

COBOURG & DISTRICT SPORTS HALL OF FAME
P.O. Box 45, Cobourg, Ontario K9A 1M8

HONOURED MEMBERSHIP NOMINATION APPLICATION

Nominee: JUSTIN CRAIG WILLIAMS

Family Name Williams First Name Justin Middle Initial C.

Parents: Craig and Denise Williams

Parent's Address

Cobourg, Ontario

Phone (Home)

Birth Place: Cobourg, ON

Date of Birth: 4/10/1981

Year Lived in Cobourg and/or District: 1981 – 1998 (approx.)

**JUSTIN WILLIAMS
COBOURG AND
DISTRICT SPORTS
HALL OF FAME
APPLICATION**

~ATHLETE~





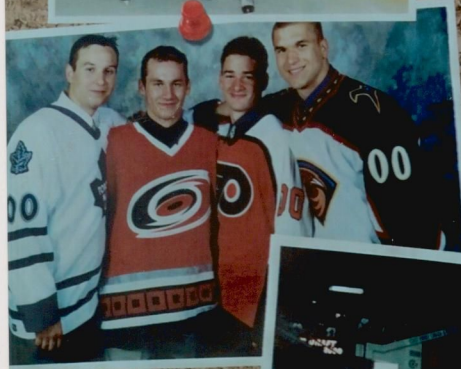
Central Ontario Selects
1991, Age 11



Devils, Major Pee-Wee
1994, Age 14



JUSTIN
1988-89 NOVICE HOUSE LEAGUE
MVP - AWARD AT MANUERS
Tournament.



THROUGH
THE
YEARS.



SPORT ACHIEVEMENT

Nomination For: Athlete (X) Builder () Athlete/Builder () Sport (s):

SPORT	TEAM	ROLE	DATE
Hockey	HockeyQuinte Red Devils Bantam AAA	Right winger	1996-97
Hockey	OMHA Port Hope	Right winger	1996-97
Hockey	Cobourg Cougars Ontario Provincial Junior A Hockey League	Right winger	1997-1998
Hockey	Colborne Colts EBJCHL	Right winger	1997-98
Hockey	Compuware Ambassadors NAHL	Right winger	1998-99
Hockey	Plymouth Whalers OHL (98-2000) Provincial	Right winger	1999-2000
Hockey	Philadelphia Flyers NHL (2001- 04) National	Right winger	2000-2004
Hockey	Luela HF Sweden (2004 –	Right winger	2004-05

	05) International		
Hockey	Carolina Hurricanes NHL (2003 – 2009) National	Right winger	2005-2006
Hockey	Los Angeles Kings NHL (2008 – 2015) National	Right winger	2008-2015
Hockey	Washington Capitals NHL (2015 – 2017) National	Right winger	2015-2017
Hockey	Carolina Hurricanes NHL (2017 – 2020) National	Right winger	2017 -2020

Championship Teams: (Please provide dates):

International 2004 Canada World Championship Prague

International 2007 Canada World Championship Moscow

National Team Awards: Stanley Cup Championships

2006 Carolina Hurricanes

2012 Los Angeles Kings

2014 Los Angeles Kings

Individual Awards/Citations: (Please provide dates):

***Indicate if awards/honours are Local, Provincial, National or International**

National Hockey League:

Individual Awards: (National)

NHL All Star Game 2007

Conn Smythe Trophy Winner 2014

Selected as team Captain of the Carolina Hurricanes 2018 -1019

Carolina Hurricanes Jersey #11 retired 2024

If possible, please provide a summary/description of any other additional information that would describe the nominee's outstanding contribution to sport.

During a career that spanned 19 years (with at least 1 NHL game played), Justin played 1264 games, and recorded 320 goals and 477 assists for a total of 797 points. He was a +110 and had 766 PIM. He also accumulated 41 goals, 61 assists for a total of 102 points while playing 162 playoff games.

Individual Awards/Citations: (Please provide dates):

***Indicate if awards/honours are Local, Provincial, National or International**

- 1999-2000 NHL Top Prospects Game (Provincial)
- 2001-2002 NHL YoungStars Roster (Provincial)
- 2006-2007 NHL All-Star Game (National)
- 2014 NHL Stanley Cup MVP (Conn Smythe Trophy) (National)
- 2018-19 Named Captain of the Carolina Hurricanes (National)
- 2024 Entered the Carolina Hurricanes Hall of Fame (National)

If possible, please provide a summary/description of any other additional information that would describe the nominee's outstanding contribution to sport.

"JUSTIN IS ALL ABOUT COMMUNITY"

Rhonda Cunningham: FAHP

CEO Northumberland Hills Hospital Foundation

Justin hosted 3 golf tournaments in support of NHH raising an impressive \$89,000 for hospital equipment. During one of his visits to Cobourg, he and Kelly took the time to tour NHH and he visited with many of the patients which obviously made their day!

Over the years, he was also kind enough to donate an experience to our gala auctions by providing 2 tickets to an NHL game and a meet and greet with him afterwards. He would take the successful bidder down to the dressing room and give a behind the scenes look into what most members of the public will never see.

And of course he brought the Stanley Cup back to town in 2014 and consented to a parade for the community to share his win with EVERYONE!

A class act Justin is....what a privilege to be the beneficiary of his kindness.



Attn: CDSHF Selection Committee

Justin Williams, Mr. Game 7. Mr. Clutch. Three-time Stanley Cup champion, Conn Smythe Trophy winner, and so much more. But more importantly, he is our friend, Justin.

We met Justin more closely in the spring of 2014, right before the LA Kings were making their push for their second Stanley Cup, at the same time our daughter Grace was diagnosed with a rare bone cancer. Justin quickly split his time, energy, and emotions to help Grace focus on anything other than her illness. His care, concern, and kindness led to a special relationship between them that was unmatched. He would text, call, and FaceTime Grace during her long hospital stays. Grace became quite the attraction at SickKids in Toronto once word spread that she was a real part of the Kings' Cup pursuit. Doctors and nurses would stop by to hear what Justin had shared about the previous night's game during that playoff run.

On June 11, just before Game 4 of the finals in New York, Grace's iPad dinged about 40 minutes before puck drop. We asked her who was texting, and Grace, not fully understanding the significance, casually said, "Willy." Astonished, we realized that amidst all his pre-game preparation, Justin took one last opportunity to reach out to Grace before heading out for warm-up. The Kings lost that game, but they went on to win the Cup in double overtime in the next.

A few weeks later, Justin had his day with the Cup, and, unsurprisingly, his first stop was to see Grace. They spent an entire hour sitting together, admiring the Stanley Cup and Conn Smythe Trophy. Justin didn't just drop the Cup off for a quick visit—he spent every second with Grace and Mackenzie, letting time stand still.

Their friendship continued into the 2015-2016 season, even as Grace's condition worsened.

The Kings arranged for Grace to travel to LA and drop the puck at a game, a moment that was extra special for them both, as it was Justin's first time taking a ceremonial faceoff. Grace passed away four weeks later.

To this day, when Justin is in town, he stops by SickKids to read to some of the children, unannounced and unsolicited. It's a testament to his character—selfless, caring, giving, humble, and gentle. Our friend Justin is truly a one-of-a-kind champion.

Andrea & Greg Bowen



JUSTIN
AND
GRACE
BOWEN.

To Whom it May Concern,

Character refers to the person's moral and ethical qualities. It consists of beliefs and moral principles that can guide their behavior in discrete ways. Personality is the sum of a person's physical, psychological, emotional, and social aspects that are manifested through behavior and actions. Justin Williams possesses more character than any professional athlete with whom I've had the pleasure of being associated. His selfless persona and team first mentality are unmatched as evidenced by the numerous Cs And As that have been prevalent on his shoulder throughout his illustrious career. He not only leads by example with his tenacity and fierce competitive instincts- he is a born leader in his off-ice behaviour and level of elite fitness.

Definitions of a champion - someone who has won first place in a competition. Synonyms: champ, title-holder. 3 Stanley Cups, Conn Smythe Trophy Winner, NHL All Star, Mr Game 7. Personal - It's hard to imagine that a man with the aforementioned resume could exceed these accolades by their measure as a person and friend. I had the pleasure of winning two Stanley Cups with Justin as a member of the 2012 and 2014 LA Kings. As much as we gelled and became friends away from our professional relationship, my life changed forever when he introduced me to a beautiful little angel at a chance meeting in our Toronto Hotel lobby while playing the Leafs on the road. A life-long bond grew in our mutual love and adoration for this beautiful young lady who had been afflicted with cancer. After numerous Grace moments, it culminated when I arranged to have her fly in and drop the puck during an emotional moment at Staples Center, with Justin taking the ceremonial face off. Unfortunately, we lost Grace shortly after she returned home from this event - but her spirit and legacy will live forever. I had the privilege of representing Justin at Grace's funeral in Cobourg in front of all her "Graceaholics". This entire experience not only cemented my friendship with Justin but has left me forever entwined with the Bowen family and the city of Cobourg.

Justin Williams is a Hall of Fame hockey player with ease. However, he is an even better Father, role model , teammate and friend - A HALL OF FAMER IN EVERY ASPECT OF LIFE!

In every respect,
Michael Futa



1. Justin Williams was drafted in 2000, drafted 28th overall in the first round. During a career that spanned 19 years (with at least 1 NHL game played), Justin played 1264 games, and recorded 320 goals and 477 assists for a total of 797 points. He was a +110 and had 766 PIM. He also accumulated 41 goals, 61 assists for a total of 102 points while playing 162 playoff games.

2. Nicknamed "**Mr. Game 7**", Williams played nine game seven playoff games in his NHL career, with his team sporting an 8–1 record in these games. He currently is tied for most goals in these games with Glenn Anderson at seven, and has the outright record for most game seven points, with 15.

Justin Williams makes me proud to live in small town Cobourg. He is the kind of man that young athletes look up to. What a role

model for the children. He is humble despite his success at a high level and he is very giving of his time to raise the spirits of sick individuals who are having a tough time and need some cheering up. He also has helped with community projects.

Family is always number one with Justin. During his retirement speech he said, "My family has sacrificed a lot for me to be where I am so I want to thank mom and dad (Denise and Craig) for being there for me every step of the way. My sister Nikki for being my biggest fan since day one. My wife Kelly and my kids, Jaxon and Jade, for embracing this journey with me. Life is so much better when you have people you love to share it with."

Many of his old buddies who were around before his career are still his friends. That speaks volumes for Justin staying grounded by his roots in small town Cobourg.

He has a gift! I'm so glad he has shared this gift with so many people in this area and beyond!

JUSTIN
"THE GOALIE"
PUTTING PICK UP
WITH HIS
COBOURG
BUDDIES.



Newspaper clippings, scrapbooks, photos or sort memorabilia will assist in supporting the application.

1. Pete Fisher "Special Collector's Edition Justin! From Pee-Wee to Pro 24 pages of Photos from Justin Williams Hockey Career (Highlights photocopied)

2. Northumberland Today Editorial "It's About More Than Just The Cup" by Bryan Marjoram(included in package)

**3.Cup celebration worth the wait for Justin Williams
Forward remembers spending final seconds of 2006
clinching game in penalty box**

ByTom Gulitti

@TomGulittiNHL NHL.com Staff Writer

March 16, 2017

Editor's note: The Stanley Cup turns 125 years old on March 18. To celebrate the historic anniversary, NHL.com talked to the players and coaches who dedicated their lives to winning the Stanley Cup, some succeeding, some failing, but all with incredible stories about their quest for hockey's ultimate prize.

The first time Washington Capitals right wing Justin Williams won the Stanley Cup, he had to spend the final seconds in isolation.

Williams scored an empty-net goal with 1:01 remaining in Game 7 of the 2006 Stanley Cup Final, essentially clinching the Carolina Hurricanes' 3-1 victory against the Edmonton Oilers and setting off a joyous celebration at RBC Center.

But Williams received a roughing penalty after an altercation with Edmonton's Ryan Smyth with 21 seconds remaining, sending him to the penalty box and separating him from his teammates for the joyous final shift.

"Unfortunately, I wasn't on the bench when the game ended," Williams said. "But it was just for a little bit."

When time expired, Williams jumped onto the ice and quickly joined the rest of the Hurricanes in exchanging hugs and soaking in the realization of their hockey dreams.

"For the most part, I think one of the NHL's promotional campaigns had it right; there are really no words to describe it," Williams said. "You have to look at the emotion on the players' faces to know what it's all about and to know how hard they've worked to attain that goal and how long they've worked to attain that goal. It's just a moment of sheer ecstasy and doing it with your brothers that you've gone to war with every day, it's pretty special."

It's also a moment when players reflect back on their careers.

Williams, who was 24, went through some tough times with injuries after the Philadelphia Flyers selected him in the first round (No. 28) of the 2000 NHL Draft. A Jan. 20, 2004 trade to the Hurricanes gave him a fresh start and he set career-highs in 2005-06 with 31 goals, 45 assists and 76 points. He then began establishing his reputation as a clutch performer in the Stanley Cup Playoffs with 18 points (seven goals, 11 assists) in 25 games during the Hurricanes' run to the championship. It culminated with his empty-net goal, one of seven goals he has scored in seven career Game 7s, and being handed the Stanley Cup.

"It's just the climax, the pinnacle. It's the apex of everything in hockey," Williams said. "Then to see the most iconic trophy that you've only seen in pictures and on TV given to you, hey, that's quite emotional."

Williams, now 35, won the Stanley Cup with the Los Angeles Kings in 2012 and 2014. He also won the Conn Smythe Trophy as most valuable player of the 2014 Stanley Cup Playoffs after scoring 25 points (nine goals, 16 assists) in 26 games.

Williams said all three championships are equally special to him.

"You celebrate it with different people for the most part every different time, so I certainly can't pick one that was better than the other ones," he said. "Your favorite Stanley Cup is the next one. You just want to keep winning them once you get it."

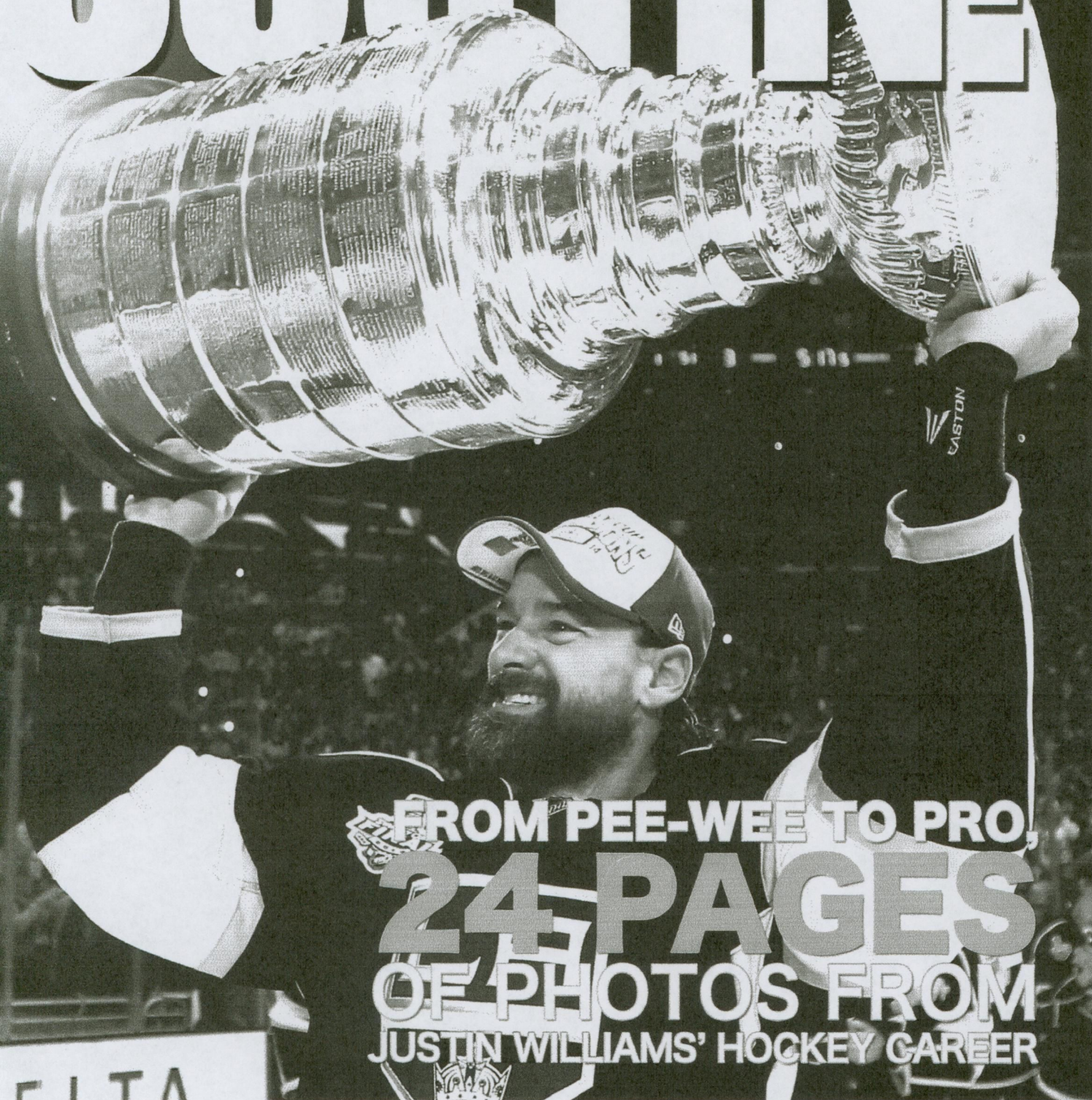
With the Capitals (45-17-7) in the first place in the League standings with 97 points, Williams is focused on getting his hands on the Stanley Cup for a fourth time. The past two times Williams won the Stanley Cup, he made sure to look where his name was engraved when he previously won it.

"And I hope to do it again this year," he said.



Special Collector's Edition

JUSTIN!



FROM PEE-WEE TO PRO,
24 PAGES
OF PHOTOS FROM
JUSTIN WILLIAMS' HOCKEY CAREER

* PETE FISHER *

It was a magical day in Cobourg on July 19 as hometown hockey hero Justin Williams brought home the Stanley cup, Conn Smythe trophy and the Clarence S. Campbell Bowl.

I'd met Williams a few times over the years during his career, but after spending the day with him after he arrived at the Peterborough airport I have a new respect and admiration for him.

Throughout the day, he was gracious and accommodating to everyone.

It must have been a tiring, long day for Williams and his family but with as many children as he could he posed and signed autographs.

Like his career he went above and beyond for the people who showed up to welcome him to town. Williams was a true gentleman from the moment he touched down until the end of the evening.

Not only a role model as a hockey player, but as a person.

When he spoke in front of a crowd of thousands at the Victoria Park Bandshell, he gave inspiration to everyone in what he said. To keep trying to do the best you can in whatever you choose, to reach for the moon, and beyond to the stars - and to set goals.

"Because a goal without a plan is simply a wish."

On behalf of myself, Northumberland Today and Sun Media, I thank you Justin for coming home with the Stanley cup and Conn Smythe trophies. Thank you for inspiring others. Thank you and your family in letting us share in your victory.

Pete Fisher, Northumberland Today


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Plymouth Whalers, Williams family

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Redmen reps edge Omemee with effort

What a difference a day makes

By Jim den Hollander 1st game Oct 189 - Novice Allstar

Davis Valu Mart novice Redmen started off their 1989-90 campaign yesterday afternoon with a 3-2 win over Omemee in Rep Hockey regular season play.

Coach Blaine Pickard was pleased with the effort both on defence and offence. The team had little trouble patrolling their own end as all five players came back. Rugged defenceman, Kevin Bernard moved the puck up well and the quick skating Roy Woodman managed to get open for passes near centre several times.

It was Woodman who opened the scoring near the midway mark of the first period when he deflected a pass out from the right boards into the net. Assists on the goal went to Chris Ough and Justin Williams.

Craig McQuade tied the score for Ommemee with just under three minutes left in the period. Mike Pickard, in goal for the first half, managed to get a piece of it with his stick, but not enough to stop it from going in.

Redmen moved back into the lead for good in the third minute of the middle frame when Bernard came over the blueline put the puck through the legs of the defenceman and then beat the Ommemee goalie low on the stick side from about 10 feet out. That was the only goal of the second period and it was an unassisted effort.

Near the five minute mark of the final period, Williams added some insurance for the Redmen when he took advantage of a goaltender without a stick. The Ommemee keeper had lost his stick and Williams fired it along the ice to the right of the net, in on the glove side. Woodman picked up an assist on the goal.

Ommemee got their second goal just two seconds from the final buzzer. Pickard and Shawn Roy split the game in goal. Pickard played summer with the Central Ontario novice rep team.

The yearbook keeper was among five goaltenders that attended the tryouts and made the team along with Shawn Roy. Practices were held in Lindsay and Port Hope over the weekend.

Williams is whiz Scores six goals for Port Hope in win over Sommerville's club

By Layton Dodge

Nov 1/90

The hockey pendulum is swinging in Port Hope's direction now.

After years of playing second fiddle to Cobourg novice OMHA teams, the Port Hope Valu-Mart Novices have been calling the tune for the past year or two whenever the teams from the neighboring towns meet.

Such was the case last Friday night at Cobourg Arena as the 1990-91 Valu-Mart Redmen dominated the host Sommerville's Selects to score an easy 7-0 victory in the local team's Lakeshore Hockey League regular season opener.

Two words — Justin Williams — sum up the Port Hope club's monopoly on the scoreboard. Williams was a one-man show as he fired six goals and assisted on the seventh authored by Daryl Patfield.

Redmen were up 1-0 after one period and 4-0 after two, thanks in large measure to Williams' productivity. Cobourg coach Rick Seggie felt that his team held its own when No. 16 (Williams) was on the Port Hope bench, though he admitted that Sommerville's hadn't played as well as in previous starts.

Seggie thought that the Cobourg boys were too "reserved" and, therefore, not aggressive enough. Though beaten seven times, Jean-Paul Desjardins in the Port Hope net played outstanding to keep Redmen shooters reaching double digits.

Sommerville's Novices hope to be in better form Friday night at Stouffville and Saturday at the Port Hope tournament.

By Jim den Hollander

The Davis Valumart novices of the Beaver Athletic Association showed how much difference a day can make.

After Saturday afternoon's 1-0 in Uxbridge, the team's playoff record stood at 0-1-1 with just a pair of games to go. They appeared in trouble and with their backs to the wall.

On Sunday the team put together one of their best efforts so far this season and after a tie with Lindsay last week, blew them out of the arena 7-2 this time around. The win boosted their record to 1-1-1 and into a tie for the lead with both other clubs.

On Saturday there was just one goal scored, coming in the final minute of the opening period when Dan Mark for Uxbridge.

Mike Pickard lent in goal. Granger, bet Uxbridge's shooters all shut out.

There were penalties handed against the Sunday Redmen, though as the novice third period close game.

The game

and teams were tied 1-1 after a period.

Williams fired another early in the middle period to put the Redmen in front with an assist to Brian Bracken.

About two minutes later Bracken took a pass in front and lifted it in on the glove side and gave the Redmen a 3-1 lead. Assists on his goal went to Mike Barkwell and Chris Ough.

Lindsay replied with a goal in the final minute of the second period to pull them back within a goal. Nicholas Sinclair beating Pickard with a low shot on the glove side.

The final period was just seven seconds old when Williams wrapped up his hat trick for the Redmen giving them back their two goal margin with his unassisted tally.

Stewart fired a pair of pre-goals at the end to clinch win for the Redmen, stealing the puck off a defender at the blueline and skating the length of the ice for the first and making a nice deke move on defence to get in for a clear on his second.

Stewart said he knew he should shoot it on his breakaway when the goalie was backing into the net. He started skating out to the net, he backed in and that's what he shot.

Williams connected with that trick in the game as players felt it was the games of the season so Williams played on a line with Bernard and Stewart and three of them were fine other with their passes.

Pickard said his



Zone Finalist presentation — Justin Williams, captain of the Davis Valu-Mart novice Redmen hockey team accepts the plaque after the novice squad was defeated in overtime game of their Zone Championship series. The champions went to Napanee.

Photo by Jeff Stewart

the marbles — The Davis Valu-Mart novice Redmen will be playing off for the Zone Championship starting this weekend. Included on the team are: standing from left Kevin Barkwell, Brad Pemberton, Brad Dowler, Roy Woodman, Mike Croft, Brian Bracken, Chris Ough and Justin Williams. Mike Pickard and Shawn Roy are the goaltenders and the photo was Jeff Stewart.

Photo by Jeff Stewart

THE PRIDE OF COBOURG



MIKE ZEISBERGER
Sun Media

Even after hoisting the Stanley Cup three different times, smearing your fingerprints all over hockey's glistening Holy Grail never gets old.

Just ask NHL forward Justin Williams, the pride of Cobourg, Ont.

When Williams and the Los Angeles Kings became NHL champions last month for the second time in three years thanks to Alec Martinez's Cup-winning overtime goal in Game 5 versus the New York Rangers, it marked the third time in his career that he was awarded the opportunity to sip out of the sport's most famous trophy.

Take it from Williams: it is a thrill every time.

"Each time is different but you can't really say one is more special than the other," Williams said in a phone interview. "Each time is very unique.

"You dream as a kid of winning it so you covet the moment every time it happens."

On Saturday, Williams got the opportunity to share "the moment" with his hometown.

Cobourg hosted a celebratory parade for Williams, who will be accompanied by an impressive cache of hockey hardware as he travels along the same familiar streets he's known since he was a boy.

Family and friends will have a first hand look not only at the Stanley Cup, but also the Conn Smythe Trophy which he captured for being the playoff MVP. Also on display will be the Clarence Campbell Bowl, which the Kings received for being the western conference playoff champs.

For Williams, it will be just another way of giving back to the community that means so much to him, even though he left Cobourg what seems like a lifetime ago to pursue his hockey career.

Williams first experienced "A Day With The Cup" in 2006 after his Cinderella Carolina Hurricanes, coached by Peter Laviolette, defeated the Edmonton Oilers in the final. As he looks back on it, it still seems like a surreal experience.

"The first time, well, I really didn't feel like I belonged," Williams said. "It's hard to explain."

Nevertheless, the Cup came to Cobourg with him that summer.

On that special day eight years ago, the morning kicked off with the Cup at the family residence where his parents, Craig and Denise Williams, were said to be in awe. As Denise said at the time: "I can't believe we're having coffee with the Stanley Cup in our home."

In the ensuing hours, the Cup made its way to the Lakeland Group - Craig's place of employment - then to the Cobourg Arena, where Williams and his buddies engaged in a three-game ball hockey tournament.

In 2012, Williams was a part of a Cup winner again as his Kings defeated the New Jersey Devils in the Stanley Cup final. This time the trophy accompanied Williams to his summer residence in the Philadelphia area.

Now, two years later, it is coming back to Cobourg.

Of his three Cup runs, Williams admits this one has been the most draining. And it is easy to understand why.

Consider the Kings unlikely road to the title.

In the first round, they became only the fourth team in Stanley Cup history to eclipse a 3-0 deficit en route to winning a playoff series. By weaving an unbelievable comeback against the rival San Jose Sharks, the Kings joined the 1942 Maple Leafs, 1975 Islanders and 2010 Flyers to accomplish the feat.

In the second round came a seven-game victory over the cross-town Ducks, followed by Game 7 overtime heroics by Martinez against the Chicago Blackhawks in the western conference final. It marked the first time that a team won three Game 7s on the road.

Then came the coup de grace, a five-game series win versus the Rangers. In the process, the Kings established a mark of lacing up for the most games (26) in one playoff year.

Exhausting? You bet.

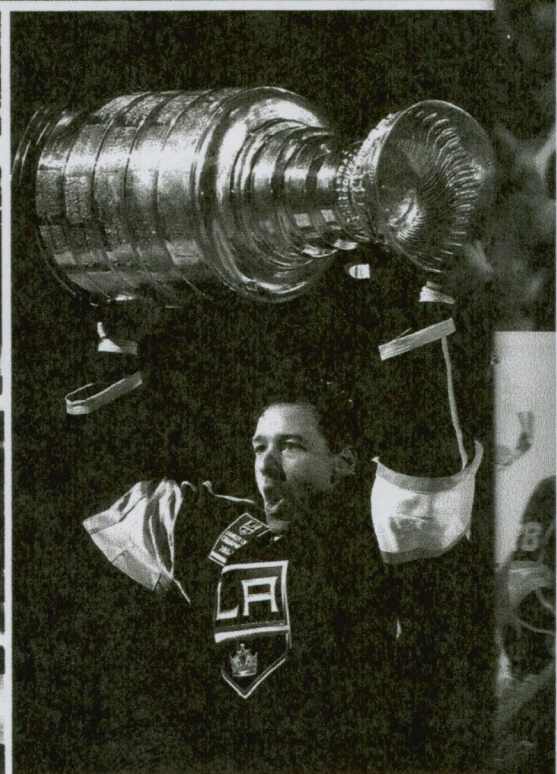
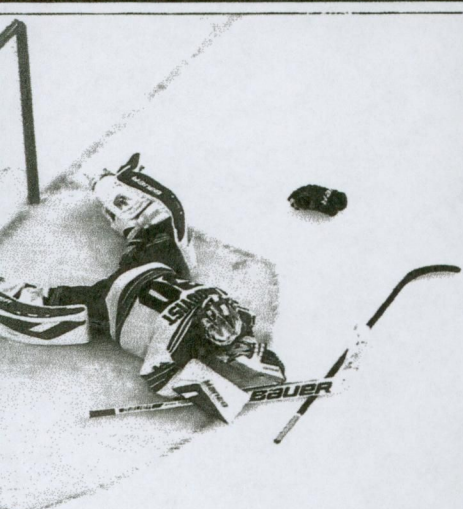
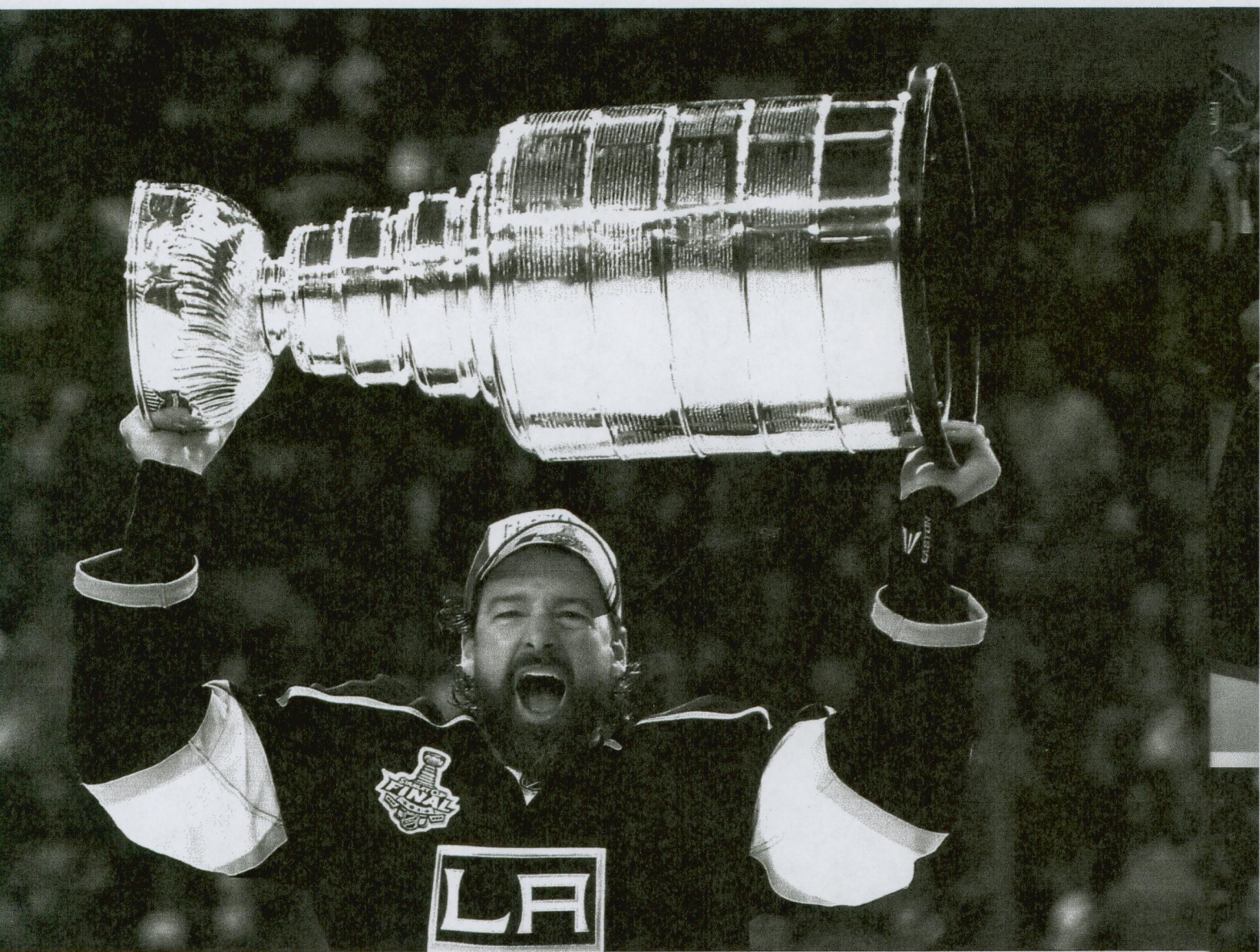
But it was all worth it. The smile on the face of Justin Williams as he parades with the Cup through the streets of Cobourg Saturday will be ample proof of that.

"We were all pretty fatigued once it was done," Williams said. "It wasn't easy. It never is. We did some things no other NHL team had ever done. But in the end, we accomplished our goal, and that's what matters the most.

"The parade Saturday is going to be special. It'll give family, friends, the entire community to share in this. It will be fun to see all the kids there react to seeing the Cup."

Kids who will dream of one day having a Cup parade of their own.

A dream that Justin Williams is living.



"I've been told 'no' many times in my life," he continued, "been cut from several teams when I was younger, but I persevered because I had the attitude and a commitment I made to myself to keep aspiring to be the best player that I can be, the best person that I can be, the best dad that I can be, the best husband that I can be and the best son that I can be. Sometimes the word 'no' or someone telling you that you can't do something is exactly what you need to hear to get to the next level. Prove them wrong and believe in yourself, but you have to make a goal for yourself and when you meet that make another one because a goal without a plan is simply a wish."

A question-and-answer session, moderated by Joel Scott, was another highlight of the celebration in Victoria Park. The first question came from a young voice in the crowd who asked, "How are you so good at playing hockey?"

"Practice, practice, practice," Williams responded. "Practice doesn't always make perfect, but it does make you better. That's what I try to do and have a positive attitude and be the best you can be." Another child asked Williams what he would be doing if he wasn't playing hockey.

"I love golf," Williams joked, after having to think for a few moments. He went on to say that he likely would have gone back to school if a hockey career didn't pan out.

Among other questions, Williams was also asked how he chose the number 14. He said it was more a case of the number choosing him. When he joined the Philadelphia Flyers after being drafted, they gave him two options – 14 or 19.

"I was just happy they gave me a number," he added.

The long line for pictures with the Stanley Cup never really dwindled and by the end of the celebration not everyone had made it to the trophies. Williams, before leaving, walked the Cup along the line so that those could still at least get a close look.

"It's a very humbling experience," Williams told Northumberland Today in a brief interview before leaving Victoria Park. "I certainly don't feel like a role model, but you have to embrace that title with what I've won and what I've done and how kids look up to me. It's been an unbelievable experience and the turnout was pretty special – it's something I will remember forever."

Having the chance to spend a day with the trophy is one of the best parts about winning the Stanley Cup, he said.

"I've said many times, you win the Stanley Cup for yourself, your teammates, your family and your fans – everyone who has cheered you on your whole life – and you're able to celebrate the Stanley Cup with them," Williams said. "That's the unique thing about winning the Stanley Cup trophy is you get it for the day and you get to touch a lot of people's lives."

Brad Bull and his nine-year-old son Dane – a Los Angeles Kings fan – came from Toronto on Saturday after hearing about the event from friends in Port Hope.

It was the first time for both father and son to see the Stanley Cup up close, which Dane described as "awesome."

"Getting to see Justin Williams and the Stanley Cup and all the trophies (was exciting)," Dane also said.

Being from such a large city, they enjoyed the more small-town community feel of Saturday's celebration.

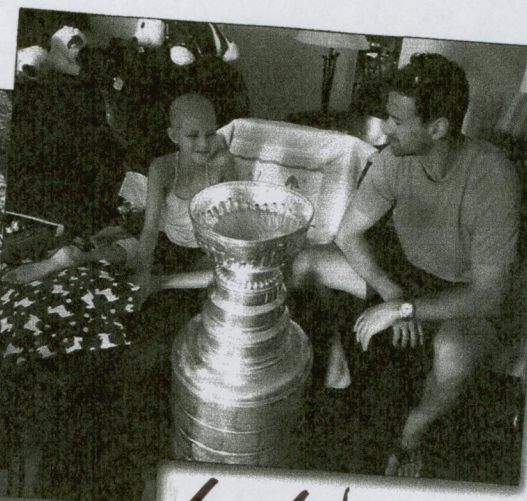
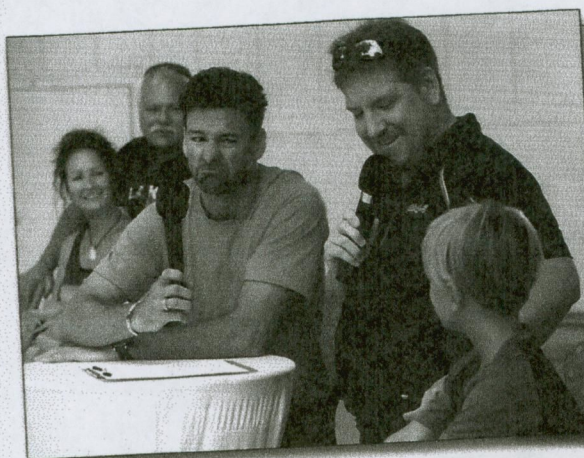
"The number of people down main street there for the parade was incredible," Brad Bull said. "There were people lined on both sides and the amount of kids with their hockey jerseys on, it was amazing to see... just incredible."

Williams was generous with his time after arriving in Peterborough by plane earlier that morning. He signed autographs when possible, even though there was no expectation to do so.

Also, before the parade, he visited the Grafton home of nine-year-old cancer patient Grace Bowen.

Back at Victoria Park, Williams's mother Denise was thrilled as she watched all of the excitement.

"It's overwhelming. We had no idea it would be like this," she said. "Just want to thank everyone for coming out and being a part of our day. It's to be shared with everybody and the community has always been supportive."



"PARADE" VICTORIA PARK

JUSTIN, JOEL SCOTT, DENISE : CRAIG .

JUSTIN
WITH GRACE .

STANLEY CUP PARADE CELEBRATION

"WELCOME TO
COBOURG" SIGNAGE.



EVENT ORGANIZED
BY RHONDA
CUNNINGHAM
CEO NHH FOUNDATION.



MOST VALUABLE PAL

Joe Warmington
Toronto Sun

This was one burning inferno a veteran firefighter didn't want to put out.

Turns out no one in the NHL could.

There was nobody hotter in the NHL playoffs than Cobourg's Justin Williams, and his pal Chris Post, of the Cobourg Fire Department, was like a fly on the wall for the historic Stanley Cup playoff run for the Conn Smythe winner.

But it doesn't seem so long ago that he saw this "skinny kid" come onto the Junior B team he was captain of called the Colborne Black Hawks. Who would have ever guessed that 17 years later not only would the kid have made the big time, but history too.

Post was one who did make that guess.

"I was 20 and he was 16," he said Monday after getting off the plane from Los Angeles and the "experience of a lifetime."

Post was the captain. Williams was the rookie. They were both from Cobourg.

He took him under his wing and the friendship remains.

"I love the game of hockey and have played it since I was four," said Post, now 37. "My passion for the game crossed paths with a 16-year-old skinny kid from Cobourg. I knew from the first skate we had together he was special. Some 17 years have passed and my journey with Williams has been nothing but a Canadian boy's dream."

Turns out he was prophetic. Justin not only won his third Stanley Cup but this time was also playoff MVP.

His post season was something of dreams. Winning goals. Overtime goals. Big Goals.

Williams is now the all-team leader in Game 7 points with 14, breaking Hall of Famer Doug Gilmour's record. He also has tied Hall of Famer Glenn Anderson's record of seven Game 7 goals. He was on fire.

He scored so many game-breaking goals that his new nickname is Mr. Game 7. On Hockey Night in Canada they were calling Williams "Justin Incredible" or "Justin Time," and this spring he's as popular out there in Hollywood as Brad Pitt, Tom Cruise, Jack Nicholson and Kobe Bryant combined.

But for Chris Post, the NHL's latest post-season sensation is just Justin.

"He's done so well but he's the same guy as he always was. Salt of the



earth and down to earth," Post said, adding while the media have all sorts of new nicknames for him, he just calls him "a friend."

To show the kid didn't forget where he came from, he invited his former captain out to Los Angeles to be part of it all.

Chris stayed at Williams's house with his wife and children and the superstar's mom and dad and sister.

The old Colborne Black Hawk living the dream.

"I would have loved to have been a player but I am very happy with my life," said Post. "My second dream was to be a firefighter and I am living that. Like Justin, we are both husbands and fathers and proud family men."

They both will have some good stories to tell their young children and perhaps grandchildren one day.

Post was not only an inside witness to a legendary on-ice performance, but in a way he played his own role in helping spark it.

There he was Friday night sitting along the ice at the Staples Centre for the winning game against the New York Rangers. And he was on the ice and in the dressing room for the celebration of a lifetime after the Kings came back in dramatic style to tie the game in the third and then win it in double overtime.

"It was surreal," said Post. "So amazing to be there. I will never forget it."

As he got ready to head to the airport to come home for his next fire-fighting shift, Post said his pal had one more surprise for him in his living room.

"It was the Stanley Cup and the Conn Smythe Trophy," said Post. "Some players dropped it off before I went to the airport."

Once again Williams was Justin Time.

Post said he was glad his cellphone camera worked.

"This is something I can't really put into words," he said.

Hey, when you have a picture with the rookie you helped mentor next to the Stanley Cup and Conn Smythe, words are not needed.

Cobourg renames Williams Trophy



Jeff Gard
Northumberland Today

Port Hope Minor Hockey has honoured the accomplishments of Justin Williams by renaming one its trophies after the Los Angeles Kings star.

Each season going forward now, a young player will receive the Justin Williams Award for most dedicated player at the Novice level. It's an award Williams himself won in the early 1990s.

Williams played a few of his early minor hockey seasons in the Port Hope systems before moving on to play triple-A hockey.

"Getting a trophy named after you, that's pretty cool," Williams said during a brief interview with Northumberland Today at Cobourg's Victoria Park on Saturday. "I feel very proud to have my name on that trophy. I'd like to see it, too."

After the Stanley Cup celebration in Victoria Park, Williams did get to see the trophy. As he met up with Port Hope Minor Hockey president Christian Eriksson and some players at the Cobourg Community Centre.

Saturday was a great chance, Eriksson said, to recognize Williams for his "success this year and overall in his hockey career."

Eriksson came across the award while going through the trophy case at the Jack Burger Sports Complex in Port Hope. He said the Novice Most Dedicated Player award was named after a sponsor who no longer has a business in the area.



Eriksson came across the award while going through the trophy case at the Jack Burger Sports Complex in Port Hope. He said the Novice Most Dedicated Player award was named after a sponsor who no longer has a business in the area.

There were names of previous winners dating back into the 1960s, including Williams in 1990-1991.

"I always think it's important to recognize these kids who have played their hockey in Port Hope," Eriksson said. "This is my first year as president and I thought it was important for us an organization to make a big deal about Justin and his accomplishments."

It was put to a vote at Port Hope Minor Hockey's most recent executive meeting and members were in favour of the name change. Put it to a vote at last meeting and it passed with everyone in favour. Eriksson said Mill Valley Trophies in Cobourg helped build the new trophy.

"We've incorporated all the names – from 1968 is as far back as I could go – so all the names are on the trophy, as is Justin's."







LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

IT'S ABOUT MORE THAN JUST THE CUP

First of all I wanted to congratulate Craig and Denise Williams for raising a son, Justin, who is both humble and grounded. I know they must be very proud of him and the way he carries himself in public and interacts with fans and admirers. Regardless of his outstanding athletic accomplishments, he is an amazing young man.

I was impressed with Justin as soon as he entered the Library parking lot with the prestigious Conn Smythe Trophy and the coveted Stanley Cup. No entourage, no burly security surrounding him, just a nice relaxed atmosphere with smiles all around. As Justin boarded the Canadian Tire float I noticed how he went around and slapped hands with his young fans and spoke to them. What a thrill of a lifetime for all those youngsters. They couldn't have been more excited.

The float made its way down King Street with a large, jubilant crowd applauding Justin for his incredible accomplishments. They were proud of their hometown hero and so pleased he made the special effort to share the cup with his community. It was nice to see Justin bring some happiness and glory to the folks back home. Another nice touch was having coaches and young hockey players from the surrounding communities walking behind the float along with the concert band and pipers.

Although I wasn't down at the park for pictures because of other commitments, I read the well written article by our local sports writer,

Jeff Gard. I was struck by Justin's words as he addressed the crowd. His speech was genuine and heartfelt. He talked about getting cut from teams and persevering to reach the goals he had set for himself and not listening to the nay sayers. He wanted to be the best, the best son, the best father, the best husband, and the best hockey player. (See Conn Smythe trophy - mission accomplished in the playoffs!) It wasn't just about sports. There's no limit to what you can do at school, in the field, or at the rink if you put your mind and energy into it according to Justin. Another point Justin made was to constantly re-evaluate your goals and set higher limits once they had been obtained. It's important for youth to hear these words spoken from their hero and not always coming from their parents or teachers. It carries a lot more importance when spoken by someone they idolize.

After the Bruins were eliminated I started rooting for the Kings because of the hometown connection. Justin was relentless on the ice with his tenacious forechecking, swift skating, and the ability to read plays on the fly. He proved to be the clutch player, that extra offensive weapon that the Kings needed to reach the pinnacle of every hockey player's career, the Stanley Cup.

It's wonderful when a community can come together and be part of such a celebratory occasion. Without people like Rhonda Cunningham, who organized the parade, Jocelyn Gard and her library helpers, who sold raffle tickets, the Cobourg Concert Band, and the

Cobourg Pipers and Pipe Band, and countless other volunteers, this would not have become a reality. The sun was smiling and so were the hockey gods. What a proud day for all of Cobourg.

Thank you, Justin.

BRYAN MARJORAM, BALTIMORE

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In addition, we will publish no more than three letters from a contributor on the same topic.

4. The Cup is Coming to Cobourg!

* pete.fisher@sunmedia.ca

Cobourg's own Justin Williams, three-time Stanley Cup champion and Conn Smythe Trophy winner will be bringing the Stanley Cup to Cobourg on July 19.

He'll also be bringing a few other trophies with him which he received as part of this year's NHL champion Los Angeles Kings, including the Conn Smythe he earned for the Most Valuable Player and the Clarence S. Campbell trophy for winning the Western Conference.

"I'm excited to be able to bring the cup back to Cobourg and have a celebration this time for everybody from the community and neighbouring communities," Williams told Northumberland Today on Sunday evening.

The Los Angeles Kings defeated the New York Rangers in double overtime during Game 5 to win the Stanley Cup on home ice. Moments after shaking hands with the Rangers Williams was told he'd won the Conn Smythe Trophy.

“You have that waiting point when you wait for the cup. In the meantime one of our public relations guys came over to me and said, ‘Stay close to me because you’re going to be presented with the Conn Smythe in a couple of minutes.’

“The instant emotion that I felt when he told me that was disbelief and happiness. I was surprised, grateful, humbled and excited to have that trophy,” Williams said.

Winning the Conn Smythe was extremely emotional, but having his family in attendance brought it to another level.

“What made it so special is you’re told that and you see in the stands your family is there, and you try to communicate to them that I’m going to get that trophy and the response you get from your teammates was overwhelming for me,” Williams said.

“I raised it for a second and looked over at my teammates and it seemed like they were just as happy as I was.”

The 32-year-old Cobourg native has had his share of injuries while playing in the National Hockey League, and a few years back thought his career might have been coming to an end.

“As a hockey player, throughout your career you have peaks and valleys and my valleys seem to be pretty low,” he said.

But he credits LA Kings general manager Dean Lombardi for giving him the opportunity to reach new goals.

“I’ve put a lot of work into it and made up my mind I didn’t want to be done and made up my mind that I can be a better player than I was, and slowly it’s coming to fruition. As a hockey player you always try to get better,” Williams said.

“I’m happy with the success I’ve had and one thing I won’t do is ever let it change the way I approach every game I play.”

As a veteran hockey player with a long list of achievements during his career, Williams still has that drive.

“Our GM, Dean Lombardi, keeps us very goal oriented and he asks us every now and then, ‘What’s your favourite Stanley Cup ring?’ and we respond, ‘The next one,’” Williams said.

“I want to be as successful as I can in this league. If that means three cups then that’s fine, but I have more aspirations than that and I know our club does as well.”

And it’s that message he would like to instill to the youth of Cobourg and area.

“Anything is possible,” he said. “Whatever your goals are, whether it be a hockey player or being something else. No one is

going to tell you what you can't do and for me, I've been told 'No' a lot of times and persevered throughout."

Details of the Cobourg celebrations will be announced Monday. There will be a parade down King Street, with festivities taking place at the band shell in Victoria Park.

"Cup Day is really a day of celebration for everybody that's supported you - everyone who has come to watch your games; everyone who has been there since Day 1," Williams said.

Williams said he's honoured to be coming home to a celebratory parade and that he's looking forward to the day.

"I'll do the best I can to say 'Hi' to every single person that's there because that means a lot to me," he said.

The celebration on July 19 begins at 11:30 a.m. when hockey players and fans of all ages are invited to don their home jerseys and gather at the Cobourg Public Library. From there, led by the Cobourg Police, The Concert Band of Cobourg and The Cobourg Legion Pipes and Drums, the parade will kick off at 12 noon and head along King Street to Victoria Park, according to a press release issued by the Town of Cobourg Monday afternoon.

From there, the release continues, Williams and his family will bring the Stanley Cup, the Conn Smythe Trophy and the Clarence S. Campbell Bowl (awarded to the NHL Western Conference playoff champions) into the park where Mayor Gil Brocanier will officially greet them.

Next, a question and answer period will take place, followed by photo opportunities with the Stanley Cup.

In addition to the day's celebrations, the release states, Marc Mercier, Partner, Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, and Governor, Cobourg Cougars Junior A Hockey Club has donated tickets to an LA Kings game when they play the Senators in Ottawa. The tickets will be raffled off the afternoon of July 19. Mercier has requested that all proceeds go toward the Cobourg Public Library. An additional 10 tickets will be raffled off with winners receiving a photo with Williams.



5. Canes Name Justin Williams as Team Captain

**Terrell Williams @NHLCanes / Carolina Hurricanes
News Release**

September 13, 2018

RALEIGH, NC - Rod Brind'Amour, Head Coach of the National Hockey League's Carolina Hurricanes, today announced that Justin Williams will serve as the team's captain for the 2018-19 season. Jordan Staal and Justin Faulk will serve as alternate captains.

Williams, 36, is the 16th player to serve as captain for the franchise and the eighth since the team's arrival in North Carolina. The Cobourg, Ont., native scored 16 goals and added 35 assists (51 points) in 82 games with the Hurricanes in 2017-18, ranking third on the team in points and assists. Now in his 18th NHL season, Williams has totaled 733 points (289g, 444a) in 1,162 career NHL games with Philadelphia, Carolina, Los Angeles and Washington. He is a three-time Stanley Cup winner (Carolina, 2006; Los Angeles, 2012 and 2014) and won the Conn Smythe Trophy as playoff MVP in 2014.



6. Justin Williams, one of the top clutch players in NHL history, retires after 19 seasons



October 8, 2020 Cory Lavalette Article, NHL, Sports

It makes perfect sense that Justin Williams would retire from the NHL on Oct. 8.

There was no way he was hanging up his skates on the 7th.

The three-time Stanley Cup winner known as “Mr. Game 7” — who helped the Carolina Hurricanes to their only title in 2006 and won a Conn Smythe Trophy as playoff MVP with the Los Angeles Kings in 2004 — announced his retirement Thursday after 19 NHL seasons.

“Since I first broke into the league a day after my 19th birthday back in 2000, this game has brought me so much that I will never be able to repay it” Williams said in a release by the Hurricanes. “The countless experiences, relationships, lessons and hardships will remain with me forever as I move on to the next stage of my life. I’ve never once taken for granted the privilege it is to be able to play a game for a living, and that is probably why I was able to play it professionally for as long as I have.”

Williams, who turned 39 on Sunday, played for four franchises in his career and had two stints in Carolina. The 28th overall pick by the Philadelphia Flyers in 2000, he was traded to the Hurricanes for defenseman Danny Markov in January 2004 and became a key player on Carolina’s post-lockout teams.

He tied for second in team scoring in the 2005-06 season and had 18 points in 25 postseason games, including the empty-net goal in Game 7 of the Stanley Cup Final against the Edmonton Oilers that sealed Carolina’s victory.

It also set the foundation for his reputation as one of hockey's top clutch players.

Williams had seven goals and eight assists in nine career Game 7s, starting with a three-point effort in the Flyers' first-round win over the Maple Leafs in 2003 and ending with his assist on Brock McGinn's series-winning double-overtime goal in Carolina's upset of the defending Stanley Cup champion Washington Capitals in 2019.

In between, all Williams did was win.

His biggest statistical seasons came in his first two full seasons in Raleigh when he combined for 64 goals and 143 points while not missing a game. But injuries caught up to Williams the next two seasons and led to his trade to the Kings.

In Los Angeles, he solidified his spot as a big-game player, winning two more Stanley Cups and his Conn Smythe. More importantly, he became known as one of the game's top leaders in the locker room.

That success and reputation led Washington to sign Williams with the hopes that his influence would push the Capitals past the rival Pittsburgh Penguins and to their first Stanley Cup. While the Caps fell short during Williams' stint in D.C., several Capitals players pointed to his influence when Washington finally won the Cup the following year.

Williams, meanwhile, was back in Raleigh, hoping to return Carolina to the glory it had lost in the eight-plus years since he had left.

Year 1 was a bust. Coach Bill Peters didn't name Williams his captain as expected — instead going with a bizarre two-captain rotation of Jordan Staal and Justin Faulk — and Carolina failed to make the playoffs.

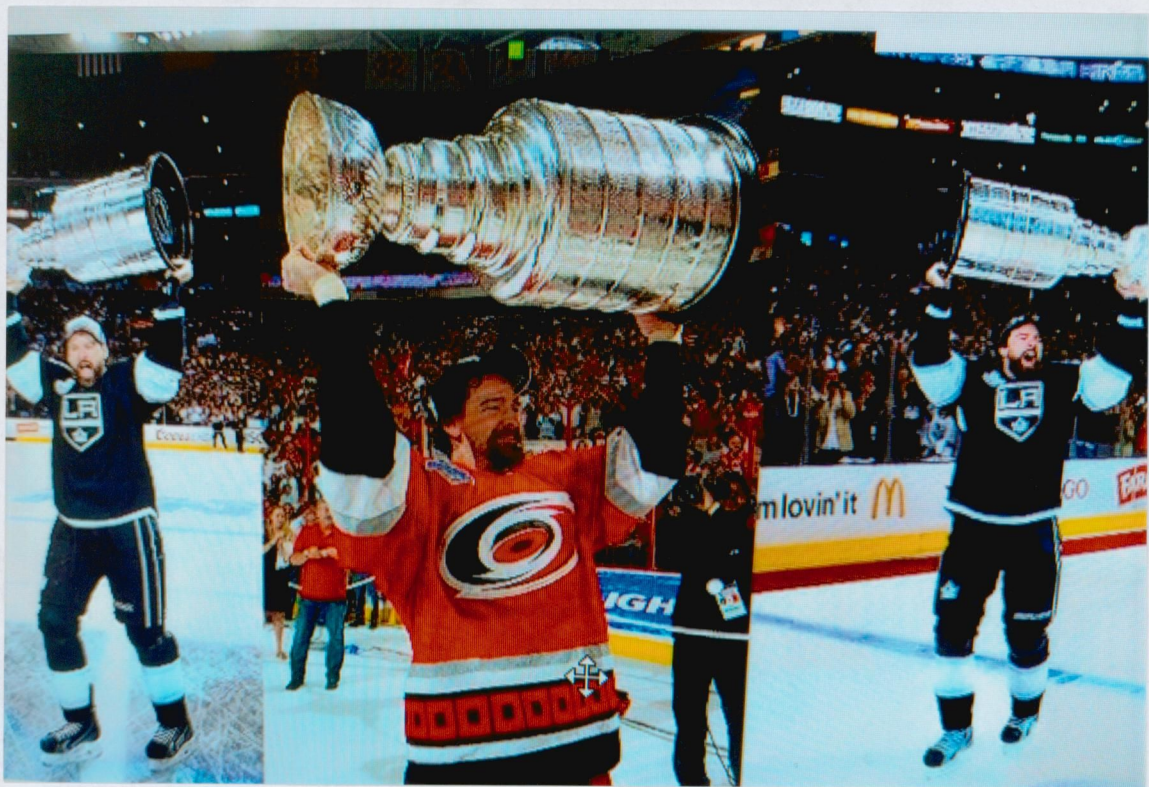
But new ownership and a new coach — former linemate Rod Brind'Amour — corrected that error for the 2018-19 season, and Williams rightfully received the "C" that his former center wore when Carolina won its title in 2006.

Williams again rose to the occasion, leading the Hurricanes back to the postseason for the first time in a decade. In the opening round of the playoffs against his old team, the Capitals, he had just one assist in the first five games of the series.

But in Game 6, he scored with just over eight minutes left in the third period to give Carolina a two-goal lead. Then in Game 7, having played 29:40, he won a battle in the corner and centered a pass that McGinn redirected past Capitals goalie Braden Holtby in double overtime to help the Hurricanes advance, ending his former team's reign as champion. Carolina's run ended with an Eastern Conference Final sweep against the Bruins, and then Williams' career ended similarly with a five-game loss to Boston this season in the Toronto bubble.

In all, Williams scored 320 goals and had 797 points in 1,264 regular season games, adding another 41 goals and 102 points in 162 postseason games. He wore No. 11 in his first run in Carolina, and No. 14 in his second. But the numbers — in the boxscore or on the back of his sweater — never told the story of Justin Williams.

Well, except one — seven.



"3 STANLEY CUPS."

7. The Lessons That Propelled Justin Williams to Three

Stanley Cups Chris Johnston January 3, 2020

Long before Justin Williams won three Stanley Cups or played 1,000 games or scored on the first shift of his NHL career as a teenager, they told him he was too small to play for the best junior team in his hometown.

Well before everything stopped dead in Cobourg for a parade on a steamy July afternoon in 2014, Williams faced more than one defining moment where he was forced to decide whether it was worth continuing to chase his hockey dream.

But that steamy July day happened to be the same one they memorialized his biggest professional accomplishments on the town sign. Whether you're driving in from the north on Burnham St. or the east on King St., you're now greeted by the same message: "Welcome to Cobourg. Home of Stanley Cup champions Justin Williams & Steve Smith."

Imagine that?

Williams was bestowed the honour just five weeks after he'd accepted the Conn Smythe Trophy at centre ice in Los Angeles, and it wasn't entirely clear which meant more to him. Instead of 20,000 fans at Staples Center, he stood in front of a couple of hundred locals at Victoria Park. Rather than shaking hands with NHL commissioner Gary Bettman, he watched then Cobourg mayor Gil Brocanier unveil a replica of the new town signpost.

The emotions were different, but even a stoic like Williams couldn't disguise the fact it made him emotional.

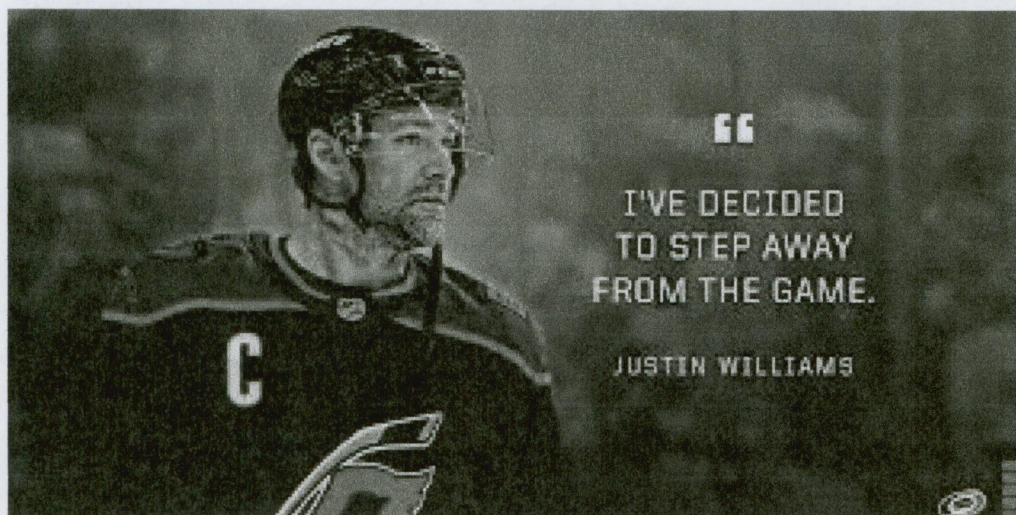
“It’s pretty overwhelming for me. I’m just like all of you,” he told the crowd while standing on stage at the bandshell. “Just from Cobourg, a small town, and doing the best I can with what I’m given.”

The more you understand that last sentence, the more you will come to understand a career that defies easy explanation. Williams was deemed too slight to play a regular shift for the Cobourg Cougars at age 16 and won a job with the rough-and-tumble Philadelphia Flyers before his 19th birthday. He was never an elite skater, never the top scorer or best player on any of his teams during 19 years in the NHL, and yet virtually every teammate he ever had would trade achievements in an instant.





NHL All Star Game **Williams** made his first appearance in an NHL **All-Star game** at the 2007 NHL **All-Star Game** in Dallas, recording a goal and an assist.



Justin helped the team win the Stanley Cup in 2006, and he retired with the Canes in 2020.

8. Three-time Stanley Cup Champion Justin Williams is Calling it a Career. Mike Johnston October 8, 2020,

The longtime NHL forward who spent time with the Carolina Hurricanes, Los Angeles Kings, Philadelphia Flyers and Washington Capitals announced his retirement Thursday.

Williams released the following statement:

“Since I first broke into the league a day after my 19th birthday back in 2000, this game has brought me so much that I will never be able to repay it” Williams said. “The countless experiences, relationships, lessons and hardships will remain with me forever as I move on to the next stage of my life. I’ve never once taken for granted the privilege it is to be able to play a game for a living, and that is probably why I was able to play it professionally for as long as I have.

“I want to thank every single one of my teammates for challenging me every day to be better. My friend and agent Thane Campbell for having my back all these years. Bobby Clarke and the Philadelphia Flyers organization for seeing the potential in a scrawny kid from Cobourg, Ont., and selecting me in the draft. My first coach Craig Ramsay for giving me an opportunity right away to realize my dream of playing in the NHL. Jim Rutherford and the Carolina Hurricanes for seeing that same potential and allowing me to grow as a player. Phil Anschutz, Dean Lombardi, Michael Futa and the Los Angeles Kings organization whom I will forever be grateful to for helping me resurrect a career that was sliding away, and giving me a renewed confidence in myself at a time when I needed it most. The Washington Capitals organization for the chance to keep playing for championships. Peter Karmanos and Ron Francis for agreeing to bring me back to the place I now call home and

finish my career for the Hurricanes. Tom Dundon and Rod Brind'Amour for their leadership and trust in me as a player to bring me back this past year for one last run.

"My family has sacrificed a lot for me to be where I am, so I want to thank my mom and dad for being there for me every step of the way. My sister, Nikki, for being my biggest fan since day one. My wife, Kelly, and my kids Jaxon and Jade for embracing this journey with me. Life is so much better when you have people you love to share it with.

"Thank you everyone as I retire from pro hockey."

Williams was selected in the first round of the 2000 NHL Draft by the Flyers. He ended up playing 1,264 regular season games, amassing 320 goals and 477 assists. He became famous for his ability to elevate his game in the post-season – particularly in winner-take-all games thus earning the nickname "Mr. Game 7." Williams added 41 goals and 102 points in 162 career playoff games.

The 39-year-old won his first championship with the Hurricanes in 2006. His second Cup came with the Kings in 2012 then he won another with the Kings in 2014. Williams earned the Conn Smythe Trophy as playoff MVP during that final Cup run after putting up 25 points in 26 games.

Williams had spent the past three seasons with the Hurricanes, scoring eight goals in 20 games in 2019-20.

9. Former Capital Justin Williams joins Sportsnet as an analyst

BY **NOVEMBER 6, 2023**

After nearly 20 years in the NHL, **Justin Williams** is back in the public eye, this time as a broadcaster with Sportsnet.

The former Capital announced that he would make his first appearance on Monday night, joining the pregame show as part of the network's Monday Night Hockey programming. Williams will make his debut alongside current panelists David Amber, Cassie Campbell-Pascall, Colby Armstrong, Anson Carter.

"Looking forward to working with this crew tonight for @MapleLeafs @TBLightning on @Sportsnet," Williams wrote on social media. "Flip on the pre game show at 630p est."

According to Rogers, Sportsnet's parent company, Williams will be a guest on the Monday Night Hockey panel periodically throughout the season. There's no news yet on whether William's signature hair will be making an appearance on the broadcast.

Williams retired from professional hockey in 2020 after winning three Stanley Cups and playing a total of 1,264 games for the Capitals, Philadelphia Flyers, Carolina Hurricanes, and LA Kings. He earned the nickname Mr. Game 7 for his clutch play in elimination games, holding the record for most Game 7 points (15) of any player in NHL history.

Since then, Williams has remained with the Carolina Hurricanes working as a special assistant to the GM. He also runs a hockey camp under his own name and golfs during his free time.

Recently, Williams became the fifth-ever player named to the Hurricanes' Hall of Fame in honor of his contributions to the franchise.



Justin Williams was inducted into the Carolina Hurricanes team Hall of Fame. Former captain and clutch forward helped the team to Stanley Cup in 2006 and receives well-deserved honour.



Since the 2023–24 season, Justin has been a studio **analyst** for **Sportsnet** Monday Night Hockey.



Justin Brings Stanley Home

Jeff Gard
Northumberland Today

Hundreds of supporters from not just Cobourg, but also the rest of Northumberland County and beyond, welcomed Justin Williams of the Los Angeles Kings home Saturday to celebrate his third Stanley Cup victory and first Conn Smythe Trophy win.

Led by the Concert Band of Cobourg and Cobourg Legion Pipes and Drums, the parade left the Cobourg Public Library around noon and continued down King Street – with enthusiastic greeters lining both sides – to Church Street and into Victoria Park where people had already formed a long line to have their picture taken with the National Hockey League trophies.

Some of the Williams family members, including his parents Craig and Denise, were driven during the parade in the Cobourg Fire Department's antique fire truck by firefighter Chris Post, a close friend of Justin Williams.

Minor hockey players from around the county – there were numerous jerseys from the Cobourg Community Hockey League, Port Hope Minor Hockey, West Northumberland Girls Hockey Association and Baltimore Minor Hockey – marched in the parade and surrounded the float which carried Williams, with his wife Kelly, son Jaxon and daughter Jade, as well as the Stanley Cup, Conn Smythe Trophy (awarded to the most valuable player of the playoffs) and Clarence S. Campbell Bowl (the Western Conference championship trophy) and two representatives from the Hockey Hall of Fame, including former Cobourg resident Mike Bolt, who is a Keeper of the Cup.

Williams hoisted the Stanley Cup above his head a few times along the parade route, drawing big cheers each time.

In Victoria Park, Williams was welcomed by Cobourg Mayor Gil Brocanier, who said the community was proud of his accomplishments while noting the Conn Smythe Trophy win and how it puts him into some elite company of former winners. The mention of the Conn Smythe drew huge applause from the large crowd. Previous winners include the likes of Jean Beliveau, Bobby Orr, Guy Lafleur, Wayne Gretzky, Mario Lemieux, Patrick Roy and even Williams's current Los Angeles teammate Jonathan Quick, who was named MVP when the Kings won the Cup in 2012.

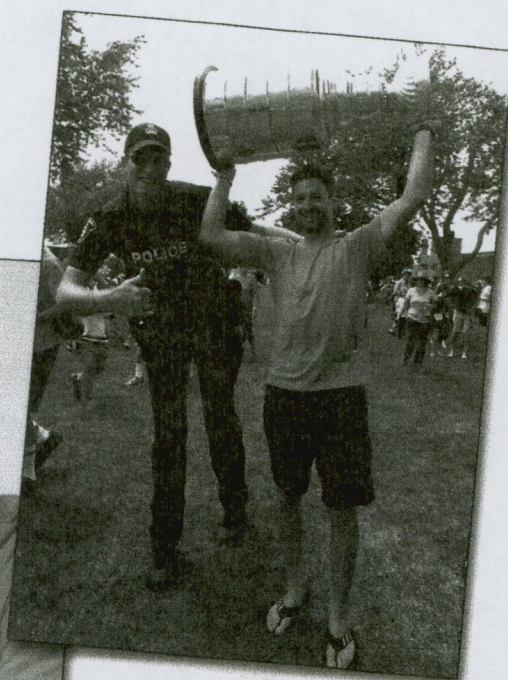
Brocanier unveiled a sign that will be placed at both entrances into town from Highway 401 that reads "Welcome to Cobourg, Home of Stanley Cup champions Justin Williams & Steve Smith."

Williams had some thank-yous to offer, starting with his family. "You don't get here without the support of your family and they have been from day one my biggest supporters and I've gotten a few more here along the way," he remarked from the bandshell stage. "It's awesome to win a Stanley Cup, but it's even more special when you have people you love to celebrate it with."

Williams also thanked the Town of Cobourg for its part in pulling the event together in such short order as well as Rhonda Cunningham who spearheaded the organization of the celebration, all of the children who walked in the parade with him, Brocanier for his kind words and the police and fire departments.

"Everyone who made this special for me and special for everyone involved, thanks very much," Williams said before offering some inspiring words to the youth in attendance.

"There's really no limit to how hard you can work in your life, whether it be in the classroom, on the field or in a hockey rink. You're only limited by your mind and what you think you can accomplish. You can do anything with your life and no one has the right to tell you that you can't, even though they will – trust me, people will tell you that you can't."



I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT, TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, THE ABOVE FACTS ARE TRUE, AND I ENDORSE THIS APPLICATION FOR INDUCTION INTO THE COBOURG AND DISTRICT SPORTS HALL OF FAME

NOMINATOR

ADDRESS:

PHONE # :

DATE:

SEPT. 29 / 2024

@gmail.com

Please return completed form to:

Cobourg & District Sports Hall of Fame

P.O. Box 45

Cobourg, Ontario

K9A 1M8