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Angela Payne
Miss Teen USA 1987 Contestant

Angela Payne Works Hard To Reach That Star

By Jalyne Strong
Post Staff Writer

Sixteen-year-old Angela Payne is looking forward to a little excitement towards the end of summer. On August 23 and 24, she will be a contestant in the 1987 Miss Teen USA Pageant to be held in Greensboro, N.C.

Once there, Angela will participate in a swimsuit contest and be further judged on personality and poise. To say the least, she's very enthusiastic.

Angela found out about the contest through an ad in a newspaper. After sending in an application, she was informed she qualified for the competition. This is her first experience with beauty contests.

"My mom encouraged me," Angela notes. "She thinks I'm cute," she laughs. "She also thinks it could lead to other things like commercials. Why not?" Angela considers.

In the time left before the event, Angela must find sponsors to help raise the \$225 needed to pay for her stay in Greensboro. "I'm still looking," she says hopefully.

Aside from the contest, however, this week's beauty says she finds the summer to be a little "boring." She says there's not much happening for her except an occasional weekend visit to see out-of-town relatives. Surprisingly, this is one teenager who's looking forward to going back to school in September. A junior at Garinger High School, Angela relates, "I love school. High school is a breeze."

Describing herself as "cheerful and very easy to get along with," Angela also claims, "I try to be fairly honest—a little candid—but

not outrageous." She adds to her self-description that she is "short." Standing 4'11", the petite beauty says she doesn't mind her diminutive stature. "I came by it naturally. Both my mom and dad are short."

Asked to name the person she most admires, Angela picks actress Kim Fields. "She seems to be like me," Angela explains. "Just an ordinary person though she acts very well. I wanted to be an actress at one time," she reveals.

Angela has subsequently changed her mind about an acting career, preferring now to be an entertainer and singer. She's already testing the waters in that direction. She and four girlfriends, Vanessa Bynum, Denise Wilson, Kim Pagent and Stacy Torrence, have organized a singing group. "We imitate New Edition, with steps and everything. We've been in two talent shows," Angela tells. "We came in first in one and second place in another."

Now she's looking forward to working with a band and the possibility of doing original tunes. Angela acknowledges that the entertainment business is tough. But in preparation, she comments, "I'll practice as much as I can and try to stay in touch with the right people, so I can make my way."

Her parents, says Angela, are supportive of her ambition. In fact, her father Donzell Payne, is a former entertainer himself. "I guess I got it from him," Angela smiles. She and her mother, Mary McCullough, are "very close."

Angela maintains. Her mother is best at solving problems through talking, she adds. Angela has one younger brother, John who's three-years-old.

If she could have her utmost wish, Angela says it could be "to meet New Edition." She owns up to "having a serious crush on member Ronnie DeVoe." "It was his nose!" Angela giggles about what first attracted her. "But his personality follows. He may be the type of person I like," she has decided. "He's a Scorpio," enthuses this Aquarian.

Well, this week's beauty definitely has her heart set on an entertainment career and all that comes with it—the glamour, the glitter. It may all lead to a much different lifestyle for a young girl from Charlotte. But that doesn't faze Angela. "I don't think I'll change much," she assures. "I'll still be a down-home southerner."

This Weekend NCBLC's 10th Anniversary Conference Convenes Here

By Jalyne Strong
Post Staff Writer

"Economic and Political Self-Help," is the theme and will be the focus of the 10th Anniversary Conference of the North Carolina Black Leadership Caucus (NCBLC) to be held in Charlotte Friday, July 18, through Sunday, July 20, with programs at University Park Baptist Church and Johnson C. Smith University.

Explicating the many components of this theme will be a host of national personalities, such as: Congressman Walter Fauntroy, Rev. Jesse Jackson, Dr. Joseph Lowery, Tony Brown, Arthur Teel Jr., Congressman Cardiss Collins and others. Each of these highly-respected individuals will speak at the conference on subjects

expertise.

For example, in keeping with the theme, at the Opening Session on Friday, July 18, 6:30 p.m., at University Park Baptist Church, Congressman Walter Fauntroy, president of the National Black Leadership Roundtable, will address economic development issues and Rev. Jesse Jackson, president of the National Rainbow Coalition, Inc., will address political empowerment issues. The public is welcome to attend this event at no charge.

According to Robert "Bob" Davis, Western vice president of the NCBLC, this conference should be "a very exciting time for the people of Charlotte to see national black leaders, to hear and interact with them."

Davis, who has been affiliated with the Caucus for seven years, says local groups lobbied for this 10th anniversary conference to be held in Charlotte. Campaigners involved in bringing the conference to this city include the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Black Political Caucus, the Black Elected Officials, the Tuesday Morning Breakfast Club, Mayor Harvey Gantt, and County Commissioner Robert "Bob" Walton.

Miller To Speak At Post's "CWOY" Banquet

By Jalyne Strong
Post Staff Writer

Author of the weekly column "Miller Says," Sherman Miller of Wilmington, Delaware, will be the keynote speaker for the sixth annual Charlotte Post "Churchworker of the Year" Banquet to be held Saturday, July 26, at the Adam's Mark Hotel.

A part-time columnist, Miller is employed as a marketing specialist with the Dupont Corporation in Delaware. He has, however, been writing for the Charlotte Post for approximately 18 months and his weekly commentaries and specials have also been published in several newspapers across the country.

As a lecturer, Miller has appeared on his community's cable television station as a weekly opinion commentator and has been guest speaker at church assemblies in his area. For the "Churchworker of the Year" contest, he will speak on the importance of Motherhood, Miller has revealed.

His start in the newspaper business began when he'd written a letter to the editor of a newspaper and coincidentally was paid for his comments. Miller began writing articles to several other papers and soon his byline was appearing in such newspapers as the Kansas City Globe, for which he worked on the Minority Press Service for awhile, the Philadelphia New Observer, the



Congressman Charles Rangel
.....Democrat whip



Joshua I. Smith
.....Chief Executive Officer



Dr. Benjamin Chavis
.....Director for Racial Justice



Congresswoman Cardiss Collins
.....Subcommittee chairwoman



Tony Brown
.....Buy Freedom Campaign founder



Congressman Parren Mitchell
.....Black Caucus Braintrust, chrm.

"We felt the 10th anniversary is a milestone and should be celebrated in the largest Caucus unit in the state," Davis elaborates. As Western vice president, Davis is vice chair of the districts eight and nine of the NCBLC which encompass the area stretching from Asheville, N.C., to Charlotte. Dr. E. Lavonia Allison, of Durham, N.C., is president of the organization. She has

stated, "The 10th anniversary celebration is expected to be the largest ever. Many outstanding national leaders are coming as special guests to share ideas, issues, and strategies for economic emancipation and political empowerment of black people."

Following is a synopsis of what will take place during the second and third days of the Conference.

Keynoting a Prayer Breakfast, 8 a.m., on Saturday, July 19, at University Memorial Union, JCSU, will be Rev. Dr. Joseph Lowery, president of the Southern Leadership Conference. Also scheduled for the breakfast are Congressman Walter Fauntroy, chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus Braintrust on Voter Participation and See NCBLC On Page 5A



Sherman N. Miller
.....Featured speaker

Atlanta Daily World, and the Tri State Defender, among others. His magazine articles have appeared in The National Republic

can Club's Capitol Hill and The Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's Oracle magazine. Letters to the Editor, written by

Miller, have been published in The Philadelphia Bulletin, Black Enterprise Magazine, Business Week and The Washington Report.

One article was read into the United States Congressional Record. His works have been acknowledged by the NAACP National Leadership and the White House has requested his presence for briefing on the South African Crisis.

The reason he writes, explains Miller, "is because, secretly, it gives me a chance to do some preaching." He claims there are "hidden biblical messages" in most articles; "I share studies in the Bible which guide my life," he reveals.

He also states that he writes to bring about understanding.

Miller's weekly column appearing in the Post tends to have a conservative tone. However, he says, "I consider myself moderate." A product of a housing project, Miller recalls seeing his parents struggle to put together a business. "I've always been around the work ethic and my parents stressed education. I have the same old fashioned concepts," he points out. "I'm a great believer in respect and I'm hellbent on excellence."

A graduate of Delaware State College with a B.S. in Mathematics and the University of Delaware with See Sherman On Page 16A

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