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Granny cop, muggers' foe, to retire at 50

Associated Press
PHILADELPHIA — After nine years of wearing dresses and nylon stockings to convince would-be muggers he was a little old lady, James McGrath is calling it quits.

McGrath, an original member of the Philadelphia police department's "granny squad," is retiring at age 50 because, "You figure you're pushing your luck."

Recently, McGrath said he figures he was mugged about 50 times and averaged three or four arrests a week in his garb and had a "100 per cent" conviction rate. He was never hurt except for minor bruises.

when he volunteered for the special force that was formed in response to a wave of muggings and purse snatchings in the city.

The policemen dressed up as elderly ladies. Trailed by large sup-

port crews, they walked the streets, trying to entice attacks by muggers.

After a time, McGrath recalled, "I could tell I was going to get hit. You develop a sixth sense. You're always well-covered, but you've got to take the mugging."

"One night I was followed 43 blocks. I knew the guy wanted to go but he never did. That was a nerve-wracking experience."

McGrath said the only time he failed to nab his assailant was once in 1967.

"It was due to inexperience," he said. "The guy hit me going about 90 miles an hour. The backup team was across the street and he got away."

But all the robber got was a purse with a brick inside.

McGrath said he studied for the role.

"I started to watch old ladies," he

said. "You had to walk slow. You had to favor one leg. You had to go up and down a curb just so. Maybe it would take you 10 minutes to walk a block. You don't swing the pocket-book, you hold it steady."

McGrath said he gradually became used to wearing lumpy coats and old dresses. "Stockings were the hardest part. You used to lose a pair every time you got hit because you'd go down on your knees and they'd rip," he said.

McGrath, who wants to become a private security guard, said he and a partner were going down the street in plain clothes one day when they overheard two youths talking about robbing an elderly woman.

He said one of the youths vetoed the idea, saying of their potential victim, "That's one of those granny cops."

SKAGGS ALBERTSONS
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USDA CHOICE



FIESTA DEL MONTE

SPECIAL GOOD WED., THURS., FRI., SAT., NOV. 12, 13, 14, 15, 1975



<h2>SIRLOIN STEAK</h2> <p>U.S.D.A. CHOICE BEEF</p> <h1>1.68</h1> <p>LB.</p>	<p>BONELESS TOP, U.S.D.A. CHOICE BEEF # 1.68</p> <p>ROUND STEAK LB.</p> <p>BONELESS BOTTOM, U.S.D.A. CHOICE BEEF 1.58</p> <p>ROUND ROAST BARON-O-BEEF LB.</p> <p>LEAN, NO WASTE</p> <p>CUBE STEAK LB. 1.78</p> <p>JANET LEE OR GLOVER</p> <p>SLICED BOLOGNA 12 OZ. PKG. 73c</p> <p>NO. 1 QUALITY, SLICED BACON</p> <p>SLAB BACON LB. 1.48</p> <p>LEAN, GROUND CHUCK QUALITY, NOT LESS THAN 77% LEAN LB. 99c</p> <p>GROUND BEEF</p> <p>SKAGGS-ALBERTSONS, SINGLE WRAPPED SLICED CHEESE 12 OZ. PKG. 1.09</p> <p>BOOTH'S, JUST HEAT AND SERVE</p> <p>SHRIMP STICKS 14 OZ. PKG. 1.39</p>	 <h2>T-BONE STEAK</h2> <p>U.S.D.A. CHOICE BEEF</p> <h1>1.98</h1> <p>LB.</p>
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Traffic signal planned

Installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Wellborn Road and Jersey Street will begin Thursday.

In addition, Jersey Street will be up-graded to provide four lanes of traffic plus protected left turns, the State Department of Highways and Public Transportation has announced.

The traffic signals will also be electrically tied into the railroad crossing signals.

The signals will be installed by Blackburn Electric Service of Fort Worth and at a cost of \$27,497.

Australian Cabinet sworn in

Associated Press
CANNBERRA, Australia — Caretaker Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser today named a conservative interim cabinet amid widespread demonstrations and called for a general strike in support of ousted Labor Prime Minister Gough Whitlam.

Slipping into Parliament House through a side door, Fraser's cabinet was sworn in while the chanting of pro-Whitlam demonstrators rang through the building.

Whitlam told a crowd of 3,000 in front of the building that his removal Tuesday by Governor-General Sir John Kerr "makes a travesty of parliamentary democracy in Australia."

Kerr also dissolved Parliament in preparation for election of a new House of Representatives and Senate. The election is expected to be held Dec. 13. The makeup of the new lower house will determine whether Whitlam, 59, returns to power or Fraser, 45, remains in office.

Meanwhile, Fraser has pledged not to initiate any new policies.

Whitlam is the first prime minister to be ejected from office since the Australian states were federated 75 years ago.

Kerr, the representative of Queen Elizabeth II, constitutional chief of state, said he fired Whitlam to resolve the crisis resulting from the unprecedented refusal of the conservative majority in the Senate to vote the government's appropriation bills unless Whitlam agreed to a general election. Whitlam refused; his Labor party had a majority in the lower house but was in danger of losing if it went to the polls.

Hundreds of workers marched through the streets of Melbourne, demanding that the queen dismiss Kerr. Though her appointee, he actually was chosen by Whitlam, and official sources confirmed that he did not consult her before he fired the prime minister.

About 2,000 longshoremen and shipyard workers marched through the streets of Sydney, demanding Whitlam's reinstatement. They invaded the stock exchange, swapping punches with police, but no arrests were made.

In Brisbane, 4,000 demonstrators clashed with police in the main city square.

Bus drivers in Canberra went on strike. So did the government's chauffeurs, and Fraser and his Cabinet had to use their own cars or take taxis to get to Parliament House to be sworn in.

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<p>DELICATESSEN-SNACK BAR</p> <p>HAMBURGERS 3 FOR 1.99</p> <p>BBQ CHICKENS 1.89</p> <p>ALL MEAT BOLOGNA 1.25</p> <p>LONGHORN CHEESE 1.88</p>			<p>DEL MONTE GREEN BEANS 16 OZ. TINS</p> <p>5 \$1</p> <p>CUT OR FRENCH SLICED</p>		
<p>INSTORE BAKERY!</p> <p>CHOCOLATE FUDGE CAKES</p> <p>LARGE 8 INCH TWO LAYER</p> <p>2.39</p> <p>EA.</p> <p>POTATO ROLLS 2 DOZ. 69c</p> <p>PECAN PIES 1.49</p> <p>CREAM PUFFS 25c</p> <p>DINNER ROLLS 59c</p>			<p>FROZEN FOODS</p> <p>SHERBERT PURE ALL FLAVORS 1/2 GAL. ROUND 88c</p> <p>POTATOES ALBERTSON'S HASH BROWNS 2 LB. PKG. 47c</p> <p>GRAPE JUICE WELCH'S 6 OZ. TIN 29c</p> <p>DONUTS MORTON'S GLAZED 9 OZ. PKG. 68c</p> <p>LIMA BEANS JANET LEE BABY 10 OZ. PKG. 43c</p>		
<p>LUX LIQUID DETERGENT 22 OZ. BOTT. 63c</p>			<p>ALL POWDERED DISH DETERGENT 35 OZ. PKG. 79c</p>		

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