

# Professor predicts pageant winner

**United Press International**  
ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. — The computer that last year's Miss Texas, Sheri Ryman of Texas A&M University, says may have cost her the Miss America crown predicted Miss North Carolina will be the 1982 pageant winner.

"I was shocked. I didn't think I'd be the statistical choice," Elizabeth Gray Williams said Monday as she prepared for the beauty and talent show.

"But it's going to be taken very lightly. I'd rather be the judges' choice than the computer's."

Dr. George Miller, a Northern Illinois University statistics professor who picked winners in 1979 and 1980 before failing last year, has predicted that Williams, a tall, green-eyed brunette, will win because she best fits a composite drawn by a computer programmed with data about former pageant queens.

Miller's 1981 choice, Ryman, said the publicity may have affected the judges and probably cost her the crown. But Williams does not believe she will suffer that fate.

"I don't think it will affect the

judges, or hurt me," she said. "The judges use the personal interviews, and that's something the computer doesn't have."

Personal interviews with the judges began Tuesday.

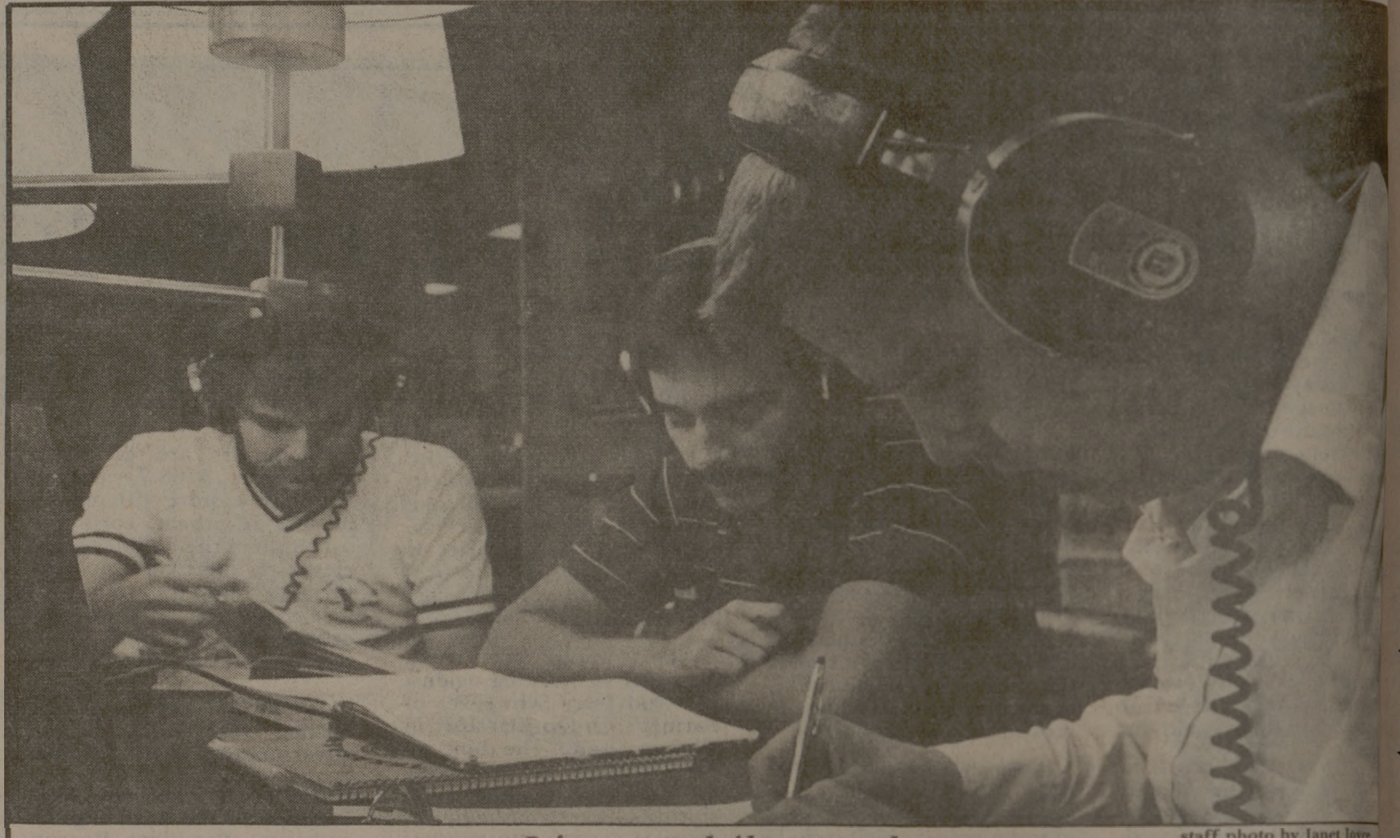
Some of the other contestants, however, were not so sure that Miss Williams could succeed despite the computer pick.

"I think it's a strike against the girl chosen because the judges don't want the computer to be right," said Miss New Mexico, Cindy Ann Friesen.

Most of the women also ridiculed the idea that a computer could pick the pageant queen.

"He (Miller) came close last year, but close only counts with skunks, horseshoes and hand grenades," said Miss Oklahoma, Nancy Hapman.

The 50 pageant hopefuls made their official debuts Monday, then plunged into a hectic week of competitions and rehearsals that will climax with the crowning of a new queen on Saturday.



Listen while you learn

The Browsing Library is the place to study for, from left, Bubba Latham, a junior agricultural economics major; Thomas Hubbell, a junior petroleum engineering major; and Kevin Crody, a freshman electrical engineering major. The library on the second floor of the Memorial Student Center, offers students the chance to listen to their favorite sounds while they learn.

# Reporter free after jail stay

**United Press International**  
BOSTON — The Massachusetts Executive Council, Tuesday, freed a Boston Herald American reporter jailed for refusing to testify against a news source in a 1978 murder case.

The vote was 6-0 in favor of commuting a 90-day prison sentence to time served, eight days. One councillor abstained and one was absent.

Reporter Paul Corsetti, clean-shaven and wearing a blue blazer instead of the prison greens he had been wearing for eight days, told the emergency meeting, "I have had to live with this every day for 2 1/2 years."

The council, which must approve recommendations on pardons or commutation of prison sentences, called the meeting to consider Gov. Edward J. King's request that Corsetti's 90-day jail sentence be commuted to time served. It upheld the request after rejecting a motion to delay the vote for one week.

Corsetti, 33, was ordered to the Middlesex County House of Correction a week ago for refusing to testify about an interview he conducted with a suspect in the murder of a male prostitute.

Refusing to recommend a pardon after saying Corsetti admitted he had broken the law, King opted for the commutation, saying Corsetti had suffered enough.

Over the weekend, King called a special meeting of the council to act on the matter.

"Corsetti is guilty of a crime," King said to a weekend news conference, explaining why he could not pardon the first journalist in Massachusetts history to be jailed for contempt of court.

"He has broken the law. He is guilty and that stands," King said. "But the issue of compassion remains."

Corsetti was found in contempt of court by a Superior Court judge after he refused to testify about interviews he had with Edward R. Kopacz Jr. Kopacz allegedly confessed to the fatal shooting of a gay prostitute in Lowell in February 1978. He was later acquitted by a jury.

In an article written by Corsetti's byline for the Herald American on Dec. 15, 1979, he named Kopacz as one of three people involved in the murder. The other two were not identified.

Corsetti said he promised Kopacz he would never testify.

King became Corsetti's last hope when Supreme Court Justice William Brennan rejected his request for a stay of sentence.

Corsetti told King society would not benefit from his continued confinement and he had suffered through a divorce because of his decision not to testify about the interview.

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