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CROWN TIME:Jordan Krinke, Placentia's Outstanding Teen won the distinction of California's Outstanding Teen at the state competiton in Fresno in June.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOCELYN WILLIAMS

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California's Outstanding Teen, a Placentia resident, evacuates from Monte Carlo

Debris was falling outside her third-story window at the burning hotel.

By ERIC NEFF

THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

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California's Outstanding Teen – a Placentia resident – was among the evacuees of the Monte Carlo Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas this morning.

Jordan Krinke, 17, was staying on the third floor in the same wing of the 32-story hotel that is burning.

There is a lower roof on the second floor of the hotel, and Krinke said that she could see debris hitting the roof just outside her window.

"It was crazy," said the former Placentia's Outstanding Teen. "I grabbed my crown and computer and we ran out."

Krinke said she was surprised by the hotel's seemingly slow response to the fire.

She said the alarm was going off for several minutes before a hotel representative said to her that they were "looking for the source of the fire" and that they would let guests know when they had to evacuate.

It wasn't until Kathryn Baldwin, director of the Miss Placentia pageant and a former Miss Placentia herself, called and told her to get out that she left her room.

Outside, she found a chaotic scene with whole crowds of people evacuating.

"It was solid smoke," she said. "We couldn't see anything."

Krinke and Baldwin are in Las Vegas to support Miss California Melissa Chaty in the Miss America pageant, which is tomorrow.

Contact the writer: 714-704-3782 or eneff@ocregister.com

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