1980s Rock

DJ Victory Dance here! It’s January 28th, 1986, and you’re listening to the best mix of blues, gospel, and folk there is here on WRAR FM 80.8. Today’s a very special WRAR broadcast! We’re counting down to the Challenger liftoff and counting down the best hits of 1980s Rock music so far!

Thinking back to 1980, we can remember that this was the year music legend and Beatles co-founder John Lennon was assassinated. He will never, ever be replaced, and his music will forever be played. Here’s a recap of some of the news footage from December 8, 1980.

*John Lennon news break clip plays*

And we’ll be right back after this quick commercial break.

*“Where’s the Beef?” commercial plays*

Our first track in this countdown was released in 1980 on Ozzy Osbourne’s album *Blizzard of Ozz.* So put on your favorite neon clothing, tease your hair, or spike it into a Mohawk while you listen tothis next track “Crazy Train.”

*“Crazy Train” clip plays.*

Our next track is “You Shook Me All Night Long” by AC/DC, from the album Back in Black, released in 1980.

*“You Shook me All Night Long”clip plays.*

In a good mood? I’m not talking just an “August 12, 1981 the PC was just introduced” kinda mood. Only dweebs care about that! I’m talking a “concert challenge” mood, here on WRAR! Here are the hints: This next song is by Journey, released on their album *Escape* in 1981. Anyone know what it is? Call in at 555-555-2155, be the 5th caller, and get the answer correct to win a pair of tickets to Michael Jackson’s upcoming sold out concert!

Caller: I think it’s Don’t Stop Believin’?

DJ: That is correct! You just won the Michael Jackson tickets!

Caller: (screams) OH MY GOD!!!

DJ: You hear that right, our next track is “Don’t Stop Believin’” here on WRAR.

*“Don’t Stop Believin’” clip plays.*

Since we’re counting down until the Challenger launch makes some new history, let’s not forget another major historical event that happened in the 1980s. On March 30, 1981, President Ronald Reagan survived being shot in an assassination attempt. Here is what happened…

*Reagan news break clip plays*.

Has it been a long day at school? Are you ready to kick back your heels with your homeboys? Why not grab a burger or a frosty at Wendy’s? You won’t be asking “Where’s the beef?” The next song is sponsored by Wendy’s. It’s Michael Jackson’s hit “Beat It,” which came out on his album *Thriller* in 1982. So throw on your glitter glove and do the moonwalk because here comes some Michael Jackson.

*“Beat It” clip plays.*

This next song is one of my favorites. It borders between pop and rock, but I’m going to go out on a limb and say that the use of guitar means I can include this song in our 1980s rock countdown -- but maybe I’m just biased. Released on the album *Rio*, here’s Duran Duran’s “Hungry Like the Wolf.

*“Hungry Like the Wolf” clip plays.*

Hey, did you know that the wreck of the Titanic was found on September 1, 1985? I mean that’s cool, but what are they going to do? Make a movie about it? Yeah, right! This next song is definitely not rock and roll enough for this broadcast, but it’s a pretty good song, so, from the album *Toto IV*, performed by Toto, here’s “Africa.”

*“Africa” clip plays.*

Okay, so we all know when *Thriller* was released, but how many of you know when this next song was released? It’s Survivor’s “Eye of the Tiger.” Oh, and it was released on the album *Eye of the Tiger* in 1982.

*“Eye of the Tiger” clip plays.*

We’re getting pretty close to the Challenger liftoff here! Just a few songs to go! This next song is U2’s “Sunday Bloody Sunday,” released on the album *War* in 1983. U2 has said the lyrics refer to the events of Sunday Bloody Sunday in 1972 and Bloody Sunday in 1920, but aren’t specifically about either event. The song takes the viewpoint of someone horrified by violence. Rock out to this next song now!

*“Sunday Bloody Sunday” clip plays.*

Our next song is from 1984, released on the album *Love at First Sting*. You might’ve guessed it – it’s “Rock You Like a Hurricane” by the Scorpions.

*“Rock You Like A Hurricane” clip plays.*

This next song, which will be played as the Challenger makes liftoff, was released by the legendary Bruce Springsteen. He was born on September 23, 1949 in Freehold, New Jersey – which is pretty close to where I’m from. He has released 7 albums to date, 2 of which have gone Number 1. He has won Best Rock Vocal Performance for a male at the 1985 Grammy Awards for his song “Dancing in the Dark.” He was influenced by the Beatles, his nickname is “the Boss,” and he had his music played in the 1982 film *Dead End Street*. His album *River* went Number 1 and so did this next track. It’s the title track from the 1984 album *Born in the USA*. So kick back, play some Pac-Man, get excited about the Challenger liftoff, and rock out to this next track.

*“Born in the USA” clip plays and is cut off.*

It appears as if something has gone wrong with the Challenger launch. We’re going to turn it over to the breaking news so we can figure our what’s going on.

*Broadcast ends with the Challenger breaking news clip.*