LOOK AT HIM! THE WAY OUR NATIVE TALENT TAKES SPACE, HE SHOULD HAVE BEEN AN ASTRONAUT!

DON'T BE SO HARD ON HIM, DEAR! THE LITTLE DARLING IS GOING THRU A PHASE... A SLOW ONE!

SLOW, SMO! HE SHOULD BE OUT THERE EXPANDING THE POPNECKER LEGEND!

WELL, WHEN I WAS HIS AGE, I WAS THE BEST HOCKEY PLAYER IN TOWN!

I REMEMBER. IT WAS A GOOD THING YOUR FAMILY HAD DENTAL INSURANCE!

...AND HOW SHOULD HE DO THIS?
THIS COULD BE HIS CHANCE TO BECOME SOMETHING MORE LIKE ME!

PINCUS "THE BLUR" POPNECKER PLAYING THE TOUGHEST GUYS IN THE LEAGUE...

HOW WERE THEY? SOME OF THESE GUYS WERE SO TUFF THEY USED BARBED WIRE FOR DENTAL FLOSS!

BUT I WASN'T AFRAID... I BROKE FOR THE NET—AIMED—AND...

CRASSSSSHHHH!

huh? SOMETHING WRONG?

JUST GET UP AND PUT YOUR COAT ON... WE'RE GOING TO THE SKATING RINK!
HOCKEY?!!
O'MON--
you'll like it!

BUT DAD,
the only ice
I know is the
stuff that
floats in
soda pop!

WELL, HERE'S
your chance to
try some without
artificial
sweeteners!

HUMM... SOMETHING'S
WRONG WITH THIS
PICTURE...

WELL, SON--
TRUTH IS YOUR
MOTHER HAS THIS
THING AGAINST
REAL GUY STUFF!

WHY DID MOM
STAY HOME?

YOU MEAN--LIKE AN
ALLERGY?

WELL, YES! I GUESS YOU
CAN SAY THAT SHE'S ALLERGIC TO
HOCKEY AND FOOTBALL... SOCCER.

BESIDES, WHAT CAN
HAPPEN? WE HAVE
INSURANCE!

THIS IS
NOT
GOOD!
I don't think this is going to work, Dad!

You listen to me, Herbie! This isn't sports. This is a tradition... a chance to shine, to be the new blur of the family.

But Dad -- I've never played a game with a rubber cookie before!

Look... you shoot and you score and you win trophies... it's a simple game!

It's hopeless!

Just listen to your coach and we'll leave after the game.

Remember... I'll be watching!

Game?
A FEW MINUTES LATER...

OK. OK.
GATHER ROUND.
MY NAME IS BUD
BERRY AND I'M THE
COACH OF THE
MINIVILLE
MICE!

I'M THE GUY THAT WILL SHOW YOU ALL
THE NEAT STUFF YOU'LL NEED TO
BE THE LEAN, MEAN SCORING
MACHINE! WHAT YOU DON'T
UNDERSTAND, YOU ASK ME!

REMEMBER.
EVERYTHING STARTS
WHEN YOU SAY
"BUD," ANY
QUESTIONS?

WHY IS IT
WE ALL HAVE
THE NUMBER
13 ON THE
SWEATERS?

WELL, YA
SEE KID MONEY'S
TIGHT AND WE
GOT A GOOD DEAL
ON THE UNSOLD
SWEATERS, SO...

CHEAP SWEATERS,
BAD NUMBERS...
KINDA MAKES YA
FEEL LIKE A
WINNER!

OK, ENOUGH
TALK. I WANT
EVERYONE TO
HIT THE ICE!

... IT'S JUST AN
EXPRESSION! YOU CAN
GET UP NOW HERBIE.
As our hero picks himself off the ice, the roar of the crowd fills the air...

Kill the bums!

Nuke 'em 'til they glow!

Take their heads off!!

Feed 'em raw meat!

Take their heads off!

Tuff crowd! Is it always like this?

No, it's usually better when our folks don't show!

Are they better when you win?

I don't know! We haven't won a game yet!

...but don't worry! I feel our luck is about to change!

You mean... 'Yep, that's family... Kinda makes you wish you were born a marine, huh?
A FEW MINUTES LATER...
OK HERBIE... LET'S SEE YOUR WRIST SHOT!

THE STARE.

Noooooo!!

THE WIND UP!

THE PITCH!

HA HA HA HA HA

HA HA HA HA HA BONKS

HEY COACH! HERBIE JUST BEANBALED OUR GOALIE!

TRY USING YOUR STICK!!

MAYBE IT'S TIME TO TRY SLAPSHOT!

Whoops!

Ah... Sorry coach!

OK, HERBIE... ENOUGH! YOU EARNED AN OPENING ON OUR TEAM!
THE LOCKER ROOM...
BENCH!!
THIS WAS TO BE YOUR BIG CHANCE
AND YOU BLEW IT, HERBIE!

BUT DAD,
THE COACH DIDN'T
SAID IT WAS
PERMANENT.
HE SAID I
NEEDED
WORK!

HERBIE YOU
NEED A MIRACLE!
WELL I'M GOING BACK
TO THE GAME WHERE
THE REAL
HEROES ARE!

MEET
ME WHEN
YOU'RE
THROUGH.

DON'T LET
IT GET YOU
DOWN
HERBIE!

NICE OF YOU
TO DROP OVER
AND SAY SO, SAM...
BUT I GOT A
PROBLEM!

COMPARED
TO THE TEAM
YOU'RE A KING!!!
BIG Wahoooo! THEY
STINK AND THEY'RE
GIVING US MUCH A
BAD NAME!!
SO... WHAT
ARE YOU GOING TO
DO ABOUT IT?

WHAT CAN
I DO? THE GAME IS
ALMOST OVER... AND...
HEY... WHAT'S
GOING ON?

THE COACH IS
HAVING A BREAK-
DOWN AND WE'RE
DOWN BY THREE
POINTS... WE NEED
HELP, HERBIE!

O.K. I'LL
GO... BUT FIRST
LET'S SHOW
THEM WHO'S
NUMBER ONE!

THAT'S MY
BOY!!
The score is 3-0 for the biggest, meanest team in the league: the Garrison Gorillas?

Meanwhile, the “MiniVille Mice” have problems of their own...

H-have we met before sssrrrr?

Gulp!

Yeah, I was last Tuesday’s nightmare! How’s the bed linen, Squirt?

The “Gorillas’ win the face off...

“Crusher” Zambon’y rushes down the ice...

Wrong way.

...he’s turning around...

He shoots...

Crusher, doonnn’t!

...he scores... on his own net?
THE CROWD ROARS AND THE MINIVILLE MICE MARK THEIR FIRST GOAL EVER!

KILL 'EM!

MORE FAMILY?

YEP.

NUKE 'EM TILL THEY GLOW!

AS THE GAME ADVANCES, THE GORILLAS TRY EVERY DIRTY TRICK IN THE BOOK!

JUST GIVE ME A MINUTE... I KNOW IT'S ILLEGAL!

YEF HERBIE'S GOT PRECISE PASSING...

FORE!

PASS THE PUCK, HERBIE!

AND ASSISTS ON GOAL NUMBER TWO...

... AND GOAL NUMBER THREE!
THE SCORE IS NOW TIED WITH 10 SECONDS LEFT ON THE CLOCK AND THE "GORILLAS" ARE CONCERNED.

Hey, Brickhead! I want you to take the fat kid out.

Un huh! Yeah, yeah. I like that.

Ready for the face off, the "mice" stand alert while the crowd goes wild!

Ok. Everyone! Stay sharp and watch out for the baboons!

Herbie gets the pass.

Ok. Herbie, two minutes for cross checking!

But reff... he took a dive!

And the crowd agrees... almost!
WITH HERBIE ON THE BENCH, THE PLAYERS MAKE A VOW...

THE "MICE" WIN THE FACE OFF!

THE APES ARE GOING DOWN!

TOMMY SHOOTS...

IT HITS THE GOALIE...

AHOOOHAA!

AND THE "MICE" WIN!

TOO BAD MR. R. SLEPT THRU THE WHOLE THING!

TOUGH LUCK, HERBIE. BUT YOU DID US PROUD, ANYWAY!

BUT SUCH IS THE LIFE OF HERBIE...

YA, BUT YOU STILL DIDN'T SCORE! ...I CAN REMEMBER...

THE END