

WCC student is crowned Miss Goldsboro

By **LAUREN MITCHELL**
Staff Writer

On Nov. 5 at the Mount Olive Historical Assembly Hall, Wayne Community College student Brittan Wheeler was crowned Miss Goldsboro. The Campus Voice conducted an interview with Brittan to give readers a look into the life of our new Miss Goldsboro.

Q: How did you become interested in pageants?

A: I became interested in pageants mainly because of the scholarship money that could possibly be awarded. The Miss America Program awards over \$45 million per year in scholarship money. I received thousands of dollars in scholarships and gifts this year when I was crowned.

I also compete because I used to be absolutely terrified of speaking! I took a class at WCC, which helped me, but I still wanted to challenge myself and conquer my fear. Pageants have helped me gain more self-confidence and made me more comfortable with who I am.

When you compete in the Miss America Program, you must have what is referred to as a "platform" or an issue that interests you. My platform is "Promoting Good Health and Positive Body Images Among Women." This is an issue that I feel is very important because the youth of today is constantly exposed to distorted images of beauty. Television and magazines scream that beauty is 5 foot 11 inches, and a size 0.

My goal as Miss Goldsboro is to offer an alternative view of beauty. The most important factor that I stress is that the "treasure inside" is what makes you beautiful, not your



Staff photo

Brittan Wheeler is pictured in the Wayne Learning Center atrium on campus.

appearance on the outside. My motto is a quote by Simone de Beauvoir: "To lose confidence in one's body is to lose confidence in oneself."

Q: Have you competed in any other pageants?

A: Yes I have competed in two other pageants. My first pageant was Miss Goldsboro 2005, and I was awarded the Jill Suggs Howell Talent Award, the Meredith Killeter Karcher Swimsuit Award, and around \$2,500 in scholarship money. The second pageant was Miss Johnston County 2005, and I was fortunate enough to

receive the Miss Congeniality Award.

Q: What are your duties as Miss Goldsboro?

A: My duties of Miss Goldsboro include representing the Miss America Program in Wayne County, serving the community, speaking on my platform, representing Goldsboro throughout the state of North Carolina and at the Miss North Carolina Pageant in June.

I have been given a wonderful opportunity as Miss Goldsboro. I am in a position where I am able to promote my platform and educate others about the problem of negative

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-Brittan Wheeler

body images in our society. Beginning in January I will be going into the school system to speak with young girls in particular to expose these problems. My main responsibility is to strive to do my absolute best and to make the most out of my year of service.

Q: What are your college and career goals?

A: I am attending WCC because it is close to Rosewood where I have grown up. I also have a job here in Goldsboro at the Artistic Dance Academy as an instructor. In the spring I am planning to commute to ECU to obtain a degree in Nutrition and Dietetics and will eventually receive my doctorate in Physical Therapy and open my own practice.

Q: What other activities are you interested in?

A: My other activities include working out regularly at Gold's Gym ... and I am also involved in the Artistic Dance Academy's annual production of "Dance For Christ."

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