

Editorial: Harding is unconvincing

by Traci Latta

Move over Lorena and John Bobbitt, there's a new scandalous couple in the news - Tonya Harding and her estranged husband Jeff Gillooley. If you don't recognize these names by now then you have been asleep for the past month. Harding is an Olympic hopeful for the US Ice Skating team who is being accused of conspiring, along with her husband and her bodyguard, to maim fellow Olympian Nancy Kerrigan. For the past month the press has had a field day with the speculation that Harding had her hands in the whole affair.

As the facts go now, her bodyguard, Sean Eckhardt, has admitted to hiring someone to beat Kerrigan's legs with a crowbar as she left the practice rink the night before the Nationals, and as of Tuesday, Gillooley pleaded guilty to the charges of conspiracy against him as well as offered the FBI information that would incriminate Harding in the whole sordid affair. In fact, according to ABC, this evidence is

supposed to include phone records and videotape. It doesn't look like things are working out for Harding.

Not only have we been bombarded with snowballing developments in this affair, but the question of whether or not Harding should be able to compete in the Olympics in Lillehammer this month has also been a hot topic for debate. If the evidence that the FBI has on Harding pans out to be what I think it will, then the answer to this question is a resounding no!

Even if there is no incriminating evidence against Harding, I still do not think that she should be able to compete. Why? Well, for one reason, after Harding's press conference last Thursday, I was thoroughly unimpressed with the lack of sincerity in her voice as she delivered her "See Dick and Jane" speech. It seemed as if someone else had written the speech for her and handed it to her as she was climbing that step stool she was standing on. If I wanted to sound sincere I would have at least rehearsed the speech before I got up in front of the world. Also

the way she left the room like a flash of lightning made me feel as if she had something to hide. Someone who wanted to be truthful and up front, possibly clearing their name, would try to stick around and answer a few questions - face the music.

Another aspect that is disturbing in the case is the reputation Harding has had for being difficult to get along with. There have been several reports from other ice skaters and people who know Harding that point out that she can be violent and ill-tempered. Even stranger is the interview that Harding's mother, a woman who has repeatedly chastised Harding, gave to Connie Chung last week on "Eye to Eye." In

this interview, Harding's mother defended her daughter and said that she has always believed in Harding and would continue to support her no matter what. This seems kind of strange since Harding herself, in interviews, has said tales of how hateful her mother is.

I think that Harding knew exactly what was going on when Kerrigan got her legs bashed in by Eckhardt's hired hit man. Conspiring to maim a fellow athlete is not very sportsmanlike and definitely does not follow the code of

see EDITORIAL page seven

— Letters to the Editor —**Student addresses CamCard problems**

I must confess my excitement upon receiving mail from Meredith College last summer. The most memorable piece was a high-gloss pamphlet about the CamCard system. I read with increasing anticipation about this new method of credit and convenience. The pamphlet informed me of a system that would allow me to make photocopies, buy soft drinks, and identify myself for meals all with the same card. This system promised to help both Meredith College and me. I was proud of my school for finding a practical solution to the problem of people getting free meals at Meredith's expense. So I sunned and splashed through the rest of my summer without another thought of the new plan. Then September came and I arrived on campus. A different campus. A campus where CamCard chaos was unavoidable. Now several months have passed, and the situation is — at best — laughable.

The chaos is most obvious in the cafeteria, where lines of hungry students wind around the room as if we were playing some party game. Of course, we are actually waiting to run our new CamCards through the scanner several times until it finally reads. I have waited in line for as long as twenty minutes. One day my heart leapt at the realization that there was no waiting line. The scanner was broken. On sev-

eral occasions I have forgotten my card and — in a moment of panic — I illegally borrowed a "fake ID." from a friend, stood in line, and tried to act casual. When my turn came, what did the noble and wise guardian of the scanner do? She zipped the impostor card through without question. I confess publicly now that I've been illegally scanned at least five times since then. I have watched peers tiptoe past the guardian to shoplift a salad or a Coke. Shouldn't the program at least be free of obvious loopholes? I'm only curious.

And the problems are not limited to the cafeteria. Although we were promised that the drink machines would accept our CamCards, they don't. Someone has created a lovely plastic slot for the card to slide through, but it serves only as a decoration. Several students have reported difficulties with the copy machines as well. Commuters who take only night classes have a special problem with the CamCard system. They can acquire a CamCard only during the daytime or early afternoon. To arrive at 2:00 p.m. for a CamCard picture when your class begins at 7:00 is highly inconvenient for someone who commutes two hours or more. Commuters have even resorted to leaving hate notes to the

see LETTERS page seven

Meredith Herald

Editor in Chief
Tracey Rawls

| | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| Layout Editor..... | Christina Peoples |
| Features Editor..... | Traci Latta |
| Copy Editor..... | Elizabeth Rihani |
| Sports and Campus Activities Editor..... | Kate Stewart |
| Advertising Manager..... | Stacie Watkins |
| Photo Editor..... | Frances Pate |
| Reporters..... | Clarky Lucas, Addie Tschamler |
| Advisor..... | Laura Davenport |

Editorial Policy

The *Meredith Herald* is published by the College throughout the academic year. The paper is funded by the College and through advertising. The *Herald* retains the right not to publish materials containing personal attacks, insults, ridicule or libelous statements. All letters to the editor must be signed. The opinions expressed in editorial columns do not necessarily reflect those of the college administration, faculty or student body.

Letters to the Editor Policy

Everyone in the Meredith community is invited to write a letter to the editor. All published letters must be typewritten with contact name and address and telephone number. All letters must be signed by the author, but names will be withheld upon request.