

## The Lone Ranger rides again

When I was a child growing up in Duluth, the Lone Ranger, who always wore a mask over his eyes, was my favorite cowboy.



In those pre-television days, he was on the radio right around suppertime, and my family would listen on the kitchen radio as we ate.

Each segment of the Lone Ranger ended the same way. After performing heroic deeds with his faithful companion Tonto, the two of them would ride off — into the sunset — into the imaginations — to the tune of the stirring William Tell overture, and some character left behind would ask: “Who IS that masked man,” and a companion would say, “That’s the Lone Ranger,” as the music swelled into a crescendo behind the thundering hoof beats of the great horse Silver. Thrilling.

For a time, the Lone Ranger galloped through all of our evening meals as we gobbled down our pork chops or chop suey or meatloaf or Italian spaghetti with Swedish touches or whatever. A lasting memory. It was about 70 years ago, give or take.

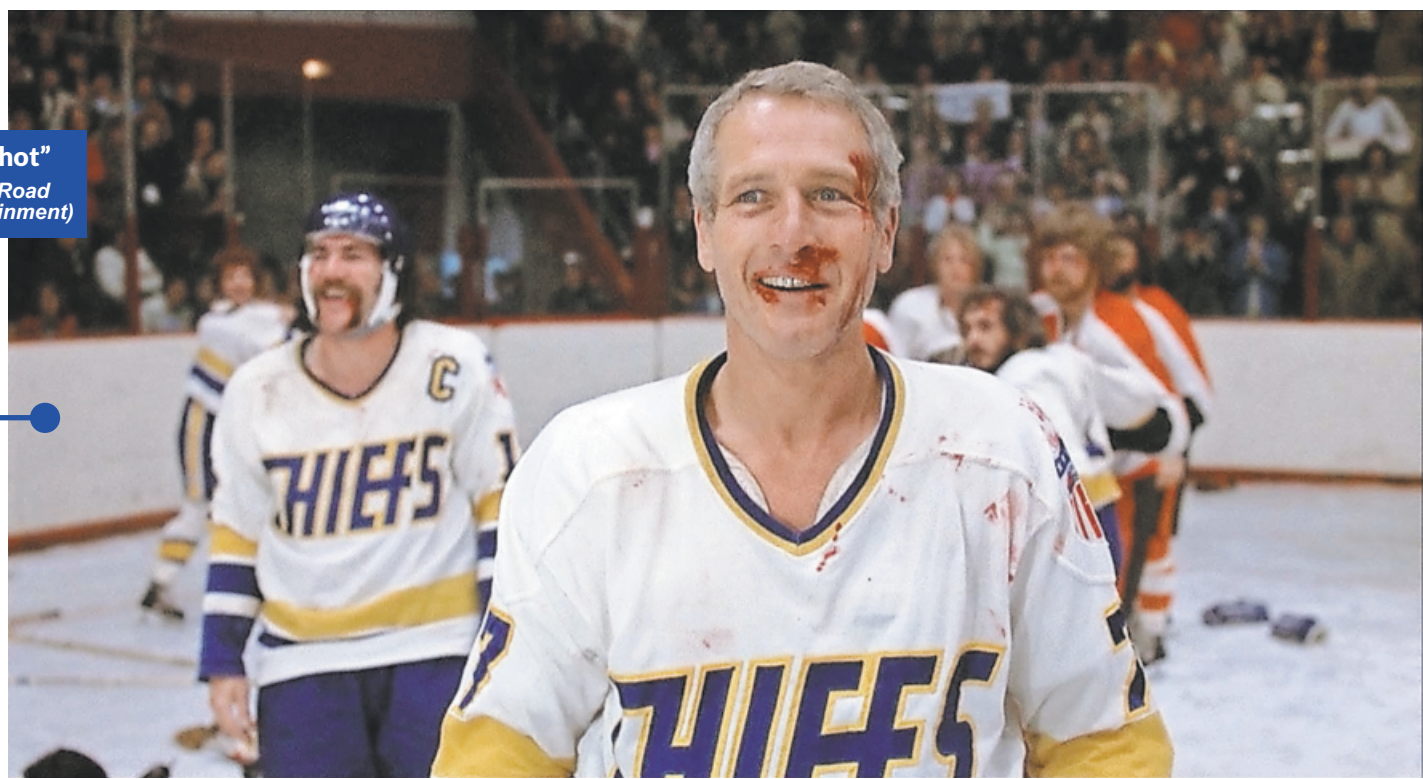
Segue to the present: Of course the mask of the masked rider of the plains covered his eyes, leaving his mouth available for dialogue. Now I’m wearing a mask that covers the lower half of my face, my eyes free to gaze on a pandemic-stricken world more perilous than anything the Lone Ranger ever faced. At least he could see the bad guys.

I have a multi colored mask donated by a friend who is handy on the sewing machine. I wear it when I move about in public, which isn’t much, but enough to notice that, if I am in a store, many of my fellow-shoppers are not wearing masks. These are often serious-seeming men who look like they believe they could fight off with their fists or maybe a gun any coronavirus or anybody or anything else that might challenge them to cover their mouths.

And there I am with my cute little blue-and-white cloth mask, trying to stay a safe 6 feet away from these unmasked riders of the purple rage. And it makes me feel like a chicken. Yes, a dreached chicken, a fraidy cat.

I don’t know if the appellation “chicken” carries the weight in did in my Lone Ranger days and beyond into the teen years. But no male — this is totally male, no females involved — could

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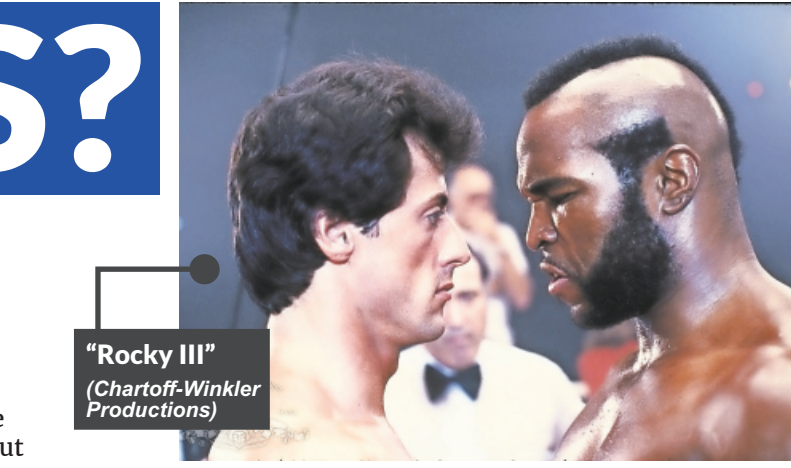
“Slapshot” (Kings Road Entertainment)



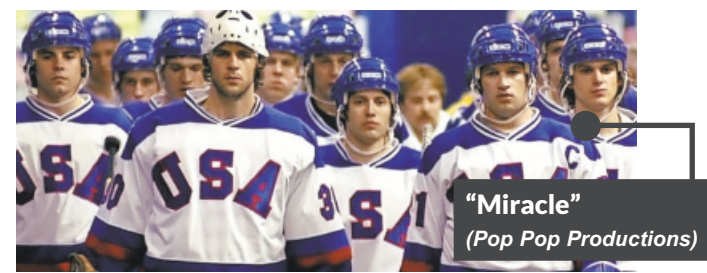
“The Bad News Bears” (Paramount Pictures)



“Caddyshack” (Orion Pictures)



“Rocky III” (Chartoff-Winkler Productions)



“Miracle” (Pop Pop Productions)



“The Longest Yard” (Paramount Pictures)

# MISSING SPORTS?

Here are 10 movies to fill that ball-size hole in your heart

At a time when many people are sequestered at home and running out of Netflix options and at a time when sports reporters are trying to find stories to write about, here’s a top-ten list of my favorite sports-related movies that might help resolve both issues.



RICK WEEGMAN

This is not an attempt to label these as the best sports movies of all time (I haven’t seen anywhere close to enough movies in this genre to make that comparison), but rather ones that made me laugh, cry or think the most or made me tune in time after time to the point where I could recite all the dialogue

before it happened. You may agree with some and disagree with others, but that’s the point of a list.

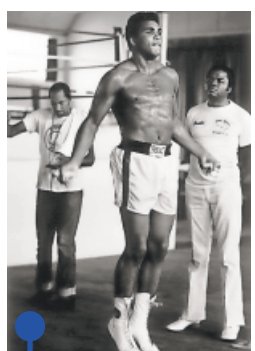
**10. “When We Were Kings”**  
This is a documentary and not a movie, but Muhammad Ali and Don King are every bit as theatrical as any Hollywood actor. The 84-minute film revolves around the 1974 “Rumble in the Jungle” boxing match between Ali and George Foreman, in which challenger Ali dethrones champion Foreman with his rope-a-dope strategy and earns the eternal love of the Zaire crowd chanting “Ali boma ye.”

**9. “The Longest Yard”**  
This refers to the 1974 version with Burt Reynolds and Eddie Albert and not

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“Brian’s Song” (Screen Gems Television)



“When We Were Kings” (Das Films)



“Kingpin” (Rysher Entertainment)



“Hoop Dreams” (KTCA Minneapolis)

## How to help in the Northland

News Tribune

### Meals and food donations

**Community Kitchen:** Duluth’s Damiano Center serves meals in the parking lot Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. 8:30-Continental breakfast, 8:30-9:30 a.m.; lunch, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.; and dinner, 5-6 p.m. Friday through Sunday only. Email info@damianocenter.org for more information.  
**Kids’ Kitchen:** Duluth’s

Damiano Center serves boxed meals Monday to Thursday from 3-6 p.m. at the Second Avenue West entrance. The building and other programs are closed except to staff and volunteers preparing meals. Email info@damianocenter.org for more information.  
**Two Harbors Food Shelf:** The Food Shelf is seeking monetary donations, as well as cereal, canned fruits and vegetables, tuna, tissues and other household items, such as shampoo and deodorant. Donations can be arranged

Monday to Thursday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call ahead at 218-391-8191 to ensure there are enough volunteers to accept donations.

### PPE donations

**Face cloth coverings for Duluth Public Schools:** Staff need cloth face coverings, not surgical masks or N-95 respirators. For more information about donating, email covidquestions@isd709.org or call 218-336-8735.

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