

Local

A&M coed wins beauty pageant



Staff photo by Pat O'Malley

Carolyn Garrison was named "Miss Texas Western" Saturday night in Bandera. She will go on to compete in the Miss Texas

U.S.A. pageant in El Paso next August. Garrison is a freshman marketing major from Alice.

By JANE C. BRUST
Battalion Reporter

Last week she dreamed about being on that stage.

Saturday night, when she finally did walk on it, that stage "as big as a basketball court," Texas A&M University student Carolyn Garrison was crowned Miss Texas Western 1981 at the pageant held in the Bandera High School auditorium.

"I just thought it wasn't true," said the freshman marketing major from Alice. "I still haven't grasped the fact that it leads me to the next pageant."

The Miss Texas Western title will take her to El Paso's Miss Texas U.S.A. pageant in August. That winner will represent the state in the Miss U.S.A. pageant.

"It's scary out on the stage in a pageant," she said. "I usually don't wear my contacts because it makes me more nervous to see the audience's clear expressions."

"I wonder, 'Am I sucking my stomach in, standing up straight?' My lips begin to quiver from smiling so much, and there's constant photographs," she said.

The glittering of camera flashes keeps her alert but does not add to her nervousness, she said.

Garrison appeared on stage in a group dance routine, in swimsuit competition, and in western wear competition.

After rising at 6 a.m. Saturday, she was kept busy with rehearsals and interviews until pageant time at 7:30 p.m.

She said the contestants were given 30 minutes before the pageant to freshen up and relax, but they had to add makeup to their faces and brush hairspray through their hair all day to be ready for the evening's program.

Garrison said that at every pageant, no matter what the women do to enhance their appearance, judges always see them "in their element" at some time during pageant preparation.

"They'll see you as you really are at

least once," she said. "They're there while we eat, snack, practice. I had to talk to one judge in my shorts, with hair in rollers, while I was practicing my routine."

In the last portion of the program, after being named one of 10 finalists, Garrison appeared on stage for an impromptu question and answer session.

She said the funniest thing during the two-day pageant occurred when she received her question.

"They asked me to describe the ideal man for me to marry," she said.

"The guy I've been dating and two other guys and my mom were sitting in the audience," she said, "and when the emcee read my question, the whole audience was silent, and then those four people busted a gut laughing. Then the people in the audience pointed a finger at them and jokingly said they could leave the room."

Garrison began her pageant experience with winning the Miss Heart of the Border title in May, 1979, at the first pageant she ever entered.

She said a man who runs pageants asked her if she'd like to enter and she did. That title took her to the Texas Junior Miss Pageant in January.

The new Miss Texas Western will spend the coming year attending rodeos and pageants all over Texas.

Garrison said interviews and other pageant experiences have helped her overcome shyness as well as feelings of inferiority.

"I've learned how not to be shy," she said, "and I know I can do stuff on that stage without it really bothering me."

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Theater arts presents play

The theater arts department is presenting the play "Green Grow the Lilacs" beginning this week. This romantic comedy, based on the musical "Oklahoma," will be presented on Oct. 9, 10, 11, 16, 17 and 18 in Rudder Forum, beginning at 8 p.m. each night.

The play centers around a young couple in love, and the obstacles they encounter.

The play's director, Richard Soders, said that the production has been entered in the American College Theater Festival at Sam Houston on Oct. 22.

Tickets are on sale at the MSC box office. Student tickets are \$2.50 and non-student tickets are \$3.50.

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Monday, October 13, 8:00 p.m. Room 201 MSC
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October 17

Newest Northrop Fighter Advances F-5 Family

March 24, 1980 - Hawthorne, California

The new generation of Northrop's F-5 family of low cost tactical fighter aircraft, the F-5G, was announced at Hawthorne today, stepping up a nearly 20-year evolutionary program for the company. The single-engine F-5G was conceived to meet world defense needs today and through the 1990's, and offers an affordable, supportable defensive system that keeps pace with the changing requirements for national security.

October, 1980
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