

Stone 'Em

Campus Security is a topic that can usually evoke several hours of uninformed conversation from any student. Campus cops are "ego-trippers, sensationalists, sexist, looking for trouble, etc." These are usually a few of the topics that start off the conversation. Then, when things get warmed up, well...

Everyone ignores just one basic thing. Campus police are students, first and foremost. Most campus police-students don't need the aggravations of their job, of having some idiot vomit all over their shoes after getting drunk at Jazz 'n' Suds, or having to clean up the mess afterwards, for that matter. Most of C.S.P.'s will try to remain in the background as much as possible, to avoid bothering their fellow students.

However, they have to work within rigidly defined regulations, or face dismissal. Some of the rules are absurd. Witness the moving of the force towards the purchase of uniforms.

The new shirts are short-sleeved (which makes them just great for working in winter), they must be worn while on duty at any C.S.P. post (other than the SUB), and no article of clothing may be worn over them.

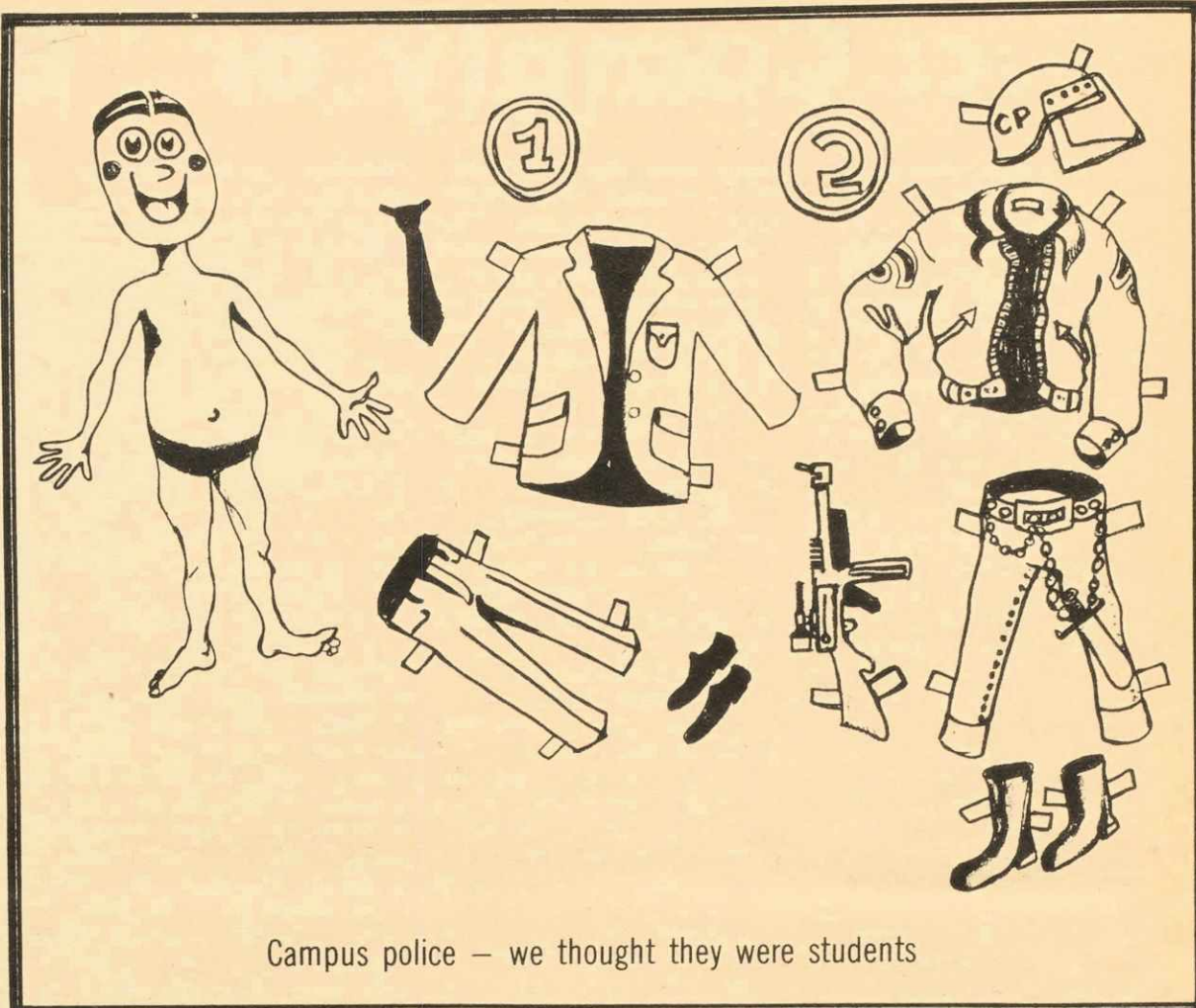
In addition to this, the shirts look so much like those worn by our society's police forces, that student cops have gotten extremely antagonistic reactions from their fellow members of the university community.

Several members of the force have refused to wear the shirts. We don't blame them.

However, widespread opposition within the force to the shirts hasn't deterred the university from ordering new grey pants for the Campus Security Personnel.

We wonder just how many protests have to be lodged by Student Council and the campus police — students, before someone gets the message that these actions are further isolating students from students.

All this action of purchasing new uniforms is being taken so that the members of the force may be easily identified. As one campus cop wryly remarked, "It's being done so that some high school kid can look at them and say 'There's a cop, man. Let's stone 'em.'"



Campus police — we thought they were students

Election changes necessary

Now that the posters are down, the former candidates either elected or analyzing their defeat, and all of the celebrations finished for another year, we would like to examine two aspects of the election with a critical eye, firstly, the length of the campaigns, and secondly the spending of money by the candidates.

For most of the student body, the election of a Student Council Executive means nothing more than examining the poster making abilities of a particular candidate's campaign workers, or reading one of the handouts which are snidely referred to as platforms.

Should a candidate wish to get out and talk with the students, he has one of two alternatives, he may hang a sign around his neck with his name and the office for which he is running clearly printed thereon, or he may go around knocking on doors. Assuming that most candidates will choose the latter alternative, they are left with six days in which to contact as many students as possible.

Unfortunately for the candidates it is a rather difficult task to reach 6,000 voters in six days. Though there are certain candidates who should be lauded for trying. It is apparent that campaigns are simply too short.

Surely, for the sake of the students who would like to vote intelligently, it should be possible to make the campaign a two week affair.

The other item which is in drastic need of close examination is the matter of expenditures. Under the present set-up, candidates for the offices of President and Vice-President are reimbursed for the first \$150 spent by each team. After the allotment has been spent, there is no limit on how much more candidates may spend: they just don't get it back.

Under this arrangement, a candidate may spend \$10,000 in the process of being elected.

During the election just passed, one of the teams placed nine thirty second commercials on CJCH radio.. CJCH's rate for a thirty second commercial is eight dollars, therefore this particular team spent

seventy-two dollars on radio advertising. It is inconceivable that the rest of their campaign could have been run for eighty-eight dollars, but the actual extent of their overspending is unknown. Unless the candidates are so inclined to disclose their expenditures it shall continue to remain a mystery.

The team illustrated above is used only because it is a relatively simple matter to determine the amount of their radio advertising, and thus prove that their campaign exceeded the allotment. We do not think they are an exception, but rather the rule. The question which must be asked is not how much, but where does the money come from? To whom do these people owe favours once they are elected? Is this one of the causes of the current shambles in which so much of the Union finds itself?

We would like to offer some suggestions which might improve the elections of the future. First, the campaigns should be extended to two weeks from the present one week carnival. This hopefully would give the candidates more time to speak with students on an individual basis.

Secondly, the number of signatures required should be increased from the present twenty-five to at least fifty, or more. This step would hopefully ensure the seriousness of all the candidates.

Thirdly, Student Council should determine the cost of running a campaign. Once this has been done, the Council should then allot that amount to each team, and hold that as a limit.

Fourth, a limit should be placed on the number of posters which may be placed around campus by any one candidate. Maybe then candidates would be forced to seek other ways of convincing the voters, and we wouldn't have to look at such incredible chaos for one week each year.

These are our views and suggestions. Undoubtedly there are many things we have not thought of, so if you happen to think there are other ways of improving the situation, or disagree with our suggestions, either write us, or come and see us. Better still, go to a Student Council meeting and tell them.

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Editor:

Ken MacDougall 424-2507

Advertising and Business Manager:

Frank Baker 424-2507

General Calls: 424-2350

Room 334 — Student Union Building

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