

The rain came down all day but no amount of water could drown the excitement of the Pekin Queen contest winner Taylor Humphrey.

Humphrey took the top honor. Emily Huffaker was first runner-up and Courtney Martin was second runner-up and Miss Congeniality.

Humphrey, who is the daughter of Jessica Dawson and Curtis Dawson, had a hard time putting into words what winning the crown meant to her.

"I don't even know where to begin," she said of describing how it feels to be weaved into her town's history. "It's awesome! It feels amazing. (Winning) has been a dream of mine since I was a little girl. It came true. It's a really good feeling to know I am going to represent Pekin to the best of my abilities."

Humphrey said her favorite part of the experience was the parade.

"I always enjoy being in the parade and seeing and waving to everyone and watching the kids get candy," she said.

Humphrey admitted to being a nervous wreck during the pageant. She said once the actual competition was over, she enjoyed sitting back and waiting for the results.

"I tried not to let anyone know I was nervous, but five minutes before I went on stage I was shaking so bad," she said. "I was nervous and thought I was going to pass out. So once I got everything done and was waiting on the results was fun."

Looking out over the next year, Humphrey said she plans to soak it all in, but she looks forward to working with children and senior citizens.

She has already made plans to visit one of the nursing homes in Salem.

Humphrey, who will be a freshman at IUPUI this fall, said she also hopes to help with the remembering the March 2, 2012 ceremony the town has to remember the tornado.

She plans to major in Biology and minor in Chemistry for pre-dental and then plans to attend Dental School for Orthodontics

The winner for best queen float was Kaylin Bright and the first runner-up was Michaela Snow.

The youngest person in attendance was Addison Rippey, who was born on June 14, 2013.

The oldest in attendance was Dorthy Hein who celebrated her 99th birthday on July 7th.

All unclaimed trophies may be picked up at the Pekin Town office before July 22nd.

The following is a list of parade winners.

Historical cars

Preston Smedley was first; Jeff Cress was second and Floyd Tuttle was third.

Classical Cars

Gene Hoskins was first; Ronald Freed was second and Gary Treewits was third.

Youth floats

Borden Braves State Championship Float was first; Jim and Lou's Diner was second and Jeff Freemason was third.

Bicycles

Olivia and Aiden Miller were first; Bon Cullins was second and Maleigha Blevins was third.

Individual motorcycle riders

Joey Maudlin was first; Gene Lewellyn was second.

Minature Motor vehicles

Jacob Henrys was first; Hi Tech Redneck was second and MaKenzie Knight was third.

Adult floats

Spider Racing was first; Jefferson County Search Dogs were second and Salem Apothecary was third.

Individual Horseback riders

Bo Embrey was first and Delany Wills was second.

Walking Units

The East Washington School Corporation Transportation Department was first.

Commercial Floats

Salem Wrecker Service was first; John Jones was second.

Saddle Clubs

4-H Lucky Leathers was first.

Fire Departments

Sellersburg was first and Borden-Wood was second.

Antique tractors

John Gammon was first; Fitzpatrick Excavating was second and Norman Schaaf was third.

Sweepstakes

Jim and Lou's Diner was first.