

# Blue light works well

By LAURA R. JONES

Last semester's installation of the Blue Light phone system for emergency use has been successful, according to Pete Lalla, assistant director of Public Safety.

The system was installed on campus last May to provide students with assistance and direct access to Public Safety, Lalla said. The idea originated from a similar system in present use at Cornell University.

**' There is an on going installation of floodlights in place of the 'Lollipop' lights that are presently installed '**

Lalla said the phones have been used 26 times this semester, but only a few of the calls have been by students needing assistance.

Half of the calls were made by Public Safety officers making routine checks and six were regarding building security information, Lalla said.

Two of the calls were reports of a larceny and a fire that were investigated by Public Safety, according to Lalla.

He thinks the system will be successful, and said it is "a definite addition to our ability to

help students protect themselves."

When asked about the Blue Light system, State University College at Cortland sophomore Alison Lenz replied, "I'm glad to know they are there."

Graduate student Cindi Mason added, "This system is long overdue."

There have not been any prank calls, because Lalla thinks the people of the community recognize the importance and value of "this security device."

The six phones are located throughout the campus, in easy to locate areas.

Two phones are located in the vicinity of P.E.R. Center, near the tennis courts and the athletic fields. Three phones are on the upper campus, near the Dowd Fine Arts Center, one is between Moffett and Old Main, and one is in the commuter parking lot behind Old Main. The sixth phone is located on Neubig Hall near the garbage dumpster.

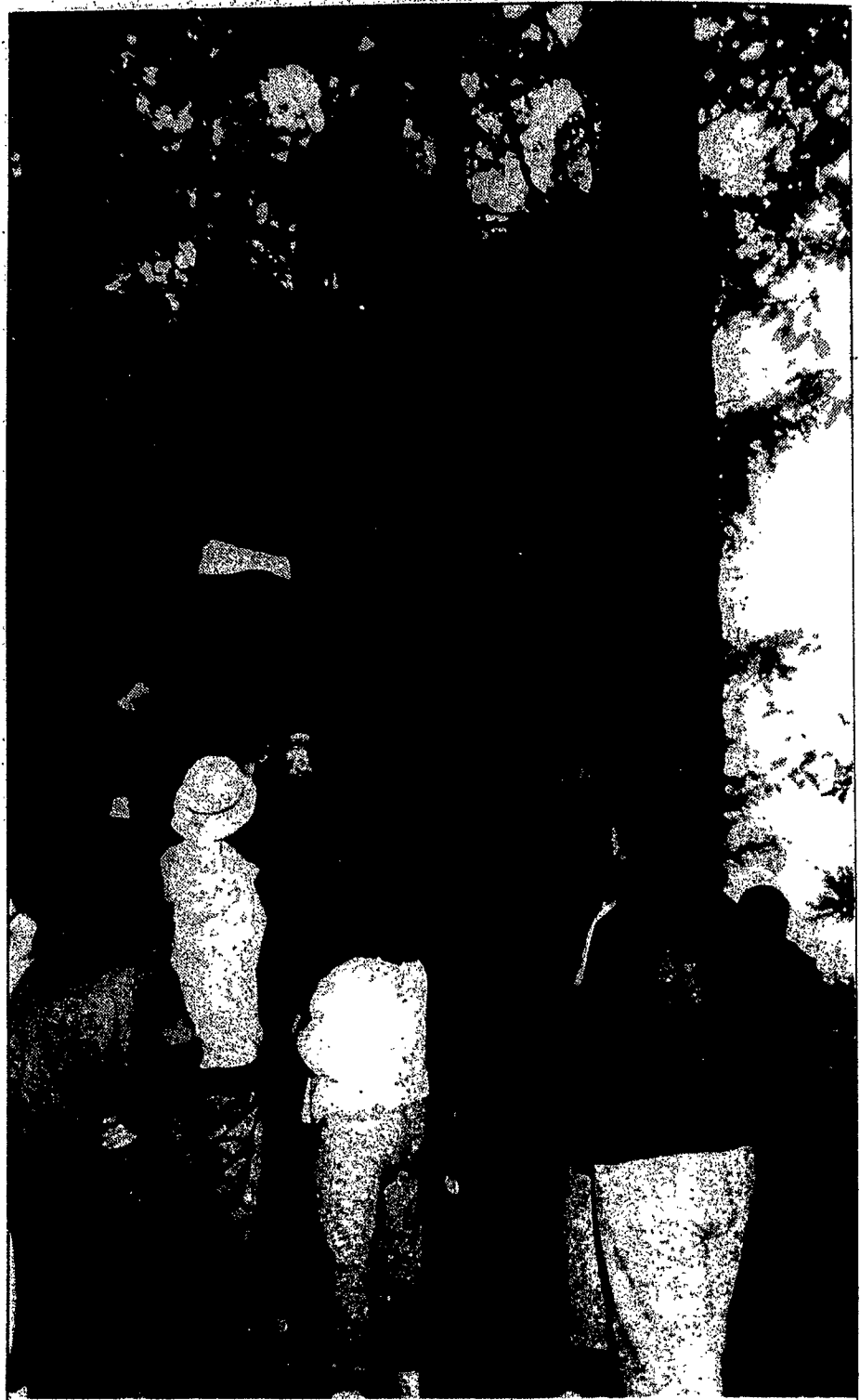
All phones are identified by a blue light and have direct access to Public Safety 24 hours a day.

Besides the blue light emergency system, there also several ongoing efforts promoted by Public Safety to increase campus safety.

The Community Service Unit (CSU) is in the residential areas from 7 p.m. to 3 a.m. Monday through Saturday.

CSU also offers personal safety lectures. According to Pete Lalla, students should take certain procedures to protect themselves. First, no one should go running alone at night and secondly, the runners should always take lighted routes.

The improvement of the lighting on campus is another effort that concerns Public Safety. Lalla says that there is an ongoing installation of floodlights in place of the "lollipop" lights that are presently installed throughout campus.



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