

Competing in pageants provide experience

By Cameron Siefkes
News and opinion editor

Young girls sashay in heels that are too big in front of television sets swimming in their mother's dresses, and draped in big jewelry pretending to be their favorite contestant.

They can only dream that one day they will earn a spot on that stage.

For Kylie Stone, philosophy and religious studies junior, her first trip to the Miss Kansas pageant has been something she has wanted to accomplish from a young age.

She said, "I used to watch it on TV. Everyone in my family is so proud."

This is Cassi Reimer's, physics junior, third year to compete in the Miss Kansas pageant.

Unlike Stone, Reimer said

pageants weren't ever something she could see herself doing.

Reimer and Stone will be competing in this year's Miss Kansas pageant on May 31-June 6 in Pratt.

Both women first competed in local competitions in order to reach Miss Kansas. Reimer won the title of Miss Santa Fe Trail and Stone was named Miss Air Capital. The winner of the Miss Kansas pageant advances to Miss America.

The title of Miss Kansas would be an honor for either woman. Reimer said, "You don't just win a crown and flowers. You get a job. The crown can get you to so many places that you couldn't get to before."

Reimer said Miss Kansas

has to take a year off school to fulfill certain duties. This is to travel around the country to give speeches and meet



Reimer

people.

The title provides Miss Kansas the opportunity to raise awareness about her platform. This is a cause or

organization of the contestant's choice. Stone chose her platform because of a family friend. Her father's best



Stone

friend died from skin cancer. "My dad had a birth mark and got it checked because of him. It saved his life." Because of that situation

she wants to raise awareness about the negative affects of tanning.

Reimer chose to support Green for Good, an organization focused on being environmentally conscious. She said that she would like to make things such as recycling and the use of efficient light bulbs laws.

As they prepare for the pageant, they eat healthy, exercise every day, and stay informed about current events.

Reimer said, "I do a ton of paperwork. We have to put together a resume, platform statement and a marketing notebook. Ninety percent of the preparation is paperwork."

The women also have to raise \$250 for the Children's Miracle Network. Miss

America has teamed up with the network in order to raise money for children's hospitals.

Despite the work, they love the competition. Both women said they benefit from different parts of the pageant. They have earned thousands of dollars in scholarship money. But the money isn't the biggest perk.

"I love all of the community service that we get to do. It is my high in life and I just love to serve people," said Stone.

Reimer said that she loves all of the friendships she has made. She said, "Pageant girls are more like family. We are all friends and we support each other instead of breaking each other down."

Cameron Siefkes is a junior majoring in communication. You may e-mail her at cameron.siefkes@sckans.edu.

Campus love stories hold unique appeal

By Cameron Siefkes
News and opinion editor

It was a rainy Easter Sunday.

She was annoyed that her boyfriend was driving too slowly on the car ride home from dinner. Little did she know that there was a reason.

Two friends were in the back seat. Unknown to her, a third friend was in the trunk.

Kourtney McLeland, biochemistry senior, was the only passenger who didn't know what was about to happen.

"We were driving the wrong

way around the key hole and got pulled over by campus security who were in on it as well," said McLeland.

The security guard asked her boyfriend Jason Maisog, class of 2008, to open the trunk. As soon as one of Maisog's friends handed her a rose, McLeland knew what was happening. The two have just begun planning a wedding for the end of this year or the beginning of the next.

Some students will be married soon after graduation. Blair Koehn, business administration senior, will marry her long time boy-

friend, Kevin Hamilton, a K-State student, on June 6 in Hesston.

The ceremony will have around 150 guests. "It's on the larger side. The wedding is going to be elegant, but fun at the same time because it is outside."

The wedding color had significant meaning to both the bride and groom. "Yellow was always my favorite color, but we picked purple because it is Southwestern's and K-State's color."

On the same day at the bottom of the 77 steps, Aric Cherry, communication senior, and Melanie Robins,

class of 2008, will also be saying "I do."

The two met at Builder Camp their freshman year. Cherry knew when he saw Robins that she was the one. "She was short, blonde and cute. Those are my three requirements. Both of our humorous personalities is what has kept us together."

Cherry proposed to Robins after a year and a half of dating.

He decided to pop the question at a game night surrounded by close friends.

He said, "We were playing Pictionary and I was in charge of drawing a ring and

I tried to draw a skating rink. Then, after time ran out she asked me why I didn't draw jewelry. And then I pulled out the ring and I said, 'How about this?'"

Jennifer Edwards, business administration senior, and Joel Alejandro, music senior, got engaged last year over Labor Day weekend.

They were taking pictures at the River Walk in San Antonio. Alejandro held up a sign behind them that said, "Will You Marry Me?"

Edwards said, "I saw it after I reviewed the pictures and of course said 'yes.' I was shouting to people on

the river boats that we were engaged and everyone was cheering for us."

Their ceremony will take place at Edwards' parent's farm. It will be low key and non-traditional.

Edwards said that instead of wedding cake, they will be serving brownies and guests can even play badminton.

"We tried our best to have the ceremony reflect our personalities," said Edwards.

Cameron Siefkes is a junior majoring in communication. You may e-mail her at cameron.siefkes@sckans.edu.

Academic regalia provide clues about professors during graduation

By Colin Baker
Staff reporter

Imagine if you walked into class one day and one of your professors wore a gown with all sorts of colors on it, along with a cap.

What would you do? What would you say?

Throughout time, academic gowns have been the eye-catcher for what kind of de-

gree a professor has.

Academic regalia is a traditional form of clothing for academic settings. It is commonly only worn at graduation ceremonies.

Some institutes formerly had their professors wear them on a regular basis. The ensemble comes with a gown, a hood and usually a cap distinctive to an institution.

In some civilizations, gowns are still worn by professors in the classroom today.

They say it reminds the students of how much work their professor put in to get where they are today.

If the students see that in their learning place, they will want to be in the same class as their professor.

The gown distinguishes

the holder of the three degrees they can receive. The bachelor's gown has pointed sleeves and lacks the trimming of the doctoral.

The master's gown has sleeves that reach nearly to the knees and is slit above the elbow. The doctorate gown is faced with velvet and has bell-shaped sleeves with three velvet chevrons.

The color on the hood de-

termines the professor's degree and the institution where they earned the degree.

The colors range from white to scarlet. A degree in the arts is white. Business is drab. Education is light blue. Engineering is orange. Journalism is crimson. Law is purple. Medicine is green. Music is pink. Nursing is apricot. Communication is silver gray. Pharmacy is ol-

ive green. Philosophy is dark blue. Science is golden yellow and theology is scarlet.

"My robe is red," said John Scaggs, professor of English. "The hood and outer trim is green." Scaggs has a Ph.D. in English from the University of Limerick in Ireland.

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The American Dream

by Edward Albee

Directed by: Abram Rankin

Admission:
Free for SC students, faculty,
staff and prospective students.

Performances:
Tonight

\$8 - adults
\$4 - youth

7:30 pm
in the Little Theatre, Christy

GREATEST HITS

By: Thomas McLaguhlin
Directed by: Elizabeth Higbee

Admission: Free for students, faculty, staff and prospective students
\$8 adults
\$4 youth
Performances:
Tonight
@ 7:30 p.m. in the Little Theatre

SC Movie Night

It's the last SC movie night of the school year.
All movies will be starting at 9:30 p.m.
@ Cowley Cinema 8
Don't forget to bring your student I.D. to get a free ticket.

Here are the movies:

State of Play
Monsters vs Aliens
Knowing
I Love You Man
Haunting in Connecticut
Hannah Montana
Fast & Furious 4
17 Again

Sucking On Lemons

By: Adam Sharp
Directed By: Brooke Rowzee

Admission: Free for students, faculty, staff and prospective students
\$8 adults
\$4 youth

Performances:
Tonight
@ 7:30 p.m. in the Little Theatre