

Police ignoring some Circle parking violators

By ERIC C. RODENBERG

Police routinely ignore parking violations in the same area of Monument Circle where a young man was shot to death last Friday by a policeman after a dispute over a parking ticket.

Police were seen ticketing cars in other sectors of Monument Circle earlier this week while overlooking parking violations in the northeast quadrant, where the fatal shooting occurred.

Many of the persons ticketed for parking their cars had been parked for less than 15 minutes.

But in the northeast quadrant, cars were parked for two or three hours — and in one case, all day — without being ticketed. Many of the car owners were Columbia Club patrons. These violations were observed for several days by a reporter and photographer for The Indianapolis Star.

POLICE OFFICIALS admitted Wednesday those parking violations are overlooked. Public Safety Director Richard L. Blankenbaker called the situation a "double standard."

James E. Grimes, 25, was shot to death last Friday by Patrolman Dennis Cress after Cress told Grimes to move his car, which was double-parked in the northeast quadrant of the Circle, just outside the lane of illegally parked cars.

Police said Cress was forced to shoot Grimes when Grimes argued with Cress. Police said Grimes trapped Cress in the car, window as the policeman tried to remove the car keys. Grimes then drove away and tried to ram the patrolman against a concrete post.

Most of the space in the northeast quadrant of the Circle is a loading zone. The Columbia Club, American Fletcher National Bank and Christ Church Episcopal Cathedral all rent the space from the city at \$10 a foot for the purpose of freight and passenger unloading.

ALTHOUGH SUCH loading zones are provided for by city ordinance, parking is otherwise prohibited.

Because cars are illegally parked in the zone, suppliers and vendors are forced to double-park for as long as a half-hour while unloading freight.

Indianapolis Power & Light Co. also has a loading zone in the southeast quadrant of the Circle.

Assistant Deputy Police Chief Robert J. Robertson of the traffic division said that he has instructed



Cars parked illegally on Monument Circle
Near spot where James E. Grimes was killed by policeman

his men not to ticket cars parked in loading zones.

"They (the merchants) pay per foot for that part," Robertson said. "It's like, say, you own a store downtown. You pay for a loading zone, that's for your customers."

HE SAID POLICE will ticket violators only if the owner of the loading zone complains. Once a business complains, Robertson said, policemen are instructed to ticket all cars parked in the zone.

He said the police department has had little trouble with the northeast quadrant of the Circle. The Columbia Club once complained about non-customers parking in its loading zone, but backed off once police said all cars would have to be ticketed, Robertson said.

"We don't have much trouble with them anymore. I think their

doorman takes pretty good care of the situation anyway."

There are 37 loading zones in downtown Indianapolis, totaling 1,801 feet.

However, a special ordinance stipulates it is illegal for cars to park in these zones.

"LAWS ARE MADE, but sometimes they have to be interpreted a little bit," Robertson said.

Blankenbaker said "that a double standard exists in law enforcement around the Circle," citing a police tradition of overlooking parking violations in front of the Columbia Club.

"It's been a long-time tradition," Blankenbaker said. "The ultimate abuser is our own General Assembly, but, as you know, the General Assembly is the lifeline to money

See PARKING Page 12

Isra issu Ar

Fez, Morocco (UPI) — A summit meeting collapsed after it began Wednesday because of bitter differences over an Arab proposal for Israel.

The summit, snubbed by leaders who sent lesser delegates, had been scheduled for three days. Instead, it lasted three hours, ending in an announcement that Arab foreign ministers would not meet again to prepare for a summit at an unspecified date in Morocco.

Although the Saudi-led summit drew praise in the United States, it aroused new Arab world, which has been at war with Israel since the founding of the state in 1948.

A BRIEF STATEMENT by Hassan II of Morocco, the host, said the meeting was "suspended" until further consultations would be held. He said a "sound and united" set of measures had been "agreed" when the summit was suspended, implying that such a meeting was lacking this time.

Hassan did not elaborate. Saudi officials said the post-summit talks have been tied to Syria's Hafez Assad's last-minute decision to attend the summit and the Saudi plan.

Assad's decision, announced at a meeting with other Arab leaders, was a setback for the Saudi plan. Libya's Muammar Khadaffi, who is a backer of the plan, said Syria's pivotal role as a state and the influence of the Palestine Liberation Organization in the virtue of its troops in Lebanon.

WITHOUT SYRIA, no real action could be taken on the Saudi plan, observers said.

Assad's snub also put in jeopardy the plan — PLO chairman Yassir Arafat's role in a difficult position between two nations on the verge of peace.

Arafat has endorsed the Saudi plan, which has been criticized as implying a willingness to give up the West Bank and Gaza. For that reason, many of the

Brezhnev seen signaling

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(Star photo by Greg Griffio)

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Assad's snub also put in jeopardy the Saudi plan — PLO chairman Yasser Arafat's plan — in a difficult position between two nations on the verge of peace.

Arafat has endorsed the Saudi plan, which has been as implausible as the will to nix Israel. For that reason, he created as much of a

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