More roses in the MTA family

Tournament of Roses Royal Court includes not one, but *two*, daughters of MTA employees.



Rose Princess Glynn-Helene Joseph is daughter of MTA Mechanic Emil Joseph.

By GAYLE ANDERSON

More than 950 young women in the Pasadena-area vied for the coveted post of princess in the Tournament of Roses Royal Court. One week later, 100 were chosen as semi-finalists and, from there, 38 finalists began yet another round of interviews and tests for presence that would unnerve all but the truly poised.

When the seven princesses were announced last Monday, two of the royal court just happened to be members of the MTA family. Both are daughters of MTA employees.

Glynn-Helene Joseph, daughter of Metro Red Line mechanic Emil Joseph, and Anjali Agrawal, daughter of MTA engineer Sudhir Agrawal, were both selected princesses of the Royal Court. (See metro.net Oct. 17: "Everything's coming up roses for MTA engineer's daughter.")

MTA Mechanic Emil Joseph was at the press conference at Tournament Hall last Monday when his daughter, 17-year-old Glynn-Helene Joseph, was selected.

"She was the last one called, but I wasn't worried; I knew she would win," he said in a telephone interview. "She was smiling the whole time. She is so outgoing; everybody loves her. I knew she would be the one."

Glynn-Helene was a little more apprehensive than her father knew, however. She had asked her mother, Caryl, not to bring a camera, "just in case" she lost, said Joseph. "She didn't want anyone to see a picture of her crying."

Glynn-Helene is a senior at Flintridge Sacred Heart Academy and lives in Altadena. Active in volunteerism, she currently donates her culinary skills at Union Station in Pasadena, helping to prepare breakfast and lunch every Saturday. She has also been a volunteer at Kaiser Permanente hospital.

Her hobbies include reading, dancing, music and serious cooking. She has recently accepted at the California Culinary Academy to study baking and pastry art. Eventually, she plans to open her own restaurant. Her older sister, Camille, 19, is a graduate of the Fashion Institute of Design.

Emil Joseph began working at the MTA in 1983 and is currently

assigned as a mechanic for non-revenue equipment at Metro Red Line Division 20. A long-time high-tech mechanic, Joseph served as an aviation electronics technician aboard the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Constellation during a stint in the U.S. Navy, 1976-1980.

The Royal Court will reign over the 114th Rose Parade and the 89th Rose Bowl Game on Jan. 1, sharing the spotlight with grand marshals Bill Cosby, Art Linkletter and television's Mr. Rogers, Fred Rogers. The Rose Parade is themed "Children's Dreams, Wishes and Imagination."

Whether atop a float or at the Rose Bowl, the Royal Court will occupy the best seats in the house. The parents and immediate family of each princess also get the royal treatment, said Joseph. Among other duties that befall the entourages is a requisite attendance at the Rose Bowl Parade and football game that follows. VIP seating is a given.

Back to Bulletin Board