


climb into their pads and pants, and pull their white championship jerseys over their heads again, not even for the pictures in which they had waited all their lives to pose. McDonald and Rosasco kept counting heads and kept coming up short until a hungover Noonan finally showed up.

 The first picture was by far the most important. It was the official Stanley Cup team picture. As the players were positioned by photographer Bruce Bennett, there was one frozen moment when Smith and Keenan were to be seated in the center of the first row. Although both had been around for nearly an hour, they had kept to their own cliques and hadn't acknowledged each other. Would they possibly sit side by side? Messier, the captain and franchise centerpiece, diplomatically took his spot between the warring generals.

Everyone else fell into place. Everyone smiled.

After the official group shots were complete, the media took its turn snapping team pictures. Then the players took turns posing for family portraits with the Cup. When the shoot was finally finished, somebody went to