

Olympic hockey disputed

United Press International
SARAJEVO, Yugoslavia — The team built a love affair with an entire nation in 1980 now stands as the trigger that set off an international hockey controversy.

As the result of threatened action by the United States against neighboring Canada over the issue of player eligibility, Finland brought the messy affair into the open Sunday by filing a formal protest with the International Olympic Committee.

Thus, one day before the U.S. and Canada meet on the ice at Zetra Stadium in the opening program of the 14th Winter Olympics, a game that will be marked by certain hostility, the IOC will be called upon to issue a hasty decision concerning its official definition of what constitutes an amateur.

Whatever the outcome, it is not the kind of bright scenario the U.S. expected when it began defense of its marvelous "Miracle On Ice" of four years ago at Lake Placid.

In a ruling expected Monday, the Eligibility Committee of the IOC could decide to allow as many as 10 players, including four Canadians, for having signed professional contracts, or it can ease its restrictions and change the rules for 1988. If it does, this would give the U.S. and Canada a degree of parity with those Eastern European countries where all players are professionals, but are considered amateur.

"The IOC, at a press conference, will indicate whatever conclusion they come to,"

Col. Don Miller, the secretary general of the U.S. Olympic Committee, said Sunday evening following a closed door meeting.

"I must remain optimistic. It will be resolved by the IOC and whatever the resolution is we will follow.

"Our interest in this matter was to assure we are following the rules as disseminated by the IOC. If they want to change those rules, fine, we will abide by them."

Asked if he anticipated a change in amateur rules, Miller said, "There's always that possibility. Many people are looking at many different alternatives and whatever the results are the U.S. will accept."

Earlier in the day, Alan Eagleson, the chief negotiator for the Canadian team, said, "Let's just pray and hope it goes away."

That was the magic solution preferred by the leaders of the Amateur Hockey Association of the U.S., as well as the team, but the issue was brought out by Finland, upset when the IOC ruled its goaltender, Hannu Kamppuri, ineligible. Kamppuri had played one game with Edmonton in the World Hockey Association in 1978-79.

Finland decided that equal justice could be served only by filing the formal protest.

The U.S. has touched off the controversy when it indicated it might challenge at least four of the Canadian players, claiming they have signed professional contracts. These include goalie Mario Gosselin, who has signed with the Quebec Nordiques, forward Mark Morrison, who played nine games

with the New York Rangers, and minor leaguers Dan Wood and Don Dietrich.

The Canadians, in turn, accused the U.S. of using professionals in their gold medal effort at Lake Placid.

The Finns got into the act by protesting the eligibility of three Canadians, three Austrians, two Italians, one West German and one Norwegian.

"It's for Ripley's (Believe it or Not)," offered Sam Pollock, chairman of Hockey Canada. "The Russians are coming here with their full team and Norway's getting protested. Everyone signs a contract. The Czechs sign, the West Germans sign, the Russians sign. Everybody knows they sign contracts."

At the center of the dispute is the definition of an amateur. Canada claims any one with less than 11 games in the NHL retains his amateur status while U.S. officials contend that all it takes is the signing of a pro contract.

Larry Johnson, general manager of the U.S. team, offered the opinion that everyone would be allowed to play, with a change of rules coming along in 1988. Still, he added, "Anyone with a signed professional contract is ineligible. Whatever they do about this is completely up to them (the eligibility committee)."

"We just want to play the game. We don't give a damn about all this protesting. We're not against what the Canadians are doing. We just want the same rules applied to everyone."

TANK McNAMARA

by Jeff Millar & Bill Hinds



American skier has best run

United Press International
SARAJEVO, Yugoslavia — A long-awaited overnight snowfall finally brought smiles to the faces of worried Olympic ski racing officials Sunday and set the stage for a scorching run by American Bill Johnson.

Johnson, apparently in training for his role as the spoiler on the decidedly tame layout, which drops 803 meters along the 83 speed control gates, clocked the day's best practice time of 1:47.99 seconds.

Johnson finished nearly half a second quicker than Swiss racer Peter Mueller, who almost ended his downhill career on the same slope a year ago when he crashed at Sarajevo, suffering head injuries.

Austrian ace Franz Klammer had his problems with the new snow. The 30-year-old Klammer, a favorite to repeat his 1976 downhill gold, went off the course Sunday during training for Thursday's Olympic downhill and ended up in the netting.

Austria's national ski idol, excluded from his nation's Lake Placid team four years ago, went out of the running after he lost control on the s-turn midway down the 3.7 kilometer Olympic course.

"I did the splits, recovered but had to brake when I went into the soft new snow on the side," a disgusted Klammer said after his subpar performance.

What was trouble to Klammer was a delight to Olympic organizers, whose optimistic prayers and promises of snow on the way finally came true Saturday night.

Officials said the Bjelasnica course, site of all men's alpine racing during the two-week long Games, received an average of 4-6 inches of fresh snow which required packing.

Klammer made his unscheduled high-speed exit on the troublesome s-turn, which had a layer of ice for course crews to contend with before practice began Sunday.

Mueller tied for practice day second with Austrian Helmut Hoeflehner, the winner at Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy, three days ago.

Mueller said the new snow required a change of technique. "On new snow like this, you have to glide a lot," Mueller said.

"Standing too hard on the skies only makes you lose time. My chances for victory are good if there's decent weather."

Johnson said the new-found surface was fine by him.

"It'll be alright for the race," he said. "You gotta take what you get in a race. I tried to stay down in a tuck as much as possible but I had a little trouble in the fall-away righthand turns."

For the second day in a row, officials had to stop the training session due to low fog at the bottom section of the course. The first interruption came when less than half of the 78 competitors had come down.

Canadian Steve Podborski, who said he is determined to maintain his calm during the barrage of pre-Olympic hype, had a bad run, hitting a rock along the way which took a bit out of the side of his skis.

"I hate rocks," Podborski said, "but I also didn't have the right skis on. Things didn't work

today at all. But you learn by elimination."

Downhill hopefuls have three more days of training to get used to the slope before the Olympic downhill Thursday.

Ken's Automotive

421 S. Main — Bryan 822-2823

"A Complete Automotive Service Center"

- Tune-Ups
- Clutches
- Front End Parts Replacement
- Standard Transmission Repairs
- GM Computer Testing

All American Cars
 Datsun-Honda
 Toyota

10% Discount with Student I.D. on parts (Master Card & VISA Accepted)

Complete Auto Repair

Complete Auto Repair

FUDDRUCKERS

WORLD'S GREATEST HAMBURGERS

2206 S. TEXAS, COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS
 (BETWEEN HOLEMAN AND S.W. PKWY-JUST PAST WATER TOWER)

NOW OPEN

Monday thru Saturday
 11 am-11 pm
 Sunday Noon-10 pm

CHECK THE CLASSIFIEDS for All Your Needs

UNDERGROUND DELI AND STORE THE DIET PLACE

OPEN

BREAKFAST 7:30am - 10:30am
 LUNCH 10:30am - 3:30pm

Mon — Friday

"QUALITY FIRST"

Now Better Than Ever. You Will Be Pleased With These Carefully Prepared and Taste Tempting Foods. Each Daily Special Only \$2.39 Plus Tax. "Oper Daily"

Dining: 11 A.M. to 1:30 P.M. — 4:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M

MONDAY EVENING SPECIAL

Salisbury Steak with Mushroom Gravy Whipped Potatoes Your Choice of One Vegetable Roll or Corn Bread and Butter Coffee or Tea

TUESDAY EVENING SPECIAL

Mexican Fiesta Dinner Two Cheese and Onion Enchiladas w chili Mexican Rice Patio Style Pinto Beans Tostadas Coffee or Tea One Corn Bread and Butter

WEDNESDAY EVENING SPECIAL

Chicken Fried Steak w cream Gravy Whipped Potatoes and Choice of one other Vegetable Roll or Corn Bread and Butter Coffee or Tea

THURSDAY EVENING SPECIAL

Italian Candle Light Spaghetti Dinner SERVED WITH SPICED MEAT BALLS AND SAUCE Parmesan Cheese - Tossed Green Salad Choice of Salad Dressing — Hot Garlic Bread Tea or Coffee

FOR YOUR PROTECTION OUR PERSONNEL HAVE HEALTH CARDS.

FRIDAY EVENING SPECIAL

FRIED CATFISH FILET w TARTAR SAUCE Cole Slaw Hush Puppies Choice of one vegetable Roll or Corn Bread & Butter Tea or Coffee

SATURDAY NOON and EVENING SPECIAL

Yankee Pot Roast Texas Style (Tossed Salad) Mashed Potato w gravy Roll or Corn Bread & Butter Tea or Coffee

SUNDAY SPECIAL NOON and EVENING

ROAST TURKEY DINNER Served with Cranberry Sauce Cornbread Dressing Roll or Corn Bread - Butter - Coffee or Tea Giblet Gravy And your choice of any One Vegetable

"Quality First"

MSC Townhall presents

ANNE MURRAY



Thursday Feb. 23 8:00 pm
 G. Rollie White Coliseum
 Tickets \$8.50, \$8.00, \$7.00

MSC Box Office 845-1234

Option Pass Jan. 16-20
 General Sales Jan. 23

