

Rock of Love

By Helen Marketti

Ambre Lake was living in Chicago and co-hosting the program Health & Lifestyles Weekly when she received a call that changed her life. "Being a television host in Chicago, I was usually invited to many different things or asked to participate in one thing or another," said Ambre. "Someone called me about season two for Rock of Love and asked me if I was interested. I had remembered the first season of the show and didn't consider myself to be like those other women. After I thought about it, prayed about it, I finally decided "Why not?" I didn't want to go through life wondering "What if?" so I agreed to go on the show. After that, it all happened the way it was supposed to."

She continues, "I looked at it this way; there were twenty of us and everyone had a different beauty about them. Some of the women were genuinely looking for love with Bret. It was his decision and whomever he felt the connection with. I kept an open mind and an open heart the entire time. It changed my life significantly."

Rock of Love aired for three seasons in which many women competed for the heart of rocker, Bret Michaels. Ambre was the one he chose at the end of season two. She had been a fan favorite and still is. There is more to Ambre Lake, however than having had a romantic relationship with one of rock's top front men.

"I grew up on a farm in Alabama and always wanted to be an actress. I would sing to the cows, pigs and chickens and anyone else who would listen to me and be my audience," laughs Ambre.

Ambre attended undergrad at Troy University in Alabama then went on to Michigan State University where she majored in acting and dance.

"I would like to get back to my passion, back to my roots which is acting. I'm auditioning for some different roles in Hollywood," said Ambre. "My manager is negotiating two movie deals for me and we'll see what happens. I just wrote and produced my own story and what I have been doing since I was on Rock of Love so hopefully that will be coming out very soon. I feel very fortunate and excited about everything that is happening."

Once season two of Rock of Love was over, Ambre and Bret dated for ten months while she was still living in Chicago. "Bret's life is really being on the road. It's really hard to develop a lasting relationship with someone who is always traveling," explains Ambre. "Bret would surprise me sometimes and show up in Chicago to see me when he was on tour. But without having a lot of time together to develop a relationship plus trying to keep the media out of it and keep things private...it was just too difficult so we parted



as friends. It was rough for awhile but you have to keep yourself level headed."

With health concerns that put Bret Michaels in the public eye even more in recent months along with his time on Celebrity Apprentice, Ambre has definite thoughts about Bret's situation. "He has come up against a lot of adversity and still managed to come out on top. He is a walking miracle. I am happy for him and proud of him."

Moving on with her life is what Ambre Lake is doing to the best of her ability. "As of now, I am dating. I'm still trying to figure it out. It has taken me awhile to move past Rock of Love and Bret. I'm working through that right now and happy with my life."

She has no regrets what so ever about her time with Bret or being on the show. "I didn't expect things to be as popular as they turned out to be on Rock of Love. I did a lot of soul searching and kept my heart open. I feel very glad-very happy that I had the time I did with Bret. He is such a fantastic, terrific person. He supported me, loved me and surprised me. Through it all, he always was a genuine, down to earth person who I felt I could be myself when I was around him. I stayed true to myself. Everyone loves Bret because he is genuine, like attracts like. Never change yourself or who you are for anyone because there is only one you."

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Up to \$50,000 will be awarded to area medical students via Memorial Hospital Foundation's loan program

The Memorial Hospital Foundation Board of Directors recently increased the funding available for the Medical School Student Loan program in hopes of securing more dedicated, locally connected physicians to the area. The loan program now provides funding up to \$50,000 to students in medical school or their residency who will commit to practicing in the community for at least 5 years.

"The demand for talented young physicians on our community is great," said Dr. Howard Stierwalt, Foundation Board Member and local practicing physician. "We have plenty of local students who have gone on to medical school. This scholarship's purpose is to provide them with an added incentive to return to the area to practice."

To be eligible for the loan program, applicants must meet one of the following criteria.

- You must be a resident or former resident in the Memorial Hospital service area.
- You must be a child of active medical staff, or
- You must be a child of a hospital employee with greater than 5 years consecutive service.

"The fund is intended for students who will practice at Memorial Hospital and serve the citizens of our community," added Dr. Stierwalt. "Memorial Health Care System has a strong tradition of caring for the residents of

Fremont and Sandusky County. This scholarship will ensure that people who rely on us for their medical needs will be in the care of physicians familiar with their community."

Students who join and serve Memorial Hospital's medical staff will have the loan forgiven over a 5-year period. Recipients who do not complete their course of study, or choose not to practice at Memorial Hospital will be responsible for the re-payment of the loan with interest.

For more information on the Memorial Hospital Foundation Medical Student Loan Program, please visit the Memorial Hospital Website at memorialhcs.org/medical-school-student-loan or contact the Memorial Hospital Foundation Development Office at 419.334.6667.

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