

• Miss Kansas.com PRATT – The Miss Kansas Organization crowned Miss Kansas 2013 on Saturday in Pratt at Pratt Community College. The pageant was webcast for all those who could not be in attendance. Twenty-five women competed for scholarships and the title of Miss Kansas 2013 in five areas of competition – a Private Interview, Lifestyle and Fitness, Evening Wear, Talent and On Stage Question.

Theresa Vail, a 22 year old student from Kansas State University, won the title on Saturday night. Ashley Ulmer was first runner-up, Alyssa Marsh was second runner-up, Danielle Hill was third runner-up and Hannah Langley was fourth runner-up.

Vail won preliminary swim suit award and the preliminary talent award for her operatic performance of "Nessun Dorma." Vail's personal platform is "Empowering young women through male-dominant outdoor activities."

"As I was growing up, I never fit in with the crowd. Cheerleading didn't interest me, but sports did. I finally found my home when I joined the JROTC rifle team. I quickly became the number one shot and this is when I could feel a sense of security and confidence building within me. I soon realized that I felt the most strength and confidence when I was doing something that most boys would do; camping, hunting, fishing and boxing," said Theresa Vail. "The confidence that these activities gave me developed me into a highly motivated and successful young woman not only in the outdoor world but in the professional and business world. This is what I want to

give other young women as Miss Kansas."

As the world's leading provider of scholarship assistance for young women and one of the nation's leading achievement programs, the Miss America Organization last year made available more than \$45 million in scholarship assistance. The Miss America Organization provides young women with a vehicle to further their personal and professional goals and instills a spirit of community service through nationwide community-based programs.