



# FRANK THE TANK

TORONTO MEN'S ROLLER DERBY



BENMA  
PHOTO



Photo Credit: Kevin Sanders

THIS MONTH WE LAUNCH A NEW SECTION FEATURING THE STARS OF ROLLER DERBY. WE BEGIN BY SHOWCASING #76 FRANK THE TANK FROM THE TORONTO MEN'S ROLLER DERBY LEAGUE. HER ROLLER DERBY JOURNEY BEGAN IN 2013 AND HAS CONTINUED EVER SINCE. SO LET'S GET TO KNOW FRANK THE TANK!

### **WHAT ATTRACTED YOU TO ROLLER DERBY?**

IT HONESTLY JUST LOOKED REALLY BAD ASS!

### **DID YOU SKATE OR PLAY ANY OTHER SPORTS BEFORE STARTING DERBY?**

I LEARNED TO ICE SKATE EVER SINCE I WAS TWO. I FIGURE SKATED AND PLAYED HOCKEY SO THE TRANSITION TO ANOTHER SPORT ON SKATES WAS FAIRLY SMOOTH.

## HOW DID YOU CHOOSE YOUR DERBY NAME?

I ORIGINALLY PICKED A LAME DERBY NAME. AT MY FIRST BOUT A SKATER ON THE HIGHER RANKED TEAM WAS SHOUTING FRANK THE TANK AT ME WHEN I WAS JAMMING. BECAUSE WHEN I JAMMED OTHER SKATERS WERE JUST BOUNCING OFF OF ME WHEN THEY TRIED TO HIT ME. THEN THE NAME JUST STUCK.

## WHAT ARE YOU KNOWN FOR ON THE TRACK?

SURPRISINGLY A FEW THINGS. I'M KNOWN FOR BEING REALLY STRONG, HITTING HARD AND MY "BEAN DIP."

## DO YOU HAVE ANY PRE-GAME RITUALS?

EAT GOOD FOOD, LISTEN TO GOOD MUSIC AND NOBODY TELL ME ANYTHING ABOUT THE OTHER TEAM. I DON'T WANT TO KNOW IF THEY ARE GOOD, I DON'T WANT TO KNOW IF THEY ARE BAD BECAUSE YOU NEVER KNOW UNTIL THE GAME HAS STARTED.



Photo Credit: Roger Proulx



**WAS YOUR GREATEST DERBY EXPERIENCE?**

MY LAST WFTDA BOUT I PLAYED WE WERE IT WAS THE LAST JAM AND WE NEEDED 4 POINTS TO TIE THE GAME. THE OTHER TEAM GOT LEAD JAMMER AND OURS COULDN'T GET OUT. THEIR JAMMER SCORED 4 POINTS AND IT LOOKED LIKE WE WOULD LOSE. MY JAMMER HANDED ME THE JAMMER COVER (I WAS PIVOT) AND I TOOK OFF SCORING 8 POINTS AND TIED THE GAME LEADING US INTO AN OVERTIME JAM THAT WE WON.

**WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE NON-DERBY THING TO DO IN LIFE?**

WAIT... THERE'S MORE THEN DERBY? ACTUALLY, THOUGH MY FAVORITE NON-DERBY THING IS PROBABLY DINNER AND BOARD GAME NIGHTS WITH MY FRIENDS AND FAMILY.

**WHAT'S THE LAST YOUTUBE VIDEO YOU WATCHED?**

HOW TO ADD FRIENDS ON LITTLE BIG PLANET BECAUSE I AM TRYING TO PLAY VIDEO GAMES WITH MY DAD ACROSS THE COUNTRY.



Photo Credit: Benma Photo

## DO YOU HAVE ANY ADVICE FOR SOMEONE LOOKING TO GET INTO ROLLER DERBY?

LOOK INTO YOUR LOCAL LEAGUE. WATCH LOTS OF GAME FOOTAGE, PRACTICE IN YOUR KITCHEN, GO OUTSIDE AND ENJOY YOUR SKATES. AS ONE OF MY FAVORITE SKATERS SAID, "IT'S A HOBBY!" SO, ENJOY THE HECK OUT OF IT.