Libertarians embrace wide range of views

BY Robert Thomason Staff Writer

An official of the North Carolina Libertarian Party says that his party is for civil liberties and economic freedom, but against U.S. military intervention in foreign lands.

"We are not a conservative or a liberal organization," said Craig Springer, a member of the executive committee of the N.C. Libertarian Party in an interview recently.

"We have distinct positions," he said. Like many conservatives, Libertarians believe in economic freedom; like many liberals, Libertarians believe in absolute civil liberty, Springer said.

"Basically, we do not believe in the initiation of force to get things done," he said. "I'm talking about legal

We think the proper function of government is the protection of personal freedom and liberty."

Springer said the Libertarian Party does not necessarily condone many activities, but believes that an individual should be able to do as he wishes. Springer qualified his statement by saying that the individual must not harm the rights and liberties of others.

"The government would have the police, the courts, and national defense," Springer said.

'The three branches of government would be supported through contributions," he said.

Some people say that people wouldn't support the government. That doesn't make sense to me. If government were doing what it is supposed to, protecting civil liberties and private property, people wouldn't

mind paying for it."

Springer said he would voluntarily contribute to a government if it maintained the basic functions he

"It wouldn't cost all that much to operate the government like that,"he

"Individuals would have the right to redress their grievances," he said. If a product were harmful, citizens could take their case to the court system, he said. The court would decide if the product should be removed or changed, he said.

Despite the position on judicial intervention, Springer said, "there should be complete separation of the state from the economy." He said Congress should not have the power to regulate interstate commerce, which is granted in the constitution.

We want a society of voluntary institutions, where people bind together and solve problems through charity," he said. "We're against using the power of the gun."

"We are really not all that wild-eyed about things. I'm sure the press will have a hey-day picking out things about us. They could have fun saying we are against anti-homosexual laws or against gun control, but we have to be 100 percent consistent about civil

"We don't believe that the things we advocate should come about over night. Things would be in absolute chaos if they did," Springer said.

As an example, Springer said that government should gradually stop providing public education. "They should start by giving tax credits to people who send their children to private schools. They should also end mandatory attendance, which is a violation of free will."

Springer said private organizations could educate children better than the government could.

The Libertarian Party was formed in Colorado in 1971 and came to North Carolina in 1975, Springer said. And on July 5 of this year the N.C. Board of Elections approved the party's petition to be allowed on the state's ballot in November.

In 1976, the Libertarian presidential candidate, Roger McBride, garnered 183,000 votes.

'That makes us the third largest in the United States," Springer said.

D.A. (cont'd)

Brock said that when the party's representatives said that the signer was supporting the Libertarians' right to appear on state ballots, the representatives were telling "nothing more or less than the truth.

"I think that the problem here is that some responsible public officials don't understand this question," said Brock. "The only basis for complaint I could imagine would be that some of these people simply didn't read what they were asked to sign."

Bobby Y. Emery, a member of the Libertarian Party executive committee, also said that all copies of the petitions had been identical and that no petitions had been switched

Break-in, thefts reported

by Karen Eagle

Two thefts and a breaking and entering were reported to the University Police Department last week

Jeff Witkin, 6263 Hiffard Drive, reported the theft of his \$400.00 'Falcon' bicycle on July 4. Witkin reported that the bicycle was stolen from the bike rack along the north side of New Davie Hall by

The bicycle was described as a man's twenty-six inch, dark blue, ten-speed bike. The bike had chrome front forks attached to the wheels, no front fender, a silver rear fender, and a silver rack on the

In an unrelated case, a university employee reported the theft of his 1974 Honda motorcycle. The theft occurred between 9 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. on July 7. Carl D. Gruber, 1209 Airport Road,

reported that his motorcycle was stolen from the grassy area outside Lenoir Hall. Gruber reported that the motorcycle was not secured and could easily have been

The Honda was a blue model 360. It had a torn seat, a dented gas tank, and a low padded sissybar with a blue helmet. The vehicle was valued at \$400.00.

Room 102 Abernethy Hall was broken into during the night hours of July 4. A \$300.00 Sony Trinitron KU 1203 Receiver was stolen. The theft was reported by Ronald Bartholomew.

According to the campus police, the door to room 102 was taken off its hinges. The person or persons were believed to have entered through the front door by reaching through the mail slot and unlocking the door. Exit was believed to have been made through a side door which was propped open with a beer can.

Prints were taken with good results.



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continued from page 3

The Street will be closed to traffic between 4 p.m. and 10 p.m. provided that the residents man the barricades at either end of the street to allow immediate access by emergency vehicles, and that residents have the street cleaned by 10 p.m.

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