

Wiggins waives hearing

BY JAKE BLEED
Senior staff writer

Suspended Nebraska wingback Shevin Wiggins waived his preliminary hearing in Nebraska County District Court on Wednesday.

Lancaster County Sheriff's deputies arrested Wiggins, 24, and charged him with sexual assault of a child Aug. 20.

He is slated to appear in Lancaster County District Court Sept. 22.

Wiggins and 22-year-old Floyd Brown are accused of making sexual contact with a 14-year-old girl living on East Pioneers Boulevard late July

25 or early July 26, court records said. The 14-year-old told sheriff's deputies Wiggins removed her pants and shirt and made contact with her breasts and vaginal area, court records said.

Deputies issued a warrant for Wiggins' arrest after a three-week investigation. Wiggins, accompanied by lawyer Terry Dougherty, turned himself in to the Lancaster County Jail and posted 10 percent of a \$10,000 bond.

Brown was charged with two counts of sexual assault of a child, a Class III felony.

If convicted, Wiggins faces up to five years in jail and a \$10,000 fine.

'Unusual' September date prompts security

■ Wyuka Cemetery has hired additional patrollers to prevent graveyard problems.

BY ERIC RINEER
Staff writer

Today's unusual date, 9-9-99, is leaving at least one local graveyard preparing for the unknown.

Security will be on guard tonight at Wyuka Cemetery and Mausoleum, 3600 O St., and employees will keep their eyes open for any occult-related practices taking place in the cemetery.

"Any time you have nines across the boards, or a day that falls within an unusual date sequence, unusual activities can be carried out in cemeteries," said Todd TerMaat, Wyuka spokesman.

"Typically, a cult-type realm of people will be active in these activities, or carry out whatever they do here in cemeteries," he said.

Aside from hiring additional patrollers, volunteers will help work the graveyard shift at the cemetery, TerMaat said.

John Becker, assistant chief of police, said the Lincoln Police Department would also be keeping

watch for any peculiar activities this evening.

"The LPD has now been alerted and will take precaution," Becker said. However, he said, no particular patrols would be planned for 9-9-99.

"There aren't enough officers to act on that," Becker said. "The gatherings aren't against the law, but maybe some of the activities that come about will be."

Becker said the extra security at Wyuka cemetery may have stemmed from a vandalism incident that occurred last month.

Thirty-nine monuments and two Italian angel statuettes were toppled in Wyuka's graveyard in August. Damages were estimated at \$250,000.

Despite the incident, other Lincoln cemeteries say they won't be doing anything out of the ordinary tonight or any other night.

Gerry Trout, manager at Calvary Cemetery and Mausoleum, 145 S. 40th St., said she wasn't aware of any symbolic meaning for 9-9-99.

However, she said, her staff would take some minor precautions.

"We should probably turn on some extra lights, or check it out a few times during the night," Trout said.

Linda Harris, a high priestess in a Wiccan group, said 9-9-99 had no parallels to death or destruction in her nature-

“The biggest relevance for this is probably going to be in computers, or things that are digital.”

LINDA HARRIS
high priestess in Wiccan group

based religion. "There's nothing negative about it at all," said Harris, a member of the chalice circle group. "The biggest relevance for this is probably going to be in computers, or things that are digital."

Some have said the succession of nines could be a signal to computers to shut down.

Computer shops contacted by the Daily Nebraskan had not heard of this problem.

Becker said he also believed 9-9-99 pertained more toward computer glitches, rather than satanic inferences.

"I thought it was linked more toward a cyber event - for computer systems and old software that shut down the software programs," he said.

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