

Kristi Lynn Shaner

It all started on August 3, 1989 when I was welcomed into the world by proud parents Kent and Karen Shaner and brother Kyle. Now over 22 years later when relatives and friends tell me they cannot believe how fast I have grown, I cannot help but agree. Each year the time flew by faster as I began to take on more roles and responsibilities.

Although my family moved a few times when I was young, I have lived in Maria Stein, Ohio since age four. This small, farming community taught me a strong work ethic and the rest of the values I hold today. I was very active in my community and church growing up. Even though I hope to move away for a few years for life experience after college, I hope to eventually return home, and become involved in community life again.

Throughout high school, I devoted much time to academics receiving many honors. Sports though were a great enjoyment of mine, and I participated in bowling, softball and volleyball. I was also involved in many clubs, and I graduated with honors in May of 2008 from Marion Local High School. Growing up though, my greatest love was 4-H. I was involved ten years as a member of the Sewers and Growers 4-H Club. Each year I looked forward to 4-H camp and I eventually took on the role as a camp counselor for five years at Harbor Point 4-H Camp. I concluded my 4-H experience by becoming the Mercer County Jr. Fair Queen. It was such an honor and accomplishment. This is when I discovered my talent for communication.

This talent led me to major in communication at Bowling Green State University (BGSU). Public speaking does not faze me and this has helped me greatly in the leadership roles I have held at the University. I have also participated in many other organizations and activities. I am entering my last semester at BGSU and will graduate in December 2011. I hope to obtain a job in the field of human resources with the ultimate goal of becoming a corporate trainer.

Although it may seem my education is ending and the tuition bills will stop, I still have many student loans to pay off. Receiving this scholarship would greatly aid in helping to relieve my financial burden, so that I can focus on my career goals. I have also been encouraged by many professors and my academic advisor to continue on to graduate school to obtain my masters, but the financial burden has currently deterred me. Although I know I will not go directly for my masters, I am seriously considering returning for my masters in a few years once I decide which degree will benefit my career the best. I feel obtaining more education can never be a bad decision.