

Justice emphasizes importance of jury

KENNEDY from page 1

Jury trials are essential, but there are areas that could be reformed, Kennedy said.

Kennedy said he thought the ability of lawyers to dismiss jurors based on race and sex — called pre-emptory challenge — was unthinkable and should be disallowed.

Now, he said, lawyers, especially those representing the very wealthy,

use social scientists to select jurors who would express a certain kind of opinion. That, Kennedy said, went against what jurors were supposed to do — pass judgment without outside opinion.

Kennedy said he also thinks jurors should be allowed to ask questions through the judge. He said asking someone to sit for long periods of time without being able to ask a question was unfair.

Also unfair, Kennedy said, was not

allowing jurors, especially sequestered jurors, to talk about the case they were hearing. He said sequestered jurors were not allowed to see their families, read newspapers, watch television unedited by the court or talk to other jurors about the only thing they have in common.

However, one service jury trials served long ago was not one that needed to be filled now — that of overturning laws.

People using the jury process to set criminals free in a functioning democracy is wrong and unethical, Kennedy said. He said it violated a moral code that people must follow as citizens of the United States.

But jury trials are needed in democracy, he said.

"The jury is the way we have to reconcile the necessity of order and the passion of liberty."

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Law & Order



A look at crime on campus and in the community

STALKING

A 45-year-old man had been stalking his ex-girlfriend for almost 10 months when Lincoln police arrested him Sunday.

Robert Murray Jr. allegedly fired three shots into his ex-girlfriend's apartment Saturday morning, Sgt. Ann Heermann said. Murray and the woman, Lisa Jones, live in different apartments in the same building on the 4000 block of Dunn Avenue.

Jones was not at home when the shots were fired, Heermann said.

Police later stopped Murray in his car at the ShopKo at 27th Street and Highway 2, Heermann said.

Police searched the car and found a .357-caliber automatic handgun hidden in a pouch on the passenger side, Heermann said.

A search of Murray's apartment found a .22-caliber handgun. Police think shots fired into the apartment were .22-caliber rounds.

Murray was arrested for stalking, possession of a concealed weapon and criminal mischief.

On Oct. 16, Jones told police Murray had been calling her and leaving notes since January in attempts to get her back. On Wednesday, Murray left a CD and a note at her apartment, Heermann said.

MISCHIEF

Lincoln police arrested four boys breaking car windows at a sal-

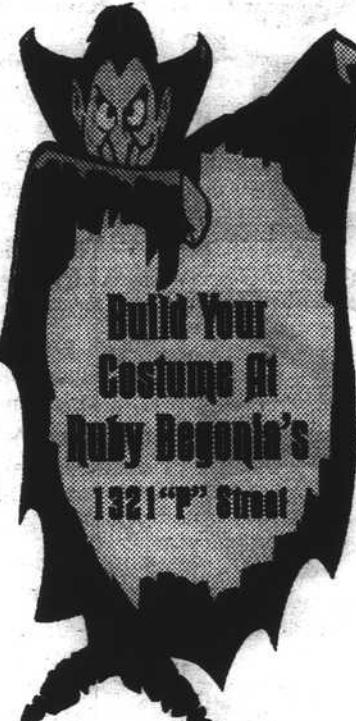
vage yard Sunday evening.

Police were called to GM Auto Parts Inc., 5440 N. 70th St., where a witness reported youth mischief.

Police found the boys in a fenced-in area, near 23 vehicles that had windows broken out with a crowbar, Heermann said.

Owners estimated the damage at \$2,015.

An 11-year-old, 12-year-old and two 14-year-olds were referred to Youth Aid.



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Lot west of stadium closes

From Staff Reports

The Area 10 lot west of Memorial Stadium was closed Monday as construction begins on the new 600-stall parking structure slated for completion in June 1999.

Faculty and staff who park in the 200-stall lot were relocated to lots north and south of V Street, which were once assigned to Area 20 commuter students.

Those Area 20 commuter students can park in the Area 10/20 lot north of the stadium, and the 400-stall lot will be redesignated Area 20.

Tad McDowell, parking services manager, said the department sold fewer permits this semester to anticipate the lot closure. The department is still working on a permit waiting list with more than 500 requests from the fall semester. Permits for the spring semester go on sale in December.

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