



Companion curriculum for GOALS “Hockey Stories”

This week’s feature is focused on the remarkable story of Craig Cunningham. His is another of our “hockey stories” that will showcase people or aspects of the hockey



community which are distinctive for many reasons – be they talent, courage, perseverance or leadership – or in most cases ALL of these great attributes. There are lessons to learn from these great players as outstanding people who set examples for all of us.

Remember, greatness is not always about being the best player – it is about trying your best, sticking with something and not giving up. Greatness is about overcoming what many may think are weaknesses, but you can turn them into strengths!

If you can print this page out, please do so then fill in the blanks to complete the full summary story. First make sure you watch the GOALS Hockey Story VIDEO though! If you can’t print it, you can still get a sheet of paper and fill out the correct answer when you come to a missing word in the story! Let’s go!

Cunningham was a solid young player who was drafted initially by the Boston Bruins in the NHL. He was strong and fearless – known for his leadership skills, high speed and considerable skill. After some NHL playing time he was traded to a team in the state of Arizona. What is the name of this NHL team located in that southwestern state?

Cunningham was an elite player of course and he was also a great leader. He was sometimes sent down to the minor league team in Tucson, Arizona to play. This team name is

While playing on this team in Tucson – also a professional level team, he was named to what leadership position on that team? _____

While warming up before one of the regular games Cunningham collapsed on the ice and emergency medical workers had to be called to take him to a local hospital. What organ in his body suffered a seizure?

Incredibly Cunningham survived the medical seizure but not that long after, he developed an infection in one of his legs due to circulatory problems. Doctors recommended that they had to perform a surgery to remove the lower portion of one of his legs. What was that surgery called? _____

Once again the brave player pulled through and vowed he would even skate again!!!! The Doctors and fans all around Tucson cheered for him! Then others in the hockey world learned of his strength and bravery! He was honored by retiring his uniform which was # _____. He was also honored at the AHL all-star game! Today he is enjoying GREAT health and now carrying out his new work as a talent scout for the Arizona NHL team. Our congratulation and best wishes go out to Craig Cunningham for inspiring us all!

By the way – Craig Cunningham IS skating again! He is living proof that if you persevere with courage you can overcome obstacles!