



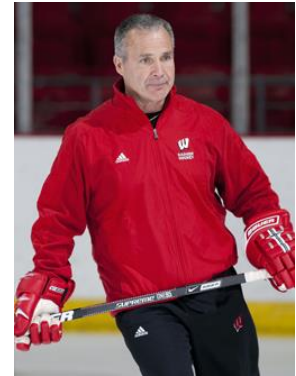
March 18, 2015

Friends of West Ranch Hockey Club,

I am very excited to announce Bill Butters as an advisor to our West Ranch Hockey Club!

Bill has coached the University of Minnesota Golden Gophers and the University of Wisconsin Badgers. As a player, Bill excelled at academics as well as hockey, being appointed Captain of the 1972-73 Minnesota Gophers by Head Coach Herb Brooks. Bill had a very successful professional career in the WHA, CHL, and NHL playing for the Minnesota Fighting Saints, Minnesota North Stars, Edmonton Oilers, Houston Aeros, New England Whalers and the Oklahoma City Stars.

Coach Butters now spends his time as one of the major contributors to Hockey Ministries International, which holds camps all over the world teaching kids that even tough hockey players can be good Christians.



Coach Bill Butters

Coach Butters is still very active in the Minnesota high school hockey scene and has a network of friends in the hockey world second to none. We are truly fortunate to have Bill be a part of our WRHC. Bill rarely gives interviews as he has never been one to draw attention to himself, so thank you so much Coach Butters for doing this Q&A interview for our WRHC families.

Question: You recently traveled to Kuwait as part of Minnesota Hockey Day 2015, what did you learn from that experience?

Coach Butters: That we in America have much to be grateful for. Many men and women are making huge sacrifices so we at home may enjoy our freedoms.

Question: Minnesota is called the State of Hockey, and for good reason given the high number of college and professional hockey players it produces. How big of a role does high school hockey play in this statistic?

Coach Butters: Many great players have played high school hockey. In fact, all Minnesota born players who have played in the NHL or college got their start playing Minnesota high school hockey. However, now some are leaving their homes to play in the USHL, too early.



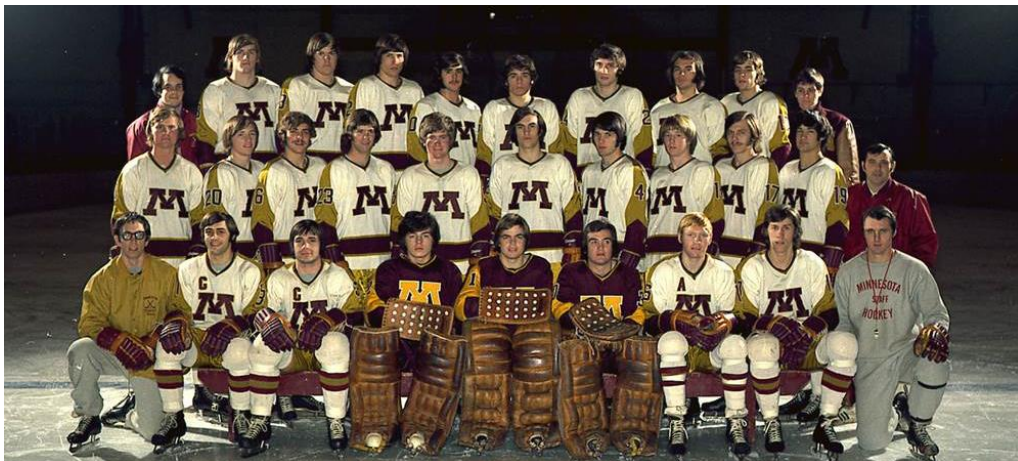
Herb Brooks at Minnesota

Question: You have coached the Minnesota Golden Gophers and the Wisconsin Badgers, arguably the two best college hockey programs in the country with eleven NCAA Division 1 Championships between them. Just how hard is it to make these teams?

Coach Butters: Coaches scout all over the world now...the talent pool has grown. Good players, students and people are still the top choices and coaches, like the Marines, are looking for a few good men.

Question: In your career you have played for two legendary coaches, Glen Sonmor and Herb Brooks, what made these coaches so good?

Coach Butters: They looked at what talents and personality a player brought to the team. Then, they had the ability to coach us up if and when we were lacking in a certain area.



Bill Butters Captain of Herb Brooks' First Gopher team

Question: West Ranch High School is a public school with just over 2,000 students very similar to White Bear Lake HS where you were head coach. We will be competing with private schools just like you did against Hill Murray. What do we need to do to build a successful program that can compete with the top high school programs in California and the USA?

Coach Butters: You need a strong youth program. Coaches that can instruct players skills and knowledge of the game and how to be a team and a team player.

Question: Hockey has become such a money business, with players being told they need to play in this league or for that team. Any advice for our WRHC players and parents? Why should they play for WRHC?

Coach Butters: If there is a strong program, stay at home and help make it stronger. Believe me the grass is rarely greener elsewhere. If your kid is good, a coach or scout will find him/her...the hockey world is small.

Question: Why did you agree to be an advisor to West Ranch Hockey Club?

Coach Butters: I really like loyalty. Kids can improve staying at home. What better place to get all the nourishment a kid needs.



Coach Butters with the Wisconsin Badgers

As an advisor to our West Ranch Hockey Club, Coach Butters has already helped me evaluate coaches and understand some of the challenges of building a high school hockey program today. Coach Butters will be great resource to our coaching staff as we structure our program and set goals and objectives for our teams.

Coach Butters will hopefully be able to come visit our WRHC players this summer as he is going to try to coach the HMI hockey camp at Ice Station Valencia the week of July 5th. Which I highly recommend btw, we had four kids from our Bantam team attend the boarding camp last summer and they all had a blast. For more information visit <http://www.hockeyministries.org/>

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at our evaluations this Saturday at Ice Station Valencia starting at 10:30 am. If you haven't registered yet for Saturday, please do so at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WRHCEvals>.

My best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason McNamara".

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