

Beautiful, blonde Shelby becomes 2013 Miss Scott County Fair Queen

Written by Marty Randall

Wednesday, 10 July 2013 10:14 -

When her name was called out by emcee Brittany Bannister at the conclusion of the 2013 Miss Scott County Fair Queen Pageant, Shelby Lynn Amburgey had the oddest reaction to the news that she'd won the title.

"I heard my name, and I, uh, well, my mouth dropped open because I was sure they'd made a mistake!" advised the county's newest Fair Queen.

Queen Shelby may have been bowled over by the fact that she earned the title, but the beautiful blonde recovered quickly and walked forward to receive her crown, the traditional bouquet of dark red roses and her sash from 2012 Miss Scott County Fair Queen Nicole Walker.

The new Queen just graduated in June from Scottsburg High School. She is the 18-year-old daughter of Jennifer and Michael Amburgey of Scottsburg. Visitors to Hardy Lake State Recreational Area may enjoy her royal presence since she is working there this summer as a gate attendant.

Queen Shelby was sponsored in the contest by the Scottsburg Lions Club, the same group which sponsored Queen Nicole last year.

Shelby enjoyed her high school career at Scottsburg. Aside from her other classes, she graduated from the school's first EMT-Basic course. By taking one final state exam, she will be a certified Emergency Medical Technician. Her class and medical experiences have influenced her to continue her studies this fall and become a registered nurse.

Shelby was class vice president as a freshman and played volleyball that year. She played four years of softball and served as captain of that team while a senior as well as the school soccer team as a junior and senior. She was a four-year member of the French Club, its vice president as a senior, and the SHS chapter of Sunshine Society. An Academic Honors Diploma graduate in June, she was a National Honor Society member and served on the SHS Prom Court this spring.

Shelby credits her mother and father as the foundation for her success in academics, sports and life. "I am truly blessed with two dedicated parents." She said she tries to serve as a good role model for her six-year-old sister, Sydney. "She never lets me forget how to be a child. I'm happy to have her to keep me grounded."

Mom, Dad and Sydney attended Monday night's pageant, climbing on stage afterwards to greet the new Queen, who was strikingly dressed in a red ball gown.

The Victorian Hope Chest in Scottsburg sponsored her new queen's pin and her crown as well as providing her with a discount to purchase a gown to wear at the 2013 Miss Indiana State Fair Contest in August.

Her trophy was sponsored by Hardy's Cafe of Scottsburg. Other prizes she is receiving include a 16x20 color portrait by Graceful Images Studio of Scottsburg, a \$50 gift certificate from The Scott County State Bank, a \$75 gift certificate from Cathcart Jewelry, a \$25 gift certificate from Serenity Spa and a \$50 gift certificate from Santa Fe Mexican Restaurant.

The 2013 Fair Princess is Katie Jo Conder,

19, the daughter of Lorna and John Conder of Underwood. Katie's contest sponsor was the Alpha Pi Chapter of Psi Iota Xi Sorority.

A June graduate of SHS, Katie was ranked third in her class scholastically with a 3.995 grade point average. She will attend Butler University in Indianapolis this fall and major in pharmacy

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with a minor in business.

Sunshine Society, French Club, the Student Advisory Group and National Honor Society are several of the activities Katie enjoyed during high school. In Sunshine, she served as representative as a freshman, sophomore and senior and was also the organization's recording secretary. Through Sunshine, Katie was involved in many events in the community, allowing her to accumulate many hours of community service. She has also volunteered through her church and has taught junior church and been a group leader at the Austin Christian Church's VBS for three years.

She spent most of her senior year teaching French to children at Vienna-Finley Elementary. Blessed with a marvelous singing voice, Katie has been a member of the SHS Choir as well as her church choir, where she was featured as a soloist. She sang the National Anthem many times at SHS ball games and has earned gold medals in singing competitions.

Fair Princess Katie received her trophy, compliments of Hardy's Cafe. She will also receive an 11x14 color portrait from Graceful Images; a \$50 gift certificate from Cathcart Jewelers; a \$35 gift certificate from Santa Fe Mexican Restaurant; and a \$25 gift certificate from The Scott County State Bank.

Fair queen contestants select the girl who wins the Miss Congeniality honor. This year, Cassidy Jo Howard of Austin was chosen.

The 18-year-old brunette is the daughter of Rebekah Kimberlin and Roy Howard. Her sponsor for the pageant was Chillers Ice Cream of Scottsburg.

Cassidy graduated from Scottsburg High School in June, and she is already focused on attending Indiana University Southeast this fall, where she will study nursing. She plans to concentrate in the field of obstetrics because, as she noted, "Nothing is more beautiful than life."

A member of Grace Covenant Church of God, Cassidy has participated in youth activities at other churches and attended several church camps. In school, she was active in Sunshine Society, Spanish Club and Key Club, the junior version of the Kiwanis Club.

Cassidy was in competitive cheerleading at All-Star Tumbling for several years and was a member of the first dance squad. She has volunteered at the Scott County Heritage Center and Museum and for other organizations. In her spare time, she works at Chillers, and she enjoys reading and riding horses.

Cassidy received her trophy from the Pilot Club of Scott County, the group which organizes the pageant for queen hopefuls each year. She also gets an 8x10 portrait from Graceful Images; and \$25 gift certificates from Santa Fe Mexican Restaurant and The Scott County State Bank.

Fresh from the effort the Pilot Club puts into the local Queen Pageant, members will assist Queen Shelby as she prepares for the state pageant in August.

Businesses which make the pageant possible include Ace Carpet and Flooring, Children's Time Daycare and Preschool, Burris Electric and Plumbing Supply Inc., Scotts Ace Hardware, C&T Cycles, Scott County Tire, Kentuckiana Decorative Concrete and Flooring, Jeffrey L. Cox P.C., Aflac and agent Patricia E. Bridge, The Scott County State Bank.

Hancock's Drug Store, Tree Service by Rob's, agent Lesa Jones of Remax Realtors, Arbuckle Electric Security Systems, Stewart and Hoagland Funeral Home, Cutshall's Mowing, Fewell Monument Company, Complete Reconstruction L.L.C., Baringer Floral Shop and Greenhouses, USA Roadhouse.

Collins Funeral Home, Scottsburg Family Dentistry, LeRoy's Food Mart, Medical Arts Pharmacy, LaFountain's Auto Body, ISU Insurance and Investment Group, Martin Insurance Agency, Rathert's Forestry Service, Buchanan Funeral Home, Martin's Auto Supply.

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