

Law & Order

Homeless man hit by car, suffers critical injuries

A homeless man was in critical condition Wednesday morning after being hit by a car about a mile north of City Campus Tuesday night.

The 45-year-old man was crossing 14th Street near the Cornhusker Highway overpass at 9:40 p.m. Tuesday when he was struck by a white 1997 Dodge Neon driving north, Lincoln Police Officer Kathy Finnell said.

The 21-year-old driver braked when he saw the homeless man, but he could not stop before hitting him.

The victim was taken to BryanLGH Medical Center West with severe head and body injuries. Police would not release the victim's name Wednesday because his family could not be located.

Finnell said neither alcohol nor excessive speed were a factor with the driver, but the victim may have been drinking.

Parents cited for abuse, refuse to claim children

Police took six children into protective custody Tuesday night after visiting the roach-infested trailer where they lived.

The children's 47-year-old grandmother, who was taking care of them, called police to ask

for help finding the parents because she was ill, Finnell said.

When police arrived, they found dirty clothes piled knee-high in the hallway, roaches crawling everywhere and dirty dishes piled throughout the house. Cat food and litter were also spilled on the floor.

The grandmother told police the 27-year-old mother of the four boys and two girls had not been home to the trailer on the 2500 block of Cleveland Avenue for three nights.

The father, 32, lists his address on the 800 block of North 27th Street, and does not live at the trailer.

Police contacted the parents, and they refused to pick up their children.

Both parents were arrested for misdemeanor child abuse, and the children were taken in to protective custody.

East High student cited for marijuana possession

Police cited a 16-year-old for dealing marijuana in a drainage ditch near Lincoln East High School Tuesday.

The school resource officer learned the drainage ditch near Seacrest Field, 73rd and A streets, was a site for drug deals at the school, Finnell said.

When the officer investigated, he found the 16-year-old with two bags of marijuana, one weighing 22.5 grams, the other .5 grams, and a portable scale.

The boy was cited for possession of marijuana less than an ounce and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Compiled by senior staff writer Josh Funk

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Lewinsky book set for release

LONDON (AP) - Monica Lewinsky's book detailing her affair with President Clinton will be published on March 5, her publisher said Wednesday.

"Monica's Story," the result of Lewinsky's collaboration with Princess Diana biographer Andrew Morton, will be released simultaneously in the

United States and Britain, said Lorraine Tyler, spokeswoman for Michael O'Mara publishers.

Michael O'Mara, chairman of the publishing company, has said Lewinsky was drawn to his publishing house by Morton's involvement.

"She likes the idea of an author who is used to writing sympathetic books about women who have relationships with powerful men," O'Mara said. "It wasn't the money. She could have got much higher prices elsewhere."

Lewinsky has agreed to give her first TV interview to ABC's Barbara Walters, but it can't be done until Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr grants permission. ABC is hoping to run the interview during the February "sweeps" period, which ends March 3.

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MICHAEL O'MARA
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