

## Miss Tennessee crowned Miss USA 2007

*by Bend\_Weekly\_News\_Sources*

HOLLYWOOD - This evening, during one of the year's most exciting live television events, a star-studded panel of judges chose Miss Tennessee USA Rachel Smith as Miss USA 2007.

Ms. Smith received a full tuition scholarship to Belmont University and graduated with a degree in Journalism. She is highly involved in community volunteering for numerous organizations and has traveled to South Africa to assist young women from less advantaged backgrounds.

The judging panel for the 2007 Miss USA Pageant includes Vince Young; NFL Quarter-back for the Tennessee Titans; Bravo's "Blowout" star, Jonathan Antin; Los Angeles Lakers owner, real estate tycoon Dr. Jerry Buss; "E! News" Co-Host Giuliana De Pandi; MTV's "Total Request Live" VJ and "Entertainment Tonight" Correspondent Vanessa Minnillo; President and Creative Director, Baby Phat Kimora Lee Simmons; and Jerry Springer host of NBC'S hit show "America's Got Talent" will headline the celebrity-judging panel.

Throughout the two-hour event, the contestants competed in three categories: swimsuit, evening gown and interview. During these competitions the "Top Five" finalists were selected before the crowning. Tara Conner, Miss USA 2006, crowned her successor at the conclusion of the two-hour primetime telecast, before an estimated worldwide viewing audience of more than 250 million.

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