

Neighbors selected for West Point Academy

By DEBRA ALEXANDER

Being chosen to go to West Point Military Academy is a rare privilege. Having two young men chosen from the same community, not to mention the same street, is an even greater rarity.

Ex-reporter hawks houses

(Continued from page 1A) contemplative time has been minimal. After a year and a half stint as a feature reporter for the Redford and Plymouth Observers, Miss Shaw went



Ann Shaw: "I never sold anything but Girl Scout cookies before I went into real estate."

to work at Metropolitan Fund Inc. in Detroit as a writer. The non-profit research company is concerned with finding ways to smooth the waters between suburbs and the city, Miss Shaw said. It deals in transportation and other regional problems. "It was a think tank. There were executives from the UAW, Michigan Bell, and Detroit Edison involved."

Part of her job was to compose a newsletter, reporting on happenings of various councils of government. It was circulated to 9,000 people. After two years, that job led her back to the University of Michigan. "I worked with a lot of trained experts, political scientists, transportation experts. I figured I'd like to know as much as I could about a field I was interested in."

Since she had a master's degree in English Literature, she continued in that field. Her doctoral dissertation took two and one half years to write. It probed the background — history, religion and philosophy — behind literature of the late 17th century. She whittled the written research paper down from 1,500 to 273 pages and captured the school's Thorpe Prize for the most distinguished dissertation.

the New York academy. Stroschein and Healy, both 21, reside on Coughlan Street in Auburn Heights. Healy resides with his parents Kenneth and Elke at 771 Coughlan. Stroschein lives at 651 Coughlan with his parents Leo and Sara.

Although the young men attended the same high school and only live down the street from each other, neither knew of the other's plans to attend. "Ken spent our senior year overseas. We started out separately, but we found the other was trying to go and it drew us together," said Stroschein. Healy spent his senior year of high school in Switzerland as a foreign exchange student.

For a prospective cadet to be considered for acceptance to West Point, or she must be nominated by a Congressman or Senator from the state in which they reside.

BOTH AYONDALE MEN WERE nominated by Congressman William Broomfield, R-Birmingham.

In 1976, 10 young men were nominated and only four were accepted. A spokeswoman in Broomfield's office said nominations were based strictly on high school academic achievement.

The final decision to accept an applicant is made by the academy. Stroschein said the primary reasons he applied for West Point were the strong academic and athletic programs it provided.

Elke Healy, Ken's mother, said she thought her son applied for the challenge to see if he could get in.

"He heard a presentation on West Point at the high school when he was a

junior. Ken went to listen to the liaison officer speak and was very impressed," said Mrs. Healy. Although the first year as a "plebe" (the youngest cadet) can be rather difficult, one can become adjusted to it as a way of life.

"The first year is the roughest but it is a pattern of life you get used to," said Stroschein. "Plebes" are expected to sit up and perform certain duties during the meals like knowing everyone's beverage preference at the table, according to Stroschein.

A TYPICAL day for a West Point cadet starts at 6 a.m. and ends at 1 a.m. Everyone must be up at 6 a.m. and ready for formation at 6:20. For formation

each company lines up to march into the dining hall for meals. Classes are scheduled between 7:30-8:30 a.m., 1:10-2:10 p.m., and 2:20-3:20 p.m. After classes there are either military drills, parades for the public or intramural sports activities. After dinner, between 7-8 p.m., time is set aside for military duties. These

duties include delivering mail for a young cadet or getting the men under your guidance ready for the next day's activities. At 11 p.m. taps are played signaling the end of the day. By 1 a.m. all lights must be turned out. "Looking back I'm glad I did it," said Stroschein.

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