



BLUE GOON

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Mike Nguyen

Editor/Designer: Roman Rozenblyum; Front/Back Cover: Brian McGrattan tangles with Dylan McIlrath by top5.com; This page top to bottom: Rangers and Kings Bench-Clearing Brawl 1981, Animation of goaltender Marc-André Fleury putting center Jeff Carter in a headlock, Canadians and Nordiques players pair off during a bench clearing brawl in 1984; Opposite page left to right: Ryan Mantha fights with Peter Krieger, Tom Kostopoulos prepares for a faceoff, The Hanson Brothers from the 1977 film *Slap Shot* directed by George Roy Hill, Nathan Ouellet and Thomas Caron fight during a QMJHL league hockey game, Nicolas Deslauriers and Ross Johnston battle, Ross Colton fights Braden Schneider, Michael Sauer fights with Matt Martin



Ariane Glasbeug



Jim Lee



André Ringate



Universal Pictures



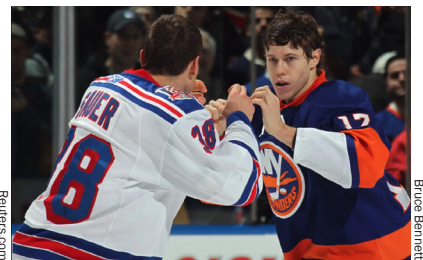
Nathan Ouellet



Getty Images



Reuters.com



Bruce Bennett

In their own words...

From "Nice guys and hockey fights: The ins and outs of the other kind of ice dancing" by Bob Hersom

"There are guys, who over time, you develop a kind of hate for, and every game you play against him you usually get into it. That definitely happens. I know last year I fought one guy four times."
- Justin Sawyer

"We had to fight, because it is our work, our job. I'm not really a fighter, but when I have to fight, I fight. I'm not scared about a fight."
- Milan Maslonka

"The thing is, nice guys finish last, you know what I mean?"
- Tyler Fleck

"We'll ask him (to fight) and be on him all game. He'll play nervously, and it'll help our team. He'll be tense the whole game. Even if he doesn't fight, he'll know we're coming for him."
- Erick Lizon

"Fighting has always been part of the game, and it should be. It polices things out there"
- Les Borsheim

"There are three reasons hockey fights happen. One is to get the fans and your team going. Another is if another guy takes a liberty on your teammate, and you want to make sure that they don't do it again. And another is if you're having a bad game yourself you can just start fighting and get into it a little bit more."
- Justin Sawyer

"You're not afraid, but you get nervous, because you don't really want to get beat up in front of your peers, in front of your teammates and in front of the fans."
- Marty Standish

"There are guys who make their living doing that. They're key guys to have on your team. They're the heart and soul of their hockey team. They can change the momentum at any time."
- Greg Pankewicz

"You might shake their hand, talk about the fight, laugh about it. It's not personal."
- Erick Lizon

"You don't want to try and knock someone out, You just want to have a clean fight. If they go down, they go down. You don't want to see anyone get hurt. Well, I guess you do sometimes."
- Justin Sawyer

GOON HAIKUS

by Roman Rozenblyum

Photo of Churito Pagoda with a view of Fuji Mountain
by Sean Pavone

Enforcer romance.
I'll be by your side. Shared mind.
The fisticuff dance!

Toe to toe! Tough guy!
Red hot, blood drops, cold ice. Twice.
It was kind of nice.

俳句

Blue goon, blood red moon.
You feel free to roam freely.
We police the ice.

Do you want to dance?
We stack penalty minutes.
You get the glory.



JANUARY

ASTROLOGY

FORECAST

ARIES



If you don't succeed, try, try, try again. After the fourth try, however, you should kick back, have a beer and figure out why success eludes you like the greased pig you couldn't wrestle to the ice last game.

TAURUS



Your rules may be carved in stone, but the opposing team's coach has found a box of dynamite, so loosen up before you find yourself back in the penalty box.

GEMINI



You make a colossal screw-up at last week's home game, but the coach opts not so send you back to the minors. Once everyone gets out of the extra long practice alive, buy your coach a drink and swear off headbutts.

CANCER



Facing your fears isn't fun, but it beats having them sneak up and hit you in the face with a hockey stick. Grab your helmet and conquer those personal demons before you get carted off the ice again.

LEO



An opportunity falls onto the ice on Wednesday. Step aside (just in case it's a round-house punch from Bob Probert) but pounce on it before it freezes, or someone else might nab your treasure.

VIRGO



Stand straight, skate tall and eventually you'll smack your head on the doorway to the locker room. The best part of common sense is knowing when to duck things like low blows, illegal hits or enforcers swinging sticks.

LIBRA



Life can try to penalty-box you in, but your rat is too freewheeling for a maze. Break out the roller skates and let your inner furball fly this weekend.

SCORPIO



This is the time for you to focus, Scorpio. All of your energy needs to be channeled to important goals like scoring a goal FOR ONCE THIS SEASON!

SAGITTARIUS



You're hit in the head with a puck on Friday and develop temporary psychic powers. You can't predict lottery numbers but you have a nice side business finding people's car keys for them in the rink's parking lot.

CAPRICORN



Grab the shades and sunscreen, because you're about to have your moment in the sun on your stretch of road games to the West Coast. Just don't wear that thong bathing suit, because no one wants to be blinded by your butt cheeks.

AQUARIUS



In one hand, you have a clenched fist, in the other, you have a hockey stick. In the third, you realize you need a lot more hands. Look into the services of the backup goalie as a personal assistant. They're pricey, but they're worth it.

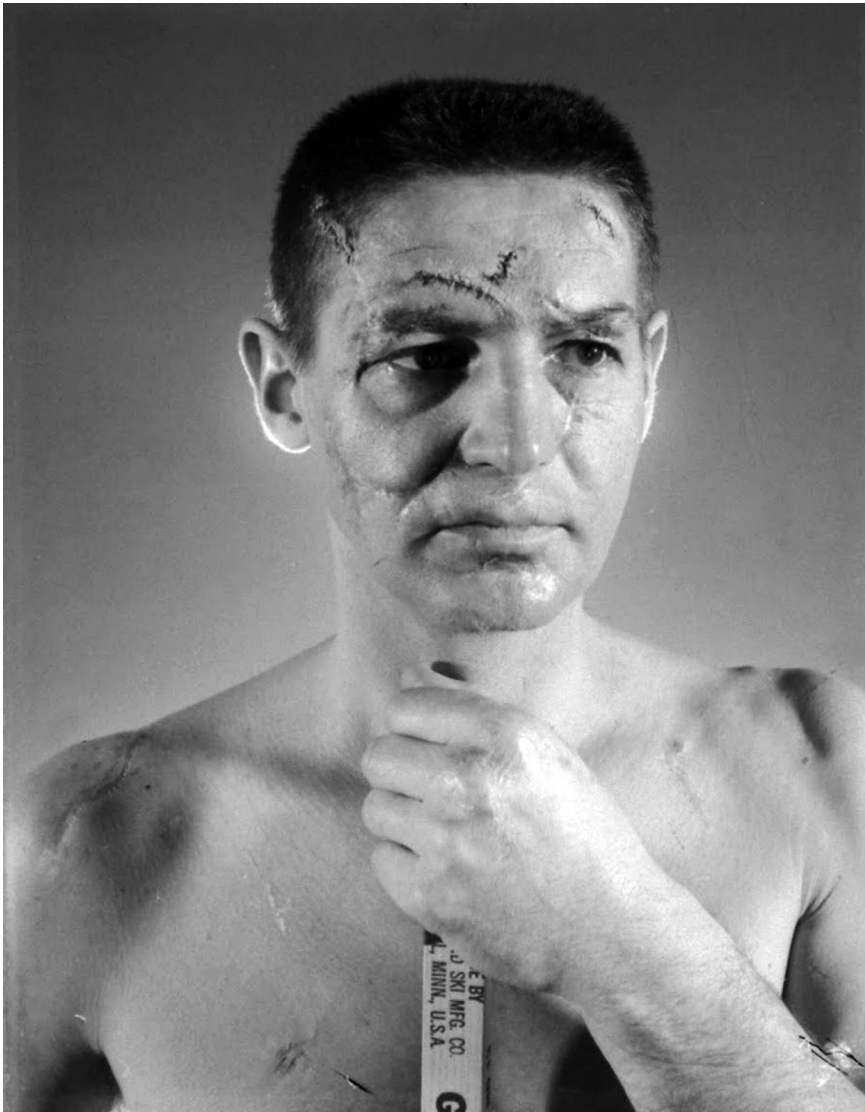
PISCES



What you want is just within reach, but you can't stretch your stick any farther or you'll fall on the ice again. Don't despair Pisces, just buy one of those goalie gloves and snatch victory from the snarky jaws of defeat.

Source: <https://wisecrackzodiac.wordpress.com/category/funny-horoscopes/>
Heavily Modified by Roman Rozenblyum

Goon Wound Care Guide:



Terry Sawchuk, NHL goaltender who played 21 seasons mostly for the Detroit Red Wings. He was not a goon but as evidenced by his scars, his career spanned a time before helmets were first required in 1979.

1. *Wash your hands: This helps prevent infection.*
2. *Stop the bleeding: Apply gentle pressure with a clean bandage or cloth.*
3. *Clean the wound: Rinse the wound with clear water for 5 to 10 minutes.*
4. *Apply an ointment: Apply a thin layer of an antibiotic ointment or petroleum jelly to keep the surface moist and help prevent scarring.*
5. *Cover the wound: Apply a bandage, rolled gauze or gauze held in place with paper tape. Covering the wound keeps it clean.*
6. *Change the dressing: Do this at least once a day.*
7. *Get a tetanus shot: If you haven't had one in the past five years.*
8. *Watch for signs of infection: See a doctor if you see redness, have increasing pain, drainage, warmth or swelling.*



Bench Clearing Brawl

Associated Press

Players from Canada and the Soviet Union staged a bench-clearing brawl at the 1987 World Junior Hockey Championships in Czechoslovakia.

The sacrifice is real...

IN MEMORIAM

CTE

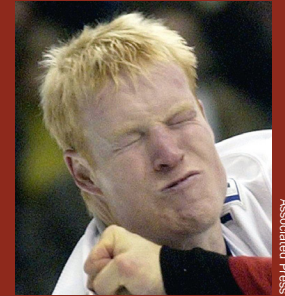
Chronic traumatic encephalopathy is a neurodegenerative disease linked to repeated trauma to the head. The encephalopathy symptoms can include behavioral problems, mood problems, and problems with thinking. The disease often gets worse over time and can result in dementia.



Reggie Fleming
Died: July 11, 2009
Age: 73



Bob Probert
Died: July 5, 2010
Age: 45



Wade Belak
Died: Aug. 31, 2011
Age: 35

A rugged defence-man, Fleming was an early prototype of what would later become known as the enforcer. "I helped out in whichever way I could, I was one of these fringe players that had to work his ass off to stay on the team." In death, he became the first hockey player tied to a troubling condition that had, to that point, been linked almost exclusively to football, CTE.

Only four NHL players accumulated more penalty minutes than Probert, who became one of the most feared enforcers in hockey history, with 3,300 PIMs on his resume. He also became known for his drug use, among other off-ice issues. He died of heart failure and was later found, like Fleming, to have been living with CTE.

In 2002, when he was perhaps the most popular interview subject in the Maple Leafs' dressing room, Belak suggested he was both a lover and a fighter, but always in the proper context: "I don't bring one into the other – I don't go around the bars and the streets and fight people and I don't bring my loving onto the ice."



GOONIES NEVER SAY DIE

