

S. E. Copple may face prison term

S. E. Copple, embattled former president of Commonwealth Savings Co., was found guilty Thursday after pleading no contest to the second of two charges filed against him in First District Court. The count charged Copple with making a false

statement in Commonwealth's books between September 1, 1983, and November 1, 1983, regarding a false loan to Lincoln real estate broker Michael Wilson.

Copple now faces a possible five-year prison sentence, a \$10,000 fine or both. He is scheduled to go before the sentencing board on Monday or Tuesday.

The 87-year-old Copple, after consulting with his attorney, agreed to plea bargain with the Lancaster County Attorney's office. In return for his no contest plea, his promise to testify at upcoming grand jury hearings and his promise to cooperate with prosecutors and banking department officials, state prosecutors dropped all other state charges pending against Copple. No future state charges will be brought against him.

County Attorney Mike Heavican hinted that federal charges may soon be brought against Copple, and that similar plea bargaining agreements are in the works.

In a short statement to reporters outside the courtroom, John Stevens Berry, Copple's attorney, said, "This was a great relief for Mr. Copple. It was his decision...he wanted to bring this process to an end."

Police Report

The following incidents were reported to UNL police between 3 a.m. Monday and 10:30 p.m. Wednesday:

Monday

3:15 a.m. — Smokesmell reported at Nebraska Hall. No fire.

7:35 a.m. — Security alarm reported sounding at Nebraska Center for Continuing Education. False alarm.

4:55 p.m. Security alarm reported sounding at Nebraska Center for Continuing Education, 33rd and Holdrege streets. Malfunction tripped alarm.

5:09 p.m. — Two burglary cases reported at Coliseum. Wallet and cash reported missing.

7:05 p.m. — Security alarm reported sounding at unspecified location. Power outage tripped alarm.

Tuesday

8:03 a.m. — Transient reported sleeping near railroad car.

2:30 a.m. — Check forgery reported at National Bank of Commerce.

3:53 a.m. — Bicycle reported stolen at Nebraska Hall.

4:50 p.m. — Car accessories reported stolen from car in Parking Area 10 near Nebraska Hall.

5:03 p.m. — Security alarm reported sounding at Love Library. Malfunction tripped alarm.

5:13 p.m. — Security alarm reported sounding at Love Library. Malfunction tripped alarm.

7:10 p.m. — Juvenile cited for possession of stolen bicycle.

9:45 p.m. — Fire alarm reported sounding at Manner Hall. Smoke from popcorn popper tripped alarm.

11:01 p.m. — Juveniles reported dumping over trashcans at 14th and W streets.

Wednesday

8 a.m. — Parking permit reported stolen from car. Location of theft unknown.

9 a.m. — Theft reported

at Harper-Schramm-Smith Complex. Money reported missing.

9:01 a.m. — Car reported on fire in Parking Area 7 near South Stadium.

10:06 a.m. — Car-bicycle accident reported at 1640 Y St. Minor injuries reported.

4:40 p.m. — Minor car accident reported at 14th and R streets. No injuries reported.

6:09 p.m. — Bicycle reported stolen north of East Campus.

6:13 p.m. — Bicycle reported stolen north of East Campus.

10:22 p.m. — Person reported tampering with emergency phone at 14th and W streets. Juvenile found at location.

Correction

In a Tuesday, July 10 Daily Nebraskan article about UNL's Sponsored Projects Development Fund, Earl Freise was incorrectly identified as the UNL Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Studies. Freise's correct title is assistant to the Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Studies. The Daily Nebraskan regrets the error.

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