



## COLUMBIA MAY QUEEN CROWNED BY MAYOR

Mayor Lester L. Bates places the crown on the head of Columbia's 1960 City-wide May Queen, Carolyn Branham, as the members of her court look on during the ceremonies

yesterday afternoon at Valley Park. Miss Emmie Sue Deaver, the maid of honor, stands at the back of the May Queen. (Staff Photo).

### DESPITE OVERCAST

# May Day Coronation Is Colorful Ceremony

Overcast skies Saturday afternoon did not hinder a colorful display of pomp and ceremony at the 15th annual city of Columbia May Day Coronation at Valley Park.

Queen of the May, Miss Carolyn Branham of Gonzales Gardens, dressed in white with a bouquet of white roses, was crowned by Mayor Lester L. Bates with a small white crown as she sat upon her throne on the small white platform. Mayor Bates was escorted to the center of the stage by Steven Borsos. Miss Branham had as her maid-of-honor, Miss Emmie Sue Deaver of Gonzales Gardens. The Columbia Parks and Recreation Department sponsored the Coronation which featured the Gonzales Gardens Playground under the leadership of Mrs. Olive Davis and the Columbia High School Band under the direction of Robert L. Maddox.

Play school children acted as the flower girls as they preceded Miss Branham to the platform, scattering vari-colored rose petals along her intended path to her throne on the Coronation platform. A threat of rain did not lessen the appeal of the colorful pageantry which unfolded, but did step up the tempo of the ceremony as it progressed.

Mayor Bates presented Queen Carolyn with the Queen's gift.

The Processional got underway after a concert of music by the

Columbia High School Band and the National Anthem by the Band and the address of welcome by William B. Moore, Director of Parks and Recreation for Columbia.

Leading the Processional were May Pole Dancers which was composed of a group from each Park. Heralds were Barrie Tomkins and Shelly Clary.

Flag bearers included Mac Murphy of Explorer Post 4 and Bob Coggins of Explorer Post 4. Color guards were Johnnie Wingfield with the South Carolina flag and Dave Merry holding the American flag.

Serving as the Queen's Guards were Emily Douglas Park and Court Jesters, Lease Fouche, Sally Green, Ann Thomas and Alice Thomas.

Attendants to the Queen were Junior and Senior maids. Gift bearers were Steve Blume and Linda Ann Nelson.

The maid-of-honor was Emmie Sue Deaver and the crown bearer, Daryl Byrd.

Train bearers were Keith Gibson, Skipper Anderson and Ronald Capps.

Capping the Coronation festivities was entertainment led by Mistress of Ceremonies, Mrs. Ruth Gottlieb, "The Story Lady," who welcomed each succeeding guest

from fairyland as they appeared in front of the Queen to pay her homage.

Mrs. Gottlieb called each of the main fairyland storybook characters on the scene to enact their parts in the highly entertaining little scenes. Nancy Sox as the Fairy Queen waved her magic wand and awakened the bees and butterflies and everyone from storybook land.

Sleeping beauty from Heathwood was awakened by the Prince. The flowers, bees and butterflies were played by children from Irwin, Mays and Melrose.

Goldilocks and the three bears said hello to the Queen while Snow White and the seven dwarfs came on next.

Peter Rabbit and his entourage was followed by Mr. McGregor. Cinderella and her prince danced gaily for the Queen. The Prince was dressed neatly in blue and Cinderella in white.

Other fairyland characters who entered to play their parts came through trellised archways on either side of the patio area in front of the platform where the Queen and her attendants were placed. Among them were the three bears, the three little pigs, Red Riding Hood, beauty and the beast and Hansel and Gretel.

The Foster School of Dance presented two selections which included Little Red Riding Hood dancing with the big bad wolf. Playing these parts were Jackie Elkin and David McCallum. Their other presentation was Puss 'N Boots by Brenda Stephenson and David Deismas.

The Maypole Dance at the conclusion of the entertaining featured scenes were the loveliest from the standpoint of gay and colorful children's merrymaking for this time of the year.

Adding the musical relief to the ceremonies was the band of Columbia High School which accompanied the little red-coated rhythm band from the playgrounds and the parks of Columbia.

The May Court festivities were under the sponsorship of the city of Columbia and the Columbia Recreation Department.

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