

The Morning's Headline



I was shocked and surprised to see my name in the paper on Saturday morning. Although “waste” could refer to a number of things, I knew it could only be referring to NuClia Waste when I saw “Flats” as in “Rocky Flats”. But my biggest clue were the words “South Carolina governor.” Why would my old flame want to have me banned from his state? Could it be that silly peach incident?

My Visit to South Carolina



As many of you know, I have been visiting all 50 states is the U.S. doing research as part of NuClia's "Tour of The Tackiest U.S. Roadside Attractions". It was during my photoshoot at the Giant Peach Water Tower in Gaffney, South Carolina that I met the State's Governor, the honorable Jim Hodges. After the intensive photoshoot under the tower, I sent the camera crew back to the Motel 6 and told them I would catch up to them later at the Dairy Queen for dinner. I needed to unwind and decided to take a walk in the park across the street from the Giant Peach. That's when the black limo pulled alongside me and the window rolled down. "Feel like getting lucky?" a voice said from inside. Not one to say no to luck in any form, I hopped into the limo and we sped away.

First Stop: The Governor's Office



Imagine my surprise when the limo pulled up to the South Carolina State Capital building! I knew my luck was only going to get better. At that point, Jim revealed to me that he was the governor. I always go right to the top! He invited me up to his office and we had one wild afternoon of gubernatorial sex. Can you find me in this picture? I'm the one under the desk.

Peach Queen For A Day



Left: Me in my Peach Queen Sash.

Below: In the parade on the Peach Queen Float.



Jim was so taken with me that he got a crazy hair up his butt (besides some green ones) and decided to sign a proclamation making me "Peach Queen 2001". Well, I just had to postpone my photoshoot and stay on for the parade the following week. The South Carolinians came out in droves to see me in their parade. Except for that incident with the Boll Weevil Queen, it was a day I will always remember.

From Fling to Internet Romance



Jim was disappointed, of course, that I could not stay past the parade. But my photo project was calling and my art always comes first. I gave Jim my e-mail and website address and we started up an internet romance. All was fine until I received an e-mail one day from Jim telling me he had fallen in love with the Peach Queen First Runner Up, Miss Fay Tality. I was heartbroken but bent myself on revenge.

The Peach Pie Incident



Knowing how dear the Giant Peach Water Tower was to Jim, I flew down to South Carolina and embarked upon the biggest baking event ever undertaken. I turned that peach into the World's Largest Peach Pie.

Guinness showed up to record the event in their big book. My fans from the parade turned out and we all chowed down until we couldn't shove another bite of that delicious pie past our lips.

Banned From South Carolina



The press conference when Jim had me banned from the state. That's little miss Peach Queen Runner Up, Miss Fay Tality on his right. I know she turned Jim's love against me just so she could claw her way to becoming Peach Queen herself!

To say Jim was livid is an understatement. He called a press conference the following day and had me banned from the state! He also had me dethroned as Peach Queen. Of course, I knew nothing of this having flown home to Rocky Flats the night before. It wasn't until I opened the paper on Saturday morning that I read those words "South Carolina vows to block Waste from Flats." I've learned a very valuable lesson from all this. When you win a pageant of any kind, make sure your first runner-up is securely lock up in your basement.