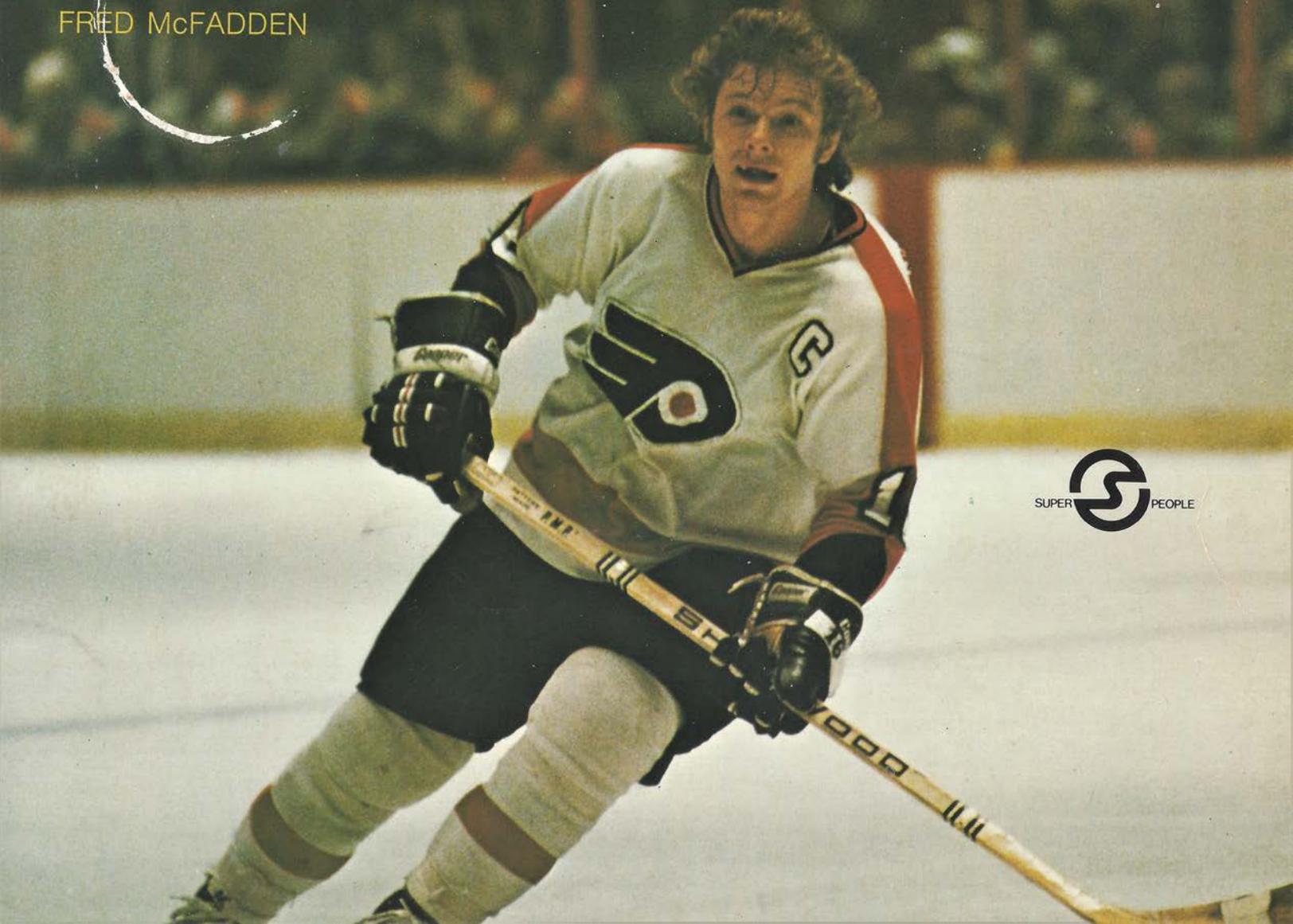


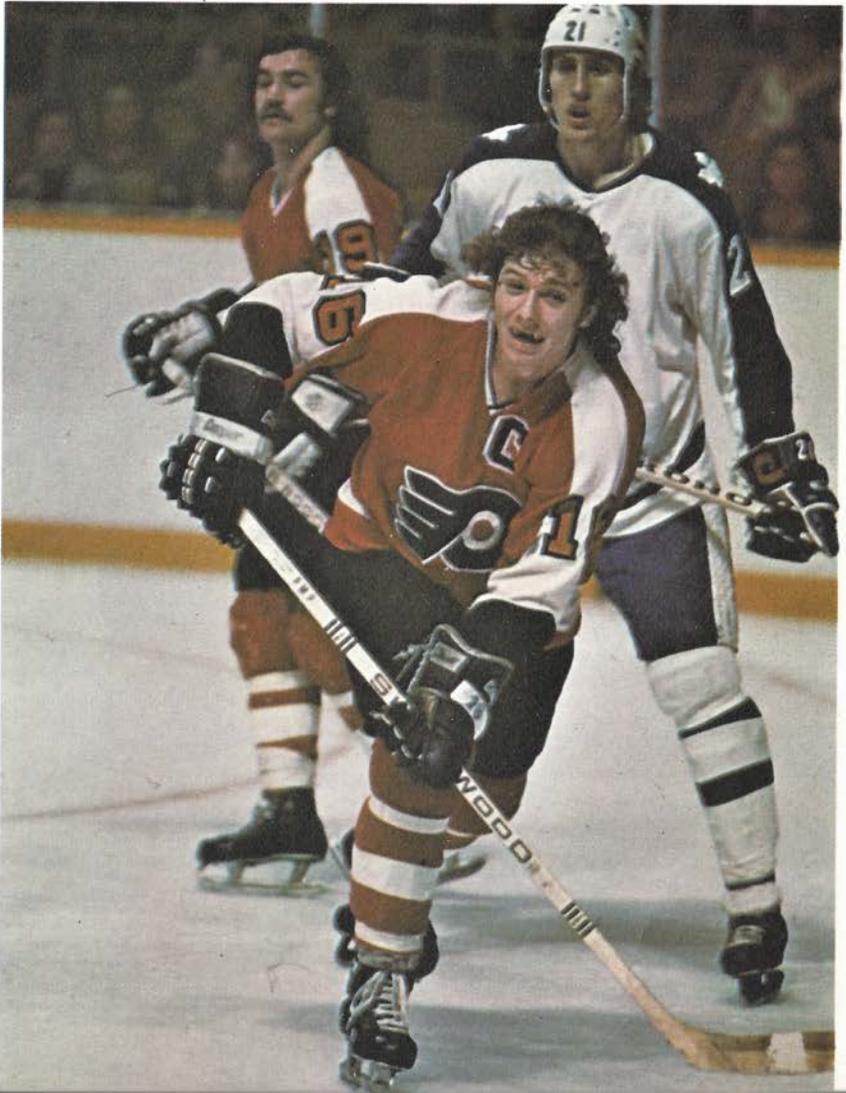
BOBBY CLARKE

FRED McFADDEN



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Fitzhenry and Whiteside

Bobby Clarke

Fred McFadden

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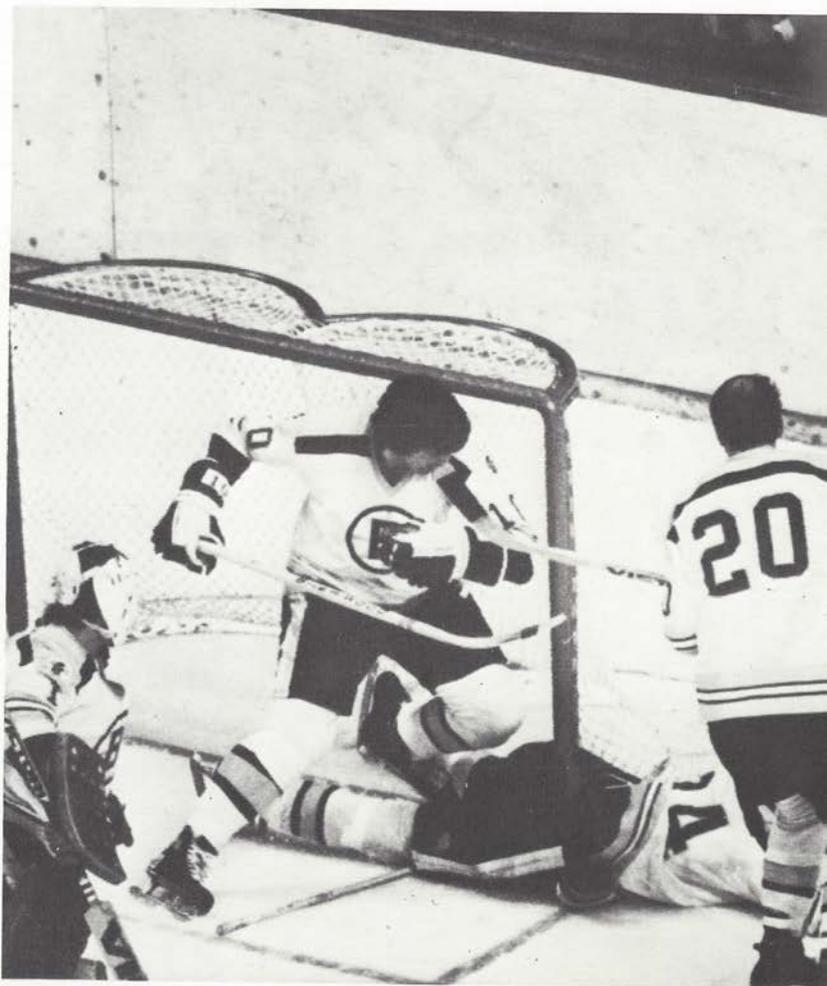
Superpeople Series 

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Clarke's sudden-death goal.

CHAPTER 1

An Important Victory

No one expected Philadelphia to win the Stanley Cup in 1974, but now they were in the finals against Boston. Since they had entered the National Hockey League as an expansion team in 1967, they had played the Bruins in Boston nineteen times – losing seventeen games and tying two.

In the first game of the finals, Bobby Orr led the Bruins to an easy victory over the Flyers. Most fans expected them to sweep the series.

Before the second game, the Flyer's captain Bobby Clarke quietly spoke to the players in the dressing room. He didn't usually speak to the players, but this game was special.

"Alright, guys, tonight we give it a little extra. If we're going to win, everybody has to work harder."

The players all knew that Bobby would work twice as hard as anyone else.

For this game he seemed to be more tireless than ever. He was the centre on the top line; he



led the powerplay; he helped kill off Philadelphia penalties; he seemed to have the puck most of the time. He scored the first Philadelphia goal. With 50 seconds to go in the third period, and Boston leading 2-1, he assisted 'Moose' Dupont on the tying goal.

In overtime, although dead tired, Clarke inspired the Flyers to forget their fatigue. After twelve minutes, he broke in and fired a backhander at the Boston goal. Gilles Gilbert flopped to the ice and blocked the shot. Bobby dashed in, picked up the rebound, and flipped the puck over the sprawling Gilbert to score the winner.

The Flyers had beaten Boston at home. The jinx was broken. Bobby Clarke had played one of the greatest games of his life.

The Flyers went on to do the impossible. For the first time, an expansion team won the Stanley Cup. The sportswriters had a difficult choice to select the outstanding player in the series for the Conn Smythe trophy – Bernie Parent or Bobby Clarke. They selected Bernie Parent for his excellent netminding.

Bep Guidolin, the Boston coach, disagreed.

"They're nuts. Clarke's the guts of the Philadelphia team. He's the guy that chased us out of the rink."





For Bobby Clarke, it was a fantastic feeling. "They said we couldn't beat the old teams like Boston Bruins or New York Rangers or Montreal Canadiens. They said we didn't have the class to win the Stanley Cup. But we showed them. It was a great team victory, and the biggest thrill of my life."



CHAPTER 2

Growing up in Flin Flon

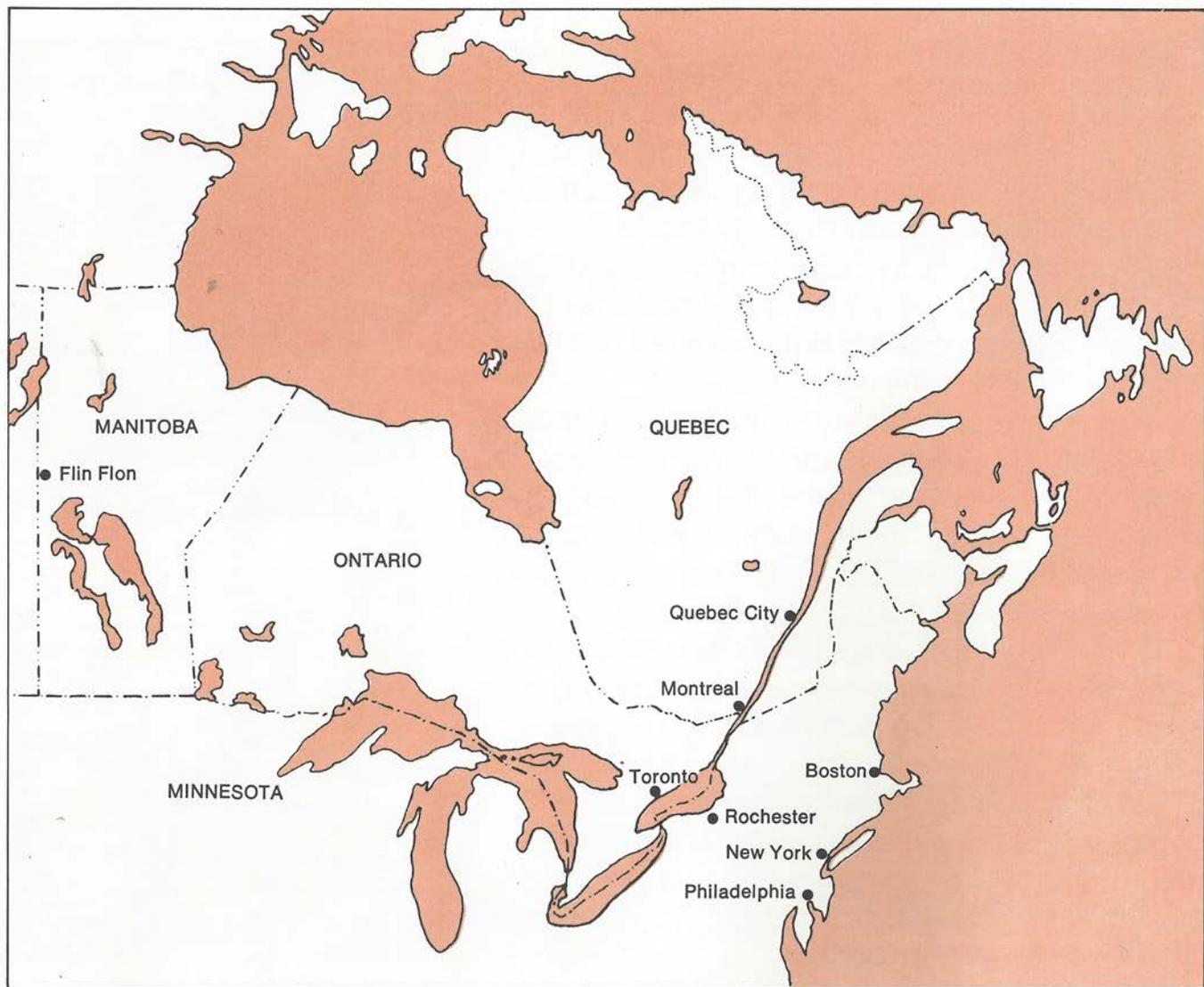
Eight hundred kilometres north of Winnipeg is the small town of Flin Flon. It is an isolated community of about 12,000 people, built on the bare rock of the Canadian Shield. The Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company, which mines copper, zinc, gold and silver, is the only industry in town.

In 1913, pioneer and prospector Tom Creighton discovered gold near a lake in Northern Manitoba. The place reminded him of a story that he had once read, in which the hero, Josiah Flintabbatey Flonatin, explored a bottomless lake and discovered a city of gold. So Creighton named the site Flin Flon after the hero of the story, and it has been called that ever since.

It was here, on August 13, 1949, that Bobby Clarke was born. His father had lived near Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, but had moved to Flin Flon to get a job in the mines in the 1930's. Bobby and his younger sister Roxanne grew up in this small northern town.



Bobby at seven months.



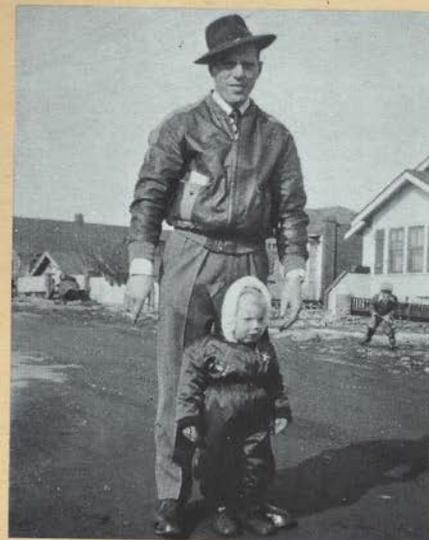
Flin Flon

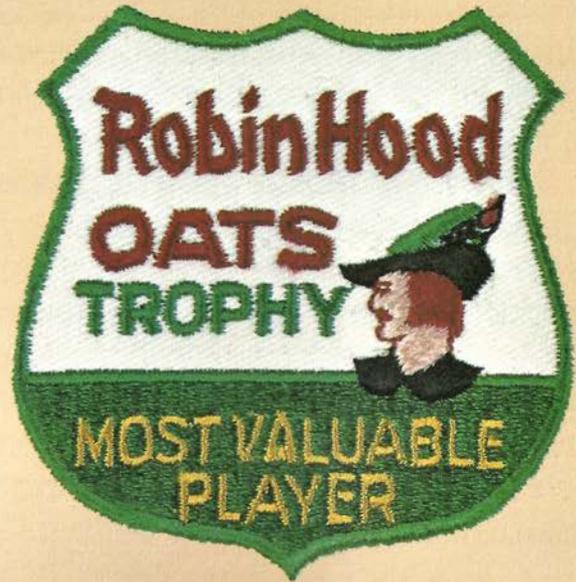
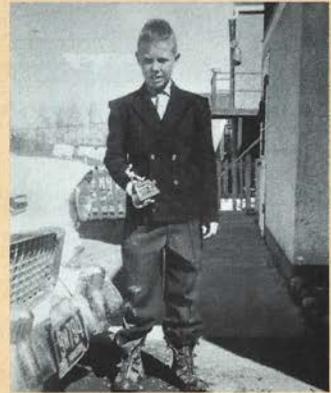
Mrs. Clarke says, "It was a good community for kids. There was little opportunity for them to get into trouble. They were kept busy all of the time with school and sports, but mainly sports."

Like most fathers, Cliff Clarke encouraged his children to play hockey. He built a small rink in the backyard. It was here that Bobby started to skate and play hockey at the age of four.

Flin Flon is so far north that the temperature is below freezing from October to April. Bobby and Roxanne and the older boys and girls could skate almost every day during this time. Sometimes the temperature dropped to -40° , but they still played hockey and skated most of their spare time.

The outdoor ponds and rinks of Western Canada have produced many outstanding hockey stars – Max and Doug Bentley, Gordie Howe, Johnny Bucyk, Norm Ullman, Garry Unger and Bryan Trottier, to name only a few. In these communities, the hockey season lasts over six months; the outdoor rinks are free and always available; and there are not many other activities to take you away from hockey.





Bobby Clarke played hockey every day after school, and for hours every weekend. It was here that he developed the skating skills that helped to make him an NHL allstar.

But Bobby was not always a star. His parents remember that when he started skating, he was very awkward and went over on his ankles.

When Bobby was 8, he started playing on his first organized team. "When I started, I was just an average player. I used to score 2 or 3 goals a year. But our coaches told us to just play and have fun, and we sure did." His first coach remembers, "Bobby was a small, quiet, shy kid, without special ability. But he listened carefully, and he tried hard. He was a great young kid to coach."

Most young Canadian boys watch *Hockey Night in Canada* on TV every Saturday night. This is part of growing up. Many dream of being another Orr or Dryden or Howe or Hull. But when Bobby Clarke was growing up, Flin Flon was so far north that it was out of the range of TV signals. Bobby never saw television until he was about 11. Even then, the local station only got films of the previous week's hockey game.



Bobby (left) always enjoyed a Saturday with friends at the rink.



Bobby kept active all year round.

“When I was a kid, I hardly knew about the NHL. I had heard of Rocket Richard and Gordie Howe and some of those stars, but I didn’t think about playing for a professional team. Hockey was just fun. I think that’s the way it should be for kids today. There’s too much emphasis on winning, and getting ready for the pros. Kids should have more chance just to play the game. That’s the way we did it in Flin Flon.”

Bobby was active in most sports. He was a good catcher on the local baseball team. He liked to go swimming, and obtained several Red Cross badges. He also enjoyed cubs and scouts.

Unfortunately, Bobby began to lose interest in school when he got to high school. “A few times, I skipped class to play hockey. Sometimes, if I was sent home from school for misbehaving, I went to play hockey instead. My parents were not very happy with that, as they wanted me to do well in school. But school was never very interesting to me.”

Mrs. Clarke says, “Bobby liked to play hockey more than anything else. He was happy playing hockey any time or any place. I don’t think that he could have survived without it.”

CHAPTER 3

Minor Hockey

“Bobby, You’d Better Give Up Hockey”

When Bobby was fifteen, he began to feel unusually tired. His mother warned him, “Bobby, you need more rest. Why don’t you stay inside, instead of playing hockey all the time?”

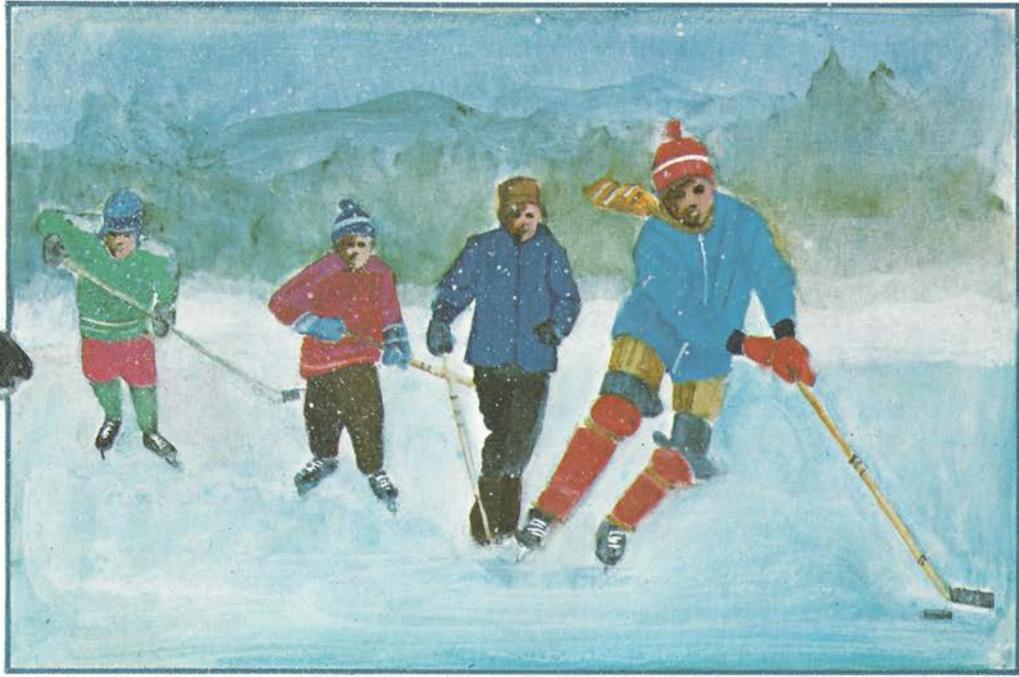
“But the other guys aren’t tired, Mom. I’ll be O.K.”

But Bobby was thirsty most of the time, and he began to have double vision. When he started to lose weight, his parents knew that something was wrong. They took him to the doctor, who examined him carefully. The doctor told Bobby that he had diabetes.

The doctor sat down with Bobby and his parents. “Bobby, this means that you won’t have the energy to play sports like other boys your age. You’d better give up hockey. Or if you want to play, why don’t you become a goalie?”

Bobby was very upset. He wanted to do things like other kids his age, and they all enjoyed the skating and fast action of hockey. He asked the





doctor, "Couldn't I try to play hockey? I'll take care of myself – and I know that I can do it."

"Well, you can play, but you must take special care of your diet. You will have to take an insulin injection every day for the rest of your life, and get lots of sleep. If you do that, we'll give it a try."

Bobby was relieved. He knew that he would take care of himself. Even if it meant that he had to work harder than others, he was determined to do his best.



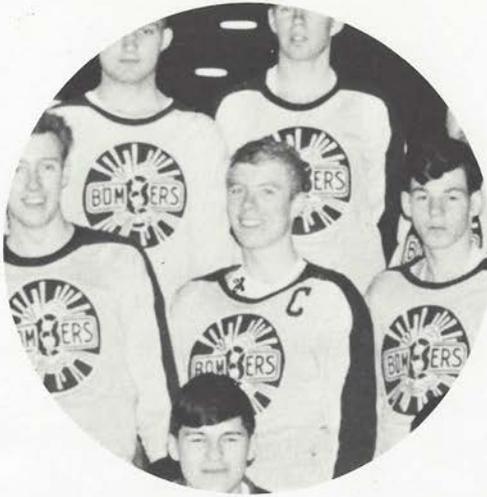
Diabetes is a disease in which the body cannot absorb sugar from foods. The *pancreas* is the part of a normal person which produces *insulin*. This acts upon sugar in the bloodstream to change it into energy. A diabetic person lacks natural insulin, so the sugar is not changed to energy. The person becomes tired and listless.



Best

Banting

In 1922, two Canadian doctors, Frederick Banting and Charles Best, discovered a means of producing insulin to help diabetics. Before this time, many people with diabetes died. With the insulin developed by Banting and Best, a person could live a normal life if they had a proper diet, a daily injection of insulin and plenty of rest. Since nearly half a million people in Canada alone are affected by diabetes, this has been one of the great medical discoveries of history.



The Desire to Win

Bobby had developed into a good hockey player even before he had diabetes. But the disease created a new situation.

“I was determined that if I was going to be as good a hockey player as the others, I would never use my diabetes as a crutch.” About the time he was sixteen, his coaches and other players recognized Bobby’s fiery desire to play and to win. He did not fool around in practices.

“Smarten up, you guys,” Bobby yelled at some teammates. “You don’t win games by horsing around in practice.” His coach noticed when Bobby spoke, the others responded. He gradually became the natural leader of his team. He also developed into the best player in Flin Flon.





Reggie
Leach

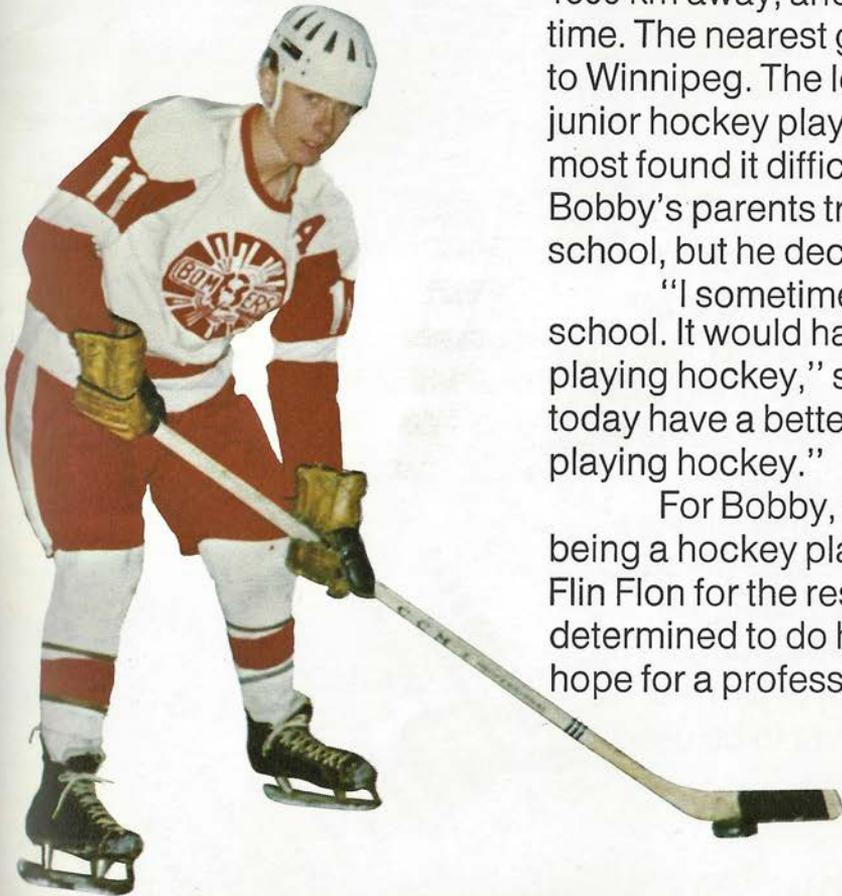
Bobby
Clarke

Flin Flon Junior Bombers

The Flin Flon hockey games were the most important events in town. Most of the players worked in the mine for four hours and practised two hours every day. Road trips went to cities like Winnipeg, Saskatoon and Regina, sometimes over 1500 km away, and often lasted 2 or 3 weeks at a time. The nearest game involved a 10-hour bus ride to Winnipeg. The local high school discouraged junior hockey players from staying in school, since most found it difficult to keep up their school work. Bobby's parents tried to encourage him to stay in school, but he decided to quit.

"I sometimes wish that I had stayed in school. It would have helped me when I finish playing hockey," says Bobby. "Young players today have a better chance to go to school while playing hockey."

For Bobby, his future was a choice between being a hockey player, or working in the mines in Flin Flon for the rest of his life. Bobby was determined to do his best in junior hockey, and hope for a professional career.

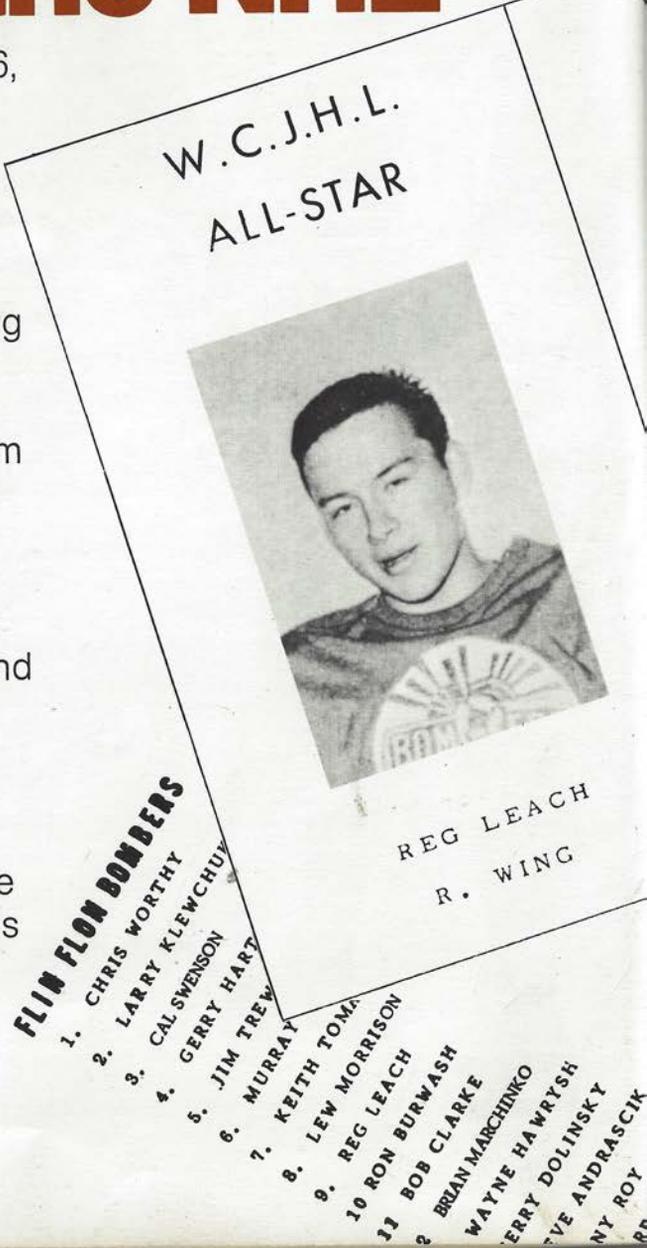


CHAPTER 4

The Road to the NHL

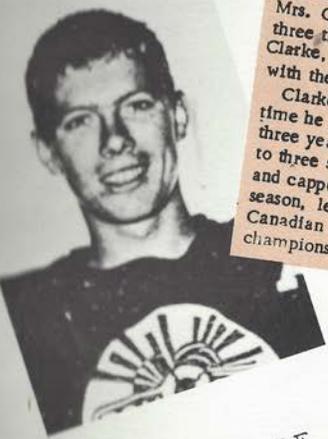
When Bobby started playing junior hockey in 1966, he was quite small. But as always he hustled and worked hard. His coach Pat Ginnell recalls, "Bobby was a quiet, thin young kid, who wore glasses. He was not spectacular, and he didn't look like a future star. But he was a hard skater, and worked like a demon. I knew that he was going to be one of the best kids I ever coached."

Bobby played for the Flin Flon Bombers for three years. He was the scoring leader for his team each year. In his second season, he scored 51 goals and had 117 assists, to lead the Western Junior League in scoring. He teamed with his winger, Reggie Leach, to be the best scoring pair in the league. The next year he scored 51 goals and had 86 assists and was again the scoring champion. He worked so hard that other players were bound to follow him, and so he was made team captain. In 1969 he won the award as the best junior hockey player in Western Canada. The people of Flin Flon thought so much of him that his number 11 sweater was retired, never to be used by another player.



J.H.L.
STAR

1966-67



BOB CLARKE
CENTRE

Bombers Retire "11"

OCT 69

Flin Flon Bomber hockey club retired its first number and the honor went to the young local star, who probably did more than anyone else to restore a floundering Bomber franchise to a level of respectability.

In brief pre-game ceremonies on Saturday night, Board Chairman Nyall Hyndman presented sweater number "11" to Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Clarke, parents of three time scoring champion Bob Clarke, who is presently training with the NHL Philadelphia Flyers.

Clarke, an instant hit from the time he joined the Bombers three years ago, sparked the club to three successive pennants, and capped a great career last season, leading the club to a Canadian Hockey Association championship. In his three years

he was a runaway winner of the scoring title, and had a career total of a 172 regular season goals with the Bombers. However, he was probably better recognized

(Cont'd, Page 8)



Large Crowd Enjoys Signs Contract Bobby Clarke Night

SAT AUG 25

RETIRE (Cont'd.)
as a playmaker and inspirational leader of the Bombers and in his final year captained the club enroute to its Dominion title.

"We retired the number in recognition of Bob's great contribution to the club," said Coach Pat Ginnell. "I cannot think of any junior player, past, present or future who could wear that number with the same dedication that Bob did over the past three years. He was a great playmaker and leader and coached."



Bomber star centre of the past three years, Bob Clarke, will be toiling in the professional ranks, and possibly will make the jump from junior to the National Hockey League.

It was learned today that Clarke signed a contract with the Philadelphia Flyers yesterday. He has been practising with the parent club for the past week or so, and whether or not he will remain with the Flyers, or be farmed out, will probably be determined at the end of the exhibition schedule. No financial details of the contract were revealed.

RETIRE (Cont'd.) as a playmaker and inspirational leader of the Bombers and in his final year captained the club enroute to its Dominion title.

"We retired the number in recognition of Bob's great contribution to the club," said Coach Pat Ginnell. "I cannot think of any junior player, past, present or future who could wear that sweater with the same dedication as Bob did over the past three years. He was a great playmaker, a great team leader and one of the finest players I ever coached," he added.

SAT AUG 19 1973

Bob Clarke

The Word Is Class



1347

"Bobby Clarke Night" Hockey Exhibition

Saturday, August 25, 1973

WHITNEY FORUM

PROCEEDS TO LOCAL HOCKEY

ADMISSION

ADULTS

\$2.50

1347

NO.

NO.

LETTY GINN
CLOBBZU

His coach knew that Bobby could be a star in the pro leagues. But hockey scouts always raised the question, "What about his diabetes? Could he handle the long schedules and rough play of the NHL?"

The Flin Flon team arranged for Bobby to go to the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, to have a complete medical check-up. The doctors reported that Bobby's diabetes should not hinder his ability to play hockey if he continued to take good care of himself.

The NHL Draft, 1969

Each June, the NHL teams draft some of the bright young amateur hockey players. The best players are usually picked first. In 1969 many thought that Bobby would be an early selection. But the coaches were still afraid to gamble on Bobby's diabetes.

Gerry Melnyk, the scout for the Philadelphia Flyers in Western Canada, had carefully read the report from the Mayo Clinic. He knew how good a hockey player Bobby was, and he knew how disciplined Bobby was about his diet and rest. He insisted that Bobby have a chance to prove himself.



Bobby shows his early style against the Vancouver Canucks.



However, in the first round Philadelphia drafted Bob Currier. Other teams drafted such players as Ernie Moser and Frank Spring, and others who failed to really make it in the NHL. Jim Skinner, the chief scout for Detroit, had lived in Flin Flon and knew Bobby was talented. But Detroit was looking for a goalie and skipped Clarke. In the second round when Bobby was still available, Philadelphia picked him – the seventeenth player picked.

The Training Camp Scare

In September 1969, Bobby arrived at the Philadelphia training camp in Quebec City.

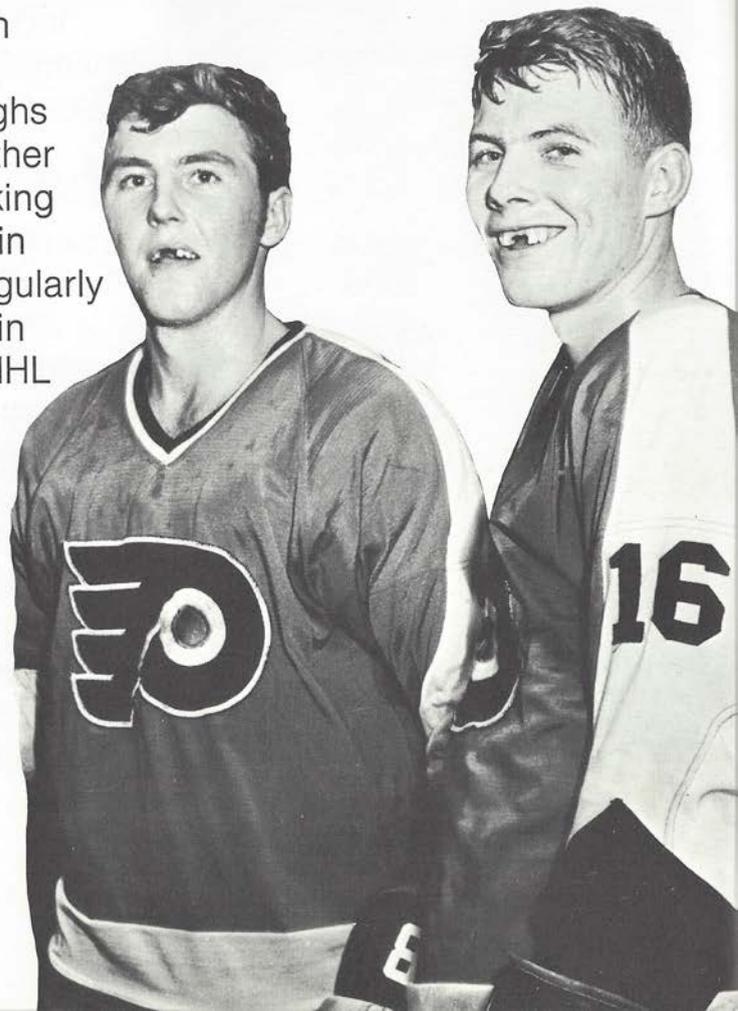
“I was very nervous. I didn’t know how I would do against the pros. I had only seen two NHL games in my life. I only knew one player on the team, Lew Morrison, who had played in Flin Flon. I was just a young kid, lost in the big city.”

Bobby had to take an injection of insulin every morning, and eat regular meals. One morning, in a rush to get to practice on time, Bobby skipped his breakfast. At the workout, he almost passed out. Some people feared that this proved that Bobby was not strong enough to stand up to the strain of playing in the NHL.

But this warning made Bobby realize that he would simply have to follow the doctor's instructions exactly – regular meals, lots of rest, and his injection of insulin every day. Since then, Bobby has never had another insulin scare. He eats regular foods and watches his diet carefully. He takes a soft drink with a cube of sugar before each game, and some orange juice between periods.

He is about 175 cm in height and weighs about 80 kg, which is not big compared to other players in the NHL. He plays a robust, checking style of play, which means that he has to be in excellent shape. He works out in the gym regularly during the season and in the summer. He is in excellent health, and has never missed an NHL game because of illness.

Bobby was welcomed to the Flyers by Lew Morrison, his friend from Flin Flon. Both show the “hockey smile”.



CHAPTER 5

The Rookie Becomes Team Leader



When Bobby moved to Philadelphia, it was the first time he had ever lived in a big city.

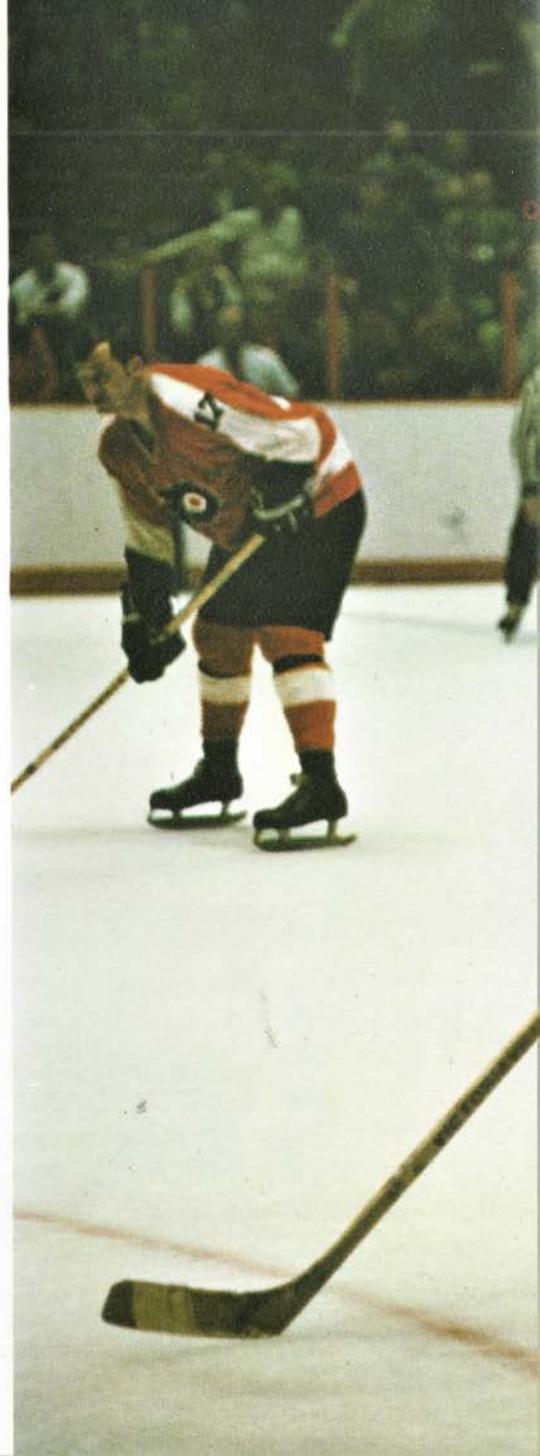
“I was scared stiff in Philadelphia. Flin Flon has only a couple of main streets, and I knew everybody. But Philadelphia is a huge city, with so many people, and all in a hurry to go somewhere. Even though I had driven cars and trucks in Flin Flon, I was afraid to drive in Philadelphia traffic. But after a couple of months I got used to it.”

Bobby was nervous playing his first game, which was against Minnesota. The first time he got the puck, he was checked by Bill Goldsworthy, who went in and scored.

“That was a great start,” said a disgusted Bobby. But he soon settled down, and has been one of the leaders of the Flyers ever since.



Bobby was happy to have made the Flyers. But he was determined to work his hardest until his team made it to the top.





In his first season, he scored 15 goals and had 31 assists. He finished second to Tony Esposito for the Calder trophy as the rookie of the year. The next season he had 63 points, and in 1971-1972 he had 35 goals and 46 assists for 81 points. Since then he has always been among the leading scorers.

In 1973, at the age of 23, he was selected to be the captain of the Flyers, the youngest captain in the history of the NHL. He was not picked just for his ability to score goals. Bobby is the team leader on and off the ice. In practices, he listens carefully to coaches Fred Shero and Mike Nykoluk. When he skates, he digs hard all the time. He always gives one hundred per cent.

Vic Stasiuk was Bobby's first NHL coach. "Bobby just gives and gives and gives. He loves the challenge of playing. He is a great competitor, and he hates to lose."

All of Bobby's coaches have noted how Bobby's play fires up the other players.

"Clarke is the perfect captain," says Fred Shero. "I never had a team with so much courage and discipline and spirit. And most of it comes from Clarke."

Bobby is the team leader in many ways. In 1972-73, when teammates Simon Nolet and Bill Flett were in a scoring slump, Bobby asked to have them as his wingers. They practised together after the other players left the ice. With Clarke as his centre, Flett scored 43 goals. "Having Bobby as your centre is worth an extra 20 goals to any winger," Flett claims.

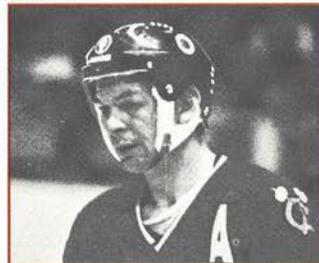
When players are having other problems, Bobby will take them aside to help them out. If the players have a complaint against the Philadelphia management, Bobby speaks for the team – and management listens.

Canada–Russia, 1972

In the summer of 1972, it was announced that at long last a Canadian professional hockey team would play against a Russian team. Coach Harry Sinden selected the best players in the league to make up a super all-star team. Bobby Clarke was one of the last players selected. Sinden picked six centres – Phil Esposito, Stan Mikita, Gil Perreault, Red Berenson, Jean Ratelle and Walter Tkaczuk. When Tkaczuk couldn't get away from his hockey school, Bobby Clarke was picked as his replacement.



Phil Esposito

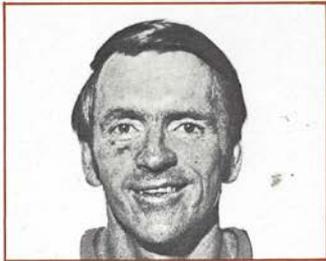


Stan Mikita



Gilbert Perreault

Clarke's linemates and fellow centres on Team Canada.



Red Berenson



Jean Ratelle



Ron Ellis



Paul Henderson

“When I went to the Team Canada training camp, I didn’t expect to play much. They had Esposito, Mikita and all those other stars. But I was thrilled to be even picked, so I decided to give it a try and hope for the best.”

Bobby was placed at centre on a line between Paul Henderson and Ron Ellis of the Toronto Maple Leafs. Clarke was the persistent checker and playmaker, and Ron Ellis was a solid defensive player. Paul Henderson, a fast-skating winger, rose to great heights as one of the top scorers in the whole series. The trio was the most consistent Canadian line. Much of the success of the line was due to the leadership of Bobby Clarke.

Boris Kulagin, the Russian coach, recognized Bobby’s abilities. “Not only is he an excellent skater and checker, but he is completely unselfish. He makes every move count for the team, not just for show. Bobby Clarke is the best all-round player on the Canadian team.”

“I really enjoyed playing against the Russians,” says Bobby. “There is something special about playing for your country. It’s different than just playing for the money. I would like to play for Canada against Russia again. It’s a fantastic experience and I would like to have another chance.”





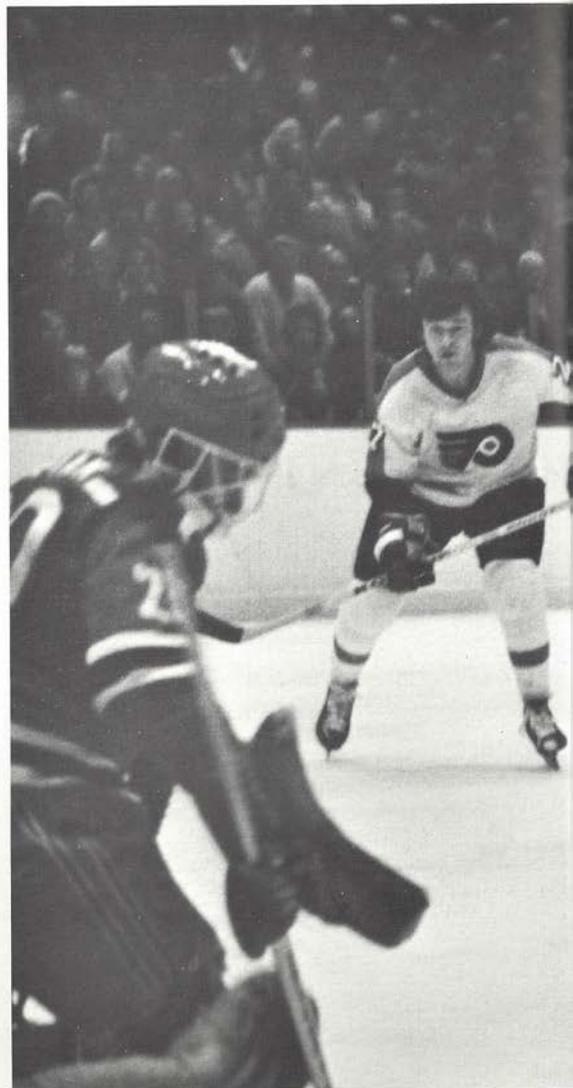
The Red Army Team

In January 1976 the touring Red Army team met the Flyers in Philadelphia. Fred Shero and the Philadelphia players had carefully studied films of the Russian team to see their style of play. They had practised how to forecheck the Russians in their own zone, to break up their careful patterned plays.

Before the game, Bobby Clarke got together with the Flyer forwards for one last chalk talk. "Guys, if we play our style and check their forwards we can take them."

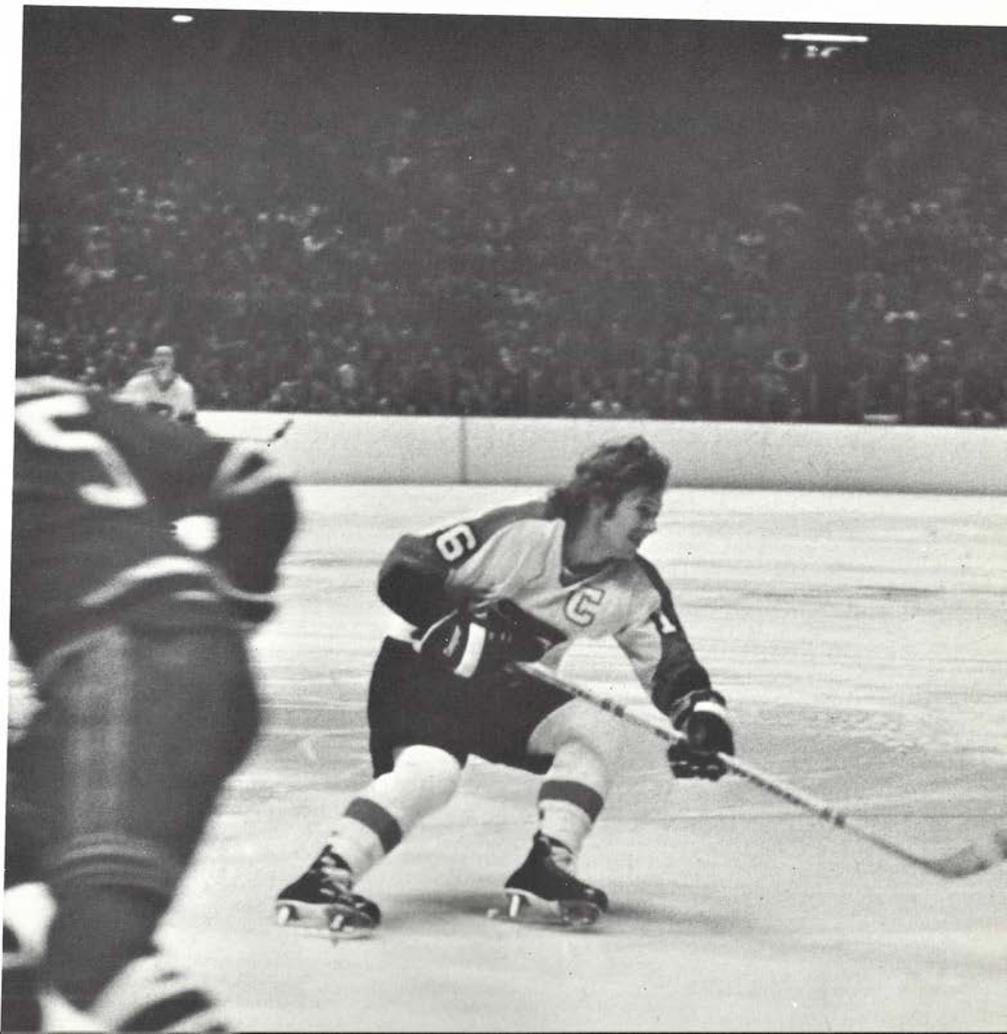
Some other teams playing against the Russians had been anxious and tense before the game. Somehow, when Bobby spoke in his quiet manner, the players were reassured. When they went out on the ice, they were calm, and confident that if they followed their game plan, they would win.

As the players were individually introduced, the Flyers' fans cheered enthusiastically. Finally, the announcer called, "Number 16, Bobby Clarke," and a tremendous ovation greeted the hero of Philadelphia.



Clarke scrambles in front of Tretiak, with Leach cruising in for the rebound.

The Flyers played their usual robust, aggressive style of play, and decisively defeated the Red Army 4 to 1. As usual, Bobby Clarke set the pace for this victory with his solid checking, accurate passing, tireless skating and plain hard work.



CHAPTER 6

Pursuit of the Stanley Cup

Bobby has continued to improve each year in the NHL. In 1972-73, he scored 37 goals and had 67 assists. He was second in scoring to Phil Esposito, and was picked to the second allstar team. He was honoured that year by winning the Hart Memorial trophy as the “player judged to be the most valuable to his team.”

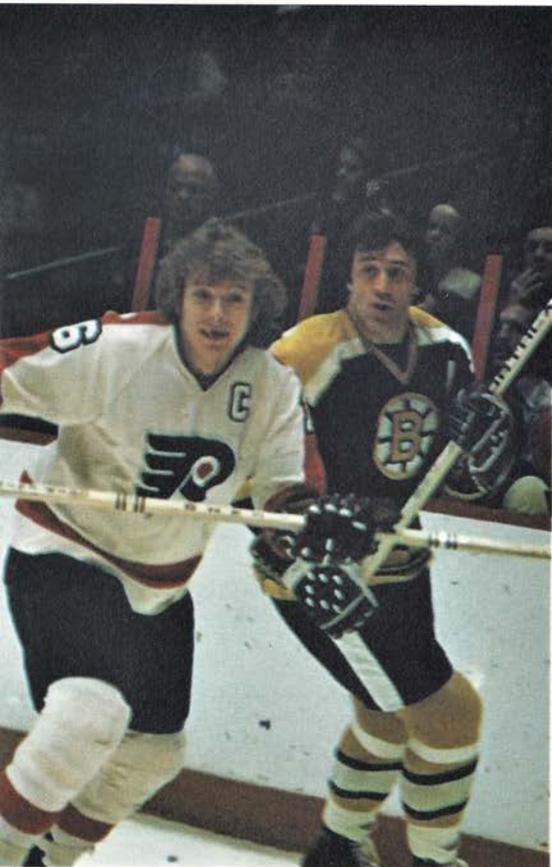
But Bobby was still not satisfied. “Hockey is a team game. The goal is to win the Stanley Cup. Until we do that, I won’t be satisfied.”

Philadelphia gradually was recognized as the best of the expansion teams, and the one most likely to win the Stanley Cup. They played a bruising, aggressive style of play. Because of their willingness to start fights at any time, they were called the roughest team in hockey. Many hockey fans felt that their style of play was unnecessarily violent.

Bobby Clarke was not often involved in



The Hart trophy had been won by Bobby Orr or Phil Esposito for the previous five years. By winning the Hart in 1973, Bobby was now recognized as an NHL super star.



Against Esposito.

fighters. However, he has been accused of hooking, and slashing and using his stick against other players, and has been called a dirty hockey player. In the 1972 Team Canada series, Valery Kharlamov was one of the stars of the Russian team. In a famous incident, Bobby slashed at Kharlamov's ankles, and injured him.

"I am not proud of what I did; I did it during the heat of the game," said Bobby. "But I'd do it again if I felt that I had to." It is this desire to win at any cost, even when it breaks the rules, that has led some people to question Bobby's sportsmanship.

Like many other players in the NHL, Bobby felt that he had to prove that he could not be pushed around in the NHL. This led him to get an unusual number of penalties (he is sarcastically called "Mr. Clean" by some other players). But like Stan Mikita and Gordie Howe who started off with a lot of penalties, he has become less chippy in the last few seasons.

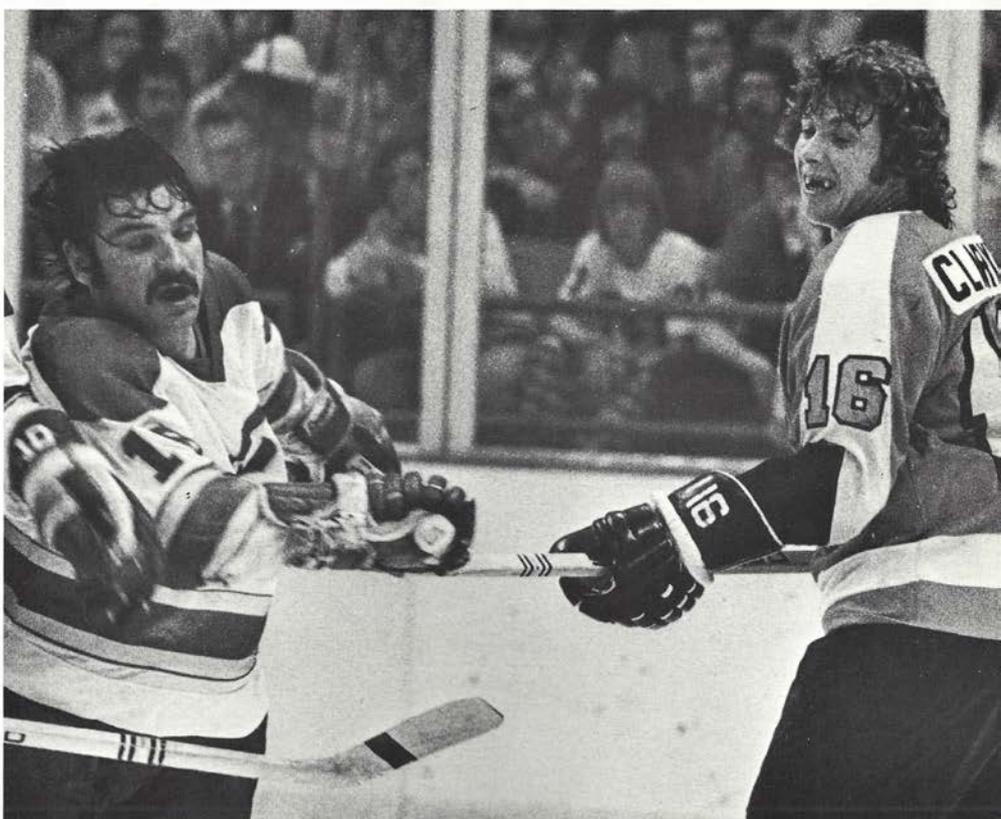
Bobby does not consider himself a dirty player. "I'm not even an aggressive player. I'm just a little guy compared to most players in the league. If I were dirty, I wouldn't last. I get knocked around by other players, and you should see the bruises I get. I just like to win, and to do that, I have to work hard all the time."

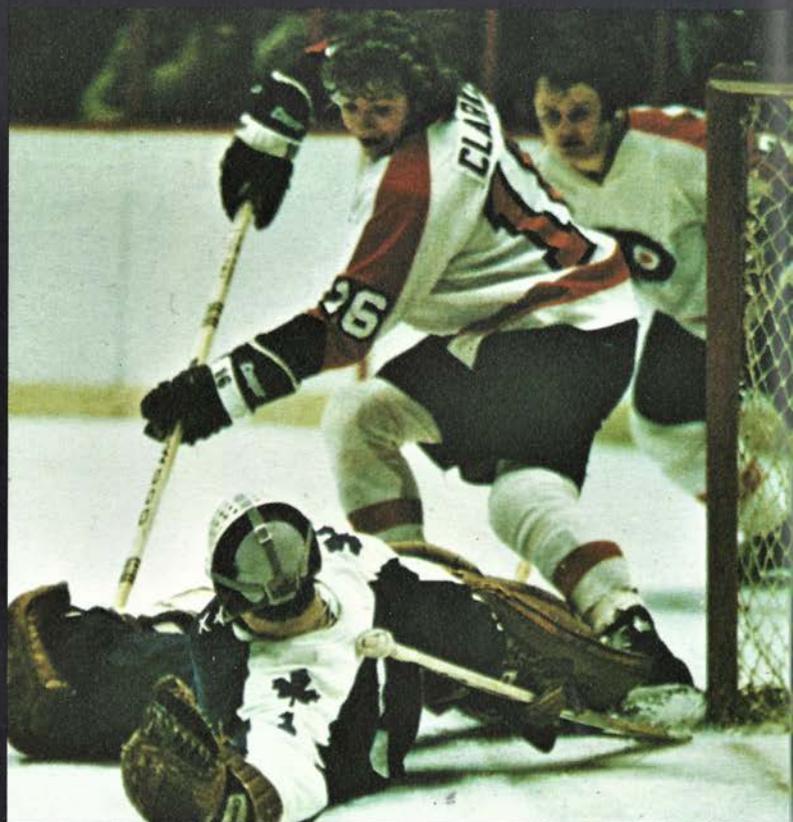
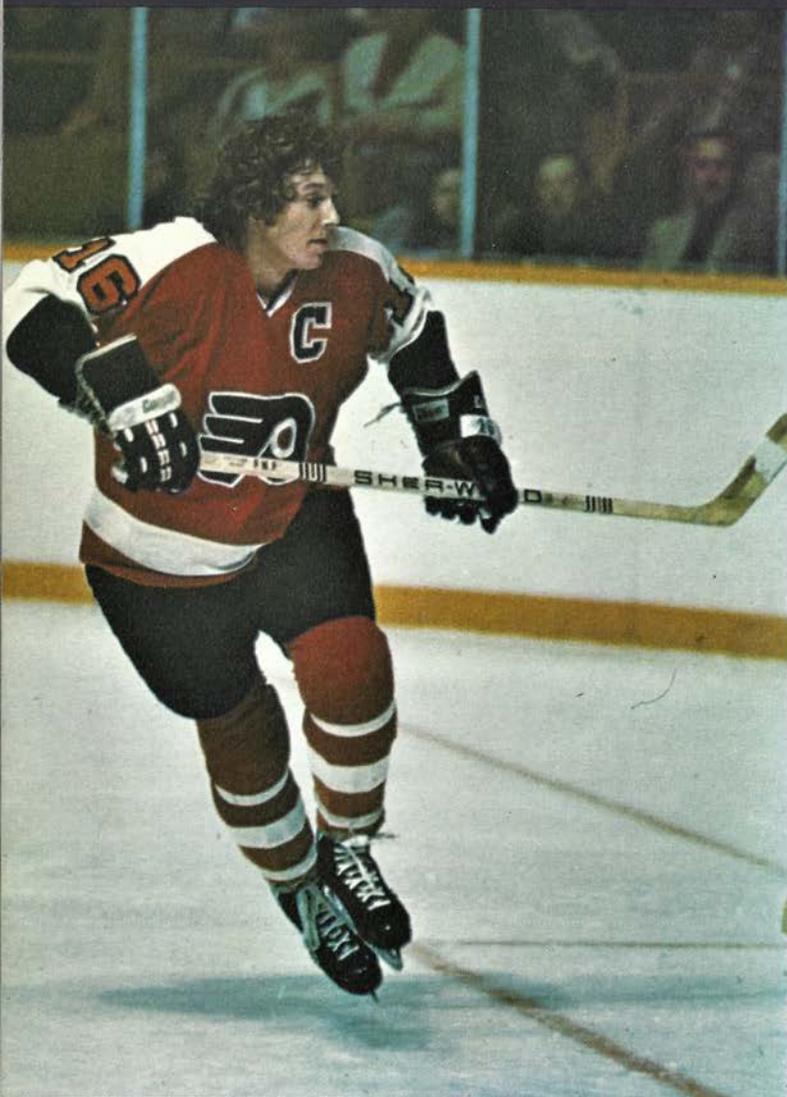
Bobby has always inspired his teammates. Bernie Parent says, "Clarke is our leader. He works so hard himself, that the other guys just *have* to work to keep up. He is the guy who makes us go."

And in 1974, Bobby's hard work and determination paid off – Philadelphia won the Stanley Cup.



Clarke is always in the thick of the action. His competitive spirit often leads him to hook and slash. But as a star player, Bobby gets his share of rough treatment in return.





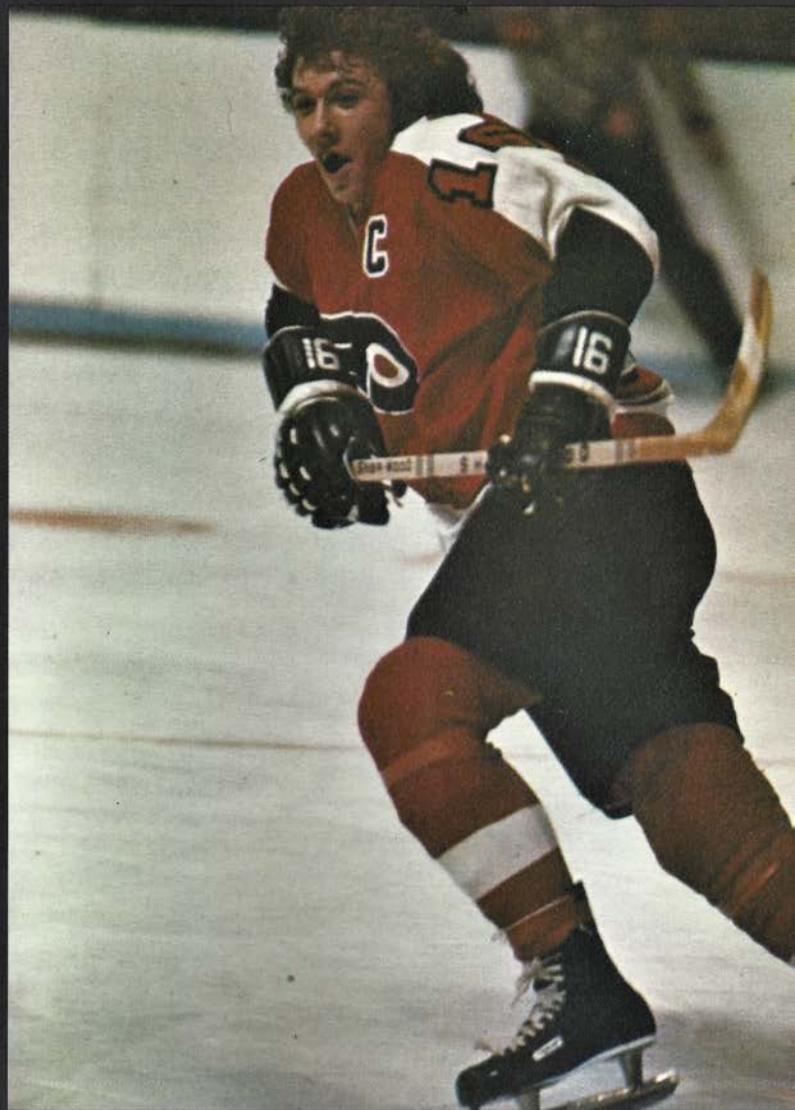
Bobby skates ...

and checks ...



and checks ...

and skates ...



A Super Player

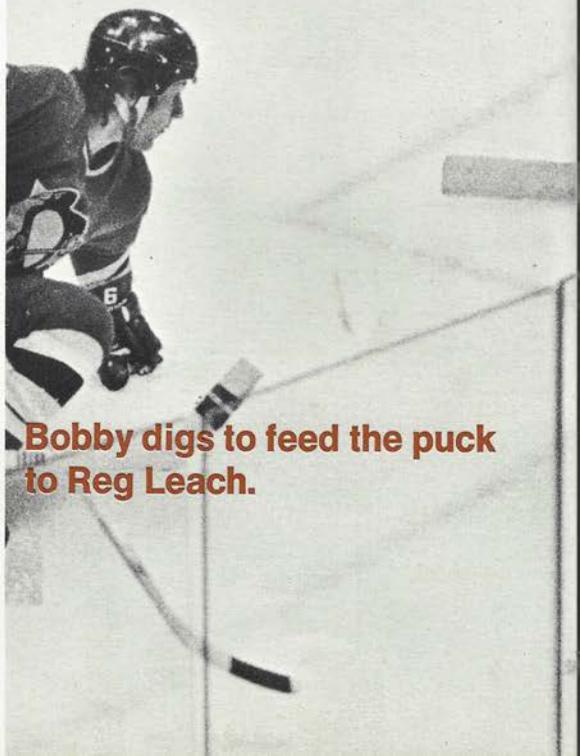
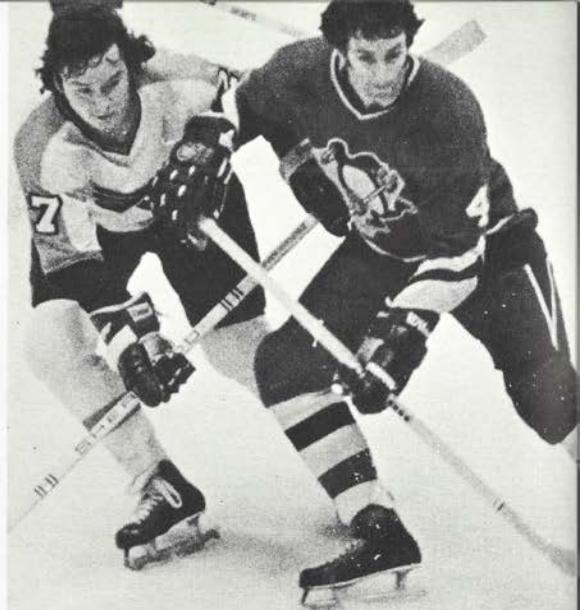
The Philadelphia team did not have many star players. They did have coach Fred Shero, who carefully studied hockey, and provided the team with an excellent system. They had exceptional goaltending from Bernie Parent, one of the best goalies in the world.

Most of all, they were led by Bobby Clarke. He centred their first line, he killed penalties and directed the power play, he scored goals and set up plays for his wingers.

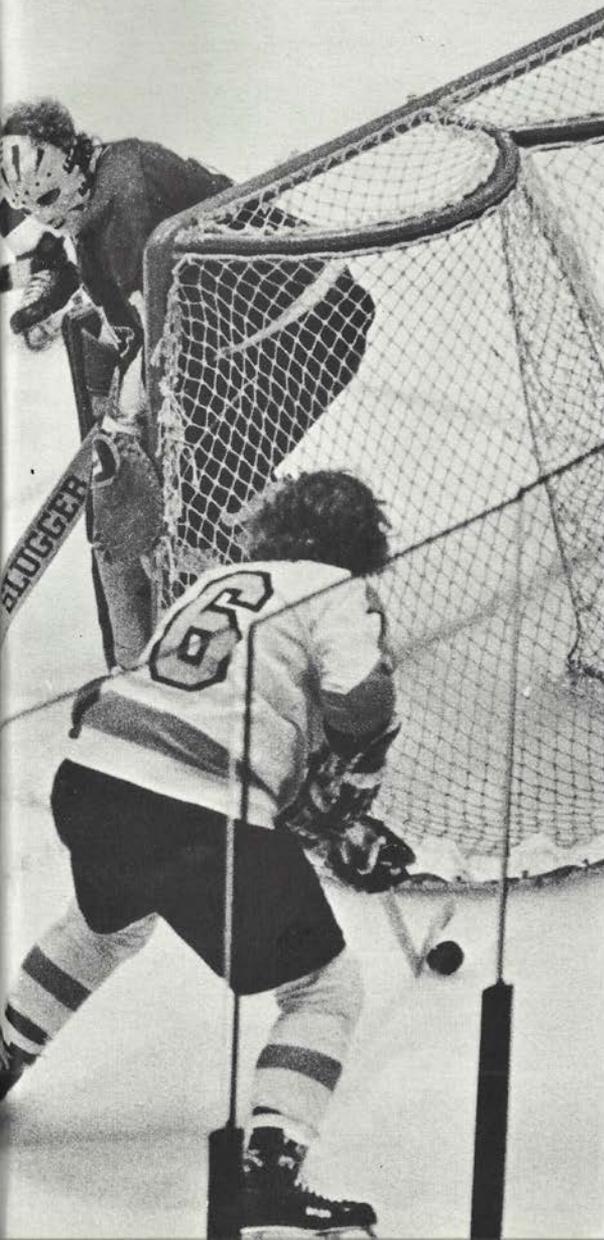
Coach Mike Nykoluk sees Clarke play every game. "Bobby is the star in 90 per cent of the games he plays. He has never played a bad game for us. But one game stands out in my mind.

"We were playing in Montreal. It was a tough game, with both teams going all out. By the third period, the score was tied 5 – 5. Bobby had scored two of our goals, and he had dominated the play every time he was on the ice. We knew he was tired but with one minute to go, he went over the boards for the final shift.

"He grabbed the puck at the blue line, and swept in towards the goal. Larry Robinson was



Bobby digs to feed the puck to Reg Leach.



draped all over him, and Lapointe was hooking at his stick. But somehow Bobby carried Robinson, veered towards the net, and flicked a backhander up over Dryden's shoulder. We won the game, and Bobby got the hat trick.

"I have never seen anyone play a better game in my life than Bobby did that night."



CHAPTER 7

A Super Person

Bobby is a different person off the ice. In the game, he is all over the ice like an angry hornet. He is tireless in his skating, checking and digging in the corners. He plays a tough game.

Off the ice, he is quiet and very modest about his achievements. When it was suggested that he worked harder than other players, Bobby replied, "There are lots of guys on other teams who work as hard as me. It's just that I'm on a winning team, and it's easier to see the results of my efforts."

Bobby won the Lou Marsh trophy, as the outstanding athlete in Canada in 1975. When told that only three other hockey players had ever won that award – Maurice Richard, Phil Esposito and Bobby Orr – Clarke said, "I'm not in their class. But I'm thrilled and honoured to receive the award."

Bobby often visits sick kids in hospitals and is especially interested in helping out diabetic organizations. He is very sensitive to the needs of others who have problems or face handicaps.



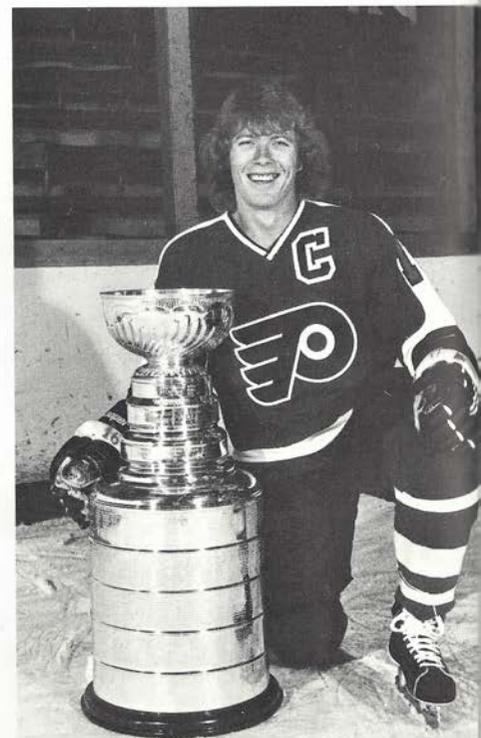


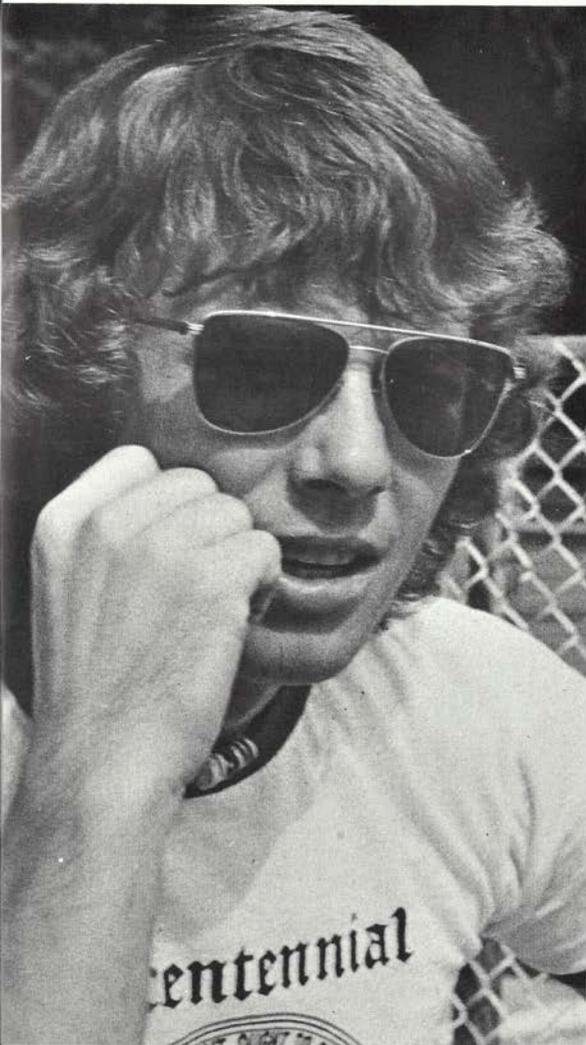


Bobby Clarke Awards and Scoring Statistics

- 1971-72** Bill Masterton Memorial Trophy (as the player best showing the qualities of "perseverance, sportsmanship, and dedication to hockey")
- 1972-73** Second All-Star Team
Hart Trophy, most valuable player to his team in the NHL
- 1973-74** Second All-Star Team
- 1974-75** Captain of the Philadelphia Flyers,
Stanley Cup Champions
Hart Trophy
- 1975** First All-Star Team
Captain of Philadelphia Flyers,
Stanley Cup Champions
Manitoba's Athlete of the Year
Canada's Male Athlete of the Year
Lou Marsh Trophy – Canada's
Outstanding Athlete of the Year
- 1976** First All-Star Team
Hart Trophy

	Goals	Assists	Points
1969-70	15	31	46
1970-71	27	36	63
1971-72	35	48	81
1972-73	37	67	104
1973-74	35	52	87
1974-75	27	89	116
1975-76	30	89	119





In Philadelphia, a 'Player of the Month' award is presented which includes a cash prize. More than once when Bobby has won this, he has turned over the money to other team members who have had emergencies in their families.

Warren Elliott, the assistant team trainer, received a cheque from Bobby to help pay for a heart operation needed by his wife.

"Bobby is just that kind of person," said Elliott. "He is interested in others, and completely unselfish. He's a great guy."

In the Off-Season

Bobby now lives in Philadelphia with his wife Sandra, son Wade and daughter Jodie. Sandra was his girlfriend in high school in Flin Flon. They now have a beautiful house in New Jersey.

After the long, gruelling hockey season, Bobby and his family usually take a vacation in the islands of the West Indies for a complete rest. They come back home to relax, golf, and enjoy life in their backyard swimming pool.

Every summer, Bobby and the family return to Canada.

"We like to go back home to Flin Flon. My parents are still there. We really enjoyed growing

up in a small town. I'll never forget the people that I grew up with."

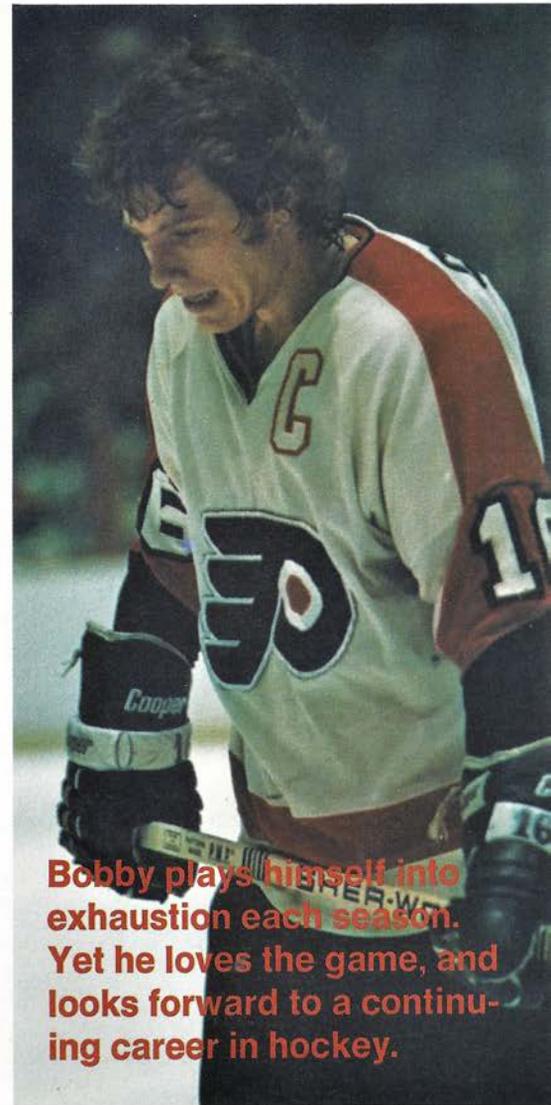
In 1973, a special Bobby Clarke Day was held to honour Flin Flon's most famous son. A hockey game was played and many oldtimers came back to Flin Flon for the occasion. At Bobby's request all of the profits from the game went to help local hockey.

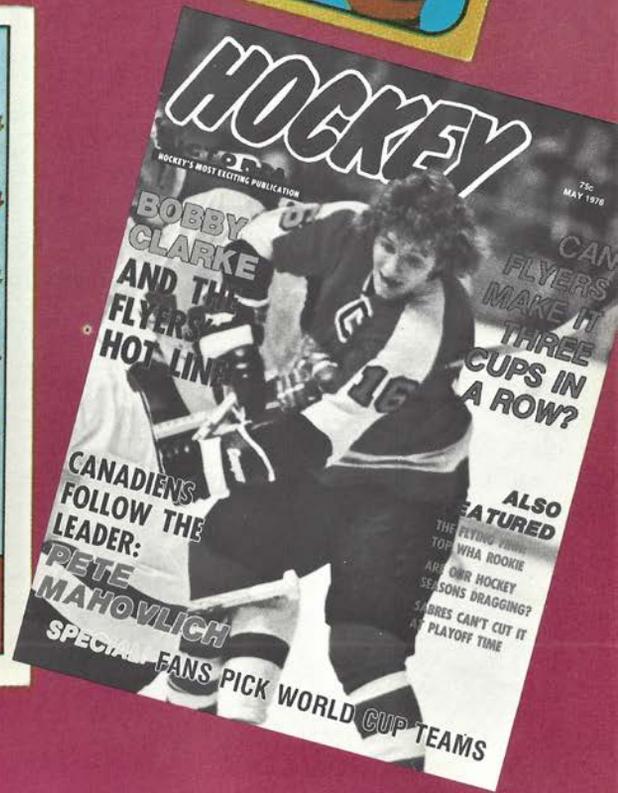
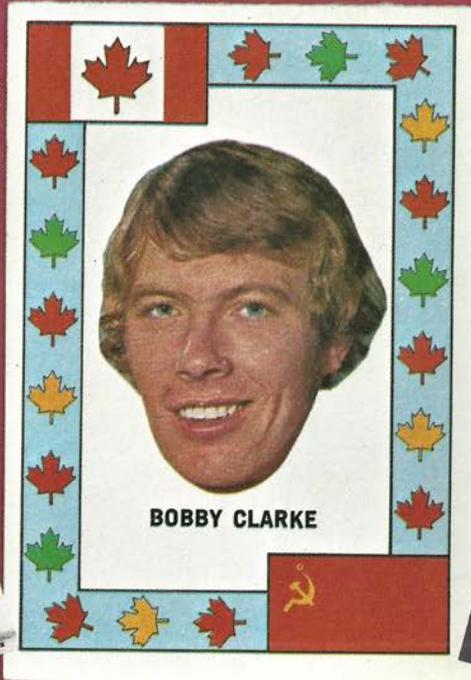
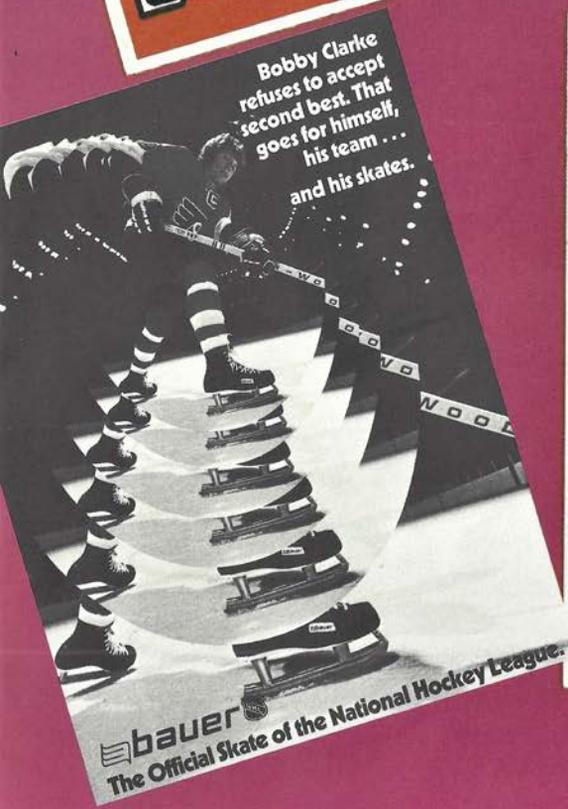
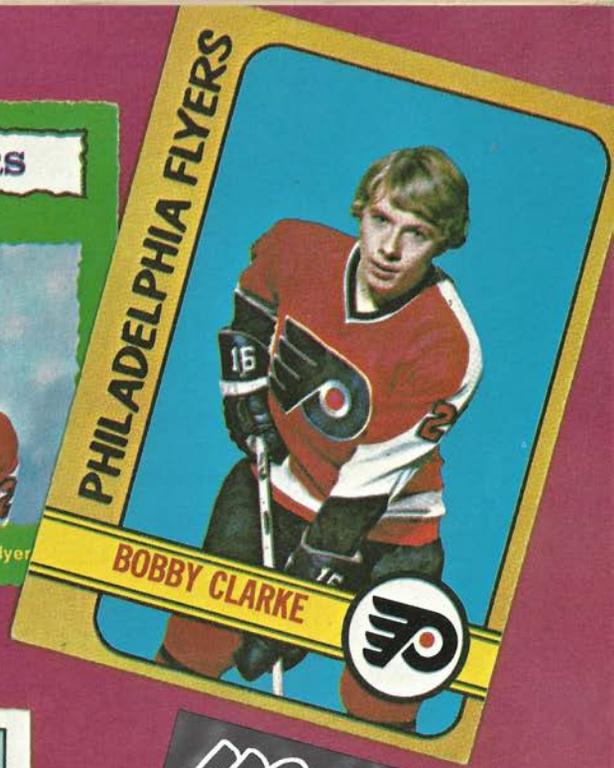
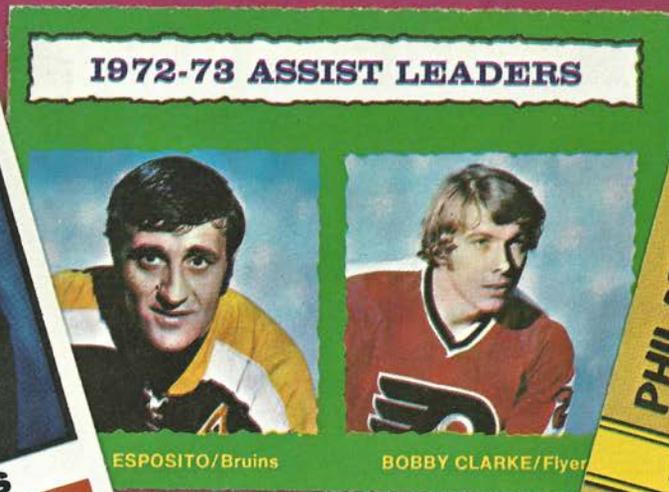
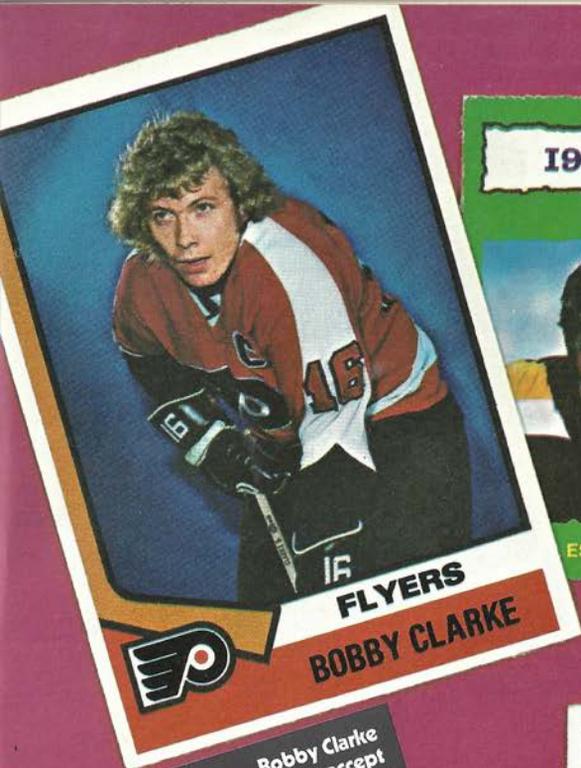
The Future

Bobby is now a superstar in the NHL. With him as team leader it is likely that Philadelphia will continue to be a strong contender for the Stanley Cup.

Bobby is not sure what he will do when he finishes his hockey career. "I would like to stay in hockey in some way. I like working with other players and helping them out. I think that I'd like to coach at some level, either in junior hockey or the NHL."

Bobby is already moving in this direction. He analyzes the style and weaknesses of other teams, and explains this to his team. He helps rookies break into the Philadelphia line-up by showing them how to win face-offs, or how to pass





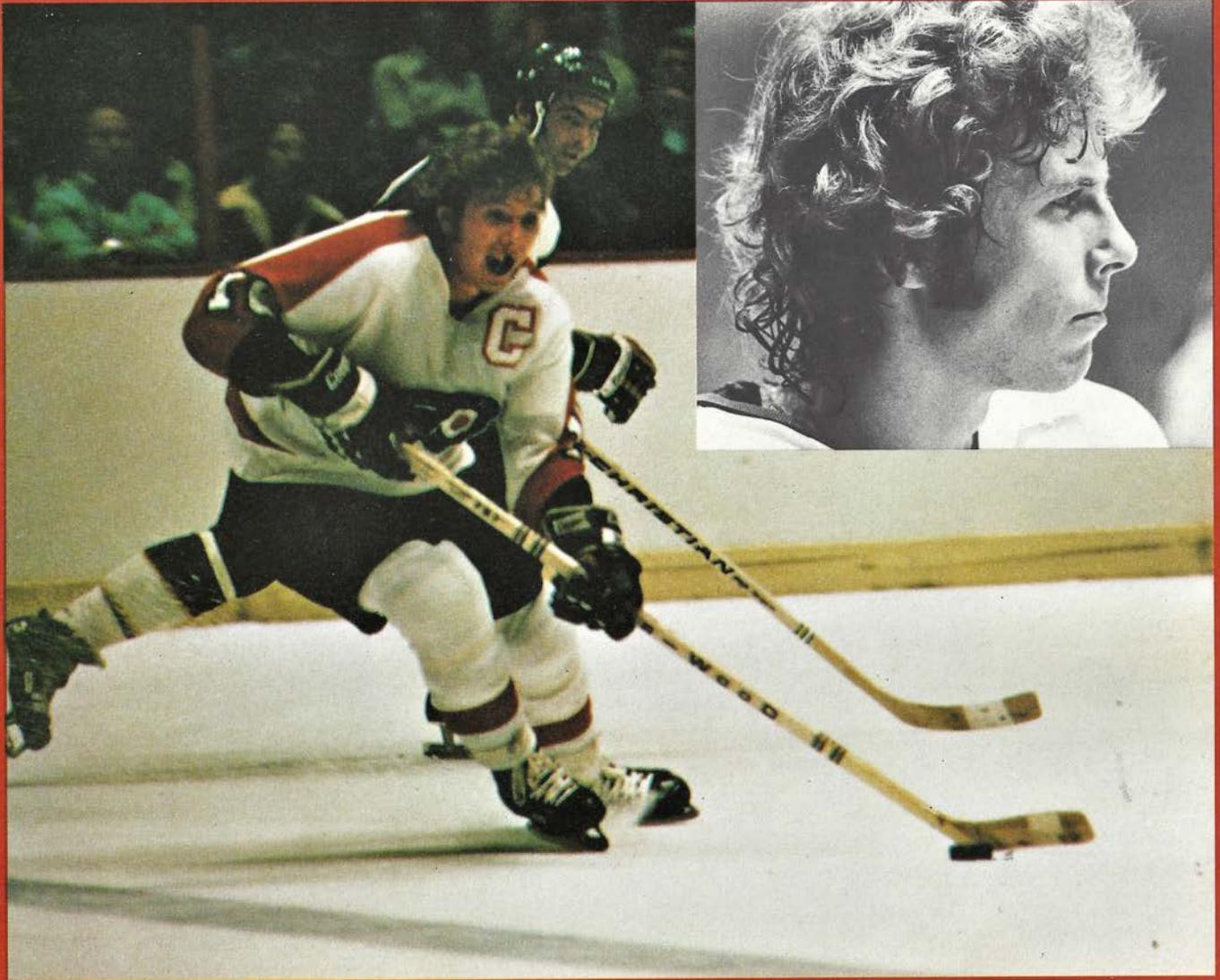
the puck to a winger on the fly, or how best to dig the puck out of the corner. He is admired and respected by all of the Flyers, not only because he is the finest player on the team, but because he sets a standard of excellence in everything he does.

Jim Proudfoot, a Toronto writer, summed it up: "Bobby Clarke is more than their captain, more than their best player. He is their conscience."

Bobby has made a good living out of hockey. Like most hockey stars in recent years, he has been paid a high salary. Some young hockey players have been spoiled by the big money and have lost the desire to play as well as they can.

Bobby Clarke has never lost his desire. He has pride in being a hockey player, and in playing up to the best of his ability. This pride in excellence, which has always inspired Bobby and his teammates, will guarantee him success in whatever he does.





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