

Three teens sought for shooting houses

By **MATTHEW WAITE**
Senior Reporter

Lincoln police are looking for three teens who may have shot at a car and fired into three homes Tuesday night, according to witness and police accounts.

A witness in the 5700 block of Garland Street saw three teens in a brown four-door car, and said one fired shots into a parked car. Minutes later, in the 2000 block of North 63rd Street, residents heard shots fired and found bullet holes in their houses.

Lincoln Police Sgt. Ann Heermann said because the shootings were in the same area near the same time with the same caliber of gun, police suspected they were related. Police have not found a connection among the victims, however.

Heermann gave the following account:

A man out walking at 9:38 p.m. told police he saw three teens in a brown, four-door car resembling a 1970s Ford Maverick heading east on Garland Street between 53rd and 54th streets.

He said one of the passengers fired two shots, which hit a 1985 Oldsmobile Cutlass, out of the car

causing \$100 damage. When police arrived, they found a .22-caliber shell casing.

Minutes later, at 9:45 p.m., residents in the 2000 block of North 63rd Street heard shots fired. One house sustained damage to the front side; two other houses were damaged on their east sides.

A woman who was home at the time said she heard three shots fired. She told police that when she heard the shots, she thought she heard one hit her house.

On the east side of her house, the woman found bullet damage to the steel siding. That damage totaled \$200. Police recovered a slug they think is from a .22-caliber bullet.

Another man who was home heard a noise, then something hitting his house. When he went outside, he found a small bullet hole near his front door. The bullet caused an estimated \$20 damage. The bullet went through the siding and into the insulation, where police recovered it.

One man, who was not home when the shots were fired, found a bullet hole on the east side of his house that caused an estimated \$20 damage to the wood siding.

Police are asking that anyone with information call Crime Stoppers at 475-3600.

Suits filed against Phillips, Childs in district court

OMAHA (AP)—Two people who were at a party with Lawrence Phillips filed lawsuits Wednesday, accusing the St. Louis Rams running back of assault, battery and false imprisonment.

The former Nebraska football player was arrested early Sunday at the party in Omaha and was charged with disorderly conduct. Police said party goers restrained him from attacking officers. Phillips was released on bail pending a hearing next month.

The lawsuits filed in Douglas County District Court by Lisa Bateman and Arthur Stallworth seek unspecified damages.

The two also filed separate lawsuits against former Nebraska football player Clinton Childs.

Bateman's lawsuit alleged Phillips touched intimate parts of her body with his hands and a champagne bottle. A separate suit alleged Childs repeatedly touched her inappropriately.

In his lawsuits, Stallworth accused Phillips and Childs of beating him at the party. Stallworth is Bateman's boyfriend.

The lawsuits alleged that Childs and Phillips confined Bateman and Stallworth without their consent.

Phillips' attorney, Hal Anderson of Lincoln, did not immediately return telephone calls seeking comment. Childs' whereabouts Wednesday were not known.

Leigh Ann Retelsdorf said the Douglas County Attorney's office had not filed criminal charges against Phillips based on any of the accusations in the civil lawsuits.

"If there is a police investigation, our office is not involved at this point," she said.

No criminal action is currently pending at the city level either, said city prosecutor Marty Conboy.

Phillips' arrest came even as he

“*I think if I was in his situation, I may not want to speak to anyone in an authority position. There's no reason for him to have confidence in me.*”

DICK VERMEIL
coach of St. Louis Rams

was on probation in California for drunken driving. That arrest occurred while he was on probation in Nebraska for assaulting his former girlfriend.

A hearing is scheduled for Feb. 28 in Lincoln to determine whether Phillips' California arrest violated his Nebraska probation.

Phillips pleaded no contest to assaulting his former girlfriend, Katherine McEwen of Topeka, Kan., in 1995. McEwen said Phillips beat her, kicked her, dragged her by the hair down three flights of stairs and slammed her head into some apartment mailboxes.

McEwen also filed a civil suit against Phillips in Kansas City, Mo., alleging a pattern of abuse in their two-year relationship. The lawsuit was settled out of court.

Childs graduated from Nebraska in 1995 and was passed over in the 1996 draft. He signed with the New York Jets as a free agent and later was picked up on waivers by the Kansas City Chiefs. The 1996 Chiefs press guide did not list Childs on the roster. The Nebraska Sports Information Of-

fice said it does not track the professional careers of its former players.

Bateman's attorneys said she filed the lawsuits because she wanted to see Phillips and Childs held accountable for their behavior. They said she also wants to be compensated for the pain and humiliation she suffered.

Stallworth was cited for disorderly conduct at the party. Police said he refused to leave the hotel room.

St. Louis Rams head coach Dick Vermeil said Wednesday that he had not heard from Phillips since his arrest Sunday.

"I think if I was in his situation, I may not want to speak to anyone in an authority position," Vermeil said Wednesday. "There's no reason for him to have confidence in me."

Vermeil said he believed that Phillips was in St. Louis.

Rams spokesman Rick Smith said the team did not have any comment on the civil lawsuits.

"We'll have to see how it goes," Smith said.

Author says time off job is important for caregivers

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wrote a book last year to help those caring for people with Alzheimer's: "Your Name is Hughes Hannibal Shanks: A Caregiver's Guide to Alzheimer's."

She said her book covers more than how to be a good caregiver, though. It deals with how to live a fulfilling, healthy life while coping as a caregiver.

Shanks said more than anything, caregivers should remember they need time off from the job.

"It's hard, heavy work," she said. "When you have someone who weighs 160 pounds, but is a little baby in his mind, you have to do everything for him."

Shanks was born in Oklahoma City in 1927. She received her bachelor's degree in journalism in 1949.

She moved to Lincoln in 1965. Shanks lectures to students throughout Nebraska on African-American history.

Shanks also speaks and conducts workshops on caregiving.

She said Alzheimer's disease is the fourth-leading cause of death in the United States. Most people are cared for in their homes during the majority of their disease.

Most of those caring for Alzheimer's sufferers are women, Shanks said.

She said more progress needs to be made in researching Alzheimer's disease.

"There's not a cure yet," she said. "The main thrust is in research, but also there has to be some relief for the caregivers if we want to keep people out of nursing homes."

Scientific research has developed significantly. For instance, scientists have discovered new genes in the past five years that might cause Alzheimer's disease.

"But you can have the disease without ever having these genes," she said. "We're making progress, but there's still a significant job to be done before they understand why people get it and how to cure it."

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