Students booze it up for police demonstration

By KERRY NADEAU and JULIE M. RANDALL Collegian Staff Writers

The last person University students want to see after pounding a few Long Island iced teas at the Cafe is a police officer waiting to test their motor skills and intoxication level.

But, Tommy Barnett and Lesley Cohen, members of Students Against Drunk Driving (SADD), headed straight for University Police Services Officer Mark A. Stringer yesterday after spending the morning drinking at Cafe 210 West, 210 W. College Ave.

Barnett and Cohen were volunteers in SADD's alcohol awareness program, which University police presented to demonstrate the effects of alcohol on a person's motor skills and the consequences of being caught driving under the influence.

"I think it's a great opportunity to increase awareness of drinking and driving," said Cohen (seniorscience and women's studies).

The intoxicated Barnett and Cohen were escorted to Willard lawn around noon by Tracy Agate, a member of SADD, and met by Stringer, who pre-empted his usual speech and immediately began the tests to draw observers.

"Normally I give a speech, but I'm not sure that's gonna get people in here," he said.

The initial tests performed by

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> Lesley Cohen **SADD** member

ness of eye movement when following a moving pen and walking a straight line heel-to-toe on the sidewalk next to Willard lawn.

Stringer first performed the tests on a sober volunteer so that, when Barnett and Cohen were tested, the effects would be obvious. Cohen was tested first and had some difficulty following the pen Stringer moved before her eyes. but she passed the walking test. Barnett also passed the walking

After seeing Barnett and Cohen undergo the tests, one observer questioned the reliability of the tests performed.

"I would never drink and drive at all, but with these tests I don't think a cop can really point out if you're drunk or not," said Nicole Walczak (sophomore-education).

The sometimes inconclusive tests are accompanied by a machine that measures a person's alcohol level.

Stringer then tested the students on the Intoxylizer to measure the level of alcohol in their system. The volunteers breathed into the munity about the dangers and conmachine through a mouthpiece. Cohen registered .104, legally Stringer were gauging the smooth- drunk, and Barnett registered at

.097, just barely less than the legal limit of .10. Stringer also tested a sober student to demonstrate the machine's reliability; nothing registered.

Seeing the tests made one observer view police responsibilities in a new light.

"I had a friend who was stopped once and (police) hassled him and made him take tests and he wasn't even drunk," said Al Montello (junior-mechanical engineering). "But I'd rather have police looking out for us and making sure we're safe."

A seemingly positive impression was left on the 20 to 30 students who observed the demonstration.

"I thought (Stringer) was very informative," said Marc DiMino (junior-business logistics).

Mark Murphy, SADD secretary and program director, said he was impressed with the initial turnout of students for the program, even though it was held when classes were going on.

"Our main goal is to promote an awareness to the students and comsequences of drinking and driving," Murphy (sophomore-communications) said.



Tommy Barnett participates in a DUI test performed by police officer Mark Stringer. The test, part of a

demonstration by Students Against Drunk Driving, was given yesterday afternoon near Willard Building.

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