

# Political newcomer covers all the bases

By SHELLY GUGGENHEIM

What is Sarah Power?  
Is it like black power or women's power or Democratic power?  
Responding to the question at a recent meeting of labor leaders in Kalamazoo, Sarah Power, an Ann Arbor resident running on the Democratic ticket for the University of Michigan Board of Regents, ticked off the names of top party candidates and said Sarah Power stood for power for all of them.

ALTHOUGH A NEWCOMER to the Michigan political scene, Mrs. Power is no political novice. She knows her victory at the polls rides on the success of the whole Democratic ticket. While education posts usually go to party faithfuls, Mrs. Power has compensated for her out-of-state background with hard work and by covering all the political bases.

Coming from "lots of generations of Detroit," Mrs. Power was educated at Vassar College and the New York University Graduate School of Politics and International Relations. Staying in New York, she served as executive director of the United States Nations—New York City Hosts (Advisory Committee and as executive director of the New York City Commission for the United Nations and the consular corps. In 1970 she was coordinator for the World Youth Assembly and New York City commemoration of the United Nations' 25th anniversary.

All this while also working for former NEW York Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller and former New York City Mayor John Lindsay. Such political taylor was not lost on the clearly-eyed Mrs. Power.

AFTER MARRYING Philip H. Power, chairman of the board of Suburban Communications Corp. and co-publisher of the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, Mrs. Power returned to Michigan in 1971 and immediately del-



SARAH POWER

ved into her political and social interests.

In 1972 she became a director of the University of Michigan Musical Society and a member of the advisory board of the First Women's National Bank & Trust Co.

She is presently on leave of absence from her position as assistant chairman to the university's Commission for Women, a group charged with insuring fair and equitable treatment of all women at the university.

IF A LIST of activities this size would exhaust most persons, it is something the tireless Mrs. Power thrives on.

On a campaign stump recently with a reporter from this newspaper, Sarah Power, 33, exuded confidence and well-being.

Her sun-streaked hair tied back in a ribbon, she was eager to get going at 8 a.m. on one of the political treks that have carried her to every corner of the state.

On the road, she chatted about the scheduling the candidates must face—sometimes compacted in four-day trips to the Upper Peninsula, sometimes helter-skelter to far-flung cities in the state.

Her campaign driver commented that Mrs. Power is one of the few education candidates to campaign tirelessly for the entire Democratic ticket, and Mrs. Power said, "Candidates who do not swing for the party, who drop out of sight, put their nominations in question."

ON THIS PARTICULAR trip to Kalamazoo, she joined Mary C. Brown, a candidate for State Senate in the 21st district.

With more women running for political office than ever before, Mrs. Power said she is pleased to see more women candidates but doesn't think there will be a sexist vote. What more women in office will provide, Mrs. Power hopes, are role models for other women who aspire to join the political process.

The day was lightly scheduled with a press conference, labor luncheon, another press conference, door-to-door campaigning, a meeting with a women's organization and leafletting a group of students at Western Michigan University.

As is often the case with political schedules, this one went awry. And while many complain that political candidates never speak directly to the issues, no one, except the press, asked Sarah Power any questions about her candidacy.

A cerebral woman, she asks questions of others when she is not being questioned. Asked how she assessed her campaign, Mrs. Power slipped into the campus vernacular. "It's trucking along."

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