

More than 'meter maids'

UNC police staff numbers 24

by Bill Lovin
Staff Writer

UNC campus police handed out 19,314 parking tickets last year. "The campus police have nothing to gain from giving out parking tickets," said campus police Captain E.B. Riggsbee recently. "In fact, we don't even like to give them out."

Riggsbee said, in spite of what many students think, the campus police and University get no money from the tickets. All collections go to the Chapel Hill police. Ticketing illegally parked cars is the most obvious of the campus police activities but Riggsbee's 24-man force is responsible for other duties. Campus police must maintain building security, investigate thefts, watch for

fires, and patrol parking lots at night. In addition, the campus police must let women with self-limiting hours in and out of their dormitories after closing hours. "We have nine men on the midnight to 8 a.m. shift for this reason," said Riggsbee. "We can have a policeman at any girl's dorm within two or three minutes after she calls us." The campus police are sworn in by the

Chapel Hill police department and work closely with the city police. The campus police have the same rights as any other policeman, including the right to arrest any student who violates a law. Riggsbee said students have the same rights as any citizen when stopped or arrested by the campus police. Students are not required to give their name or incriminate themselves. "But," said Riggsbee, "we advise students to co-operate because it's likely to go easier on them."

Students arrested by the campus police may be tried in civil or criminal court or by the University honor council, depending "on a lot of things," said Riggsbee. "Students should understand that we're here to help them," said Riggsbee. "Our duty is to protect the students, the faculty and the University."

"We try to pick up sick or injured students who need to go to the infirmary, we take blind students where they need to go, we try to help students whenever we can."

The campus police force was organized 20 years ago when the University enrollment was 3,500. With increasing enrollment, the duties of the campus police have changed.

"We have to change because students are changing," said Riggsbee. "Each man has more work to do."

"The campus police don't want to cause anybody any trouble; we try to be fair."

"If students will just call us, we'll do everything we can to help them."



Lynda Hoyle busily works to file the cards for the Union Information Desk. The cards contain the addresses and phone numbers of all students. The information can be obtained by dialing 933-2285. (Staff photo by John Gellman)

Cates after student votes

Hillsborough Mayor Fred S. Cates, a recently announced candidate for Democratic Party nomination to the N.C. Assembly, believes the 18-year-old vote makes local and national politics "a whole new ball game."

In an interview last Sunday, Cates said he was optimistic about local support in

the legislative campaign. "I believe I can get a substantial part of the student, Negro and Chapel Hill vote in my race," he said.

Cates said he was conservative on some issues, liberal on others. "Students should be liberal," Cates said. He disagreed with

radical tactics, however, arguing they hurt the University.

On the issue of University deconsolidation, Cates said there is too much hysteria in the state. "The people of North Carolina, through their General Assembly, will not permit the lowering of standards on the Chapel Hill campus," he declared.

Cates said he saw the possibility of three or four persons in the race for the two seats allocated to Orange and Chatham County in the General Assembly.

Cates will formally file his candidacy on next Jan. 17. Filing deadline for the May 2 primary is not until mid-February. Current incumbents Ike Andrews and Carl Smith are reported to be running, respectively, for U.S. Representative and state senator.

Cates is former Chairman of the Orange County Democratic Party.

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