

Miss UNCP prepared to represent University

By Grant Merritt
Web Video Editor

Jenna Walters was crowned Miss UNCP 2010 on Feb. 4 at the Givens Performing Arts Center, and she has an exciting year ahead of her as she prepares for the Miss North Carolina 2010 Pageant while serving as an ambassador for the University.

As Miss UNCP 2010, Walters will make many appearances at University events and activities.

Since gaining her title, she said her life has changed within the last month.

"My life has changed a lot since Feb. 4," Walters said. "I have to really watch what I do and where I go because it could ultimately reflect on the University as well as me."

Walters said that she has several responsibilities as Miss UNCP 2010, but first and foremost, she is a role model.

"I am now a role model to children, teens,

adults and especially students on campus," Walters said. "I am also an ambassador for UNCP so I have to make sure I carry a positive reputation for my school."

Her responsibilities are mostly rewarding; however, they can be very stressful at times.

"I have to remember that I am in the spotlight with and without the crown on, so it can be stressful in that sense," Walters said. "However, it is very rewarding when

you know you have made a difference in someone's life just by being who you are."

In addition to representing UNCP at on-campus events, Walters will represent UNCP in the 2010 Miss North Carolina Pageant. The pageant is a week long process and will be held in Raleigh from June 19 to 26.

"I am really looking forward to Miss North Carolina," Walters said. "We aren't allowed to have cell phones or com-

puters, so I guess you could say I will be out of touch with the world."

Walters said that UNCP has been very supportive of her. She has a committee that is working to make sure that she is prepared for the 2010 Miss North Carolina Pageant.

"I am really excited about being Miss UNCP, and I still have days where I can't believe it," Walters said. "It is such an awesome title to have, and I love representing the

school I will be graduating from."

Walters said that she is looking forward to a great year as Miss UNCP 2010, and she said that she is looking forward to all the events she will be attending this year.

"I have a feeling there will be tons of things going on for me to make an appearance at in the future," Walters said. "I will really have to work hard, but I know it will pay off in the end."

African American read-in wraps up with poets

By Ashley Williams
Staff Writer

On Feb. 25, the main reading room of the Mary Livermore Library welcomed Terrence R. Scarborough and the Prometheus Bound Poets.

The event was the final event for this year's African American Read-In: A Literacy Campaign.

Sponsors

Scarborough and the Prometheus Bound Poets' presentations as part of the African American Read-In were sponsored by the Office of Multicultural and Minority Affairs (OMMA), the Friends of the Library and the School of Education. The Read-In has been endorsed by the International Reading Association.

Scarborough serves as

Program Manager of Merit Based Scholarship Loans at the NC State Education Assistance Authority (NCSEAA). Scarborough is also a mentor for youth in prison and rehabilitation programs and a chair of a leadership program for high school juniors and seniors.

Scarborough said that the word read has 35 different definitions. Scarborough then talked about the Transitive Property of Literacy.

"If being literate equals being able to read and being able to read equals comprehension, then being literate equals comprehension," he said.

Scarborough talked about the illiterate intellectual.

"In an effort to come across as intelligent, we know people who use

\$64,000 words but use them incorrectly," Scarborough said.

Encourage reading

Scarborough encouraged the audience to let the youth of Robeson County know that the more you read the more you understand.

Scarborough said that those who choose not to read have no advantage over those who can't read.

Scarborough told the audience that the youth of Robeson County were in dire need of their help.

Poets

Dexter Thorpe, Kourvioisier and Sean Ellison of the Prometheus Bound Poets of Durham performed their poetry.

Ellison is an alumnus of Hillside High School while Kourvioisier and Thorpe are currently

Hillside High students.

Thorpe recited the poem "Bastards in America," which has to do with social interactions between light-skinned and dark-skinned people.

Thorpe rapped about helping the earthquake victims in Haiti. Thorpe said that he started writing poetry in the seventh grade and that a lot of his poetry is about how to overcome stuff.

Thorpe wanted to give the young people a new definition of cool.

Kourvioisier recited his poem "Mother Earth." Kourvioisier recited a poem inspired by Durham.

Kourvioisier also recited a poem inspired by Obama.

Ellison recited a poem inspired by "Color Purple."

Ellison also recited his

poem "World of Confusion," which is about things that he went through and being confused as to what he should do.

In Ellison's poem, he said, "It seems like every step that I take I stumble and not fall."

Ellison also recited another poem "These Streets Will Realize."

Dr. Gregory Smith of PromptCare Clinic told the audience about his R&B album coming out in April 2010, PromptCare Clinic and his website www.gregoryforlove.com

"I thoroughly enjoyed it. It was a nice grand finale to our Third Annual African American Read-In: A Literacy Campaign," said OMMA director Robert L. Canida.

"I also want to make the challenge to our UNCP students, their

responsibility to educate the upcoming generation. As our keynote speaker Terrence Scarborough said we no longer need illiterate intellectuals," Canida said.

Reactions

"It was pretty good. The poems were good," said junior Erica Cornwell.

"I liked it. I thought it was very informative about literacy scores and how it does not measure a students' intelligence," said senior Michelle Darby.

"I liked it. It kind of goes well with what I'm learning in English," said freshman Sarah Beal.

For information about the Prometheus Bound Poets, visit www.pbpoets.org or email pbpoets@gmail.com.

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