

Susan Leigh, Kenny McArver Capture Gastonia, Charlotte Beauty Crowns

By Heather Peebles

Excitement filled the air as Kenny McArver and Susan Leigh were announced "Miss Charlotte" and "Miss Gastonia". They will reign in 1962.

The Junior Chamber of Commerce in both towns compiled a list of girls to enter the contest. Susan Leigh was invited to several luncheons before she was convinced to enter. A three hundred dollar scholarship, an opportunity to meet many girls, and a chance to gain self-confidence and poise were all contributing factors in this decision. Susan entered the "Miss Gastonia" contest with a friend "just for the fun of it." Her friend had been voted best looking in their high school so Susan decided to "go along for the ride." The President of the JC's talked to her parents but the decision to enter was left up to her. The wives of the JC's were assigned to help each contestant. Susan's JCette was her next door neighbor. Susan felt it was helpful to her because her JCette was a friend as well as a critic. They began work on her talent. She sang "Can't Get a Man With a Gun." Susan needed a band to back her up. Due to her suggestion, the band was hired for the use of the entire pageant. (Incidentally, she is now dating the drummer!) Practice started a week before the pageant. There were many rehearsals, press conferences, interviews, and activities to keep the girls busy. The pageant was held August 9 with nine girls competing for the title of "Miss Gastonia."

Susan was late that night. She was supposed to be ready at 7:00. At 7:45 she was putting the last pin in her French twist. She arrived, breathless, to begin the competition in an evening gown. This was followed by her appearance in a black bathing suit. Last on the agenda was her talent. She was dressed like Annie Oakley with pig tails, a buckskin outfit, and bare feet.

Susan and her friend were two of the three finalists. Susan was asked why she entered and what she would do if she were swimming in a heavily populated beach and found herself separated from her bathing suit. To the latter question she quickly answered "drown!" Susan said she intended to elaborate on her answer but was not given an opportunity because of the audience response.

The announcement of the win-



Susan Leigh, Miss Gastonia, and Kenny McArver, Miss Charlotte

ners was made. "Most Talented" was Susan Leigh. Susan said she made no comment when she was announced the winner. All she could think about was how she would fit her large evening gown in the small wicker chair that was provided for "Miss Gastonia." Wearing the crown, the ribbon, and the cape, she walked down the ramp to "A Dream Is a Wish Your Heart Makes." Susan said this was quite comical because she did not have her glasses on and was forced to count her steps so that she wouldn't fall off the end of the ramp.

Kenny McArver entered the "Miss Charlotte" contest under the same circumstances as Susan. She was asked by the JC's. They explained that the conception of the pageant was for the all-American girl—not just cheesecake. Kenny's mother thought it would be good experience, lots of fun, and an opportunity to meet nice girls. Kenny's father was a little harder to convince, but he realized it would be beneficial after the JC's had explained it to him in more detail.

Kenny was late in arriving at the first rehearsal. She was disappointed because she wanted more time to prepare but she arrived at the dinner partially composed and took her seat. After dinner each of the five judges interviewed Kenny. There were eleven contestants. One of the judges asked Kenny "What three goals should North Carolina have?" She responded "Sincerity, a great interest in people, and a knowledge of civic

and world affairs." Kemp Stagg, a famed beauty queen and charming lady, was one of the judges. Kenny enjoyed talking with her very much. Rehearsal began Saturday morning. Each girl was given a number, her order in the pageant, and rehearsal time with the orchestra. Kenny's talent was singing. She sang "Scarlet Ribbons." She was dressed in a peasant dress with a red sash; she sat barefooted on a white milking stool with a branch of dead leaves in her lap.

The pageant began at 8 o'clock September 29, 1961. The parade of girls began with their appearances in evening gowns. This was followed by the talent and finally the bathing suit competition. Each girl faced the judge in her suit. Then she again faced the audience. After this was completed, the contestants put their evening gowns back on and returned to the stage. The four finalists were asked questions. Kenny was asked "If your best friend and her boy friend broke up, what would you do if he asked you out?" She answered, "I'd feel funny at first; but since they had broken up I would think that he was fair game now." Her second question was "Should Red China be admitted to the United Nations and why?" She answered, "I think Red China should be admitted to the United Nations because their government is recognized as one of the leading governments of the world, and I do not feel that their membership in the U. N. would have more harmful effects than their being excluded. Perhaps if they were in the U. N., we could negotiate with them, which is impossible now."

The finalists were announced. Kenny said the President of the Junior Chamber of Commerce had to pick her up out of her chair because she was so stunned. "No one told me what to do if I won," she said.

After taking her triumphant walk down the ramp, she attended a reception in her honor. She was descended upon by several eager photographers with many pictures and questions. After the reception, excited but exhausted, she returned home to call her brother at Hampton-Sydney to tell him the good news.

MILLE COLLEGE CONTESTS

Mademoiselle is featuring three College Contests. Winners will receive a month in New York as a **Mille**. Guest Editor, cash prizes, and national publication of their work.

The College Board Contest is especially designed for young women interested in careers related to the magazine field — everything from writing and drawing to fashion and promotion. The 20 outstanding College Board members will win an exciting month as **Mademoiselle** Guest Editors. They will travel, transportation paid, to New York to spend June, 1962, as salaried members of the **Mille**, staff, helping edit the August issue and planning future college features.

To enter, a student must submit a Tryout. A few of the Tryout suggestions are:

1. Report on some trend that you see coming in at your college.
2. Tell how you would change your own college if you could.
3. Create a product to solve a "why-doesn't-someone-design-one" problem. Plan a campaign to sell your product.
4. Illustrate any story or article that has been published in **Mille** during the past year.
5. Plan a wardrobe for a girl coming to your college from another part of the country. Show her the clothes that you would advise her to bring.

The deadline for Tryouts is November 30, 1961. **Mille** may permit a time extension for a good reason.

The two winners of the College Fiction Contest will receive \$500 each and publication of their stories in **Mademoiselle**. Winners will be announced in August, 1962.

Women undergraduates under 26 years of age enrolled in an ac-

credited college may submit original stories (2,500-5,000 words). Stories must have fictitious characters and situations. All entries must be postmarked by midnight, March 1, 1962.

Five or more samples of art work in any or several media are required for the Art Contest. The two winners will be asked to illustrate one of the two winning College Fiction Contest stories.

publication in **Mademoiselle**. Winners will receive \$500 for her work. Entries must be postmarked by midnight, March 1, 1962. Winners will be announced in the August, 1962 issue of **Mademoiselle**.

SNEA Sponsoring Academy Award Film Series

The SNEA is sponsoring the presentation of two movies during the school year. The first of these, **From Here to Eternity**, will be shown in late November. This World War II drama features Deborah Kerr, Burt Lancaster, and Frank Sinatra.

The second film of the series, **The Three Faces of Eve**, will be presented on April 23. Joanne Woodward gives a wonderful performance as a schizophrenic. Both movies are Academy Award winners.

Tickets will be on sale next week and can be purchased from members of SNEA. Season tickets are \$75; tickets sold at the door are \$50 for each performance.

New Vocational Office Benefits Salem Students

By Julie Johns

For the benefit of every student on campus, the Vocational Office, located next to the reception room in Main Hall, has been established. Miss Shirley Redlack and Dean Hixson organized the office last year; before that time, vocational information was obtained in a more haphazard fashion.

Expansion and tremendous improvements have been accomplished and are still in progress. The office now has a new book case which is divided into sections. These sections concern fellowships, scholarships, and financial aid for study at Salem and abroad. These include winter and summer study. Graduate school catalogues are separated into areas such as music, law, and medicine. There is information which would be helpful to all. Aside from these files, there is a complete file cabinet which includes information listed by interests, majors, and states.

Also found in the Vocational Office are two new crossfiles. They contain names of places to obtain jobs listed under occupations as well as the cities in which these jobs are to be found. There is a student interest box for the benefit of the Vocational Office. The latter file may be very beneficial

to the student if she is aware of her vocational interests. If a student will write her name and vocational interest on a card to be filed, the vocational assistants will get in touch with her so that she may

correlate vocational information with her special interest for guidance in finding work suited to her. If there is no one on duty, students are asked to leave their card (filled out as explained above) on the table to be filed.

Taped on the round table and on the bookcase, there is a "Guide to Browsers". These sheets furnish guidance information for those who are not familiar with the Vocational Office.

Free material is offered on various vocations. This is general information. Books and graduate school catalogues are to be signed out, and the card must be placed in the box on the table.

Student helpers work from 11:15 to 12:00 Monday through Thursday, and from 11:15 to 1:00 on Fridays. Assistants are present only at these times. Students needing special guidance are asked to come in the morning. The office remains open all day for those who want to browse.

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