

# Beautiful Pianist Wins State Crown

By HAL SHAPIRO

As the clocks tolled midnight Saturday night, Miss Albenarle, Joan Spinks Melton, was crowned Miss North Carolina of 1957. After three days of pageantry at Morehead City that thrilling moment came when Faye Arnold, the state's 1956 beauty, passed her title on to the charming brown-haired lass, an accomplished pianist from the mid-west section of the state.

Miss Melton was also awarded a trophy and a diamond wrist watch as winner.

First runner-up award went to Becky Lee, Miss Dunn, and the second runner-up award went to Sonja Marie Averette, Miss Wake County. These awards included trophies and watches.

The congeniality award, a trophy, went to Lynne Richardson, Miss Morehead City. She was selected by other contestants, by secret ballot, as the most helpful girl in the group.

The crowning climaxed a thrills-packed three-day competition among 41 of the state's loveliest girls.

The Saturday night program at the Carolina Racing Association track, attended by more than 5,000 cheering spectators, came to a close after a four-hour show.

The festivities began with the introduction of the judges and 40 lovelies. Patsy McAuley, Miss Rocky Mount, who injured her foot a week before the pageant began, was unable to appear on the stage.

The 10 semi-finalists were Sonja Marie Averette, Miss Wake County; Pat Everhart, Miss Thomasville; Wilma Mahaffey, Miss Salisbury; Joy H. Lambert, Miss Raleigh; Diana Ruth Johnson, Randolph County; Anne Maultsby, Miss Bladen County; Anna Speight Whitefield, Miss Martin County; Linda Whichard, Miss Greenville; Becky Lee, Miss Dunn, and Joan Melton, the winner.

Each of the 10 semi-finalists went through all three phases of the competition. The first phase was the evening gown division.

**Miss Averette** — White tulle, bouffant styled, with three-tiered skirt and a bodice embroidered with sequins and rhinestones.

**Miss Everhart** — Blue lace and tulle creation with tiered skirt and lace bodice.

**Miss Mahaffey** — White eyelet with tiered skirt and a blue sash. She wore elbow-length white gloves.

**Miss Lambert** — Pink tulle with sequin-embroidered bodice and low shoulder straps.

**Miss Johnson** — White tulle with tucks in the skirt. She also wore elbow-length white gloves.

**Miss Maultsby** — White tulle with three-tiered skirt, bodice embroidered with sequins and rhinestones. She wore elbow length white gloves.

**Miss Whitefield** — Blue tulle with small tucks in skirt, and tucked tulle design at the bottom. She wore elbow-length white gloves.

**Miss Whichard** — White tulle and lace, tulle flounces edged with lace, a tiered skirt. She wore elbow length white gloves.

**Miss Lee** — White tulle skirt with bodice outlined in lace and embroidered with sequins and rhinestones. The dress had straps. She wore wrist-length gloves.

**Miss Melton** — White lace and dupioni silk, ankle length with lace-capped sleeves and a buttoned-up back.

Following a short intermission with Bobbi Dennis, Beaufort, giving several modern singing inter-pretations, the girls returned in the talent phase.

**Miss Averette** — Dramatic recitation. See PAGEANT, Page 5



Laughing and crying at the same time, Joan Melton, the state's new beauty queen is pictured a few seconds after she was declared winner over 40 of North Carolina's loveliest girls. Behind her, Faye Arnold, Miss North Carolina of 1956, makes sure that the Miss North Carolina ribbon stays anchored.

## Joan Melton Started Studying Piano When She Was 3 Years Old

One of the most talented young women in North Carolina, Joan Spinks Melton, 18-year-old daughter of Dr. and Mrs. J. S. Melton of Albemarle, will represent the Tar Heel State at the Miss America Pageant at Atlantic City in September.

Miss Melton, crowned Miss North Carolina of 1957 at midnight Saturday night, has been playing the piano since the age of 3. Her ambition is to be a concert pianist.

Her mother was her first teacher. She taught her daughter for a year. At the age of 4 Miss Melton started taking lessons from Miss Annecy Worsham of Albemarle.

Last year she studied as a freshman at East Carolina College under Robert Carter.

As she was crowned Saturday night, she told the audience, "I can't say anything but just thank you so much."

A beautiful girl with measurements of 35-22-36, who is 5 foot 5 inches tall and weighs 110 pounds, the new Miss North Carolina was starry-eyed after the judges announced their decision.

Miss Melton stated that her favorite "likes" are earrings, shoes and men. In the latter category she already has selected the one for her. He is Jay Robbins, a rising sophomore at East Carolina College, whose home is in Greenville. He too was very proud and happy with the judges' choice.

Miss Melton has blue eyes, brown hair and fair complexion. She was the first person in North Carolina to receive the Paderewski Gold Medal Award and has appeared as guest soloist with the North Carolina Symphony four times.

She plays classical music primarily, her favorite composer being Johann Sebastian Bach. For relaxation she loves to be-bop.

Since the seventh grade she has sung in the choir of the First Baptist Church in Albemarle.

## Former Pastor Here Elected Trustee

The Rev. William Stanley Potter, pastor at Ann Street Methodist Church, Beaufort, from 1939-1945, has been elected a member of the High Point College Board of Trustees.

Currently pastor at the Steele Street Methodist Church in Sanford, Mr. Potter has also served as pastor of the Hayes-Barton Methodist Church, Raleigh, First Methodist Church, Henderson, and the Haymount Church, Fayetteville.

## Marshallberg Club Considers Proposal of Incorporation

### 63 Aero Club Members Visit County Sunday

Sixty-three members of the Carolina Aero Club cruised from Beaufort to Cape Lookout Sunday aboard a menhaden boat.

They arrived at the Beaufort-Morehead City airport in 26 planes. Five planes flew to the cape. Other pilots and their passengers went by boat.

Beaufort Jaycees furnished transportation to and from the dock and sold box lunches aboard the boat. Beverages were furnished free by the Jaycees.

At the cape, the business meeting was conducted by the club president, Henry Woods, Durham.

Jesse Taylor, Beaufort Jaycee, was in charge of arrangements.

The next meeting of the plane enthusiasts will be the first week in September at Fayetteville.

Persons on the Sunday tour from this county, in addition to Mr. Taylor, were Earl Taylor, Charles Vellines, Vernon Smith, Earle Noe, and Mr. and Mrs. Bill McDonald.

Jaycees assisting on the trip were Ronald Earl Mason, A. C. Blankenship, Glenn Willis and Bill Tickle.

### Sam Green Held On Assault Count

Sam Green Jr., Beaufort, is being held in the county jail on a charge of hitting and injuring Bud Dixon Saturday at about 5:30 p.m. Bond has been set at \$500.

According to Assistant Chief of Police Carlton Garner, Green and Dixon were walking along Cedar Street when Sam got mad, picked up a piece of wooden paling and busted Bud across the face with it.

Bud had a gash across his nose and across his left cheek. Three stitches were required to sew up each cut. He was taken to the Morehead City Hospital by Officer Garner and later swore out a warrant for Green.

Dixon is a Negro employee at Safrin's sawmill.

## Legislator Returns Home, Offers to Explain New Law

### Morning Rain Falls Yesterday

The county was treated to a rainfall during the early morning hours yesterday and also had better than one inch of rainfall last week, according to E. Stamey Davis, weather observer.

The high for the week was recorded Wednesday, Friday and Sunday with a reading of 89 degrees. The low was recorded Wednesday when the mercury dropped to 70 degrees.

The high and low temperatures and wind directions for the past week were as follows:

	Max.	Min.	Winds
Monday	88	79	SW
Tuesday	88	79	SW
Wednesday	89	70	SW
Thursday	88	71	SW
Friday	89	71	SW
Saturday	87	74	SW
Sunday	89	75	SW

## State Schedules Bridge Hearing

H. Maynard Hicks, second division highway commissioner, has scheduled a public hearing on the proposed new Beaufort bridge. It will take place at 2 p.m. next Monday at the courthouse, Beaufort.

The purpose of the meeting, Mr. Hicks said, is to comply with a recent ruling by the Bureau of Public Roads. The ruling went into effect June 29, 1956, making it necessary to have a public hearing on all projects where federal funds are used. This must be done prior to letting the contract.

At a hearing at the Beaufort Town Hall last year, the Morehead, Beaufort and county commissioners all approved the project, but the coming hearing will be the "official" one, Mr. Hicks said.

## Morning Rain Falls Yesterday

D. G. Bell, county legislator, returned home Friday night from the special session of the General Assembly at Raleigh where state representatives and senators approved the Pearsall plan for maintaining segregated schools.

Now the plan which involves changing the state constitution, will be voted on by the people Sept. 8.

Mr. Bell said yesterday that he will be glad to appear before civic groups, if invited, and explain the Pearsall plan. "I think this plan will require a lot of explaining and to the best of my ability I will try to present the facts impartially," Mr. Bell said.

**Did Best Possible**

Commenting on the special session, Mr. Bell said that there was "some agitation for stronger legislation and some for weaker. I tried to talk to representatives from all over the state. We agreed that this school business is a bad situation but regardless of various opinions, we think we have done the best that can be done."

The House made minor technical changes in the education bills and passed them with only two

### 'Marksman' Cuts Power Down East

Carolina Power and Light Co. is making a thorough investigation in the shooting out of a high-voltage line just west of Williston Sunday.

The malicious shooting left Smyrna and the entire eastern part of the county without power for four hours Sunday morning.

"This was a serious outage," George Stovall, manager of the power company said, "and we're making every effort to find out who is responsible."

A quarter-inch copper wire carrying 13,000 volts was shot in two, probably by someone with a high-powered rifle, he said.

The shooting occurred between 7 and 8 a.m. Repairs were not complete until 11:30 a.m.

The line was lying on the ground until power company crews arrived. It was live and could have electrocuted anyone who touched it, Mr. Stovall said.

### Tobacco Barn Burns at Newport

Newport firemen responded to the season's first tobacco barn fire Friday. A barn owned by L. W. Howard and used by Garfield Clark burned. A connecting shed and two other barns were saved. The barn was being operated on "killing heat." Members of the Clark family said they thought a burner exploded.

The barn was in flame when the rural truck arrived. The new 1,200-gallon tanker was radioed for and water from it was used to wet down the remains of the first barn. There was no insurance on the barn or contents. Loss is expected to exceed \$2,200.

The tanker truck stalled after reaching the fire, but firemen quickly hooked up 28 feet of suction line from the first truck and "drafted" water from the tanker.

The fire alarm was turned in by telephone from a home about one mile from the burning barn at 5:10 p.m. Firemen returned to Newport about one hour later.

### Motorist Runs into Car Parked on Front Street

Dalton Willis, Beaufort, driving a 1953 Plymouth, struck a parked 1956 Chrysler owned by Frank H. Maples Jr., Elizabethtown, Tenn., at 1:15 Saturday morning in front of 909 Front St., Beaufort.

Willis was returning to his home from Morehead City when he ran into the parked car. Patrolman Mack Wade estimated damage to the Chrysler at \$177.60 and to the Plymouth at \$225.

No charges were filed.

### Cars Collide At Race Track

Two cars collided at 11:45 p.m. Thursday at the Carolina race track. A 1952 Chevrolet, driven by Caswell D. Mann, 609 Bay St., Morehead City, was attempting to turn left into the track when it crunched into a 1949 Ford trying to pass it.

State Highway Patrolman R. H. Brown said the Ford was driven by Gerald T. Cullen, Cherry Point. Both cars were headed west.

Patrolman Brown said that Mann is a watchman at the track. He was going to work following the conclusion of the beauty pageant.

Damage to Mann's car is estimated at \$200 and damage to the Ford was estimated at \$150. Charges are pending.

Members of the Down East Fire Department will meet at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 7, at the community building, Davis.

### Penning to Take Place At Shackleford Saturday

The last pony penning scheduled for Shackleford Banks this season will take place Saturday.

Boats will leave for the banks from Harkers Island. Departure time is 8 a.m. Ponies will be rounded up, branded by the owners and turned loose. Some will be offered for sale.

**337 Shots Given**

Dr. John Way, president of the county Medical Society, reported that 337 polo shots were given at clinics yesterday. Seventy-eight shots were given to teen-agers, 253 to children and six to pregnant women.

### Tide Table

Tides at the Beaufort Bar			
HIGH	Tuesday, July 31		LOW
1:28 a.m.		7:35 a.m.	
2:13 p.m.		8:40 p.m.	
Wednesday, Aug. 1			
2:35 a.m.		8:30 a.m.	
3:17 p.m.		9:49 p.m.	
Thursday, Aug. 2			
3:42 a.m.		9:47 a.m.	
4:24 p.m.		10:35 p.m.	
Friday, Aug. 3			
4:50 a.m.		10:55 a.m.	
5:28 p.m.		11:55 p.m.	

## Judge Gives Car Thief One Year

Robert Fagan, 20, Negro who stole Mrs. Dan Walker's car last Tuesday, was sentenced to one year on the roads in Morehead City Recorder's Court yesterday by Judge Herbert Phillips.

Fagan was tried on the charges of prison break and theft of the auto. In passing sentence Judge Phillips stated that with the year's sentence he was receiving in Morehead City, his full term on the roads would be four years. Fagan was serving a six-month term when he left a road gang and stole the car.

At New Bern Thursday Fagan was sentenced to two and a half years for speeding in excess of 100 miles per hour, careless and reckless driving and possession of stolen property.

He wrecked the 1955 Oldsmobile in New Bern, after stealing the car which was parked by the commercial fisheries building, Camp Glenn, where Mrs. Walker works.

### Area Patrolled

Members of the sheriff's department helped patrol the beauty pageant parking lot over the weekend in cooperation with the Morehead City Jaycees, who sponsored the pageant. Highway patrolmen and military police were also on duty.

mans' razing the little town of Lidice.

For this presentation, she removed all her jewels — earrings, crown, rings. That touch of luxury for her deeply emotional reading would have detracted from the impact.

Frank Cassiano, Morehead Jaycee, is backing for a beauty pageant judgeship. He picked all three finalists Saturday night, right on the nose, 1-2-3.

It only happens in the movies? It happened at the pageant Saturday night. Patricia Ann Merritt, 17, a rising senior at New Hanover High School, Wilmington, and Jack Kirkman, also from Wilmington, presented a special dance number as entertainment.

Pat's bitches split. She and her partner were wearing tight "pedal pusher" pants. During some of the strenuous gyrations, stitches at a crucial point gave way. Every time Pat faced the audience, some white unmentionables showed.

A few raucous laughs soon turned to a roar as the audience noticed the dancer's plight. Pat was laughing too, and like a seasoned trouper, she and her partner finished the act.

### Pageant Sidelights and Highlights

Both Miss America and Miss North Carolina are getting married soon.

When Faye, Miss North Carolina, was selected as the state's beauty, she won a thousand dollar scholarship. When she was third runner-up in the Miss America contest last fall she won a \$2,000 scholarship.

What happens to those scholarships now? Faye says she wants to be a wife and homemaker. She's giving them up.

And what about Sharon Kay Ritchie's total of \$6,000 in scholarships? Even though she is going to be married, this Miss America of 1956, says that she plans to make use of the scholarships.

This week Faye will be in New York City, probably to do a little shopping in preparation for that big day in August when she will become the bride of Paul Broyhill of Lenoir.

Sharon Kay? She's gone back to her home in New York City, and next week she will be in Wooster, Ohio, to help judge the Miss Ohio contest.

Both beauties wore the MOST gorgeous gowns. Faye wore a white bouffant gown Friday night, with twining ivy green sequin design over the bodice. Sharon Kay wore