

## the drag rag

by Miss Della  
Special to Q-Notes

Hey guys and gals, and thanks for returning to Miss Della's game of Name That Pageant Winner! I have just gotten in from the Tenth Anniversary Miss Continental PLUS in Chicago, and I can't think of a better place to start off pouring the tea! There were 32 contestants, the most ever, and that was some contest! On final night, the first three or four girls got standing ovations for talent, one of them being our own Miss NC, Amaya! She really turned the party in the Windy City, and proved that she really is a Supahstahr!

The weekend started out with the usual Saturday night show at the ever-popular Baton, and those girls never cease to amaze me. It has to be the most professionally run showbar in the country. I am still sitting in awe of Monica Munro's interpretation of "Girl from the Gutter." WOW! Sherry Payne worked it on out, and I got to see one of my all-time favorites, too — Chili Pepper.

After a long night of prelims, my daughter Mia' Mor and I returned for final night to see the following named to Top 12 spots—Vanessa Casti, Kristian Valentino, Angel Sheridan, Amaya, the Lady Deception, Mahogany Knight, Nicolette Ashton, Shayla Simpson, Rudy Martinez-Diaz, Rita Marlowe, Ivy White, and Angelica Sanchez. Tumara Mahorning was giving up the crown, of course, and after all phases of competition were over, Angel Sheridan of New York City was crowned! Her runners-up were (in order) Ivy White of Atlanta, Amaya of NC, Rita of Detroit, and Rudy of Puerto Rico (who gets the award for hottest dancer, mind you!). It was a fierce contest, believe me.

In other systems, I can report that Miss USofA is quickly approaching — Memorial Day weekend, to be exact! Ladies qualifying recently to compete include Miss Ohio Samantha Rollins; Louisiana, Vickie Valentine; Miss Heartland Veronica Gray; Iowa, Michelle Preston; National

Capital Cities, Mr. Kenneth Blake; Miss Spirit, Victoria Lace; Miss DC, Zakia Jemacey; and Virginia, our own Arabia Knight Addams. I hear that new contest went off without a hitch, and they say Miss Chevelle danced the house down, as usual. What a shame to have to give her up so soon. A year is not long enough for some queens, and way too long for others.

On the larger side of the family (well, not really!), Miss USofA at Large Kofi tells me that she will give up her title in Winston-Salem in the fall, so it's on! At Club Odyssey, of course. How exciting, another national contest in NC! The only prelim Kofi has presided over since our last chat was Illinois, which Holly Vegas won. Kofi says her sister Tiffany Bonet is gonna hook her up with a tour through here soon, and she looks forward to meeting all the kids who love drag so well.

The owner of Miss National tells me the reigning, Terri Vanessa Coleman, is about to be living out of hotel rooms, as her prelims are about to go into full swing! There have only been a few since my last update, but Miss Kentucky was just held, and Celeste Holmes won that contest; her runner-up was Kelly Matthews. The dates for nationwide finals have been set in Atlanta for the National contest — July 19 - 21. More details later.

On the Entertainer of the Year scene, Necole

Luv Dupree has just won Miss Georgia, Janelle St. Christopher is the new Rocky Mountain Regional, Jasmine Knight (formerly of NC) won Ohio Valley, and Asia won Miss Kentucky. Look for ads in local papers for the prelims here in NC, hopefully coming up soon!

On the local scene, the new Miss Legends is Jennifer Warner; her runners-up were Felicia Powers and Amaya. Miss Club Myxx was just held in Charlotte, and Miss Honey won that contest; her runners-up were Jasmine Tomas and Kysha Wellington. Miss Charlotte America, which was Tyler Kole's debut as Miss NC, was won by Dominique O'Day, and her 1st RU was Detra Panucci.

Two prelims I wanted to mention before I close with sad news — the Emerald Coast Continental pageant to be held at Legends has been moved to July 20, so mark your calendars. A road trip

idea — Miss Georgia Continental is set for Tuesday, May 1, at the Riviera on Peachtree in Atlanta, and the performers alone are worth the trip — Lisha Paris who relinquishes her title, Danielle Hunter, Tommie Ross, Monica Munro, Jasmine Bonet, Stasha Sanchez, and Sasha Valentino. It's like a Who's Who of the family. Let's hit it!

In closing, we mourn the passing of a local sister and of a former two-time national titleholder: Roslyn Rogers of Hickory held several crowns in the USofA at Large system, and managed Club Cabaret in Hickory for years. She will be sorely missed. CoCo, a former Miss USofA and National Entertainer of the Year, passed away Easter weekend, and will go down in history as one of the finest performers to ever grace a stage. Big losses to our community and to humanity, as they were dear, sweet people. ▼

[Contact Miss Della at DragTea411@aol.com.]



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