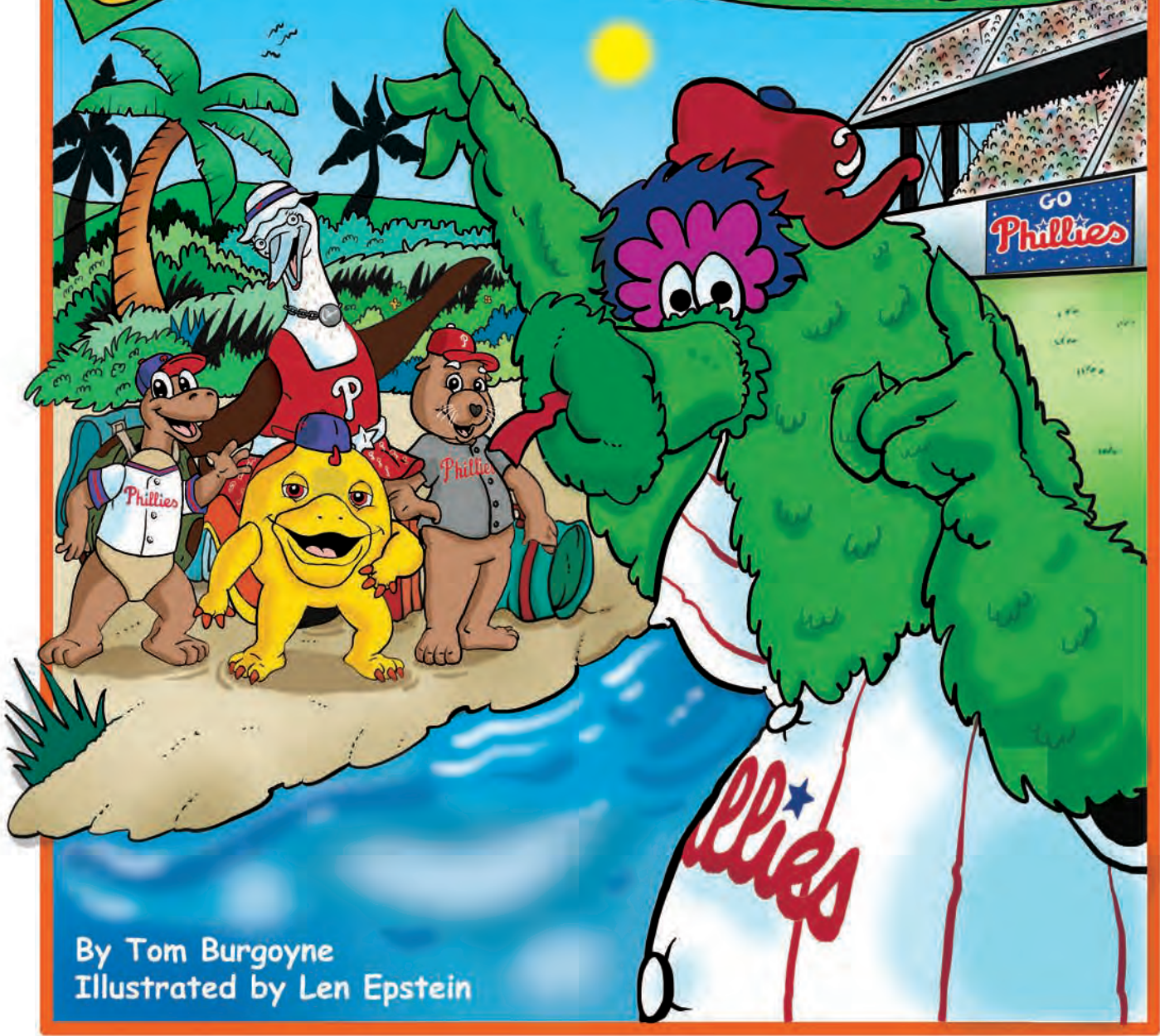




The

Phillie Phanatic's

GALAPAGOS GANG



By Tom Burgoyne  
Illustrated by Len Epstein



This book belongs to

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Manufactured in the United States

Written by Tom Burgoyne  
Illustrated by Len Epstein

**Phillies**™





The  
**Phillie Phanatic's**  
**GALAPAGOS GANG**



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"Mom, look what I found! It's our old home movies," the Phillie Phanatic exclaimed. "Can we watch some of them?" The Phanatic's mom, Phoebe, smiled and said, "You set up the projector and I'll make some popcorn."





Before long, the Phanatic and Phoebe were watching home movies of the place the Phillie Phanatic was born - the Galapagos Islands.





"There's the old gang!" the Phanatic shouted as he pointed to the screen. Four of the Phanatic's closest friends from the islands appeared: Bessie, the blue-footed booby; Sid, the sea lion; Calvin, the giant tortoise; and Iggy, the land iguana.





Growing up on the Galapagos Islands, the Phanatic spent so much time with his pals that the other animals gave the group the name, the Galapagos Gang. "I miss my old friends," the Phanatic sighed.





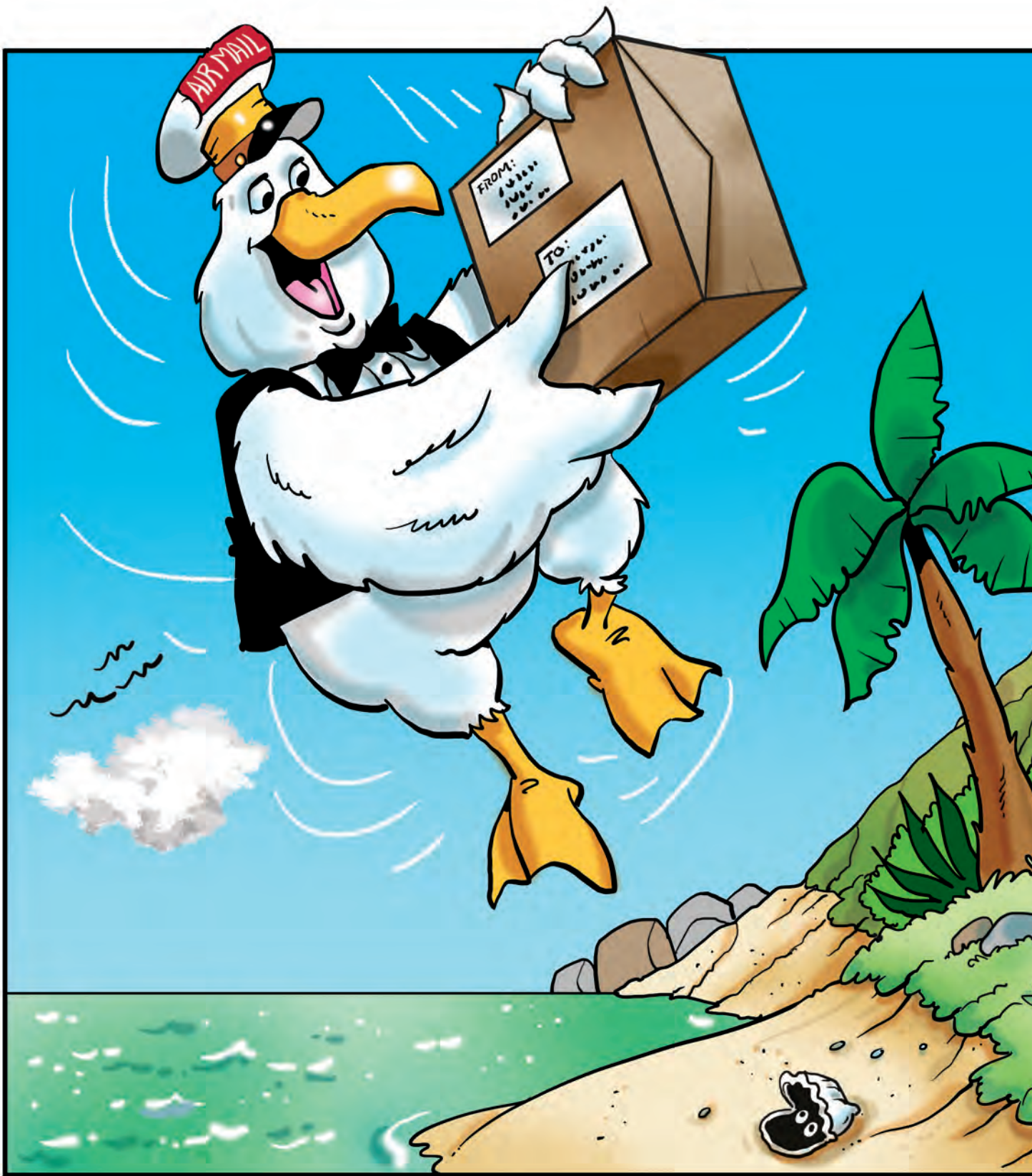
Phoebe had an idea. The Phillie Phanatic's birthday was coming soon. "I'll surprise the Phanatic and invite the Galapagos Gang to his birthday party," she thought to herself.





The next day, Phoebe placed a birthday invitation in a box with some other special surprises and mailed it to the Galapagos Islands.





A few days later, Phoebe's big box made it to the Galapagos Islands where the gang was gathered and having fun.





"Special delivery for the Galapagos Gang," called out the mail carrier.





Calvin, the giant tortoise, jumped up and down when he saw the big box.  
"Open it! Open it!" he yelled. "Patience, Calvin," Bessie replied.  
"Good things come to those who wait."





Sid, the sea lion, reached into the box. "It's an invitation to the birthday party of our old friend, the Phillie Phanatic," he said. "The Phanatic's birthday party? Can we go? Please?" Calvin pleaded.





Bessie looked at the invitation. "I don't know, Calvin. The party is tomorrow in Philadelphia. That's really far away. Plus, I don't have anything to wear," she said.





Sid pulled a couple of Phillies jerseys and caps out of the box and handed a special birthday dress and hat to Bessie.





Bessie twirled around in her new dress.  
"Now I have something to wear!" she said.





Sid said, "Iggy, there's even something special here for you."  
"A Philly cheesesteak!" Iggy shouted as he gobbled the  
tasty sandwich down in one bite.





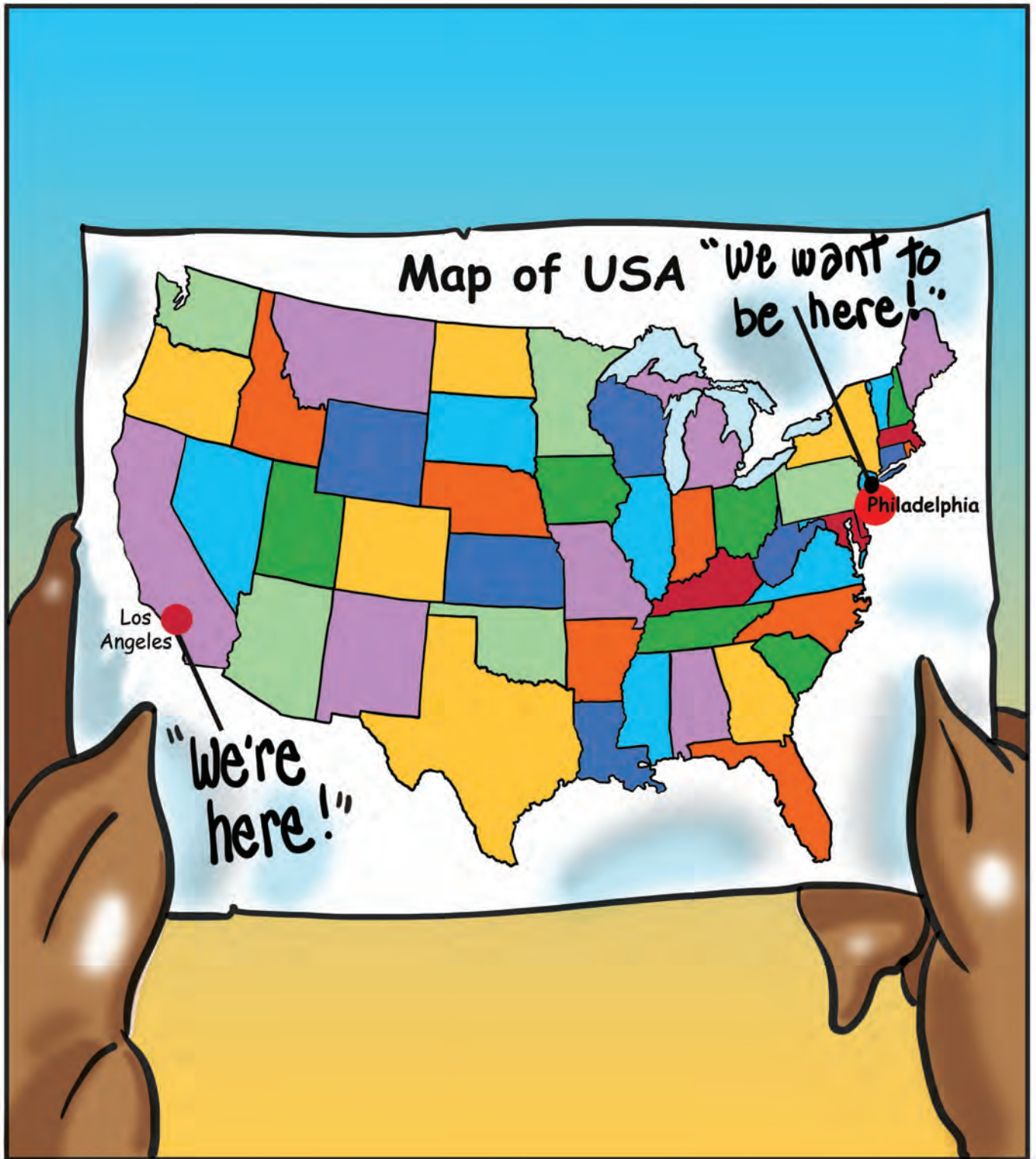
The gang packed their bags, hopped onto their special boat and set sail for America. "Philadelphia, here we come!" Calvin announced.





The Galapagos Islands are located in the Pacific Ocean off the coast of Ecuador. After sailing through the night, the gang landed in America. Calvin jumped off the boat first. "We're here!" he yelled. Iggy looked around. "Where are the Philly cheesesteaks?" he asked.





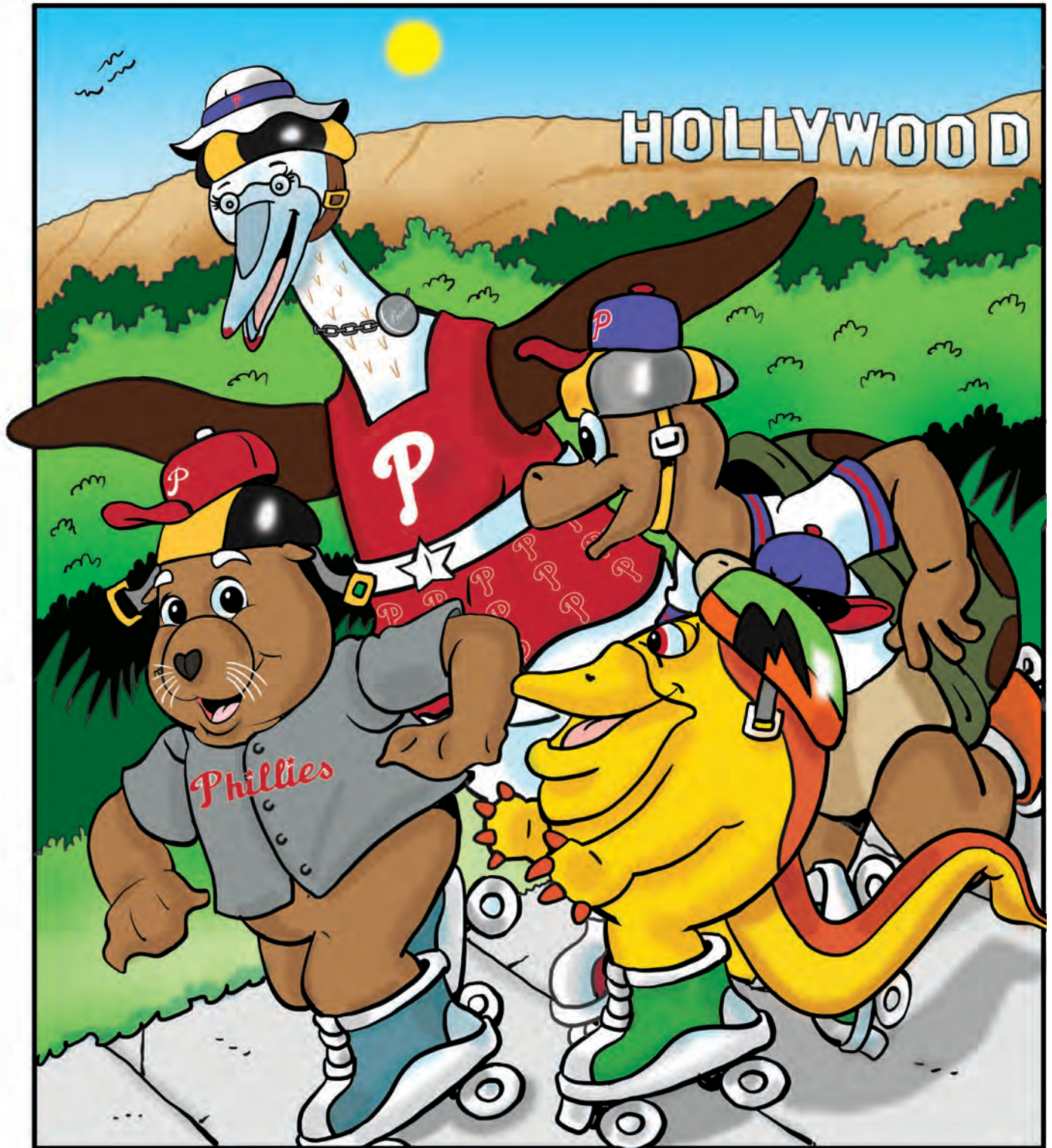
Sid opened up his map. "We're not in Philadelphia yet. We're in California and Philadelphia is 3,000 miles away," he said.





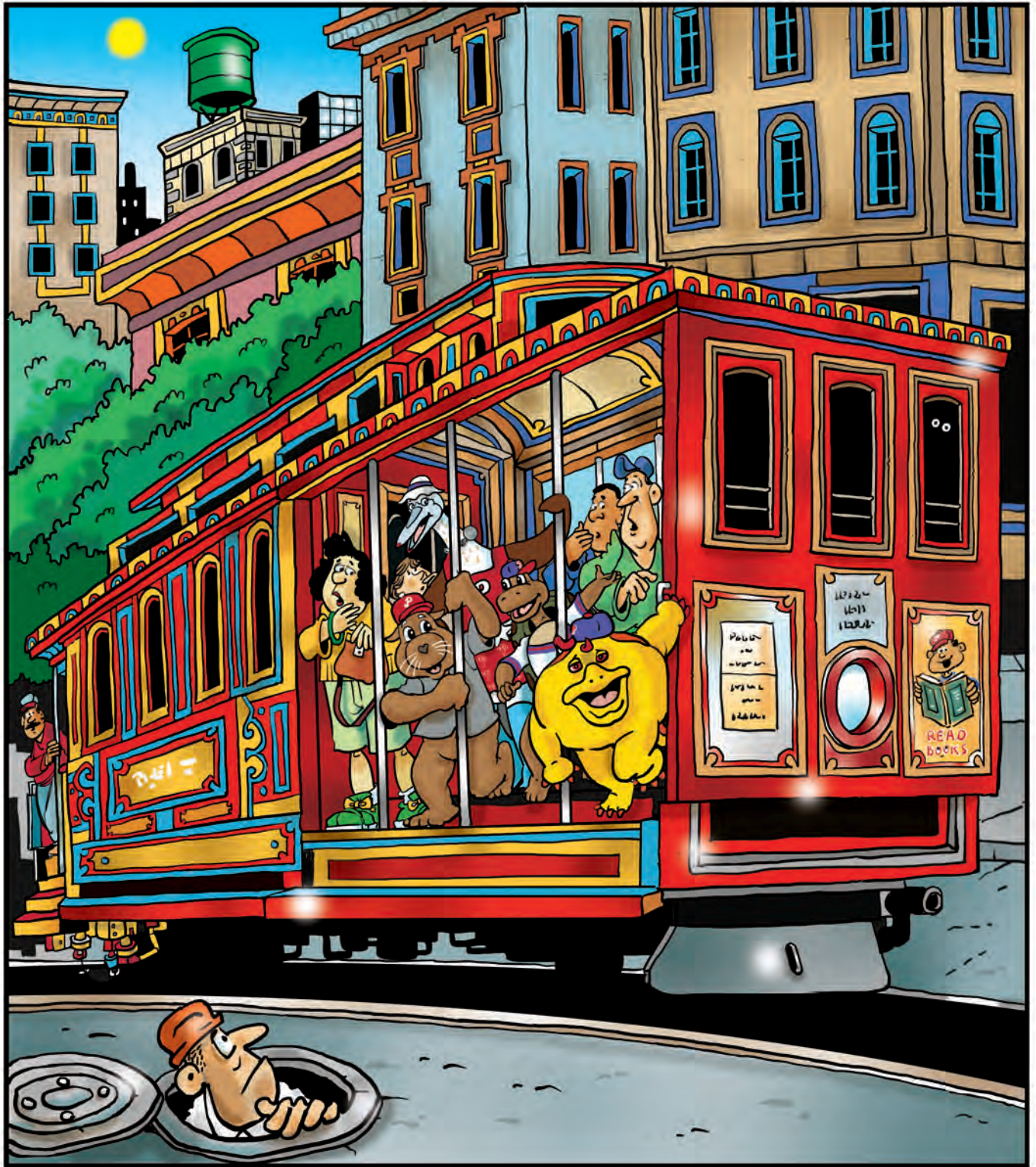
Bessie looked worried. "3,000 miles? How are we going to get there in time for the surprise party?" she asked. Sid replied, "I've read a lot of books about America and one thing I know for sure - they really know how to travel. Follow me."





The Galapagos Gang started out on their long journey across America. They strapped on rollerblades and skated down Hollywood Boulevard.





When they arrived in San Francisco, they rode on an old cable car up and down the steep hills in the city.





They made their way to Arizona and sailed over the Grand Canyon on hang gliders.





Calvin looked down and said, "That's bigger than the hole I dug on the beach last week!"





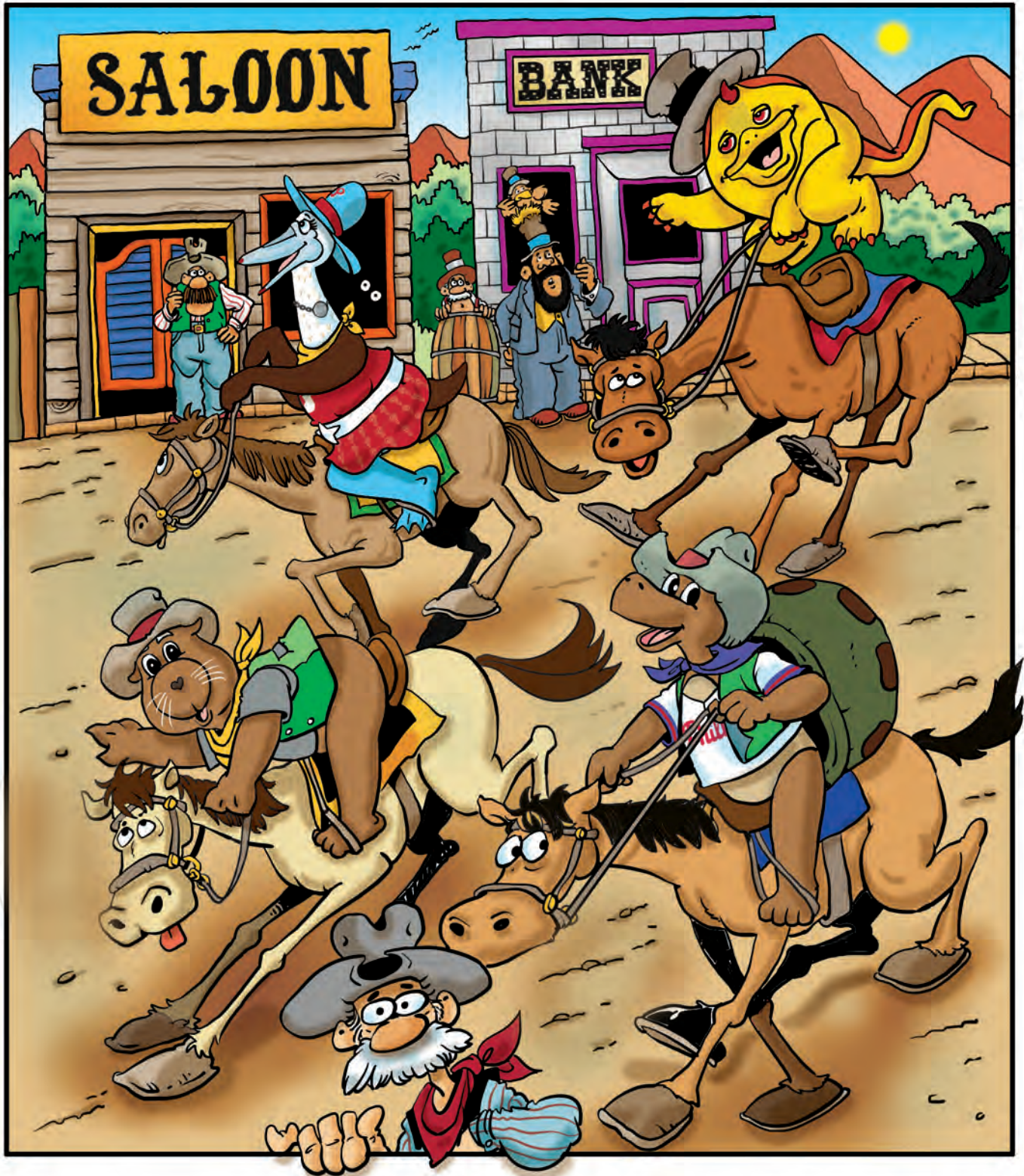
Even though it was their first time seeing snow, the Galapagos Gang found all kinds of fun ways to race down the Rocky Mountains.





They floated over Mount Rushmore in a giant hot air balloon. When they looked down and saw the faces of the most famous Americans carved into the side of the mountain, Calvin asked, "Shouldn't the Phanatic be part of Mount Rushmore, too?" They all laughed at the funny tortoise.





In Oklahoma, they pretended that they were real cowboys riding their horses in the Old West. "Ride 'em, cowboy!" they all shouted.





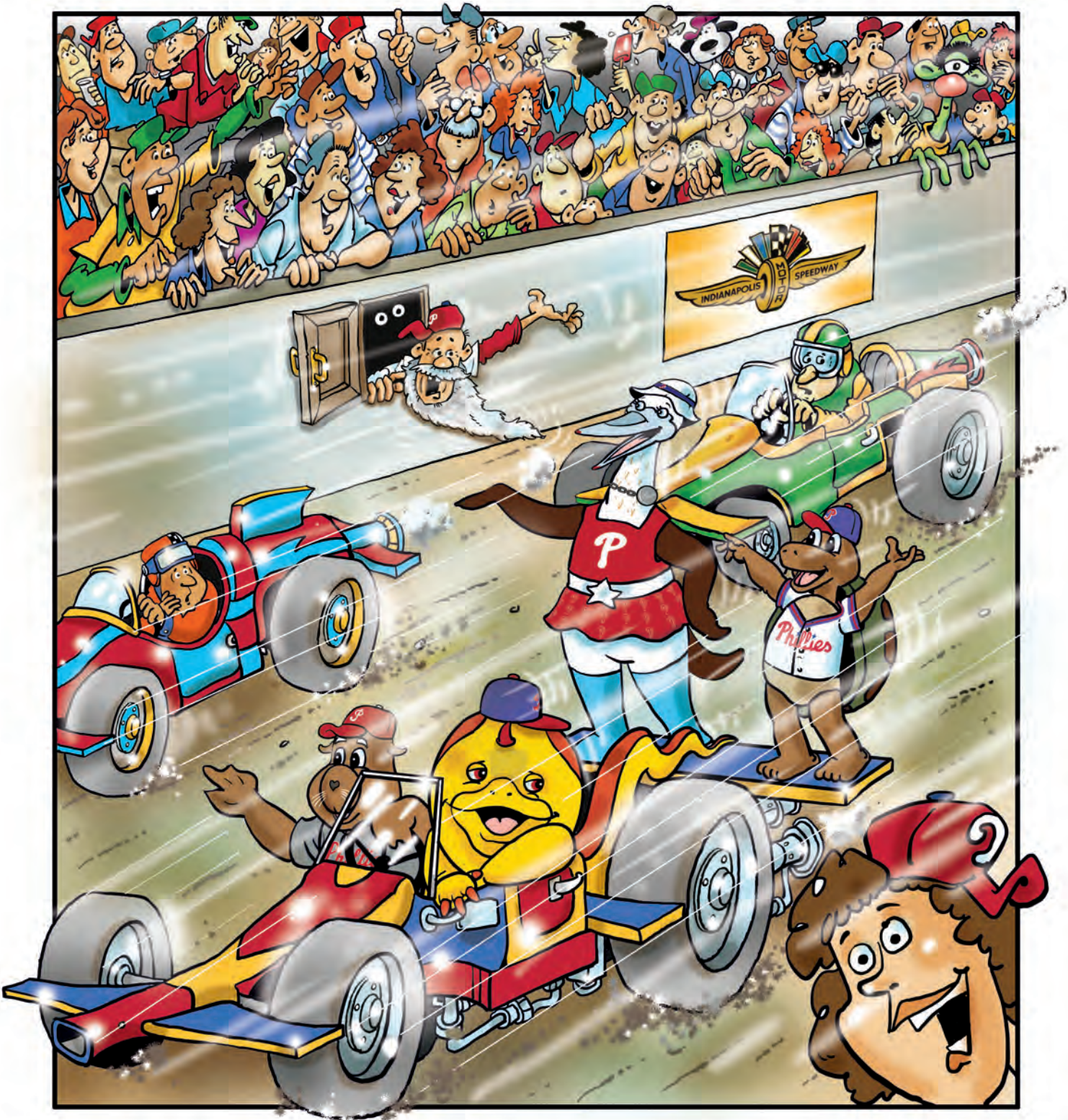
What an adventure it was! They travelled by train...





... planes...





... and automobiles.





They cruised under the Arch in St. Louis...





and held on tight as they splashed their way down the Gauley River in West Virginia.





When they reached New York City,





Lady Liberty was there to greet them.





"I smell cheesesteaks," Iggy sniffed.  
"That means we must be getting close," Bessie said.





Finally, the gang reached their destination - Citizens Bank Park in Philadelphia, the home of the Phillies. Sid spotted two pick-up trucks. "Those trucks must be for us," he said. "We'd better hurry - the party is about to begin."





They hopped onto the trucks, drove right into the ballpark and onto the field.





They couldn't believe their eyes! Thousands of people were there to welcome them to Philadelphia.





When they arrived at home plate, they gave the Phillie Phanatic a big hug. "Surprise!" they all shouted. The Galapagos Gang was finally reunited.





"Thanks for inviting the Galapagos Gang to my birthday," the Phanatic said. "This is the best surprise ever!" Phoebe replied, "I'm glad you're surprised. Now you get to cut your birthday cake."





The Phanatic turned to cut the cake, but it was gone.  
The Phanatic and his friends looked at Iggy.





"Sorry, Phanatic, but it was a long trip and I was hungry," Iggy said.  
"It wasn't a cheesesteak, but it sure was delicious!"





California

San Francisco

Hollywood

Grand Canyon

Arizona

Rocky Mountains

Colorado

South Dakota

Mt. Rushmore

Oklahoma

Galapagos Islands





Iowa

New York

Pennsylvania

Indiana

West Virginia

Missouri

homa

New Orleans

Louisiana

GO PHILLIES

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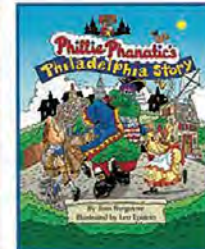
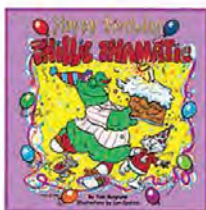
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The Phillie Phanatic was born and raised in the Galapagos Islands. When he was younger, he made friends with four very special animals. Together, the Phanatic and his pals were known as the Galapagos Gang and they made friends with all the other wonderful creatures that live on the beautiful island chain.

The Phanatic's mom, Phoebe, surprises the Phanatic by inviting his pals to her son's birthday celebration. How will the Galapagos Gang get to the party? Will they get to Philadelphia in time for the big surprise? Read all about their wild adventure as the Gang sets sail from the Galapagos and travel across the country to celebrate the Phillie Phanatic's birthday.

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