

# Police gather to bury Omaha officer shot in line of duty

From Daily Nebraskan and Associated Press reports

OMAHA — Police officers from across the region will gather here today to bury one of their own.

University and Lincoln police officers will join hundreds of comrades today at the funeral of slain Omaha police officer James Wilson Jr.

The rookie officer, shot in the head during a traffic stop Sunday night, was the first Omaha policeman to be killed in the line of duty in 21 years.

Seven people, including a 14-year-old, were

charged Wednesday in the killing.

Two men, 18-year-old Kevin Allen and 20-year-old Quincy Hughes, were charged with first-degree murder and using a weapon to commit a felony. After a brief court appearance, they were ordered to be held without bond.

Five other people were charged with accessory to murder. They were: Walter Harris, 22; Tavis Minor, 18; Charles McSpadden, 21; Otis Simmons, 15; and Ronnie Perry, 14. Bail for each was set at \$100,000.

Douglas County Attorney Jim Jansen said the juveniles would face charges as adults.

"I'm not shocked anymore when it comes to juveniles and their involvement in violent crime," Jansen said at a news conference at Omaha police headquarters.

Jansen would not say whether investigators suspected that all seven had been in the van that Wilson stopped a few miles northwest of Omaha. He said the accessory charge could indicate some involvement other than being at the scene of the shooting.

Police Chief Jim Skinner refused to discuss any details of the case because of the continuing investigation.

Wilson's father, retired Omaha police of-

ficer James Wilson Sr., said he wanted only justice for whoever killed his son — not revenge.

"My family, although I have no love for the individuals who took the life of my son, we harbor no animosity," James Wilson said Tuesday. "We don't want revenge. Like any other victim, you just want justice."

The elder Wilson pinned a badge on his son during his son's swearing-in ceremony just over a year ago.

Today, he will bury his son at St. John's Church at Omaha's Creighton University, the young officer's alma mater.

## Sivers named first Carlson professor

From Staff Reports

The University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Dentistry has named Dr. Joan Sivers as the first Norman C. Carlson Professor of Dentistry. Sivers is vice chair in the department of adult restorative dentistry.

The endowed professorship, established by friends of Carlson, is the second of its kind to be founded at the College of Dentistry.


Named in honor of Dr. Norman Carlson, who died in September 1994, the professorship recognizes exemplary service to the University of Nebraska and the dental college.

A 1930 University of Nebraska alumnus, Carlson practiced dentistry in Lincoln for more than 40 years. In 1969, he joined the College of Dentistry as a clinical instructor and was an adjunct teacher to adult restorative dentistry for many years.

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