

The
Phillie Phanatic's
HERO



By Tom Burgoyne
Illustrated by Len Epstein



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Manufactured in the United States

Written by Tom Burgoyne
Illustrated by Len Epstein

Phillies[™]



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Phillie Phanatics
H E R O



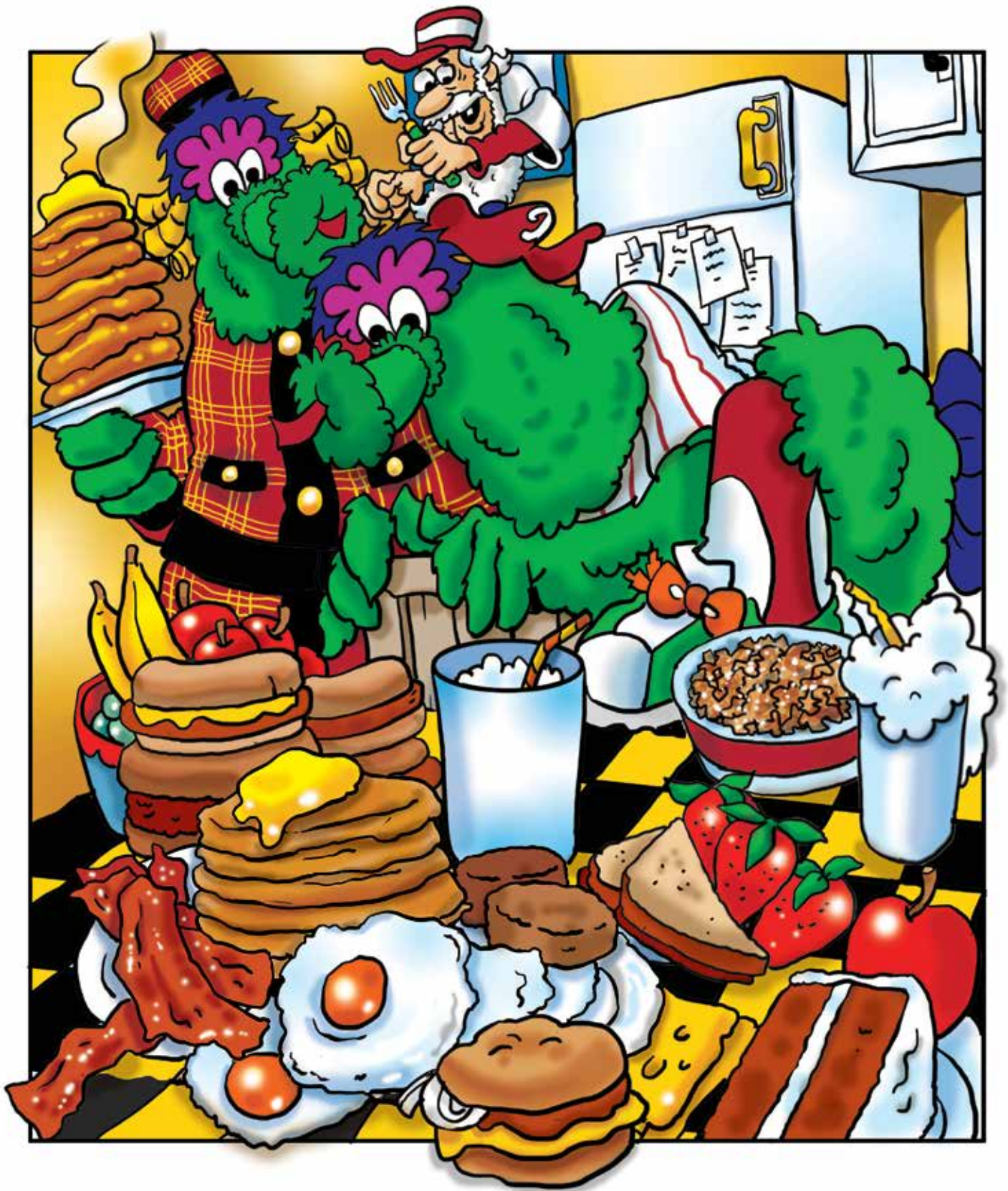
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The smell of bacon and eggs woke the Phillie Phanatic up from a deep sleep.



"Breakfast is ready!" the Phanatic's mom, Phoebe, called out from the kitchen.



The Phanatic bounded into the kitchen and sat down. Phoebe had cooked a big breakfast for her son. "Good morning, sleepy head. What do you have planned today?" she asked.



The Phanatic replied, "Since the Phillies have the day off, I want to go outside and practice playing baseball."
"Don't you have homework to do?" Phoebe asked.



"I have some math homework and a project that I have to hand in tomorrow."
"A project?" asked Phoebe. "Yes, I have to draw a picture of my hero and write down why they are so awesome."



Phoebe thought for a moment and said, "After you are done eating, do some of your homework and then take a break and go out and play."



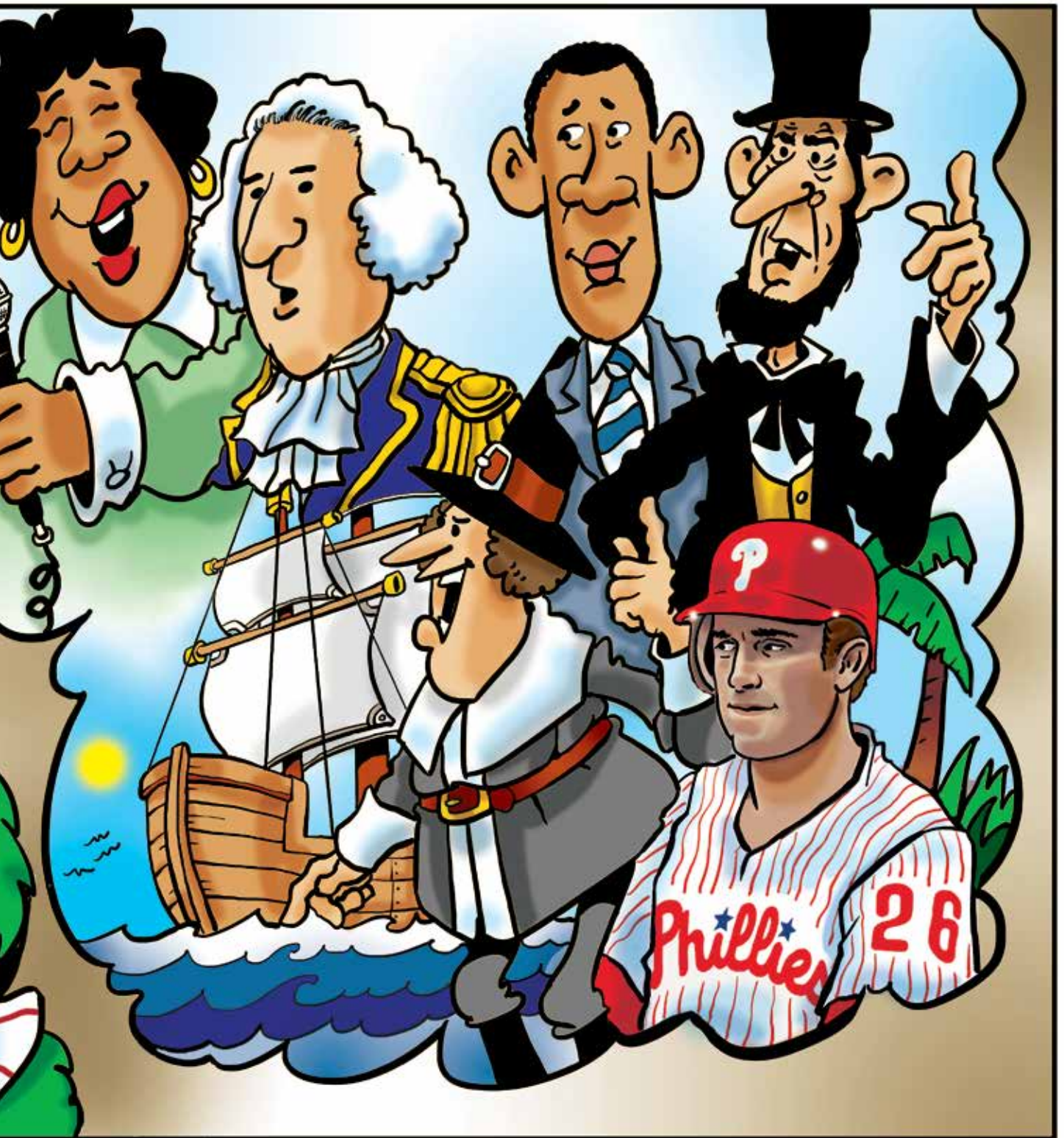
After breakfast, the Phanatic went to his room and started his homework. Whenever he had trouble with a math problem, Phoebe was there to help.



After his math homework was finished, the Phanatic started his hero project. He reached into his desk drawer and pulled out a beautiful set of crayons that his mom gave him.



The Phanatic scratched his head and thought of all the people he admired. He thought of famous presidents and other people who have done great things.



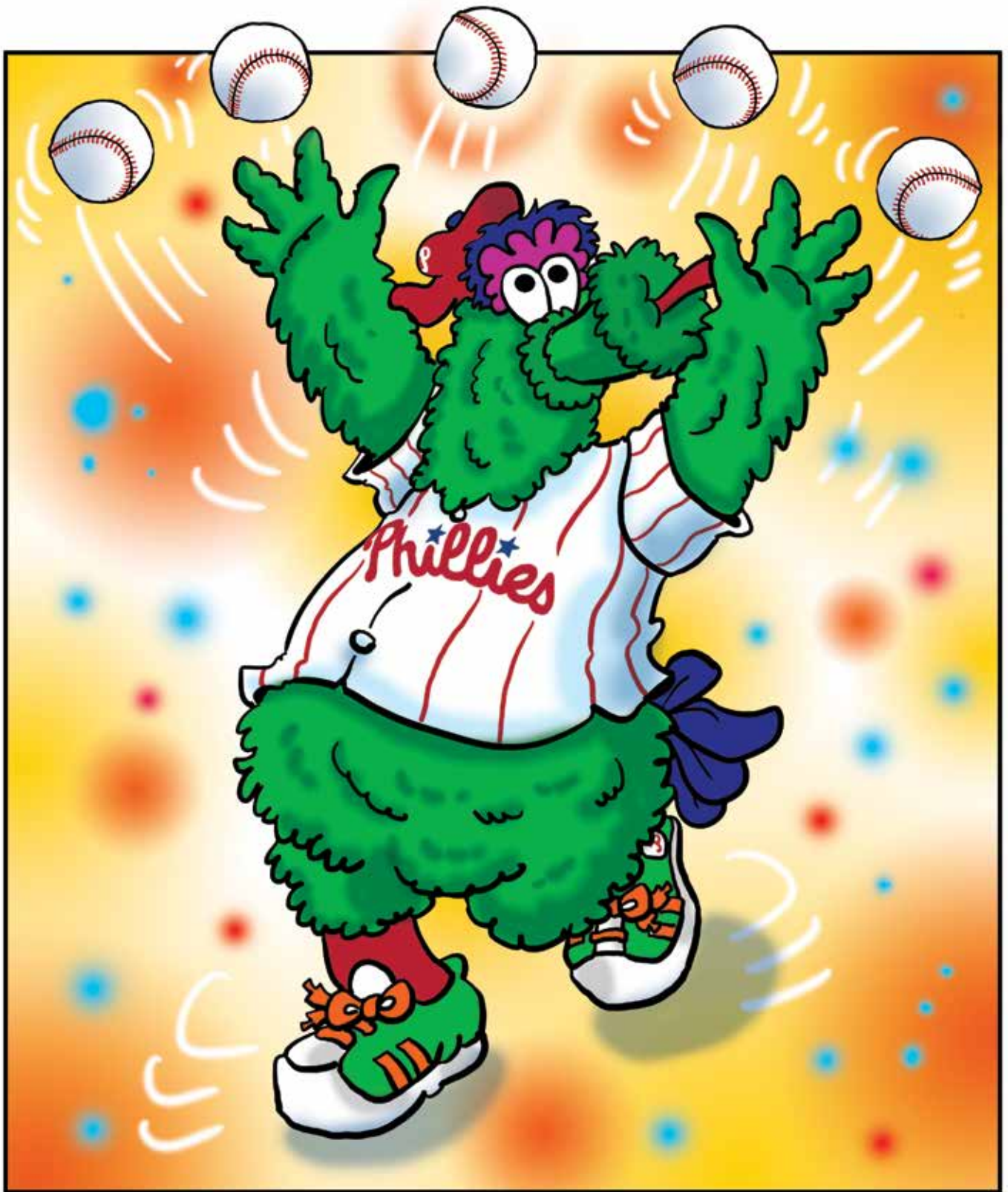
He thought of some of his favorite Phillies players, singers and Hollywood stars, but he had a hard time choosing who to pick for his project.



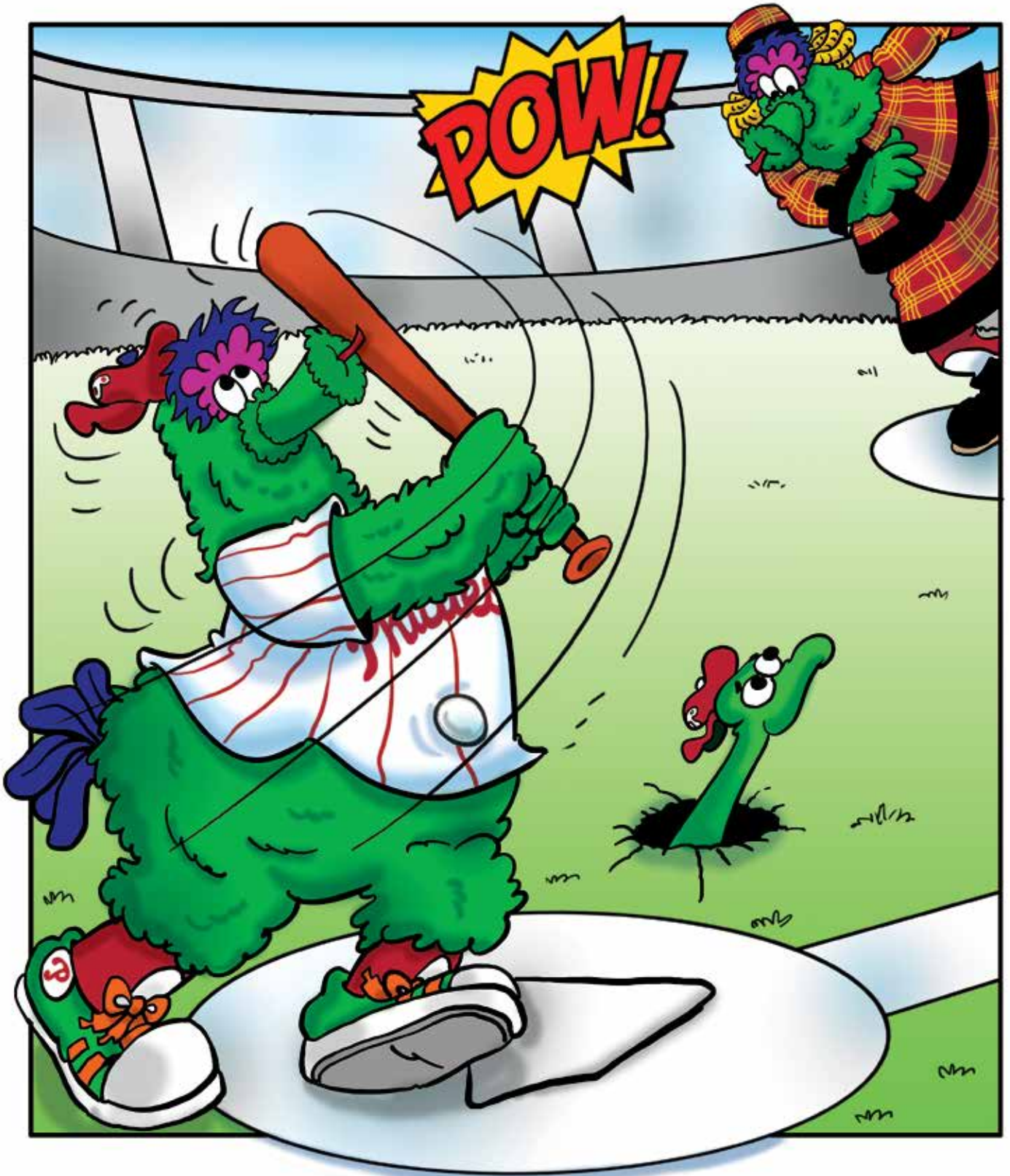
Phoebe walked into the Phanatic's room with clean laundry and started hanging his clothes in his closet. "How is your project coming along?" she asked.



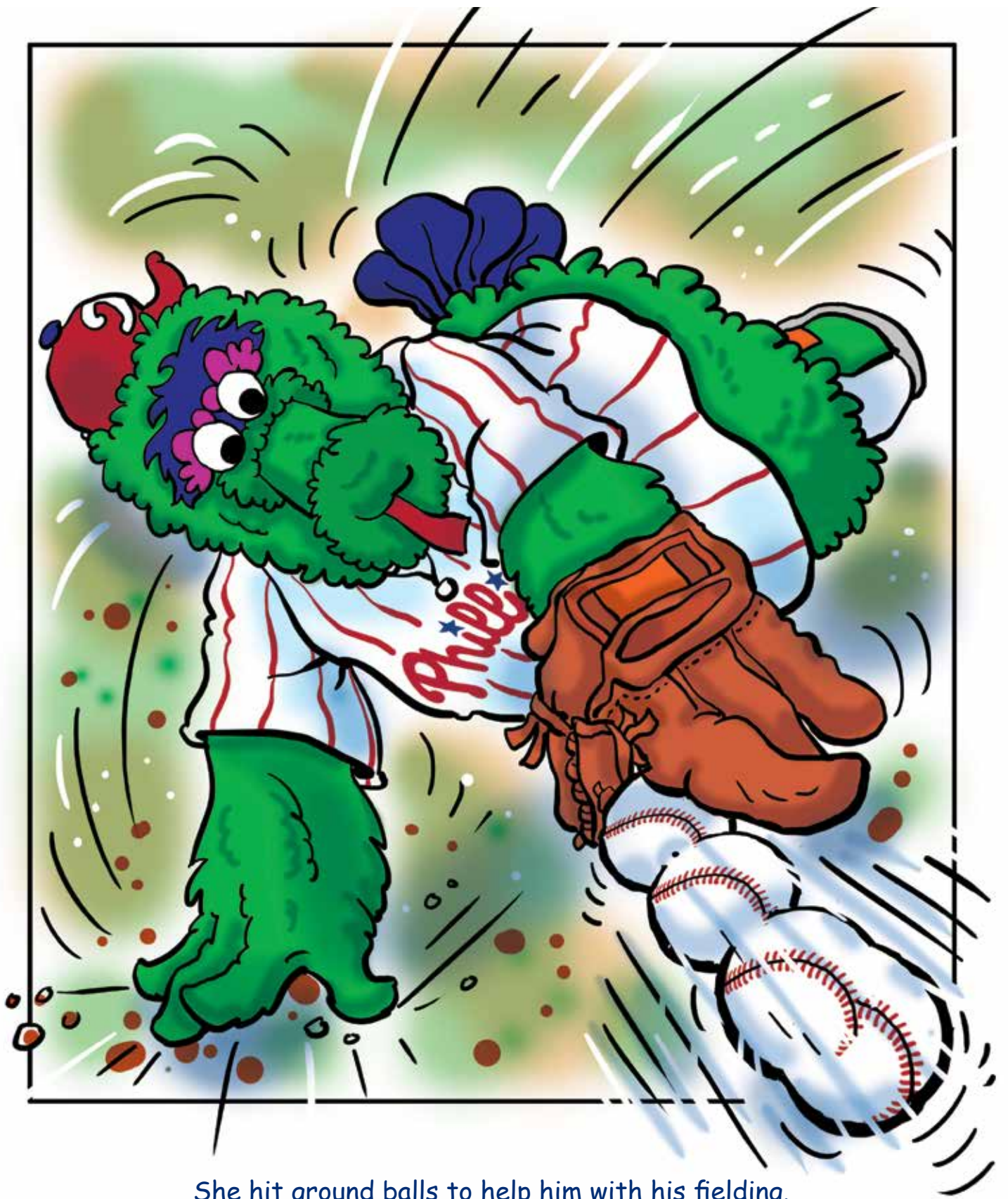
"I can't decide who to select as my hero," the Phanatic said.
"You have been working hard on your homework so why don't you take a little break? What do you want to do?" Phoebe asked.



"Play baseball!" the Phanatic exclaimed.



Soon, Phoebe and the Phanatic were on the field playing their favorite game. Phoebe threw pitch after pitch so the Phanatic could practice his hitting.



She hit ground balls to help him with his fielding.



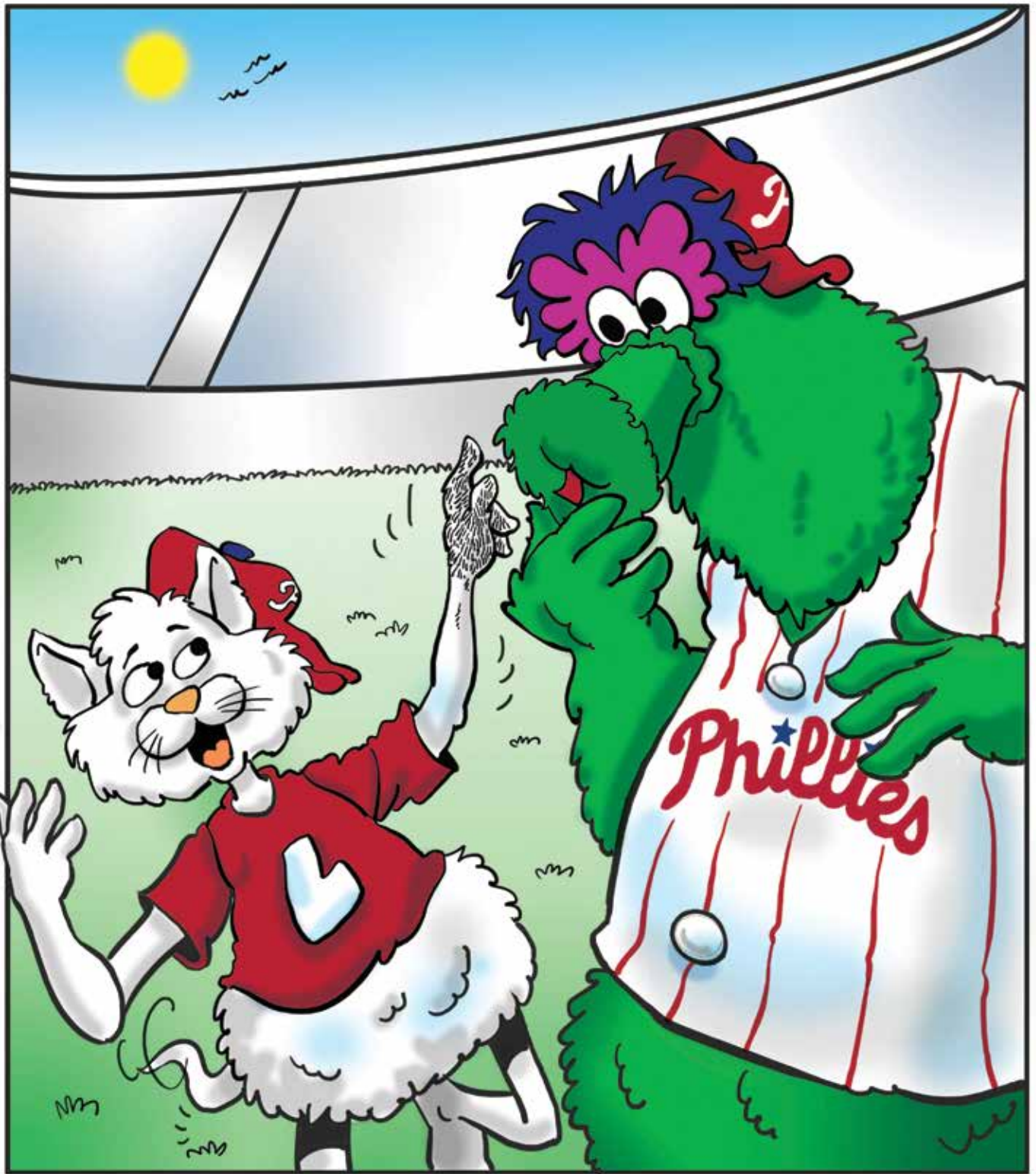
She grabbed a catcher's mitt and caught all the balls that the Phanatic pitched to her.



When the Phanatic sat down on the bench to rest, he got a splinter in his finger. Phoebe carefully took out the splinter with a pair of tweezers.



She gave the Phanatic's finger a kiss. "All better," she said.



Just then, the Phanatic's friend, Lefty the Cat, showed up. "Hi Phanatic," Lefty said. "Your mom called me and said you would be here. Do you want to play a game?" The Phanatic leaped into the air. "You bet I do!"



The Phanatic and his friends played baseball all day.



Phoebe made lemonade and served it to the players when they got thirsty.



"Do you want to play, Mom?" the Phanatic called out.



Phoebe said, "I don't know, Phanatic. I know how to hit balls to you for practice, but I haven't played in a real game in a long time." "C'mon, Mom, you can do it!" the Phanatic pleaded. "OK, I'll give it a try," she said.



Phoebe stepped to the plate and crushed the first pitch over the fence for a home run!



The Phanatic, Lefty and all their friends cheered and carried her around the bases.



After the game ended, the Phanatic and Phoebe said goodbye to their friends and walked home.



When the Phanatic got home, he took a shower and heard his mom call out, "Dinner is ready!"



The Phanatic sat down to eat. "I made your favorite dish," Phoebe said. "Cheesesteaks!" he shouted.



After dinner, the Phanatic gave Phoebe a hug. "Thanks for dinner and thanks for a great day. You are the best mom in the world!"



Just then, the Phanatic had an idea. He rushed out of the kitchen, grabbed his crayons and paper and finished his hero project.

MY HERO

she helps me
with my homework.

she cleans my
Phillies jerseys.

she cooks the
best cheesesteaks.

she helps me
be a better
ball player.

she is a great
home run hitter.

she buys me colorful
school supplies.

she makes the
kitchen smell
good.

she kisses my
boobos.

SHE LOVES ME!





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The Phanatic About Reading program, presented by Xfinity, encourages students in grades Pre-K through 8 to read for a minimum of 15 minutes a day to improve their literacy skills. For more information, visit phillies.com/education.



COLLECT THEM ALL

 Citizens Bank Park



The Phillie Phanatic has a homework project due. He needs to draw a picture of his hero and explain why that person means so much to him. The Phanatic thinks about all of his favorite Phillies players, historical figures and famous movie stars but can't seem to pick one. After spending a fun day with his mom, Phoebe, the Phanatic realizes that his hero has been right in front of him the whole time!

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