Law & Order

A look at crime on campus and in the community

Armed robbery

A north Lincoln liquor store was robbed at gunpoint by two men who said, "We need the money," a Lincoln police sergeant said.

Sgt. Terry Sherrill said Amen's Liquor at 1172 Belmont St., which is owned by Lincoln Heights Beverage, was robbed at 11:15 Monday night.

The clerk told officers he heard the front door buzzer and came out of the cooler. When he came out, he saw a 6-foot, 2-inch tall, 200-pound white male wearing dark pants and a blue bandanna over his face pointing a semiautomatic handgun at him.

The gunman told the clerk, "We need the money." The clerk then complied, putting an undisclosed amount of cash in the black backpack of another man. The clerk described him as a 6-foot white male, wearing a black baseball cap and blue jeans.

Sherrill said the men left on foot, and the police dog unit was able to get to the area quickly; however, he said the track ended after a few blocks.

There are no suspects, Sherrill said, and police are looking for men matching the descriptions.

Sexual assault

A woman who was invited to a friend's house Monday was raped by the man after she refused unwanted sexual advances.

Sherrill said the woman knew the man and went to his house on the 5200 block of S. 40th St. per his invitation. He then started making sexual advances, which she refused.

The 19-year-old victim told police she was forced to the floor at one point but was able to get up. She was then overpowered, taken to the bedroom, had her clothes removed and was raped.

Sherrill said the police have a suspect and are looking for him now.

SCOTT BRUHN/DN

JENNIFER ROOF, 20, waits for Lincoln firefighters to free her from the van she was driving after it rolled over three times coming to rest on the driver's side. Roof, from Malcolm, was taken to Lincoln General Hospital and treated for a broken arm and an injured back.

Police warn of bags, books theft

From Staff Reports

University police are warning students that along with dead week and finals comes stolen books and backpacks.

Sgt. Mylo Bushing said students should be taking extra precautions now before the semester ends so that their backpacks don't get stolen.

"This is the time of year that we definitely see an increase in the theft of backpacks," he said.

Students should check in their backpacks whenever they can, and when they can't, they should keep an eye on them, Bushing said. He said students in the library should also keep their bags with them.

Bushing said students should put identifying marks on their books and backpacks so they can claim them if they are stolen and recovered.

If your bag is stolen, call University Police at 472-3555 as soon as possible. Bushing said with information and some luck, a bag might be found.

"Sometimes, these things do show up," he said.

Crash injures woman

From Staff Reports

A 20-year-old Malcolm woman suffered multiple injuries Tuesday afternoon when her van rolled three times and came to rest on its side, Lincoln police said.

Jennifer Roof was headed west on P Street just after 12:30 p.m. Tuesday when her van was apparently struck in the right-rear side by a car traveling southbound on 29th Street, Sgt.

Genelle Moore said. The van rolled three times, struck a parked car and trapped Roof inside as it rested on the driver's side.

Firefighters worked for more than 40 minutes to remove Roof from the van. Roof was taken to Lincoln General Hospital with a fractured arm and an injured back.

Stephanie Garner, a junior psychology major at UNL, was the driver of the southbound vehicle and was not injured in the accident.

No tickets were issued in the accident.

Lotus Notes access may be delayed

E-MAIL from page 1

"If a demand is there, then we will be looking at students," Hendrickson said.

The NU Board of Regents approved the contract with the Lotus Development Corporation to obtain the Lotus Notes communications system on Feb. 22.

The e-mail system, which supports the transfer of attachments including documents in WordPerfect and Microsoft Excel, a spreadsheet software program.

James Van Horn, NU vice president for business and finance, said the Lotus Notes communications program means administration, faculty, staff and students of all campuses will communicate without barriers on a standard e-mail system.

"This system is so critically important to what we're doing in higher education — building the technology infrastructure. We have to do it," Van Horn said. "It's our business."

Right now, more than 30 separate e-mail servers exist on the UNL campus alone, he said.

The cost of implementing Lotus Notes systemwide is already budgeted, Van Horn said.

UNL is a large part of the plan for implementation and will consume about $653,000 of the $1.8 million required to implement the Lotus Notes communications system at NU.

Walter Weir, NU assistant vice president and director of information services, said the NU campuses in Kearney and Omaha are "gung-ho" about giving students access to Lotus Notes.

He agreed UNL's size could make implementation more difficult.

"It's like moving a battleship," Weir said.

But central administration did not plan to move students online as quickly as possible, he said. An aggressive plan once presented would have moved all students online in four years. A more moderate, "middle-of-the-road" approach was chosen.

Under that plan, central administration will come online within a year, he said, and faculty will be phased into the program over four years.

The NU system will pay for purchasing Lotus Notes software, hardware, maintenance and support, including all servers needed to handle users at a cost of $60,000 each. Annual maintenance costs are budgeted at $7,200 per server.

UNL was scheduled to receive one new server per year for the next six years to support the large number of students — more than 24,500 — who would come online with Lotus Notes.

About 5 percent of UNL students are scheduled to move onto Lotus Notes this year. An additional 15 percent should gain access each year for three years afterwards, and the last 50 percent of students should gain access in the last two years.

Bells and whistles

During a Lotus Notes demonstration, Weir

moved between the e-mail, calendaring and scheduling applications of Lotus Notes in seconds with a few clicks.

Calendaring and scheduling are daily planner-type applications that allow users to keep track of their schedules and arrange meetings with others easily.

Attachments are easy to send and open with any e-mail, Weir said. Lotus Notes users can check or send e-mail easily from anywhere in the world with an Internet browser by accessing the Lotus Notes web site, he said.

Lotus Notes also allows users to encrypt e-mail for security, to track whether a sent e-mail message was received or opened and to prevent a recipient from copying a message.

Staff members of the Instructional Technology Services help desk at UNL said bigred could support the transfer of attachments by encoding and decoding the documents before and after sending the attachments. Encryption is also supported, but difficult, they said.

Lotus Notes requires less know-how for such procedures, Weir said.

He said Lotus Notes users would be identified by last name and first and middle initials instead of by the long list of numbers that identifies bigred users.

Making the upgrade

Lotus Notes, although user-friendly, has met some opposition at UNL from faculty, he said, many of which have said old computers can not support the program.

"Lotus Notes is powerful. Lotus Notes is big," Weir said. "But Lotus Notes can be put on your machine in different ways."

Lotus Notes takes up between 5 and 30 MB of disk space on a computer's hard drive, depending on the size of manuals stored on the hard drive. It also requires 16 MB of RAM — no more memory than Windows '95, he said.

Some faculty members' computers will need to be upgraded to support full installation of Lotus Notes on their desktop computers, Weir said.

But it is unfair to blame the need for all personal computer upgrades on Lotus Notes, he said. The NU system is also implementing a new and necessary, advanced financial accounting system that requires more computing power.

Hendrickson said other costs for UNL may be higher than planned by central administration.

He said the plan for implementing Lotus Notes across the campus will move forward when costs are more definite and when overwhelming student need can justify those costs.

There may be now be a demand among students for a more advanced e-mail system, he said. But Lotus Notes may not be made available to UNL students until "that demand becomes a crisis."

Hendrickson said the time a crisis would occur was hard for him to determine.