



Vote for your favourite beauty queen

Miss Sri Lanka for Miss World 2011



Thushane Vimalaratne

by Omar Rajarathnam

Pink and white has never looked hotter, so proved the twelve girls who were dressed in white mini skirts and pink halter tops to impress the male judges at the 'Best Legs' mini pageant of Derana Veet Miss Sri Lanka for Miss World 2011 at the lucky Thotupola resort in Piliyandala on March 25. Be it the loose hair that swayed as they walked forward or the shining legs they showed off reflecting the beams of the early morning sun, these girls surely know the recipe to ignite the catwalk.

With each of them wearing handpicked accessories that matched their costume and enhanced their appearance, the girls made sure that they were the cynosure of all

eyes present and this includes even the birds which rested on trees above the ramp.

Three stunning contestants shared with us, why they want to win the Miss Sri Lanka Crown.

Nishuka Jayawardena

The friendly Nishuka says she has a very busy schedule. As a Senior Sales Executive of a renowned private firm, she is not new to the target oriented atmosphere. She considers being part of this pageant a privilege. "This is Sri Lanka's number one pageant so this will give me the opening I want. I like the experience of being around girls with similar mentality" says Nishuka.

The Old girl of Lindsay Balika Vidyalaya, Colombo says that her colleagues at work have been very supportive of her decision to participate.

"The pageant requires commitment and unless I give it my best, I am not going to make a mark. I couldn't have done it without them and my boss who is very excited about me being part of this

prestigious pageant. Managing between my job and the pageant is an intricate balancing act but I have done it so far and I hope to do it always" an ambitious Nishuka said.

"My parents were quite skeptical about my entering this industry, I understand why they think that, but I have explained to them that this is not as bad as they think and have slightly convinced them to allow me to be part of the pageant. This is a huge responsibility and I hope to live up to it" she said with a smile.

Pushpika de Silva

Launched into mainstream modelling by Michael Wijesuriya and Ramani Fernando after being discovered at a bridal show years back, Pushpika has gone from strength to strength. The tall lass who is a Director of her family business took up modelling as a hobby.

"I wanted to enter modelling from a very young age and I

climbed the ladder of success gradually" she says.

"I have worked on my areas of development from last year's pageant and I am ever ready to learn from experiences and I consider these traits to have worked in my favour all the time. My parents and siblings have been immensely encouraging and I owe them a lot for all the adjustments they have made to make me realise my aspirations" she said.

"Coming from Polonnaruwa has been a blessing to me, people there are excited about my being part of the show and they too have encouraged me ever since I wanted to model.

I believe that my entrance to the pageant has made it easier for many aspiring models to pursue what they have a passion for and I am certainly glad I have also been instrumental in bringing about that change" said Pushpika.

Thushane Vimalaratne

Having pursued her higher education in Australia after graduating from Museaus College, Colombo, Thushane returned to be part of her family business, but destiny had some-

thing different in store for her and as a result she is one of the finalists of this year's pageant. "I have not walked the ramp before so this is all a bit new to me, but I was clear in my decision to enter because I want to make the best out of my appearance and intellect" she said.

"Having lived abroad for a while I believe it is high time that I did something to change the outlook the global community has on our island.

They often associate us with the bitter experiences of terrorism and seldom speak about the progress we are making now, so I am trying to prove a point through a platform like this. We have moved on and we deserve to be known for all the progress we are making as a nation" said Thushane.

"We have beautiful girls but we don't use them enough to promote the country to gain attention. I am striving for an opportunity to do that I am committed to breaking all misconceptions surrounding the country and this industry.

I am enjoying the experience of being part of the pageant and feel it is a great opportunity for girls with beauty and brains" she said.

The *Sunday Observer* will bring you more interviews in the following weeks.



Nishuka Jayawardena

Pix: Thilak Perera



Pushpika De Silva



Pushpika Sandamali



Anne Piyumali



Charitha Waidyasiri



Nimesha de Silva



Chamupa Godage



Thushen Vimalaratne



Shimalka Bodaragama



Nishuka Jayawardena



Piumi Perera



Uddima Oshadi



Aloka Weerasinghe



Sashika Herath

Pix: Chinthaka Kumarasinghe

Contestants

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