Kathleen Kennedy Tour SFChronicle -- It's Her First Hurrah

Cleveland

"It is sort of pretentious to say that I am really being helpful," 20-year-old Kathleen Kennedy says of her campaign efforts in behalf of Senator George McGovern and his bid for the Democratic presidential nomination.

"Maybe I am. It would really be nice. The newspapers say I am. I don't now. Seriously, I don't know.'

The eldest daughter of the late Senator Robert F. Kennedy and a neice of the late President John F. Kennedy, Miss Kennedy was in McGovern's entourage the past weekend as he stumped Ohio in advance of the state's presidential primary today.

She spoke briefly at rallies and shook hands as she followed the South Dakota Democrat through the streets. She seemed hesitant and nervous in front of crowds.

PERSON

"I am with McGovern because he is so much against the war, because he also has ideas about what to do in the United States," she said during an interview. "My father thought he was one of the best men in the Senate. And I like Senator McGovern as a person. He is a very good person."

Miss Kennedy talked as she sat in the kitchen of a high school friend's home in Cleveland.

"I get nervous in front of all those people. I can't ever exactly figure out what I am supposed to be saying. I mean . . . I am not basically a politician, not in the least," she said.

Miss Kennedy first appeared with McGovern last month in Massachusetts and later campaigned with him in Pennsylvania. She did not, at first, mention her fa-



AP Wirephoto

MATHLEEN KENNEDY Speeches for McGovern

ther or use the Kennedy name.

CONNECTION

"At the beginning, I did not mention Daddy. Then I thought maybe I should. I want to relate him to Senator McGovern, to show that there is that connection. A lot of people still like Daddy. I mean, I'm no good as a 20-year-old out of Radcliffe

"On a very, very personal level, he was so interested and respected and loved what he was doing that I just want to continue it," she said of her father. "He is the basic reason why I am in it. So that what my father has given me . . ." Her voice trailed off; she

did not continue.

The Radcliffe junior, who flew from Boston to Cleveland Saturday at the expense of the McGovern campaign, made her first stop at a peace rally.

HECKLERS

She was interrupted by hecklers when she urged support for McGovern as a way to end the Vietnam war. She seemed shaken, but finished what she was saying.

"I don't often get attacked," she said. "I sort of liked it at the rally when people were giving me a bit of trouble. Then you become alive because then you are saying something. It is much more interesting when there is a give and take."

Her standard contribution to the McGovern campaign, in addition to her name, is a one - minute talk at the beginning of a rally.

APPEARANCES

"I did not ask to make appearances. I hadn't planned to do anything like that. I had planned to go out and leaflet and canvass. I just said I would work for him. And I said in whatever capacity you want me to. They said, 'Would you mind going around with the senator?

Miss Kennedy said she had not talked with her uncle, Senator Edward M. Kennedy, about campaigning for McGovern. Her mother, Ethel Kennedy, reportedly plans to campaign for McGovern.

"My mother is really pleased by the whole thing. She loves it," Miss Kennedy said. "She is living vicariously the campaign life, calling me up all the time, asking what is going on and sending me stuff."

"I like the pace. I like doing things. I like going fast. But I do get tired."

Associated Press