

## 'Playboy' poses UNC student as sexy 'soft-rocker'

By LISBETH LEVINE  
Tar Heel Arts and Features Editor

UNC sophomore Tina Lovings has been in the public eye more than most 19-year-olds. Besides being elected Homecoming Queen at Ben L. Smith High School in Greensboro in 1982, she's worn a bathing suit to advertise appliances on a television commercial, been the ad girl for a fashion magazine and this past semester she sang with two bands in Chapel Hill.

Come September, people around the world will be seeing even more of Tina. She will appear seminude as one of the "Girls of the Atlantic Coast Conference" in *Playboy* magazine's "Back-to-Campus" issue.

Tina doesn't have the soft kitty look of most *Playboy* models, and she says that's probably the reason she was chosen over hundreds of other applicants.

A Greensboro native and an international studies major at UNC, Tina is 5'8", and a size "three, five or seven at the most." She has naturally blond hair and grayish-blue eyes. But her hair, which bleaches nearly white in the sun, is teased full in layers around the crown of her head and hangs below her shoulders in the back. Her body is firm and muscular from constant exercise, dieting and weight-lifting. She looks more tough than she does tender.



Tina Lovings: "A Girl of the ACC"

At one photo session, photographer David Chan told her she looked like a tiger. She says that he tried to portray her as a "soft, sexy rocker" in the pictures that will appear in the magazine.

In her photo she is surrounded by stereo equipment and Van Halen posters. She's holding an electric guitar and wearing a black leather jacket and boots, a garter belt, and in some of the photographs she has scarves draped around her.

Tina says that this style of picture is an experiment for *Playboy*. "They wanted me to come across as appealing, but they wanted a different look, which is the whole reason I believe they used me," Tina says.

She shows up for the interview dressed in a raspberry minidress with a dropped collar that buttons on the side of her neck, and black leather high-heeled boots. Her voice is husky and deep for a woman's, and she speaks about her modeling experience with candor.

Tina says that being chosen for *Playboy* helped to boost the low image she has of herself. "I've always looked down on myself. It's been good for my self-confidence. It's something I can say I did with my life that's not average."

While many young women long to appear in fashion magazines, Tina's goal was to model in *Playboy*.

"I think I'm more sexy than I am pretty. I'm not cute. I just want to be sexy and desirable.

"I don't feel like high-fashion quality," she says. She looks off into space, then moves her elbows together and props her chin on the back of her interlaced fingers.

"To me, it's flattering to be in *Playboy*. A lot of the girls in *Playboy*, body and face overall, are prettier than the girls in *Glamour*."

Tina says she was going through a low period in January and she told her friends that she wanted to lose weight and get into *Playboy*. This was two months before the advertisements appeared.

She did lose weight. But between her constant exercising and her rigorous diet, she starved her muscles to the point where she developed a type of tendonitis.

While Tina was undergoing therapy to get her muscles back in working order, a man in the therapy room asked her if she'd seen the *Playboy* ad. But she says she didn't really take the idea of entering seriously until several friends also encouraged her.

Her stepfather took the pictures, including the bathing suit shot, that Tina sent into *Playboy*. About a week later, someone from the magazine called and asked her to come to the interviews at the Holiday Inn in Chapel Hill. She says that Chan took preliminary pictures of her and told her he'd calling in about two weeks.

"I got called two hours later." She also appeared on the news that night, which prompted several modeling inquiries from department stores and an artist.

When she went to Durham the next day for the shooting, Tina says Chan asked her to strip.

"I thought I had the guts to do it, but when it came right down to it, I had sec-

# THEY DARE TO BARE

Two models reveal what it takes and where it takes them

ond thoughts. I felt self-conscious about my own body."

Tina adds that Chan was patient with her and allowed her to gradually strip down to nothing.

She says she regretted doing it when she got home and had the chance to sit down and think about it, because she disliked the idea of being judged totally on her looks.

Again Chan told her she'd hear from him in two weeks.

But when he called the next day, Tina says, "I was thrilled, I didn't regret anything."

The final shooting in Raleigh lasted 10 hours.

"I thought it would be a breeze. I thought it would be fun, fun, fun. I was wrong."

Tina says they had to stop shooting several times when she suffered muscle cramps and spasms. "I couldn't wait to go home and go to bed."

But during the shooting, Tina says she was more concerned about how she looked than what she was doing.

"I wasn't worried about what they were seeing, 'cause they've seen it all before. I was worried about how mine looked. I'd wonder if the Snickers bar I ate last night showed."

"I was too worried about how my body looked to worry about the connotations of what I was doing."

"I don't agree with hard pornography. But nude modeling is fine as long as it's in good taste."

Tina says the only person who was upset by her modeling was her boyfriend. "He threatened to break up with me if I did it. But I did it anyway, and then I said, 'alright, break up.' He just looked at me and said, 'Well, I might.'" She wrinkles her nose. "You know how guys are."

But apparently Tina's mother supported her decision to enter the competition. "My mother," Tina begins, laughing. "This is real funny. When I submitted my application, I had written down the basic information they asked for on a piece of notebook paper and asked my mother to mail it. Well, my mother took what I wrote and turned it into a sell-me-Tina story. My mother might be the reason I got picked."

Tina does worry that the photo may affect her adversely when she's older, but she expressed positive feelings about it.

"Years down the road I could regret it. It could prevent me from getting a job or embarrass my family. But I'm only hoping that good things will come from it."

Tina says she would like to see the *Playboy* picture open doors for her to a modeling and, eventually, a singing career.

"I'm really like a free spirit and can't see myself tied down doing everyday things."

"I've got something inside me that wants to come out and I'm not really sure what it is yet. Music seems to release it."

"I don't want to be like anybody. I want to be as much me as I can. I want people to pattern themselves after me."

## Centerf

By LISBETH LEVINE  
Tar Heel Arts and Features Editor

Scott Brown, a 23-year-old of the Atlantic Coast *Playboy* magazine.

As winner of *Cosmo* the June 1982 issue of *U*

Like the women who centerfold would jeopardize friends and if it would u

Brown was chosen by received. Without his entered two photos of h

Brown is a native of W ventional, even conserva 1981 with a degree in po

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