

PUBLIC FORUM

Bare shoulders

Editor, Spectrum:

A "bouquet of roses" to Laurie McMillan for her letter regarding "strapless and low-cut" gowns worn by the Washington County Fair Royalty. How many of us think the same thing, but just sit back and don't bother to express our feelings publicly?

I too feel that the young women chosen to represent our Washington County should set the best example possible for our young women of the future. They are representing the proud people of this area, their interests, ideals and standards.

Doesn't it matter anymore about

the examples and sacrifices of our forefathers who struggled to settle this Dixie land? Would they have been pleased to have seen the example set by our royalty this year?

Our Washington County Fair royalty for 1985 is a group of very beautiful and talented young women, but in my opinion they would have been much more attractive and appealing if their shoulders had been covered with lace, ruffles and ribbons.

A special friend of mine was a contestant in the Washington County Queen Contest. She was told by some of the pageant officials that she would have a better chance to win if she would wear gowns "off the shoulder." She considered doing that ... considered withdrawing from the contest ..., but decided to continue and uphold the standards that she believed in and represented. Naturally, she was ignored for the rest of the contest. Many people wondered why she wasn't in the royalty.

Perhaps the public should be made more aware of some of the "behind the scenes" policies and activities and methods of judging that are going on in our county queen contests.

Name withheld by request

Strict dresser

Editor, Spectrum:

I too feel that this year's Washington County Fair Royalty failed to represent the people of this area, their standards and moral values. Bare shoulders and exposed vertebra columns this year could lead to uncovered sensual patellas next

year. Its bad enough to have beautiful girls representing our county, but to have to actually see parts of their bodies -- ARRRGH!

Our forefathers would be ashamed to see this horrible break from their traditional ideals. Next years contest should have strict dress codes. Floor-length buffalo robes, full beards and 30 gallon rawhide hats should be mandatory. They will be judged on how well they keep themselves totally covered up while also competing in the dance and talent contest with 200 pounds of hides on their backs.

R. Smith
St. George

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