

# Council to appeal picket ruling

5-2 vote will send case to 8th U.S. Circuit Court

BY ADAM KLINKER  
Staff writer

City Council

The Lincoln City Council will appeal a District Court decision from earlier this month that allowed anti-abortion rights protesters to return to picketing Westminster Presbyterian Church.

On Monday, while P Street took center stage at the public council meeting, the council privately discussed the lawsuit brought against the city by four members of Rescue the Heartland, an anti-abortion rights group. Council members voted 5-2 to move forward with an appeal.

For the last 21 months, picketers from Rescue the Heartland have been protesting outside the Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2110 Sheridan Blvd., because one of the church elders, Dr. Winston Crabb, conducts abortions.

An initial injunction, granted Sept. 30 by U.S. District Court Judge Richard

Kopf, was extended indefinitely Nov. 4. On Monday, the council voted to appeal that injunction.

"We think we have a good lawyer and a good enough case to take it to the next level," Council Chairman Curt Donaldson said. "We're prepared to appeal."

Representing the city throughout the initial stages of the lawsuit has been Lincoln attorney Dan Klaus. Klaus was out of town until Thursday and was unavailable for comment.

The case will now go before the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Kansas City, Mo.

Donaldson said he was unsure of whether or not the council would pursue taking the case to the U.S. Supreme Court.

"It's taking the right to worship and the freedom of speech and drawing the

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CURT DONALDSON  
City Council chairman

line," Donaldson said. "It's something important to the city of Lincoln."

So far, \$29,000 has been used by the city for its legal defense. City Attorney Bill Austin said an appeal could cost up to \$170,000 if the city loses.

Austin also said the city will probably have to wait 18 months to two years until a decision on the appeal is reached.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

## Law & Order

### Bills brothers denied bond

The twin brothers accused of beating a man to death were denied bond by a Denver County judge Monday.

David and Kevin Bills, both 21, from Council Bluffs, Iowa, face first-degree murder charges in connection with the Oct. 3 stabbing death of 34-year-old Patrick Perry.

Also charged in connection with the attack are two friends of the Billses, Kevin Snyder, 19, of Omaha, and Josh Wright, 18, of Westminster, the Denver suburb where the crime occurred.

David Bills was a student at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln this fall, and Kevin Bills had transferred to a Denver school from UNL.

The four men told police that they broke up a domestic assault between Perry and a woman, and Perry came back a couple hours later, which led to the fight.

But according to police reports, the four men followed Perry and attacked him after the first incident.

The Bills brothers are scheduled to be arraigned in District Court on Dec. 7, while Snyder and Wright will have their preliminary hearings next week.

because he was not allowed to watch a television program. Bruns said the program may have been a football game.

Damage to the home and its contents is estimated at \$70,000.

### Award turns out to be fraud

A UNL student was swindled for \$1,800.23 by a phony sweepstakes offer.

The 22-year-old student received a call in late September from the Capital Premium Center in Ontario, Canada, awarding him a Ford Taurus and \$25,000, Lincoln Police Sgt. Ann Heermann said.

The student was told that all he had to do to claim his prize was pay the customs, insurance and attorney's fees.

He express-mailed the money Oct. 1 to the company. But he had not heard from them since, so he reported the fraud Monday.

Police warned that people should never pay to receive a prize, nor should they give out credit card numbers over the phone.

### Vandal leads police to him

A careless political vandal led police right to his front door.

On Oct. 30, the vandal used a stencil to spray paint "Clinton Democrat" on a large Ronald Raikes campaign sign at 70th and A streets, Heermann said.

Then, the vandal discarded his stencil, made from an exercise equipment box, in the parking lot and left the scene.

When police arrived, they found the stencil, complete with the United Parcel Service address label.

Police went to the home and cited the 45-year-old man for vandalism.

Compiled by senior staff writer Josh Funk with contributions from The Associated Press

# Supreme Court justice to speak on criminal sentencing guidelines

BY VERONICA DAEHN  
Staff writer

A U.S. Supreme Court justice will talk to UNL today about guidelines used in sentencing criminals guilty of federal offenses, such as treason and murder of federal officials.

Associate Justice Stephen G. Breyer will talk as part of a regular program sponsored by the Roman L. Hruska Institute.

Harvey Perlman, former dean of the NU College of Law, said Breyer will talk about sentencing guidelines in the federal judiciary and his expe-

riences with them.

"He may make some suggestions on reforming the current federal system," Perlman said.

University Nebraska-Lincoln spokesman Tom Simons said Breyer's address is free and open to the public. It begins at 9:15 a.m. in 121 Ross McCollum Hall on East Campus.

Following Breyer's speech, Mark W. Bennett, U.S. district judge for the Northern District of Iowa, and Clarence E. Mock, an Oakland lawyer, also will speak on sentencing guidelines, Simons said.

This is the third in a recent string of events sponsored by the Hruska

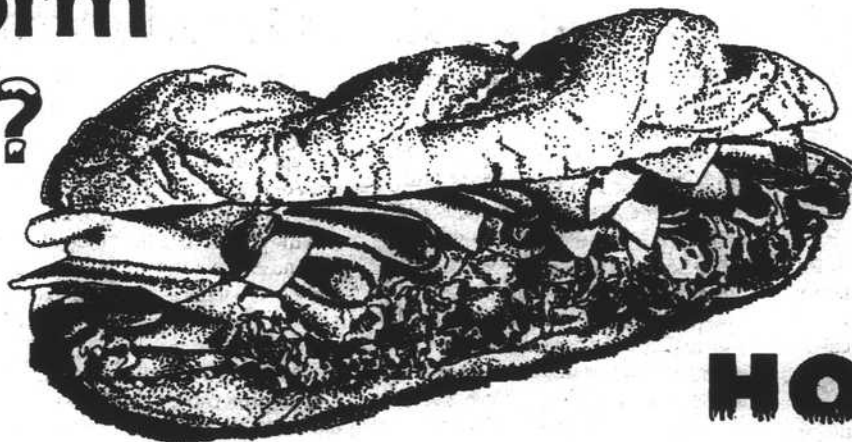
Institute, which recognizes the career of former U.S. Sen. Roman L. Hruska. Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy spoke last fall, and Judge Robert Bork spoke in September.

Simons said the institute's goal is to "educate lawyers, law students and the public at large in Nebraska to the importance of the administration of justice, particularly at the federal level."

Although based at the University of Nebraska College of Law, participants in the institute are mainly members of the State Bar Foundation and the Nebraska federal judiciary.

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