

# Investigation nets 26 drug warrants

By **JOSH FUNK**  
Senior staff writer

Twenty-six people suspected of drug dealing received an unexpected wake-up call at 7 a.m. Thursday.

In a joint operation Lincoln Police, state patrol and Lancaster County sheriffs served 26 arrest warrants on suspected street-level drug dealers.

The warrants are the result of one year of undercover investigations, which began in July 1997.

Fourteen of the warrants resulted from a state patrol investigation and the other 12 came from a LPD investigation. Sheriffs assisted in the arrests.

"We're just rounding up the usual suspects," LPD Narcotics Capt. Duane Bullock said.

The warrants were all served at the same time to keep dealers from

spreading the word that police were on the prowl.

"We work together to make the best impact we can," State Patrol Lt. G.T. Griess said.

The warrants were divided among charges for marijuana, crack cocaine and methamphetamine, all felonies.

LPD also issued one ticket to a suspect already in custody.

Bullock said methamphetamine is still the main problem in Lincoln.

Bullock would not comment on whether any of the warrants were related to recent indictments.

The state patrol made arrests on 10 of their 14 warrants Thursday, Griess said.

Troopers also made some additional arrests of people with outstanding warrants who were found at the homes of these dealers.

Police hope some of the suspects arrested Thursday will lead them to larger suspected dealers.



## Police cite driver, passenger

Some creative driving led University Police officers to cite two men on drug and alcohol charges Wednesday afternoon.

Officers saw two men in a car exit Q4Quik convenience store, 17th and Vine streets, and drive east in the westbound lanes of Vine Street to get around the median, University Police Sgt. Mylo Bushing said.

Officers stopped the car in the Beadle Center parking lot.

As he walked toward the car, the officer saw the passenger trying to shove something under the back of the driver's seat.

When he reached the driver's window the officer could see a beer can half under the driver's seat pouring beer on the car floor.

The officer also noticed part of a clear plastic bag hanging out of the passenger's pocket, and the bag held a small amount of a substance suspected to be marijuana.

The passenger, a minor, was cited for possessing alcohol and less than an ounce of marijuana.

The driver was cited for buying

alcohol for a minor.

## Prescription prompts arrest

A Lincoln woman was arrested for trying to prescribe her own painkillers Thursday afternoon.

The woman called into Winter Drug, 2756 O St., saying she worked at a doctor's office to prescribe Tylenol 3 and Xanax, Lincoln police Sgt. Ann Heermann said.

Tylenol 3 is a strong painkiller with codeine, and Xanax is an anti-anxiety drug that acts to depress the central nervous system.

When the pharmacist called the doctor's office to confirm the prescription, the doctor said he had not prescribed it.

So the pharmacist called police, and when the 34-year-old woman from Hastings came in to pick up the prescription, which she said was for her sister, she was arrested.

The woman was charged with pharmacy fraud, a misdemeanor, and police found a drug pipe in her purse, another misdemeanor charge.

# Renovation proposal OK'd for Love Library

By **LINDSAY YOUNG**  
Senior staff writer

The university Friday obtained the last level of approval necessary for a \$12.6 million project to renovate UNL's Love Library.

The state's Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education unanimously passed the proposal to allow the renovation of Love Library South on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's City Campus.

The commission is a state agency whose members are appointed by the governor. It is in charge of coordinating Nebraska's public colleges and universities.

Renovations include improving the air conditioning and ventilation systems, complying with fire safety codes and Americans with Disabilities Act requirements, and removing asbestos, Project Manager Clark deVries said. He is a registered engineer for Facilities Planning and Construction at UNL.

"The mechanical renovations

will help protect the collections," he said. Temperature and humidity can cause damage to books, but with a new mechanical system in place, "we will be able to even that out," he said.

The project will renovate about 158,334 square feet. The design will be completed by May 1999, and construction will start in July 1999.

The work will be done in phases over 2½ years so people can continue to use the area, deVries said.

The proposal passed with little discussion at the Friday meeting, said Patsy Martin, the commission's spokeswoman.

Equal amounts of state tax funds and student tuition surcharges are financing the project as part of a larger bond issue authorized under LB1100, which passed in the 1998 Legislative Session.

This bill gives \$5.5 million a year for the next 10 years to pay for deferred maintenance to NU campus buildings, including Love Library. NU matches that amount.



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