

20 pageant finalists selected

By MARGARET JOHNSON
Battalion Reporter

The official 20 contestants to compete in the Miss Texas A&M University Scholarship Pageant were selected this week. "Out of 41 applicants, 20 women along with five alternates were selected," said Steve Noak, pageant director and Texas A&M student. "Judging was based on interviews, their total appearance and talent presentation."

Noak felt that the involvement response was "not bad" for the first year. "After the people see the show and see what all it involves, I expect the turnout to be better next year," he said.

Contrary to popular belief, said Noak, the pageant is focused more on talent and interview rather than on the beauty aspect.

"This is not a beauty pageant, it's a scholarship pageant," said Noak. "Football players use their skills and talents to get scholarships. What these girls are doing is basically the same — they are using their skills and talents to acquire scholarships."

The talent counts three times as much as the beauty, added Noak. Interviews are also important because they look at the contestants' intelligence.

"The interviews will deal with many varied topics, as well as local, national and world-wide situations," said Noak. "Sure, beauty is a part of it, but it's not the main focus."

The chairman of the board for the petroleum engineering will address the Standard Oil of California and a commencement ceremony at Texas A&M University Friday.

Approximately 1,950 students are expected to receive graduate and undergraduate degrees in the ceremony, to be held at 10:30 p.m. on Friday and 9 a.m. on Saturday.

AKM graduate, will speak on Saturday.

Harold J. Haynes, a 1946 AKM graduate, will speak on Saturday.

Michael T. Halbouty, a 1930 AKM graduate, received the University's Distinguished Alumni award in 1965 and the University's geoscience building since mid-May — seven of them this year.

Alarmed by the traffic deaths of 11 days.

When you are driving — whether it's on the highway, freeway or around your neighborhood — slow down, keep a clear head and don't take chances," Dr. John Kol-

Alumni to give grad talks

The average price of a previously owned home in Texas has risen 17 percent in the last year, according to Arthur Wright, a research economist with the Texas Real Estate Research Center at Texas A&M University.

But despite the rising price of homes in Texas, and the tight money situation, Wright said the number of sales during the third quarter also rose, up nearly 11 percent from the previous quarter.

"Texas residential real estate continues to experience a rising number of sales in conjunction with sharply higher prices," he said.

Wright's computations are based on reports from 31 Multiple Listing Services in major population centers across the state.

Wright said the price increases are not spread evenly across the state. He said the Harlingen area showed a slight decline in the average sales price, while in the average, the price jumped dramatically.

"You have to take into consideration these are averages, and in a relatively small market a few sales can alter the statistics significantly," he said.

Data shows home costs up

Prices rise 17% in year

AKM official urges holiday traffic safety

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The five official pageant judges have also been selected. "Three of the judges will be from out of town," Noak said. "These three have had at least six or more years experience judging pageants."

These judges include Jean Johnson, the Miss Texas chapter, Helen Mashburn, the official talent coach for Miss Texas, and Robert Reynolds, a noted pageant clothes designer.

Local representation connected with the pageant judging will be two citizens from the Bryan-College Station area.

"Mr. Bob Boone, head of the Singing Cadets and Mrs. Manning Smith, who has been associated with professional performing arts for several years will be the other two judges," said Noak.

Also present at the Miss TAMU pageant will be the present Miss Texas, Lex Ann Haughey.

"The will crown the winner on Saturday night, besides performing a lite solo," said Noak. "These will be a wide variety of talent presentations, besides what the girls will present."

The contestants, said Noak, will be the main stars of the show. "The other performers are just special guests. Since whoever is selected will be the representative of AKM, naturally the girls will be the highlights of the pageant," he added.

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