

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Miss Texas to Share “Never Give Up” Message
With Cal Farley’s Girlstown, U.S.A. and Other Youth Organizations**

Who: Cal Farley’s
What: Visit from Miss Texas, Shilah Phillips
When: Tuesday, June 12, 2007, 12:30 PM and 6:30 PM
Where: 12:30 PM at The Lubbock Club (1500 Broadway, 14th floor, Wells Fargo Building);
6:30 PM Girlstown, U.S.A. (45 miles west from Lubbock on Texas 114 to Whiteface, turn south on FM 1780, and travel 8 miles to the campus.)

Girlstown, U.S.A.- The current Miss Texas, Shilah Phillips, was one of the top 50 contenders hoping to be the next “American Idol” during its 3rd season, won the Miss Texas crown on her first try (only the second woman in the organization’s history to do so), is the first African-American to serve as Miss Texas and was almost named Miss America (she was the 1st Runner-Up at the January competition in Las Vegas, NV). In addition to this, she has received more than \$40,000 in scholarship money from the Miss America program, all while being a newcomer to pageants. Sure, she has achieved notable success, but much of her drive comes from a commitment to “never giving up,” a message that is a central theme to her “platform,” or the program she has chosen to promote during her time as Miss Texas. The “Never Give Up” message w



Shilah Phillips, Miss Texas 2006

that have been invited from several Lubbock area non-profit organizations on Tuesday, June 12, 2007. Young people from the Children’s Home of Lubbock, Buckner’s Children and Family Services and the Methodist Home will hear Shilah’s positive message of staying in school, living a healthy lifestyle and keeping dreams alive at a special luncheon hosted by Cal Farley’s at 12:30p.m.

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Shilah will then travel to Cal Farley's Girlstown, U.S.A., where she will tour the campus, then share her "Never Give Up" message and showcase her incredible vocal talent at an evening event that is free and open to the public. The Girlstown, U.S.A. event will begin at 6:30 PM in the Girlstown Chapel. The media is invited to cover both or one of Miss Texas' appearances. Additionally, press photo opportunities will be available on Tuesday as Shilah tours the Girlstown campus at approximately 3:30 PM. "Shilah is a talented young woman and we're looking forward to sharing her vocal abilities and positive message with our students, other childcare organizations and the community at large," said Dan Adams, president and CEO of Cal Farley's. "I can't wait to meet Miss Texas and I am eager to hear her speak on her platform. I think this will be very uplifting to all of the students," added Girlstown resident Tayla Beasley who also serves on the student-committee that has helped plan Shilah's visit.

After winning the title of Miss Texas, Shilah embarked on a 12-month speaking tour sharing her encouraging message with hundreds of thousands of Texans, both young and old. She has recorded many demo records and seized a recording opportunity in Los Angeles; however, after not hitting it big time, she realized the importance of a completed education. "I understand that the chances of success are greater in the future by completing a degree," said Phillips. Shilah moved to the DFW area to focus on her studies, and she has been accepted to the nationally renowned jazz program at the University of North Texas. Shilah will crown the newly named Miss Texas in Fort Worth on Saturday, July 7, 2007.

Cal Farley's, is a Christ-centered organization that cares for approximately 310 at-risk boys and girls at its two campuses – Cal Farley's Boys Ranch and Cal Farley's Girlstown, U.S.A. Children from pre-school through high school are accepted with no charge to their families. The Cal Farley programs provide a variety of academic, vocational, spiritual and extra-curricular activities for the children in care.

For more information on Miss Texas 2006 or Cal Farley's, please visit:

<http://www.misstexas.org/>

<http://www.misstexas.org/news-events-index2.htm>

<http://www.calfarley.org/>

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