

Bikini model is California dreamin'

◆ **Chester:** Pinkerton graduate Katelyn Verrier wins a trip to Los Angeles following a weight-loss pill company's nationwide search.

By TRENT SPINER

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CHESTER — A Chester woman is headed to Los Angeles after being named one of the top three bikini models in a nationwide search.

Katelyn Verrier, 21, said her family has always pushed her to do modeling, but she instead

focused on getting her clinical psychology degree from Mount Ida College in Newton, Mass. When she noticed an online advertise-

ment for the bikini con-

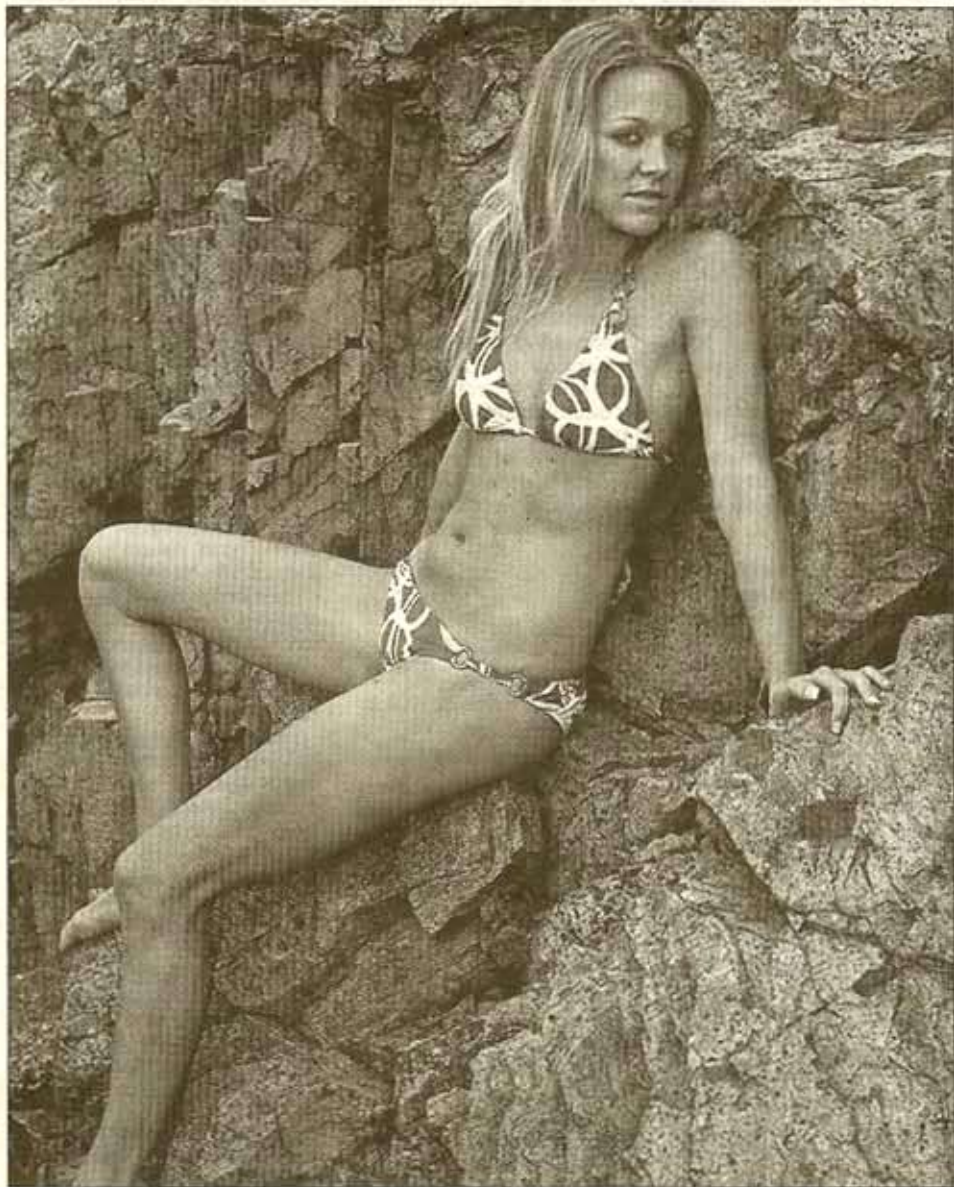
test, she decided to finally give professional modeling a shot.

"I think a woman's confidence in what she is makes for the best quality a woman can possess," she said. "I think any person, size zero through 20 should feel healthy and happy with themselves."

At 5 feet 9 inches, the blonde Verrier posted a video of herself on the YouTube Web site along with dozens of other contestants from across the country. As a finalist, she will be flown to California for a series of modeling events sponsored by a company that sells weight-loss pills.

"It was a ploy to get a real consumer, because diet plans are hard when you are using celebrities (to promote them)," said Gwen Kent, president of CUUR. "Real people need to lose weight, not celebrities."

Kent said the pills, filled with ginseng and other ingredients, increase energy while promoting weight loss.



COURTESY

Katelyn Verrier, 21, of Chester will be headed to Los Angeles after being named one of the top three bikini models in a recent contest.

"They'll get national coverage of being a model, and you can't really put a price on that," she said. "I'm sure they'll get a ton of work."

For Verrier, a former Pinkerton Academy of Derry cheerleader who graduated in 2005, this will be her first trip to California.

"I signed up because I had always wanted to, like, see where modeling would take me," she said.