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TOP STORY

Waynesburg teen crowned 2016 Miss Rain Day

By Jon Stevens, for the Greene County Messenger Jul 27, 2016



Pictured (l. to r.) are the young ladies who make up the 2016 Miss Rain Day court: Micaela Ricco, second runner-up; Bryn Patton, Miss Rain Day 2016; Brittany Rhodes, first runner-up; and Paige Hanning, crown bearer.

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WAYNESBURG – For the second year in a row, a Waynesburg Central High School student was crowned Miss Rain Day when Bryn Patton claimed the title Sunday at the annual Miss Rain Day Scholarship Pageant held in the Waynesburg Central High School auditorium.

Last year, Claire Kreider, became the 42nd young woman to be crowned Miss Rain Day, ending Carmichaels Area High School's three-year year run of laying claim to the title. Patton, 14, daughter of Michelle and Randy Patton of Waynesburg, will be entering her freshman year at Waynesburg Central High School.

Patton competed against Brittany Rhodes, first runner-up; Micaela Ricco, second runner-up; and Alison Blair and McKenna Benke.

But during the crowning ceremony when all the awards achieved by the contestants were being announced, Patton was beginning to have her doubts whether she would win. "I kept asking myself, 'Oh my gosh, is there a chance?'"

Then, the first runner-up was announced and Patton knew. "This can't be. I was in a state of shock. Dreams do come true," she said.

Patton also won top evening gown, Miss Photogenic, the John O'Hara Essay Award, tied with Rhodes for sportswear and won a \$2,500 tuition scholarship from Westmoreland County Community College.

In addition to sharing the sportswear title, Rhodes, 16, daughter of Robert and Angela Rhodes of Waynesburg, who will be a junior at Waynesburg Central, captured Top Interview, the Rain Maker Award for collecting the most scholarships, scholastic achievement and pageantry spirit.

Ricco, 15, daughter of Tom and Carrie Ricco of Carmichaels, who will be a sophomore at Carmichaels Area Junior Senior High School, won Top Talent for her acrobatic routine to "Close to the Fire;" Miss Personality, the Kelly Smotzer Memorial Award and the Remo C. Bertugli Memorial Award.

Patton said making friends with some of the contestants she did not know before the pageants was a wonderful experience.

"I met new girls and made new friendships that will last a lifetime," she said.

What's her weather prognostication for Friday?

"I think it is going to rain," she said. "At least I hope so."

The competition, sponsored by Rain Day Scholarship Inc., was the 38th annual Miss Rain Day pageant.

The Miss Rain Day contestants will perform on the main stage on Rain Day today at 6:30 p.m.