

## Campus Security Is Everyone's Business

Campus Patrol is only one part of ACC's security program. Other essential elements include the Wilson City Police Department, adequate campus lighting, an effective communication system, and, most importantly, the student body. Without individual student awareness and participation, the security program can never be truly effective.

This semester marks the third year of providing campus security using students as patrol members. Patrol members, both male and female, are chosen on the basis of their classification (upper classmen are preferred), their GPA, their desire to be of service to others, reliability, ability to operate independently and, most importantly, their ability to make judgmental decisions on their own when required. Of the 18 patrol members who started the patrol in August 1979, eight student members still serve.

Since the inception of Campus Patrol in August 1979, its role and responsibilities have greatly increased. Responsibilities consisted initially of patrolling the campus grounds, operating the switchboard during night hours, escorting female residents to their residence halls and issuing traffic tickets. This semester, the patrol no longer operates the switchboard, but in addition to other duties, it now raises and lowers the national colors each school day and is responsible for the locking of all buildings on campus each evening and for opening them each morning. It is also responsible for turning on and off all lights on campus each day. Additionally, the patrol opens and closes all campus buildings that are utilized on weekends.

During the two years the patrol has been operating, it has been very effective. Its alertness has prevented several major thefts, the apprehension of several bicycle thieves, the apprehension of a suspected flasher and prevention of other thefts too numerous to mention. The



Patrolman Mike Nixon writes a parking ticket.

patrol's effectiveness can be attributed largely to student acceptance and cooperation with the individual patrol members. A major advantage of the patrol is that while all students are not known by name to the patrol member, their faces are; thus, the identification of strangers on campus is much easier. Secondly, most patrol members reside on campus; thus, at any given time, while there may be only one patrol member on duty, other members of the patrol are present on campus and are able to spot strangers or possible incidents and alert the patrol person on duty. In most instances, the off-duty patrol per-

son is prepared to assist the on-duty patrol member in any way possible.

This year the patrol will again provide 24-hour campus security and operate during night hours from the Student Information Desk in Hamlin Student

Center. Should a patrol member be required, call ext. 377 anytime between 6 p.m. and 8 a.m. and give your name, location and brief description of the problem. The patrol deskworker will contact the patrol member on duty by radio, and he or she will report to your location to assist you. During school hours, call the same number and ask for the dean of men.

Campus Patrol members are not policemen. They are instructed not to attempt apprehension of a suspect or to take chances which may result in their injury. Their role is to assist students in any way possible and to call the City Police Department for situations beyond their control. In every instance, the local police department has been prompt and efficient in its assistance to the campus. Campus Patrol members are in reality the eyes and ears of the campus during the day and at night when the student is asleep.

You can better assist Campus Patrol by being alert to strangers and by not taking chances. Report suspicious strangers or activities on campus to the security office (ext. 377). Do not gamble with your own security. Safeguard your dormitory lock combination. Do not walk alone after dark; use the buddy system. Walk around or through campus at night along well-lit walkways. Do not take short cuts. Avoid isolated or dark areas. Be especially watchful when parking and exiting from your car at night. If you are assaulted, do not panic, but scream, make a scene, break away and at the first opportu-

nity, notify campus security. If possible, be alert to the description of possible suspects, i.e., age, sex, height, weight, clothing, distinguishing characteristics. Be able to provide license plate numbers, make, model, year or color, if an automobile is involved.

In summary, security at ACC is everyone's business. Won't you do your part for a safe and secure 1981-1982 school year? If you have suggestions for improvement or criticism concerning a patrol member's performance, do not hesitate to see Alvah Monshower, the dean of men and campus security coordinator. All suggestions and constructive criticisms will be welcomed.

### HANDICAPPED PARKING:

The handicapped parking spaces on campus are for the use of handicapped students and faculty only. In order to park in these spaces, you must have either a handicapped decal issued by the college, a handicapped license plate or a handicapped placard. If you park beside such a space please remember to leave enough room for the handicapped person to open his car door all the way in order to facilitate his getting in and out of the car.

Students with special needs please register with Clare Moore, coordinator for Handicapped Services, Hines Hall, Office B, ext. 369. Help is available in the form of readers, note takers, tutors, etc. for any special needs you might have.

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