

Eye on Campus

Qadeer, Bowhall are your Mr. and Ms.

Campus contestants were judged on fashion, talent and personality

By DAN DELANEY
Lion's Eye staff writer
DRD5002@psu.edu

Uzair Qadeer and Crystal Bowhall came up roses recently when they were named the winners of the Mr. and Ms. Penn State Delco Pageant.

Sponsored by the Black Student League, the second annual contest judged the fashion, talent and wit of six impressive PSU Delco students.

The event's proceeds were donated to the Marcel Carter Basketball Tournament and Scholarship as well as the National Cancer Society.

Ashley Carruthers and Taryn Chance joined Bowhall as female contestants, while Qadeer's competition came from Kevin Krauss and Matt Kelly, the lone freshman in the group.

"I hope next year more people will compete and add to the excitement," said Bowhall, energized by her selection.

The Classroom building lounge served as the setting for the contest, and its transformation was

rapid and significant. Everyone, including the contestants themselves, decorated. The decorations included balloons, confetti and even a fashion runway. The atmosphere was set for a truly blue and white fashion show.

Food was provided by the Lion's Pit. Professional D.J. "Lil" Pat added music in the lounge for the

event.

As the audience filled the lounge, the six contestants prepared for the show in their makeshift dressing rooms. Most admitted to at least a little nervousness before everything started, including the freshman, Kelly.

As 6:30 p.m. arrived, the two hosts, Daria Pantalone (Ms. Penn State Delco 2004) and Chris Coia (Assistant Director of Student Activities and Mr. Beaver 1994), took the stage.

The night included a PSU Pride-wear contest; a talent contest; an evening wear contest with a question-and-answer session; the final walk of Ms. Penn State Delco 2004; and the crowning of the winners for 2005.

The first competition showcased how well the contestants could show off their Penn State pride through their sense of fashion. The styles ranged from the classic cheerleader ensemble worn by Chance to the risqué towel and Speedo outfit worn by SGA President

Krauss.

After everyone made their way up and down the runway, the hosts took the stage again, initiating a "We Are Penn State" cheer from the audience.

The first up for the talent competition was Krauss, who performed a stand-up comedy act borrowed from the humor of Kevin James. After a big crowd response, Bowhall danced to the music of Christina Aguilera. Kelly changed the pace completely with his version of an Eminem song, rapping of science and sporting a stylish lab coat.

The mood changed when Chance performed a tap routine accompanied by a John Mayer song. Qadeer also performed comedy, drawn from experiences in his life regarding work and family. The segment



Photo by Matthew Kelly

Uzair Qadeer and Crystal Bowhall are overwhelmed to be crowned Mr. and Ms. Penn State Delco 2005.

ended with Carruthers and partner dancing to an intense mambo. The contestants then went backstage to prepare for formal wear.

Elegantly walking down the catwalk, PSU Delco's fashion experts showed off their fancy outfits. They were accompanied by the D.J.'s intimate music choices. Then came the questions and answers.

The questions dealt with life at PSU Delco. Among the most memorable responses was that of Krauss. He explained the campus needs more of the college

experience and more events that bring students closer together as a community.

After the final contestant had responded, the judges tabulated their votes. They thanked the BSL, the



judges and everyone else who contributed to the event, including the audience.

Before the winners were crowned, Pantalone took her final walk. Mr. Penn State Delco 2004, Jonathan Toomey, could not attend.

Next, Qadeer and Bowhall accepted their laurels, and Krauss was named runnerup as Mr. Penn State Delco. The second runnerup was Kelly.

Among the women, Carruthers took second to Bowhall, and Chance was second runnerup.

A pageant in pictures

Above left, Matt Kelly pumps up the crowd with his rap; right, Taryn Chance cheers up the crowd; left, Ashley Carruthers struts her stuff; right, Kevin Krauss shows off his Speedo.

Photos by Matt Kelly and Dan Delaney

