

Mrs. Sullivan gives daughter Maureen final inspection before college dance. ▶

Reviewing notes for exam, Maureen kicks off shoes and relaxes in shorts.



Meet Miss Somebody of 1960

Noted photographer Ozzie Sweet picks vivacious Maureen Sullivan as the first in a new series of "unknown" cover girls

Photos and text by OZZIE SWEET



Enthusiasm and a big smile inspire West Haven High School cheering section as well as team.

YESTERDAY our cover girl, 17-year-old Maureen Sullivan of West Haven, Conn., was "Miss Nobody," like millions of other teen-age girls throughout the country.

"My only claim to fame before you 'discovered me' for FAMILY WEEKLY," she says, "was when my kindergarten nun picked me to pose as an angel for Christmas pictures. She said I had a cute nose."

Today Maureen's nose is as pert as ever, but now she's "Miss Somebody of 1960" to 15 million FAMILY WEEKLY readers. She's the first of a series of "unknown" girls to be selected from all over the country to grace the magazine's cover during the year. Unlike the usual magazine cover girl, each "Miss Somebody" will have no professional modeling experience. This will be her first "Miss" title, perhaps even the start of a career in some cases.

Maureen, a trim 5'-6" (she claims her cheerleading chores at West Haven High School, where she is a senior, are responsible for her perfect figure), has made no plans for a modeling or acting career now that she's a national beauty queen.

"I could never be a celebrity," she sighed wearily after spending hours in front of my camera lenses. "It's all too much for me. I could never go through this every day."

While she rules out a theatrical career, Maureen does have a firm idea of what's in store for her. She plans to attend Southern Connecticut State College next September and afterward embark on an unusual career that she's had her heart set on since she was 13.

"I was playing on a beach in Maine when I decided what I wanted to do," she recalls. "There was

a man on the beach. At first I thought he was a boy about 10 years old because he was underdeveloped and was playing children's games. I was frightened, but then I found out he was mentally retarded. Ever since, I've wanted to help such people."

Maureen has serious ideas about her career, but she has as much fun as any teen-ager. She never misses a school dance or prom and has her share of week-end dates.

Curfew hour for Maureen is 12:30 ordinarily and 1:30 on dance nights (unless it's a special prom). "And she's good about the hours, too," her mother says. "She's been to Yale University (in nearby New Haven) for dances and recently went to her first out-of-town college week end."

RIGHT NOW the most important social activity to Maureen is her cheerleading. She was one of 13 selected from a student body of nearly 1,800 at West Haven High, and she works hard at it.

Bowling, ice skating, and homework (she spends three hours a night at it) pretty well take up the rest of her time. "She's a good student," her principal attests. "And she couldn't be a cheerleader if she had any demerits for poor deportment."

Does she think that being selected as FAMILY WEEKLY's first "Miss Somebody" will bring her good fortune?

"Just being picked is enough for me," she says, "but if it should lead to some modeling jobs that will help me through college, it would be a double blessing. Do you really think I'm pretty enough?"

We certainly do think so, Maureen. Modeling directors, take notice!

COVER

Photographer Ozzie Sweet captures Maureen Sullivan's natural beauty. She is the first of a series of "unknown" girls who will grace Family Weekly covers this year (see above).

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