. For ten points, name this country that won the bronze in hockey at the 1980 Winter Olympics in Lake Placid.

ANSWER: Sweden [accept Sverige]

8. This player had a hard time making a career for himself in the NHL, only playing 3 seasons before permanently retiring from hockey. Holding the American flag that had been draped (+) over his shoulders after defeating the Fins to win the gold, this player stood on the ice, as he scanned the stands, and uttered: "Where's my father?" An announcer said that the United States was relying a little too much on this player seconds before a game-winning goal was scored by Mike Eruzione. Excluding the final 24 seconds (*) of the opening game of the Olympics, this goalie was on the ice for every second of every game at Lake Placid, only allowing 15 goals against his country over 7 games. For ten points, name the primary goaltender of the 1980 US Men's Olympic hockey team.

ANSWER: Jim Craig

9. After making an emotional decision to pull *this* player from a game his coach later said in an interview that "It was my worst mistake, my biggest regret." This player is often considered the best player at his position(+) to never play in the NHL. This player's teammates reported that he always played better after the action that caused their coach to pull him occurred because he viewed it as an embarrassment to himself and his country. This player achieved the second shutout at Lake Placid, by not allowing a single Japanese goal.(*). At the time of the 1980 Olympics, this player was considered one of the best in the entire world. For ten points, name this Soviet goaltender pulled by Viktor Tikhonov during the medal round game against the United States.

ANSWER: Vladislav Tretiak [accept Tretyak]

10. After spending the 1977-78 and 1978-1979 seasons as the captain of Boston University's Division I hockey team, this player tried out for the US Olympic team in Colorado Springs. This player was selected to represent the United States.(+) in Lake Placid, but suffered a severe knee injury, resulting in the tearing of several ligaments, during an exhibition game. That injury to this player jeopardized his spot on the team as there were less than 48 hours remaining before Olympic rosters had to be submitted. This player underwent intense physical therapy(*) and while he missed the games against Sweden and Czechoslovakia he was able to return to play against the Norwegians. For ten points, name this defenseman from Charlestown, Massachusetts, who went on to play for the Chicago Blackhawks and New Jersey Devils.

ANSWER: Jack O'Callahan [Prompt on OC; Do not accept or prompt on Rob McClanahan]

Bonus: Two answers required. These two schools are home to one of the most notorious rivalries in the history of college hockey that lasted for over 30 years and peaked in 1976. In 1976 four players from these universities, who would go on to represent the United States at the 1980 Olympics.(+) were involved in a bench-clearing brawl during the NCAA Championship Semi-Final in Denver just 70 seconds into the game. Out of the 20 men that represented the United States at Lake Placid, 13 of them played for one of these two schools. Neil Broten and Steve Christoff played together(*) for one of these schools during the 1978-1979 season. Phil Verchota and Bill Baker played for the other one of these schools in the NCAA Championship Semi-Final that marked the peak of the rivalry between these two schools. For ten points, name the universities where Mike Eruzione and Rob McClanahan hailed from.

ANSWER: Boston University AND University of Minnesota [Prompt if one answer is given; accept answers in either order; DO NOT accept or prompt on University of Minnesota-Duluth; DO NOT accept or prompt on Boston College, accept University of Minnesota-Twin Cities]