

# Washington trial begins

TRIAL from page 1

Muhammed and Brown were both Husker players at the time, but both have since left the program.

Hawkins said he saw a gun shown and told Cole not to fight with the four men, and said Cole did not listen.

During a stretch of testimony that was repeatedly objected to by Chief Public Defender Scott Helvie, Hawkins said the words going between the men were gang related.

"This is blood. You a snitch," Hawkins said, recalling what was said. "F—k you crab, f—k you slob."

Hawkins said crab was a derogatory remark to a Crip gang member, and slob was offensive to Blood gang members.

Hawkins said he and another man pulled Muhammed and Brown off Cole, and the fight had stopped. He said that at that time, Washington was away from the fight.

As Hawkins was asked what was said at this point, Helvie objected, saying the words were hearsay. McGinn, after a short sidebar, dismissed the jurors for the day.

Without the jury, McGinn allowed Hawkins to go on, so the judge could rule if the words were admissible into the record.

Hawkins said Muhammed was yelling "Shoot that motherf—r," and "Get him," at Washington. McGinn then ruled that the words would be admissible.

“Riley Washington doesn't have to prove anything. He is presumed innocent.”

KRISTI EGGERS  
Defense attorney

During previous testimony, Hawkins said Washington, after hearing Muhammed's words, then walked over to him and Cole with a black revolver. He said Washington said to Cole, "Nigger, you goin'."

Cole grabbed Hawkins and hid behind him, saying, "Don't let them kill me." As the two ran, Washington fired three shots, Hawkins said.

Lahners, in his opening statements, said while Washington's case is somewhat of a simple case, some of the testimony could be tough.

"We're going to introduce some witnesses, and they are not going to be some of the nicest people in the world," Lahners said.

Previewing evidence to come, Lahners described the events of Aug. 1 and Aug. 2, 1995. He described a fight that erupted between two sides shouting "fighting words" to each other.

When the fight had been broken up, Lahners said, the crime was committed.

"The defendant then goes over to Mr. Cole, pulls a gun out of his pocket, levels it and proceeds to shoot Mr. Cole," Lahners said.

Lahners said the prosecution would not introduce a gun into evidence because one had not been found. He said there also would not be any complicated scientific testimony.

Kristi Eggers, one of Washington's defense attorneys, used the start of her opening statements to jab at Lahners' planned witnesses. She started laying the groundwork for reasonable doubt, the standard whereby the prosecution must prove its case.

However, many of Eggers' arguments were met with objections.

Eggers also said Washington would testify despite his right not to.

"Riley Washington is not taking on the burden of proof," she said. "He is not accepting that burden of proof because the burden of proof never shifts."

"Riley Washington doesn't have to prove anything. He is presumed innocent."

# DWI, other charges still haunt Farley

Ex-Husker pleads no contest to three separate charges.

From Staff Reports

Former Husker football linebacker Terrell Farley pleaded no contest to three of seven charges

against him Tuesday. The other four charges were dropped.

Farley, 21, a Columbus, Ga., native, faced charges stemming from a Nov. 20 incident where he fled from police.



Farley

He was arrested after a chase

near 32nd and Leighton streets on suspicion of drunken driving, speeding, driving on a suspended license, failure to submit to a sobriety test, resisting arrest and fleeing the scene of a property accident.

The city attorney's office later added a charge of failure to comply with a police order.

Farley pleaded no contest to that charge, and to the charges of leaving the scene of an accident and drunken driving — which was his second DWI offense. Charges of speeding, driving on a suspended license, failure to submit to a sobriety test and resisting arrest were dropped.

Football Coach Tom Osborne released Farley from the team after the incident. Farley's first DWI charge came before the season, resulting in a two-game suspension.

He is scheduled for sentencing March 28.

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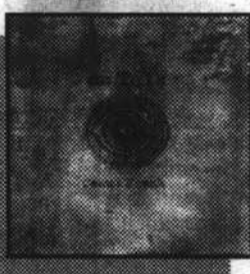
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