

Beautiful Morgan Means begins reign as 2009 Miss Scott County Fair Queen

Written by Marty Randall

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The 2009 Miss Scott County Fair Queen is a tall, beautiful brunette who enjoyed herself thoroughly at the pageant conducted at Scottsburg High School's McClain Hall on Sunday evening, July 12.

"Oh, wow! This is great!" exclaimed Queen Morgan Ashley Means as she waved to her family and friends in the audience. She accepted her crown and sash, a scepter and an armful of red roses from 2008 Miss Scott County Fair Queen Brooklyn Young, one of the first to congratulate the jubilant new Queen.

The stage was graced by the presence of 11 lovely gowned young ladies that evening. Hostess Brittany Banister, a member of the sponsoring Pilot Club of Scott County, first announced the contestants' selection of the 2009 Miss Congeniality winner. That honor went to Tia Monique Deaton. 2009 Fair Princess was announced next, and that title was given to Lisann Renee Goodin.

Tension mounted as the final announcement came and, to judge from her expression when her name was announced, Morgan was overwhelmingly surprised as Queen Brooklyn approached her with her new regalia.

Queen Morgan is the 18-year-old daughter of Leslie and Kevin Means of Scottsburg. Her sponsor in the competition was the Phi Beta Psi Sorority chapter of Scottsburg.

Morgan is a spring graduate of Scottsburg High School and has plenty of hobbies, including playing basketball, running track, swimming and "hanging out" with friends. She loves being with her family and friends, enjoying quality time.

Since she has been in sports all of her life, Morgan plans to attend college in Indianapolis and earn a medical degree in sports physical therapy through a five-year plan of study. Eventually, she noted in her autobiography, she will go back to school and major in orthopedic surgery so that she can help injured athletes. She said she knows how it feels to be injured and unable to participate in a favorite sport, so through her skills she hopes to help athletes to further their careers.

Family also means a lot to Morgan, so she does hope to marry and balance her career with a husband and family.

Miss Congeniality Tia Deaton, also 18, is the daughter of Tracey and Keith Bixler of Scottsburg. She was sponsored by the Scottsburg Kiwanis Club.

A spring graduate of Scottsburg High School, Tia plans to continue her education this fall at Indiana State University and earn a degree in criminal justice. She then plans to attend the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy to become an Indiana State Trooper.

Tia has volunteered through her participation in community events such as Relay for Life, Teens Against Tobacco Use, We Care, Meals on Wheels, Big Brothers Big Sisters and Bowl for Kids' Sake. She is also an eight-year member of 4-H, through which she has earned awards, and a four-year member of Scottsburg FFA and Sunshine Society. Athletically, Tia has excelled in field events, holding the two current SHS records in shot put and discus and competing at state level. She has also played softball, basketball and volleyball. She is her school's only female athlete to receive 16 varsity sports letters.

She has been recognized as a U.S. Marine Corps' Student Athlete, and she was frequently on academic honor rolls. She was the SHS 2009 Homecoming Queen and Prom Queen and was a 2008 4-H Ambassador.

Beautiful blonde Fair Princess Lisann Goodin is the 17-year-old daughter of Kelly and Anthony Goodin of Austin. She was sponsored by the Beta Sigma Chapter of Psi Iota Xi Sorority of Austin.

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Lisann will be a senior this year at Austin High School. She is president of the AHS Student Council as well as president of Sunshine Society and the National Honor Society. She also serves as State District 3 Representative for the Indiana Sunshine Society.

She has also served as a class officer for three years and has been Sunshine Society treasurer and vice president during the past two years. Memberships also include French Club, AHS Book Club, Science Club and National Honor Society. She is a member of the school's telecommunications class, and she has been in varsity tennis and varsity cheerleading for the past three years.

Her community activities include volunteering for Kids First and We Care and being involved in her school's participation in regional and national charitable organizations such as Riley Children's Hospital, American Heart Association, American Cancer Society and the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. She is beginning her third year with the High Five organization of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Scott County and serves as a volunteer in the nursery of Grace Covenant Church of God.

She has worked in the Jump Start summer program for kindergarten-age children at Austin Elementary School.

Following congratulations on the stage, Queen Morgan was whisked away to change clothes and then be escorted to the Scott County Fairgrounds, where she made her first official appearance as royalty at the stock car races at the grandstand. She awarded trophies to winners of that race.

Her week's agenda has included appearing at most of the 4-H competitions to present ribbons and trophies to winners and enjoying all of the night events, where she'll be called upon for some interviews by announcers and, of course, presenting trophies to winners of the various events scheduled.

Queen Morgan received several nice prizes along with her crown.

Her crown and pin was provided by Victorian Hope Chest. Her trophy was sponsored by Phillips Network.

Additionally, she has received a \$100 U.S. Savings bond from The Scott County State Bank; a gift certificate from Janice Williams of A Touch of Class Salon; a gift certificate from Jendy's Pizza in Austin; an 16x20 portrait compliments of Forever Fotos; a \$75 gift certificate from Cathcart and Company Jewelers; a gift certificate from Fashions in Flowers; a gift from Starlight Dance Studio; a gift from Featherwing Video; and a gown discount from Victorian Hope Chest as she prepares for the Miss State Fair Queen pageant in Indianapolis.

Fair Princess Lisann received her trophy compliments of Phillips Network. She also was given a \$50 U.S. Savings bond from The Scott County State Bank; a gift certificate from Janice Williams of A Touch of Class Salon; a gift certificate from Jendy's Pizza in Austin; an 11x14 portrait from Forever Fotos; a \$50 gift certificate from Cathcart and Company Jewelers; and a gift from Starlight Dance Studio.

Miss Congeniality Tia received a trophy sponsored by the Pilot Club of Scott County; a \$50 U.S. Savings bond from The Scott County State Bank; a gift certificate from Janice Williams of A Touch of Class Salon; a gift certificate from Jendy's Pizza of Austin; an 8x10 portrait from Forever Fotos; a \$25 gift certificate from Cathcart and Company Jewelers; and a gift from Starlight Dance Studio.

Young ladies who were also candidates in the 2009 pageant included Amy Renee Burch, daughter of Carol and Richard Burch and sponsored by Scott County Mortgage; Morgan Dawson, daughter of Patsy and James Dawson and sponsored by Missy and Company; Megan

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Edwards, daughter of Kathy and Phillip Edwards and sponsored by the Scott County Democrat Club; Ashley M. Hardin, daughter of Linda and Matt Hardin and sponsored by J&J Feed and Supply; Sarah Beth McNeely, daughter of Peggy Brown and John McNeely and sponsored by the Scott County Republican Club; Nikki Meadows, daughter of Penny and Bill Meadows and sponsored by Scott County Moose Lodge and Family Center 2324; Stephanie Elva Neace, daughter of Alicia and Christopher Neace and sponsored by the Alpha Pi Chapter of Psi Iota Xi Sorority; and Dancie Sebastian, daughter of Deborah and Kevin Sebastian and sponsored by Watson Signs and Graphics.

Special thanks was expressed by the Pilot Club to several for helping in some way with the program. Those included members of the Scott County Fair Board of Directors; Starlight Dance Studio, whose owner Pam Rowden choreographed the queen candidates' dance routine which started the evening; reporter Marty Randall of Green Banner Publications; Scottsburg First Christian Church; the LifeLong Learning Center of Scott County; Willy D's of Scottsburg; Steve Griffen; photographers Wilda and Dennis Preble; and members of the All Star Tumbling Dazzlers Dance Team.

Sponsors of the pageant included the Pilot Club of Scott County, members of whom organized the pageant, as well as Ace Carpet and Flooring, Arbuckle's and Pop's Plants, Just for You wedding and event decorating; Scotts Ace Hardware; J&J Feed and Farm Supply; C&T Cycles; the Austin Dairy Queen; Burris Electric and Plumbing Supply Inc.; Scott County Office Equipment Co.; Rick Julian Inc.; Forever Fotos by Tammy Stidham; Badger and Spiller Orthodontists; Jeffrey L. Cox P.C.; The Scott County State Bank; Scottsburg Building and Loan Association; Baringer Floral Shop and Greenhouses; Hancock's Drug Store; Scott County Medical Arts Pharmacy; Terri White Meagher, State Farm Insurance Agency; Victorian Hope Chest; Matthew G. Martin, CIC, Martin Insurance Agency; Buchanan Funeral Home; Fashions in Flowers; Collins Funeral Home; Scott County Mortgage inc.; Stewart Funeral Home; VistaCare; Marley Insurance Agency; Fewell Monument Company; Lesa Jones, housing agent with Re/Max; Crop Production Services; Austin Pharmacy and KBR Soda Shoppe; Farm Credit Services of Mid-America; and AFLAC.