

No clues turned up by police in rip-off of papers

Investigation of the March 17 ASUN election day theft of Daily Nebraskan newspapers on City Campus has not turned up any definite leads, according to Lt. Robert Edmunds of UNL Campus Police.

"I would say it was related to the election and timed with it," Edmunds said. "It was Greek oriented."

Edmunds said he thought only a handful of people were involved in planning the theft, but said it was definitely a planned effort.

"The area covered (City Campus) and the number taken (about 10,000 copies) indicates a concerted effort and would indicate that some people got their heads together and said let's do it."

Edmunds received information involving several fraternities and even some sororities but that checking out those leads produced no concrete evidence.

"If we do come up with anything, we will turn it over to the county attorney for prosecution," he added.

Interfraternity Council (IFC) President Doug Kristensen said he is not sure who lifted the newspapers.

Rumors

"I've heard 60 million rumors about it, involving organized groups from both on-and off-campus," he said. "I wouldn't doubt there were some boys from frat houses that took them—I don't know."

Kristensen said it appeared the effort probably was organized.

"If they did it to keep the election news off the streets, they didn't do a very good job," he added. "Everyone saw it anyway."

The Daily Nebraskan printed an extra one-half press run that day to replace the stolen papers. The estimated cost of the theft has been figured to be at least \$1,000, not including staff time and inconvenience, according to Jerri Haussler, Daily Nebraskan business coordinator.

Kristensen said he never attempted to discover who stole the papers.

"Kind of funny"

"I thought it was kind of funny—a kind of prank. Some people probably took it more seriously, but that's how I took it."

"It was no joke to us," said Vince Boucher, editor-in-chief. "Every student on City Campus was deprived of the newspapers during the prime morning distribution time."

"Whatever the idiosyncracies of campus elections, and the extent of ill-will, interfering with any freedom of the press is counter to American ideals," Boucher said.

"I'm surprised there weren't more people outraged because of that," he added.

Boucher said the UNL Committee on Publications still is investigating legal action on the case.

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