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News Briefs

11-year-olds robbed of Mountain Dew, lighter
 Two 11-year-old twin brothers were robbed by teen-age boys in Rudge Park, 16th and Lake streets, Monday afternoon, officer Katherine Finnell said.
 A 14-, 15- and three 13-year-old boys stopped the twins around 5:30 p.m. and told them to empty their pockets, Finnell said.
 The teen-agers took 50 cents, a Mountain Dew soda, a lighter and the winning top of a soda bottle worth a free soda, Finnell said.
 The total loss in the robbery was \$1.50, Finnell said.
 One of the twins was pushed down in the attack and twisted his ankle.
 Police caught up with the teen-agers, Finnell said. They were referred to City Youth Aid.

Lexus stolen from car repair shop
 A 1999 White Lexus sport-utility vehicle was stolen from a Lincoln car repair shop after it was left unlocked with its keys Monday, Finnell said.
 James Maly, 48, left the car at Ming Auto Beauty Center, 5601 S. 56th St., around 11:40 a.m. Monday, Finnell said. The manager of the shop parked the car on the west side of the shop's parking lot unlocked with the car's keys inside.
 At 12:30 p.m. the owner saw two men walking by the shop holding a map, Finnell said.
 The pair asked the shop owner for directions downtown, which she gave before returning to the shop.
 About an hour later, the owner noticed the Lexus was missing, Finnell said.
 The Nebraska State Patrol recovered the car around 11 p.m. Monday evening and arrested the car's passengers, Finnell said.

Compiled by senior staff writer Jake Bleed

Independent film scene revives itself

■ The New York festival will feature a film with a Nebraska connection.

NEW YORK (AP) — A new wave has emerged at this year's New York Film Festival.

"After years of losing steam, independent American directors seem to have come roaring back," said Richard Pena, chair of the selection committee for the two-week festival, which ends Oct. 10.

Harmony Korine, 25 years old, is represented with "Julien Donkey-Boy." Kimberly Peirce, 31, was selected for "Boys Don't Cry." Twenty-nine-year-old Spike Jonze, a music video director, makes his feature film debut with the off-the-wall "Being John Malkovich." Kevin Smith, also 29, is back with the controversial "Dogma."

No prizes are given here, but the competition would be fascinating for the most unconventional movie. "Dogma," a satire of religion, has been attacked by the Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights. In "Being John Malkovich," Manhattan office workers inhabit the actor's body.

"Boys Don't Cry" is based on a true story about a Nebraska girl who passes for a boy. "Julien Donkey-Boy," filmed in New York City, is a grainy, impressionistic study of a schizophrenic and his family.

"It's important for any young director to try and make a new kind of film," Korine said. "I need to create images that no one else has done. I don't believe in traditional narrative."

The festival might easily have featured better known U.S. directors, with such New York fixtures as Woody Allen, Martin Scorsese and Jim Jarmusch all releasing new films. But Scorsese didn't have a print ready and Jarmusch and Allen didn't offer their movies to the committee.

"Woody had the opening night feature in New York last year and when we learned that they had (Pedro

It's important for any young director to try and make a new kind of film."

HARMONY KORINE
 "Julien Donkey-Boy" director

Almodovar's) "All About My Mother" for opening night this year it seemed anticlimactic to offer his new movie," said Michael Barker, co-president of Sony Pictures Classics, which is distributing Allen's "Sweet and Lowdown."

As one of the smaller major festivals, and in its 37th year, New York does have a long, personal history with favored directors. Almodovar, who has been included here often, on opening night referred to the festival committee as "family" and dedicated his new movie to an outgoing member, Wendy Keys.

"I'm still levitating," Keys, stepping down after 34 years, said a few days later.

Established filmmakers this year come from outside the United States: Spain's Almodovar, Britain's Mike Leigh, Canada's Atom Egoyan, Portugal's Manoel de Oliveira, Egypt's Youssef Chahine, Iran's Majid Mahidi, Finland's Aki Kaurismaki, New Zealand's Jane Campion.

A notable returnee is director Leos Carax, who in 1992 screened one of the great follies of the decade, "Lovers on the Bridge." Starring Juliette Binoche, Carax's film was then the most expensive French production ever and was so overwhelmed by publicity about its budget that only recently was it released commercially in the United States.

"Leos is a kind of high-wire act," Pena said. "And like any high-wire act there are sometimes little slips."

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 oh, I think I'll take it to LA
 oh, I think I'll get it done yesterday

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