

Opening ceremonies...



Under the talent spotlight...



Personality and poise...

## Here's how Holly won all the roses



Beauty on parade...

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of beauty contests, Miss Schmidt acknowledged a few similarities.

"We did wear vaseline on our teeth because your mouth gets dry," she says. "The lights were hot on stage and we were too nervous to eat very much." But "Smile" was too cynical, she adds.

One of the highlights of the event was the arrival of Dorothy Benham.

Miss America 1977 titlist from Edina, Minn. Miss Benham performed with the Miss Michigan contenders Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, and the young women were somewhat in awe at the beginning, Miss Schmidt reports.

"She's marvelous—she wore curlers just like the rest of us and she isn't pretentious," Miss Schmidt says. The Farmington beauty will have to accus-

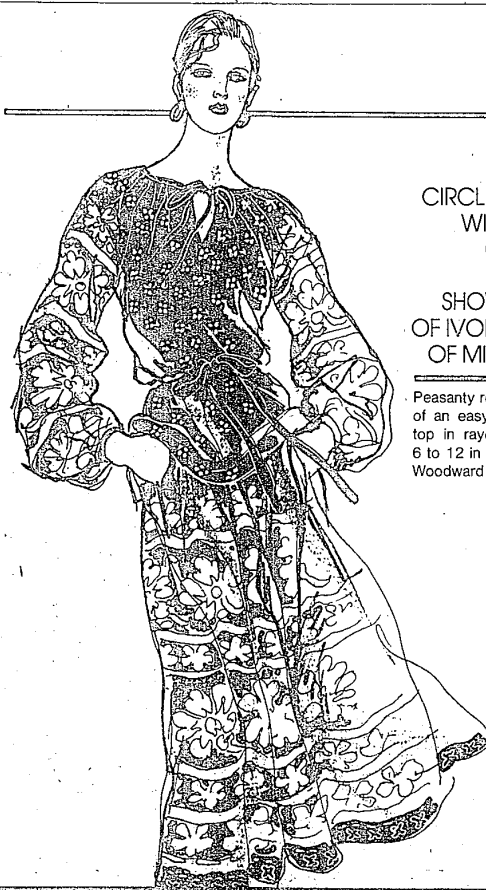
tom herself to being viewed with the same kind of awe from others.

"I used to watch the pageants on TV, and my mother said 'Holly, you're going to be there someday.' At Muskegon, I hoped to make it to the top 10 and I did. Now I'll just think about Atlantic City like I did about this one—I'll just do the best I can. I have just as much chance as the other 49 girls."



The final reward.

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Woodring



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Daughter Holly Ann gets the proper reward from parents Herbert and Lorraine Schmidt as she captures the Miss Michigan crown.