

A classic shot of Toronto Maple Leafs' coach, George "Punch" Imlach, savouring his glass of champagne and the prospect of a day off shortly after the Leafs beat the Montreal Canadiens to win the 1963 Stanley Cup. Imlach earned his curious nickname during his junior playing career. After an elbow knocked him cold, he's said to have jumped to his feet and taking a swing at the team trainer who'd come out onto the ice to help him.

*George Imlach*

**HHOF 1984**

Winning. It's the reason the game is played in the first place. For professionals, it's everything.

Despite the underlying stress inherent in high-stakes hockey — or maybe because of it — the emotional release associated with winning can produce smiles that light up a scene better than any camera flash ever could. The photos that follow feature many dazzling ones, from players, coaches and fans alike, celebrating a goal, a victory or hockey's biggest prize, the Stanley Cup.

While a few of the Stanley Cup champion New York Rangers in a vintage 1928 photo did sport rather serious expressions when they visited Mayor Jimmy Walker, it might have had more to do with respect for the office. As championship shots go, it's certainly the exception rather than the rule. By comparison, witness the expressions of legendary champions like Alger Arbour, Mario Lemieux or the young Bobby Orr, work done, arms, or Cup, aloft.

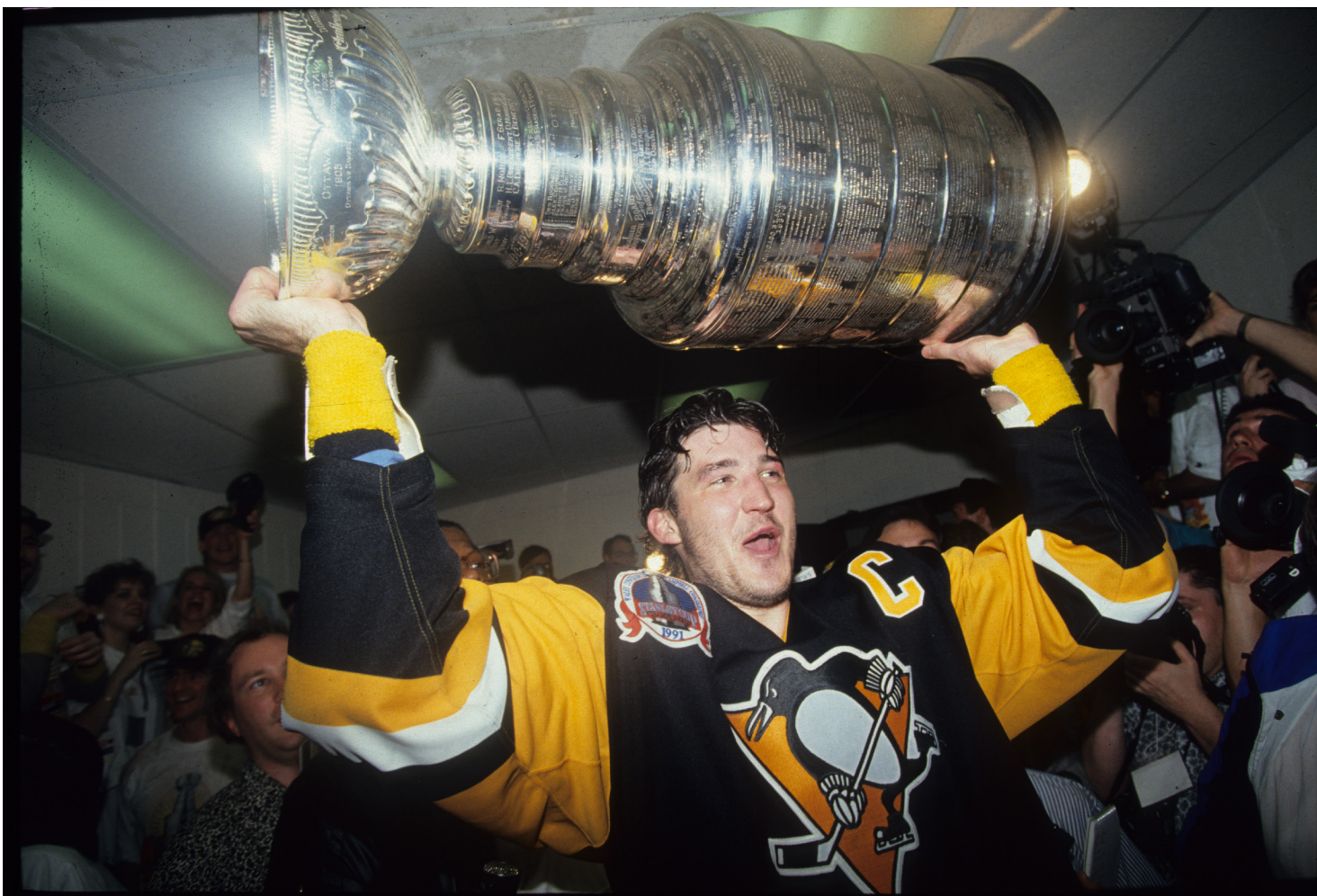
Off the ice, hockey fans themselves often ride waves of emotion that can last years and even decades. Whether in the stands at the games, at public celebrations or along parade routes, they deserve their moment, too. Some players, in truly classic shots, have remembered to acknowledge that.

The recurring character here, of course, is Lord Stanley's silver cup, the symbol of hockey immortality, players refuse to touch... until they can't keep their hands off it.

Words often fail to properly describe winning. Perhaps these have, too. Photos do a much better job.

Enjoy these winning smiles.





A magnificent moment in Minnesota: Mario Lemieux, holds the Stanley Cup aloft in the visitors' dressing room after the Penguins captured the first championship in team history in 1991. Mario "The Magnificent" was awarded the Conn Smyth Trophy as playoff MVP, with 16 goals and 28 assists in 23 playoff games. Despite missing a game in the finals, he finished the series with five goals and seven assists.

## Mario Lemieux

HHOF 1997

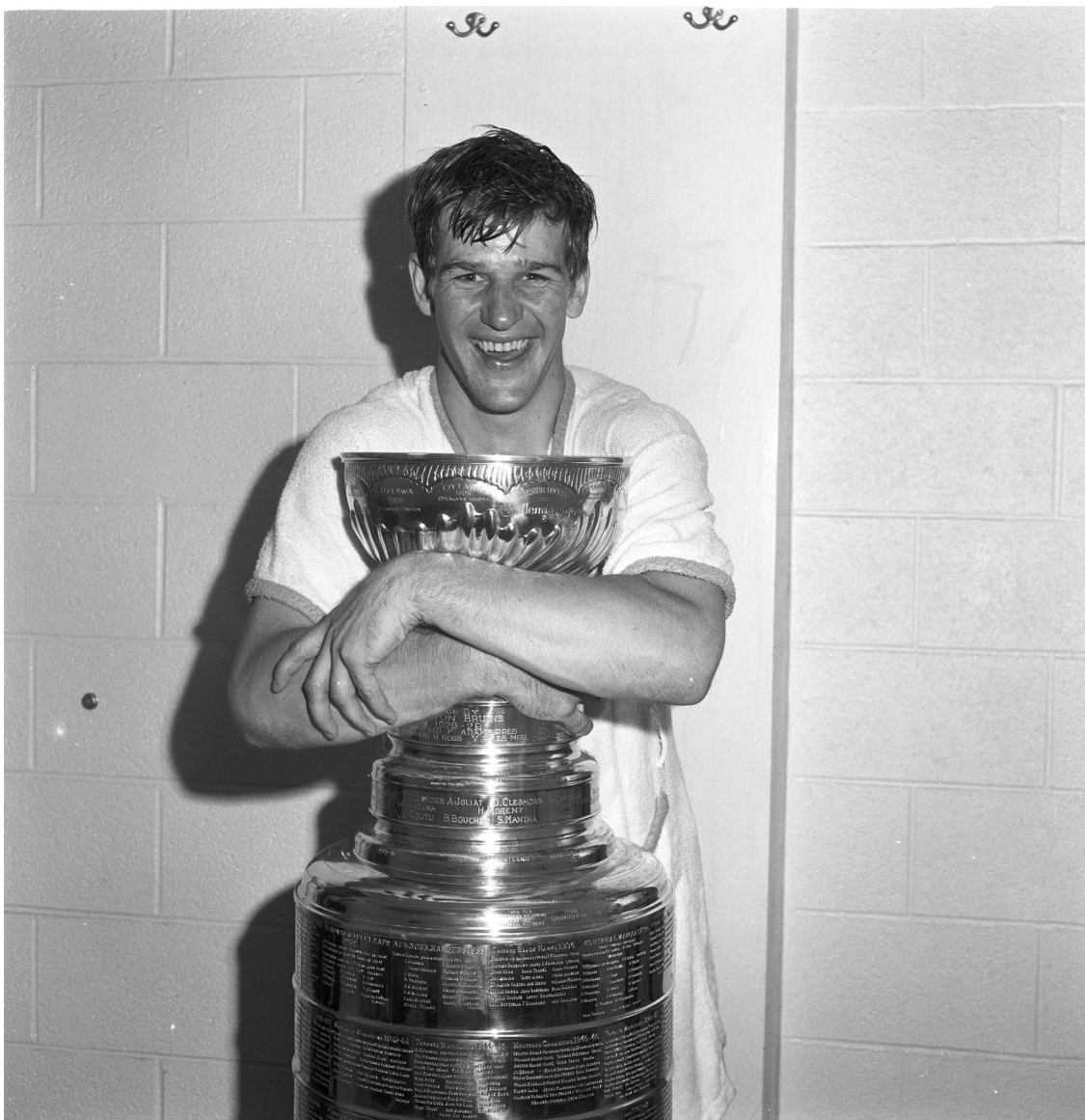


"There's a hole in my Cup!" No matter, Jean Béliveau had 10 others as a player and seven more as an executive with the Canadiens for 17 total, more than anyone else. As for the hole in the bottom of the Cup? It's now covered by a plate that features the logo of the Hockey Hall of Fame, its official keeper.

Jean Béliveau

HHOF 1972





Twenty-two-year-old Bobby Orr hugs the Cup shortly after scoring the game, series and championship-clincher 40 seconds into overtime in Game 4 of the 1970 Stanley Cup Finals. If it seems No. 4 is incredibly young in the photo, consider that NHL teams began scouting him as early as 1960, when he was 12, and the Bruins got his signature on a “C” form committing him to their team two years later. In return for Orr signing, the Bruins gave him \$1,000 and committed to a new stucco job on his family home in Parry Sound, Ontario, a used car for his father and a new suit for Bobby himself.

**Bobby Orr**

**HHOF 1979**



Toronto Maple Leafs' winger, Billy Harris, turns shutterbug alongside team co-owner, Harold Ballard, in the Leafs' dressing room after winning the 1963 Stanley Cup. A Toronto native, "Hinky" joined the Leafs in 1956 and helped the team capture three Stanley Cups. Harris was an avid photographer who chronicled his time as a Leaf in *Memoirs of a Decade - 1955-65*.

## Billy Harris & Harold Ballard

HHOF 1977

Maple Leaf Gardens · Toronto, ON | April 18, 1963 | Graphic Artists | B/W · negative · 4" x 5" or acetate · 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" x 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>"





Montreal Forum · Montreal, QC | May 25, 1989 | Paul Bereswill | colour · slide · 35mm



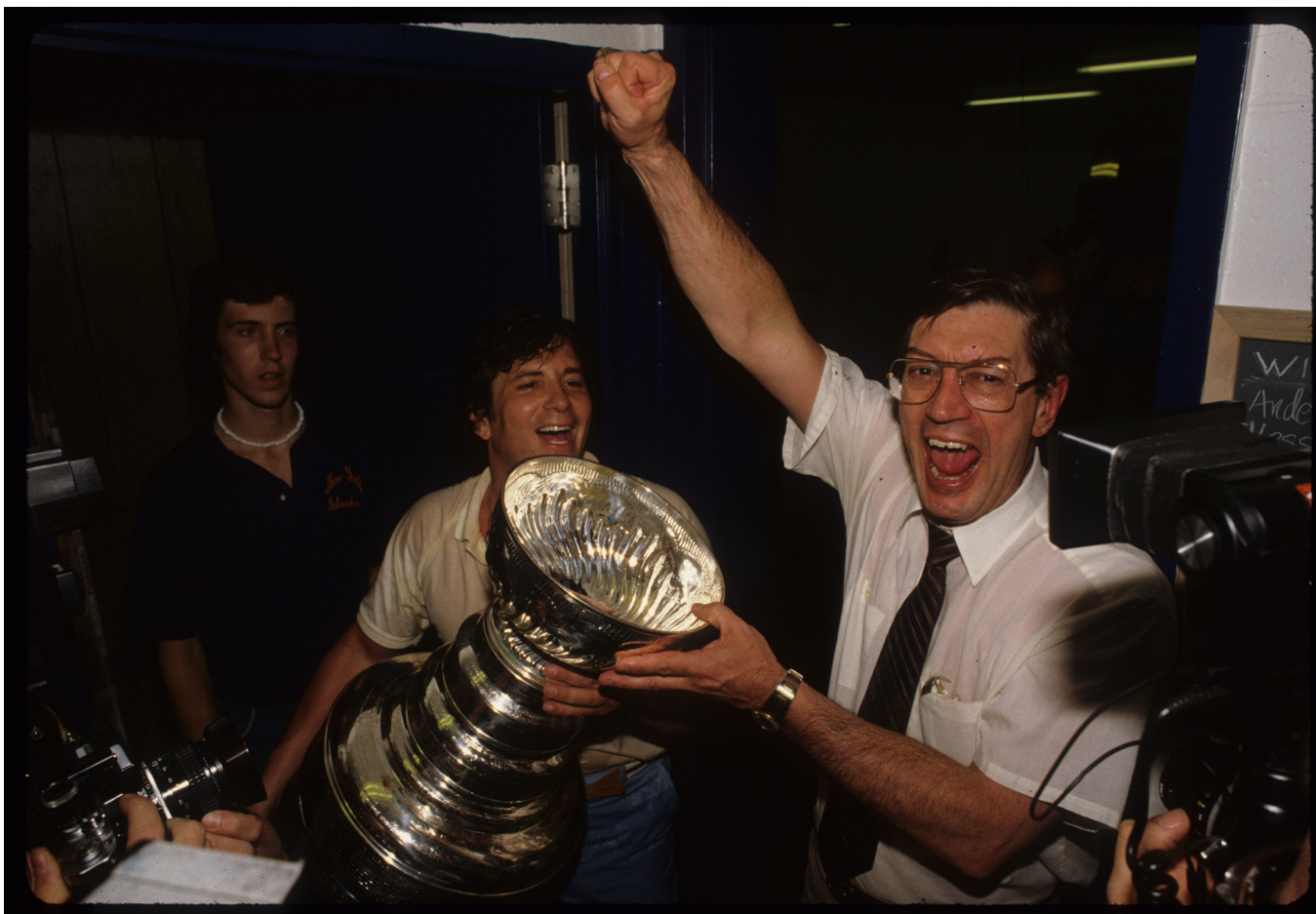


Ending a career on a high note. Calgary Flames' co-captain, and current Hockey Hall of Fame Chairman, Lanny McDonald, hoists the Stanley Cup in the Montreal Forum. The 36-year-old McDonald, who had announced that the 1988-89 season would be the last of his 16-year career, scored a second-period goal to give the Flames a 2-1 lead. The game marks the only time the Canadiens lost a Cup-deciding game on home ice.

## Lanny McDonald

**HHOF 1992**





New York Islanders' coach, Alger "Al" Arbour, prepares to take a satisfying drink from the Stanley Cup for the fourth consecutive year. Arbour, who won four Cups as a player with Detroit, Chicago and Toronto, helped turn the hapless Islanders around in his second season with the team. He retired from coaching for two years after the 1986 season then returned to lead the team for parts of six seasons, retiring for good in 2007 with 1,500 games as Islanders' coach.

## Alger Arbour

**HHOF 1996**



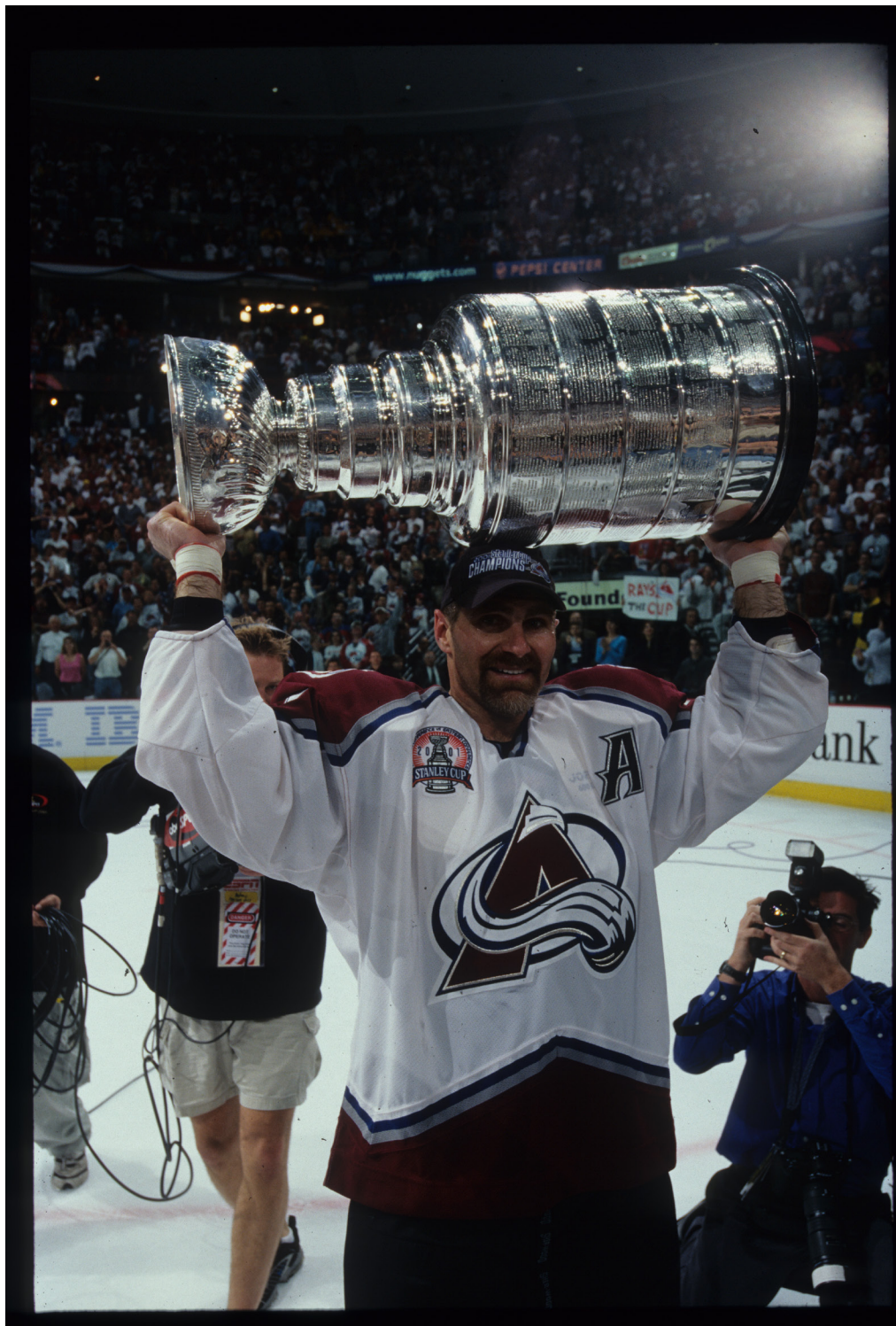
Mark Messier receives the Stanley Cup from Commissioner, Gary Bettman, after leading the Rangers to their first championship since 1940. The 54-year drought was sometimes called Dutton's Curse, after the NHL and Rangers management angered New York Americans' coach and manager, Red Dutton, by reneging on a promise to let the Amerks, who suspended operations after the 1942 season, return to Madison Square Garden. Messier suffered no such curse, winning six Cups during his illustrious career.

## Mark Messier

HHOF 2007

Madison Square Garden · New York, NY | June 14, 1994 | Doug MacLellan | colour · slide · 35mm





Enfin! (finally!). Raymond Bourque hoists the Cup after 22 seasons. Bourque's wait for Cup glory was the longest of any player in NHL history, 1,612 regular season and 214 playoff games. After 20 seasons in Boston, the Bruins traded Bourque to Colorado in March 2000 in hopes of seeing him win hockey's most coveted prize, which he eventually did in 2001. Avalanche captain, Joe Sakic, broke with tradition by letting Bourque have the first skate with the Cup.

## Raymond Bourque

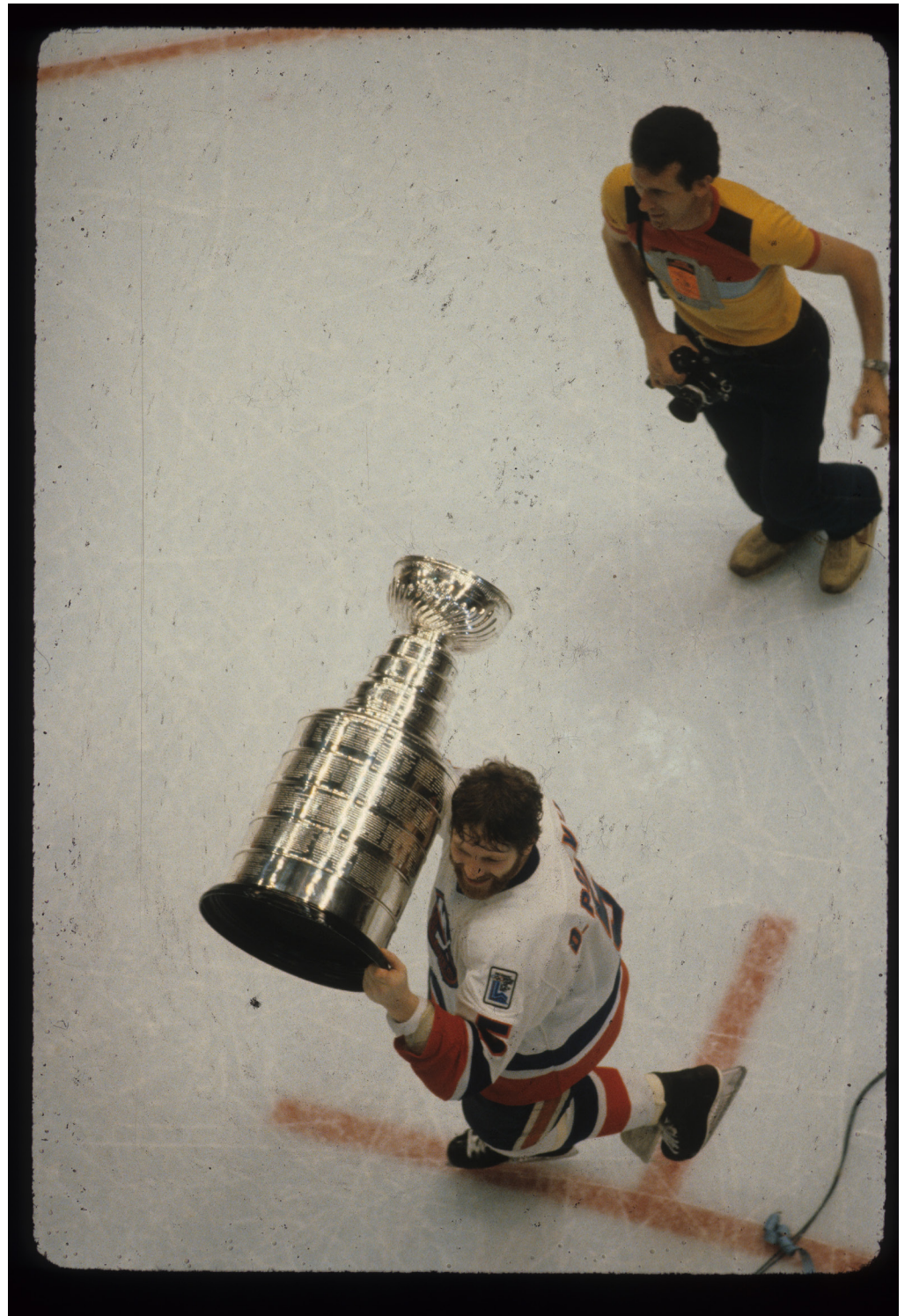
HHOF 2004



Runneth over for my Cup photo! Photographer access to Stanley Cup presentations these days is limited and controlled. Not so bad in the early 1980s it would seem, as photographers could chase down players like Islanders' defenceman, Denis Potvin, for a winning shot.

## Denis Potvin

HHOF 1991







The 1928 Stanley Cup-winning New York Rangers visit the office of New York City Mayor, Jimmy Walker. In their second season in the NHL, the Lester Patrick led Blueshirts defeated the Montreal Maroons to become only the second American team after the 1917 Seattle Metropolitans to win the Cup. The Rangers won the best-of-five series 3-2. With the Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus having taken over Madison Square Garden, all five games were played on the Maroons' home ice, the Montreal Forum.

## New York Rangers

New York City Hall · New York, NY | April 16, 1928 | Le Studio du Hockey | B/W · glass · 5" x 7"





Basking in the sunshine, and the love of their fans, Serge Savard, Yvan Cournoyer and Michel "Bunny" Larocque of the Montreal Canadiens accompany the Stanley Cup along what would become its "usual route" in 1976 after winning the first of four consecutive championships. An estimated 300,000 people gathered along the parade route to cheer on their passing heroes.

## Serge Savard, Yvan Cournoyer & Michel Larocque

HHOF 1986

HHOF 1982

Downtown · Montreal, QC | May, 1976 | Frank Prazak | colour · slide · 35mm



# CLASSIC PHOTOS

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LSt. Louis Arena · St. Louis, MO | May 10, 1970 | Fred Keenan | B/W · print · 16" x 20"



# CLASSIC PHOTOS



Getting ready for lift-off. Two angles of Bobby Orr's famous flight after his Cup winner in 1970 captures the Bruins' great a nano second after his winner, and just prior to going airborne. St. Louis defenceman Noel Picard and goaltender Glenn Hall were the other principal characters in the play.

**Bobby Orr**

❁ HHOH 1979 ❁