

## Marina Colmenero crowned RHS Homecoming Queen



(L to R) Lisa Mark, Pep Club President; Dawn Ammons, freshman princess; Dawn Stanhope, junior maid of honor; Queen Marina Colmenero; 1987 Queen Laura Erikson; Estela Garcia, sophomore princess; Danita Creamer, senior princess; and Lisa Erickson, junior maid of honor.

By Joyce Hensley

All satin, lace and fluff, Homecoming Queen, Marina Colmenero, and her court, were embraced warmly by the crowd after the crowning during half-time at Riverside High School's boys varsity basketball game with Wasco, Friday night.

Escorted from the wings of the Riverside gymnasium by their fathers, the three junior Maids of Honor, Dawn Stanhope, 16; Lisa

Erickson, 16; and Marina Colmenero, 16; were nervous with anticipation as they walked out onto the floor along with the rest of the court. Dawn Ammons, 14, freshman princess; Estela Garcia, 15, sophomore princess; and Danita Creamer, 18, senior princess; to await the disclosure of the 1988 Riverside homecoming queen.

Bob Deeter, school sports announcer, divulged the results of the voting by the varsity and junior var-

sity boys and girls basketball teams, after being tabulated by Frances Glenn, Pep Club advisor and Donna Barton, Girls Athletic Advisor. Marina Colmenero was the winner.

The surprised Marina gave her dad a kiss while her mom video taped the whole scene.

She was crowned by Riverside's 1987 Homecoming Queen, Laura Erickson, 16; and was presented with roses by Lisa Mark, 18, president of Pep Club.

## Boardman • Irrigon News

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### EMT's show off new ambulance

By Joyce Hensley

The new ambulance is now in working order in Boardman.

About one year ago, Ernest Wick, Pioneer Memorial Hospital's administrator, and the EMT Association started the process of getting a new ambulance through the Morrow County Medical Board. The old one was bought in 1977 and needed a number of major repairs. At one time, the ambulance crew had to call the Hermiston Ambulance to meet them halfway with a patient because of mechanical problems.

The ambulance, received about four weeks ago, is housed in the rural fire hall. It was unable at that time to operate because the equipment had not arrived and a State license had to be obtained.

The ambulance is a new Ford, tall enough to stand in. It will hold four patients comfortably lying down or more if they are sitting. All of the



equipment is new. It is stocked with advanced life support equipment, a one-man lift gurney, defibrillator, all-size blood pressure cups, including infants, plus many more

items too numerous to mention.

This vehicle is licensed through the State as an Advanced Life Support, however, no one is qualified

for this at the time.

The EMT Association has been organized since 1976. They started

with 10 volunteers and now have seven members. Cheryl Ammons is vice president of the EMT Association. She is training officer and financial director for Morrow County. Four drivers and 7 EMT's are now on call with the ambulance.

### Drug bust largest in Irrigon's history



Irrigon Police Chief Steve Mackey, stands by the truck, now parked in the police department's impounding area.

By Joyce Hensley

The largest drug bust in Irrigon's history was executed as a result of an Irrigon police officer spotting a pick-up truck February 10 at 10:12 p.m., which had been under suspicion of being used to transport illegal drugs, weaving in and out of the traffic lane.

Gerald Craig Wallace, 30, Florence; and Donald Lee Bechtold, 23, Glenden Beach; were arrested and lodged in the Benton County jail. An estimated \$100,000 in drugs, drug manufacturing paraphernalia, cash, weapons, vehicles and jewelry were confiscated after officer Rob Elkins observed a blue 1979 Chevrolet pickup truck in a traffic infraction. He and Morrow County Deputy, Gary Warren, who had answered Elkins' call for back-up, stopped the truck and proceeded with their investigation, according to Irrigon Police Chief, Steve Mackey.

"We were pretty sure we had a lab," said Warren. "Through the window (of the canopy) we could see the stands that hold containers and a lot of other items."

A search warrant was obtained from the Morrow County District

Attorney's office and Lieutenant John Spilker of the Oregon State Police lab in Pendleton was called to the scene.

The truck, suspected of traveling in a circuit covering such points as Irrigon, Boardman, and Portland, was transporting thousands of dollars worth of glassware used in "cooking" drugs and over three ounces of methamphetamine with a street value estimated at \$12,000. The majority of the methamphetamine was found in the waistband of the passenger, Bechtold's trousers. "It had just been recently cooked off. The stuff (methamphetamine) was still moist," said Mackey.

Several other members of the Irrigon Police Department and the Morrow County Sheriff's Department, along with Verlin Denton of the D.A.'s office, were called in to assist in the search of the truck and its contents. Over 100 pieces of evidence were found including \$10,000 in precious stones, such as diamonds and emeralds, carried loose in a plastic bag; gold, and numerous rings. "We feel they were probably stolen or traded for drugs as there were several wedding ring sets," said Mackey.

\$7,000 in cash was found and an arsenal of guns and weapons with an estimated value of \$3,000 was confiscated, including assault rifles, automatic pistols and sawed-off shotguns. Two of the firearms were confirmed as stolen according to Deputy Warren.

Fifteen titles of various vehicles and motorcycles were also confiscated.

The Irrigon Police Department, the Morrow County Sheriff's Department, and the Oregon State Police had been on the lookout for

this traveling operation, according to Mackey. "Because of information received from an informant, we had been watching for them quite awhile."

"We were really pleased to get this lab," said Warren.

Wallace and Bechtold have been indicted by the Grand Jury on three counts of criminal conspiracy, three counts of theft in the first degree, one count of manufacturing a con-

trolled substance, one count of possession of a controlled substance, and one count of unlawful possession of a firearm, according to Val Doherty, Morrow County Assistant District Attorney. Those counts could be updated as more results come in from the Oregon State Police lab in Pendleton, she said.

Wallace was also charged with one count of driving under the influence of intoxicants.

## Good Luck Good Luck

### RIVERSIDE

at the

## District Tournament

IN PENDLETON

February  
26  
&  
27  
1988



1988 Boys Pirate Basketball Team

Friday  
3 p.m.  
vs.  
Hepner

#### REMEMBER...

Judy Daniels of Judy's Hair Studio will be joining Linda Toms at the Mouse Factory - March 3 Judy's Days will be:  
Thurs. & Fri. 9 am-7 pm  
Saturday 9 am-5 pm  
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