

Doors open for women

Army keeps in step with change

By LOUISE OKRUTSKY

Rumors that today's volunteer army will be consigned to yesterday's memories as another draft system moves in are far from reality, according to Farmington area recruiters. In spite of the declining number of personnel and a lessened advertising budget, army recruiters say that there are more opportunities available to men, women and minorities. "Congress decides the army's budget and evidently they felt that the advertising budget should be lowered," said Sgt. Alfred Myler, of the Farmington recruiting office. Since it began in 1974, the all-volunteer army has reduced its advertising budget from \$50 million a year to this year's allotment of \$33 million.

THOSE ADVERTISING and recruiting inducements have managed to keep the force's numbers at about 20,000 less than its 1973 Vietnam-era level. Today, there are about 670,000 persons in the army. About 50,000 of the soldiers are women, according to Myler, a 14-year veteran of the force. Instead of concentrating on sheer numbers, the army will devote its attention to quality and equality, according to Myler.

One goal is to attract a total of 100,000 women to the army by 1983 by widening the number of vocational fields available to them. "Right now, the army has no trouble meeting female enlistment goals," said Capt. Fred Lichtenfeld, Oakland County recruiting chief.

"We don't have any trouble getting females to enlist. We enlist girls just the same as men. They can get the same job. A lot of girls are interested in the service," Lichtenfeld said. "There's no longer any stigma attached to a girl who joins the service," he said. Once a woman joins up she has her choice of 350 fields which run the gamut from clerical to technical occupations.

"A large percentage of our medical corps is female," said Myler. "MANY FEMALES go into electronics, radio, telephone repair. We had one female from this office who wanted to become a helicopter maintenance worker. And that's what she'll be because it's in her contract." Women are also and are involved in the food service, too," he said. Equal treatment of women is carried out, whatever the rank, according to Myler.

"They get the privileges and responsibilities accorded to their rank. They're not singled out because they're women. They get treated according to rank," Myler said. "And their peers generally treat them the same," he added.

Although women are breaking out of rear echelon roles in the army, they remain behind the lines. If they do move to the front lines, it will be because the mood of American society has changed, according to Myler.

"It depends on people, on whether their mores and attitudes will allow it. The army has been in the forefront of society with its attitude toward females," he said.

Myler personally believes that the closed fields are those which could prove too difficult for women.

MINORITIES ARE treated fairly in the service, according to Myler. Sometimes the army's fairness supercedes that found in civilian life, he added. "There are more minorities in leadership positions in the army than in industry," he said. "They're pretty well represented."

In 1975, six of 13 divisions were commanded by minority persons, according to Myler.

In Farmington, the recruiters are concentrating on special fields which would attract men and women who have the means to go to college on their own. "Farmington is a different area to recruit as opposed to Pontiac," said Lichtenfeld. "A higher percentage of kids in Farmington go to college. In Pontiac, a smaller percentage go to a four-year college."

"Kids here are interested in the special forces, such as the airborne division, paratroopers, ranger assignments and non-civilian jobs such as flying and the military police."

Kay Ann Clark of Farmington has recently joined the firm of Joe Clark and Junebug Clark Photography of Oak Park and Detroit as a sales manager. She is active in the Industrial Photographers Association of Michigan.



A business whiz

Jeffrey Tayler (left) of Farmington, a senior at Northern Michigan University, has been awarded the Wall Street Journal award by the school of business and management. Making the presentation is Dr. Brian Gnauck, acting head of the management and marketing department at Northern. Tayler is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Tayler, 22743 Brookdale.



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Spring has succeeded in coaxing some color into the corporate image.

Michigan Bell's new Oakland County phone books feature easy to find tab sections and a full-color cover this spring.

The cover is illustrated with nine contemporary scenes of Michigan locations. The books contrast with last year's covers which pictured scenes from the state's history.

In addition, the books have alphabetical tabs and green pages which will help index the classified sections as well as consumer tips.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
City of Detroit
In accordance with the requirements of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act a Public Hearing will be held on the Overview Plan with Environmental Assessment covering the facilities plan for treatment and disposal in Detroit with an Overview Plan for the suburban areas serviced by the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department. The meeting will be held in the City of Detroit Auditorium, 13th Floor, City-County Building, 3 Woodward Avenue, corner of E. Jefferson, Detroit, Michigan 48226, at 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 22, 1977.
The Overview Plan comprises a master facilities plan through the year 2000 and essentially sets forth the recommended solutions to the current problems of wastewater treatment and disposal in the City of Detroit and the schedule for implementing improvements over the next twenty years to assure continued regional service by Detroit to its Detroit and Suburban customers for wastewater disposal. Copies of the Draft Report for the Overview Plan with Environmental Assessment will be available for review approximately June 7, 1977. Distribution will be made at that time to Governmental Agencies within the Overview Planning Area. Information on the Plan can be obtained after June 7, 1977 at the offices of Glick/Black & Voth, 510 W. Congress, Detroit, Michigan 48226 and at the Detroit Water & Sewerage Department, Room 19, Water Board Building, 700 Randolph, Detroit, Michigan 48226. An Executive Summary of the Draft Report will be available at that time.
Publish: May 23, 1977

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