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Wagner College football stars arrested for alleged burglary

By JESSICA SIMEONE

Torian Phillips, a star for the Wagner College football team, was busted for allegedly stealing jewelry and an Xbox video game from school dorm rooms.

A pair of star players on the Wagner College football team were busted for allegedly swiping jewelry, a video game and a pair of piggy banks from other students' dorm rooms during Spring break, cops said today.

Standout cornerback Torian Phillips, 22, of Lockman Avenue on Staten Island, swiped a gold necklace, a gold Playboy charm and an Xbox video game from rooms in Tower Hall on the Staten Island campus about 2:30 p.m. on March 14, according to a criminal complaint.

He was arrested Thursday and held on \$10,000 bail before his arraignment today in Stapleton Criminal Court on six counts of burglary and four counts each of larceny and possession of stolen property charges.

A second player, Otis Wright, 20, of Florida was charged with possession of stolen property for taking a "Tootsie Roll piggy bank" and a second piggy bank the same day.

Wright was busted shortly after his fellow students reported the crime, and an investigation implicated Phillips, who admitted the thefts.

Cops said Phillips admitted selling the bling at Victory Fine Jewelry on Victory Boulevard and the Xbox at a nearby Gamestop.

Both students been suspended.

Phillips had landed a four-year scholarship to powerhouse Syracuse before transferring to the Seahawks after his step-father became ill so he could help his mother.

He was a key player in their run to a Northeast Conference title and Football Championship Subdivision playoff victory.

Phillips picked the Orange his senior year of high school after leading Port Richmond of Staten Island to a PSAL city title.

"I'm very blessed to be in the situation I am in now," Phillips said of his transfer to Wagner at the time.

The 5-foot-9 Phillips had a huge year, leading Wagner with three interceptions and 44 tackles.

Wright, a special teams threat and running back, also had several highlight-reel plays last season, including a 90-yard kickoff return for a TD in a win over Robert Morris.