

Miss Warm Springs pageant packs 'em in



Contestants demonstrated dancing skills during inter-tribal dance.

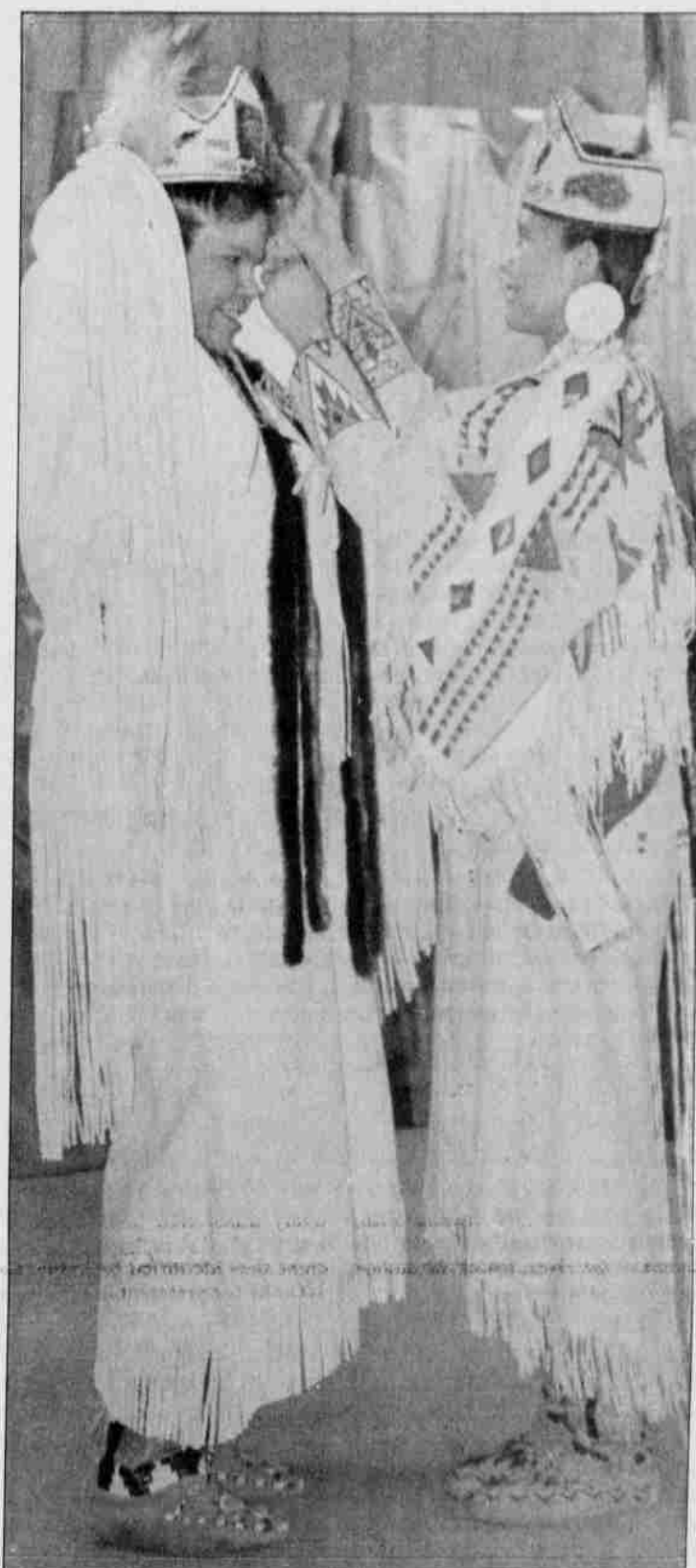


Sheylene Greene-Boise was one of the three contestants in the pageant.



Contestants were nervous as they awaited results from the judges.

It was standing room only as three contestants vie for the title. Only one took the title home but each was a winner.



Starla Green accepts crown from out-going Miss Warm Springs Merle Kirk.



Starla Green recited a legend as her traditional talent.



As her modern talent, Sunmiet Minnick performed a ballet piece.

**Photos and text by
Donna Behrend**

Starla (Charlie) named Miss Warm Springs for 1994

Starla Green is most affectionately known as "Charlie" to her family and friends. It's a name her dad, Sterling, picked out of the air when asked by his mother-in-law the name of his newborn daughter. In case he forgets again, Starla has a new name and title—Miss Warm Springs.

During ceremonies January 12 at the Community Center, Starla gained the title that will keep her busy and on the road for the next year. "As a kid, I always saw the beautiful women with their fancy crowns. I've always wanted to represent the Tribe as Miss Warm Springs." Starla was named Little Miss Warm Springs twice several years ago and was Junior Miss Warm Springs as well.

During competition, Starla said she has had to live in two worlds, Indian and non-Indian. "I want to keep the Indian way of life alive and not let it die out. I wish younger people knew how

rich we are—rich in tradition and knowledge."

Continuing, Starla said, "I wouldn't have been able to survive without my tradition." In the non-Indian world, Starla said, "I've learned the importance of education." That, Starla feels, is what helps people "survive in the modern world, the 8 to 5, day-to-day world."

Starla graduated from Madras High School in 1991. In the fall of that year, she entered the Criminal Justice program at Blue Mountain Community College in Pendleton. She will graduate from BMCC this spring with an Associate of Arts degree in criminal justice, after which she will take a one-year hiatus to fulfill Miss Warm Springs duties.

She hopes to attain a Bachelor's degree and work in law enforcement with the Bureau of Indian Affairs. If there is a position available in Warm Springs, she would like to work here.

Starla worked as a cadet with the Warm Springs Police Department for four years and is currently a reserve officer. She is also employed by Warm Springs Fire and Safety as a part-time fire/medic. She is a certified EMT I and is working on her EMT II and basic firefighting HAZ-MAT certifications.

Over the next year or so, Starla will attend numerous self-improvement and education conferences throughout the United States. She will also participate in pageants.

One thing she wants people to know is that "I am here for the people. If they want me to be some place, I'll be there." To contact her in Pendleton, write to 317 NE Anvidon, 97801 or phone her at 278-1576.

Warm Springs has a confident young woman as their newest ambassador. You can call her Starla, you can call her Miss Warm Springs, or better yet, you can still call her Charlie.