

# Being beautiful can be hard work

by Patti Schwierzke

Battalion Staff

It's not all fun and games and glamour. It's hard work that takes 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week. It's not blue jeans and t-shirts but designer dresses and make-up and getting up at ungodly hours to to prepare for appearances. It's not pleasure; it's a job.

And it's the price one pays for being a beauty queen.

Miss Texas USA Lisa Allred, 20, was up at 3:30 a.m. for her trip to College Station on Tuesday. She was here doing promotional work for Dillard's. She had to be at the store by 10 a.m.

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to officially open it and to do an interview with a T.V. station. At 11:15 a.m. she was headed to the Brazos Valley Rehabilitation Center to meet the children and sign autographs. At 12:45, she had a lunch date at Rudder Tower, a newspaper interview, another T.V. interview and another newspaper interview.

At 4 p.m., she had to be back at Dillard's to host a reception for the Teen Board. At 6 p.m., she had to start getting ready for a fashion show at Dillard's that began at 7 p.m. And after the show, she had to sign autographs.

Does Miss Texas USA get tired? You bet she does.

"It's fun and I enjoy it," she said. "It's a once in a lifetime thing. It's hard work and you get tired."

The new Miss Texas A&M — who replaced Gina Geiger, the 1982 Miss Texas A&M, on Feb. 25 — agrees.

Theresa Jones said that her phone hasn't stopped ringing since she won the title on Friday. She already has talked to Miss Texas pageant officials in Fort Worth and planned a trip to Dallas this weekend to start looking for clothes to wear for the Miss Texas competition on July 9.

Allred says that she has had more than an adequate amount of money to spend on clothes. In fact, she says that she has given a lot of her clothes away.

"I like feminine fashions, dresses instead of pants," she said. "I lean toward a more sophisticated look for part of my appearances. I'm extravagant."

When Allred won her title on August 23, 1982, she received a \$10,000 scholarship, a Subaru and the use of a \$25,000 Zales jewelry collection. She also received a full-length fur coat, a wardrobe of Larry Mahan western wear and boots and a \$5,000 day wardrobe from Dillard's.

When Jones won her title, she won a \$1,000 scholarship, a \$1,000 wardrobe, the official crown and trophy, the use of a Cadillac Sedan DeVille and a \$3,000 pendant from Zales.

Now that Jones and Allred have won one title, they have to start preparing for another title—Jones for Miss Texas and Allred for Miss USA. Both girls weigh 120 pounds. Jones is 5 feet 6 inches tall and Allred is 5 feet 7 inches tall.

"I'm on a diet right now where I try to eat only 500 calories a day," Allred said. "I have an exercise routine that I do and I jump rope. I also have a 30-minute exercise tape that I try to do if I have time but I usually don't. I also try to read the Bible every day," she said. "I really don't have any free time."

"The stage question is always the hardest because you have no idea what the judges are going to ask you," she said.

Jones is also preparing. "I'd like to lose five pounds before the pageant," she said. "I jog twice a week and I'm going to try and start doing it four times a week. I also work out at Shapeway about four times a week."

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"Now, I'll watch what I eat and stay away from fried foods and gooey deserts," she said. "I'll try and eat chicken, cheese and vegetables."

Both girls agree that even though it requires a lot of hard work, there is a lot to be learned from pageants.

"Pageants are real fun," Allred said. "I didn't know at first if it would be or not, but it was."

"There is so much to learn

from traveling and being exposed to different people and different situations," she said. "You have to learn to sink or swim — it's just living and learning."

An area director for the pageant went to North Texas State to talk to all the sororities about the pageant and Allred's Alpha Delta Pi sorority sisters encouraged her to enter. Allred, whose hometown is Fort Worth,

is a newcomer to the pageant game. She entered her first pageant in 1981 as Miss Richland Hills and was first runner-up. In the 1982 pageant, Allred represented Fort Worth and won.

Jones also said that pageants are fun.

"When I entered last year, it was a lot of fun," Jones said. "I like performing and I love this school and want to represent it." I have already gained so much more confidence in myself and there are so many opportunities available. It (the title) will give me good practice in interviewing and meeting and working with people.

"Representing Texas A&M won't be that hard because I am fond of the school and don't want to have a bad light shined on it," she said.

Jones, whose hometown is Hearne, is also a newcomer to pageants. The first time she entered a pageant was last year at Texas A&M and it turned out to be such fun that she decided to do it again.

Jones said that when the judges announced her name as the winner she was stunned.

"I knew that it was all or nothing," she said. "I was thinking maybe or maybe not. I was almost unemotional because I was so stunned and then the next morning I was ecstatic. I woke up and couldn't go back to sleep. I guess my adrenaline was just really pumping."

Both women know that their reigns will end and life will go on.

Allred will go back to NTSU and work on her degree in fashion merchandising. Some day she would like to get into a business but she has humble plans too.

"Ultimately, I want to be a housewife," she said.

Jones will continue to work on her business analysis degree while serving as Miss Texas A&M.

"One day, I would like to get a job and prove that I can be independent," she said. "My girlfriends and I talk about getting a penthouse in some big city and being successful."



Lisa Allred — 1983 Miss Texas USA



Gina Geiger —  
1982  
Miss Texas A&M

Theresa Jones —  
1983 Miss Texas A&M

staff photo by David Fisher