

Mr. Ram Crowned At Gala Campus Event

By Angela Corbett

A large crowd of students waited impatiently in the rain unaware that a talented gospel singer and resident of Winston-Salem would be the new Mr. Ram. Mr. Robert L. Wise, Jr., is the new 1983 Mr. Ram.

This was the scene at the 9th Annual Mr. Ram Pageant entitled "Evening Rendezvous: Man In The Mirror" was held October 5 at 8:00 p.m. in the K. R. Williams Auditorium, recently. The spectacular evening prepared the student body for an exciting review of male talent. The talents featured creative wear, formal wear, and projections.

Mr. Wise chose for his creative attire a velvet jacket and black slacks, while a white dinner jacket, black slacks and white shoes were most appropriate for elegant formal wear. His projection captured the audience with an inspirational song entitled "Lord Lift Us Up Where We Belong." Finally, each contestant was required to select a question at random and answer it on stage.

The question directed towards Mr. Wise was "Do you feel mandatory class attendance will benefit this school? How?" "No," he replied, "because mandatory

class attendance will only force students to rebel. Let the students decide if they want to reach their goals," said Wise.

Based upon his fashion review, projection, and the ability to respond intelligently to an unknown question, the judges made wise their choice for the 1983-84 school year. The task of selecting one person to fulfill the obligations of Mr. Ram was indeed difficult, but the eight judges together made a confident choice. The judges were Tony Brett, Susan Bruce, Minnie Ervin, Mutter Evans, Bernard Foy, Lewis Jones, Gloria Pitts, Vernon Stallings, and Velma Watts.

The pageant featured five other contestants, Roderick Todd McIver; 2nd Runner-up, Clark Emanuel Posten, Jr., Gary Elliot Morris, Jackie Dewayne Bumpass, and Reginald Denard McCaskill; 1st Runner-up. These talented and courageous men were definitely an enlightenment to broaden male talent.

The Mr. Ram Pageant originated in 1975 by Mr. Thomas Allen, chairperson of the Student Union Program Board. It was established in order to broaden the scope of male talent and to uplift student body morale.

Rumors Cloud Mr. Ram Pageant Aftermath

By Katrina Weathers

Ever since the dawning of the Mr. Ram pageant, the annual event has proven to be a wholly favorable event for many people, outside citizens as well as WSSU students.

But for the past two years there have been rumors penetrating the campus of Winston-Salem State University about what goes on "behind the closed doors" of the pageant.

The question is, is the statement true that the past two winnings were "rigged"

by the co-ordinator, the judges, and Mr. Ram himself? "That is a most untrue statement," says Ms. Elaine Brown, Assistant Director of Student Activities. "The judges were selected by me well in advance. No one knew," she continues. "At exactly 7:00 p.m., one hour before the program, I gave the information to the co-hostess who introduced the judges to the audience. The contestants did not find out who they were until 20 minutes before the program."

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