

Sept. 17, 1971

Denton County Life

Denton's Miss Americas

Being crowned 25 years ago has meant a lifetime of success for Phyllis George

Even though she is known as the first female sportscaster, a former first lady of Kentucky and the host of her own interview program on TNN, former Dentonite Phyllis George said the title she won in 1971 is the one that follows her around the most.

"No matter what any of us (former Miss Americas)

accomplish in life, they always will say 'former Miss America' in front of her title. That title will always stay with me," she said.

But it's that title and the winnings from the pageant that have helped open doors for the then-21-year-old, who besides being the 50th Miss America to be crowned also is known as the only Miss America to drop her crown during the pageant.

"Obviously you become an instant celebrity. That, for me, was a big stepping stone," she said. "It opens doors for you and you have to work a little harder because people expect so much from you."

After the pageant, Ms. George took her winnings and moved to New York, where she said she took every type of lesson imaginable — from dancing to singing to acting.

Apparently the lessons have served her well.

Ms. George, 46, has enjoyed a long career in broadcasting on shows including CBS' "The NFL Today" show, "CBS Morning News," "Candid Camera" and "People Magazine."

Currently, Ms. George is about to begin her second season as the host of "Spotlight with Phyllis George," is the author of a craft book and serves as a spokeswoman for her own product line, Chicken by George.

But even with her busy

schedule, Ms. George still finds time to visit Denton, where her parents live. She said she always will cherish the values she was taught growing up in what was then considered to be a somewhat rural community.

"Part of my success is because of the great upbringing I had in that town," she said. "I love Denton. I want to give my children the same thing, I want to give them that sense of belonging."

Ms. George, who lives with her two children in Lexington, Ky., is equally as appreciative of what she learned from competing in the Miss America pageant.

"It gave me tremendous confidence about learning how to handle myself in any situation," she said. "But friendship is one of the big things that comes out of it. We all stay in touch, it's a sisterhood."

Watching the changes over the years in the pageant has been interesting for Ms. George. She said today's contestants are more likely to go to greater lengths to win the coveted crown.

"I kind of miss the wholesomeness of when I was there. We weren't so sophisticated. It's more of a business now, with the trainers and plastic surgery," she said. "It's a whole different ball game now."

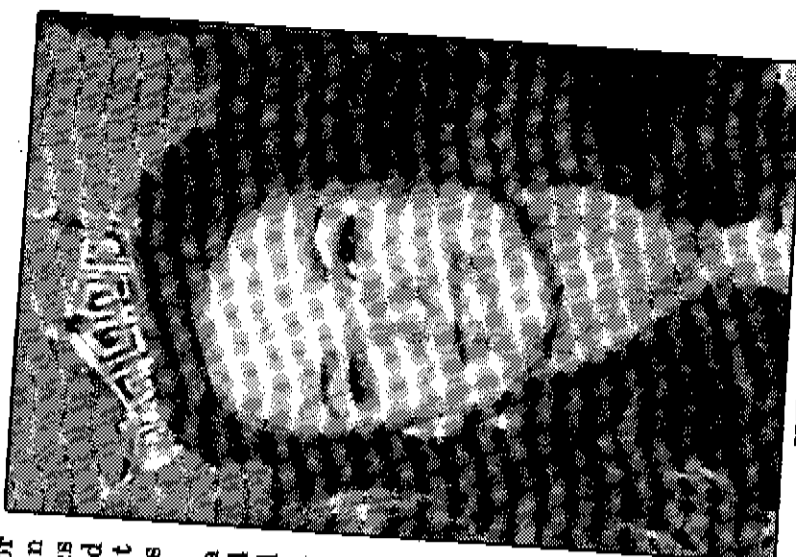
But Ms. George said she

is pleased the pageant now includes time for contestants to explain their views on various current events. She said she hopes the pageant continues well beyond its 100th year anniversary.

"The Miss America pageant has survived wars, scandals, social movements and it's still here. It's part of Americana. I hope it can make it to 100 years," she said.

Having established the annual Phyllis George Scholarship for outstanding radio and television students at the University of North Texas, Ms. George said she still keeps up with the latest news in Denton and was very pleased to hear about the Campus Theatre opening this summer.

"I think it's really important that you never forget your hometown," Thomas Wolfe said you can never go home, and I think he was wrong."



DENTON RECORD-CHRONICLE/FILE PHOTO

Phyllis George was crowned the 1971 Miss America in 1970 — being the 50th woman to hold that title. Each Miss America's reign begins the January after the pageant.

Miss America 1971

Phyllis George, 46

- **Born and raised in Denton** second season of her own interview show on TNN, "Spotlight with Phyllis George."
- **Crowned Miss Texas** 1970; Miss America 1971 (was the 50th Miss America to be crowned)
- **Career highlights:** Founded and now is the spokeswoman of her own product line, Chicken By George, served as host to several TV sports, news and entertainment programs and is a former First son and a daughter



This year is the silver anniversary of the Miss America crowning of Dentonite Phyllis George. After 25 years, Ms. George has built a career in broadcasting. Among her projects, Ms. George will start her second season of "Spotlight with Phyllis George."

DENTON RECORD-CHRONICLE/COURTESY PHOTO

Denton still holds lure for Miss America 1975

By Kelly Ryan
Staff Writer

Twenty years after being crowned Miss America, Shirley Cothran Barret is still wearing sequins and beaded gowns.

As the 1975 Miss America tried on the dresses she took with her on her trip to Atlantic City to judge the 75th Miss America pageant, she reflected on winning a title that she said completely changed her life. "It seems like yesterday, only 100 years ago," she said. "The memories are still fresh, but they fade in and out."

Still living in Denton with her husband and four children, Mrs. Barret, 42, recalled her glamorous trips around the country and meeting famous



FILE PHOTO
Denton's own Shirley Cothran was crowned Miss America 1975.

people, most notably President Gerald Ford.

"I don't think any person could

forget meeting the president," she said. "I remember it was snowing in April the day I met President Gerald Ford. It was an awesome feeling to be in the office of whom I considered to be the most powerful man on earth."

Mrs. Barret said she is most thankful for the scholarship money she won from the pageant, which she used to pay for her tuition for her doctorate degree she earned in early childhood education from Texas Woman's University. She said she would have gone on to teach, possibly at the collegiate level, had she not won the title of Miss America.

And although she had offers to leave her hometown of Denton

See BARRET/19A

Atlantic City, N.J. (AP) — In the beginning, there was no talent competition, no television, no tearful walk down the Convention Hall runway.

On Sept. 6, 1921, eight young women competed in a bathing suit contest on the beach. Sixty-eight beauty queens later, what started as a tourism gimmick remains an American institution.

Through the Depression, World War II, the women's movement, occasional scandals and hundreds of awful talent acts, the Miss America Pageant has endured as an annual rite.

When millions of TV viewers tune in Saturday for the 75th anniversary Miss America Pageant, the event they see will be almost nothing like the pageant won by 16-year-old marg- 6les champion Margaret Gor-

man of Washington, D.C. And for the first time, viewers will be able to call and vote on whether the swimsuit competition should be held.

The first pageant, dreamed up by the Avenue Hotelman's Association, was one of several events aimed at keeping tourists on the Boardwalk after Labor Day.

An 80-year-old man dressed as King Neptune came ashore from a yacht and led the women to Garden Pier, where judges picked Gorman.

Campy as it was, word about the beauty contest spread quickly and far. In 1922, 58 women showed up for the pageant. Gorman lost out to Mary Katherine Campbell, Miss Ohio, who later became the on-

ly two-time winner. Some years were missed in



ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO
Miss America beauty contestants appear in the first pageant in 1921 on Atlantic City's seafont.

By most accounts, the biggest contributor to the pageant's longevity has been tele-

support. It was not officially called Miss America until 1940.



DEPTON RECORD-CHRONICLE/ALLAN KEY
Shirley Cothran Barret shops at Sequins Originals, a dress store in the Exposition Mills Factory Stores. The store was a sponsor of Mrs. Barret's trip to Atlantic City by providing her dresses. Mrs. Barret was a judge in Saturday's Miss America pageant.

Pageant celebrates 75th birthday Saturday

among that week's prime-time programs. It was the lowest rating in 20 years.

To some, the drop-off shows that the pageant is obsolete.

"Pageants like this have become less and less socially acceptable," said Myra Terry, president of the New Jersey chapter of the National Organization for Women.

"In the 50s and 60s, there was no consciousness about objectifying women. Now, there are so many people who value their daughters' futures and who they are as people. That's why the pageant has become less and less an American staple," she said.

TV ratings aside, pageant officials say the pageant has flourished with help from a

See PAGEANT/19A

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TRADITION OR DEGRADATION?

Denton's former Miss Americas split ON Swimsuit competition

By Kelly Ryan
Staff Writer

Even though Denton's two former Miss Americas are split on the issue, most Miss America contestants this year favored keeping the controversial swimsuit competition. Part of this year's 75th anniversary pageant, forty-two of the 50 contestants polled by the pageant said they prefer to maintain the long-standing tradition by leaving the competition in the annual pageant.

Denton resident Shirley Cochran Barrett, crowned Miss America in 1975, agreed with the majority of contestants polled, saying the swimsuit portion of the pageant is a small but important segment of the entire competition. "I think it ought to remain in. It's traditional," she said. "I think it's a great way for

EDITORIAL /4A
DENTON'S Miss Americas /20A

ladies to understand physical fitness."

But Denton's other former Miss America, crowned in 1970, said she thinks pageant organizers could think of another way to demonstrate contestants are in good physical shape.

"If I were a producer, I would understand why it would be important for ratings," Phyllis George said, "but let's think of a better way than parading them around in swimsuits."

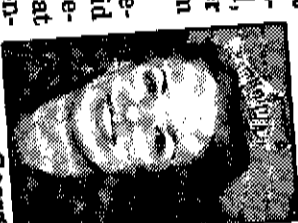
Ms. George, who now resides in Lexington, Ky., said if the competition is to remain in the pageant, she at least would like to see contestants wear shoes.

"If they keep it in, put them back in heels. No one looks good bare-footed," she said. Critics have charged the swimsuit segment is demeaning to women and is an unnecessary element of the show. Others, however, say it is an excellent way to demonstrate

See SWIMSUIT/6A



Barrett



George

Miss Oklahoma crowned; public wants swimsuits

Atlantic City, N.J. (AP) — Miss Oklahoma Shawntel Smith got the birthday present many young girls only dream about Saturday: She was crowned Miss America.

But she had to share her party. Swimsuits took center stage as viewers voted overwhelmingly to retain the controversial swimsuit competition, in keeping with 75 years of pageant history.

Smith blew kisses to the crowd, mouthed thanks to the judges and blinked back tears after her name was announced. "I don't believe this," she appeared to say before Heather Whitestone pinned the crown on her shimmering red hair. Then she took a victory walk down the runway in a beaded white gown. Miss Oregon Emily Johnorton was first-runner up, followed by Miss Arkansas Paula

Gaye Montgomery, Miss California Tiffany Stoker, and Miss Illinois Tracy Hayes.

Most of this year's contestants said they supported the swimsuit competition. Opponents included the outgoing Miss America.

"If you're competing for a scholarship and a job to become a spokesperson for your platform, you should be judged on your heart and mind and how you handle yourself, not on how you wear swimsuits," Whitestone, the first deaf Miss America, said Friday.

Smith, who turned 24 Saturday, was the first woman in her family to graduate from college. She earned a business administration degree from Northeastern State University. The others in the Top 10, who joined in the swimsuit

See PAGEANT/6A



Former Miss America Heather Whitestone crowns Miss Oklahoma Shawntel Smith.

Burnings memories

The devastating fire on the Square roared Sept. 22, 1994 through the



Victims found that some losses will never be replaced

By Donna Fiedler
Staff writer

It is a rough lot today, scarred by slabs of cracked cement and littered with broken bricks.

A year ago Friday it was an inferno, with flames that seemed to singe the stars, lighting the night with the bright, hot realization of loss.

Before, it was the southwest corner of the Courthouse Square: A law office, a pawn shop, a shoe store, a part of history.

... A part of Denton life that left the Square and did not return.

A year ago Friday, fire began in The Lawyer's Building about 2 a.m., spread to Glen's Pawn Shop & Music Store, where it set off alarms at 2:11 a.m. that were ignored for some minutes, and finally spread to T&L Shoes.

Smoke permeated Grimmer's Antiques, next in line on the attached buildings, damaging expensive oriental rugs. Next door, Ruby's Diner was damaged by smoke and water, and the morning coffee crowd had to find another place for a time to sip

Square fire brings political change

By Kelly Ryan
Staff writer

Many say the fire that claimed three buildings on the Square one year ago Friday also brought three new faces to the Denton City Council, changing the scope of city politics.

Several residents and downtown merchants voiced their concerns about fire protection many times prior to the fire on the Square. But it wasn't until the fire actually occurred that a clear message was sent by way of unseating two council incumbents during the May 6 election.

their java and jaw about the fire.

By the time the first engines arrived at 2:22 a.m., flames roared through The Lawyer's Building, and smoke blanketed the Square. The smoke eventually dissipated. But the pall has hung over the Square for a year.

■ DOWNTOWN business /17A

"I spent eight Tuesdays prior to the fire to try to get council members to reopen Central," said John Shrader, owner of Shrader's Pharmacy. Mr. Shrader's store is just a few doors down from where the fire broke out in the early morning hours of Sept. 22.

But pleas seemed to fall on deaf ears when council members did not include funding for additional firefighters or the reopening of Central Fire Station in the 1994-95 budget.

See PROTECTION/7A

Two businesses and a multi-attorney law office were destroyed that night. The buildings that housed them had to be razed. The empty lots gape like missing teeth on the face of the city.

See MEMORIES/9A

CIRCLE CLOSED

Indian ceremony restores wandering spirit to burial ground

By Holly Becka
Staff writer

Oak Point — With a vibrant sunset and a shroud of tall trees as their backdrop, a small group of people of American Indian heritage performed a solemn pipe ceremony Saturday to put an ancestor's spirit to rest.

Dusti Summerbird Lockey, who led the traditional Lakota pipe ceremony, asked everyone to face west, then north, then east and then south as she beckoned the spirits of her American Indian ancestors. As she lit the sage and tobacco in the pipe, heads were

See CEREMONY/13A



Dusti Summerbird Lockey, left, leads a prayer during the ceremony at the Native American gravesite on Lewisville Lake Saturday evening.
DR-C/O. MARK KIRGANS



One year ago, Weldon McBride could only watch as fire destroyed his property on the downtown Square.
DENTON RECORD-CHRONICLE/O. MARK KIRGANS

Historic aircraft to land at municipal airport

By Holly Becka
Staff writer

A historic Lockheed Constellation aircraft, one of the last of its kind still flying, will land Monday at the Denton Municipal Airport and be on display through Thursday.

Called the MATS Connie, the 1940s- and 1950s-era plane visiting Denton is a military version of the Constellations. It features a tri-ple tail, a graceful dolphin-shaped fuselage, four large piston engines and a 123-foot wingspan.

Many Americans took their first airplane flight in similar

Connies, as they were called, which were the first pressurized aircraft in widespread use. They were the first airliners that could fly coast to coast in less than eight hours carrying up to 80 passengers.

"It's a beautiful, classic-design airplane," said Ben Sewell, an aviation enthusiast and operations manager of Air Denton, a company that fuels and cares for aircraft.

"They were specifically designed as an airliner, and then the military started using them as a transport. There just aren't many of

See PLANE/8A

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Minot Daily New

THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 1995

Minot



Photo by Robert Peiry of the News

THERE SHE IS — Miss America Heather Whitestone helps Medical Arts Clinic audiologist Larry Martin conduct a hearing screening on two-day-old Jordan Hegre during a visit to Minot on Wednesday. Whitestone, deaf since the age of 18 months, is using her year as Miss America to help bring attention to hearing disorders, especially in children.

Anything is possible

Miss America uses visit to Minot to encourage youths to hold on to their dreams forever

By JILL SCHRAMM
Staff Writer

Miss America Heather Whitestone says she is using her title to become a role model for the

Whitestone, who is deaf, said people need to look at their abilities first and their disabilities second.

Whitestone held a news conference while in Minot on Wednesday to promote her STARS program, part of

Through Action.

The Minot State University Student Association sponsored her visit.

Pushing a program

She said her program encourages young people to achieve success through action.

"'Anything is possible' is my platform, and I really believe in that," Whitestone said. "I have seen so many young people give up their dreams too fast, and I want to motivate them.

"I look at the Miss America title as a opportunity to make a difference in other people's lives, especially young people. I look at the crown as a powerful tool to challenge them to achieve their dream."

Her experience

up as an example. Deaf from an illness at age 18 months, Whitestone said early training allowed her to speak and read lips. Still, it took her six years to say her last name correctly, she said.

As Miss Alabama, she performed a dance routine to win the Miss America title last September.

Her own experience has made her an advocate for early detection of deafness in children, with training to start immediately. The early intervention can save taxpayers \$1 billion a year in money now being spent on education for the deaf, she said.

Whitestone said she can't be a spokesperson for all people with disabilities because she knows only deafness. People with other disabilities also need to speak out, she said.

Miss America tells lawmakers to support disabled

Pageant's first deaf winner encourages students



Associated Press
Heather Whitestone

DURHAM (AP) — Lawmakers and state officials should invest in people with disabilities so they are given opportunities to succeed, Miss America said while touring North Carolina schools and the General Assembly.

Heather Whitestone, who is deaf, was in Durham Wednesday to address an awards luncheon by the Governor's Advocacy Council for Persons with Disabilities.

In Raleigh, she addressed a joint session of the Legislature and met with children at a middle school.

"If people had not invested time and money in me, I probably would not have been Miss America," Miss Whitestone said at the

awards luncheon in Durham.

Miss Whitestone and Gov. Jim Hunt spoke to about 45 students at Daniels Middle School in Raleigh.

She encouraged the at-risk students in the after-school program to follow their dreams and stay in school.

"It was inspiring. It shows what dreams and stuff can get you," said eighth-grader Carmon Pullen, 14.

Members of the after-school program invited Miss Whitestone to speak as part of their studies on overcoming adversity.

Miss Whitestone, of Birmingham, Ala., lost most of her hearing when she was 18 months old as the result of a vaccination. She learned to speak and to read lips.

SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 1995

Not just a pretty face



Sarah Thurmond front, and sister Mez wait to meet Miss America 1995 Heather Whitestone at the FSU Conference Center on Friday.

MIKE EWEN/Democrat

Heather Whitestone a sign of strength

Miss America 1995 proves an inspiration for a group of kids here in Tallahassee.

By Mario Roache
DEMOCRAT WRITER

To the boys in Stevie Fenton's Cobb Middle School class, Heather Whitestone, current Miss America, was simply a pretty woman.

For the girls in the class, Whitestone was more of a role model, an example of what they could become some day.

But for both groups, Whitestone has become a more personal inspiration, because the nine students are deaf, and so is she.

Whitestone, 21, who made history on Sept. 17 when she became the first deaf Miss America, spoke Friday at a banquet sponsored by the Florida State University Chapter of the National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

Her platform: self-esteem for children.

"I was invited to speak about motivation," she explained before being whisked off to the banquet.

Her months as Miss America have sent a positive message of encouragement to young deaf people around the world.

It's a message that made it all the way to Tallahassee.

"I was often deaf, but just

have deaf adult role models," said Fenton, a teacher of the deaf and a certified interpreter for the deaf. "So teachers of the deaf have to try very hard to overcome that."

Her students found out about the visit in early February and hoped to go to the banquet. But it wasn't until last week that they received a donation of \$158, needed to buy banquet tickets, that the dream became reality. When Whitestone arrived in town, she was greeted by cards made by the students.

"They are all very excited about her visit," Fenton said. "All of their cards said things like 'We can't wait to meet you.'"

Fenton said Whitestone gives students like hers confidence in their abilities. One girl in the class, who knows that Whitestone is a dancer, announced now that she wants to be a professional dancer.

"I tell my students, 'Deaf is OK.' Not, 'I'm deaf, but I'm OK,'" Fenton said.

Whitestone's platform for her year as Miss America is called S.T.A.R.S., Success through Action and Realization of your dreams. This program gives all young people five goals to shoot for, from working hard to believing in their dreams.



Heather Whitestone shakes Meagan Thurmond's hand at the Conference Center on Friday. Meagan, 9 and their mother, An Thurmond, waited an hour to see Whites in person.

CHANTICLEER FINALS EDITION

April 20, 1995

Jacksonville State University

Volume 42, Issue 27

Heather helps establish scholarship

*University to match
\$25,000 from Miss
America and
Waterford Crystal*

▼ By Benjamin Cunningham
News editor

Miss America returned to JSU this week, and she brought \$25,000 with her.

Heather Whitestone visited the campus on Monday for only the second time since being crowned Miss America in September, and brought with her a \$25,000 check from the Waterford Crystal Company and the Miss America Corporation to establish a scholarship at JSU.

"The \$25,000 Miss America Waterford Crystal Scholarship underscores the commitment of the Miss America organization to extend the scholarship opportunity beyond the women who compete in the Miss America pageant," Heather said in the presentation ceremony on Monday.

"I am extremely pleased that Jacksonville State University has decided to give the scholarship to a qualified student from the Disabled Student Services program," Heather continued.

"The University would like to express its appreciation to our Miss America for returning today for the presentation of the

See Scholarship



Robert Chappelaw

Whitestone: A scholarship in Heather's name will be presented yearly to a student from the Disabled Student Services program. Heather made the announcement in a press conference.

Scholarship

from page 1

scholarship check," said JSU President Harold McGee. "We are also pleased to announce the University will match that equal amount of money, \$25,000, to establish a permanent, endowed scholarship fund in Heather's name."

Polly Weachcock, a representative of Waterford Crystal, said the company was happy to participate in the scholarship program. "I think all three institutions here today, Jacksonville State University, The Miss America Organization and Waterford-Crystal, each represent tradition ... and each has a commitment to quality and excellence."

Weachcock and Heather also presented McGee with a crystal sculpture of an eagle. "It will serve as a permanent reminder of when these three institutions ... came together today to celebrate a common goal ... to reach for the stars," Weachcock said.

During a brief press conference following the presentation, Heather expressed her desire to return to private life.

"I travel every day," she said, "I've been out of my social life for a whole month. I'm ready to go back, and have my social life back. I've been living in hotels; I feel like I'm homeless."



Robert Chappelaw

McGee: University will match funds provided by Miss America and Waterford Crystal.

She won't be able to leave the road yet, though. Heather still has months of appearances left to make. The crowning of the next Miss America won't take place until well into the fall semester, she said, so she won't be ready to return to school until at least January.

9472

Miss America opens drive for early detection of hearing loss

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Heather Whitestone credits early detection of her hearing loss with allowing her to achieve many goals, including becoming the first deaf Miss America. But thousands of babies aren't as lucky, she says.

"Our nation's children who are deaf or hard of hearing are losing a critical window of opportunity because of delayed action," she said yesterday. "I believe we have the power to change that."

Whitestone announced at a National Press Club luncheon a public service media campaign to encourage early detection of hearing loss in infants and young children.

She said the campaign, which begins next month, is the largest public service initiative on behalf of early identification of hearing loss.

loss. Hearing impairment affects one of every 200 newborns in the United States, or more than 20,000 annually, Whitestone said, adding that the disorder usually isn't detected until children are about 2½ years old.

At that age, a child's ability to speak and communicate will be hampered the longer the situation



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1995

Listen up: Advice from Miss America

WASHINGTON — Miss America Heather Whitestone credits early detection of her hearing loss with allowing her to achieve her dreams — and she wants others to have the same chance.

"Early detection can make all the difference in a child's life," Whitestone, who is deaf, said at the National Press Club Wednesday.

Whitestone launched a seven-month public service campaign, keyed to the slogan "Listen to Miss America: Call for a free hearing checklist."



By B. Vartan Boayin, AP
WHITESTONE: She's urging early detection of hearing loss.

Miss America '95 favors early tests for hearing loss

WASHINGTON — Miss America 1995, Heather Whitestone of Alabama, who is profoundly deaf, credits a large part of her success to the early detection of her hearing loss.

Now, Miss Whitestone wants all infants born with hearing problems to have the same opportunity she had for early testing and special help in dealing with a hearing impairment.

In a luncheon address Wednesday at the National Press Club, the former Miss Alabama unveiled a new, nationwide public service campaign to encourage early identification of

hearing loss in infants and young children.

"Clearly, my own background demonstrates the importance of early detection," said the Dothan native, who became the first woman with a disability to win the Miss America crown last September.

Miss Whitestone lost her hearing at age 18 months, but her family noticed and had her tested immediately.

"The early detection of my hearing loss enabled my family to act quickly," she said.

PHOENIX GAZETTE

PHOENIX, AZ
DAILY 90¢

THURSDAY

FEB 16 1995

Miss America wants parents to listen up

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At that age, a child's ability to speak and communicate will be hampered the longer the situation goes undetected, she said.

The 21-year-old Alabama native is an accounting major at Jacksonville State University.

For a copy of her speech or a free hearing checklist, call 800-HEAR-KID.

BIRMINGHAM NEWS

BIRMINGHAM, AL
DAILY 169¢

THURSDAY
FEB 16 1995

FEB 26 1995

Miss America's advice: Don't be afraid to fall

FRONT PAGE

BY LEIGH LANDINI
SUN STAFF WRITER

As a deaf child growing up in Alabama, Heather Whitestone had no idea she would grow up to become one of the most recognized figures in the country — Miss America.

Whitestone, 22, became deaf when she was months old after a bout of influenza. Her parents detected something wasn't right with their brunette daughter when Whitestone's other dropped a pan on the floor, scaring everyone in the house but Heather.

Her parents took her to the doctor immediately, something she credits for not making her condition any worse. She said many parents wait until the child is 2½ years old, and by then, valuable time in learning sign language and alternate communication skills is lost.

Today, as Miss America, Whitestone tours the country talking to parents, teachers, children and others about the importance of early detection of disabilities as well as her FARs — Success Through Action and Realization of Dreams — motivational program.

Whitestone, a junior accounting major at Jacksonville State University, talked to 600 entuckians gathered at the Executive Inn Saturday for the 9th annual Parent/Professional Conference. Her speech, which included a video presentation of her winning

Placing the blame

The lack of funding for higher education is blamed for the shortage of special education teachers. 5A

moments at the national pageant, focused on motivation.

As she hoisted her crown into the air, she told the crowd the title has given her a chance to be a role model for children, both able and disabled, and she stresses the importance of education and hard work to accomplish goals.

"I told young people that you are unique," she said. "You don't need drugs or alcohol to be somebody special. There are a lot of successful people."

"You do have the same tools — heart and mind."

As a child, her role model was Helen Keller, and she tries to live by Keller's quote about how her problems taught her patience, sweetness and kindness.

During her nearly 20,000-mile monthly treks across America, Whitestone tells children and teens that education is the key to a successful future. She said she has seen too many high school and college students give up when the going got tough.

Miss America's advice: Don't be

Continued from page 1

"If you fail, it doesn't mean it's a dead-end street," she said. "I look at the Miss America crown ... to challenge them. It (dreams coming true) does happen."

Whitestone also said a positive attitude is essential for success. Her STARS program reflects her belief in positive attitude. Other points of emphasis are believing in dreams, facing obstacles, working hard and building a support team.

Whitestone's support team is her family and God.

"My greatest encouragement really is my family," Whitestone said. "It doesn't happen overnight. They never gave up on me."

During her childhood, Whitestone's mother taught her anything is possible by showing her that the last four letters of "American" spell "I Can." She pays tribute to her mother through using sign language to the Lee Greenwood country song "God Bless the U.S.A."

Whitestone credits her parents' discipline and love for her success, and encourages parents of disabled children to have faith in their children.

"There will be times when you will have doubts," she said. "But keep believing in your heart that these children can have normal lives."

As a deaf American, Whitestone

BY LEIGH LANDINI
SUN STAFF WRITER

Coordinators of the Kentucky Parent/Professional Conference never expected to draw 600 people from across the state to Paducah for this weekend's event.

But they did, thanks in part to a jam-packed program dealing with a variety of special education topics and an appearance by Miss America Heather Whitestone.

"We had been told by the people in the state (Education) department that if we reached 400 it would be exceptional," said coordinator Vicki McLeod. "We went over 600 this week in registrations."

All slots for the conference which begins Friday night are filled, and the group has sold out of tickets for Saturday's luncheon speaker, Miss America.

"I guess the way we got Miss America is that we were trying to get a motivational speaker," McLeod said. "It just sort of hit us that Miss America" would complement the conference.

Whitestone, 21, has been hearing

impaired since she became ill with enza virus, and doctors several months after that her hearing affected. She is the first America.

She will talk about her national program — STARS, Success Through

Action and Realization of Your Dreams — at Saturday's lunch.

During the morning and afternoon, parents, teachers and others will have a chance to listen to experts and others in fields such as Attention Deficit Disorder and autism.

"We're really proud of all of our speakers," McLeod said. Sheri Marshall, a one-armed pilot from Paducah, will speak during Saturday night's dinner. No other activities are planned after dinner Saturday.



WHITESTONE

PADU

PADUC
DAILY

THURS
FEB 23



Miss America 1995 Heather Whitestone

HOMETOWN

Birmingham, Alabama

Age: 22

EDUCATION

Jacksonville State University, Alabama - Junior (Accounting)

University of Montevallo - 1 year

Recipient of a \$37,000 Miss America Scholarship

FUTURE AMBITION

To earn a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting and become an educator

OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Leading the nation's largest public service campaign to identify early hearing loss
- Executive Member, President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities
- Created and Implemented the S.T.A.R.S. Program (Success Through Action and Realization of your DreamS)
- Served on the Alabama Governor's Task Force for the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing
- Accomplished Ballerina with fifteen years of dance training
- College - Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society

PLATFORM

Anything Is Possible

We have been placed here not by choice, but by God's choosing. Each of us is a unique individual. Often we allow the limitations that others perceive to keep us from achieving our goals. It is our responsibility to overcome the barriers which prevent us from reaching for our dreams. As a profoundly deaf woman, my experiences have shown me the impossible is indeed possible. Everyday, I strive to be a positive role model. My STARS program emphasizes that through hard work and positive self-esteem, *anything is possible*. The only thing that can stop you, is you.



ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE

Platform Position Statement of
Heather Whitestone
Miss America 1995

Many young people in America today are challenged. Some face unthinkable adversities and, despite the odds, enjoy healthy and productive lives. Yet those who are unable to overcome their obstacles and find a path of productivity often suffer, in part, from an overwhelming lack of self-esteem and the absence of positive environments in which they are challenged to try, fail, try again, and ultimately, succeed.

In facing my own life's challenges, I have discovered a unique approach that I call STARS: **SUCCESS THROUGH ACTION AND REALIZATION (OF YOUR DREAMS)**. The five points of a star itself have continually reminded me that the essential elements to achieving success are: **To have a positive attitude; To believe in your dream, especially education, which is a dream all Americans share; To face your obstacles, no matter how great; To work hard; and To build a support team.**

As I travel this country in my role as Miss America, I will communicate the STARS approach to our nation's youth. I will teach them, through word and deed, the value of setting high goals, working hard and achieving their dreams and ambitions, reminding them that their actions speak louder than any words. I will also carry this message to parents, teachers, counselors, ministers and others who influence youth, imploring them to create the proper environments for young people to employ STARS and to serve as committed members of a young person's support team.

As a living example of a challenged person who has used a STARS approach to succeed, I will extend my hand to anyone in need of encouragement and love. I will ask them not to imitate me, but rather to believe in themselves and the power of their spirit. And I will reach out to specific groups with whom I share a special bond.

I will motivate all young people who are deaf or hard of hearing to pursue a broad range of communication and educational options in their lives, choosing those which best reflect their goals and encouraging them to choose the options that will build their self-esteem and, ultimately, ensure their success in life.

I will invite youth with disabilities to join me in reaching out to the nondisabled world – without fear or concern – to tear down the barriers of acceptance that still exist by demonstrating that their lives are about their abilities not their disabilities. In doing so, I know they will find their own paths to success.

I will encourage all young people facing challenges to confront their obstacles with determination and confidence, avoiding the epidemic of negative thinking that has swept our country and robbed them of their self-esteem. I will help them to realize their own success by setting very clear goals and working hard to achieve them.

And I will challenge opinion leaders and those who influence youth to work ever harder at creating the proper environments for all young people – disabled and nondisabled – to confidently establish their own identity, helping them to find a productive place in our society, and inspiring them always to try, try again, and one day, to succeed.

To these young people and countless others, I will commit myself, speaking out on their behalf when they cannot. I will believe in their dreams. I will help them to work hard. And I will always be the very



THE *Miss America Organization*

A SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Thank you for your interest in Miss America 1995.

Please include the following information in your written request for an appearance date.

Fax your letter to: **Mary McGinnis**

Director of Corporate/Community Relations

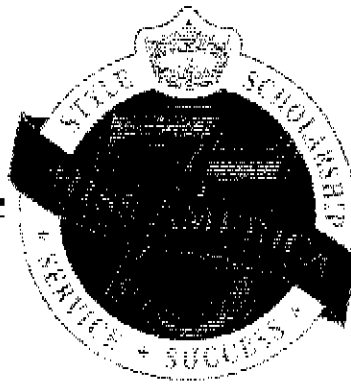
fax (609) 345-6860

- * date of appearance
- * alternate date, if available
- * sponsor of appearance
- * time of appearance
- * location of appearance
- * background on sponsors and event for which you are requesting Miss America to speak
- * include list of other participants and target audience

Fees and expenses will be discussed once it has been determined that your request can be filled.

We look forward to hearing from you soon. Please be patient with receiving a response.

The Miss America Organization



Miss America 1995 Heather Whitestone

HOMETOWN

Birmingham, Alabama

Age: 22

EDUCATION

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As a living example of a challenged person who *has* used a S.T.A.R.S. approach to succeed, I will extend my hand to anyone in need of encouragement and love. I will ask them not to imitate me, but rather to believe in themselves and the power of their spirit. And I will reach out to specific groups with whom I share a special bond.

I will motivate all young people who are deaf or hard of hearing to pursue a broad range of communication and educational options in their lives, choosing those which best reflect their goals and encouraging them to choose the options that will build their self-esteem and, ultimately, ensure their success in life.



Miss America Makes a Difference

In this time of rapid change for America and especially young Americans, Miss America has a vital new role to play: as representative and advocate of the ideals and ideas that will forge America's future.

In 1990, the Miss America Organization instituted the platform program to facilitate this new role. Since that time, Miss Americas have concentrated on the most significant questions facing America today: AIDS awareness and prevention, the effect of domestic violence on society, ways to motivate young people to service and most recently, Homelessness. The following are highlights of the past three Miss Americas' years of service:

Miss America 1994, Kimberly Aiken University of North Carolina/Charlotte

Platform: Homeless Families First: Addressing America's Homeless Crisis

Quote: "We must break the cycle of homelessness by combining long-term housing solutions with education/job training, health care and support services for homeless families and children."

Highlights:

- Lobbied legislators on behalf of the President's Federal Plan to end Homelessness
- Served as National Chairperson for PROJECT OPEN BOOK, a national reading program for homeless children
- Spearheaded a national food drive for the homeless which collected more than one million canned goods
- Authored and distributed a guide designed to enlighten communities on how they can help the homeless
- Address the US Conference of Mayors on behalf of homeless families and children
- Testified before a Housing Sub-Committee for funding for homeless programs
- Worked closely with Habitat for Humanity International, the National Alliance to End Homelessness, the National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty, and the US Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Conducted a yearlong speaking tour on the homeless issue addressing diverse audiences about the need for increased awareness, compassion and support for homeless families and children.

(over)



Miss America and Higher Learning

The Miss America Organization is best known for one glamorous night out of the year: the night women from every state in the nation engage in spirited competition for the honored title of Miss America. Yet few people realize the Organization acts year-round as the nation's leading achievement program and largest scholarship fund for young American women.

An Ongoing Partnership

The Miss America mandate is to encourage young women to explore the relevant social issues of their times and to excel in arts, science, communications or any area of inquiry that inspires their interest and devotion. To this end, the Miss America Organization provides incentives and opportunities for academic achievement in excess of \$24 million in scholarship assistance annually.

Universities Receiving Miss America Endowments

Most recently, the Miss America Organization has become a vital source of endowed scholarship funds for institutions of higher education. Each year, the Organization presents a scholarship grant to a college or university which the winning Miss America has attended.

1995 marks the sixth year the Miss America Organization will donate a substantial scholarship fund to the chosen Miss America's alma mater. Previous awards have helped meritorious students in five states (both male and female) to benefit from special academic programs. These include:

- On behalf of Debbye Turner, Miss America 1990, the University of Missouri received funds for a special scholarship for female students studying veterinary medicine.
- On behalf of Marjorie Vincent, Miss America 1991, DePaul University in Chicago, Illinois was able to offer a special scholarship for music students majoring in piano.
- Hawaii Pacific University received funds for female students who excel in the fields of political science, international relations or international business in honor of Miss America 1992, Carolyn Sapp.
- Two institutions received scholarship funds on behalf of Leanza Cornett, Miss America 1993. Jacksonville University developed the Leanza Cornett Fine Arts Scholarship and Rollins College in Orlando, Florida, developed the Leanza Cornett Scholarship for exceptional female students in science.
- On behalf of Kimberly Aiken, Miss America 1994, a scholarship grant was presented at the University of North Carolina, Charlotte this year. A scholarship fund is being set up for meritorious accounting students.



Scholarships / Grants / Awards

Miss America Pageant Scholarship Foundation	
Miss America	35,000.00
First Runner-Up	20,000.00
Second Runner-Up	14,000.00
Third Runner-Up	11,000.00
Fourth Runner-Up	8,000.00
Semi-Finalist	6,000.00
Semi-Finalist	6,000.00
Semi-Finalist	6,000.00
Semi-Finalist	6,000.00
Semi-Finalist	6,000.00
40 Contestants	2,500.00
In Addition:	
All Talent Preliminary Winners	1,500.00
All Swimsuit Preliminary Winners	500.00
Bert Parks Non-Finalist Talent Winners (8)	1,000.00
Non-Finalist Interview Winner (1)	1,000.00
* Albert A. Marks, Jr.	
Non-Finalist Interview Award	2,500.00
Bernie Wayne Scholarship for the Performing Arts	2,500.00
Presented by Fruit of the Loom:	
Quality of Life Award	10,000.00
First Runner-Up	2,000.00
Second Runner-Up	1,000.00
Presented by Rembrandt:	
Rembrandt Award for Mentorship	5,000.00
Rembrandt Free Dental Clinic Grant	5,000.00
Presented by Waterford Crystal, Inc.:	
Waterford Scholarship for Business Management	2,500.00

At the Local, State and National Miss America competitions over \$24 million in scholarships is available annually.

* funded by National Association of Miss America State Pageants (N.A.M.A.S.P.)



The Miss America Organization Today

Developed by the Miss America Organization, the Miss America competition exists for the purpose of providing personal and professional opportunities for young American women and promoting their voice in culture, politics and community. It provides a worldwide forum for today's young women to express their viewpoints, talents and accomplishments to American audiences the evening of the telecast and to the public at large during the ensuing year. Almost all contestants have either received or are in the process of earning college or postgraduate degrees and utilize Miss America scholarship grants for furthering their educations.

General qualifications for women in competition

To become Miss America, a contestant must first win a local competition and then compete to represent her state, a process requiring enormous personal commitment, hard work and talent. A woman may compete at the state level more than once, but may only compete in the national Miss America competition one time. Thousands of women participate each year in the local and state events, culminating in the selection of 50 national finalists who vie for the Miss America title in Atlantic City in September. Approximately 300,000 volunteers organize the local and state pageants, promoting community involvement throughout the United States.

Responsibilities after winning

Once chosen, Miss America and the state winners become representatives of their generation, using their stature to address community service matters and other contemporary issues which are of particular relevance to young Americans and to women. The Miss America competition works closely with the national sponsors of the Miss America Organization and with other groups to provide Miss America with opportunities that will enable her to appear on behalf of prominent civic and charitable causes around the country - and to make her year one of service and inspiration. In addition, Miss America makes appearances for the television sponsors, which in turn enhances their corporate image. It is of particular significance that traditionally the Miss America corporate television sponsor becomes involved with the Miss America program not only on the financial level but on philosophical and personal levels.

Mission of M.A.O.

It is the mission of the Miss America Organization to continually increase the frequency and scope of Miss America's issue-oriented appearances and to ensure that her personal platform is communicated throughout every city she visits during her year.



The Judging Process

The Miss America competition judging system is designed to promote diversity, individuality and overall achievement among all contestants. Judges score the individual contestants immediately following each phase of the competition. Contestants are scored on a one-to-ten point scale, in whole numbers, within each category. There are two panels of judges: A preliminary panel and a final panel. The preliminary panel chooses the Top Ten Miss America finalists, and is comprised of a total of seven members. All participants on the preliminary panel are familiar with the Miss America program and/or production aspects of the competition, and represent a variety of professional sectors within their communities. The second panel of judges consists of renowned, qualified celebrities who select Miss America from these Top Ten finalists during the evening of the live telecast.

Preliminary Scoring

During the 1995 preliminary competitions in Atlantic City the weighting of scores awarded per category is distributed as follows:

Talent.....	40%
Interview.....	30%
On-Stage Personality in Evening Wear.....	15%
Physical Fitness in Swimsuit.....	15%
TOTAL: .	100%

Narrowing Down to Ten

Following the last preliminary competition, the preliminary panel of judges will score each of the 15 contestants who have attained the highest scores thus far. Each contestant will receive a score on the basis of her performance in four areas of the preliminary competitions. The contestants receiving the ten highest composite attributes scores will advance to the Top Ten competition on Saturday night. This composite attributes score will then be carried over to Saturday night's competition.

Then to Five

The final panel of judges narrows down who will be named the next Miss America from the Top Ten finalists. The five contestants who score the highest points will then be interviewed on stage. During this interview each contestant will be asked a question relative to her personal platform.

Scoring in the Finals

On Saturday night the weighting of the scores is as follows:

Composite Attributes	40%
Talent.....	20%
On-Stage Personality in Evening Wear.....	15%
Physical Fitness in Swimsuit.....	15%
Top Five Interview	10%
TOTAL:	100%



Rules and Regulations

The Miss America Organization is a not-for-profit corporation established solely to provide contestants with the opportunity to enhance their professional and educational goals, and to achieve those pursuits with the assistance of monetary grants and awards.

Scholarship funds are contributed by a panel of national corporate sponsors who commit their support to the professional advancement of these young women. At the local, state, and national Miss America competitions, over \$24 million in awards is available annually. A critical component of the overall organization, this scholarship program enables recipients to apply these grants towards furthering their education and training which will greatly enhance the probability that they will achieve their ultimate goals. Any canceled or unused portions of the monetary grants are held in trust by the Miss America Organization for future awards.

The scholarship fund is based on a rich scholastic tradition that has been the cornerstone of the Miss America program since 1945. Today, educational advancement, achievement and public service continue to be the primary objectives of the Miss America Organization in the face of changing roles for women in American society.

November 17, 1992

MEMORANDUM

TO: STAFF
FROM: JB
RE: STUFF, STUFF AND MORE STUFF

The Chamber staff is supposed to be "in the know" so here are a number of items of which you may or may not be aware.

BEAUTY PAGEANT INFO

For Miss Texas/Miss America:

Martha Frech (pronounced freck)
1800 Ridgeside
Arlington, TX 76103
817-457-1755

For Miss Texas/Miss USA/Miss Universe

Joe Rinelli
P.O. Box 17511
Fort Worth, TX 76102
817-336-8701 office
817-265-2135 studio/home

For Miss World America

GUYREX Productions, Inc. Richard Guy
1302 Montana Ave. Rex Holt
El Paso, TX 79902
915-533-5279
915-533-0873 fax

There are young women who represent Denton through various methods such as the above listings. However, there is no Miss Denton contest. If a young lady calls and wants to enter a pageant, they may call these three entities on the procedure. If a Miss Denton currently exists, this office does not know it.

There have been two Miss Americas from Denton.

1. Phyllis George Brown 1971
2. Shirley Cothran Barrett 1975 (resides in Denton)



Contact: Mary McGinnis
(609) 345-7571
Miss America Organization
OR
John Healy/Ellen Butler
(312) 527-0355
Prescott Healy Company

FOR BACKGROUND INFORMATION

**THE MISS AMERICA ORGANIZATION
KEY FACTS AND FIGURES**

General Background

- Rich in history and social significance, the Miss America Organization is a not-for-profit corporation that has maintained a tradition for most of this century of empowering American women to achieve their personal and professional goals, while providing a forum in which to express their opinions, talent and intelligence -- long before it was fashionable to do so.
- The competition was founded in 1921 as a "bathing beauty" contest to extend the summer tourist season one week beyond Labor Day. Today, the Miss America Pageant is held each year on the second Saturday evening following Labor Day, with contestants gathering for the competition and rehearsals two weeks preceding the national telecast.
- The Miss America competition exists for the purpose of providing personal and professional opportunities for young American women and promoting their voice in culture, politics and the community.
- In addition to conducting the annual national competition, the Organization acts year-round as the nation's leading achievement program and largest scholarship fund for young American women.
- More than 300,000 volunteers organize 2,000+ state and local competitions to further scholarship and achievement among young women in their communities.



Scholarship

- 1995 marks the 50th Anniversary of the Miss America Scholarship Program. Miss America 1945 Bess Myerson received the first scholarship award of \$5,000. Within one year, the fund grew to \$25,000, with the grant shared by Miss America and 16 of the national finalists.
- Since 1945, the Miss America Organization has provided more than \$100 million in educational grants, making it the world's largest provider of scholarships exclusively for women in the world.
- By 1947, Miss America state and local competitions were establishing their own scholarship funds by collecting grants from individuals, colleges, universities and corporations.
- Miss America Scholarships include: \$35,000 to Miss America; \$20,000 to the First Runner-Up; \$14,000 to the Second Runner-Up; \$11,000 to the Third Runner-Up; and, \$8,000 to the Fourth Runner-Up. The remaining five Semi-Finalists each receive \$6,000, with the other 40 contestants each awarded \$2,500. An additional \$15,000 is awarded for individual competitions. Any canceled or unused portions of the scholarship program's monetary grants are held in trust by the Miss America Organization for future awards.
- Other grants awarded through the national Organization include a total of \$13,000 presented by **Fruit of the Loom** to the winner, First and Second Runners-Up of the *Quality of Life Award*; a \$5,000 scholarship from **Rembrandt** to the winner of the *Award for Mentorship* and a \$5,000 grant to a Free Dental Clinic in her state; **Waterford Crystal's** \$2,500 *Scholarship for Business Management*; the \$2,500 *Bernie Wayne Award for the Performing Arts*; and \$2,500 for the *Albert A. Marks, Jr., Interview Award*.
- There are numerous other scholarship awards at the state and local levels. In 1994, in-kind state tuition awards totaled more than \$19.5 million, with another \$1.65 million awarded as in-kind local tuition grants. Cash scholarship awards at the state level totaled \$1.1 million, while local-level cash scholarships were more than \$1.5 million.



- In its continuing effort to recognize outstanding American women whose volunteer efforts benefit society, the Miss America Organization also presents the **Women's Achievement Award** each year. Since 1989, when the Award was introduced, the Award has grown to a \$50,000 donation to the designated charity of the recipient. Past recipients include First Ladies Betty Ford and Rosalynn Carter, and AIDS activist Elizabeth Glaser.
- The Miss America Organization maintains active relationships with more than 300 colleges and universities in this country. Of those, 252 institutions provided tuition support to state organizations.
- Most recently, the Miss America Organization has become a vital source of endowed scholarship funds for institutions of higher education. Each year, the Organization presents \$25,000 to a college or university which the winning Miss America has attended. Previous awards donated on behalf of recent Miss Americas have helped meritorious students in five states to benefit from special academic programs.

75 Years of Miss America

- In the Organization's 75 year history, 68 women have worn the Miss America crown. Several factors have contributed to this disparity, including the naming of the Pageant's only back-to-back winner (Mary Campbell in 1922-23), lapses due to major historic world events, and the introduction of the post-dating concept in September, 1950, with the crowning of Miss America 1951 Yolande Betbeze.
- Our Miss Americas have included:

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>CITY/STATE</u>
1921	Margaret Gorman	Washington, DC
1922	Mary Campbell	Columbus, OH
1923	Mary Campbell	Columbus, OH
1924	Ruth Malcomson	Philadelphia, PA
1925	Fay Lanphier	Oakland, CA
1926	Norma Smallwood	Tulsa, OK
1927	Lois Delander	Joliet, IL
1933	Marian Bergeron	West Haven, CT
1935	Henrietta Leaver	Pittsburgh, PA
1936	Rose Coyle	Philadelphia, PA

- more -



Miss America Organization Key Facts and Figures

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<u>YEAR</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>CITY/STATE</u>
1937	Bette Cooper	Bertrand Island, NJ
1938	Marilyn Meseke	Marion, OH
1939	Patricia Donnelly	Detroit, MI
1940	Frances Burke	Philadelphia, PA
1941	Rosemary LaPlanche	Los Angeles, CA
1942	Jo-Carroll Dennison	Tyler, TX
1943	Jean Bartel	Los Angeles, CA
1944	Venus Ramey	Washington, DC
1945	Bess Myerson	New York, NY
1946	Marilyn Buford	Los Angeles, CA
1947	Barbara Walker	Memphis, TN
1948	BeBe Shopp	Hopkins, MN
1949	Jacque Mercer	Litchfield, AZ
1951	Yolande Betbeze	Mobile, AL
1952	Colleen Hutchins	Salt Lake City, UT
1953	Neva Langley	Macon, GA
1954	Evelyn Ay	Ephrata, PA
1955	Lee Meriwether	San Francisco, CA
1956	Sharon Ritchie	Denver, CO
1957	Marian McKnight	Manning, SC
1958	Marilyn Van Derbur	Denver, CO
1959	Mary Ann Mobley	Brandon, MS
1960	Lynda Mead	Natchez, MS
1961	Nancy Fleming	Montague, MI
1962	Maria Fletcher	Asheville, NC
1963	Jacquelyn Mayer	Sandusky, OH
1964	Donna Axum	El Dorado, AR
1965	Vonda Van Dyke	Phoenix, AZ
1966	Deborah Bryant	Overland Park, KS
1967	Jane Jayroe	Laverne, OK
1968	Debra Barnes	Pittsburg, KS
1969	Judith Ford	Belvidere, IL
1970	Pamela Eldred	West Bloomfield, MI
1971	Phyllis George	Denton, TX
1972	Laurel Lea Schaefer	Bexley, OH
1973	Terry Meeuwsen	De Pere, WI
1974	Rebecca King	Denver, CO

- more -



Miss America Organization Key Facts and Figures

Page 5

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>CITY/STATE</u>
1975	Shirley Cothran	Denton, TX
1976	Tawny Godin	Saratoga Springs, NY
1977	Dorothy Benham	Edina, MN
1978	Susan Perkins	Columbus, OH
1979	Kylene Barker	Roanoke, VA
1980	Cheryl Prewitt	Ackerman, MS
1981	Susan Powell	Elk City, OK
1982	Elizabeth Ward	Russellville, AR
1983	Debra Maffett	Anaheim, CA
1984	Vanessa Williams	Millwood, NY (9/17/83-7/23/84)
1984	Suzette Charles	Mays Landing, NJ (7/23/84-9/15/84)
1985	Sharlene Wells	Salt Lake City, UT
1986	Susan Akin	Meridian, MS
1987	Kellye Cash	Memphis, TN
1988	Kaye Lani Rae Rafko	Monroe, MI
1989	Gretchen Carlson	Anoka, MN
1990	Debbie Turner	Columbia, MO
1991	Marjorie Vincent	Oak Park, IL
1992	Carolyn Sapp	Honolulu, HI
1993	Leanza Cornett	Jacksonville, FL
1994	Kimberly Aiken	Columbia, SC
1995	Heather Whitestone	Birmingham, AL

- Today, Miss America logs 20,000 miles a month, changing her location every 36 hours and reaching out to support charitable and community endeavors that characterize her present-day image.

Telecast

- In 1954, during the Golden Era of television, the Miss America Pageant was broadcast live for the very first time. That broadcast broke viewership records of the day with 39 percent of the television audience (27 million viewers) viewing the Miss America telecast.
- The Miss America Pageant is the fourth longest-running, live event in television history. It has been broadcast live at one time or another by all three of the country's major television networks.

- more -



Miss America Organization Key Facts and Figures

Page 6

- When the Pageant was expanded from 90 minutes to two hours in 1958, nearly two-thirds of all American television sets tuned in to the show.
- In 1966, the Miss America Pageant shifted to its current television network home, NBC, and was first telecast in color.
- The 1995 telecast will air for three hours, the longest in the telecast's history, enabling the Organization to highlight its 75-year history.

Community Service

- In the 1940s, the Organization's Executive Director, Lenora Slaughter, enlisted the support of the national Jaycee Organization to assist with state and local competitions, giving them a decidedly community-service oriented focus.
- In 1989, the personal platform concept was introduced as part of the competition, with each state titleholder choosing an issue of importance to herself and to society. Through in-depth interviewing during the national competition, each contestant is evaluated on her commitment to her chosen issue.
- During 1994 alone, state and local contestants collectively participated in 5,733 community service projects, dedicating a total of 226,000 hours and raising more than \$14.6 million.
- In 1995, the Miss America Organization adopted an institutional platform of community service for contestants, titleholders, volunteers and Miss America herself. Along with the formal adoption of the institutional platform comes a partnership with the Federal government's Corporation for National Service, allowing both organizations to collaborate on national and community service initiatives.



Miss America Organization Key Facts and Figures

Page 7

Key Executive Staff

- Leonard C. Horn
President and Chief Executive Officer
- Jayne Bray
Chairman of the Board
- Karen E. Aarons
Executive Vice President
- Bill Caligari
National Production Manager/Director of Field Operations
- Mary McGinnis
Director of Corporate & Community Relations
- Tom O'Rourke
National Field Director

###



Contact: Mary McGinnis
(609) 345-7571
Miss America Organization
OR
John Healy/Ellen Butler
(312) 527-0355
Prescott Healy Company

FOR BACKGROUND INFORMATION

IMPORTANT DATES IN MISS AMERICA HISTORY

- 1921 First Miss America Pageant is held.
- 1935 At the insistence of Executive Director Lenora Slaughter, talent competition is added.
- 1940 The competition moves to the Convention Center, Atlantic City, which continues as its "home" today.
- 1943 First college student, Jean Bartel of UCLA, is crowned.
- 1945 First scholarship grant (\$5,000) is awarded to Bess Myerson, the first Jewish woman to serve as Miss America.
- 1947 Barbara Walker is the last Miss America to be crowned in a swimsuit.
- 1950's The Miss America Scholarship Program reaches over \$250,000.
- 1954 First nationally-televised Miss America Pageant kicks off the fourth longest-running live event in the history of television.
- 1955 Bert Parks begins his 25-year tenure as Master of Ceremonies, inaugurating the coronation song "There She Is, Miss America."
- 1966 The telecast's move to NBC also marks the Pageant's first broadcast in color.
- 1970 Cheryl Brown, Miss Iowa, is the first African-American woman to compete in the national Pageant.

- more -



Important Dates

Page 2

- 1984** Vanessa Williams becomes the first African-American Miss America.
- 1989** Focus on achievement comes of age, as the platform program is introduced.
- 1994** Heather Whitestone, who is profoundly deaf, is the first woman with a disability to be crowned.
- 1995** By the 75th Anniversary of the Miss America Pageant and 50th Anniversary of the Miss America Scholarship Fund, more than \$100 million in educational grants have been awarded, making the Organization the world's largest provider of scholarships exclusively for women in the world.

###



What is the Miss America Organization Today?

When most people take another look, they find that we're simply not what they grew up with anymore. For many people, their image is based on years of watching our national telecast from their living rooms in the 1950s and 1960s.

While we've maintained most of the same values through our long and celebrated history, today we are an organization that honors contemporary young women -- intelligent, sophisticated and goal-oriented, yet wholesome, genuine and truly compassionate. Few programs can boast such qualities.

Since 1945, we have provided more than \$100 million in scholarships to women, making us the largest provider of scholarships exclusively for women in the world.

We also maintain one of the strongest grassroots networks in this country. Some 300,000 volunteers, from the smallest towns to the largest cities, mobilize their resources every year on our behalf because they truly believe in the benefits afforded America's young women through this program.

And through our platform program, our contestants, state title holders and Miss America herself are breathing new life into social issues in new and innovative ways.

I encourage you to take another look at the Miss America Organization. I think you'll find the changes we're making are in step with society today and focused on providing young women throughout this country with a venue that enables them to achieve their goals.

Sincerely yours,

Leonard C. Horn
Chief Executive Officer

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 24, 1995

Mr. Leonard Horn
Chief Executive Officer
The Miss America Organization
Post Office Box 119
Atlantic City, New Jersey 08404

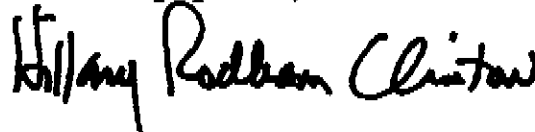
Dear Mr. Horn:

On the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the Miss America Pageant, I congratulate the Miss America Organization for its legacy of inspiring women to develop their skills and talents so that they may achieve their goals and dreams.

I commend you for marking your 75th year by extending your volunteer tradition and making service to our communities the official platform of the Miss America Organization. As a strong partner of AmeriCorps, you will encourage service and expand opportunities for citizens to join in rebuilding communities throughout our nation.

I extend a special thanks to the former winners of the Miss America title who are present to inaugurate this special year. Each of you continues to represent our country with grace, intelligence and dignity.

Sincerely yours,



Hillary Rodham Clinton



Contact: Mary McGinnis
(609) 345-7571
Miss America Organization
OR
John Healy/Ellen Butler
(312) 527-0355
Prescott Healy Company

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**MISS AMERICA ORGANIZATION KICKS OFF
75th ANNIVERSARY YEAR**

**Former Miss Americas and CEO Reflect on
Organization's Previous Contributions and Future Plans**

NEW YORK, NY -- With the help of seven former Miss Americas, The Miss America Organization's chief executive officer launched the group's 75th Anniversary year by stating that the Organization's history "mirrors American attitudes about women and societal values." The event was held in January, in conjunction with the annual meeting of Miss America state and local volunteers, which drew a record attendance of more than 300 this year.

"Our history is rich in tradition and social significance, symbolized by the Miss America crown, which has changed thousands of lives," said Leonard C. Horn, CEO of the Organization since 1987. "Not only the lives of those women who have aspired to attain it and those who have worn it, but countless others who have benefitted from the work of our country's Miss Americas, our contestants at all levels and our volunteers throughout the country."

In a decade-by-decade retrospective of the Organization's past, seven former Miss Americas reflected on the eras in which they served, as well as how the crown affected their lives and others. The women included Marian Bergeron (1933), the oldest active Miss America; Jean Bartel (1943), the first college woman to wear the crown;

- more -



actress Lee Meriwether (1955), the first Miss America crowned on television; Jacquelyn Mayer (1963), who after a stroke at age 29 became a national spokesperson for the American Stroke and American Heart Associations; media personality and entrepreneur Phyllis George (1971); Kaye Lani Rae Rafko (1988), a registered nurse whose year of service inspired the personal platform concept; and this year's Miss America, Heather Whitestone, who is the first woman with a disability to wear the crown.

In speaking about the Organization's future, Horn said, "We will focus our efforts on looking outward, rather than inward, and we will seek to leverage our resources beyond the contestants who compete in our program." In this regard, he made a number of announcements, including the launch of an institutional platform that will focus on community service and the first program of the Miss America Foundation.

Horn also announced that this year's national telecast, scheduled to air on September 16, 1995 on NBC, will be three hours long, a first in the telecast's history. "Whether they're fans of Miss America or not, the American public will enjoy the many surprises we have in store for this year's show," he said. "Like everything else we're doing, our annual telecast will continue to combine the legacy of the Miss America program with the relevance and dynamism of our times."

Following the 75th Anniversary event's formal remarks, Heather Whitestone and the former Miss Americas in attendance posed for photographers with a unique commemorative cake created by Cheryl Kleiman Cakes, of Brooklyn, NY.

The Miss America Organization, a not-for-profit corporation based in Atlantic City, New Jersey, is committed to providing young American women with the



opportunity to enhance their personal and professional development through scholarship programs and achievement-oriented opportunities. The program, which is the single largest provider of scholarships to women in the world, enlists the participation of thousands of the country's highest women achievers, as well as more than 300,000 volunteers.

###



Contact: Mary McGinnis
(609) 345-7571
Miss America Organization

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TELEVISION AND MISS AMERICA: OVER FORTY-YEARS OF HISTORY

A true American institution, the Miss America competition has been broadcast live at one time or another by all three of the country's major television networks and remains one of the highest rated annual events on national television today. In 1954 ABC first televised the Miss America Pageant, capturing the crowning of Lee Meriwether and 39 percent of the television audience. The telecast moved to CBS in 1957 and by 1958 was expanded from 90 minutes to two hours. The ensuing boost in viewership found *nearly two-thirds of all American television sets tuned into the show.*

Pageant triumphs over football . . . In 1966 the Miss America Pageant shifted to its current television network home, NBC, and was first telecast in color. To counter this change, CBS scheduled an opening game of the National Football League directly opposite the Pageant program. *The final ratings demonstrated that Miss America scored a three to one victory over the game.*

For the first time this year . . . NBC continues as an integral partner with Miss America in bringing the competition to the American public for more than two consecutive decades. **For the first time ever, in celebration of the 75th Anniversary of Miss America, the telecast will begin at 9:00 P.M. EDT and conclude at Midnight EDT.** The show promises to have universal appeal.

"No matter which Miss America touched your life, no matter what age you were when you were glued to the tube watching a crowning, the show will be sure to reflect on that nostalgic moment," said Leonard Horn, MAO Chief Executive Officer.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Mary McGinnis
(609) 345-7571
Miss America Organization
OR
John Healy/Ellen Butler
312) 527-0355
Prescott Healy Company

**MISS AMERICA ORGANIZATION LAUNCHES
FIRST MISS AMERICA FOUNDATION PROGRAM TO SUPPORT
WOMEN'S EDUCATION AND ACHIEVEMENT**

**Newly-Formed Foundation Undertakes First Program
With The Better Homes Fund**

NEW YORK, NY -- The Miss America Organization has announced the first program of its newly-formed Miss America Foundation, created to aid American women who otherwise would never benefit from the Miss America Organization's resources.

"The Foundation's goal is to extend the benefits of the Miss America program beyond our contestants, using our name to bring attention to projects undertaken with other worthy service organizations," said Leonard Horn, chief executive officer of the Miss America Organization.

"Consistent with this mission, the Foundation will provide additional resources for existing social programs that benefit women and girls. We will also work in partnership with other organizations to create brand new programs, enabling women of all ages to complete their education and achieve their goals," he said.

The Foundation will conduct its first such effort to launch a new program with

- more -



Miss America Organization Announces Launch of Miss America Foundation / Page 3

participation of thousands of the country's highest women achievers, as well as more than 300,000 volunteers.

The Better Homes Fund, founded in 1988, is the nation's only non-profit organization dedicated solely to helping homeless families. The Fund is directed by technical experts in areas related to poverty and homelessness, while functioning as part of the nationwide network that serves this population. They have extensive experience in program design, evaluation, implementation and replication.

###



Contact: Mary McGinnis
(609) 345-7571
Miss America Organization
OR
John Healy/Ellen Butler
(312) 527-0355
Prescott Healy Company
OR
Wendy Grassy
(202) 606-5000
Corporation for National Service

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**MISS AMERICA ORGANIZATION ADOPTS NEW
COMMUNITY SERVICE PLATFORM**

MAO Joins Forces with Corporation for National Service

NEW YORK, NY-- Leonard Horn, CEO, Miss America Organization (MAO), and Eli Segal, Assistant to the President for National Service and CEO, Corporation for National Service (CNS), have announced the formation of a partnership between the two groups to collaborate on national and community service initiatives. The partnership comes as part of MAO's formal adoption of a new institutional platform of community service for its contestants, titleholders and Miss America herself.

MAO's institutional platform is an extension of the personal platform concept initiated by the Organization in 1989, which enables Miss America and state titleholders to formally speak out on issues of importance to themselves and society at large. Today, the Miss America national competition and all state and local competitions have been modified to incorporate this issue-oriented focus.

"It's clear that the personal platform concept has been embraced by the American people, yet our original vision of the platform program was incomplete until today,"

- more -



Miss America Organization Adopts New Community Service Platform Page 2

said Horn. "Beginning this year, in partnership with the CNS, not only will each Miss America and state titleholder select an issue to champion, but the Organization will champion community service as our institutional platform."

The Corporation for National Service was created as the Federal government's new initiative to mobilize the American people and actively involve them in the most urgent issues facing communities across the nation. CNS programs include AmeriCorps, which offers students educational awards in exchange for a year of community service, Learn & Serve America, and the National Senior Service Corps.

The partnership between MAO and CNS involves the execution of national and community service initiatives both on a national and state level. Programs will be rolled out in stages by state-level "networks" comprised of the state organizations and CNS state-level offices. MAO and CNS expect the participation of at least one-third of state networks this inaugural year.

Also this year, each Miss America state titleholder will aid in the promotion of community service by becoming involved in CNS programs in her state. In addition, the state-level network will collaborate on a local community service project during the week each state competition is held.

On the national level, the Miss America Organization, represented by Miss America, will help promote the national service programs of CNS. In 1995, MAO will



play a prominent role during National Volunteer Week, April 24 - 28, as well as the National Day of Service on April 25. Miss America and state titleholders are expected to participate in various events, bringing added visibility and awareness to the activities.

"We congratulate the Miss America Organization on the adoption of an institutional platform of community service," said Segal. "We're pleased to initiate a collaborative venture centered on direct service activities that re-invigorate communities, reward civic responsibility and expand educational opportunities."

The announcement of the Miss America Organization's institutional platform and partnership with the Corporation for National Service came in conjunction with the kick-off of the Organization's 75th Anniversary held in New York City in January.

The Miss America Organization, a not-for-profit corporation based in Atlantic City, New Jersey, is committed to providing young American women with the opportunity to enhance their personal and professional development through scholarship programs and achievement-oriented opportunities. The program, which is the single largest provider of scholarships to women in the world, enlists the participation of thousands of the country's highest women achievers, as well as more than 300,000 volunteers.

#



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OR
Kim Grabowski
(212) 664-5575
NBC

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MISS AMERICA ENTERS CYBERSPACE

Miss America Organization Teams Up with NBC On Information Technology Projects in 1995 and Beyond

NEW YORK, NY -- In conjunction with its 75th Anniversary, the Miss America Organization (MAO) has announced it will implement a series of initiatives involving interactive and on-line technology. These projects will make information about Miss America, State Representatives and Organization activities more accessible to the American public in the future.

As its first step into cyberspace, MAO conducted a 75th Anniversary Kick-off On-line Marathon in collaboration with NBC, January 25 - 27. Miss America Heather Whitestone, a number of former Miss Americas and CEO Leonard Horn were available through America On-line to answer questions and provide information to the American public.



"Our 75th Anniversary On-line Marathon was the first step in our great leap forward into information technology and interactive media," said Leonard Horn. "We plan to work with NBC and other technology-driven organizations to explore other ways to make information about our Organization more accessible to the American people in the future."

MAO is currently working with NBC on a number of other on-line initiatives, such as making each Miss America available several times a year in on-line chat rooms; bringing detailed information about Pageant contestants directly to the public for on-line retrieval, including bios and photos; conducting question-and-answer sessions between on-line subscribers and contestants during the week preceding the national competition in Atlantic City in September; and scheduling on-line sessions with Pageant officials, such as its CEO, the telecast producer and outgoing Miss Americas.

The Miss America Organization, based in Atlantic City, New Jersey, has striven to keep pace with technology since its first telecast of the Pageant in 1954. It since has become the fourth longest-running live event in the history of television. Although the Pageant has been televised by all three networks in its history, NBC has distinguished itself as the Organization's telecast partner for almost 30 years. Formalized by the announcement today, the network also has become MAO's partner in information technology.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:

Bob Snodgrass
(800) 598-5550

**Miss America Organization Announces Commemorative Book
To Celebrate its 75th Anniversary**

ATLANTIC CITY, NJ -- The Miss America Organization introduces *Miss America: The Dream Lives On*, the official book celebrating Miss America's 75th year, to be published May 1, 1995 by Taylor Publishing's Fine Book Commemorative Press.

With more than 250 pages and hundreds of color photos, the book spotlights the exciting growth the Miss America Program has undergone over the past 75 years to become the premiere tradition it is today.

"For millions of Americans, Miss America is a positive role model," says Leonard Horn, CEO of the Miss America Organization. "Miss America has survived the administrations of 14 Presidents, three major wars, the assassination of a President, the rebirth of the women's movement, and a myriad of social and cultural changes, and through it all has remained an American tradition. And to her credit, despite criticism, Miss America continues to evolve, reflecting the gains women have made over the years in education, talent, careers, and politics."

"And let's face it," he adds, "it's no secret that the Miss America Pageant is among the highest-rated live television programs every year."

- more -



From the roaring Twenties to the politically correct Nineties, the book will trace how the Miss America competition began, who puts it together, how thousands of young women aspire for the title each year (and how one rises to the top). It will highlight what makes it unique, and ultimately, why the program endured. It will also contain profiles on past winners and where they are today, a photo essay from the first local and state competitions to the moment the new Miss America is crowned, a daily record of the life of the 50 finalists during the competition in Atlantic City and statistics and trivia.

Written by Angela Osborne, writer, director and coordinating producer for television's Miss America Pageant from 1972 to 1992, *Miss America: The Dream Lives On*, will be published in three editions: the Diamond, Limited and General.

At \$225.00, the Diamond edition features a leather cover with the Organization's 75th Anniversary seal, a fly sheet with authentic signatures of past Miss Americas, and a wooden stand to display the book. The Limited Edition, at \$75.00, also features the leather cover decorated with the Organization's seal and the personal autograph of a Miss America. The General Edition, \$39.95, includes an attractive dust cover over a simulated leather binding.

###



May 1, 1995

Ms. Mary McGinnis
The Miss America Pageant
P.O. Box 119
Atlantic City, NJ 08404

Dear Ms. McGinnis:

As the director of the Convention & Visitor Bureau of the Denton Chamber of Commerce, I am interested in getting a new Miss America packet listing all of the latest information. My last communication with your office was in 1985 and many women have since held the crown.

I also want to know how to request an appearance of Miss America. Could Denton be placed on her tour schedule? Shirley Cothran Barrett lives in Denton and Phyllis George travels here often to visit her parents. It would be such a treat to have the reigning Miss America come to our city which has produced two Miss Americas. I understand that her schedule is probably complete for this year. Perhaps Denton could be added to the next year's schedule.

I look forward to your response.

Jo Ann Ballantine
Director



THE

Miss America

PAGEANT

1325 BOARDWALK / TENNESSEE AVE. AND BOARDWALK / ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. 08401 / (609) 345-7571

August 1, 1985

Miss Elizabeth Taylor
Denton Convention & Visitors Bureau
Chamber of Commerce
414 Parkway - P. O. Drawer P
Denton, Texas 76202

Dear Miss Taylor:

We are in receipt of your recent letter and indeed we are well aware of the Denton Chamber of Commerce and the two lovely Miss Americas who hail from your fine City.

It is our pleasure to enclose a kit of material which I hope will provide you with the information you are seeking. Please note the new scholarship awards which will be available here in September this year.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely,

Ruth McCandliss
Ruth McCandliss
Executive Secretary

RM:cn
Enc.

MISS AMERICA TITLEHOLDERS

1945 - ~~1988~~ 1990

<u>Miss America 1945 - Bess Myerson:</u> Hunter College - Columbia University	\$ 5,000.00
<u>Miss America 1946 - Marilyn Buford:</u> University of Berlitz, Rome, Italy	5,000.00
<u>Miss America 1947 - Barbara Jo Walker:</u> Memphis State College	5,000.00
<u>Miss America 1948 - BeBe Shopp:</u> Manhattan School of Music	5,000.00
<u>Miss America 1949 - Jacque Mercer:</u> University of Arizona	5,000.00
<u>Miss America 1951 - Yolande Betheze:</u> Voice lessons in New York (1st post dated Miss America)	8,000.00
<u>Miss America 1952 - Colleen Kay Hutchins:</u> University of Utah	9,000.00
<u>Miss America 1953 - Neva Jane Langley:</u> Wesleyan Conservatory of Music	7,000.00
<u>Miss America 1954 - Evelyn Ay:</u> University of Pennsylvania	7,500.00
<u>Miss America 1955 - Lee Ann Meriwether:</u> San Francisco Junior College	10,000.00
<u>Miss America 1956 - Sharon Kay Ritchie:</u> Colorado Women's College	12,500.00
<u>Miss America 1957 - Marian McKnight:</u> University of California at Los Angeles	11,250.00
<u>Miss America 1958 - Marilyn Van Derbur:</u> University of Colorado	10,000.00
<u>Miss America 1959 - Mary Ann Mobley:</u> University of Mississippi	10,000.00
<u>Miss America 1960 - Lynda Lee Mead:</u> University of Mississippi	10,000.00
<u>Miss America 1961 - Nancy Ann Fleming:</u> Michigan State University & University of California	10,000.00
<u>Miss America 1962 - Maria Beale Fletcher:</u> Vanderbilt University	10,000.00

<u>Miss America 1963 - Jacquelyn (Jackie) Mayer:</u> Northwestern University & University of Pittsburgh	\$10,000.00
<u>Miss America 1964 - Donna Axum:</u> University of Arkansas	10,000.00
<u>Miss America 1965 - Vanda Kay Van Dyke:</u> University of Arizona (Scholarship includes \$1,000 "Miss Congeniality" Award)	11,000.00
<u>Miss America 1966 - Deborah Irene Bryant:</u> University of Kansas	10,000.00
<u>Miss America 1967 - Jane Jayroe:</u> Oklahoma City University	10,000.00
<u>Miss America 1968 - Debra Barnes:</u> Kansas State College of Pittsburg	10,000.00
<u>Miss America 1969 - Judith (Judi) Ford:</u> University of Illinois	10,000.00
<u>Miss America 1970 - Pamela (Pam) Eldred:</u> Mercy College of Detroit	10,000.00
<u>Miss America 1971 - Phyllis George:</u> Texas Christian University	10,000.00
<u>Miss America 1972 - Laurie Lea Schaefer:</u> Ohio University 1971 Graduate	10,000.00
<u>Miss America 1973 - Terry Meeuwssen:</u> St. Norbert College & Fox Valley Technical Institute	10,000.00
<u>Miss America 1974 - Rebecca (Becky) King:</u> Colorado Women's College 1972 Graduate University of Denver 1976 Law Degree (Neat As A Pin Award - Tied)	15,250.00
<u>Miss America 1975 - Shirley Cothran:</u> North Texas State University Graduate Texas Women's University - Doctor of Philosophy	15,000.00
<u>Miss America 1976 - Tawny Godin:</u> Skidmore College	15,000.00
<u>Miss America 1977 - Dorothy Benham:</u> Macalester College	15,000.00
<u>Miss America 1978 - Susan Perkins:</u> Miami University Graduate	20,000.00
<u>Miss America 1979 - Kylene Barker:</u> Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University Grad.	20,000.00

<u>Miss America 1980 - Cheryl Prewitt:</u> Mississippi State University Graduate Preliminary Swimsuit Scholarship Award (\$1,500)	\$21,500.00
<u>Miss America 1981 - Susan Powell:</u> Oklahoma City University Preliminary Talent Award (tied) (\$2,500)	22,500.00
<u>Miss America 1982 - Elizabeth Ward:</u> University of Arkansas & Arkansas Tech University Preliminary Swimsuit Scholarship Award (\$1,500)	21,500.00
<u>Miss America 1983 - Debra Sue Maffett:</u> Lamar University 1980 Graduate Preliminary Talent Award (\$2,500) Preliminary Swimsuit Scholarship Award (\$1,500)	24,000.00
<u>Miss America 1984 - Vanessa Williams:</u> September 17, 1983 - July 23, 1984 Syracuse University Preliminary Talent Award (\$2,500) Preliminary Swimsuit Scholarship Award (\$1,500)	29,000.00
<u>Miss America 1984 - Suzette Charles:</u> July 23, 1984 - September 15, 1984 Temple University Preliminary Talent Award (\$2,500)	27,500.00
<u>Miss America 1985 - Sharlene Wells:</u> Brigham Young University Preliminary Swimsuit Scholarship Award (\$2,000)	27,000.00
<u>Miss America 1986 - Susan Akin:</u> University of Mississippi Preliminary Swimsuit Scholarship Award (2,500)	32,500.00
<u>Miss America 1987 - Kellve Cash:</u> Memphis State University Preliminary Talent Award (\$3,500) Preliminary Swimsuit Scholarship Award (tied) (\$2,500)	36,000.00
<u>Miss America 1988 - Kaye Lani Rae Rafko:</u> St. Vincent Medical Center 1985 Graduate Preliminary Swimsuit Scholarship Award (2,500)	32,500.00
<u>Miss America 1989 - Gretchen Elizabeth Carlson:</u> Stanford University/Oxford University Preliminary Talent Award (3,500)	33,500.00
<u>Miss America 1990 - Debbye Turner:</u> University of Missouri-Columbia Swimsuit Preliminary Winner (500.00) Sheer Indulgence Confidence Award (7,500)	43,000.00

THE *Miss America*
PAGEANT



Gary Collins
Host

Sherlene Wells
Miss America 1985

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J.

SEPT. 10-14, 1985



**THE 1985
MISS AMERICA PAGEANT
SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION**

Funded by

**The Gillette Company, Personal Care Division
American Greetings Corporation
Pillsbury Company
Sears, Roebuck and Co.
Tupperware Home Parties**

Miss America	\$30,000.00
First Runner-Up	17,000.00
Second Runner-Up	11,000.00
Third Runner-Up	8,000.00
Fourth Runner-Up	6,000.00
Semi-Finalist	4,000.00
Semi-Finalist	4,000.00
Semi-Finalist	4,000.00
Semi-Finalist	4,000.00
Semi-Finalist	4,000.00
All Talent Preliminary Winners	Each 3,500.00
All Swimsuit Preliminary Winners	Each 2,500.00
Eight Non-Finalist Scholarships for Most Talented Contestants	Each 3,000.00
All other National Contestants Not Listed Above	Each 2,000.00

At the Local, State and National Miss America Pageants over \$4,000,000.00 in scholarships is awarded annually.



The Miss America PAGEANT

If our country is to grow from the standpoint of improving all facets of life, it would certainly seem that such growth has to be brought about by a continuing long-range program of concerned adults. The adults of tomorrow are the young people of today, and to properly equip young people to face the problems they must solve, education is of paramount importance. Certainly then a scholarship foundation in excess of \$4,000,000 annually at the Local, State and National Pageants materially aids in furthering the education of thousands of young women in this country to help them become valued and concerned citizens of tomorrow.

While we have unfortunately not kept documented records, we can truthfully tell you that many, many girls who receive Pageant scholarships at the Local, State and National levels, would be unable to afford a college education without this help. This also holds true for many contestants who never reach the National Finals. But with even a small scholarship to start the ball rolling on their entrance into college (or to help them continue college) somehow these girls find a way to complete that education which is so important to their future.

Furthermore, even those contestants at the Local and State Pageants who do not receive scholarships derive great benefits from participating from the standpoint of character development. Winning a title is not of paramount importance. Development of character is. To quote a former Miss

America, "Everyone wins — if only in experience and fun." And, it is our belief that the right kind of experience and the right kind of fun are always far more important than dollars and cents.

Aside from the value to the youth of the country that the Pageant program obviously has, this is and should be a fun project for all the civic leaders who work on the Pageant. There certainly isn't anything wrong with enjoying life. In fact, I personally think a country is in real trouble when its sense of humor and its desire to have a good time, while benefiting others, is gone. We should enjoy life and we should retain our sense of humor.

There is no project, that we can think of, that brings such a feeling of satisfaction and yet carries with it a maximum amount of sheer enjoyment. And, no matter how old a Committee member may be, he learns and grows himself from working on a Pageant. It is a perfect outlet for his creative ability in perhaps an otherwise prosaic existence. It also provides a perfect setting for young women to take a spot in the limelight and taste the joy of success or grow in the gracious manners of good sportsmanship.

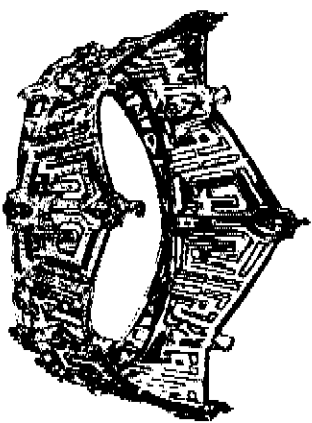
When man ceases to love that which is beautiful and good — when man ceases to dream and bring that dream to a thing of beauty — then man will cease entirely. The Pageant is built from dreams and is a thing of beauty — what each individual can create for himself, his community and the young people of that community.

To sum it up then, is it relevant to:

1. Be a part of a scholarship program of over \$4,000,000.00 annually.
2. Help create, through education, the leaders of tomorrow.
3. Help develop character and good sportsmanship in young people.
4. Enjoy an outlet for your own creative talents.
5. Bring a smile and some pure joy into your community life.
6. Dream a thing of beauty and bring that dream to reality.

If these things aren't relevant to today's life — what is?

Ruth McCandless
Executive Secretary
Miss America Pageant



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1984
Miss America
PAGEANT
SCHOLARSHIP
FOUNDATION
 ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY

Funded by

**THE GILLETTE COMPANY,
 PERSONAL CARE DIVISION
 PILLSBURY COMPANY
 BEATRICE FOODS COMPANY, INC.**

Miss America	\$25,000.00
First Runner-Up	15,000.00
Second Runner-Up	10,000.00
Third Runner-Up	7,000.00
Fourth Runner-Up	5,000.00
Semi-Finalist	3,500.00
Semi-Finalist	3,500.00
Semi-Finalist	3,500.00
Semi-Finalist	3,500.00
Semi-Finalist	3,500.00

All Talent Preliminary
 Winners Each 3,000.00

All Swimsuit Preliminary
 Winners Each 2,000.00

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 Talented Contestants Each 2,500.00

All other National Contestants
 Not Listed Above Each 1,500.00

At the Local, State and National
 Miss America Pageants over \$4,000,000.00 in
 scholarships is awarded annually.

PAGEANT
Miss America



**IS THE
 PAGEANT
 RELEVANT**
 To The
 Contestants
 ... To The
 Committees?

Six Miss Americas give their opinion as to why a young woman should participate in an official Miss America Local Pageant.



Sharlene Wells
Miss America 1985

"I have often thought about how others view the Miss America Pageant — some see an opportunity, others see only a competition. This program should never be considered a competition in the sense that one must win a "title" per se, at all costs. Quite the contrary, the competition should be only within oneself — always striving to break your own "personal record" and using the Pageant situation to evaluate the direction you want your life to take as well as the options for meeting those goals. That, to me, is the essence of the Miss America Scholarship Program.

I discovered this after my first Local Pageant and it was with this attitude that I continued on. Certainly I was rewarded for my efforts with scholarships and opportunities to further education and career. But more importantly, I was rewarded with a new awareness of those around me as well as the chance to share my talents with my community, my State and eventually, my nation.

Yes this is a scholarship program not only because of the monetary benefits that come with doing well, but also because this experience can, with the proper attitude and approach, be a foundation for a continual learning process about yourself, those in the world around you and your role in that important, but too often neglected, interaction between the two."



"I gained experience, confidence and scholarships"

Debra Maffett, Miss America 1983, stated "I realized that the experience, confidence and scholarships gained could be used as a means to many ends whether I won the crown or not. I could not possibly walk away from this program a loser when I gained friendship, knowledge about myself, a positive outlook, experience in goal setting, the understanding of how to

compete with myself and not others, the opportunity to develop my talent to its fullest potential and the realization that through striving to be my best ... I had become a winner!"

"I opened doors to my own future."



According to Susan Powell, Miss America 1981, "being Miss America gave me the chance to share my love for life with others. It reinforced my philosophy that positive thinking is the most satisfying way to go when following a dream.

As individuals we have the power to change or alter our present and our future. Through the strength I found in my positive outlook I opened doors to my own future and will always continue to have the confidence it takes to reach my goals in life."

"No one walks away a loser"

Dorothy Benham, Miss America 1977, feels strongly that while there can only be one who will win the title at each local, state and finally national Pageant level, no one walks away a loser. The participants have represented their communities and states the best they can and in doing so have grown as individuals in self-awareness and confidence, gained a tremendous amount of experience in the field of competition and made friendships that will last a lifetime.



ty evident that the Pageant is out to help young women, as it certainly has helped me."

"It was like getting a Ph.D. in human relations"



Phyllis George, Miss America 1971, had this to say about the Miss America Pageant: "It provided me with the opportunity and money to go to New York and study diction and acting. The year I spent as Miss America was like getting a Ph.D. in human relations. It taught me a lot about people, about adjusting, about growing up. I wouldn't have missed it for anything."

On October 17, 1984, Jeanne Caruso, Miss Connecticut 1980, wrote to the Miss America Pageant regarding her scholarship. Jeanne has given us permission to share with you excerpts from her letter:

"I can't tell you enough what a wonderful time my sister, my family and I had at the Pageant this year. I actually think it's worse having to watch! (Jeanne's sister Joanne participated in the Pageant).
"I'm studying Theater and Law at Yale University. I began last Spring... I feel very lucky to have been a part of the Miss America Pageant. It's given me so much confidence in myself and my work — it has introduced me to a world of so many wonderful people — and most important, it has given me the opportunity to pursue my educational goals at a school I would not have been able to afford without the scholarship assistance.
"Thank you again for giving my sister, my family and me a very special experience."



OVER \$4,000,000.00 ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

The Miss America Pageant ... at the Local, State and National levels ... represents the largest private Scholarship Foundation for women. In 1984 scholarships totaling over \$4,000,000 were awarded the contestants at the Local, State and National Pageants.

The scholarships awarded at the National Finals are listed on the back of this brochure.

A NON-PROFIT CIVIC PROGRAM

The Miss America Pageant is a non-profit civic corporation, conducted since 1921 during the month of September in Atlantic City, N.J. The Pageant program ... at the Local, State and National levels ... is well organized, thoughtfully executed and beautifully produced by thousands of men and women who work without remuneration and give willingly of their time, talents, enthusiasm and efforts to make it all possible.

Known as the "Pageant family" its members are civic leaders whose positions and business endeavors encompass all fields of activity. They are citizens who value good community projects and who perhaps above all, believe in the youth of America. They understand the importance of affording young women a "showcase" to display their talents — to voice their opinions and their ambitions — and to gather together and share a mutual experience which will increase their poise and their self-confidence.

They are civic leaders, however, who would not become involved in presenting young women in "just a Pageant" without the knowledge that this Pageant leads to outstanding educational rewards in the form of SCHOLARSHIPS.

OFFICIALLY FRANCHISED LOCAL AND STATE PAGEANTS

The Miss America Pageant grants a State franchise, gratis, to one responsible organization in each State to conduct the State Finals in accordance with all Pageant rules and regulations and to send to the National Finals at Atlantic City the young woman selected by their Panel of Judges as the State winner.

In accepting the responsibility of conducting the State Finals, the State Pageant organization agrees it will, in turn, enfranchise responsible organizations within its State to conduct Official Local Pageants. The young women selected by the Local Pageants are then given the opportunity to compete at the State Finals.

BASIC REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTERING

To enter an Official Miss America Preliminary Pageant, you must meet certain basic requirements and agree to abide by all the rules of the Local, State and National Miss America Pageants now in effect or as announced hereafter.

A complete list of all eligibility requirements regarding residence, etc. is available from your Local or State Pageant. Highlights that might interest you at this

point include — an entrant must be a female between the ages of 17 and 26 on Labor Day, a high school graduate, single and never have been married, of good moral character, and a citizen of the United States. Please contact your Local Pageant for a bonafide list of the exact requirements.

WARDROBE FOR PARTICIPATION

There is no entry fee charged a contestant entering a Local Pageant, but you are responsible for your own wardrobe.

You will need a long evening gown, which need not be expensive; a swimsuit; and a talent costume, if the talent you have prepared requires a costume.

PRESENTING YOUR TALENT

As one who has the basic requirements to become a Miss America contestant, you also possess the intelligence and determination to analyze what you want from life and how you can portray your ambitions to a receptive audience.

You will find a Pageant audience responds enthusiastically to those girls who have the ingenuity to dramatize, whether through comedy or original monologue, their hobbies, interests or chosen careers. Allow your imagination to take hold and you will be happily surprised.

Talent is actually believing in what you are doing, to the point that you sell that idea to your audience. You can do it!

MEETING THE JUDGES



Prior to her private interview with the Judges at the National Finals, Kylee Barker, Miss America 1979, was asked her feelings on this segment of competition: "I feel that the interview is an important part of the judging because you have 7 minutes to let the

Judges know exactly what you are like and if you try to put on an act they are going to see right through you. To prepare for the interview I kept up with current events by reading when I had time but I did not cram."

It's as simple as that. Just be yourself ... the interesting, intelligent, pleasant and natural person your friends know you to be.

THE LOCAL PAGEANT TITLE HOLDER

As the winner of a Local Pageant, you would con-

tinue to meet new and interesting people and your subsequent civic activities would add to your self-confidence and poise.

The Local Pageant organization takes care of the necessary expenses for competition at the State Pageant, where the competition is conducted in the same manner as the Local Pageant. The State Pageant Committee assumes the necessary expenses for the State Representative to participate in the National Finals, including competition wardrobe, round trip transportation to Atlantic City, hotel room and meals.

During the State and National Finals, all contestants are accompanied at all times by Official Hostesses.

MISS AMERICA'S YEAR

Miss America is accompanied during the entire year of her reign by one of the two Miss America Pageant travelling companions. Her year is an extremely busy and exciting one as she travels cross country many times on her public appearance tour.

Whether Miss America's appearance is on behalf of one of the national sponsors who provide the Miss America Pageant Scholarship Foundation, or on behalf of a civic or commercial organization, a television program, a convention meeting — Miss America receives a handsome fee for each appearance. Her transportation, hotel accommodations, meals and traveling expenses are also provided as she travels.

If you have read this far, you share a characteristic common to all Miss America contestants ... you are ambitious and have definite goals in your life. Whether you are a high school graduate, a college student, have your degree or are employed, you want something more and you are willing to "take a chance" to realize your ambitions.

Your first step is continued education — academic, special training or personal improvement — further education will help you realize your own particular goals, and your Local Pageant will help you realize your ambitions.

Ruth McCandless

Executive Secretary,
Miss America Pageant

If you do not know the proper contact for your Official Miss America Preliminary Pageant, write Ruth McCandless, Executive Secretary, Miss America Pageant, Atlantic City, N.J. 08401, for name and address of the State Pageant Director. If you are attending college out-of-state, be sure to give both your resident state and college state for full information.

1984

Miss America
PAGEANT

SCHOLARSHIP
FOUNDATION

ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY

Funded by

THE GILLETTE COMPANY,
PERSONAL CARE DIVISION

AMERICAN GREETINGS CORPORATION

PILLSBURY COMPANY

BEATRICE FOODS COMPANY, INC.

Miss America	\$25,000.00
First Runner-Up	15,000.00
Second Runner-Up	10,000.00
Third Runner-Up	7,000.00
Fourth Runner-Up	5,000.00
Semi-Finalist	3,500.00
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Semi-Finalist	3,500.00
Semi-Finalist	3,500.00
All Talent Preliminary Winners	Each 3,000.00
All Swimsuit Preliminary Winners	Each 2,000.00
Eight Non-Finalist Scholarships for Most Talented Contestants	Each 2,500.00
All other National Contestants Not Listed Above	Each 1,500.00
At the Local, State and National Miss America Pageants over \$4,000,000.00 in scholarships is awarded annually.	



Your First Step
to the Title of
Miss America ...
Your Local Pageant



Sharlene Wells, Miss America 1985

What Is "The Miss America Pageant"?

The Miss America Pageant, conducted annually during September in Atlantic City, does, not just happen.

The Pageant program — at the Local, State and National levels — is well organized, thoughtfully executed and beautifully produced by thousands of men and women who work without remuneration and give willingly of their time, talents, enthusiasm and efforts to make it all possible.

Known as the "Pageant family," its members are civic leaders from all fields of activities. They are teachers, clergymen, doctors, dentists, architects, brokers, realtors ... in fact, they are America at its busiest. They are also people who value good community projects and above all, people who believe in the youth of America. They understand the importance of affording young women a "showcase" to display their talents — to voice their opinions and their ambitions — and to share a mutual experience that will increase their poise and their self-confidence. They are people who would not become involved in presenting young women in "just a Pageant" without the knowledge that the Pageant leads to outstanding educational rewards in the form of scholarships at the Local, State and National levels.

Joining the Pageant Family through the Local Pageant:

To become a member of the Pageant family is to step out of the everyday world of business, problems, anxieties, finances and personality conflicts, and to step into a world not quite like any other, for

it is a bit of "show business" wrapped up in love for the project, its ideals, its goals and its youth. While the Pageant world carries with it the need for good business leadership, to belong to that "world" is still an experience found rewarding and refreshing to all so engaged.

National, State and Local Pageants all meet on the common ground of basic fundamental practices, and follow the same rules and regulations in conducting this worthwhile contribution to their communities and to the young women who participate. With basic requirements established and followed, the vision, creativity, talents and ambition of each branch of the Pageant family can soar their program to ever greater heights. Perhaps this more than anything is the reason the Pageant program is so well suited to civic and service club memberships over the nation.

What Must A Club Possess to Conduct a Local Pageant?

Every club has men and women well qualified to assume the responsible position as the General Chairman of a Local Pageant — some clubs select two of their members to head the program: one perhaps for his excellent business judgment and the other for his executive ability — that marvelous quality of getting the work done, under watchful guidance and supervision.

There is also need for approximately twelve club members willing to assume the responsibility of really working on the various phases of Pageant activity. One should be talented enough to serve as Producer of the actual stage presentation. He need



not be a professional showman, for the Pageant production is not a professional show. But he does need to be capable of producing the Pageant — with help and guidance from State and National Headquarters — in such a manner that the contestants will be starred with dignity and good taste in an entertaining production.

What Help Can Be Expected in Undertaking a Local Pageant Program?

The State and National Pageants are always ready and willing to lend their knowledge and experience in helping to solve any problems or answer any questions. In addition, National Headquarters offer a complete kit of Pageant material for every official Miss America Pageant Preliminary in the country.

The material and information in the kit is geared to the Local Pageant being conducted for the first time. It takes each Committee step by step through its particular activities. It contains "how to" information for organizing a successful Local Pageant on a firm foundation and then follows through the entire Pageant program from ...

Securing Contestants — judging procedures and proper balloting — the Sale of Tickets — Setting and keeping a realistic budget — Securing Scholarships and Awards — Securing fine Publicity and making use of advertising aids — preparing an interesting and salable Pageant Program Book which will add funds to the treasury — and Producing a Pageant which will be a credit to the entire club, to every member of the Pageant Committee, to the community as a whole, and to the young women of the community in particular.

Attractive and colorful promotional material is available, at nominal cost, to aid in publicity, advertising, and production needs. No Local Pageant, however, is required to purchase any material, for a basic principal of the Pageant program has always been ... you do not purchase that which can be made, borrowed or donated.

How Are Official Miss America Pageant Preliminaries Franchised?

The Miss America Pageant grants a State Franchise, without charge, to a responsible organization in each State to conduct the State Finals in accord-

ance with all Pageant rules and regulations and to send to the National Finals at Atlantic City the young woman selected by their Panel of Judges as the State winner.

In accepting the responsibility of conducting the State Finals, the State Pageant organization agrees it will enfranchise responsible organizations within its State to conduct Official Local Pageants in which eligible contestants have an opportunity to compete for the Local Pageant titles. The young women selected at the Local Pageants then have the opportunity to compete at the State Finals.

What Is The Background of the Miss America Pageant?

Back in 1921 the main reason for establishing the "Atlantic City Bathing Beauty Contest" was to extend the summer season and derive publicity for the resort. Newspapers sent "bathing beauties" to compete for the title of Miss America. It was a fun week for everyone, complete with Father Neptune, parades on the Boardwalk and the pretty girls were photographed and judged on beauty alone. The idea appealed to the nation until the depression, when the Bathing Beauty Contest was considered an extravagance that could no longer be afforded. It was discontinued in 1928 — revived again in 1933, but without success.

The business and civic leaders of Atlantic City felt the contest had merit and undertook to reestablish it in 1935. They began by changing the qualifications for contestants. In addition to beauty, contestants should possess poise, charm, personality and talent. The Showmen's Variety Jubilee was the



Margaret Gorman, Miss America 1921

new name selected for the competition and showmen across the nation were requested to stage Local and State contests to select contestants to compete for the title Miss America 1935.

With an interested and hard working Board of Directors, growing nationwide enthusiasm for the program, acceptance by parents over the country — more and more civic leaders began to realize the potentials of the competition and to take an active part on Committees to help build the event.

A major step forward was taken then in 1940 when the event was incorporated as a non-profit civic corporation of the State of New Jersey and its name was changed to "The Miss America Pageant."

At the end of World War II, young America had a new set of values. They were seeking higher education in their efforts to help create a finer world. It was obvious that educational scholarships were a fitting reward for the young women who sought the title "Miss America."



Debra Malfrett, Miss America 1983

As a non-profit civic corporation, the Miss America Pageant operated on a very limited budget. Therefore, they sought and secured scholarship funds from industrialists who believed in the youth of America, and thus the Miss America Pageant Scholarship Foundation was established in 1945, with a \$5,000 educational scholarship awarded Miss America. The Foundation grew in 1946 to \$25,000 and was shared by Miss America and 16 of the National Finalists.

Meantime the Local and State Pageants were changing perceptively, for the national program now appealed to civic and service clubs as a worthwhile project for their membership. It was

only natural that these civic leaders would wish to make scholarships available for their own contestants, and in 1947 the State and Local Pageants began establishing their Scholarship Foundations. They sought and received their scholarships from individuals, colleges, universities and industry.



Lee Meriwether, Miss America 1955

Great stature was added to the entire Pageant program. The young women of America and their parents approved this civic event, presented on the stages of local communities over the country, with educational scholarships as the ultimate reward. The entire Pageant family on the Local, State and National levels joined hands to prepare and present beautiful productions where the contestants would be the stars of the show. Pageant audiences appreciated and applauded the results achieved in this unique program which was organized and executed by their neighbors and starred their daughters.

Coast-to-coast television brought the National Finals into America's living rooms for the first time in 1954. The entire country then had a better appreciation and understanding of just what the Miss America Pageant represented for young American women.

And today, with over \$4,000,000 in scholarships awarded annually, with continuing nationwide publicity, through all news media including television — the Local, State and National Miss America Pageants are as one — a civic undertaking of national proportions — made possible through the members of the Pageant family who work together for the goal of a fine, dignified and beautiful way to encourage and foster young America in becoming the leaders of tomorrow.

1984

Miss America

PAGEANT

SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY

Funded by

**THE GILLETTE COMPANY,
PERSONAL CARE DIVISION**

AMERICAN GREETINGS CORPORATION

PILLSBURY COMPANY

BEATRICE FOODS COMPANY, INC.

Miss America	\$25,000.00
First Runner-Up	15,000.00
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Semi-Finalist	3,500.00
All Talent Preliminary	Each 3,000.00
Winners	Each 3,000.00
All Swimsuit Preliminary	Each 2,000.00
Winners	Each 2,000.00
Eight Non-Finalist Scholarships for Most Talented Contestants	Each 2,500.00
All other National Contestants	Each 1,500.00
Not Listed Above	Each 1,500.00

At the Local, State and National Miss America Pageants over \$4,000,000.00 in scholarships is awarded annually.

What Is The

Miss America

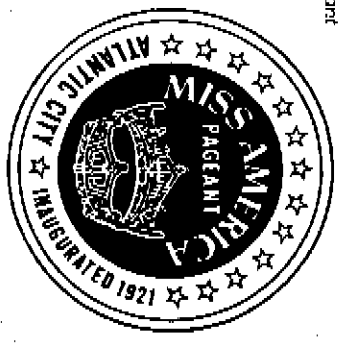
Pageant

Who Conducts The Pageant

When Did It Begin

What Does It Lead To

by Ruth McCauley
Executive Secretary and Director of Field Operations
Miss America Pageant



*Miss
America*

PAGEANT

SCHOLARSHIP
FOUNDATION

RULES AND
REGULATIONS



All bills and correspondence relative to the
Miss America Pageant Scholarship Foundation
should be directed to:

MRS. KAREN E. AARONS
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
MISS AMERICA PAGEANT

1325 BOARDWALK
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY 08401

THE
Miss America PAGEANT
SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

**RULES AND
REGULATIONS:**

- Scholarships shall be expended for tuition, room, board, supplies and other college expenses.
- Use of the scholarships must begin within one year from the date of the award unless a reasonable extension is requested and granted. Miss America must begin the use of her scholarship within two years from the date of the award unless a reasonable extension is requested and granted.
- Training under the scholarship should be continuous and completed within four years from the date the scholarship is activated. Otherwise the balance of the scholarship may be cancelled without further notice.
- Any cancelled or unused portions of scholarships will revert to the Miss America Pageant Scholarship Foundation, which is held in trust for future award.
- At the termination of their full year of reign, college graduates may present bona fide credentials that they have received their degree and the balance of their scholarship will be paid to them in cash.
- Scholarship monies are paid immediately upon receipt of statements from colleges, schools or private teachers as the bills become due.

**SCHOLARSHIPS
FUNDED BY:**

THE GILLETTE COMPANY,
PERSONAL CARE DIVISION
AMERICAN GREETINGS CORPORATION
PILLSBURY COMPANY
SEARS, ROEBUCK AND CO.
TUPPERWARE HOME PARTIES

Miss America	\$30,000.00
First Runner-Up	17,000.00
Second Runner-Up	11,000.00
Third Runner-Up	8,000.00
Fourth Runner-Up	6,000.00
Semi-Finalist	4,000.00
Semi-Finalist	4,000.00
Semi-Finalist	4,000.00
Semi-Finalist	4,000.00
Semi-Finalist	4,000.00

All Talent Preliminary
Winners Each 3,500.00

All Swimsuit Preliminary
Winners Each 2,500.00

Eight Non-Finalist Scholarships for Most
Talented Contestants Each 3,000.00

All other National Contestants
Not Listed Above Each 2,000.00

At the Local, State and National Miss America
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awarded annually.

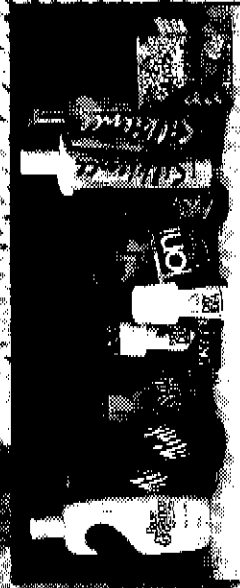
Winning is just the beginning.

To Sharlene Wells, winning the title of Miss America is just the beginning.

For she has greater goals to reach and many dreams yet to realize. And thanks to this great American tradition, she'll have the golden opportunity to achieve them.

Gillette is proud to be a sponsor of the Miss America Pageant, one of the largest single private sources of scholarship money for today's American women. And proud that so many women across America count on Gillette personal care products to help bring out their best.

We congratulate you, Sharlene Wells, on a great win and the beginning of even greater things to come.



The Gillette Company



© EVERETT RAYMOND KIMBLE

For every Miss America, there are 10,000 winners.



No dream is too big with the Miss America Scholarship Fund.

"I want to be a microbiologist," "The greatest actress of all time," "One day I'll be on the moon."

Little girls have big dreams. And so they should. But they don't have to stop thinking big once they get big. Not with the Miss America Scholarship Fund.

It's the single largest private source of scholarships for women in the U.S. Last year, over 2 and a

half million dollars on national, state and local levels. And that helps make it possible for young women everywhere to have a

chance to become anything they want.

That's why we at American Greetings are so proud to be a part of it.

So, you see, winning the Miss America Pageant really is a dream come true.



AMERICAN GREETINGS

Every year, the Miss America Pageant enables over 10,000 women to wear a different kind of crown. Because the Miss

America Pageant is more than a beauty contest. It's the largest, single source of women's scholarships awarded any-

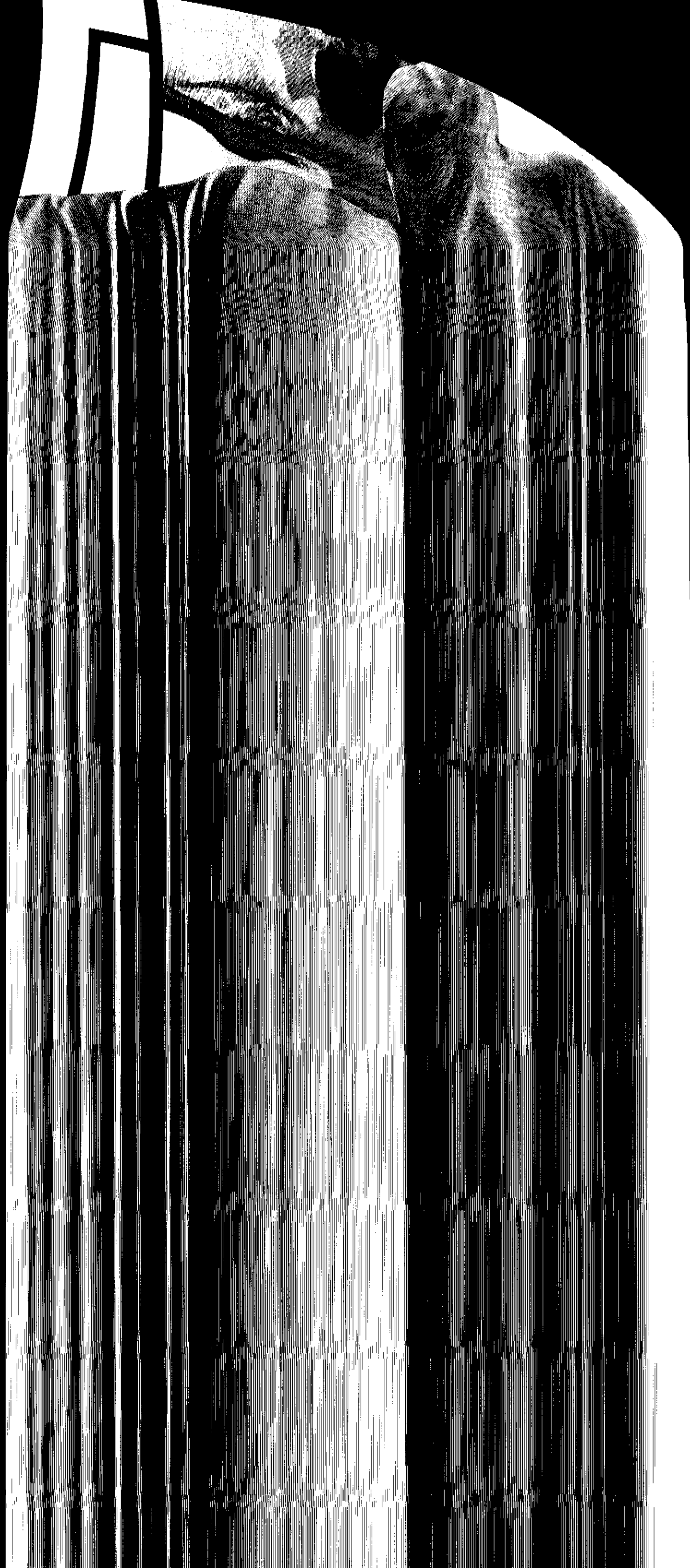
where. We think that's the real beauty of the Miss America Pageant. And that's why we're proud to be a part of it.



The Pillsbury Company.

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Miss Americas in Review

1921	Margaret Gorman, Washington, DC
1922-23	Mary Campbell, Columbus, OH
1924	Ruth Malcomson, Philadelphia, PA
*1925	Fay Lanphier, Oakland, CA
*1926	Norma Smallwood, Tulsa, OK
1927	Lois Delander, Joliet, IL
1933	Marian Bergeron, West Haven, CT
1935	Henrietta Leaver, Pittsburgh, PA
1936	Rose Coyle, Philadelphia, PA
1937	Bette Cooper, Bertrand Island, NJ
1938	Marilyn Meseke, Marion, OH
1939	Patricia Donnelly, Detroit, MI
1940	Frances Burke, Philadelphia, PA
*1941	Rosemary LaPlanche, Los Angeles, CA
1942	Jo-Carroll Dennison, Tyler, TX
1943	Jean Bartel, Los Angeles, CA
1944	Venus Ramey, Washington, DC
1945	Bess Myerson, New York City, NY
1946	Marilyn Buford, Los Angeles, CA
1947	Barbara Walker, Memphis, TN
1948	BeBe Shopp, Hopkins, MN
*1949	Jacque Mercer, Litchfield, AZ
1951	Yolande Betbeze, Mobile, AL (Postdated)
1952	Colleen Hutchins, Salt Lake City, UT
1953	Neva Langley, Macon, GA
1954	Evelyn Ay, Epirata, PA
1955	Lee Meriwether, San Francisco, CA
1956	Sharon Ritchie, Denver, CO
1957	Marian McKnight, Manning, SC
1958	Marilyn Van Derbur, Denver, CO
1959	Mary Ann Mobley, Brandon, MS
1960	Lynda Mead, Natchez, MS
1961	Nancy Fleming, Montague, MI
1962	Maria Fletcher, Asheville, NC
1963	Jacquelyn Mayer, Sandusky, OH
1964	Donna Axum, El Dorado, AR
1965	Vonda Van Dyke, Phoenix, AZ
1966	Deborah Bryant, Overland Park, KS
1967	Jane Jayroe, Laverne, OK
1968	Debra Barnes, Pittsburg, KS
1969	Judith Ford, Belvidere, IL
1970	Pamela Eldred, West Bloomfield, MI
1971	Phyllis George, Denton, TX
1972	Laurie L. Schaefer, Bexley, OH
1973	Terry Meeuwsen, DePere, WI
1974	Rebecca King, Denver, CO
1975	Shirley Cothran, Denton, TX
1976	Tawny Godin, Saratoga Springs, NY
1977	Dorothy Benham, Edina, MN
1978	Susan Perkins, Columbus, OH
1979	Kylene Barker, Roanoke, VA
1980	Cheryl Prewitt, Ackerman, MS
1981	Susan Powell, Elk City, OK
1982	Elizabeth Ward, Russellville, AR
1983	Debra Maffett, Anaheim, CA
1984	Vanessa Williams, Millwood, NY
1984	Suzette Charles, Mays Landing, NJ
1985	Sharlene Wells, Salt Lake City, UT

*Deceased

The 1984

Miss America
Pageant

SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

FUNDED BY

The Gillette Company,
Personal Care Division
American Greetings Corporation
Pillsbury Company
Beatrice Foods Company, Inc.

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All Talent	Each 3,000.00
Preliminary Winners	Each 3,000.00
All Swimmers	Each 2,000.00
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At the Local, State and National Miss America Pageants over \$4,000,000.00 in scholarships is awarded annually.

THE NEW 1985

MISS AMERICA PAGEANT SOUVENIR YEAR BOOK

This Souvenir Year Book, with color cover, features pictures and information about the 51 Miss America contestants of 1985. The ideal gift and the ideal way to follow the contestants during the coast-to-coast telecast of the Finals. Photos by The Photo Co. of Atlantic City, B. Vartan Royajian, Al Levine, NBC Photo Dept., and Visions of South Jersey Inc.

Printed exclusively by
Cowan Printing, Incorporated
Bridgeton, New Jersey U.S.A.

A PAGEANT SPECIAL MAIL OFFER

MISS AMERICA PAGEANT
Year Book Dept. 1985
1325 Boardwalk,
Atlantic City, NJ 08401

ORDER
NOW!
SUPPLY
LIMITED
(See note below re Postage
and Handling Charges)

\$200
each

- I enclose \$4.00 for 1985 Miss America Pageant Year Book to include 1st class mailing and handling costs.
 - I am attaching extra sheet with additional names and addresses to receive books, together with check to cover, including postage.
 - We request books in quantity of 10 or more—shipped via UPS to same address. Check enclosed at \$2.00 each for cost of books. Miss America Pageant will submit bill for UPS charges at a later date.
 - I request list of other National Pageant Year Books still available. (Note: The 1959, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1965 & 1971 Books are Sold Out)
- Please forward to:
- NAME _____ ZIP _____
STREET _____
CITY _____ STATE _____
- Please make check payable to Miss America Pageant (for additional names attach sheet). Books Mailed on or about August 29th.

Miss America 1985

Sharlene Wells

Twenty year old Sharlene Wells of Salt Lake City, Utah has always been an outdoor person. Born in Paraguay, Sharlene lived in South America with her family for eleven years, where she was Captain of the track team in Argentina.

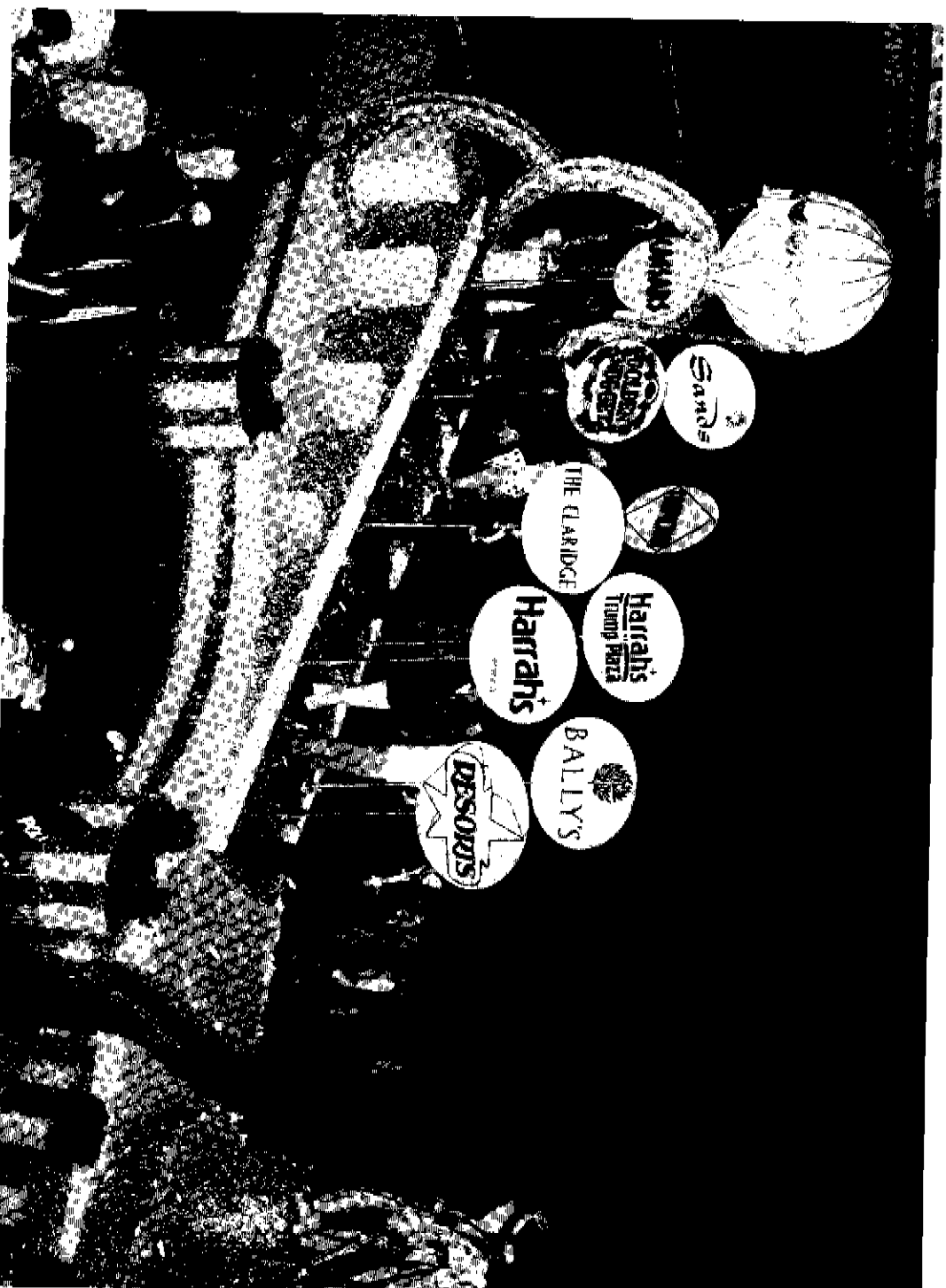
Sports are important to her, but Sharlene has also devoted years to the study of musical instruments, voice lessons and dance. During the Pageant talent competition, she chose to accompany herself on the Latin American Classical Harp while singing in Spanish.

As a Brigham Young University Junior, Sharlene received a "Dean's Scholar" academic scholarship, was on the Dean's Honor List, was BYU Homecoming Queen and a member of Phi Eta Sigma national honorary sorority.

Sharlene Wells has no doubts about her future. She definitely plans to return next Fall to Brigham Young University, obtain her Bachelor of Science Degree in Communications and then become an anchorwoman in a major market and



They Really Live Like Queens



Shown here is only one section of the Atlantic City Casino-Hotels float which appeared in the 1984 Miss America Pageant Parade. The float, largest in Parade history, was 112 feet in length. Four separate floats decorated in glittering silver and carrying a full orchestra delighted the Boardwalk crowd of over 200,000 spectators.

Pageant Week in Atlantic City is an exciting experience for the 51 young women competing for the title of Miss America. From the day of their arrival, to Official Registration, press interviews, rehearsals, the thrilling Boardwalk Parade and the shows on Convention Hall stage, the contestants' schedule is busy with planned activities.

With all the excitement of the days and evenings, it stands to reason the contestants and their traveling companions anticipate their own "quiet time" when they return to their hotels, kick off their shoes, review the day and prepare for the next activity.

How nice, then, that these ladies have the luxury of returning at days end to the finest of facilities . . . the casino hotels of Atlantic City. Each hotel has graciously complimented the

contestants and their traveling companions with beautiful accommodations for Pageant Week. The management and staffs are helpful and friendly. Delicious meals are provided in the lovely dining rooms or, if schedules are too tight, via prompt and courteous room service. In fact, everything that could possibly be done for these "distinguished" guests is done with good cheer and great care. At the end of Pageant Week each contestant feels "her hotel" is the best in the world.

The Miss America Pageant, the Local and State Pageants take this opportunity to salute and thank these civic-minded casino hotel leaders for being a part of our program and for looking after the comfort and welfare of the young women who carry your State's name to the shores of Atlantic City.



1984 Award Winners

The Top Five:
Miss Minnesota,
3rd runner-up; Miss
Mississippi, 2nd
runner-up; Miss
Ohio, 1st runner-up;
Miss Texas, 4th
runner-up; Miss
Utah, Miss America 1985.

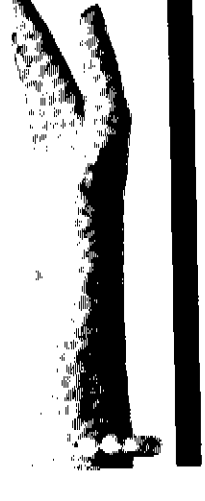


The Ten Semi-Finalists at the 1984 Miss America Pageant were, from left to right: Miss Tennessee, Miss Utah, Miss Mississippi, Miss New York, Miss Ohio, Miss Hawaii, Miss Kentucky, Miss Minnesota, Miss Texas and Miss Massachusetts.

The 1984 Preliminary Talent and Swimsuit winners were the Misses Massachusetts, New York, Minnesota, Mississippi, Utah, and Texas.



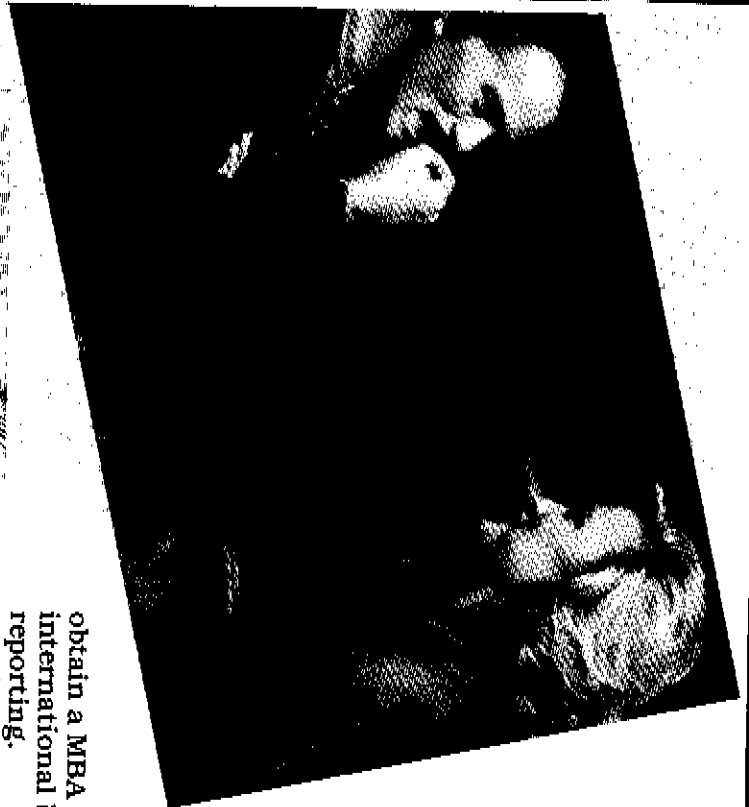
The Eight Non-Finalist Scholarships of \$2,500 each for the Most Talented Contestants were awarded to the Misses Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Georgia, Michigan, Nebraska, New Jersey and Virginia.



1984 Scholarship Winners



The new Miss America receives a few "pointers" from Debra Maffett, Miss America 1983.



obtain a MBA degree specializing in international business and economic reporting.

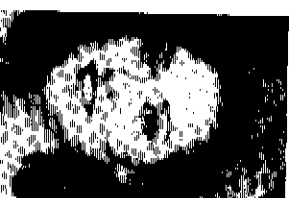
This young woman who came to the Miss America Pageant from the Miss Utah Valley Pageant and the Miss Utah Scholarship Pageant in Orem, knows why she entered the Pageant. One of seven children, she wanted scholarship funds. She has won scholarships . . . the Miss America crown . . . and the road ahead looks bright and shiny indeed for the intelligent, talented, beautiful and personable Sharlene Wells.



A happy meeting in New York City for Dr. Walter Wahlman, the Lord Mayor of Frankfurt; Miss America; Pageant Chairman of the Board, Albert A. Marks, Jr.; and Mrs. Marks.



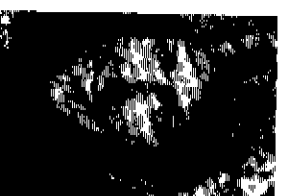
Miss Rhode Island Joana Minisce \$1,300 Scholarship



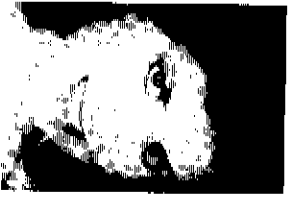
Miss South Carolina Vicki Rene Harrell \$1,500 Scholarship



Miss South Dakota Debra Jean Cleveland \$1,500 Scholarship



Miss Tennessee Shelley Suzanne Mangrum Semi-Finalist \$3,500 Scholarship



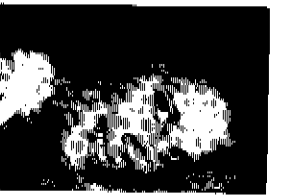
Miss Texas Tamara Hext 4th Runner-Up - \$5,000 Scholarship and Preliminary Swimsuit Award - \$2,000 Scholarship



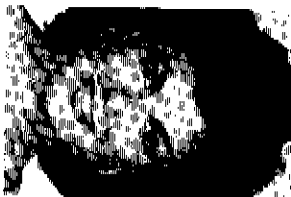
Miss Utah Sharlene Wells Miss America 1985 \$25,000 Scholarship and Preliminary Swimsuit Award - \$2,000 Scholarship



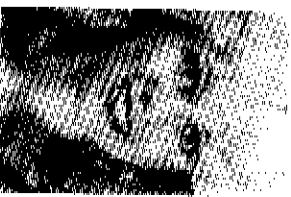
Miss Vermont Larrie Anne Glosick \$1,500 Scholarship



Miss Virginia Susan Carter Parker Talent Award \$2,500 Scholarship



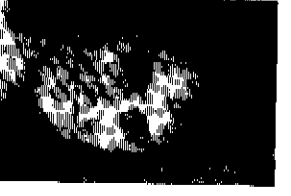
Miss Washington Rebecca Jane Wood \$1,500 Scholarship



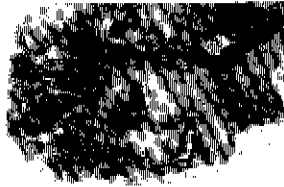
Miss West Virginia Melanee Pennington \$1,500 Scholarship



Miss Wisconsin Barbara M. Muttally \$1,500 Scholarship



Miss Wyoming Ann Warren Eastbrook \$1,500 Scholarship



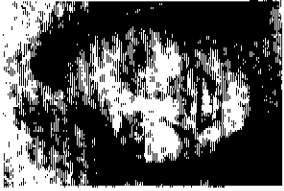
Miss Montana
Michele Marie Larson
\$1,500 Scholarship



Miss Nebraska
Alison Lence Boyd
Talent Award
\$2,500 Scholarship



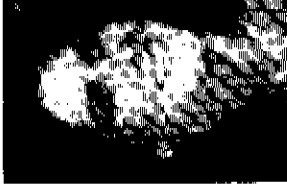
Miss Nevada
LeAnna Grant
\$1,300 Scholarship



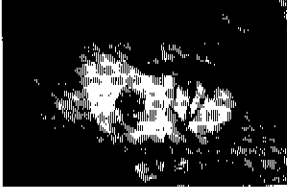
Miss New Hampshire
Corinne Lucier
\$1,500 Scholarship



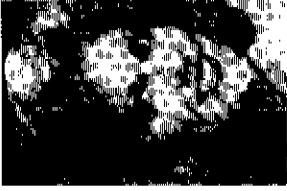
Miss New Jersey
Patricia LaTerra
Talent Award
\$2,500 Scholarship



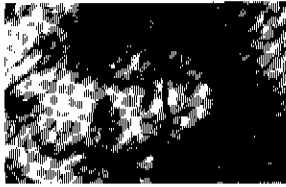
Miss New Mexico
Trina Lynn Collins
\$1,500 Scholarship



Miss New York
Mary-Ann Farrell
Semi-Finalist
\$3,500 Scholarship and
Preliminary Talent
Award—\$3,000 Scholarship



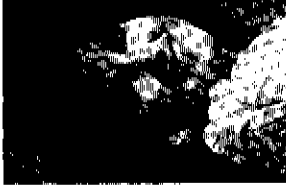
Miss North Carolina
Francesca Adler
\$1,500 Scholarship



Miss North Dakota
Callie Lynn Northagen
\$1,500 Scholarship



Miss Ohio
Melissa Bradley
1st Runner-Up
\$15,000 Scholarship



Miss Oklahoma
Joli Sunday
\$1,500 Scholarship



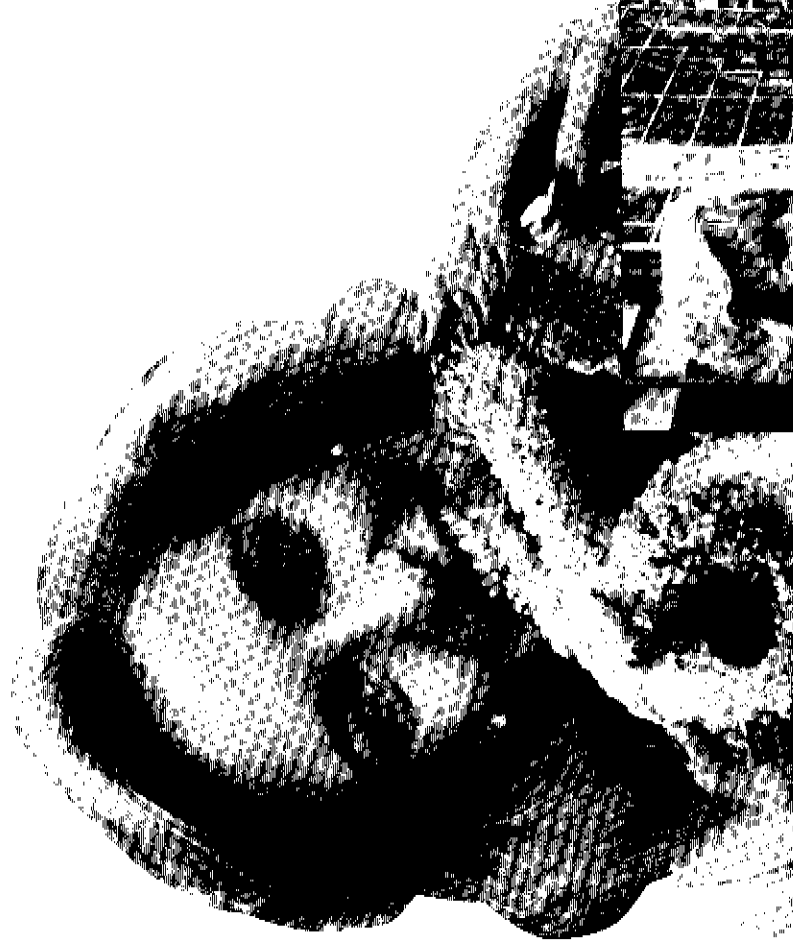
Miss Oregon
Renee Bagley
\$1,500 Scholarship



Miss Pennsylvania
Gina Major
\$1,500 Scholarship



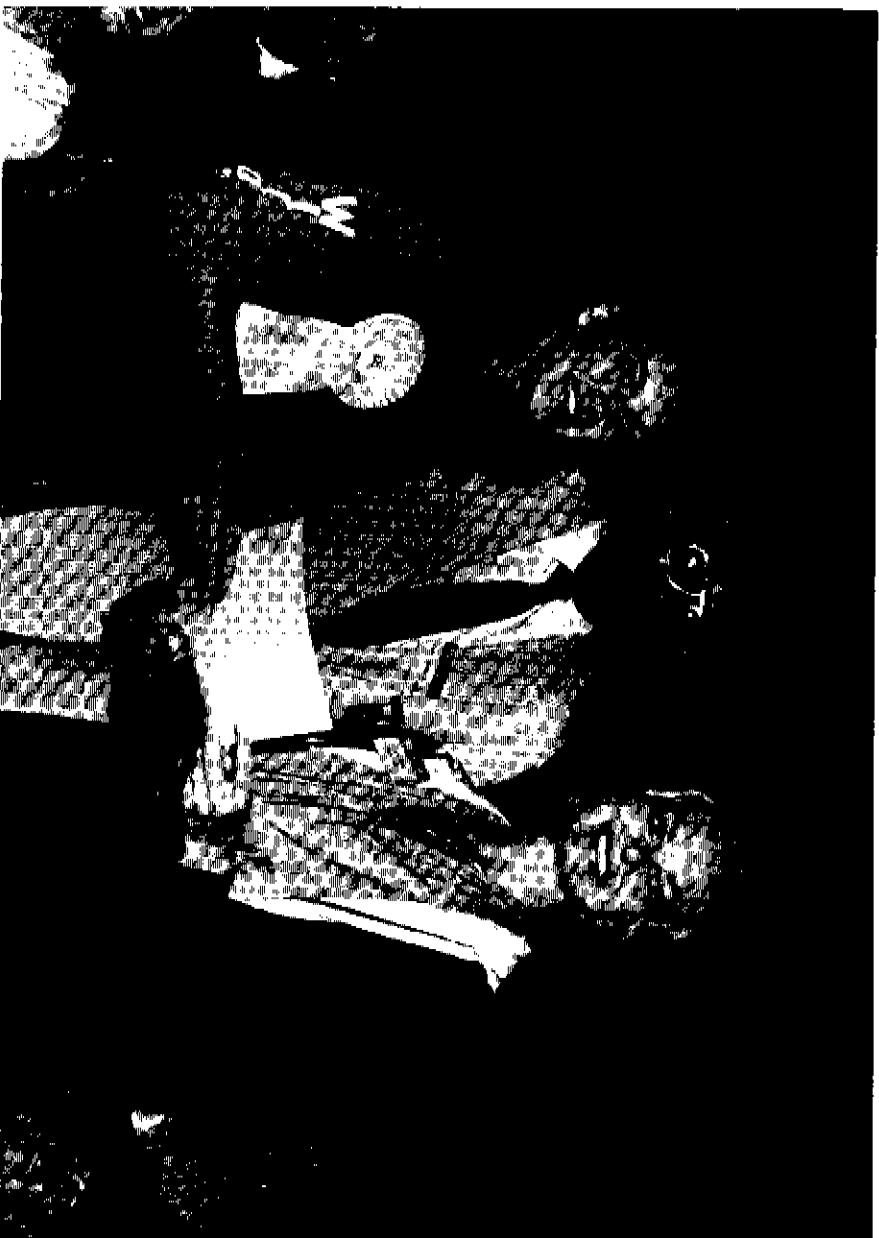
A partial family reunion following the National Finals included David and Annette Wells; Elayne Wells; Dad and Mom, Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Wells; Susan Wells Pace and Grant Pace, Sharlene and Tammy Pace.



1984 Scholarship Winners



Dr. David B. Allman Medical Scholarship Award



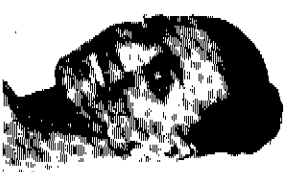
Kelly Lin Brumagen, Miss Kentucky 1984; Mr. Earl E. Johnson, Chairman, Selection Committee of the Dr. Allman Scholarship Foundation and Dr. Katherine Karlstrud, Miss New York 1970 and former Allman Scholarship recipient.

Any national Miss America contestant who plans to become a medical doctor may apply for a Dr. David B. Allman Medical Scholarship. This award is in addition to the Pageant scholarships offered at the National Finals and has no bearing on Pageant judging.

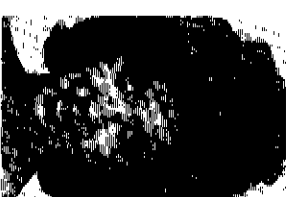
Miss Kentucky, Kelly Lin Brumagen, a December 1984 Pre-Med graduate of the University of Kentucky, applied for the scholarship and on Saturday, September 15th, was awarded a \$5,000.00 Dr. Allman Medical Scholarship.

The initial presentation of this award took place at noon on Convention Hall stage, with all 51 contestants present. Mr. Earl E. Johnson, a member of the Pageant Board and of the Atlantic City Board of Education, presented the grant to Kelly. On hand for this happy occasion was the Pageant's honored guest, Dr. Katherine Karlstrud, Miss New York 1970. Dr. Karlstrud had been the recipient of a Dr. Allman Scholarship and the Pageant felt it only fitting for her to make the presentation again that evening on national television.

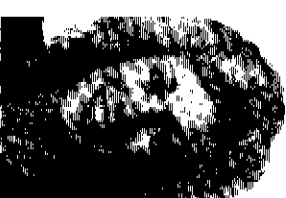
The Miss America Pageant family know how proud and pleased Dr. and Mrs. Allman (both deceased) would have been could they have seen the latest recipient of this Scholarship Foundation established by Mrs. Allman in honor of her husband, a past President of the AMA and a distinguished member of the Pageant Board for many years.



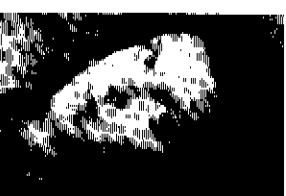
**Miss Illinois
Ruth Booker
\$1,500 Scholarship**



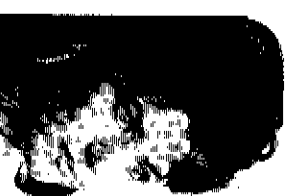
**Miss Indiana
Cynthia Sue Yanis
\$1,500 Scholarship**



**Miss Iowa
Debra Ann Delfering
\$1,500 Scholarship**



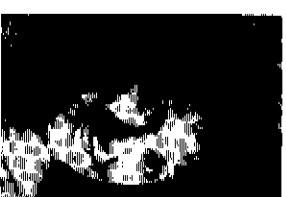
**Miss Kansas
Nancy Lynn Cobb
\$1,500 Scholarship**



**Miss Kentucky
Kelly Lin Brumagen
Semi-Finalist
\$3,300 Scholarship**



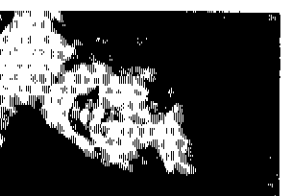
**Miss Louisiana
Anita Whitaker
\$1,500 Scholarship**



**Miss Maine
Lisa Johnson
\$1,500 Scholarship**



**Miss Maryland
Mary Elizabeth Haroth
\$1,500 Scholarship**



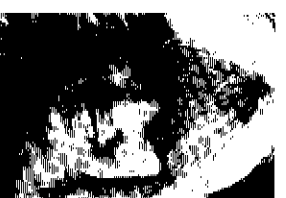
**Miss Massachusetts
Margaret Marie O'Brien
Semi-Finalist
\$3,500 Scholarship and
Preliminary Talent Award \$3,000 Scholarship**



**Miss Michigan
Barbara Jean Crandall
Talent Award
\$2,500 Scholarship**



**Miss Minnesota
Lauren Susan Green
3rd Runner-Up -
\$7,000 Scholarship and
Preliminary Talent Award
\$3,000 Scholarship**



**Miss Mississippi
Kathy Manning
2nd Runner-Up -
\$10,000 Scholarship and
Preliminary Swimsuit
Award - \$2,000 Scholarship**



**Miss Missouri
Anna Maria Schell
\$1,500 Scholarship**

1984 Scholarship Winners

The Eight Non-Finalist Talent Awards

1984 Scholarship Winners

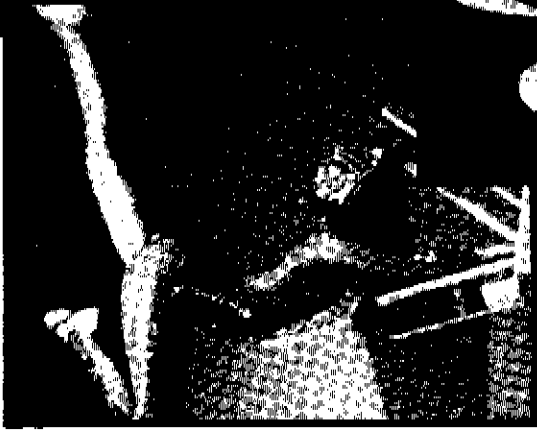
Camille Bentley
Miss Georgia 1984



Maryline Blackburn
Miss Alaska 1984



Alison Lenee Boyd
Miss Nebraska 1984



Patricia La Terra
Miss New Jersey 1984



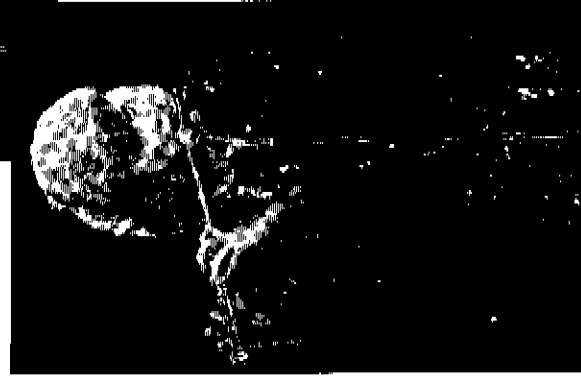
Susan Carter Parker
Miss Virginia 1984



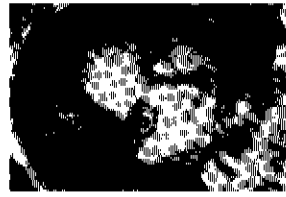
Barbara Jean Crandall
Miss Michigan 1984



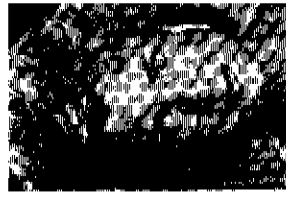
Lisa Stevens
Miss Arkansas
1984



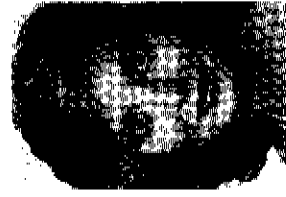
Tammy Little
Miss Alabama 1984



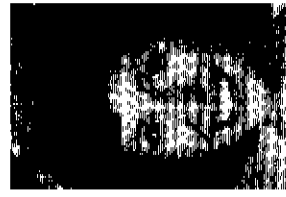
Miss Arkansas
Lisa Stevens
Talent Award
\$2,500 Scholarship



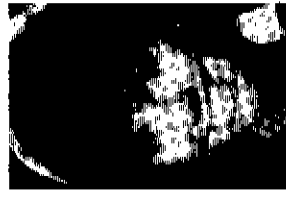
Miss Delaware
Nancy Lynne Ball
\$1,500 Scholarship



Miss Idaho
Patty Hoag
\$1,500 Scholarship



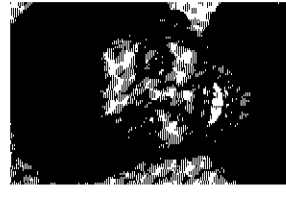
Miss Arizona
Rhonda White
\$1,500 Scholarship



Miss Connecticut
Joanne Caruso
\$1,500 Scholarship



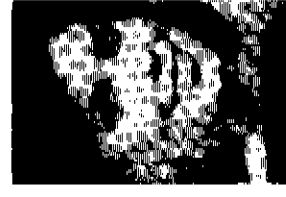
Miss Hawaii
Debbie Nakanelua
Semi-Finalist
\$3,500 Scholarship



Miss Alaska
Maryline Blackburn
Talent Award
\$2,500 Scholarship



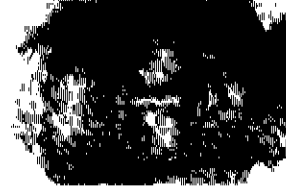
Miss Colorado
Lisa Marie Frees
\$1,500 Scholarship



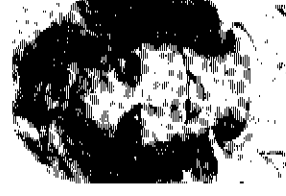
Miss Georgia
Camille Bentley
Talent Award
\$2,500 Scholarship



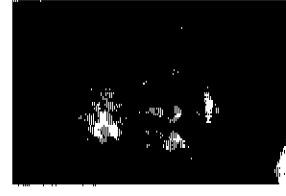
Miss Alabama
Tammy Little
Talent Award
\$2,500 Scholarship



Miss California
Donna Grace Cherry
\$1,500 Scholarship



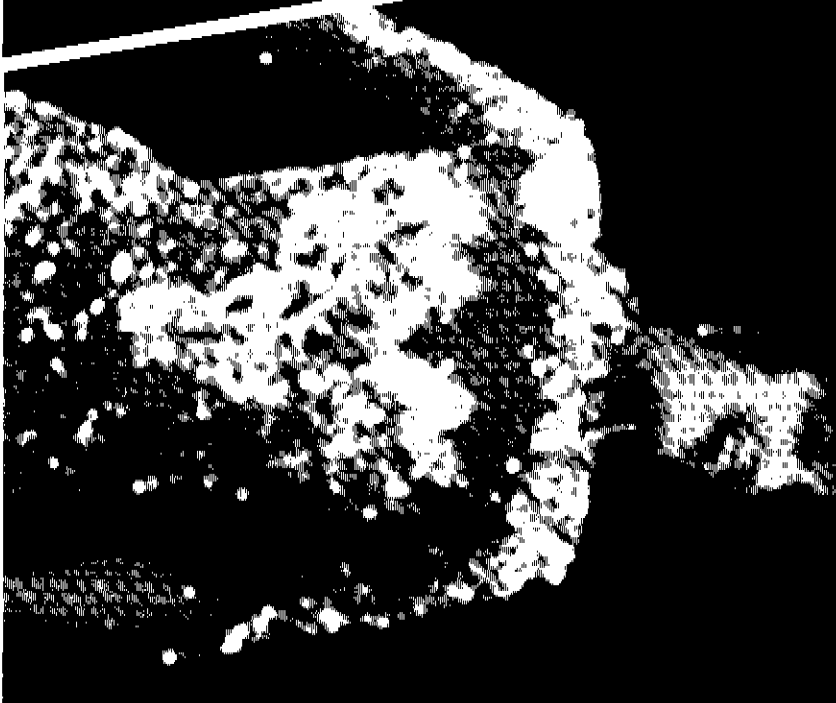
Miss Florida
Lisa Valdez
\$1,500 Scholarship



Miss District of Columbia
Desiree Keating
\$1,500 Scholarship

Saturday Night Semi- Finals

Margaret Marie O'Brien
Miss Massachusetts 1984
Semi-finalist



Kelly Lin Brumagen
Miss Kentucky 1984
Semi-Finalist

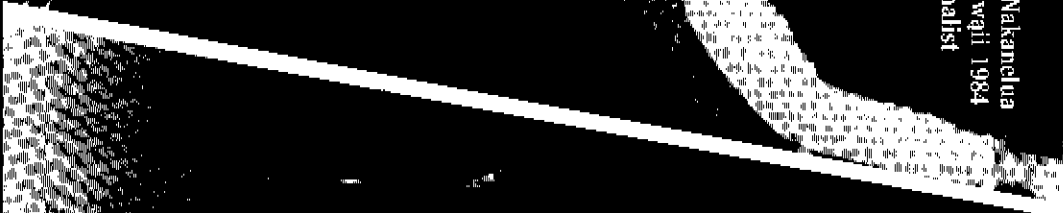


Lauren Susan Green
Miss Minnesota 1984
3rd Runner-Up

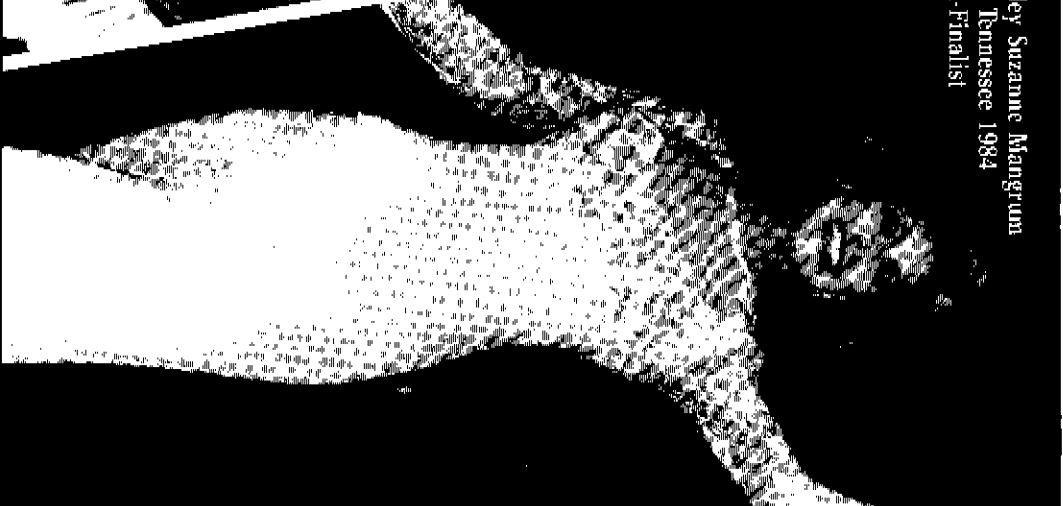
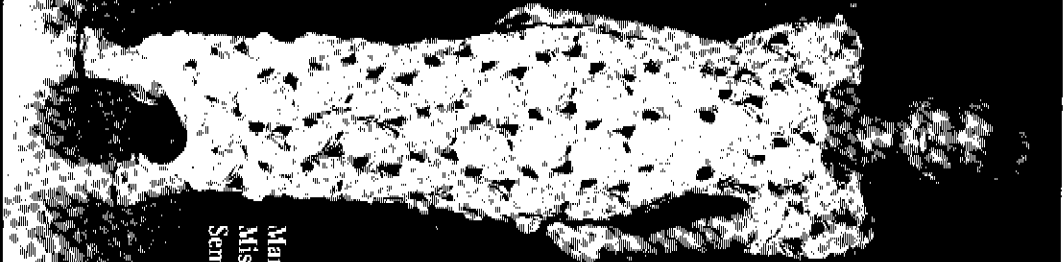


Tamara Hest
Miss Texas 1984
4th Runner-Up

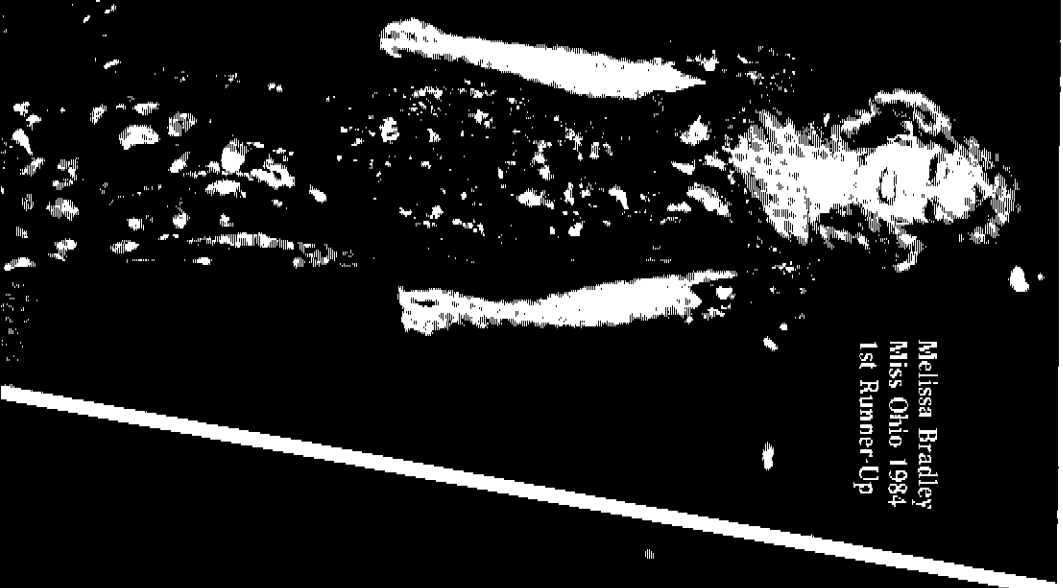
Debbie Nakanelua
Miss Hawaii 1984
Semi-Finalist



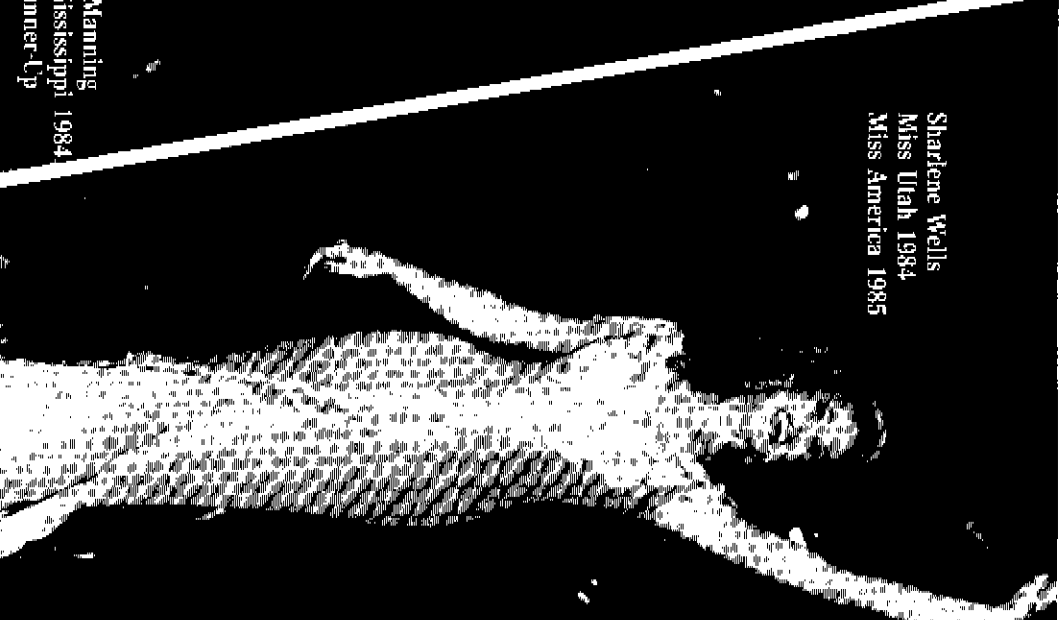
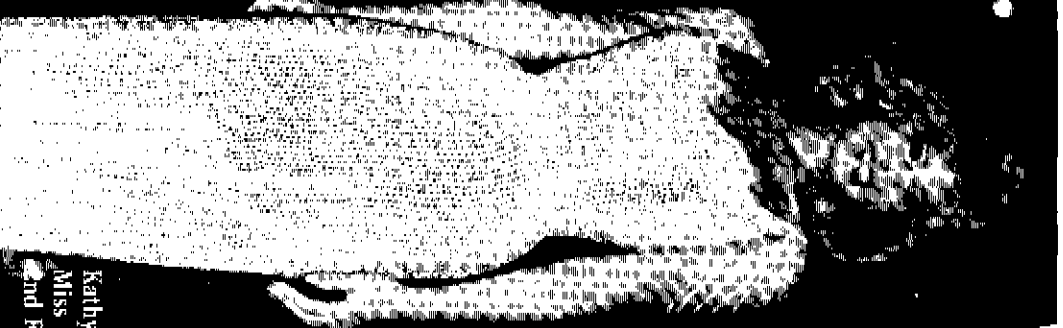
Shelley Suzanne Mangrum
Miss Tennessee 1984
Semi-Finalist



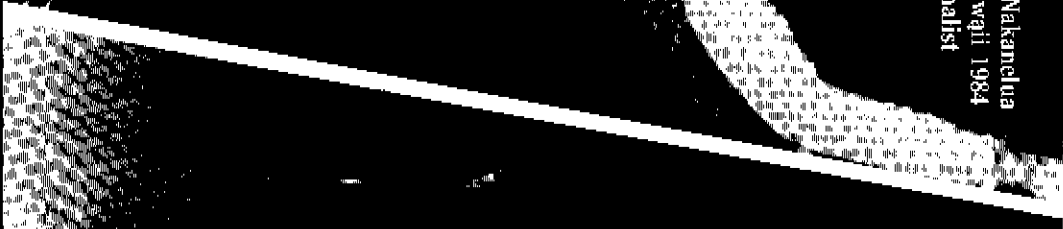
Melissa Bradley
Miss Ohio 1984
1st Runner-Up



Sharlene Wells
Miss Utah 1984
Miss America 1985



Mary-Ann Farrell
Miss New York 1984
Semi-Finalist



Kathy Manning
Miss Mississippi 1984
2nd Runner-Up

