Students to observe police methods here

Police Chief Marvin Grimmer, St. Charles, has announced the initiation of an “educational program for the mutual benefit of police and students” beginning this Friday. Several students from Lindenwood College have been invited to observe first-hand the problems and situations confronting a police officer in the course of duty.

Grimmer said the students will be observed of a typical patrol officer on the 9:00 p.m.-12:00 a.m. portion of the Friday evening shift. “The students will be escorted by me and Lt. Detective Alvin Regot and will be observing from a safe distance”, said Grimmer.

“Of course, if there is anything of a dangerous situation developing, they will be escorted from the scene. They will not be directly involved in any investigation”, Grimmer pointed out.

The purpose of the plan is to acquaint students with the ‘life-style’ of a police officer and to promote better understanding between students and police.

“I think one of the biggest barriers existing between police and students today is a basic misconception on both sides of the others place and role in society”, comments Grimmer.

Continuing, he added, “This results in a communications gap. This program is designed as one step toward communication between students and police.”

Grimmer noted that the poor state of student-police relations, nationwide, is not true of St. Charles. “We have the best relations in years with students at Lindenwood”, comments Grimmer.

He credits the Student-Police Relations Boards, established last year between Lindenwood students and St. Charles Police as one factor in good relations. The Board meets on a weekly basis to discuss mutual problems and misunderstandings.

Says Grimmer, “Since last year several situations have arisen which were potentially explosive and we found if we sat down and honestly discussed our differences, the situations cleared up”.

“This new program will, I think, further communication between us and students,” concluded Grimmer.