

Law & Order

Suspect faces more charges

Vinson Champ, a suspect in a spree of rapes last year, was in court Thursday morning on two indecent exposure charges.

The charges were postponed until Oct. 29, according to court documents.

Champ is accused of exposing himself to two different prison guards who were doing their night rounds, once on May 23 and once on June 23.

In both cases, Champ denied the charge, saying he would "deny them until the cows come home."

Champ has been incarcerated since March on charges of raping a Union College woman in February of 1997.

He also is suspected in connection with similar college rapes around the same time; one in Kenosha, Wis., and one in Davenport, Iowa.

At the time of the attacks, Champ was touring small Midwestern colleges as a stand-up comedian.

Champ also faces two charges of assault stemming from a May 1 fight in the jail.

A card game sparked the disagreement between Champ and another inmate. During the fight a third inmate also was injured.

All of Champ's recent charges are pending in county and district courts.

The rape charges in all three states have been delayed since last year, some pending DNA results.

Compiled by senior staff writer Josh Funk.

Accident victim upgraded

From Staff Reports

A Nebraska Wesleyan University student injured in a car accident on UNL's City Campus last weekend was upgraded to serious condition Thursday morning, though she was still comatose.

Hospital officials reported the improvement in 19-year-old Allison Marquart's condition; she was still in intensive care Thursday night.

Marquart was hit early Saturday morning as she was

crossing 14th Street near the Campus Recreation Center.

Marquart had been on campus visiting some friends from her years at Lincoln High School.

Three of the four friends were talking to someone in a car that had stopped near the recreation center.

Marquart was crossing back to the east side of the street to talk to the fourth person when a south-bound car hit her.

Witnesses say the car did not have its headlights on, but it happened so fast they did not even see her get hit.

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