

# Township policewoman has no plans to cop out

By MARY LOU CALLAWAY

If West Bloomfield's first woman police officer has any fear of male chauvinism, it doesn't show.

Praised and confident, 23-year-old Jean McBride knows it may be a little tougher for her than for male recruits when she goes on the road after her training at the county police academy ends Sept. 7.

"All rookies go through a watching and testing time," says Ms. McBride.

"It's just a matter of their getting used to me. I'm not a feminist to the point where I can say I'd handle some things as well as the big guys," says the 5-foot-6, 125-pound blonde.

A woman might have an edge, she adds, in public relations, tact, diplomacy or understanding.

"There will be cases where they

(male officers) can help me and others where I can help them," Ms. McBride says. Her only goal now is "to be good at my job. I'm fascinated with all of it."

A WEST BLOOMFIELD resident since she was 6, she was enthralled by stories told her by a neighbor woman who was a Detroit police officer.

After graduating from Groves High School, Ms. McBride enrolled at Michigan State University where she earned a degree in criminal justice in 1978.

Most recently, "I was an undercover store detective in Lansing. I applied for a job with the West Bloomfield police 1½ years ago."

Of a number of jobs held during her college years, she says working in the Ingham County Prosecutor's Office was of most value. "I learned more than books could ever have taught me," Ms. McBride says.

What qualities make a good officer?

"Common sense, patience, the ability to think on your feet, self-motivation and compassion," she says without hesitating.

She adds being a good listener, communicator and judge of character as other attributes.

A TYPICAL day is spent in rigorous training at the police academy.

An only child, she has a quick dinner with her mother and grandfather before settling down to a three-hour homework session to prepare for the next day.

The physical training Ms. McBride is getting is, "not as bad as I expected. I have trouble with the pushups, but some of the men have trouble with leg stretches."

"I'm not out to prove anything to anyone but myself," says the new recruit.



Above, fellow recruit Mike Kemper (left) and Jean pay close attention to instructor Danny Bartley's directions for pacifying a defiant offender. Upper right, new police recruit Jean McBride learns the art of self defense during her weeks of training at the county police academy. (Staff photos by Charlie Kidd)

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## HUD consumer forum today

One of 90 consumer forums being held throughout the country is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 16 at the Renaissance Center, East Jefferson Avenue, Detroit.

The forums are sponsored by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to inform consumers and solicit their views on HUD issues and programs.

The massive outreach effort is being conducted by HUD's Office of Neighborhoods, Voluntary Associations and Consumer Protection (NVACP).

"The agenda and format for each session are being developed by HUD area offices in conjunction with local consumer groups since they have a closer understanding of the specific local concerns of their residents," said Geno Baroni, NVACP assistant secretary.

The consumer forum in Detroit, part of the National G.I. Forum, an Hispanic organization, will focus on consumer awareness.

Calling it the most visible mechanism for informing consumers about HUD programs and soliciting their views on issues involving better program delivery, all interested Michigan consumers and agencies have been urged to attend the forum.

There is no registration fee for the forum which will be on the fifth floor of Renaissance Center.

## Goodwill sale slated Friday

There will be a special one-day sale at the League for the Handicapped-Goodwill Industries from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, Aug. 17. The sale will be in the Goodwill Building, 6522 Brush at East Grand Boulevard, Detroit.

Purpose of the special sale is to clear space needed for other League-Goodwill programs.

A large quantity of mattresses and box springs, a contribution from a large organization, will be sold. Other items for sale include desks, tables, file cabinets and numerous household articles. Proceeds from the sale are used in the agency's rehabilitation programs.

League-Goodwill is a non-profit vocational rehabilitation agency providing evaluation, training, employment and placement programs for the handicapped. Although the organization no longer makes regular collections of merchandise from homes throughout the metropolitan area, certain establishments and business firms do contribute articles which are then sold to the public.

For this sale, it is hoped a large quantity of items can be sold in order for the space to be cleared up quickly.

Free parking is available next to the building at the corner of Milwaukee and Brush.

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