

# Law & Order

## Rape trial postponed till 2000

The comedian accused of raping a Union College woman in 1997 may not go to trial until spring 2000.

Vinson Champ has been in custody in Lincoln since March 1998.

At a hearing Thursday morning, attorneys on both sides told the judge that the case must be delayed to address the complexities of the case and the wealth of DNA evidence.

Champ also has been connected to sexual assaults at Carthage College in Kenosha, Wis.; St. Ambrose College in Davenport, Iowa; and in Pasadena, Calif., where he was arrested.

Witnesses for this case are spread across the country, which makes it difficult for lawyers to take

depositions.

Physical evidence – including semen samples and the attacker's methods – link all the crimes, which occurred during February 1997 according to the arrest warrant.

Champ was performing at a number of small colleges during that time.

His schedule, blood type and DNA are all consistent with the attacks.

The Union College attack occurred on the evening of Feb. 2, 1997, when a 27-year-old woman was playing the piano alone in a basement auditorium of the E. Dick building on campus, court documents said.

## Women receive alcohol violations

Two women were cited for alcohol violations after they were caught drinking wine coolers in a residence hall lounge late Wednesday.

A Community Service Officer found the two women, ages 18 and 21, in a 13<sup>th</sup>-floor Cather Hall lounge just before midnight, University Police Sgt. Mylo Bushing said.

The 18-year-old freshman had a Seagram's wine cooler in hand, and the 21-year-old had a plastic cup of wine.

When questioned, the 21-year-old said no one asked for her ID when she bought it, so she thought it was nonalcoholic.

The 21-year-old was cited for procuring for minors, and the 18-year-old was cited for being a minor in possession of alcohol.

## Man arrested in stolen car

A Lincoln man was arrested Wednesday for driving a stolen car he had tried to insure and register.

Police found the 1998 Honda Passport that was stolen from Williamson Honda last October and impounded it Tuesday, Lincoln Police Officer Kathy Finnell said.

The 26-year-old man, who was arrested for auto theft, had a girlfriend call the dealership and ask about maintenance for the \$27,000 car.

When the police impounded the car, it had been fitted with Nebraska license plates reported stolen from a 1995 Honda in Lincoln.

Compiled by senior staff writer Josh Funk



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## Protesters draw attention to U.S. involvement in Iraq

BY TED McCASLIN  
Staff writer

About 30 protesters gathered at the corner of 15<sup>th</sup> and O streets next to the Federal Building Thursday, half of whom were holding individual letters that when combined spelled out, "End the sanctions."

The protest was part of National Day of Coordinated Protests to demonstrate against current bombing in Iraq. The protests were intended to bring attention to the destruction of Iraqi people caused by economic sanctions from the United Nations Security Council.

The movement was organized nationally by the International Action Center in New York. Other cities that participated included New York and San Francisco.

The protest, which lasted about two hours, was organized locally by members of Nebraskans for Peace and Food Not Bombs.

"What we're trying to do out here today is to draw attention to the fact that economic sanctions have had a devastating effect on a very large number of people in Iraq," Kevin Haake, a computer science graduate student and Nebraskans for Peace member, said.

More than 1.6 million Iraqis have died from illnesses related to sanctions, according to a 1998 United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization report.

A child dies every 12 minutes in Iraq because of the sanctions, according

"What's going on with the sanctions is really wrong."

BEN KNAUSS  
protester

to a 1998 UNICEF report.

"A lot of the problem is coming in with just sanitation," Haake said.

The sanctions prevent some materials used in sanitation, such as chlorine, from importation into Iraq because the materials also have military uses, Haake said.

"The goal of the sanctions is supposed to be to take power away from Saddam Hussein and the only thing (the sanctions have) done is to kill innocent people," protester Ben Knauss said.

"What's going on with the sanctions is really wrong," he added. "It makes me sick to think that over a million and a half people have died because of the sanctions."

Tekla Johnson, a history graduate student, handed out fliers with information about the impact of sanctions on Iraqi people to passersby.

"It's our obligation to make sure that our government is doing what we think it should be doing abroad and, if not, we need to protest that," she said.

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