Student does monologue, becomes Miss Penn State

By VICTORIA PETTIES
Collegian Staff Writer

Gina Redmond (freshman-telecommunications), who performed a dramatic monologue from a Stephen King novel, was crowned Miss Penn State last night.

Redmond said the narrative presentation lent variety to the usual talent performances in pageants.

"I wanted to do something different. I have always loved novels by Stephen King and liked to perform dramatic readings," Redmond said.

Redmond said the initial shock of hearing her name was the reason why it took a few minutes before she was able to be crowned.

The second annual scholarship pageant was co-sponsored by Pi Lambda Phi fraternity and WQWK 97-FM.

Redmond receives a $250 scholarship and prizes donated by downtown businesses. Redmond will go on to compete in the Miss Pennsylvania pageant March 15 in Altoona.

Redmond also won the swimsuit competition. Other pageant winners included first runner-up Terri Mason (freshman-engineering); second place winner Kimberly Harvey (sophomore-French); and most talented nonfinalist Lori Halupke (junior-management).

Former Miss Penn State and Miss Pennsylvania Charmaine Kowlaski announced she would present a $100 scholastic award to the first pageant contestant who entered medical school. Kowlaski, the mistress of ceremony, also gave a $50 award each to the first- and second-place runner-ups.

Proceeds for the pageant will go to the local chapter of the Easter Seals Foundation.

Redmond said she has a lot of planning ahead before she goes to Altoona, such as writing another monologue for the competition.

The first Miss Penn State explained during the pageant that controversy surrounded the first pageant because students questioned the significance of it.

"I remember my parents had to fight through the pickets outside of Eisenhower Auditorium," Kowlaski said.

Once the pageant sponsors set up a debate concerning science between the protesters and Kowlaski, who was a pre-medicine major, much of the controversy stopped, Kowlaski said.

The pageant does help women to finance their education, said Kowlaski, whose scholarship money paid for the first year and half of medical school.

All contestants received plaques and gold charms.