



## **Jim McKenny**

In the mid-60's, Jim was touted as the next-best prospect in hockey, second only to Bobby Orr. The comparisons didn't last long. "Howie" was an alcoholic. His addictions led to inconsistent play which kept Jim from fulfilling his full potential. He made the Leafs for good in 1969-70 after playing a handful of games in each of the four previous seasons.

Jim could move the puck well offensively, but no-one, not even Jim, knew what he might do next. He averaged 40 points per season for his 8 seasons with the Leafs, solid numbers for a defenseman. Jim was traded to the Minnesota North Stars for the 1978-79 season where he finished his NHL career.

Following his playing days, Jim got serious about his addiction to alcohol and beat it, putting it cleanly behind him after several unsuccessful attempts during his playing days. He turned to broadcasting and was a highly respected TV reporter in Toronto. His sense of humour and ribald stories from his days on the Leafs are the subject of many of his keynote addresses at his speaking engagements.