

MIRACLE



Synopsis

In 1980, the United States Ice Hockey team's coach, Herb Brooks, challenged a ragtag squad of college kids to take on the awesome juggernaut from the Soviet Union – the greatest hockey team in the world – at the Olympic Games. Despite the long odds, Team USA carried the pride of a nation yearning for a distraction from world events. With the world watching, the team rose to the occasion, prompting broadcaster Al Michaels' now-famous question to the millions viewing at home: "Do you believe in miracles? Yes!"

Discussion Questions

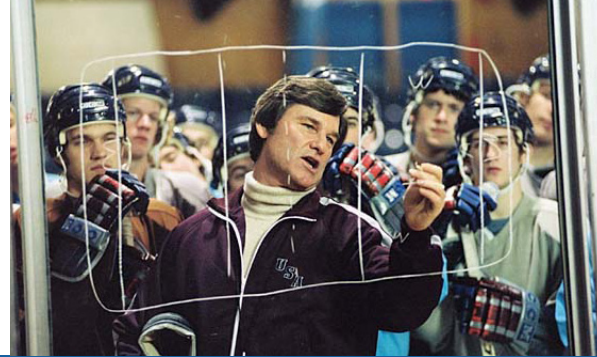
- Did you watch the 1980 Lake Placid Olympics and witness this remarkable victory? If so, how does your memory of the event align with the movie adaptation?
- How does Coach Brooks treatment of his team at the beginning of the film impact the development of his team's dynamic for the 1980 Olympics?
- Has your willingness to work hard for something ever been tested to the physical and mental extreme that the players on the 1980 USA Ice Hockey team were tested? Have you ever wanted something as badly as Coach Brooks and his team wanted that victory over the Soviet Union?
- Coach Brooks makes the decision to keep the media from his players so that none is highlighted individually, and so that they are a team both on and off the ice. Who are some other great coaches in history – in any sport – who have highlighted the team over the individual? How do you believe this approach leads to success?
- To many, the 1980 Ice Hockey Olympic victory against the Soviet Union was much more than just a game. What are some other moments in sports history that helped unite a nation?
- If Coach Brooks hadn't been cut from the 1960 US Ice Hockey Team, do you think he would have put together the same combination of players for the 1980 US Ice Hockey team? Why?



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Activities

- In the title sequence at the beginning of the movie, credits scrolled over a timeline of major events in America between 1970 and 1979, setting up the story of the 1980 Olympics in Lake Placid, NY. Take the time to explore the timeline of global political events in the years proceeding and those following the 1980 Olympics. Alternatively, focus on each Olympics since 1900 and determine how the global political climate impacted each of the games.
- Whether Ice Hockey or Street Hockey, round up your friends and get an informal game started. Experiencing what it's like to play firsthand might even increase your appreciation for the game.
- Enjoy a night out at a local Ice Hockey game, whether high school, college or pro.

Get Involved

- *Miracle* explores not only a great sports victory, but a uniting victory that gathered people together during a difficult time in our nation's history. The Olympics has always had the ability to draw together a nation to celebrate a common goal. Do your part to support amateur athletes. Whether supporting them by attending their matches or games, or by becoming a coach or support staff on their team, you can help inspire a new generation of athletes who can help unite a nation.



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