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PROFILE WILLIAM HENDERSON July 19, 2007

Mr. and Miss Gay South Shore 2006 say 'Sayonara'

PAGEANT TO SELECT 2007 TITLEHOLDERS SCHEDULED FOR JULY 27

Last Friday, July 13, Mr. and Miss South Shore 2006, Anthony DeRose and Della Prescott were lauded at their farewell party in advance of the coronation of Mr. and Miss South Shore 2007 on Friday, July 27. Prior to their "Sayonara South Shore" fete, both DeRose and Prescott spoke with In Newsweekly about what this past year has meant for them and what they plan to do next.

In Newsweekly (I.N.): What has been the best thing about your reign?

Anthony DeRose (A.D.): Some of the best things that I'll remember about my reign would include being given the opportunity to represent the South Shore LGBT community to the best of my ability. I really enjoyed going out and helping raise funds for organizations that directly benefit the local LGBT community like GLSEN-Boston and AIDS Care Ocean State. I will remember the amazing friendships that were created or strengthened over my year. But the truly best thing about my reign was none other than the absolute wonder that is Miss Della Prescott. For the past 12 months, she has been my "wife" and I could not have asked for a more talented, dedicated and amazing person who I am also proud to call a best friend. She made this year very special to me and I will always thank her for that and cherish those memories.

Della Prescott (D.P.): The best thing about my reign as Miss Gay South Shore 2006 has been the opportunity to raise funds for different charities, especially GLSEN Boston. Anthony and I decided to make a difference this year by choosing a "platform" and we are honored to help GLSEN in their efforts to provide safe-schools programming in our community.

I.N.: What's been the most unexpected thing of your reign?

A.D.: The notoriety of being a titleholder really caught me off guard. It was just interesting to be out with my friends in Providence whether in a coffeehouse or club event and have people yell to me from across the room, "Hey, South Shore!" And, to have both guys and girls come up wanting to take



Mr. Gay South Shore 2006 Anthony DeRose and Miss Gay South Shore 2006 Della Prescott stepped last weekend in advance of the coronation of 2007 titleholders (PHOTO: Mr. and Miss G Shore)

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their picture with me and try on the crown or sash. And, to tell the truth, I loved every single minute of it. The most unexpected thing that happened was when I received a call informing me that I was emceeing the main stage at this year's RI Pride. It was the most thrilling feeling to be up on the stage with my co-host and dear friend Krystal Kenzington performing at this great event.

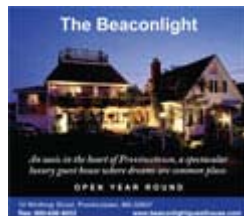
D.P.: The most unexpected thing during my reign as Miss Gay South Shore has been the generosity of the crowds at all the shows. In April, I decided that all of my tips from every performance until the pageant would be donated to GLSEN Boston and as of today, I have raised \$800 all in thanks to the wonderful people in attendance at the shows. Also, thinking back a few months, I never expected to have to walk the entire parade route for the Youth Pride March. My feet did not like walking all that way in 4-inch heels, but it was one of the most rewarding experiences this year.

I.N.: What do you have planned next?

A.D.: Right now, I am planning on continuing to be an active force within the local LGBT community. I have always had a philosophy of taking on community involvement with a hands-on approach. One of the ways I will continue to do that is that I will continue to serve as a member of the Executive Board of Directors for RI Pride, which I was appointed to this past May. But, as for right now, I plan on spending some time to relax, work on my life, and spending time with my family and friends who have hardly seen me in the past year. I also plan on staying in the gay pageant world for a bit. This past March, I competed for Mr. Gay RI and came in 2nd runner-up and winner of the Private Interview and Mr. Congeniality. So, I definitely plan on competing for it next year and hopefully taking the title. And, I am also eyeing a few other national titles within the pageant circuit.

D.P.: I am currently a member of the group 6GIRLZ6 and will remain involved with them after my reign. In addition, I host my own show, "What's Della's Deal?," the last Friday of each month at Bobby's Place in Taunton and will continue to do that. It is my own version of "Deal or No Deal" as well as a few other game shows with my personal spin to them and a few performances thrown in to entertain the crowd. •

The 2007 Mr. & Miss Gay South Shore Pageant will be held on Friday, July 27, at the Randolph Country Club, 44 Mazzeo Drive, Randolph. This event is hosted and presented by 6GIRLZ6 Productions and this year's theme is "Around the World." Contestants will be judged on evening wear, walk-on wear, and talent. The pageant begins at 9 p.m. and contestants are asked to register by 7 p.m. For more information, connect to www.6GIRLZ6.com.



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