



Farmington Observer Suburban Life

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The new Miss Farmington, Dorlisa Ann LaMarra (center) is flanked by first runner up Marilyn Joan MacLennan (at left) and second runner up Karen Dargusch.

Dorlisa LaMarra takes Miss Farmington crown

By LORAIN McCLISH

Petite Dorlisa Ann LaMarra was crowned Miss Farmington 1977-78 before a standing-room-only crowd in Vladimir's Restaurant in the pageant that marked the beginning of Farmington Founders Festival.

The 17 year old North Farmington High School honor roll student is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony LaMarra, of 3353 Edythe.

Her sponsor in the pageant was Bob Saks Oldsmobile.

Marilyn MacLennan, who took the biggest ovation from the audience for her talent, walked away with awards for first runner up as well as the special talent tribute.

She is a violinist who combined a Hungarian Rhapsody with a country hoe-down number into a medley. She is the 18 year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alastair MacLennan, of 2352 Whittaker.

Karen Irene Dargusch was named second runner up. The 18 year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Dargusch, 29556 Mullane, sang the song "Evergreen" in the competition of ten Farmington area misses.

MISS MacLENNAN was sponsored by the Elks Club, and Miss Dargusch was sponsored by Realty One.

The new Miss Farmington was given a sponsorship by the Farmington Chamber of Commerce; a \$200 wardrobe allowance for the next competition, when she will represent Farmington in the Miss Michigan contest next year; a \$250 education scholarship; a 16 x 20 inch portrait of herself; and a commemorative plaque.

In addition to portraits and commemorative plaques, Miss MacLennan received a \$50 cash prize, and Miss Dargusch a \$25 cash prize.

Miss LaMarra is five foot one inches tall and the shortest girl in the pageant.

One of her special interests is dancing, which she demonstrated in a bright yellow and red outfit, with Gene Kelly's record of "Singing in the Rain."

The dark brown haired, brown eyed beauty has been dancing for nine years and has shared some of her expertise with students at Julie Adler School of the Dance and the Farmington Players' Barn. One of her big

interests is choreography.

She has staged shows for local nursing homes, and danced in two North Farmington High School musicals, "Fiddler on the Roof" and "Hello Dolly."

HER BIG hope is to one day teach dancing to the handicapped, and says, "I feel that I have enough patience and understanding to do so."

She has also had special training in public speaking, radio and television, and expects that she may enter Marygrove College this fall, though in the meantime she is apprenticing for a cosmetology license with Carousel Beauty Salon in Walled Lake.

Miss LaMarra is also a volunteer with the city's Bucket Brigade, where she tutors elementary school children.

The new Miss Farmington took her title from Holly Ann Schmidt, the first Miss Farmington to take the state title. Miss Schmidt will vie for the Miss America crown in September.

Miss Schmidt received a tribute, during the pageant, from Rep. Sandy Brotherton (R-Farm), and also a standing ovation from the audience for her achievement in becoming Miss Michigan.

Others in this year's pageant were Suzanne Regina Blake, sponsored by Dante's Pizza; Betsy Boltz, sponsored by World Wide Association; Kristin Elaine Gunderson, sponsored by Farmington Towne Association; Pamela Prichard, sponsored by Hair Sanctuary; Barbara Rohr, sponsored by Corvette Custom and Collision; Cheryl Lynne Scovel, sponsored by Kendallwood Merchants Association; and Gayna Willing, sponsored by Danish Inn.

The contestants and their parents were guests of Farmington's Holiday Inn at a dinner immediately following the pageant.

EXECUTIVE director for this year's pageant was Susan Reed. Her advisor was Helde Zetek, a director in former years.

Miss Reed's committee included Christine Areinaga, Judy Hammar, Lore Kotchisch, Corey O'Higgins, Harrie Otul, Dorothy Reed, Donna Tindler and Lisa Waddell.

The pageant was produced by Tony Areinaga, Bill Reed and Craig Roshak.



Dorlisa Ann LaMarra is 17 years old, a 1977 graduate of North Farmington High School, and has been dancing for the past nine years. She

teaches dance, did the choreography for her talent number in the pageant and has taken prizes for her dancing ability.



This year's pageant entrants are, Marilyn MacLennan (at left) Gayna Willing, Cheryl Scovel, Barbara Rohr, Pamela Prichard, Dorlisa LaMarra, Kristin Gunderson, Karen Dargusch, Betsy Boltz and

Suzanne Blake. The theme of the pageant was "There's a New World Coming."

Staff photos by Harry Mauthe



In the swim suit competition, Kristin Gunderson (at left) stands with Karen Dargusch, second runner up in the pageant, and Betsy Boltz.

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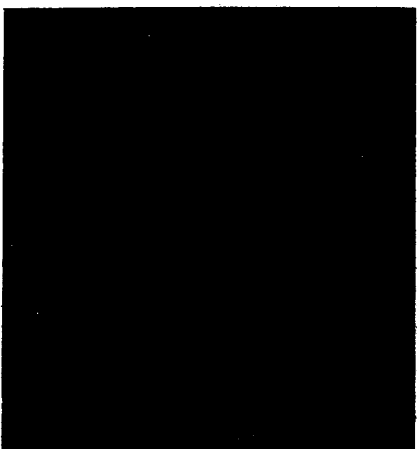
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Holly Ann Schmidt, the Farmington girl who lost the Miss Michigan title last month, receives a tribute from Rep. Sandy Brotherton (R-Farm). Miss Schmidt will vie for the title of Miss America in Atlantic City, N. J. this fall.