



Monday, July 31, 1978

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Pamela Allison Prichard started a year of public appearances at Founders Festival activities in her reign as Miss Farmington for 1978. The brunette ballerina is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ken Prichard of Farmington Hills.



Marilyn Joan MacLennan was a double winner in the pageant. She was named first runner-up, and for the second year running, captured the talent award. The violinist is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alastair MacLennan of Farmington.



The judges' choice for second runner up is Terri Deanna Todd, a brown-haired, blue-eyed songstress, who is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Davin M. Todd of Farmington Hills.



A favorite of the photographers, Donna Marie Gee takes her turn on the runway in the bathing suit competition. The 16-year-old baton twirler is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Gee of Farmington.

Pamela Prichard begins reign as Miss Farmington

By LORRAINE McCLISH

Eighteen year old Pamela Prichard, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ken Prichard of Farmington Hills, took the title and crown of Miss Farmington at the conclusion of the annual pageant in Vladimir's restaurant.

Runners up in the field of 12 contestants are Marilyn MacLennan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alastair MacLennan of Farmington, and Terri Todd, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Davin Todd of Farmington Hills.

Both Miss Prichard and Miss MacLennan were contestants for the second

time in the local competition that leads the way to the Miss Michigan and Miss America pageants.

And it was the second year for Miss MacLennan to walk away with the talent award. Her proficiency on the violin was a great crowd pleaser last year, and this time around, her rendition of "Orange Blossom Special" had the audience clapping their hands and feet in time.

Busher School of Dance, Miss MacLennan by Farmington Realty; and Miss Todd by Gabe Shoes.

THE NEW MISS Farmington, whose courses at Oakland Community College all center around preparing her for a career in the business world, is a striking beauty of 5 feet, four inches, with brown hair and eyes.

She has always danced, and says she does well in modern and jazz, but ballet comes first.

"I've always loved it. It comes natural to me. And Miss Busher is all any one could ever hope for in a teacher," she said.

The 1977 graduate of North Farmington High School has had several ballet teachers and has only studied with her sponsor for several months.

Shirley Busher encouraged her student to enter the contest, then helped put together her performance, which appeared skilled, even to the amateur eye.

She took the crown from Dorissa LaMarra, Miss Farmington of 1977, and was immediately launched on a whirlwind round of appearances which extended through the Farmington Founders Festival days.

The set schedule was interrupted for but a few hours Saturday, when Miss Prichard was given a police escort to serve as bridesmaid for Holly Ann Schmidt, Miss Michigan of 1977, a close friend since high school days.

One of the nicest things she said that has happened since the beginning of her reign was to find that neighbors and friends had "decorated" her home and lawn with signs of congratulations, while she was attending the contestants' reception in Botsford Inn.

MISS MacLENNAN, first runner-up in the pageant, is a sophomore at Oakland Community College, with blond hair and blue eyes. She has played violin with Oakway Symphony and is a member of The Singing Strings, a five-member of the group who play and sing as strolling musicians and on-stage performers, led by Susan Reed Arciniega. Mrs. Arciniega was the area's first Miss Farmington, and is currently Mrs. Michigan.

Second runner-up Miss Todd, who sang a poignant "Never Had Time" for her talent performance, is 18 years old, a 1978 graduate of Harrison High School, and has light brown hair and blue eyes.

Others in the contest were Karen Dargusch, sponsored by Exotic Auto Placement; Cheryl Gravius, sponsored by Bob Saks Olds; Claudia Kopin, sponsored by Elks Club 1886; April Lynne Arabian, sponsored by Contemporary Awards; Lisa Gordon, sponsored by Schroeters Flowers; Brenda Fetzner, sponsored by Corvette Custom Collision; Beth Sheedo, sponsored by Focal Point; Donna Gee, sponsored by Hair Sanctuary and Patricia Wright, sponsored by Shaklee.

THEME OF THE pageant was "In The Good Old Summertime," with master of ceremonies Jim Clarke, of WWRK radio. The pageant was directed by Pat Fallon, a long-time member of the Farmington Founders Festival Committee.

The sophisticated and smooth-running pageant included performances by Miss LaMarra, who doubled as choreographer, and The Kendallark Katydids.

The 1978 Miss Farmington Scholarship pageant is one of thousands that take place every spring and summer throughout the nation. Approximately \$1 million in educational scholarship funds are awarded at the local, state and national pageants, making it the largest scholarship foundation for women in the world.

Persons who work to stage the pageants all do so without remuneration. Miss Prichard won a \$650 scholarship and a \$350 wardrobe allowance, plus sponsorship by the Miss Michigan Pageant, which will take place in Muskegon next June.

Miss MacLennan won a \$100 cash award and Miss Todd won a \$50 cash award.

In addition to the contestants' sponsors, other support for the pageant came from Botsford Inn, Alexander Hamilton Insurance, Frederick's of Farmington, Washington Clothiers, TL Printing Company, Vladimir's, Towne Toggery and World Wide TV.

Staff photos
by Allen
Schlossberg

Title holders
take awards

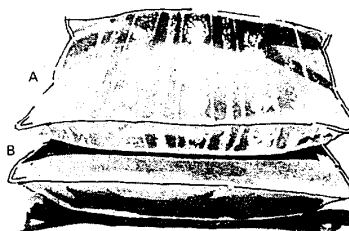
Susan Reed Arciniega and Holly Ann Schmidt each left the Miss Farmington Scholarship Pageant with a plaque from the Michigan State Legislature, presented by Rep. Wilbur Brotherton (R-Farm).

Mrs. Arciniega won the Mrs. Michigan contest in March of this year, just prior to the time Miss Schmidt concluded her reign as Miss Michigan.

"Having a Miss and Mrs. Michigan both from the same community at the same time is extremely rare," Brotherton said.

"We are all very proud of their beauty, poise, talent and intelligence, which brought these honors for the Farmington area."

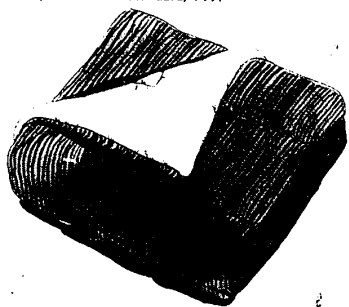
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Karen Irene Dargusch belts out "Come to the Cabaret" in her talent number, which accounted for 50 per cent of the contestants' total score. The Oakland University student is majoring in real estate, and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Dargusch of Farmington Hills.