

Child dies in house fire

By The Associated Press

One child was killed and his two brothers were in critical condition after an apartment fire Thursday in northeast Lincoln.

Robin Foreman, the children's mother, had made a telephone call from a neighbor's home after getting a telegram that her grandmother had died when she returned to an apartment engulfed in flames.

"She came back yelling and screaming that there was a fire and her babies were in there," said Connie Gunnerson, the neighbor whose telephone Foreman used.

Gunnerson and another neighbor, Mary Hayes, ran with Foreman to rescue the children, but the flames were too hot.

"We got inside the door, but all the windows and stuff were busting out. My hair caught on fire and we backed out of there," Gunnerson said.

Hayes said: "We went in the house and the fire was already in the living room and the smoke was already black and thick. We heard the babies crying out but we didn't know where they were."

They returned to Gunnerson's apartment complex to get a wet blanket.

"I'm not sure what happened after that," Gunnerson said.

Another witness also tried to help.

"I knew the babies were in there and I was going to go in to get them but when glass started popping, I had to back off," said Scott Johnson. "There was nothing I could do ... I knew there was nothing I could do."

After trying but failing to get inside the apartment, Foreman collapsed in the middle of the street, Gunnerson said.

Fire officials had report of a fire at 1:19 p.m. and the first units were at the scene two minutes later, Deputy Fire Chief Lawren Brodd said. Other apartments in the fourplex in northeast Lincoln had smoke damage but there were no other injuries.

Foreman, 21, was treated and released at a hospital. Fire officials said she had been treated for shock.

Her 3-year-old boy, Steven, was killed in the blaze.

Jason, 2, was in critical condition at St. Elizabeth Hospital, suffering from smoke inhalation and third-degree burns over 10 percent of his face and arms, hospital officials said. Nathan, about 1 year old, was in critical condition from smoke inhalation.

The 3-year-old may have been playing with matches or a lighter and set the blaze off, fire officials said.

Plant fined for contamination

OMAHA — Asarco Inc. will be fined \$3.25 million for discharging pollutants into the Missouri River according to terms of an agreement outlined Thursday.

U.S. Department of Justice and Asarco attorneys said they have agreed in principle to a settlement.

Documents in U.S. District Court in Omaha outline the following terms:

- Asarco is to be assessed a \$3.25 million penalty "to resolve all violations of the CWA (Clean Water Act)" at its downtown Omaha plant.

- Asarco is to meet clean water effluent limits and monitoring requirements and to pay penalties for future violations.

- Asarco is to follow a schedule to complete building a waste-treatment facility no later than Sept. 1, 1995, and meet final discharge limits by Dec. 31, 1995, or pay penalties.

Before the proposed settlement can be submitted to a federal judge for approval, it has to be reviewed by the Environmental Protection Agency and two Bellevue residents who challenged the discharges.

Gus Paul, Asarco plant manager in Omaha, could not be reached for comment.

The director of an environmental group that triggered legal action over the discharges said the proposed fine is too low.

A \$3.25 million fine "strikes me as hardly a slap on the wrist for a corporation that has been behaving as if the Clean Water Act didn't

exist," said Dan Luecke, director of the Environmental Defense Fund's Rocky Mountain Office in Boulder, Colo. "Penalties are designed to discourage the kind of behavior Asarco has demonstrated."

Luecke said a fine should be more than \$5 million "to deliver any kind of message to make it clear this kind of behavior can't be tolerated."

He also objected to the where the fine is to go — the federal Treasury.

Luecke said he hoped Asarco would be required to pay more money "to establish the Nebraska endowment or a group that would work on remedies for all the past contamination in the Missouri River."

Last winter, at the urging of the Environmental Defense Fund, two Bellevue residents sued Asarco for discharging lead, zinc, arsenic and other contaminants into the Missouri in violation of the Clean Water Act.

They contended that Asarco's discharges posed "a substantial risk to human health and the environment."

Asarco denied the allegations.

The Clean Water Act required Asarco to obtain a permit for its discharges into the river.

The company was never issued a permit. Later, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency sued Asarco for water quality violations.

Nebraska family must wait to meet pope

NEW YORK (AP) — Cancel the T-shirts. Stop the music. Forget the special elevator lift. Pope John Paul II's trip to New York has been postponed, much to the disappointment of thousands of Catholic faithful.

Debbie and Pat Wahlmeier of Juniata, Neb., and their nine children had been scheduled to meet the pope at Shea Stadium as the Knights of Columbus' 1994 International Family of the Year.

"We're certainly disappointed but it was just overwhelming to think we'd come that close to meeting the pope," said Mrs. Wahlmeier, 38, in a telephone interview from her home in Juniata, a rural south-central Nebraska community of about 800 about

six miles west of Hastings.

The family, with children ages 14 months to 14 years, were invited to see the pope next year instead.

"I would be humbled to breathe the air that he breathes," said Mrs. Wahlmeier.

The Vatican said the trip would be delayed a year because the pope has not recovered from a broken leg suffered in an April fall and needs further physical therapy.

He will make the trip in November 1995 to coincide with the 50th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations, the Vatican said.

Cardinal John O'Connor said the Vatican was "very insistent it was a matter of mobility," dismissing re-

ports that the pope has other medical problems. "He is not ill. He is indeed a very vigorous man and is frustrated by the fact that he can't move."

The news sent a wave of disappointment through the metro area, where preparations were in full swing for the Oct. 20-23 visit that included prayer services at Shea Stadium and Yonkers Raceway and Masses at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Giants Stadium and Sacred Heart Cathedral in New York.

Bishop Henry Mansell said that among the plans already under way were special ramps and an elevator lift at the altar in St. Patrick's, specially commissioned music for the Yonkers event, chair and car rentals,

and logos for a gaggle of papal souvenirs.

Joe Zwilling, a spokesman for the New York Archdiocese, said it would be several weeks before it is known how much money was lost and what was covered under the diocese's \$1 million insurance policy with Marsh McLennan.

"I don't think anybody expects that we will completely break even but we had cancellation insurance just for a contingency such as this," Zwilling said.

"Our greater concern is the disappointment that the holy father is not coming and the disappointment of those who looked forward to his visit," he said.

Daily Nebraskan

Editor Jeff Zeleny
472-1766
Managing Editor Angie Brunkow
Assoc. News Editors Jeffrey Robb
Rainbow Rowell
Kara Morrison

Opinion Page Editor FAX NUMBER 472-1761

The Daily Nebraskan (USPS 144-080) is published by the UNL Publications Board, Nebraska Union 34, 1400 R St., Lincoln, NE 68588-0448, Monday through Friday during the academic year; weekly during summer sessions.

Readers are encouraged to submit story ideas and comments to the Daily Nebraskan by phoning 472-1763 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The publication has access to the Publications Board. For information, contact Tim Hedegaard, 436-9258.

Subscription price is \$50 for one year. Postmaster: Send address changes to the Daily Nebraskan, Nebraska Union 34, 1400 R St., Lincoln, NE 68588-0448. Second-class postage paid at Lincoln, NE.

ALL MATERIAL COPYRIGHT
1994 DAILY NEBRASKAN

PRESENT THIS AD,
BUY ANY TWO
BIG RED SWEATSHIRTS
GET A THIRD
FREE

CREWNECK, HOODED, SNAP-FRONT,
ADULT OR CHILD, REGULAR PRICE OR
CLEARANCE PRICED!!!

FREE SWEATSHIRT MUST BE LESS THAN OR
EQUAL TO THE LEAST EXPENSIVE
SWEATSHIRT PURCHASED.

ONE COUPON PER PERSON PER PURCHASE.
COUPON VALID ONLY SEPTEMBER 23 & 24, 1994.



LOWER LEVEL
NEBRASKA UNION

GARDEN LEVEL
EAST UNION

EARN EXTRA MONEY ON THE WEEKEND

MEN & WOMEN

If you are age **19-45** and are available to stay at Harris' Lincoln facility on weekends, you could earn up to **\$100 a day**. For more information on how you can earn extra money by participating in a medically supervised study at Harris, call **474-PAYS** today. Harris testing pays!

 **HARRIS**

621 Rose Street
Lincoln, NE 68502