



The Skater

The Tonya Harding Fan Club Monthly

Volume One, Number Ten

Elaine Stamm, Editor

January-February, 1994

THE NATIONALS...

by Jimmy Jones and Joe Berglund

FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW

If you are as crazy about figure skating as we are, then being able to attend the Nationals can only be compared to a football fan getting to go to the Super Bowl! If you also happen to know one of the competitors personally, as we do Tonya Harding, the impact of the whole event is amplified ten-fold. Neither of us have found words to accurately describe the feeling we had there... "exciting", "incredible", "Mind-boggling", and "natural high" all work, but the total experience is really indescribable. Also, to be privileged to watch Tonya practice and perform in a National competition leaves one speechless. She re-defines the word "awesome". We wished many times that all her fans and friends could have been there to share the thrills with us.

There were only a couple of glitches in an otherwise perfect trip. Arriving in Detroit was one. Our flight was on time, but from then on, it was one complication after another until we got settled at our hotel. First, we had to wait for the airport shuttle bus in sub-zero weather. One shuttle came, and promptly broke down, so we had to wait for two others to pick up an ever-growing crowd. It took nearly 2 hours to get to the hotel, and then 45

minutes to get our baggage up to our room. All of this caused us to miss the Opening Ceremonies and arrive at the Joe Lewis Arena just at the beginning of the Men's short program. The other problem, of course, was the senseless attack on Nancy Kerrigan. There is no need to comment on that stupid deed or it's aftermath... the media has had a

field day taking care of that. TONYA IS INNOCENT, and we all know it! She could never have skated two near-perfect programs, had she known that some people close to her were playing "terrorist", or whatever they thought they were doing.

As briefly as possible, we'll try to hit a few highlights. There were 300,000 extra out-of-towners in Detroit, and all hotels were booked solid and understaffed, and traffic

jams seemed to be the mean, rather than the extreme. Our travelling consisted of going to the arena and back to the hotel, on shuttle busses. This turned out to be loads of fun because the skaters, coaches, etc. also took the shuttles, and we had a chance to meet many of them, chat a little, get autographs, and listen with delight as they heaped praise on Tonya. At the arena, we met people from all over the world who had only good things to say



PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 3



ELAINE'S LINES: PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Elaine Stamm

Little did we know when we started Tonya's Fan Club, that within a year, we would become known world-wide. We all were horrified that Nancy Kerrigan was hurt, and shocked that anyone we even remotely knew was responsible. We know that Tonya is completely innocent of any prior knowledge, and we continue to support her without reservations.

About 100 new people each week, from all over the world, are calling and writing to express love and support with memberships, donations, encouragement, and prayers. God works in mysterious ways, and we have faith that His hand is in this, and that Tonya will be completely exonerated and blessed. We pray that both Tonya and Nancy will be in perfect form, and skate their best performances in the Olympics.

LETTER FROM SOUTH AFRICA

Dear Elaine:

Thank you very much for the copies of "The Skater's" you have been sending me. I am so pleased keeping in touch after the lovely stay I had in Portland.

Our TV and newspapers have been full of the latest events, and I also saw you interviewed on Larry King Live.

I wish to express my whole hearted support of Tonya, and I believe completely in her innocence. I know what a sweet disposition she has.

I was pleased Tonya won the US Championships, and I saw her skating on TV a number of occasions. It always thrills me to see her on the ice.

I will keep on rooting for Tonya and all the luck in the Olympics.

Yours sincerely,

Arthur Apfel
Johannesburg, South Africa

Before Tonya took off for the Olympics, she had this to say for the Newsletter:

"I plan on going to the Olympics to do my best, and if I do my best, I'll bring home the gold. Believe in me. Pray for me. Thanks for

CALL IN YOUR OPINION

United States Olympic Committee

1-719-632-5551

Ask for Message Line.

Fax: 1-719-578-4654

Send a petition if you like.

Membership is increasing
by leaps and bounds.

"We Believe in Tonya"

NANCY KERRIGAN

Nancy Kerrigan was the innocent victim of a shocking attack. We are horrified that this could have happened, and we wish her a complete recuperation and hope she will be able to skate her finest performance in the Olympics.

We have sent her our very best wishes with an original watercolor of the Oregon Coast. Tonya joins us in wishing her well.

OREGON COAST SCENES

Beautiful Water Color Scenes were painted by Oregon artist Rae Stamm - one for Tonya and one for Nancy. On the back of Nancy's we wrote our wishes for a complete recuperation and wishing her well in the Olympics. It was mailed to Nancy in care of the USFSA. On Tonya's, we wrote our love and support, expressing our hopes for her to achieve her goal of a Gold Medal in the Olympics. It will be a wonderful competition of two fine skaters.



NATIONALS (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

about Tonya. After Tonya's short and long programs, we were nervous wrecks, had applauded till our hands hurt, shouted ourselves hoarse, and were unable to stop tears of joy from flowing freely. It was fun meeting other Fan Club members from all over the USA. After each evening's events, we would all descend on Maggie Morris and her family, who had the seats closest to the ice. Then, from a wonderful vantage point, we were able to whoop it up even more while Tonya had her practice sessions with 5 or 6 of the other female contenders. This was almost as fun as the performances themselves.

One night, after such a practice, we just happened to be on the same hotel shuttle with Tonya, with her coaches Diane and Erika, allowing us to visit along the way.

All in all, we had a fabulous time with fellow Fan Club Members: the Stamms, the Drydens, the Morris's, and other fans too numerous to mention. This was, truly the experience of a lifetime, and one that we will never forget. Thank you, Tonya Harding!!! You are a champion's champion in our book, and our trip to the Nationals was made really special by you being there, and skating your way to the Gold Medal so magnificently. We love you, Tonya! Don't ever give up!

OVERWHELMING RESPONSE

by George Pearson

Over the past month, we have had such an overwhelming increase in new members and inquiries, that we have been scrambling to keep up with everything. I am happy to report that we are just now catching up, thanks to the endless hours that some dedicated members have provided. If you are a new member and haven't received your membership packet, please be patient. You should receive it within two weeks. If you don't, please let us know.

Also, with the volume we have processed, we may have misspelled names and addresses. If we mangled yours, please forgive us, and let us know. We will correct it as soon as we hear from you.

RE THE MEDIA BLITZ

We won't re-hash everything that has gone on in the media since Nationals. Suffice it to say we believe, completely and without reservations, in Tonya's innocence of any prior knowledge. She has held her head up high and preserved an inner peace while dealing with media of all kinds, some whom even their colleagues label as harassing. She has courage and poise. We are proud of her and fully support her. Go for the gold, Tonya.

INFORMATION

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR, ETC.

Letters to the editor of The Skater are welcomed. Just be sure they are double-spaced, signed and contain a valid telephone number and address. There's a new editor beginning with the next edition, so send letters to: Elaine Stamm, Editor; The Skater; 4632 S.E. Oxbow Parkway; Gresham OR 97080.

The Skater welcomes unsolicited material from anyone. Just be aware the deadline for such material is the 20th day of the month, for inclusion in that month's edition. Submissions should be double-spaced and contain a valid telephone number and address. Remember, the editor edits!

TONYA'S NEW FAN MAIL ADDRESS

Do you want to write to Tonya but don't know the correct address? Well, here it is:

Tonya Harding
Ice Capades Chalet
Clackamas Town Center
12000 SE 82nd Ave Suite 1085
Portland OR 97266-7731



T O N Y A T R I V I A

by George Pearson

OK kids, the time has come! Dig out those press clippings, magazines and video sound bites. It's time to play Tonya Trivia. We've assembled some trivia tidbits about Tonya to test your true knowledge about our favorite figure skater.

Care to try your luck? Each question is worth 10 points, with a couple of bonuses thrown in for fun. Answer as many as you can, and, if you can't... try to bluff. No points lost for wrong guesses. Send in your answers to:

Tonya Trivia
The Tonya Harding Fan Club
4632 SE Oxbow Parkway
Gresham, OR 97080

The entry with the most correct entries will win a Tonya memento (Shirt or photo). In the likely event of a tie, a drawing will be held at the next Fan Club meeting, with the winner announced in the next newsletter. Winner need not be present to win.

Alright, sharpen your wits, here we go.

- 1) *Who was President when our Tonya was born?*
- 2) *Many of you know that Tonya has a cat. What is the feline's name?
(5 point bonus: What color is the cat?)*
- 3) *Do you know Tonya's middle name? Initial only is worth 1 point.*

- 4) *To what piece of music did Tonya skate her way to the 1994 US National Championship (Free-style program)?*
- 5) *Math Segment: In inches, how tall is our favorite skater?*
- 6) *What is the name of the first ice rink to grace Tonya's skates?*
- 7) *Shades of the sixties... What is Tonya's sign?*
- 8) *In what city did Tonya win her first competition?*
- 9) *What High School did Tonya last attend?*
- 10) *OK, you've hung in there this long, will give you an easy one: What is the name of the skating maneuver that is Tonya's trademark?*

Best of luck to all of you, and the winner will be announced next issue.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING...

will be Sunday, Feb. 27th, at 3:00 P.M. at Benjamin Plaza Bldg., S.W. 1st and Columbia, Portland, OR. Olympics will wind up that day, so we can plan Tonya's homecoming.

Maggie Morris sends hello and best wishes to all from England where she's with her doctor husband on his sabattical. We miss her!



Words to the Song

IT'S TONYA'S TURN

by Linda L. Lewis and Greg A. Lewis

Hold you head high
As you reach for the stars,
Never mind what they say
You've worked hard for where you are.

Your ice castles dream
Is about to come true,
Don't let anything stop you
We still believe in you.

To us you represent
The dreams that we all hold,
That no matter who you are
You can still have the pot of gold.

You don't have to be rich
Or fit a certain mold,
God's given you this gift
and it's worth it's weight in gold.

Tonya it's your turn
So go for the prize,
You're worthy of the crown
In all of our eyes.

Tonya it's you turn
Keep your eyes on the crown,
Don't let anything stop you
Don't let their words bring you down.

Go out and show the world
That dreams can come true
In a world that's losing hope
They need someone like you.

Tonya it's your turn
So go for the prize,
Your worthy of the gold
In all of our eyes.

AND SHE'S OFF TO THE OLYMPICS

On Valentine's Day, Tonya had her last practice before an adoring crowd of thousands at the Ice Chalet. She treated them to her long program to the music from Jurassic Park and to her beautiful exhibition piece, "When I Fall in Love."

She thanked the throng for their support and for believing in her. She is excited to be on the Olympic team and to be able to skate for her country. She is looking forward to seeing Nancy "and give her a big hug." She feels happy and confident about her skating and hopes to bring home the Gold for all of us. Fans in the greater Portland area saw her off at the airport Tuesday, Feb. 15th, and we will meet to view Tonya's performances, Feb. 23 & 25 at Best Bet in Beaverton on Cedar Hills Blvd., Meet between 7-7:30p.m.. Coverage begins at 8:00 p.m. All are welcome to come.

THE SUNDAY BEFORE OLYMPICS

Tonya attended church with her friends, John & Stephanie Quintero, and David and Ruth Webber. It was a meaningful service and afterward, Tonya went forward to the altar. The thousands of people who have been praying for her for months will receive this news with thanks and praise. Keep on praying for her and expect the best.

THANKS...

to Sarah Cohen at Ampersand Graphic Systems, Inc. for putting together The Skater with such an outstanding professional look.

Song tapes are available at Ampersand!
Corner of 11th and E. Burnside



TONYA MERCHANDISE

	<u>SIZE</u>	<u>PRICE</u>	<u>SHIPPING</u>
Sweat Shirts/Tee Shirts			
White embroidered long-sleeved sweat shirts	S,M,L	\$42.00	\$3.00
	XL	\$45.00	\$3.00
White embroidered short-sleeved tee shirts	S,M,L	\$32.00	\$3.00
	XL	\$35.00	\$3.00

Make checks out to: "Tonya Harding Fan Club"
 Mail orders to: Vonnie Reifenrath
 11050 S.E. 257th Drive
 Gresham, OR 97080



"No Comment" Sweat Shirts

Call Carl Teves, Signature Signs, 1-503-239-3558

Team Tonya yellow Tee Shirts	S,M,L,XL	\$15.00	\$3.00
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Make checks out to: "Tonya Harding"

Buttons

"I Believe in Tonya" black printing on hot pink	\$5.00	\$0.50
"I.U.P.G" (Innocent Unless Proven Guilty)	\$3.00	\$0.50
Tonya picture buttons	\$5.00	\$0.25

Song Tapes by Linda and Greg Lewis

"It's Tonya's Turn", dreamy melodic ballad	\$5.00	\$0.50
"Fire on Ice", peppy, upbeat lyric and melody proclaiming Tonya's skating abilities	\$5.00	\$0.50

Make checks out to: "Tonya Harding Fan Club"
 Mail orders to: Linda and Greg Lewis
 2721 N.E. Stapleton Rd.
 Vancouver, WA 98661

Autographed Pictures

4 x 6 color	\$5.00	5 x 7 color	\$10.00	8 x 10 color	\$15.00
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For buttons, shirts and pictures, make checks out to:

"Tonya Harding Fan Club", mail to Elaine Stamm, 4632 S.E. Oxbow Parkway, Gresham, Oregon 97080



TONYA HARDING FAN CLUB HONOR ROLL

CATEGORIES OF GIVING

The Skater would like to acknowledge those contributors to Tonya's cause by category of giving.

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 Boring, OR (anonymous)
 East Coast couple, (anonymous)
 Calder McCall, McCall Oil & Chemical
 Corporation, Portland, OR
 George M. Steinbrenner, III, Tampa, FL



HOW TO JOIN

- ☐ **YES, I'd like to help support Tonya Harding, our local figure skating champion, by joining her international fan club.**

MEMBERSHIPS

- ☐ Senior/Fixed Income\$5.00
- ☐ Individual Adult.....\$10.00
- ☐ Family.....\$15.00
- ☐ Junior (ages 7-18).....\$5.00
- ☐ Tots for Tonya (under 7)\$1.00
- ☐ Business.....\$25.00

DONATIONS

- ☐ I'd like to donate, in addition to, or in lieu of, membership, \$_____
- ☐ Or, this "in-kind" donation of goods or services:_____

Membership runs for one year from date of entry. Members receive a TONYA! bumper sticker, a photo button, *The Skater* and a membership card.

Enclosed is my check for: \$_____

Please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Thanks!

PLEASE MAKE THE CHECK OUT TO:
The Tonya Harding Fan Club

MAIL TO:

Elaine L. Stamm, President
The Tonya Harding Fan Club
4632 SE Oxbow Parkway
Gresham, OR 97080-8967

Please complete the following:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

I CAN FURTHER SUPPORT TONYA BY:

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fund raising | <input type="checkbox"/> Making phone calls | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing letters to editors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Calling sports talk programs | <input type="checkbox"/> Sending Tonya encouraging cards | <input type="checkbox"/> Bringing more people to meetings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Donations of money | <input type="checkbox"/> Getting endorsements | <input type="checkbox"/> Putting an ad in your local paper |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Photocopying | <input type="checkbox"/> Film for Club snapshots | <input type="checkbox"/> Cosmetics |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hair Care | <input type="checkbox"/> Nail Care | <input type="checkbox"/> Clothing |

I heard about the Fan Club from _____

FOR MORE INFO, CALL ELAINE AT (503) 663-5554