

## Coronation to Open Cup Regatta Friday

The 24th running of the President's Cup Regatta will be launched Friday night with a coronation, colorful Aqua-Pageant and illuminated boat parade.

The festivities will get underway at Hains Point at 7:30 p. m. with an hour-long band concert by the Navy School of Music band, directed by Lt. Cmdr. John McDonald.

The School of Music band will be shore-based for the concert, but at 8:30 p. m. the show will switch to a barge anchored off the Point.

There, Melise Ross, an 18-year-old with blue eyes and honey-brown hair will be crowned the 21st queen of the Regatta. Edgar Morris, chairman of the coronation committee, will introduce the queen's court.

Queen Melise, the daughter of Brig. Gen. and Mrs. Stoyte O. Ross, will be attended by Catharine Cabell, daughter of Lt. Gen. and Mrs. Charles P. Cabell; Beverly Bland, daughter of Mrs. Julius Castigliola; Elizabeth Barnes, daughter of Navy Capt. and Mrs. Robert McCumber Barnes; Elizabeth Burger, daughter of Maj. Gen. and Mrs. Joseph C. Burger; Elizabeth Thatcher, daughter of Maj. Gen. and Mrs. Herbert B. Thatcher; Jacquelyn McCartney, daughter of John N. McCartney, and Deborah Gude, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Granville Gude.

Queen Melise will reign until after the last of a two-day series of powerboat races, when she'll have to abdicate to leave for classes at the University of Florida. One of her attendants will take over her duties during the sailing races Sept. 24 and 25.

After the coronation, the

Aqua-Pageant will swing into an hour-and-a-half program presided over by Bryson Rash, WMAL television personality. Included in the eight-act show will be the Justin Lawrie Singers; a 75-voice chorus with Lindsey Bergen and Annette May as soloists; the Jumping Jacks, an Air Force singing group, and the Air Force bagpipe band and novelty acts.

Horace Walker, general chairman of the Regatta, will introduce several of the drivers who will compete in the Gold Cup speedboat races on Saturday and Sunday.

Swimming and diving acts originally scheduled for the Aqua-Pageant were canceled last week after the District Health Department warned that the polluted Potomac would endanger the health of the performers.

The illuminated boat parade is scheduled to start at the conclusion of the pageant, about 10 p. m. More than two dozen brightly illuminated boats will take part in the parade. An innovation this year will be colored spotlights, which will play upon the boats as they pass. Art Lamb, of WTTG-TV, will describe the parade.

Judges for the Boat Parade will be Harold A. Long, Raymond J. Lassonde, J. Stanley Long and District Court Judge Richmond B. Keetch.

Standing room for the band concert, coronation and Aqua-Pageant will be free. Seats will be available at \$1 each.

Tickets for the powerboat races are selling at \$1 for seawall seats and \$2.50 for box seats. The races start at 10 a. m. Saturday and noon on Sunday.