

## 2001-02 GRAND RONDE ROYALTY COURTS



**Tenisha Rios**  
Miss Tiny Tot

**Age:** 8  
**Hometown:** Salem, Oregon.  
**Parents and Family members:** Paul and Barbara Rios and Victoria Rios.  
**What school do you attend?** Christian Center Academy.  
**What are your favorite subjects in school?** Math and Bible.  
**Why did you want to participate in Royalty?** To learn about what Tribe I belong to and to learn how to dance. I like to represent the Tribe.  
**What do you do in your free time?** Play games, ride my bike, and swim, I like to do bead work.  
**What future events will you attend as a member of Royalty?** As many Pow-wows as I can — the Gathering of the Nations, Rose Parade.



**Halona Butler**  
Veterans Jr. Queen

**Age:** 9  
**Hometown:** Grand Ronde.  
**Parents and Family:** Cindy Watkins, Lee Butler, Michael Watkins, Vicki Butler and three little brothers.  
**What school do you attend?** Grand Ronde Elementary.  
**What are your favorite subjects in school?** Math and Reading.  
**Why did you want to participate in Royalty?** I like going to pow wows. I like Fancy and Jingle dancing, I also drum with my family — Dancing Again Singers from Siletz.  
**What do you do with your free time?** Play games, go to pow-wows, stuff with family and friends.  
**What do you want to do after school?** Go to college  
**What future events will you attend as a member of Royalty?** Pow-wows, parades, Christmas party, other events with Tribal Veterans, I am so proud to represent the Veterans.



**Brandi Little**  
Jr. Miss Grand Ronde

**Age:** 14  
**Hometown:** Grand Ronde.  
**Parents and Family:** Parents are Mike and Julie Little, Sisters are Melody Fuller and Kandee Little, Brothers are Michael Little and Doug Gore.  
**What school do you attend?** Willamina High School.  
**What are your favorite subjects in school?** Home-ec and Math.  
**Why did you want to participate in Royalty?** I love to attend Pow Wows, I love to dance and meet other Native Americans from other Tribes and learn more about my culture. I wanted to represent my Tribe.  
**What do you do in your free time?** Talk on the telephone, chat on the internet, play with my nephew and babysit, attend Pow-wows.  
**What do you want to do after school?** I want to go to college to become a Mid-Wife.  
**What future events will you attend as a member of Royalty?** Pow-wows all over Oregon and Washington and hopefully Gathering of the Nations in New Mexico, and I would like to attend the Pow-wow in Hawaii next fall to have our Tribe recognized there.



**Emma Leno**  
Sr. Miss Grand Ronde

**Age:** 16  
**Hometown:** Grand Ronde, Oregon  
**Parents and Family members:** My parents are Merle and Claudia Leno. I have one sister and one brother Mochelle Kelley and Greg Leno. I have two nephews: Joseph and Duston Kelley (my sister's kids) two nieces: Kayla and Madison Leno (Greg's kids).  
**What school did you attend?** Sheridan High.  
**What are favorite subjects in school?** English and U.S. History  
**Why did you want to participate in Royalty?** I have participated in Royalty before when I was Miss Grand Ronde for two years when I was 12. I love to dance, be involved with my culture by going to different places and going to Pow-wows and representing the Tribe.  
**What do you do in your free time?** I hang out with my family and friends, I just started riding horses so hopefully I'll be doing a lot more of that. I love watching TV with my dad.  
**What do you want to do after High School?** I'm thinking of going to law school or photography school, one of the two.  
**What future events will you attend as a member of Royalty?** Pow-wows and events that the Royalty are invited to around the area.



**Erica Empey**  
Miss Grand Ronde

**Age:** 20  
**Parents and Family members:** My mother Joann Empey is where I get my Native ancestry. We are Umpqua. My grandparents were Hattie and Knut Strom.  
**What school do you attend?** University of Portland. Currently I am studying abroad in Salzburg, Austria. I am in my sophomore year.  
**What are your favorite subjects?** I am a biology major.  
**Why did you want to participate in Royalty?** I wanted to participate in Royalty so that I could serve my Tribe. I feel like they have done so much for me. It also allows me to spend time with my family.  
**What do you do in your free time?** This year, over here in Salzburg, I have traveled. It has been so nice to see new places and get a taste of all the different cultures. I have met some very kind people on my travels. People who were willing to help a stranger out of the goodness of their heart. It gives me hope in humankind. My favorite trip was to Switzerland, where I hiked in the Swiss Alps.  
**What do you want to do after school?** I do not know what I want to do after college. I have faith that it will all work out.  
**What future events will you attend as a member of Royalty?** I will travel around to all the events that are on the Royalty's agenda. Of course it will include all the usual: Pi-Um-Sha Days, the Siletz Pow-wow, our Veterans and annual Pow-wow, the parades for Sheridan Days and Willamina's 4th of July Parade. Maybe there will be some new events too! I enjoy being with the younger members of Royalty. A program like this is so nice to have for the younger girls. It gives them something to be a part of and builds their character, self-confidence and poise. In fact, that is one of the reasons I came back to the program. It did all that for me and I wanted to be a leader for the younger girls like the older girls were for me. I will be returning home at the end of April.

Royalty girls,  
I wish you girls luck in all your events. You are beautiful! I miss you all.  
Love, Erica



**Ali Holsclaw**  
Veterans Sr. Queen

**Age:** 15  
**Hometown:** Willamina.  
**Parents and Family members:** Dad — Tim Holsclaw, Mom — Teri

Mercier, Brother — Keiffer, Sister — Zoey.  
**What School do you attend?** Willamina High School.  
**What are your favorite subjects in school?** Sign Language and Ceramics.  
**Why did you want to participate in Royalty?** I like going to Pow-wows and dancing. I like representing the Grand Ronde Veterans and the rest of the Tribe.  
**What do you do in your free time?** I like to bead, hang out with friends, and go to Pow-wows.  
**What do you want to do after school?** I plan to travel for a while then go to college.  
**What future events will you attend as a member of Royalty?** There are many Pow-wows and Tribal events that I hope to attend such as G.R. Restoration Celebration and Siletz Restoration Pow-wow as well as other Pow-wows.