

Miss Warm Springs completes full, productive year

Sunmiet Minnick has represented Warm Springs at numerous functions throughout the year



Sunmiet met Mrs. Arizona, 1996.

1996 has been quite eventful for Sunmiet Minnick. Begin a full time college student at Arizona State takes up most of her time. Add to that the title of Miss Warm Springs and you have a girl who hardly sleeps. Or so, one might think.

Upon returning from college on summer break, Sunmiet immediately hooked up with the county fair circuit. She rode in parades with chief, Delvis Heath and took a daily 120 mile drive to ballet classes in Bend. Quite a busy gal. You see, Sunmiet is majoring in dance. Being her passion, she hopes to open a ballet studio or join a dance company upon graduation. With the energy this young lady has, she will probably do both.

One trip Sunmiet took this year was to the National Timber Symposium in Ketchikan, Alaska. To her surprise, she met many relatives from her Haida ancestral line.

At a youth education conference in Oklahoma, Sunmiet met many ambitious youth her own age. There, she shared her concern for indian education issues.

Miss Minnick competed in two scholarship pageants - Miss Indian World and Miss National Congress of American Indians. At the Miss Indian World, Sunmiet performed the Butterfly Dance. At Miss NCAI, Sunmiet treated the judges to a ballet performance. She also garnered a roar from the crowd in the question and answer segment of the competition for her response to the question "What three issues would you address if you became the President of the U.S.A." At the Miss N.C.A.I. pageant, the whole atmosphere among the contestants was one of family and adventure, not of competition. Needless to say, Sunmiet came away with a host of new friends and memoirs.

As our Miss Warm Springs wraps up her year, her Christmas Break is made up of community service. Among these, she will help with the Christmas Care packages for the Senior Citizens, and hopefully take some kids to attend the Ramblin' Rod Show.

It has been a pleasure to serve as your committee, Sunmiet. You have served your people proudly! The Creator's blessings on all your future endeavors.

Susan M. Guerin



Sunmiet (sixth from right) and the 1997 candidates for Miss NCAI pose with Mary Satler of Alaska (seated, front row).



Sunmiet took time from her busy schedule to pose for Spilyay.



As a ballet student, Sunmiet spends long hours daily at her chosen discipline.



Candidates take in lunch at Planet Hollywood in Phoenix.



Sunmiet, with her mother Jewel, takes notes during an NCAI pageant meeting.