

The Queen

During her time at Hutchinson she was a member of Cum Laude, National Honor Society, Quill and Scroll, Mu Alpha Theta, Athletic Honor Society and the Pep Club. She also was editor of the yearbook, a student council representative, chairman of elections, Vice President of the Athletic Association and earned high honor ribbons. Queen Dorothy participated in basketball, tennis, volleyball and soccer.



Since entering LSU, Queen Dorothy has continued to display her qualities of excellence. She is a member of Delta Delta Delta Sorority in which she was recording secretary her junior year and which she now serves as Vice President. She has been honored as Best Pledge and Outstanding Active.

Queen Dorothy is a member of the Girl's Cotillion and the Girl's Dinner Club. She was presented as a debutante at the Memphis Country Club in 1974 and at the Memphis Hunt and Polo Club White Tie Ball in 1975.

Her interest in and knowledge of the cotton industry stems primarily from her father's activities in the field. Mr. Dunavant is President of Dunavant Enterprises, Inc., of Memphis, which is the largest handler of U.S. cotton in the world. The firm handles more than 1 1/4 million bales annually and was a participant in the first sales of cotton from this country to Mainland China in 1972.

The Queen's grandfather, the late William (Buck) Buchanan Dunavant, started in the cotton business as a young man and

soon entered a business with T. J. White, Sr., of T. J. White and Company. Mr. White retired in 1960 and the firm became W. B. Dunavant and Company. The senior Mr. Dunavant was a past President of the Memphis Cotton Exchange.

Queen Dorothy's father joined the business as a junior partner in 1952, became a partner in the company in 1956 and continued the business after Mr. White retired and until his father's death in 1961.

As sister of the Queen, Miss Elizabeth Corneil Dunavant was a Lady-in-waiting for the Arts and Garden Club in 1971 and was a Special Princess for the Lastnighter's in 1972. The Queen's brothers, William Buchanan Dunavant, III and John Dobson Dunavant both have served as pages during past Carnivals. She has another brother, Buchanan Dobson Dunavant, who is five years old.



Photography by
Rod Phillips

CARNIVAL '76 MAY IN MEMPHIS IS CARNIVAL TIME!

This year's Party in the Land of Cotton is April 30 - May 8, when Memphis launches its annual tribute to King Cotton with one of the world's best known and most elaborate festivals.

The Cotton Carnival is sponsored by the Memphis Cotton Carnival Association, a non-profit civic organization devoted to promotion of the city's position as the hub of the nation's cotton belt.

Front Street in Memphis is Cotton Row, where the offices of the world's largest cotton brokers are located, together with their unique cotton sampling rooms, which have become a major tourist attraction.

Here, too, is the Memphis Cotton Exchange, the world's largest spot cotton market, where more than one third of the nation's cotton crop is bought and sold each year.

Memphis is also the home of the National Cotton Council and of the Maid of Cotton. The Maid, a lovely and talented young lady, is chosen annually from one of the nation's cotton producing states. Co-sponsored by the Cotton Carnival, the National Cotton Council, and the Memphis Press-Scimitar, she serves as

King Cotton's official ambassador throughout the nation and the world. During her year's reign, she tours America, Canada, and several countries in Europe, Asia and South America, clad in cotton to show the beauty and versatility of the fabric.

The modern Memphis Cotton Carnival originated in 1931, when a handful of civic-minded Memphians decided to sponsor an annual celebration in honor of King Cotton and to raise the spirits of Memphians during the hard depression days.

Actually, the first modern Carnival was a rebirth of the old Memphis Mardi Gras, which originated in 1872 under similar economic conditions. Members of the Mystic Society of Memphis at that time directed and personally financed an annual celebration to help Memphis forget unpleasant memories of the War Between the States and subsequent yellow fever epidemics which devastated the city and surrounding area. The old Mardi Gras, a one-day affair, was discontinued in 1881, and then taken over as a commercial project until its final abandonment in 1901.

The modern Carnival was born in the office of a motion picture