

# Long running beauty pageant is now a scholarship pageant

By Loraine McClell  
staff writer

**T**HE MISS MICHIGAN United Beauty Pageant, the longest running pageant of its kind in the state, is now the Miss Michigan United Scholarship Pageant.

The format is still the same. The pageant remains a way for obtaining recognition to begin careers in modeling, the auto shows, show business," said Cynthia Guenther, who has directed the pageant since 1977. "But education is so important to women in the '80s and '90s we want to stress that our winner and her runner-up will share money totaling \$5,000 for any accredited school of their choice.

"This is the third year we've been giving the scholarship, and now our future winners are permanent recipients of funds from the Millon Shoong Foundation. "Incidentally, Milton Shoong is going to be in the audience on pageant night, and he's the man who got Vanna White her start," Guenther said.

Pageant night is Wednesday, June 21 in the new Premier Star in Sterling Heights when Karen Mrosko of Southfield, Miss Michigan United of 1988, will crown the new title holder.

Applications will be sent on request by calling pageant headquarters, 851-7468.

**APPLICANTS MUST** be between 17-29 years of age, single, a resident of Michigan or officially registered at a Michigan school or university.

"Other than that she should be sincere about wanting and working towards a modeling career," Guenther said. "There is no talent competition. Contenders are judged in a personal interview, and on their figure,

charm, pose, personality, intelligence and photogenic potential because the winner gets a lot of exposure.

"She will be the star of an Elias Brother's Big Boy next commercial. She will get an audition to be spokesperson for Fitness USA. Her picture will appear in Motor Trend magazine and she'll get an opportunity to become Miss Aftonmore 1989. She'll also be in the Grand Prix parade in June.

"The 25 finalists in the pageant all get automatic auditions to work in the auto show circuits because that is what this pageant is all about.

"I know for a fact that Ford (Motor Co.) is going to be hiring a lot of new representatives for the shows this year and Karen (Mrosko) has been traveling all over the country this past year for Toyota," she said of 1988's title holder.

Mrosko is also appearing in the Waterbed Gallery commercial that is showing now on TV. And when she's not traveling for Toyota, she models, mostly for Ann Klein and Liz Clayborne's petite lines.

"She canceled her wedding after she won the title to do all this," Guenther said, "and now I'm told the wedding is definitely going to take place in July after this pageant."

**OTHER GIFTS** waiting for the new Miss Michigan United are the use of a Lumina from Buick Wheelan Chevrolet, a trip to the Bahamas from ASL Travel, membership in Fitness USA, an evening gown from Couture Boutique in Farmington Hills, a full length Norwegian blue fox coat from Fashion Furs, and a \$14,000 scholarship to John Robert Powers Modeling School in Southfield.

Still other prizes are waiting for the runners-up.



Karen Mrosko spent about eight months last year traveling with the Toyota auto show circuit as a result of her winning the Miss Michigan United title. When she returns home from those travels, she returns to Southfield.



## Sweet Adelines

Taking part in "A Murder in the Mansion" are Betty O'Connor, Mary Lou Howlett, Marianne Ferrante, Jean Aird and Margaret Morgan. The Farmington area residents are members of The Spirit of Detroit Sweet Adelines Chorus who will be singing at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday in Mercy High School. Tickets for the night of barbershop music are \$8, or \$5 for students and seniors, at the door.

## Community Women introduce their club to newcomers May 15

Area women are invited to meet the members of Farmington Area Community Women, who will introduce themselves and the workings of their service organization at 7:30 p.m. Monday, May 15, in the Community Center, 24705 Farmington Road.

The program for the get-acquainted evening is called "Colors of Spring." Fashions and accessories will be shown by 21st Century Knits and jewelry by Parklane.

An English-style tea of appetizers and desserts will be provided, and guests will have a chance at winning a door prize.

There is no charge, but reservations should be made by calling Denise Albrecht. Early reservations are suggested because seating is limited.

Farmington Area Community Women originated as an auxiliary to the Farmington Jaycees. The name

changed but the goals did not. The group provides leadership training and personal growth opportunities through community involvement.

The group meets the third Monday evening of each month in the Community Center to plan projects to benefit the community along with its own in-house socials, family events and fundraisers.

The members give a scholarship every year to a woman who is returning to college after an extended absence. They make holiday food baskets and gather gifts for the needy. They sponsor a Baby Beautiful Contest and an arts & crafts sale.

Each year, they sponsor Lunch With the Easter Bunny, a Millionaire's Party, a Mom and Kids Social and a Sweetheart Appreciation.

Members participate in as few or as many of the projects as they choose.

## Friendly competition raises funds for charity

The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation hosts its second Metro-Detroit Sports Challenge Saturday, June 24, on University of Michigan Dearborn campus.

The Sports Challenge pits 10-member teams, sponsored by various Detroit area companies and organizations, in athletic events that include a basketball shoot, obstacle course, running relay, tug-of-war and standing long jump relay.

"The Sports Challenge is a great opportunity to come out and have some fun and some friendly competition while raising money for a very worthy cause," said event chairman Michael Gorge of Singer, Gorge Inc.

"Cystic fibrosis is the number one genetic killer of children and young adults in this country," said Gorge, who is president of the Farmington Hills-based development company. "We are expecting to have at least

40 teams and raise more than \$25,000 and 76 percent of that money will go directly into research."

Other notable individuals involved in the Sports Challenge include Stuart Borman of Borman Foods, Joel Dorfman of Thornapple Valley, Mitchell Mondry of Highland Appliance, Patrick Morrissey of General Motors and Maurice Lordin of Macabees Mutual.

Lordin laid down the challenge to

everyone involved in the effort and to all the rest of Detroit. "The Macabees team was overall champ last year," said Lordin, "and we expect to make a repeat performance."

"This event has been a great success all over the country," said Gorge, "and we all know that Detroit is the greatest sports town in the world."

Inquiries taken by the foundation, 354-6565.

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