Columbia Capers

By Pinnie L. Ross

In the capacity filled auditorium of the famous Cocoanut Grove Room in the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles, Calif. Miss Sheryl Piland, a 16-year-old of Connecticut was crowned Miss Talented Teen International.

Miss Piland was there representing her state along with 31 other contestants who came from other points throughout the country including Hawaii and the Netherlands Antilles.

The talented queen is a dancer, singer and gymnast and performed a song from the Broadway hit the "Wiz." She has been studying dancing for five years.

Miss Piland was asked why she chose the song from the "Wiz" to perform — "I really liked the "Wiz" so much that I've seen it three times." My father told me he wanted me to win the pageant, and she said to him, "Daddy, I am going to do the best that I can." She also told her mother not to pray for her to win, but to pray that she would use the best of her ability.

Miss Piland is an honor student at Wiley High School, a member of the Afro American Church, a cheerleader, a member of the Student Council, and fashion editor of her schoolpnewspaper.

In my interview withn-Miss Piland, I asked her what was the highlight of her trip to California. "It had to have been when I met all of the wonderful and beautiful people here and the way they shared their feelings and thoughts."

I asked, How do you feel since you've become our national queen?

"It feels great to be the queen, I have tried in my state for many years, since I was in eighth grade. I've always been in the runnings, each year I made different mistakes so I capitalized on my mistakes.

Just before the competition Miss Piland asked all of the contestants if they would hold hands and repeat the Lord's prayer, and they did.

Miss Piland will receive a cash Self-Achievement award, a scholarship, a trippto Jamaica, West Indies, courtesy of the Jamaica Tourist Board, a trip tohCuraiao, Netherlands Antilles, a trip to Bermuda, courtesy of Walter Green, Bermuda sponsor.

In addition, Miss Piland won a trip to New Orleans, La. to appear at the Grand Bouie of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc. She will receive a Kodak X-L movie camera courtesy Easterman Kodak company, a diamond ring courtesysLucille Willard of Lurick Ventures, N.Y., a fur jacket courtesy of Harry Kirschner Furs, New York.

The sen-day stay at the Ambassador Hotel was a busy one. The itinerary included a welcoming dinner sponsored by RCA Records, Ray Harris director.

A tour of UniversalStudios with lunch sponsored by MCA Records, Wendell Bates, National Director R&B promotion, coordinated byyCarmen Carillo.

From my conversation with Mr. Bates, I learned that he is a native of Washington, D.C. and attended Chaney College in Philadelphia (small world).

On Tuesday another luncheon was sponsored by Atlantic Records, Gerald L. Greenberg, president, represented by Raymond St. James, West Coast national promoter.

There were several speakers on careers in the industry. A special one was Noreen, senior vice president of Atlantic Records, also from Washington, D.C. This young lady was asked how she got where she is today in the company and she said she started 21 years ago as a switch board operator and has worked up to senior vice president.

Her duties are to assist the president with the basic operation of the company.

She suggested to the young contestants that in order to prepare themselves for this area of work, they must get their education and take courses in marketing, merchandising, music law etc.

Another luncheon sponsored by ABC records, Steve Diener, president, a night at the Ahmanson Theater for a performance of "Pal Joey" starring Lena Horne and Clifton Davis.

The contestants and their sponsors had a visit backstage to meet the stars and get autographs. A visit toh'Soul Train' courtesysof Don Cornelius. Itinerary transportation was sponsored by Joe Black, vice president, Special Markets, Greyhound Corp.

The contestants received a total of 30 top records from various record companies.

The pageant boasted a variety of talent, starring Michael Randy and Janet Jackson, Epic Recording artists and members of the Jacksons.

Other contestants participating inthe pageant were Rochelle Knowles, Bahamas; Gina Blakeney, Bermuda; Charmaine Charles, California; Stacey Granger, Colorado; Crystal Williams, Florida; Jay Kilgore, Georgia; Caludie Wilcox, Hawaii; Gegnelle Lawrence, Illinois; Tyjuania Gatson, Kansas; Deidre Harris, Louisiana; Detra Addison, Maryland; Tracey Gibbs, Massachusetts; Valerie Smith, Michigan; Frettra Miller, Minnesota; Michele Rucker, Mississippi; Marilyn Winston, Missouri; Sonaima Jonis, Netherlands Antilles; Nina Hooks, Nevada; Regina Williams, New Jersey; Sharon Harrison, New York; Wendi Bonner, Ohio; Lecia Swain, Oklahoma; Michelle Harris, Pennsylvania; Carol Milling, South Carolina; Evelyn White, Tennessee; Latoria Dixon, Texas; Tanya Lomox, Virginia; Elise Evans, Virgin Islands; Rinda Mapp, Wisconsin; hYvette Gayle, Jamaica.

Judges were: Fred Berry of What's Happening, Cynthia Harner, Editor, Right On Teen Magazine, Hal Kanter, producer, writer; Rob Cohen, producer, Mahogony Bingo, "The Wiz"; Gwen Gardy, president; Gwen Glenn production; Breanna Benjamin, president from Children On, Regina Jones, Editor of Soul publication, Selma Rubin, talent manager; Ralphh-Carter, Good Times; ganet fuBois, actress, costar of the TV series "Good Times"; Renee Brown, singer actress, costarring in TV series "McCloud."

Hal Jackson is the executive producer and host for the Hal Jackson Talented Teen International Pageant. His wife Alice LaBrie Jackson is vice president of Hal Jackson productions and television producer-writer for Talented Teens International contest.

Associate producer is Ken Abernathy, Mrs. Wilda LaBrie is contestant and sponsor relations, Frances Rhymes is choreographer.

MISS TALENTED TEEN — Epic Recording artist, Michael Jackson serinades winner of Hal Jackson's Talented Teen International Contest, Sheryl Piland, 16, of Connecticut, a gymnast. The televised finals were held in Hollywood, Calif. and hosted by Hal Jackson and produced by Alice LaBrie - Jackson. Read details in Columbia Capers.

Study causes of fires at nuclear plants

LAUREL, MD. — A group of nuclear power experts at Johns Hopkins University is trying to learn all the possible causes and effects of fires at nuclear power Plants.

There were 40 fires at nuclear plants through 1976, said Dr. Lawrence Hunter, who heads a group of experts in the field at the school's applied physics laboratory.

Although most of the fires have been minor, Hunter says that such accidents can sometimes be serious enough to force a plant to close for repairs.

Hunter gave as an example a 1975 fire at the Brown's Ferry Power Plant in Athiens, Ala., which knocked out the plant's emergency cooling system, caused one of its two reactors to lose some of the water used to cool its core of nuclear material, and shut down the entire operation for more than a year.

Hunter, a theoretical chemist, said that nuclear power plant fires cannot cause a nuclear explosion but can result in the leakage of radioactive material.

This possibility is what the Nuclear Regulatory Commission wants to eleiminate. A spokesman for the commission said, However, that such leakage has never resulted from fires at nuclear power plants.

But Dr. Hunter said that the federal government has provided a $50,000 grant to study every conceivable that may occur as a result of a fire at a nuclear power plant.

Hunter is working in conjunction with scientists atthe Sandia Laboratories in Albuquerqu, N.M., and the underwriters laboratory near Chicago on the fire problem.

After the laboratories conduct fire tests, Hunter and his associates apply their expertise in interpreting the test results.

Electrical cable insulation is a prime combustible material at the plants. Hunter says the cables that are strung along the floor, and sometimes along walls, can be common fire hazards.

He and his associates are examining different ways of arranging cables in order to reduce the possibility of fires.

Hunter said that other materials that can cause fires at nuclear power plants are lubricating oil, paper in wastebaskets and cigarettes.

"The Nuclear Regulatory Commission would like to nail down every conceivable possible hazard — to be in control of, and perceive every possible hazard," he said.

Kiddie crime

ROANOKE — City Manager Bern Ewert said it is time to allow city youngsters to ride their tricycles without fear of arrest.

The City Code bars children under 14 from riding wheeled vehicles except roller skates on sidewalks between 8 and 7 p.m.

The city council is expected to take up the proposal, made at the request of a parent.

WASHINGTON — Two blacks are among 12 persons appointed to the National Highway Safety Advisory Committee by President Carter.

Based on May 1978 U.S. Government Report:

Box or menthol:

11 Carlton have less tar than 1 Merit.

Carlton Box... less than 0.5 mg. "tar" and 0.05 mg. nicotine.
Carlton Menthol... tar less than 1 mg. nicotine 0.1 mg.
Merit... tar 9 mg. nicotine, 0.6 mg.
Of all brands, leads Carlton Box... less than 0.5 mg. "tar" and 0.05 mg. nicotine.

Carlton is lowest.

Warning: The Surgeon General Has Determined That Cigarette Smoking Is Dangerous to Your Health.

Box: Less than 0.5 mg. "tar", 0.05 mg. nicotine. Soft Pack and Menthol: 1 mg. "tar", 0.1 mg. nicotine av. per cigarette. FTC Report May '78

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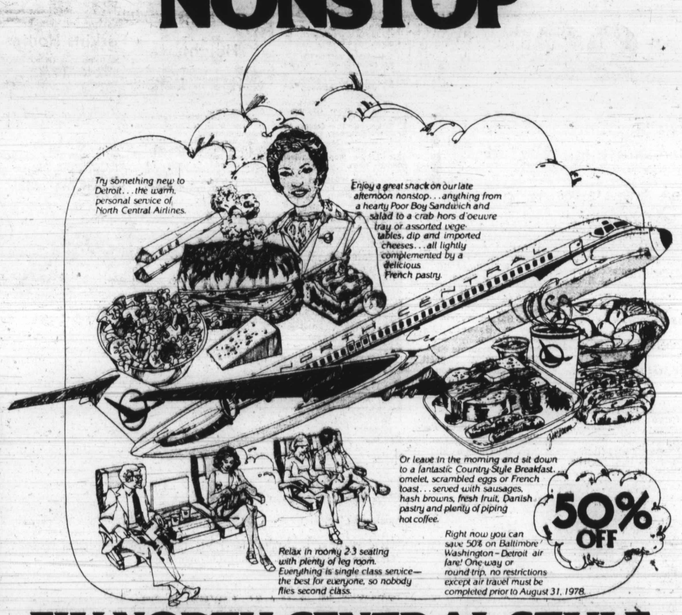

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4:15 p.m.	5:30 p.m.	6:30 p.m.	8:45 p.m.*	10:54 p.m.*	6:14 p.m.

Lv. Baltimore/ Washington	Ar. Saginaw/ Bay City/Midland	Ar. Lansing	Ar. South Bend	Ar. Flint	Ar. Alpena
8:15 a.m.	1:33 p.m.*	10:33 a.m.*	10:22 a.m.*	1:18 p.m.*	2:15 p.m.*
4:15 p.m.	7:05 p.m.*	7:33 p.m.*	8:20 p.m.*	7:10 p.m.*	8:29 p.m.*

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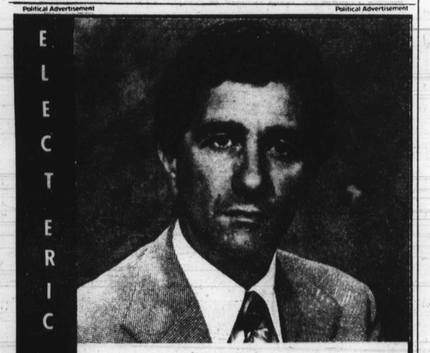

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(Authority J. Robert Dilworth, treasurer)

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LANCASTER BRAND... BUY WITH CONFIDENCE, SERVE WITH PRIDE!

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RICH TOMATO FLAVOR Heinz Ketchup 2 14-oz. btls. $1

More Ham Super Savings!
BONED N' TENDER Gwaltney Hams.... lb $2.29
ARMOUR STAR (5-LB. CAN $11.59) Canned Ham..... 3-lb. can $6.99

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LANCASTER BRAND, SHOULDER Veal Arm Steaks .. lb $1.99
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Chicken Parts
CHICKEN DRUMSTICKS lb. $1.49
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WHOLE Chicken Legs
SELECTED 59¢ lb.
PERDUE 69¢ lb.

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More Produce Values!
NEW CROP EASTERN RED Delicious Apples ... 3-lb. bag 99¢
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TROPICANA, PURE Grapefruit Juice ... ½-gal. jar $1.39
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SAVE TO 20¢! VIRGINIA LEE PLAIN, VAN. OR CHOC. ICED Pound Cake .... 28-oz. cake $1.49
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SAVE 18¢! BUTTER TOP OLD FASHIONED OR WHEAT Supreme Breads .. 2 22-oz. loaves $1

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SAVE 30¢ WITH THIS COUPON
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