

On second thought Campus cops not so bad after all

Editor:

I had previously intended to write this letter as a criticism of the University Police, lovingly known as the Kampus Kops (KK). I had temporarily fallen prey to the strange affliction that causes most students to dislike the KK. I had a whole list of grievances that I felt pointed out the incompetence of these upholders of justice.

One of these grievances referred to the way these great people spend most of their time strolling around campus handing out parking tickets the way a new father hands out cigars. But after careful consideration I realized that this activity is probably justifiable. After all, crime is not exactly running rampant on the Texas A&M campus to keep officers busy.

Another complaint I had to offer dealt with the apparent war that the KK is waging against bicycle riders. Ever notice how policemen delight in lurking behind trees and cars just so they can pounce on riders that commit the serious offenses of riding without any hands on the handlebars, riding without proper lighting (even though there may not be another soul in sight) or the breaking of some other equally absurd rule? However, after thinking deeply, I decided that even these actions are in the best interests of the Aggies. Someone has to protect innocent pedestrians from these wild cyclists that would run them down by surprise if not controlled.

I was even going to gripe about police impatience and unfriendliness when students are trying to load their cars close to a building in a short-term parking area. Fifteen or twenty minutes under the suspicious eye of a policeman is hardly enough time for the average student to load everything he usually wants to. But this surveillance serves a valuable purpose also. University streets do definitely look better when they are not cluttered up with lots of cars.

Yes, I started out to use these complaints to write a bitter criticism

Listen Up

of the KK. But when I went out to a rather isolated dorm-students' parking lot to get my car last weekend, I changed my mind. You see, it seems I had accidentally left my car unlocked and the driver's window rolled down a little for almost two weeks. Although I had not been informed about the mistake, there wasn't anything missing or damaged. Now that says a lot for the integrity and effectiveness of the KK, and to me it makes up for all their faults.

John W. Tynes

Justice?

Editor:

Since September 1975 there has been a steady increase of staff parking areas at the expense of day students. Why? Do the day students have no right to park on campus? I seem to remember having to pay for a parking sticker for that right. Also, if a day student is given a ticket for parking in a staff parking spot then why aren't staff also ticketed for parking in day student slots?

Recently, while spending over half an hour attempting to park in the area set aside for day students I noticed five cars (day student) ticketed for parking in staff parking areas. This area was one which has just been stolen from the day students. At the same time I counted 17 staff cars and pickups parked in the day student area which adjoined the partially filled staff parking area. They were not ticketed. Why? I will write to anyone who might possibly be able to bring pressure to bear to correct this problem of parking areas and I urge all day students to do the same while there is still a day student parking area to protest about.

Bob Lamon

Construction

Editor:

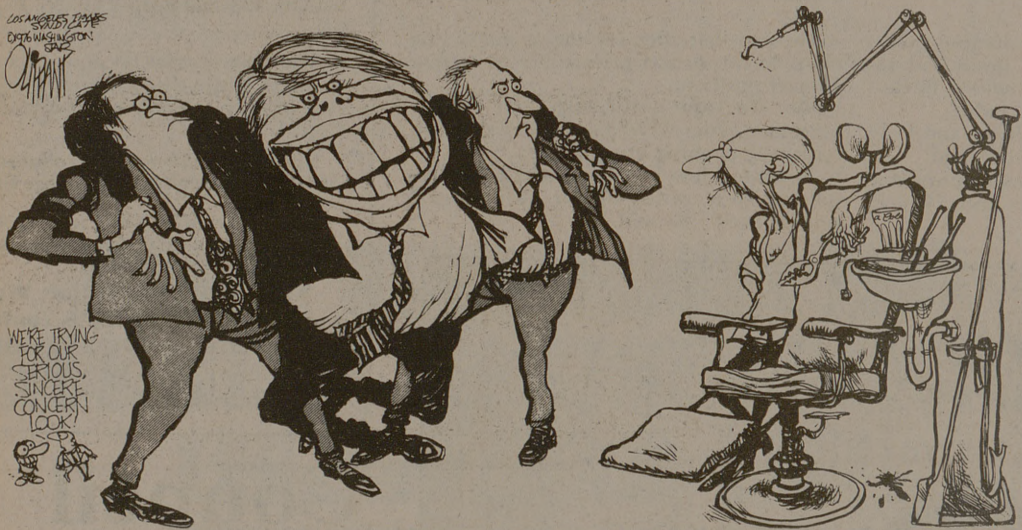
I did not say anything when the area in front of the Chemistry Building was torn up for an expensive, unneeded mall. I did not make a sound when the MSC area felt the bulldozer's bite. Now I watch perfectly good cement being ripped up by the Animal Husbandry, Physics, Francis and Wildlife buildings.

Everyone is aware that A&M enrollment is going up, but when will this madness of construction end? Did we learn nothing from the fire department letter asking us to plan construction programs better so as to allow firemen to approach buildings? Is there an orderly system at work here, or has a beaver syndrome struck the University administrators? Are they dedicated to PROGRESS only for progress' sake? Did the letter about possible tree root damage (last week's Battalion) do no good? All the complaints about the ugly, useless and extravagant wall around campus obviously did no good, and I suppose this mild protest will likewise do no good.

Is there any such thing as a construction deadline around here? Are the construction companies simply given the money and allowed to finish at their leisure? This seems to be the case, for we can all go home for Christmas, come back in a month and find no noticeable progress.

Governor Briscoe has commented that simply expanding appropriations to higher education facilities (like A&M) does not necessarily increase the student intelligence level. I can only hope that the administration will not someday find they have created a sterile (but beautiful!) campus to graduate a bunch of dummies from.

Edward V. Ruhnke Jr.



The Battalion

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Northern Ireland urges Americans not to budget IRA

Associated Press

DUBLIN, Ireland — Prime Minister Liam Cosgrave will intensify his government's campaign to curb the flow of money from Irish-Americans that he claims bankrolls the Irish Republican Army guerrillas, government officials said today.

Cosgrave, a major opponent of the IRA, will launch his high-powered attack on the guerrillas by addressing the U.S. Congress next Wednesday at the start of a six-day visit to the United States.

He will also meet with President Ford to spell out the IRA threat in Ireland and the urgent need for U.S. efforts to crack down on guerrilla fundraisers and gunrunners operating in America.

Later during his trip, his first to the United States as prime minister,

he will address Irish-American organizations.

It is these organizations, the British government claims, that have provided much of an estimated \$1.5 million that has been used by the IRA's Provisional wing to buy weapons and explosives since 1971.

The IRA is fighting to end British rule in Northern Ireland and unite that Protestant-dominated province with the mainly Roman Catholic Irish Republic. However, it also aims eventually to topple the Dublin government.

Irish and British government ministers have urged Irish-Americans to stop giving money to organizations that claim to be collecting for relief work in war-torn Northern Ireland. Both administrations claim the bulk of the funds go to the IRA.

How To Interview For That Job — And Get It!

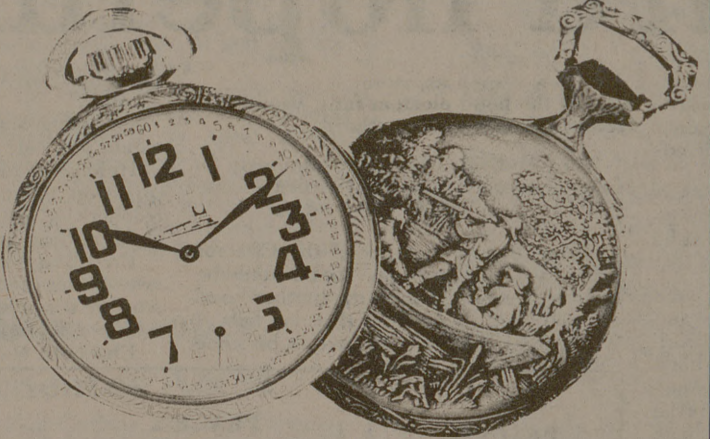
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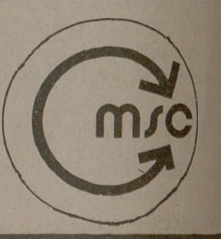
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