

MARATHON OF HOPE '82: Thousands ran for Terry

Metro pours out its love for Terry Fox

By Sandro Contenta
Toronto Star

They ran to beat cancer, raise funds, work on their tans or get into shape. But most of all, they ran for Terry.

Thousands pounded the pavement in Metro's streets and parks yesterday to continue the Marathon of Hope started two years ago by a determined young man who wouldn't give in to cancer without a fight.

They ran, walked, roller-skated, pushed wheelchairs, skied on wheels, strolled and jogged. Young and old, they were inspired by Terry Fox's dream and determined to continue it.

Twenty-eight of Metro's 49 runs reported in, with 6,500 runners raising \$255,000.

All were there to raise money for cancer research but many, like Mark Lefort, ran to thank Terry for giving them the will to live and the courage to succeed — no matter how high the odds against them.

"He's my hero. He taught me never to give up — no matter what," said Mark, 15, who was left blind after his fight with cancer two years ago.

Mark, of Caswell Dr. in North York, was stricken with a malignant brain tumor when he was 7 years old. After a six-year fight, he lost his eyesight and his will to live. But the courage of Terry Fox pulled him through.

'I can beat them'

"What Terry taught me is no matter what the obstacles are, I can beat them. He'll always be a part of me, even when I go up to join him in heaven," Mark said.

Mark said whenever he feels as if he's about to give up, he plays the eight hours of videotape he made of Terry during the telethon in 1980.

"When things get really difficult he just says 'Terry would have done it' and he gets up and does it," said Mark's dad, George, 61.

"This morning he got up and said, 'Let's do it for Terry,' and that's why we're here walking," George said, starting the 10-kilometre walk at E. T. Seton Park.

Dick Traum, the one-legged runner who inspired Terry, sat on a park bench, amazed at how one man could inspire a whole nation.

"They used to be watching Terry but now they're part of Terry and his dream. It's wonderful. People have gone from being on the outside to taking part and finding out what Terry and his cause was all about," Traum, 41, said.

Fox was inspired to run across Canada and raise money for cancer research after reading about Traum running in the New York marathon. Traum said his biggest disappointment is never having met or spoken to Terry.

"We all have a dream here and our dream is to beat cancer. We're determined to do it and we will," Traum said.

The novice runners experienced some of the pain and exhaustion Fox went through.

"I tell you, for those who aren't used to running, it really hits home," said a sweat-drenched Lynda Davy, 30, of Jackman Ave.

"He would run twice as much every day — and on one leg. He was just amazing," said Davy, a control analyst. (Actually, Fox ran

about 40 kilometres — four times the distance of yesterday's runs — most days.)

Parents brought young children to the run, knowing that Terry's dream would continue only if they understood his fight and his cause.

"It's up to the parents to teach their children who Fox was and they'll take it from there. Anyone who knows anything about him can't help but be touched and keep his spirit alive," said Jeanne Wilson, 31, a credit analyst who lives on Avenue Rd.

Hazel Craig, 60, of Roanoke Rd., beat her fight against breast cancer 15 months ago after a mastectomy. She said she had rarely been involved in fund drives before but felt she owed a lot to Terry and his fight.

"I know that I benefited from the research that was done with the money Terry raised, so I'm here today to do whatever I can to pay it back and help other people fight what I had to fight," said Craig, who collected \$950 in pledges.

Craig said she almost gave up her fight when she was in the hospital and learned of Fox's death. "But I now realize the way he died gave me courage and determination to keep trying," she said.

Leslie Scrivener, a Star reporter who wrote a best-selling book about Terry Fox, was overcome with joy at seeing the large turnout.

"This is as much a commemorative run as anything else," said Scrivener. "It's so wonderful seeing all these people doing things they don't normally do. He's inspired us all."

Garry Gordon, 28, of Olson Dr., lay panting on the ground after crossing the finishing line at E. T. Seton Park.

"The 40 minutes of pain I went through is nothing compared to what Fox experienced every day. He was truly a great man," Gordon said, catching his breath.

Christine Seale, 11, of Breen Cres., was determined to finish the run to "help people who are dying of cancer and raise money for them."

'Great cause'

"It's a great cause and it's important to keep this kind of thing alive. There aren't many heroes in the world and certainly not many with the courage Fox had," said Roger Garland, 41, the vice-president of Four Seasons Hotels, who helped organize the run at E. T. Seton Park.

Albert Robinson made sure his 11-year-old son Paul realized that Fox had "captured the hearts of a nation."

"Terry was really something else," Paul said after finishing the course.

At Upper Canada College, 1,146 runners received more than \$33,000 in pledges. Lieutenant-Governor John Aird was on hand to fire the starter's pistol and open the event. Aird walked the 10-kilometre course, to bring in \$2,400 himself.

"The spirit of the run is just great. Along the course we passed a guy on crutches and everyone patted him and encouraged him to continue. It's bringing out the best in everyone," said Rob Allen, 32, of Woodsworth Rd., an insurance salesman.

Peter Higgins, 26, wiped his face with a towel, sweating and proud of having taken part in the run.



DICK DARRELL/TORONTO STAR

Bridegroom in a hurry: Fehim Kamali and Sevgi Karakas kiss after their wedding in Allen Gardens after Kamali completed 30 kilometres (18 miles) in the Cabbagetown Terry Fox run. "It's great being married," Kamali said. He and his bride grew up on the same street in Izmir, Turkey.

Thousands of Canadians keep d

More than 300 of the 800 residents of the eastern Ontario town of Bath had good reason to sink into a hot tub yesterday after raising more than \$15,000 for cancer research in the second annual Terry Fox Run.

Stephanie Brown, a co-ordinator with the Canadian Cancer Society's Ontario division, said she was amazed at the success of the run in Bath, where "it's obvious they really put out for this run."

In general, "participation was down, but the money was up in this year's Ontario runs," she said, where more than \$804,000 had been raised by the 124 of 214 runs that had reported.

Across Canada, 1,144 runs were staged with thousands of people running or walking in memory of a young man who two years ago galvanized the country with his Marathon of Hope.

Late last night, 480 runs had reported to the society that more than 100,000 participants had raised \$1.6 million in cash and pledges.

The runs were expected to raise \$3 million.

Fox began his crusade to raise money for cancer research when he left St. John's, Nfld., in April, 1980, to run across Canada.

The one-legged runner was forced to end the run near Thunder Bay, Ont., after five months on the road, when the cancer that cost him his right leg spread to his lungs.

He died at age 22 in June, 1981.

Last year, \$3.2 million was raised in more than 760 runs, bringing the total to \$27 million.

More than \$20,000 was raised yesterday by about 600 people in Belleville, where the method of locomotion ranged from wheelchairs to baby carriages.

The Canadian Forces base in Lahr, West Germany, participated with \$9,000, about 2,000 people ran through Vancouver's Stanley Park and about 100 runners in Portage la Prairie, Man., ignored damp, chilly weather to raise \$500.

In Langruth, Man., northwest of Portage, 12 runners and walkers raised \$400 in pledges and donations, while Ontario Premier William Davis' home town of Brantford and York University each raised \$21,000.

About 5,000 Newfoundlanders ran on the rain-soaked tracks and foggy streets of their province, which the night before were swept by the 90 mile per hour winds of Hurricane Debby.

In Fox's hometown, Port Couillard, B.C. more than 2,000 people came out under sunny skies to run along with Fox's brothers, Darrell, 20, and Fred, 25, sister Judith, 17, and father, Rolly.

"This is just fabulous, and the

