

# That Southern Hospitality

## And Charm

As a part of the annual Rice Festival, official hostesses were essential to producing a successful festival. These dedicated workers represented their community as well as their schools. Young girls from Ruffin High School, Walterboro High School and Colleton Prep performed the many duties of being a Rice Planter. They served as public relations ambassadors at the Festival events. The Rice Planters provided information, welcomed visitors, organized events, and made posters.

"Many people feel as if being a Rice Planter is an easy job, but they are wrong. We have many obligations and duties that lie far beyond those of just acting as hostesses of the Rice Festival," emphasized Dawn Bowman.

Sponsored by Beth Howard and Beth Bailey, the Rice Planters were active in many other activities other than the Rice Festival. Not only did they participate in the Christmas and Martin Luther King Jr. Parades in Walterboro, but they also took part in the Water Festival in Beaufort, the



Welcome to Walterboro. Best friends Dawn Bowman and Selena Taylor were Rice Planters at the annual Rice Festival. They enjoyed time together as official hostesses of the Festival.

Watermelon Festival in Hampton, the Grits Festival in St. George, Railroad Days in Branchville, and the Schutzfest in Ehrhardt.

The '94 Rice Planters included: Dawn Bowman, Selena Taylor, Sharon Hazel, Nicole Constantine, Stacie Pye, Jennifer Beach, Garnett Johnston, Ashleigh Padgett, Farrior Langley, Stacy Davis, India Martin, Jenny Robbins, Rhonda Dopson, and Samantha Waldrop.

The Rice Festival Committee selected the Rice Planters stating their qualifications and extra-curricular activities at school and in the community. Appropriate attire was also required of a Rice Planter. This year's costumes were designed by Jus' Sports and the sponsors.

"Being a Rice Planter enabled me to utilize my leadership abilities," commented Sharon Hazel, "I think that this experience will benefit me not only as a person, but also as a leader of tomorrow."

— Inglis P. Mangum IV



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