

# Statistics: Increase in reported crime at UNL

By Tricia Waters

Crimes occurring on campus increased slightly during the last year, reflecting city, state and national increases, said campus Police Investigator Robert Fey.

The crimes, called index crimes, are murder, rape, robbery, assault, burglary, larceny and motor vehicle theft. Law enforcement agencies nationwide voluntarily report these crimes to the FBI.

On campus, index crimes increased about 6 percent between 1979 and 1980.

Campus burglaries increased 24 percent from 97 in 1979 to 120 in 1980, Fey said.

The number of burglaries in Lincoln increased more than 36 percent and those in Nebraska increased 11 percent during the year, according to figures from the Lincoln Police Department and the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement. Nationally, burglary increased by 14 percent, according to FBI preliminary reports.

## Economic influences

Economic conditions affect crime increases, especially increases in burglaries, said Lt. Jerry L. Smith, LPD statistical officer. When people don't have jobs, the crime rate

increases, he said.

When precious metals rise in price, many burglars take gold or silver items and leave other items, Smith said.

Fey said he has noticed a small increase in thefts of items containing precious metals, but most thefts occurring on campus involve everyday items, such as cash, stereo equipment and clothing.

The number of burglaries at UNL has steadily increased during the last five years from 41 in 1976 to 120 in 1980.

## Assaults increased

Assaults on campus increased from three in 1979 to five in 1980, a 67 percent increase.

LPD figures show that assaults in Lincoln increased from 317 in 1979 to 341 in 1980, an 8.5 percentage increase.

Assaults decreased by 11 percent statewide and increased 8 percent nationally.

One rape occurred on campus in 1980, compared with three in 1979. In Lincoln, rape increased more than 26 percent, from 45 cases in 1979 to 57 in 1980.

On campus, larceny increased 1 percent and motor vehicle theft decreased 68 percent. Robbery decreased 100 percent with one robbery reported in 1979 and none

in 1980. No homicides occurred on campus in 1980 and none have occurred in the last five years.

## Larceny most reported

Larceny continued to be the most frequent crime reported to campus police, with 654 cases occurring in 1980.

Theft, including burglary, larceny and motor vehicle theft, cost the university \$96,080 in 1980. Vandalism, a non-index crime, cost the university \$19,612 in property damage and \$11,502 in personal property losses in 1980.

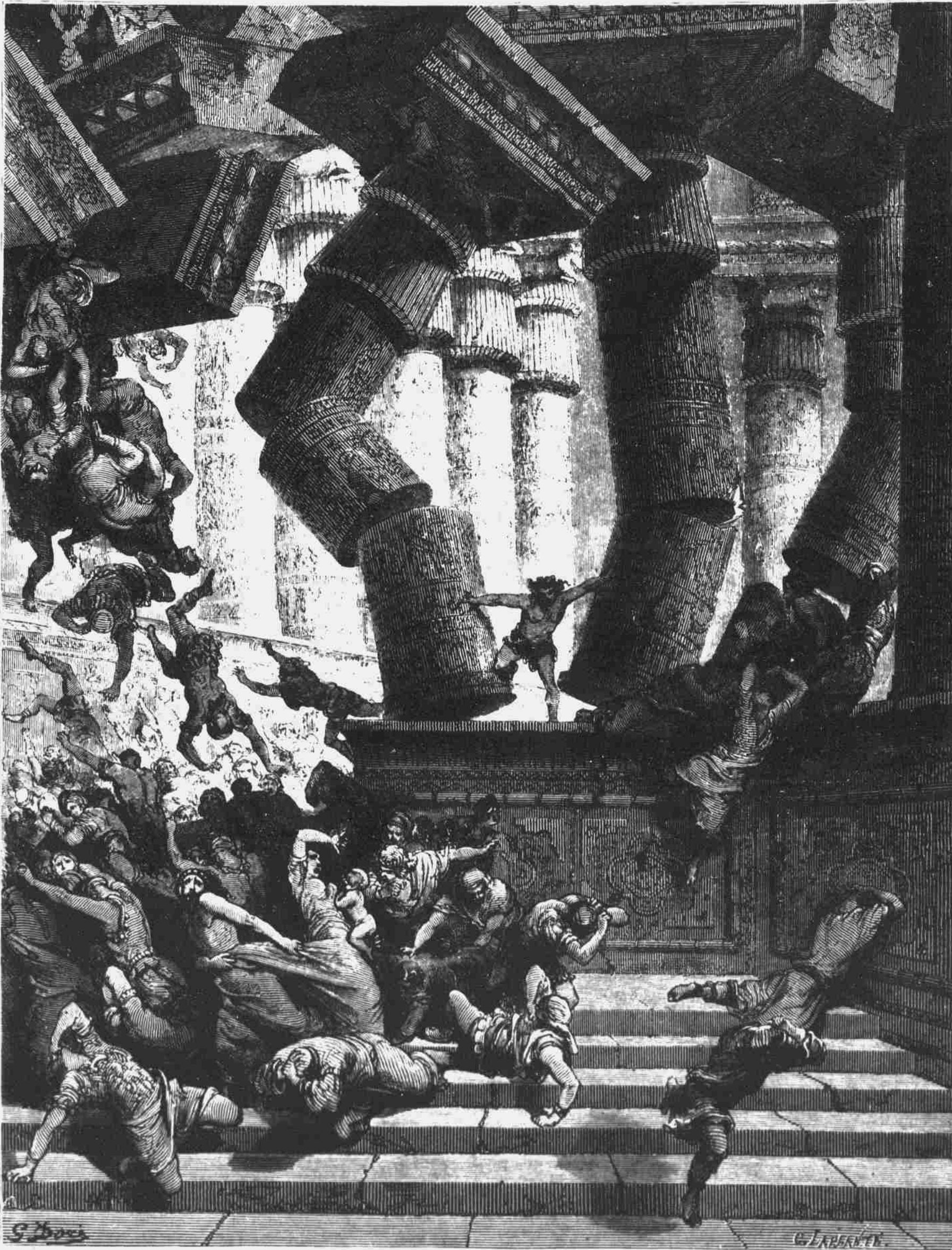
Comparing 10 other colleges of similar size to the university, UNL experienced fewer violent crimes than seven of the colleges and fewer property crimes than two of them, according to statistics from a national crime report.

In Lincoln, index crimes increased about 17 percent and statewide, 6 percent. Both figures include arson increases, while university reports do not.

The FBI Crime Index, released Tuesday, listed a 10 percent national increase in overall index crimes. The total of violent crimes, such as homicide, rape, robbery and felony assault, increased 13 percent. Property crimes increased 9 percent between 1979 and 1980. Property crimes include burglary, larceny and motor vehicle theft.

The Bettmann Archive

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## Now comes Miller time.



## short stuff

The Department of Community and Regional Planning will have an open house for students interested in further studies and opportunities in the field of planning on April 15 from 2 to 5:30 p.m. in the Former Law Building on the City Campus.

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The Afrikan People's Union will meet this Sunday at 4 p.m. in the Culture Center, 16th & Y streets. All are welcome to attend.

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Inter-varsity Christian Fellowship will have its weekly large group meeting today at 7 p.m. in the Nebraska Union. Room number will be posted.

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Non-traditional Students will have a luncheon today from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Nebraska Union. Room number will be posted.

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University Program Council will have an American Films Committee meeting Sunday at 9 p.m. in the Nebraska Union.

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Dave Aiken, UNL water law specialist, will speak on current legal issues concerning wetlands and the effects of uranium mining on groundwater supplies Tuesday at the UNL Law College, room 125.

## Police search for thieves of articles from vehicles

Campus police are looking for the persons who stole various items from vehicles parked on the UNL campus, according to Crime Stoppers, Inc.

Items stolen from cars include auto batteries, mag wheels, tires, hubcaps, tape decks and stereo systems.

Within the last several months, 25 separate cases have been reported for a total loss of more than \$3,000.

The thefts generally occurred in parking lots east of 17th street from Q to Vine streets, and in the area of New Hampshire and 14th streets.

Crime Stoppers asks persons with information about these crimes or any other crimes to call 475-3600.