

Two girls assaulted in Lincoln back yard

BY JOSH FUNK
Senior staff writer

Two 15-year-old girls were sexually assaulted in the back yard of a Lincoln home Sunday morning.

After the girls passed out drunk, they were assaulted by three men, Lincoln Police Sgt. Terry Sherrill said.

The two girls were drinking with a 17-year-old boy in the back yard of a house on the 2900 block of Dudley Street.

The boy was the older brother of one of the girls, though none of the three lived at the house where they were drinking.

By 2 a.m. Sunday morning the two girls had passed out, and the boy had gone to get help, Sherrill

said. When the boy returned to the back yard he found a man sexually assaulting his sister.

The boy started kicking the man and chased him away from his sister and out of the yard.

But when the boy returned to the back yard he found two other men trying to sexually assault the other girl, Sherrill said.

The men had removed the girl's clothes, but police could not determine the extent of the assault because of the girl's intoxication, Sherrill said.

After police were called, they found the 31-year-old man who assaulted the boy's sister.

The man is being held in the Lancaster County Jail and is expected to be charged in court today.

High school officials face Internet problems

WASHINGTON (AP) — Classroom hellions are using computers to download porn, change grades, swap passwords and send threatening e-mail when the teacher isn't looking. Often, the brightest students are doing the mischief, and school officials are struggling with how to discipline them.

The naughty students bring in homemade programs to disable school software, install point-and-shoot war games, make counterfeit money and design scathing sites on the World Wide Web.

"You'd be amazed at what they can do," said Jeannine Clark, assistant principal of Clarkstown High School North in New City, N.Y. "Clearly, a new set of guidelines is needed" — guidelines Clark calls "nerd discipline."

Seventy-eight percent of the nation's public schools today are connected to the Internet, according to the National Center for Education Statistics. Educators nationwide have responded to cyberspace antics with a patchwork of Internet-use policies, outlining the dos and don'ts of being online at school.

Some are strictly written with harsh punishments for offenders. Others have weak consequences or use vague terms, such as "objectionable" or "offensive," to describe the kinds of Web sites that students are forbidden to visit.

Often harder than writing the policies, however, is punishing offenders.

Routine suspension is often not the best approach for bright students, Clark says. And some parents, who don't want their children sitting in a suspension room missing honors English, think computer experiments are good even if Johnny breaks school rules.

"As one father told me, it's perfectly acceptable to allow his child to experiment," Clark said. "After all, we didn't want to squash his curiosity, did we?"

Suspending computer privileges, on the other hand, can be counterproductive for students taking courses requiring daily computer access. Grades can suffer. Credits can be lost. Students can drop in class ranking.

So an alternate punishment — a "monitored probation" — was set up to let students use computers, but only in closely watched settings, Clark says.

Nancy Willard, an information technology consultant from Eugene, Ore., advises school districts to take Internet privileges away from computer abusers and make them earn them back.

Students who surf sexually explicit sites, for example, might be assigned to write a research paper on victims of sexual abuse.

In Cashmere, Wash., six high school students were suspended for up to 10 days last school year for posting a list of more than 300 students, and suggestions on how each might die.

Five students apparently convinced the sixth, who had computer expertise, to put the list on the World Wide Web, according to Gary Harden, who was student body president at the school where he graduated this year.

"They were all suspended and each of them had to write an essay about good uses for the Internet," Harden said, adding that he hasn't heard of any pranks since. "I think our administration wanted to hammer down so it wouldn't happen again."

Owner implements changes at bookstore

BY LINDSAY YOUNG
Senior staff writer

Students may not have noticed any changes to the University Bookstore yet, but according to its director, the changes are there and will continue to come.

Many of them will be implemented "as soon as we recover from rush," said Viann Schroeder, director of the bookstore.

Follett College Stores Inc. of Elmhurst, Ill., took over management of the bookstore July 1. As part of the agreement between Follett and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, many changes will be made.

In the agreement, Follett will manage the store, but the space will still be owned by UNL.

The 10-year contract with Follett is a way to both generate revenue for the university and upgrade inventory technology, said Carl Hutchison, a member of the Bookstore Outsourcing Review committee.

The committee, consisting of faculty members, staff and students, recommended the bookstore chain to the NU Board of Regents in June. The regents approved the agreement at its June 20 meeting.

Four bookstores had been considered, including Nebraska Bookstore, Hutchison said.

The university will receive a minimum of \$1 million a year for rental of the building space for the first five years, and a minimum of \$1.5 million for the last five years of the agreement, which expires in 2008.

In addition, Follett will contribute \$50,000 annually to the university to continue to support organizations previously supported through bookstore revenues.

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VIANN SCHROEDER
University Bookstore director

It also will establish a program in cooperation with UNL, where Follett will provide \$10,000 annually in textbook scholarships to students designated by UNL.

The only negative thing Schroeder has seen with the agreement with Follett is the buyback cost of used books.

When the bookstore was run by the university, the buyback of used books was 60 percent of the new book price. However, under management of Follett, it is 60 percent of the price the student paid for the book, she said.

One change that already has been implemented and has been noticed by students is an extension of hours.

When the university managed the store, it was open 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and until 5 p.m. on Friday.

Now, the hours are 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Wednesday and Friday, and 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Thursday. Saturdays, the store is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For students such as Wes Madden, a senior community health major, the added hours were a welcome change.

Madden said he does most of his shopping in the evening, when the lines aren't as long. With classes and work throughout the day, evening is the best time to shop, he

said. The bookstore has added and diversified merchandise. Schroeder said it has added some clothing, gift lines and name brands not offered in the past.

And, the store won't offer only Husker red anymore, she said.

"Somewhere along the line people realized there's a limit to how much red you can have in your wardrobe," Schroeder said.

The store has added yellows, blues and other colored clothing that has the Nebraska logo.

Compact discs also have been thrown in among the mix of books, clothing and cards. So far, the sales for the CDs have been "very brisk," Schroeder said.

"The (music) company that Follett works with does nothing but the college market," she said.

Also, the bookstore will be selling the movie "Titanic" when it comes out Sept. 1.

The new firm will spend up to \$1 million to redesign and renovate the existing facilities at UNL.

The renovation will begin in February, and the grand opening of the remodeled store will be in fall 1999, Schroeder said.

A new convenience store will open next to the bookstore Nov. 15.

Other changes will include frequent buyer and frequent book buyer programs, more author signings and a low-price guarantee.

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