

ACLU criticizes York High drug search

YORK (AP) — The Nebraska chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union is criticizing state and local police for a surprise drug raid Wednesday at York High School.

The Nebraska State Patrol and York Police used drug-sniffing dogs to search lockers and vehicles for 45 minutes Wednesday morning as school officials kept students inside classrooms.

The search turned up a few marijuana seeds, ashes and empty drug-re-

lated containers, as well as one small concealed weapon that school officials said was neither a gun nor a knife.

School officials defended the search, especially since a student at the school died last year after using drugs.

"We are not in the business of hassling kids," principal Scott Koch said. "The message we want to send is first of all drugs are illegal, they are not acceptable and they won't be tolerated in school."

But Executive Director of the Ne-

braska chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union, Matt LeMieux, said the message being sent to students is that they have no personal rights.

"This is a classic case of where students lose their rights as soon as they enter the doors at school," LeMieux said.

The courts say that before police and school officials can search a locker or vehicle they need reasonable suspicion that there is evidence of a crime or violation of school policy, LeMieux

said. "I highly doubt they had reasonable suspicion that all of those students were in violation of school policy or the law," he said.

Koch insisted the search was legal.

Last year, 17-year-old Kory Sierp collapsed at the prom and later died from heart failure caused by methamphetamine use. Community meetings that followed the death called for a crackdown on drug use.

Combs aims to overcome incumbent

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party politics or special interest money.

One thing Combs said he would do if elected is invest in the future of young people. This year Congress passed a bill cutting student-loan money, he said.

Combs said he had a friend in Washington, D.C., who went to George Washington University because she got a federal loan. Now, she's an attorney making six figures, and in just a few years has paid back in taxes more than three times what she received from the government for college, he said. Politicians should look at loans as an investment, he said.

"I'd rather see money put into student-loan programs than new Star Wars programs we don't even have the technology to make happen," Combs said.

"I'm ready to make votes for young people."

Law & Order

A look at crime on campus and in the community

ARMED ROBBERY

A manager at a Valentino's To-Go, 2711 S. 48th St., was robbed Wednesday night by a man carrying a revolver.

The 25-year-old manager was in the store's office at 10:18 when a masked man entered, Lincoln police Sgt. Ann Heermann said.

The man pulled a revolver, forced her to the floor and demanded money, Heermann said.

He took money bags and fled through a back door, Heermann said.

The manager described the man as about 6 feet tall, weighing 180 pounds, wearing a blue jogging suit, a ski mask and gloves.

ARRESTS

A 21-year-old convenience store clerk was arrested Wednesday as an accomplice in a robbery that happened at the store Sunday night.

Devida Jones was working the night Jonas Cruz allegedly robbed T's Fast Stop at 3291 Holdrege St., Lincoln police Sgt. Ann Heermann said.

Cruz entered the store and held a knife to Jones while ordering another employee to lie down, Heermann said.

Jones then took \$100 cash from the register and gave it to Cruz, who fled, Heermann said.

Cruz was arrested for armed robbery and use of a knife to commit a felony. Jones was arrested for accessory to a felony.

Barnett pleads not guilty to 1992 Bush slaying

Sheets is still awaiting preliminary hearing in November.

OMAHA (AP) — One of two men charged in the death of a 17-year-old Omaha woman said Thursday that he was innocent of the crime.

Adam S. Barnett pleaded not guilty in Douglas County District Court to a first-degree murder charge in the 1992 slaying of Kenyatta Bush.

Barnett, 21, dressed in orange jail coveralls and sandals, had to sign a document with his hands cuffed.


Jeremy C. Sheets, 22, also is charged with first-degree murder and use of a weapon. He was arrested in Maine, where he was stationed with the Navy. His preliminary hearing is scheduled for Nov. 13 in Douglas County Court.

The preliminary hearing will be the first look at the evidence, said Douglas County Attorney Jim Jansen.


Bush, a North High School honor student, was reported missing Sept. 23, 1992. Her body was found 10 days later in rural Washington County.

Jansen said prosecutors would like to try the cases against Barnett and Sheets at the same time. The decision will depend on what happens in pre-trial court proceedings, he said.

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