

Miss NC crown controversy moves to federal court



Rebekah Revels



Misty Clymer

According to a Miss America pageant attorney, the case over who will be Miss North Carolina has been transferred to federal court.

Greenville attorney Tim Barber told Superior Court Judge Narley Cashwell, who heard the case in Wake County during the past two days, an order was entered in federal court in Wilmington Thursday to transfer the case from state court. Judge Cashwell told the court he no longer has jurisdiction.

Rebekah Revels won the state pageant in June but resigned a month later after pageant officials learned of alleged topless photos of her. Misty Clymer, the first runner-up, was named by pageant officials in July to replace Revels as Miss North Carolina.

Cashwell ruled the alleged photos, taken by Revels' former fiancé, did not violate her contract with the state pageant. He noted that no one who testified before him had seen the photos besides Revels. As a result, he

said he is satisfied Rebekah Revels did not engage "in an act or activity that could be characterized as dishonest, immodest, indecent or in bad taste."

Rebekah Revels was reinstated as Miss N.C. Wednesday.

Rebekah Revels' contract as Miss North Carolina was reinstated Wednesday. But Misty Clymer's attorneys said she also has a contract with Miss North Carolina.

Revels' attorney, Barry Nakell, said that under a temporary restraining order issued in Robeson County, the Miss America organization must recognize Revels as a candidate for 10 days, which is until Wednesday, September 11. Nakell hopes his suit against the Miss America organization can be heard before then.

Meanwhile, attorneys for both women said their clients are preparing to fly to Philadelphia to participate in preliminaries for the national pageant which begin on Friday.

In court Tuesday, the executive director of the Miss N.C.

Pageant testified that the Miss America organization told the state pageant to terminate Revels if she would not resign. Officials of the Miss America organization said Revels should have been terminated because she signed a contract stating that she had not done anything that was dishonest or immoral.

In court Wednesday, Revels told pageant attorneys she still does not think she did anything dishonest or immoral. "I didn't consent to the picture," she said, "so I wanted to make sure that I could take them back or we could destroy them"

"I told them that my hands were crossed," she said. "(Why did you cross your hands at that time?) Well, of course I didn't want him to take a picture of me."

Pending the outcome of the federal court case Thursday, the Miss America organization recognizes Clymer as the North Carolina representative. Her picture appears in the program.

Clymer's attorney, Janet Ward Black, a former Miss N.C., anticipates lawyers from both sides will file more motions and the fight will continue long after the Miss America Pageant on September 21.

Miss North Carolina will serve until June, 2003.

The federal court in Wilmington will decide on Thursday whether that will be Rebekah Revels, who won the Miss North Carolina pageant in June, or Misty Clymer, the first runner-up, who took over as Miss North Carolina after Revels resigned under pressure in July.



Mike and Laura Jones on the Lumber River canoeing.

Pembroke BPW Organization meets

The annual state conference was held this year in New Bern.

Dorothy Blue, Marie Moore, and Yvonne Dial attended the conference as they participated in various workshops that centered around officers' training. The major points centered on more effective ways of being leaders and officers and increasing membership.

President Yvonne Dial attended the National BPW Conference in New Orleans.

With this year's theme, "A Legacy Complete With Promise," the BPW organization stressed through keynote speakers and Foreign Relations Committee, and has consistently urged the Clinton and Bush Administrations, as well as the U.S. Congress to do more to restore women's rights in Afghanistan.

Some workshops of the conference included Getting More Fun Out of Life, Personal and Professional Development, Assertive Communication Skills for Women, Surviving Retirement and Other Later Life Joys, Chicken Soup for the Woman's Soul, Organize Your Stuff and Get Rid of Clutter, Marketing Your Small Business, BPW Leadership Training and Career Skills and Technology Opportunities.

Thursday night members attended a Mardi Gras Ball at Harrah Casino.

workshops of its strong determination in advancing the status of working women.

Mavis Leno was the keynote speaker for the opening business session. Genuinely concerned about issues and injustices placed upon women, Leno has worked diligently in promoting women's rights. She has been actively involved in the effort to defeat California's Proposition 209, an anti-affirmative action initiative. Most of her presentation focused on her efforts to increase awareness of the plight of women in Afghanistan and to impede initiatives that might help the Taliban increase their control of the region.

She serves as chairperson of the Campaign to Stop Gender Apartheid in Afghanistan. She also testified on gender apartheid in March 1998 before Senator Diane Feinstein of the U.S. Senate.

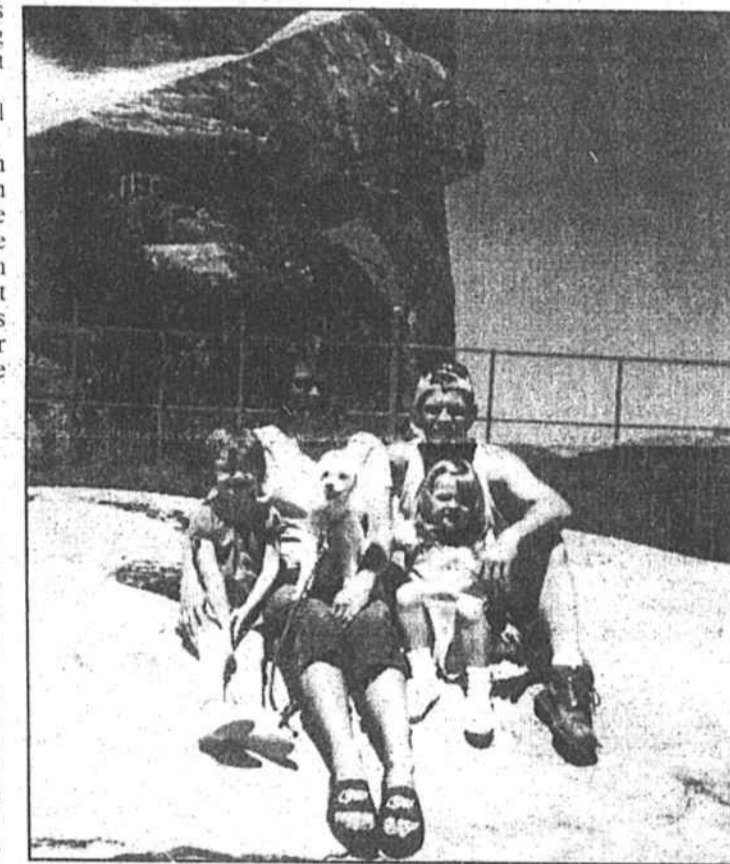
Bonding With Their Heritage

After many hrs-days-weeks and months on their jobs, Mike & Lori Jones of Davenport Iowa, Look forward to Vacation time each year in Carolina.

This summer along with their twin daughters Jade & Jacey, they decided to combine two favorite pastimes.

While Jade & Jacey spent quality time bonding with Gramma "Mary" Mike & Lori decided on a canoe excursion of the Great Lumber River, and along with some tips and courteous assistance from Ronald Revels of Lumber River Sporting Goods, it was "Bon-Voy-Age" and time for bonding with the beautiful and serene with the whispering sound of the pines, the beauty of the Cypress trees and vines and the velvety clusters of Moss, the aura gave way to a sense of belonging!

We can't wait to do it again! Mike is the son of Atelia Mary "Chavis" Jones of Shannon, N.C.



Shown are Mike and Laura Jones of Davenport, Iowa with their twin daughters Jade and Jacey.

Indian Trail Pow-Wow to be held Sept. 27-29

Metrolina Native American Association is proud to sponsor its 19th Annual Indian Trail Powwow and Cultural Festival September 27-29, 2002, at Indian Trail Elementary School on Indian Trail Road.

The public is invited to come out and enjoy competition dancing and drumming, sample Native American foods and enjoy the storytelling, and buy authentic Indian made crafts and Jewelry.

Grand Entry is 12:00 noon Saturday and Sunday. Leaders booth will be open all day Saturday and Sunday. For more information, call Letha Strickland at (704) 926-1524 or (704) 724-3343.

Report to the People by Rep. Ron Sutton

SUTTON COMMENTS ON DAN BLUE

Many individuals have asked me about U.S. Senate Candidate Dan Blue. I know him well since I have served with Dan for the past ten (10) years in the North Carolina House of Representatives.

When I went into politics in 1993, Dan Blue was the speaker of the House of Representatives, duly elected by his 119 other peers. That was his second term and following that, the Republicans took over, and he was no longer Speaker, but remained an influential member of state government. Dan Blue is a powerful, dynamic leader, who is strong on education.

Dan Blue is one of the most intelligent, articulate and knowledgeable people I know.

When he speaks in a committee or on the House Floor, it gets quiet enough to hear a pin drop, both out of respect for him and in anticipation of what he has to say.

People often ask which candidate I am endorsing. I remind them that I, too, have a race to run, with opposition, therefore, I will not formally endorse any candidate. But, I tell them without hesitation, that if Dan Blue is elected U.S. Senator from North Carolina, he can and will do more for the Lumbee People than any other filed candidate.

Dan Blue grew up near Buie, knows the Lumbee history, identifies with the Lumbee struggle and is therefore better prepared to assist us in achieving our goals.

I encourage each and every registered voter to vote on September 10th and vote wisely.

You can make a difference at the local and state levels and in U.S. Senate.

Power Wheelchairs available for 2002

The Senior Wheels USA program makes available Power (Electric) Wheelchairs to senior Citizens (65 yrs old and up) and the Permanently Disabled at no cost to the recipient, if they qualify.

The Power Wheelchairs are provided to those who cannot walk and cannot self propel a manual wheelchair, and who meet the additional guidelines of the program. No deposit is required.

If the patient's need is for use in the home, please call for more information to see if they qualify. Call toll free at 1-800-246-6010.



Ronald Revels and Jade and Jacey Jones.

Rev. Clester Locklear Challenges for LREMC Board Seat

Red Springs-Rev. Clester Locklear announces his bid for election to the Lumbee River EMC Board of Directors. Locklear is running to represent District 4. District 4 represents the townships of Smiths, Red Springs, Shannon, Rennett, Burnt Swamp, Phiadelphus and Pembroke.

Rev. Clester Locklear appreciates and respects the integrity of the voters who will have the opportunity to cast a ballot in this election which will be held October 6 at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke's Givens Performing Arts Center. Voting will take place between the hours of 6 - 8 p.m.

A youthful 62, Locklear is a minister in the Lumbee Holiness Methodist Conference, and is a long time member at New Prospect Church. "Preacher Clester" believes in missions, and has been involved in the Caribbean for many years, especially in Trinidad and Tobago. He recently returned from a mission trip there, his 27th year of carrying the message of Christ abroad.

A Korean War Veteran, Rev. Locklear is married (Ellen), and has two sons, ages 29 & 30 respectively. He also proudly claims his status as grandfather and lists a granddaughter and a grandson on his resume.

In making his announcement, Rev. Clester Locklear issued this statement: "I make two promises to the voters in district 4. (1) If elected, I will be a voice for the voters in District 4. (2) I will go to each community in District 4 when I am elected and ask the community to choose co-op members to serve on an advisory committee to help me make responsible decisions for Lumbee River EMC, especially District 4. And, most importantly, I will pray about every vote before it is cast, and I will be honest and above board in my dealings with the rest of the co-op, including the other board members, the administration, and the members of Lumbee River EMC. These are the only promises I will make to anyone."

Locklear is anxious to remind voters that they must cast a vote in each district and at large race up for election on October 6 for their vote to count. "It is important for members to come out and vote. Please vote on October 6, and cast a vote for me in District 4. Thank you."

Punt, Pass & Kick competition set

The second annual Robeson County NFL Punt, Pass & Kick championship has been set for Saturday, September 21. The event is free and open to all boys and girls between the ages of 8 and 15.

It will be held at St. Pauls High School from 9 a.m. To 3p.m. It's sponsored by the St. Pauls All Stars AAU program and the Carolina Panthers.

Winners advance to district, regional and state championships. To register, please contact AAU All Stars President Waders Burden Jr. at (865-3749) after 6 p.m. or Paul Terry at (865-4179).

Volunteers are needed for the day. If you're interested, please contact Waders or Paul and pitch in for the kids.

Jamie Reaves Tennis Tournament set for September 27-29

The 14th annual Jamie Reaves Memorial Tennis Tournament will be played in St. Pauls September 27,29,2002.

The event, sponsored by the St. Pauls Area Tennis Association (SPATA),

is open to male and female juniors and adults. Play is limited to two events per entrant in this non-sanctioned tourney, which will be played on the St.Pauls High School courts.

Entry fees are \$20 for one event or \$30 for two events. Please make checks payable to SPATA.

To enter, please contact SPATA President Beth (or Danny) Ward, 865-5926, or SPHS coaches Dixie and Kevin Jordan, 865-2322 or SPATA treasurer Paul Terry, 865-4179. You can mail entry forms c/o The St.Pauls Review, P.O. Box 265, St. Pauls, North Carolina 28384.

Entry deadline is Friday, September 20.

Human testing for West Nile Virus on Rise

RALEIGH-- With growing evidence of West Nile virus activity in birds all across North Carolina, the State Laboratory of Public Health is now concentrating its resources almost entirely on the testing of human lab specimens. Acting State Health is now concentrating its resource almost entirely on the testing of human lab specimens, Acting State Health Director Leah Devlin announced today.

Over 600 birds have been sent to the State Lab for West Nile virus testing this summer, and 44 birds from 15 different counties have already tested positive for the virus. At the same time, the number of human lab specimens sent in to the lab also been rapidly increasing, straininf the Lab's

capacity.

"We have clear indicators that West Nile is throughout North Carolina and in neighboring states," said Dr. Devlin. "We now need to focus our resources on testing human blood samples, not only for West Nile virus but for other types of encephalitis and for the multitude of other diseases the State Lab is responsible for testing. Human health is our top priority."

To ensure the Lab will be able to handle the increasing volume of human testing, state public health officials have decided to stop testing birds from counties where at least one bird has tested positive for West Nile virus.