

WSSU freshman competing for Miss NC title

By Brandalyn Bryant
ARGUS REPORTER

At 18-year-old Jasmine D. Rascoe has high hopes in receiving the next title of Miss North Carolina USA 2003/2004.

This second-semester sophomore is majoring in music business and is a mass communications minor.

The pageant will be held at The High Point Theater and Exhibition Center in High Point, Oct. 24 and 25.

"This will be my first pageant ever," said Rascoe. "When I was in high school, I never did anything like this. One reason for my participating in the pageant is because I do like the challenge."

Rascoe is from Sanford, North Carolina, and is the daughter of Mr. Charlie and Mrs. Deborah Rascoe. The Rascoes have another daughter, twelve-year old, who is categorized as much more of a 'social butterfly' by her sister Jasmine.

Rascoe's family is sponsoring her throughout this prestigious pageant.

"My family is supporting me a lot through this. I am also receiving



Jasmine Rascoe will compete in the Miss North Carolina USA pageant.

tremendous support from my friends and associates within the Music Department here at WSSU," she said.

To qualify for Miss North Carolina USA, contestants have to be between the ages of 18-years-old and 27-years-old by Feb. 1, 2004. The contestants will be judged in swimsuit, evening gown, and a personal interview. The judges

will be celebrities and business people who impact the career choices of the contestants. Rascoe said that this opportunity came one day via postage mail. She read the letters' requirements, explaining the pageant, then she sent all of the required information in. She was eager to let them know her level of interest. She was then interviewed, and lastly selected as a finalist to compete in Miss North Carolina USA 2003/2004 Pageant.

"I am confident about the judging process. I already have my attire for the pageant and I am going to be comfortable with speaking, so the interview will not be hard for me," Rascoe said.

When asked what personality traits Miss North Carolina should possess Rascoe said, "First she should be a Christian. Then she should be sophisticated, intelligent, polite, and very confident in herself."

Rascoe is prepared to move on with or without the title of Miss North Carolina USA. Rascoe says she will definitely keep God first and her grades up. If Rascoe gets the title along with

the \$250,000 cash prize, she will buy her expecting friend a vehicle so that she can work with trusted transportation while she is caring for her new child.

Then she will buy her mother a Mercedes, and last but not least purchase a small vehicle for herself. Her future plans with her college degree is as follows: work for Walt Disney, producing cartoon music and start a professional marching band that will raise the necessary financial aid to all bands (including high school level) in need.

Rascoe said that, "I do represent." And she most definitely will especially because these competitions are predominantly represented and organized by the majority of Caucasians. Although she is hoping she is not the only African-American contestant, she will proudly 'do it the way it is supposed to be done'.

"I will demonstrate the total package: a beautiful, smart, and well-mannered African-American female. I will never fall in to anyone's stereotypical views," Rascoe said.

UNC system may offer more seats to nonresidents

By Anna Griffin
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS (KRT)

CHAPEL HILL, N.C.

For the first time since they set a firm cap on out-of-state freshman enrollment, leaders of the University of North Carolina system are seriously considering giving non-North Carolinians more seats at all 16 public campuses.

Adding nonresidents could help the University of North Carolina system's national stature, and bring hundreds of bright minds to the state's talent pool, supporters say. And officials estimate the rise in the number of out-of-state students would be a small portion of overall enrollment.

Yet more out-of-state admissions could mean increased competition and potentially fewer spots for the sons and daughters of North Carolina taxpayers, the people who built the campuses and subsidize the educations of resident and nonresident students alike.

That is political TNT.

"Some people are going to get angry," said Bob Warwick, who is on the 32-member board that governs the state's universities. "But we've got to get bigger in our thinking than, 'Is this going to affect my kid?' "With few exceptions, state campuses now must limit out-of-state freshmen to 18 percent of each entering class. Schools that violate the cap two years in a row face financial penalties, though university system leaders have waived several fines recently because of budget problems.

A plan that could come before the university system Board of Governors next month would give all 16 schools exemptions that could bump out-of-state freshman populations to 22 percent over a five-year period. The new nonresident slots would go to "the most talented and academically gifted students," including National Merit Scholars and talented black and

Hispanic applicants.

The idea is to help campuses, especially ultra-competitive UNC Chapel Hill, attract top students and ensure cultural and geographic diversity.

The plan says schools that choose to invite more out-of-state students must find ways to enroll more North Carolina residents, too. But it lacks specifics on how they'll pay for the overall enrollment increase that would require.

Legislators and other opponents — including the North Carolina School Boards Association and some members of the Board of Governors — fear the university system is placing its national reputation over its duty to North Carolina residents. They say that given the state's current fiscal crisis, there's no way to add more out-of-state students without taking away the chance for some in-state kids to attend the campus of their choice.

"We're saying to North Carolinians, 'We've got a great university, and we've got a way to make it

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Students learn the ins and outs of the broadcasting industry at RAM-TV19

By Shumuriel Ratliff
ARGUS REPORTER

The sets have been built, the shows are in productions and now the folks at RAM-TV-19 are looking for you to help even out the equation.

With a new school year, students in the Mass Communications Department have lined up in droves to put what they are learning in class on the small screen.

"It's amazing to me," said Winston-Salem State University's Television Production professor Todd Davis about the participation from the students with Ram-TV.

Davis, who has been a professor at WSSU for four years, majored in Mass Communications while in college, used his video production skills to get his first job as a creative services director for a local television station in Wilmington.

While there he produced many television projects for public television, corporate television, and public access television.

The station, located in Hall-Patterson, room 209 is the third studio Mr. Davis has worked in. Prior to working in the Ram television studio, Mr. Davis received corporate video training for Sara Lee and he also worked for a public access television studio for community access.

Ram-TV, is produced, directed, and viewed by students of WSSU. The purpose is to give students the



Photos by Nicole Ferguson

Students are currently developing about 15 hours of programming for Ram TV - 19.

opportunity to produce television programming and to have it viewed by their peers and to receive feedback from their fellow classmates.

It provides students with experience they probably might not receive in their first entry-level job.

"I am very impressed with the student participation. Both mass communications majors that produce and others who appear on the channel. It takes a lot to produce," he said.

The idea behind Ram TV came via Dr. Brian Blount, Chairperson of mass communication developed the vision of Ram-TV because of

his desire for students to have a campus television station. So far this year the stations has produced 13 original half hour shows per week.

The students also receive support and guidance from chief engineer Baxter Griffin, TV coordinator Dr. Abhijit Sen, and director of video and class technician Richard Edwards.

When asked about his involvement with Ram-TV, Mr. Davis had this to say: "The students handle all of the responsibilities. Mr. Griffin and I serve only as advisors."

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After the books had been cleaned, the air was tested to verify that the mold had been eradicated.

The library staff, primarily Ms. Iris Deberry, then relocated all the books that were on the west wall, since this wall was in contact with the ground outside where the mold originated.

Rodney clarified that "the university had a contractor come in and dig around the building in order to make certain there were no broken pipes or any thing of that nature that would cause moisture to seep into the building, through this wall.

Relocating the books was merely a precaution."

The library staff is also keeping the air in the building at a stable level so it will not encourage mold to grow again.

Dr. Rodney noted that the university took full financial responsibility for the cleaning so the library did not have to reach in it's budget.

However, she said "this is a thing of nature that we cannot control. For instance in some houses the basement may not be properly sealed, causing moisture to seep into the building. This combination of moisture, mixed with the make up of the paper and the glue in the book, is prone to attract mold."

This problem has occurred before, at WSSU about five or six years ago.

However, Rodney remains optimistic

"Hopefully we have been aggressive towards the situation, the cleaning was more extensive than in the past and more precautions have been taken.

Reeder sends a message to the student body, concerning the mold situation.

"We appreciate the patience of the students while the books were not accessible to them, and now that they are, we would like the students to come in and make an extensive use of these materials in this section as well as others."