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### February 1996 Shawnee Sentinel

Shawnee State University

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## Rhino is here!

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"RHINO, THE IMMOBILIZER" is displayed by DAN YOUNG, assistant director of facilities and DAN HANEY, security supervisor.

Security Supervisor Dan Haney demonstrates how RHINO is attached to auto wheels.

Photos by Sentinel Staff

By Austin Leedom, Sentinel Staff

Students of SSU: If you are interested in your personal finances, and safety, read on: "RHINO, THE IMMOBILIZER" is now being used on Shawnee Campus to help insure safe and proper parking.

Dan Young advised that proper signs have been installed campus-wide so everyone can understand where they may legally park.

Look before you park. Facilities has erected proper signs campus-wide. The signs are in place. As Mr. Young said, "If you see a parking space up close to a building and it looks too good to be true, it probably is."

He said that, "RHINO, THE IMMOBILIZER" will be used primarily to save towing charges for people who park illegally on campus and fail to pay their parking tickets.

Towing will still be necessary for those cars parked in fire lanes and other safety zones, and for vehicles blocking other vehicles in.

Towing is usually to the East Parking Lot of the campus and the costs are \$45 for the tow. If the auto is removed to the tow company lot, there are additional charges.

Portsmouth Police have been requested to patrol the handicapped spaces and will ticket offenders. A city ticket is more costly than a university ticket and police may direct autos to be towed and impounded.

Parking in handicapped designated spaces will be allowed only for those who have state approved permits.

Call University Security, phone number 232, if your auto is missing. Security is on duty 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

|  |  |  |  |
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| Seventy Thousand Dollars And No Cents  |  |  |  |
| STANLEY C. BENDER<br>TRUST ACCOUNT<br>402 BANK ONE PLAZA<br>PO BOX 950<br>PORTSMOUTH, OH 45662 |  | 001588   |  |
| PAY TO THE ORDER OF  |  | PAY THIS AMOUNT<br>\$****70,000.00                   |  |
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| PORTSMOUTH CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT<br>OFFICE BOARD OF EDUCATION<br>PORTSMOUTH, OHIO 45662         |  | BANK ONE, PORTSMOUTH, N.A.<br>PORTSMOUTH, OHIO 44221 |  |
|  |  | NO. 0086207  |  |
|  |  | CHECK NUMBER 0086207<br>CHECK DATE 11/20/95          |  |
| Daniel P. Ruggiero, Trust Account  |  | PAY THIS AMOUNT<br>\$125,000.00                      |  |
|  |  | NON-NEGOTIABLE                                       |  |

By Doug Deepe

The Portsmouth City School District has paid over \$195,000.00 to settle a lawsuit filed against them in 1993, case number C-1-93-563, dismissed on February 1, 1995 in U.S. Federal Court, Cincinnati, Ohio.

The suit filed by R. Michael Osborne is being paid in annual installments.

The Sentinel has obtained copies of two checks paid to two local attorneys who agreed to forward the payments, on behalf of the school district, to William Kerr Shaw, attorney for R. Michael Osborne.

The first check, check number 80724, dated 2/23/95, was sent to "Stanley C. Bender Trust Account". Purchase order #96757, initiated and approved by Bonnie Johnson, Treasurer for the Portsmouth School District, cites that payment is referencing case no. C-1-93-563, per the settlement agreement attached.

There was no settlement agreement behind the check to support the check being written. The check was written in the amount of \$70,000.00.

A letter attached to the first check, written by Stanley C. Bender, a local attorney, states, "As per the settlement agreement mentioned in the above captioned matter, please send me a draft made payable to Stanley C. Bender Trust Account in the amount of \$70,000.00. I will make payment on or before March 1, 1995 to plaintiff's counsel."

The second check, check number 86207, dated 11/20/95, was sent to Daniel P. Ruggiero Trust Account and was issued for the amount of \$125,000.00.

Purchase order number 99702, initiated and approved by Bonnie Johnson, Treasurer for the Portsmouth District, again cites, as per settlement agreement, case number C-1-93-563.

A letter attached to this check written by Attorney Daniel Ruggiero, states, "As per the settlement agreement in the above-captioned matter, please send me a draft, made payable to Daniel P. Ruggiero Trust Account, in the amount of \$125,000.00."

I will make payment on or before March 1, 1996, to plaintiff's counsel."

John Welton, 1303 Lowry Hollow Road, addressed the Portsmouth City School Board at their February 8, 1996 public board meeting, and questioned the utilization of taxpayers money by the Portsmouth Board of Education to settle a lawsuit against the Board and its Superintendent, Garry Osborn.

The Portsmouth Board passed the question on to its legal counsel, David Kuhn, who asked Welton to put his question in writing and he would research it and give him an opinion later.

Welton then questioned the board as to where the contract agreement was that was to be attached to the back of the checks. The board never responded to the question.

In an interview, Welton provided a copy of a court suit he filed against Bonnie Johnson, Treasurer, Garry Osborn, Superintendent and the Portsmouth Board of Education, in a legal attempt to get the back-up documentation.

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Doug Deepe, Investigative  
Reporter  
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"Liberty consists in the power of doing that  
which is permitted by law." Cicero

The Shawnee Sentinel was founded in early 1995 by a group of journalism students at Shawnee State University who sought equal opportunity and freedom of speech.

The Sentinel has set new high standards of accuracy and fair play in campus journalism at SSU and has been the leader in unbiased reporting of the truth.

The publication has become the student's favorite newspaper and is very popular with the community at large.

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### Mangus, Best Thing Since Bubblegum

#### Sentinel Editorial

Vice-President of Student Affairs, Dr. Larry Mangus was recently written up by *The University Chronicle*. In the *Chronicle* article Mangus was made to look as if he is the best thing since bubblegum. Dr. Clive Veri indicated that SSU is extremely fortunate to have a man like Larry on campus, and that there isn't a problem that Larry hasn't tackled.

Larry was injured shortly after moving to Scenic Scioto County, while tackling a problem at home. By Larry's account, he stood in the middle of a brush pile, poured fuel on it, and lit it. The resulting explosion temporarily crippled Larry to such an extent that he was unable to run in the 'Big Race' that he so diligently promoted. The brush pile did burn.

Larry has tackled Clive's problems at SSU with the same foresight and tenacity that he used with that troublesome brush pile.

One of Larry's first moves at SSU was to move the black man, Mat Mathews out of Mat's office into smaller quarters.

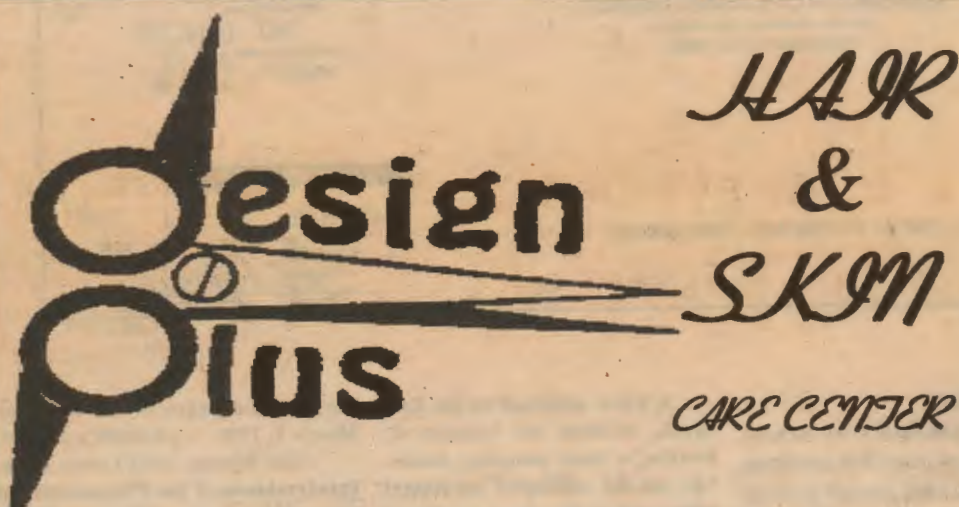
Mathews is an ex submariner and has acclimated rather well. Larry took Mat's office.

Larry followed this up with an attack on another black man, student Craig Bennett, and successfully ran that student's newspaper off the campus. At the time he told the black student that "your newspaper doesn't matter anyway." That was Larry's contribution to Black History at SSU. (Bennett was the first black editor at SSU.)

Not one to rest on his laurels, Larry soon moved on to the destruction of championship sports programs as we have known them at SSU. He valiantly led the charge to cancel all future athletic scholarships for SSU students. In doing this, Larry managed to run off Coach Tipton, the winningest baseball coach in the history of SSU. (Tipton is white, a little deviation from the norm, huh Larry?)

Larry has offered that sports programs will be fine because he is lowering the GPA necessary to compete. So, Larry, athletes are dumb? I don't think so.

He then attacked the Greek organizations. That's one fire that might not burn. Mangus is no friend to SSU students. ♦



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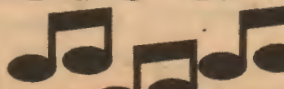
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# \$5 MILLION

By Sentinel Staff Reporters

Shawnee State University Professor Jerry Walke filed a lawsuit against the SSU Board of Trustees and six university employees in the U.S. Federal Court at Cincinnati, Ohio, January 30, 1996.

Named individually and in their official capacity are:

Clive Veri, President of SSU, David Todt, Interim Dean of Arts and Sciences, Ed Miner, Past President of SEA, and current Chairman Div. of Sciences, Stephen Donohue, SSU Legal Counsel

Larry Mangus, Vice President for Student Affairs and Linda Plummer, secretary.

Walke was suspended by Todt, without pay, on December 29, 1995, for failing to comply with a directive.

Walke was ordered to submit a revision of a course syllabus for Psychology 310.

Walke cites in his suit that the suspension was a violation of his United States Constitutional Rights under the Fourteenth Amendment and a violation of the SSU/SEA contract, Article 5.

Walke was accused by a female student of sexual harassment around July of 1995.

Walke has maintained his innocence throughout the investigation.

A sworn affidavit filed in the civil suit casts suspicion on the female who filed the charge on Walke.

Sam Howell, a SSU student, provided Walke with an affidavit concerning an incident that occurred in early June of 1995, which Howell overheard.

Howell states in his affidavit, "I approached Dr. Walke's Office in the Business Annex, I heard a very loud voice coming from around the corner to Dr. Walke's Office. As I rounded the corner, I saw a woman standing in the doorway to Dr. Walke's Office. I could not see her face as I passed the open doorway but I saw Dr. Walke standing behind his desk. While standing on the left side of Dr. Walke's doorway, waiting to see him about my spring quarter grade, I overheard this woman state to Dr. Walke the following, 'You gave me an A-? This ruins my 4 point. My husband is an attorney and you better change my grade to an A or you'll live to regret it.'"

Howell went on to claim that he had attempted to get this information to Dean David Todt but has not been contacted.

Howell claims that he wrote a letter and hand delivered it to Linda Plummer, Todt's secretary, but has not been contacted to come to the university to discuss his claim. Howell is adamant and has been very active the last few months trying to get this information out to the students of SSU and feels very strongly that Walke has been falsely accused.

Howell was a student in the class where the sexual harassment charge against Walke originated.

Walke claims in his suit that the sexual harassment charge is not the real reason he is being persecuted.

Walke states in his suit, "Plaintiff (Walke) proffers to this court that it is his belief that the Defendants in this case have been seeking a way to bring retribution against Plaintiff for crossing a picket line during an earlier strike between SSU and SEA, the union which represents the faculty."

Walke crossed the picket line back in 1990 and taught classes and claims that Ed Miner and Dave Todt are using the sexual harassment charge to "crucify" him. Dr. Walke, in an interview with the Sentinel stated, "I have proved beyond a shadow of a doubt through many years that I am a strong union man and currently I belong to our faculty union. I crossed the picket line because two of the defendants in my suit attempted to suppress my first amendment right of free speech during a union meeting."

That was something my union should have fought for, and I could not participate in them violating me in that manner and did not participate for that reason in 1990."

**"My husband is an attorney, and you better change my grade to an A or you'll live to regret it"**

Todt, as interim dean, ordered a sexual harassment committee be formed to investigate the sexual harassment charge against Walke during fall term 1995.

The final report from that committee, chaired by Chris O'Connor, charged that Walke had used crude and some offensive language during his class, but ruled that it was not to the point that it approached what was deemed a "hostile environment."

The report does not find Walke guilty of sexual harassment.

But, Todt and Provost A.L. Addington, with the approval of Stephen Donohue, SSU Legal Counsel, ordered Walke to undertake a formal sexual harassment training course.

Walke contends that he was not found guilty of that charge and he refuses to be ordered to undergo what he termed a "male bashing witchhunt."

Walke claims that males on campus have are treated different than females when it comes to sexual harassment.

Walke filed a complaint with the university against the female student who filed the charge against him, and was informed that his case would be reviewed after the female's case was resolved.

To Walke's surprise, he was given a letter of reprimand in December 1995, citing that he had been found guilty of retribution against the student.

Walke stated, "I was waiting for the university to contact me so I could bring my witnesses forward to confront this student and I never got the chance. I guess it will just have to be done in court."

Walke, who is a full tenured professor at Shawnee State University and has 36 years of teaching and administrative experience, claims that he has never had a sexual harassment charge filed against him prior to this.

A review of his employment file at SSU and calls to Ohio University, Muskingum College, Capital University, Urbana University, and Ashland University, prior employers of Walke, confirm that his records reveal no sexual harassment charges against him.

Jane Curry, OEA representative, who was handling Walke's case, is reported in the lawsuit as being told that the suspension letter delivered to Walke in late December 1995, was sent with the full intent of "shocking" Walke.

Demands against the Defendants in this suit are as follows:

- 1.) That Walke be reinstated to his teaching position after his release from doctors care.
- 2.) Expungement of letters of reprimands in his personnel file concerning this sexual harassment case.
- 3.) Compensation for medical expenses and deductibles caused by the defendants acts.
- 4.) Compensatory damages to be determined by the court.
- 5.) Punitive damages against the defendants in the amount of \$5,000,000.00. (Five Million Dollars)
- 6.) Reasonable attorney fees and costs.
- 7.) A public apology from all defendants.
- 8.) All other legal fees and costs to which he is due.

Dr. Walke is home under the care of a physician, who wrote the university and stated that Walke will not be able to return to his teaching duties until April 1996 at the earliest.

Walke stated to the Sentinel, "My love of teaching and loving my children are my two remaining meanings in this life and to be forced away from half of my life has been a shocking injury to my emotional and physical health."

I want to thank all of my students, former and present, that have called and written to me while I have suffered through this painful event."

Jerry Walke's phone number is (614)-574-6032.

His address is Lot 124, Crestview Trailer Court, Wheelersburg, Ohio 45694.

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## A Sentinel Service Feature

### Bubba's Used Car Guide

By Bronson (Bubba) Brownfield

We have been criticized at times for writing only hard, factual news stories that other papers fear to write.

To give our readers a change of pace I implored our editor to let us write a service article. After much deep thought and a few chords on his guitar, Editor Craig Bennett gave me the go ahead to write my words of wisdom about shopping for a used car.

You do not have to be a red-neck native 'Bubba' to use the tips below.

There are, of course, many of our well-to-do faculty members and administrators would never dream of purchasing a "pre-owned" vehicle and would rather be seen dead than be seen on a used car lot.

This article is not for them, but for the multitudes who often are forced to drive something less than the finest and best of automobiles.

Used car shopping is a chore too many of us are forced to do all too often.

What you are about to read is straight talk from a fellow who has sold cars, both new and used, and has experienced and repaired almost every thing that can possibly go wrong with an auto. It is written with the authority that comes with a long life of owning and operating too many old cars.

Break-downs, blow-outs, cars that fail to start, and accidents due to worn out equipment have taught me many lessons. Of course, these inconveniences occur at the worst possible times and places, usually in inclement weather.

These experiences have taught me to be wary when buying cars.

Many times we get robbed when buying cars, both new and used. To lessen your chances of your pockets being picked again when getting a used car we advise you to put together what we call the "Bubba's Redneck Used Car Shoppers Kit."

The kit consists of an ordinary penny, a small magnet and a flashlight. (You can find dozens of magnets hanging on the door of your refrigerator holding in place letters, past due bills,

report cards, children's drawings, etc.)

Before you go car shopping again take along this copy of the Sentinel and the Kit.

Also take your brother-in-law, or some other bum, with you. Perhaps you should also take along a four leaf clover and a rabbit's foot.

Some things not to do:

First: Never buy a car at night. You can fail to see too many defects in artificial light.

Second: Never buy a car in the rain. Rain covers many imperfections and on a test drive you won't hear many of squeaks, rattles, and noise that might warn you of serious problems.

Also it is hard to spot leaks in the radiator, power steering, transmission, engine, and in the fuel, brake and coolant lines when they are wet.

Third: Never buy a used car (nor a new one) from a man who has a phony smile and a fancy suit. If he looks like a banker, lawyer, college administrator or politician run, don't walk away from the lot.

When you find a car you think you would like to buy, be skeptical. Inspect it good. Look for dents, scratches, and signs of collision. Look for uneven

paint, blisters and paint on the chrome, the moldings and the emblems.

A repaint job many mean the auto has been badly damaged in an accident.

Now you can use your shoppers kit. Get out the magnet and run it over the doors, fenders and around the front and back lights. If the magnet fails to stick to the car you will perhaps find body filler putty that is covering up damage from an accident.

Make a thorough check of the body. Now get out your penny and check the tires. Place the penny into the grooves of each tire and if the penny doesn't go in up to Abe's eyes, you will need new tires on the car soon.

Check for uneven wear which indicates bad wheel alignment or perhaps bad brakes. Check tires for bumps or knots which indicate broken steel bands in the tires. Run your hands gently over the tires; you can feel the bumps or knots.

Now give the car the bounce test. Put your full weight on each corner of the car and then quickly let your weight off. If the car bounces more than twice, the shocks or struts are about done for and will need to be replaced.

Now open the trunk and look for water along the edges of the trunk and around the wheel wells.

Water in the trunk may indicate a collision that caused seams to come loose, or perhaps the trunk lid wasn't replaced properly after an accident.

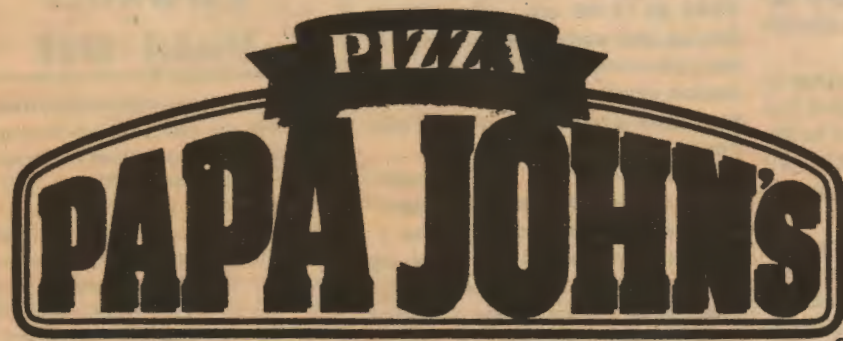
Now put brother-in-law under the car with the flashlight and have him inspect for leaks at the rear brake cylinders, the transmission, gasoline tank and fuel and brake lines. Have him check for engine and radiator leaks. While he is under the car have him check the frame very carefully for possible damage from an accident.

If your brother-in-law is portly and has difficulty getting his big body under the car, show his sister or wife or someone else how to jack the car up.

If your brother-in-law is a fastidious, tidy person who objects to crawling around on the ground put a copies of the latest edition of the Sentinel down on the oily asphalt for him to lie on.

Be sure he checks the manifold pipes, the "cadillac" converter, the muffler, the exhaust pipes and the tailpipes for leaks and rust spots.

(Continued - Page Seven)



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# BOWMAN DEMOTED AFTER FILING SEX CHARGE AGAINST DEAN

By: Doug Deepe

Tom Bowman, former Coordinator of Sports Studies at SSU, has filed a sexual harassment complaint against his former Dean, Jessica Jahnke, for her creation of an alleged hostile work environment.

Documents reveal that Bowman attended a Christmas party at Jahnke's home, with other SSU faculty members. At this party the documents allege that Jahnke came into her kitchen, where Bowman was standing, at which point Jahnke allegedly grabbed Bowman's buttock. This document quotes Jahnke as telling Bowman that, "she controlled his ass, (Bowman's) and would do whatever she wanted with it."

In January of 1995, after a meeting with Jahnke, Bowman wrote her a letter and stated the following, "I was very dismayed with the demeanor and actions manifested by you in the discussion which occurred on Monday, January 9, 1995, in your office. First of all, I did not like the demand that you made to me, "see me in my office." Secondly, I resent being accused of being a liar. Thirdly, I did not appreciate being touched in anger, and lastly I do not like being addressed with the use of expletives and to be told to "get out of my office."

Later in the document Bowman states, "In March you intimidated me into resigning from the position of building manager of

the James A. Rhodes Athletic Center because at that time you felt again that I needed to devote more time to the development of the program, which I conformed to your request."

Upon receiving Bowman's letter, Jahnke immediately fired Bowman as Coordinator of the Sports Studies Program and hand delivered a memo to A.L. Addington, Provost, on January 9, 1995.

Ed Miner and Bowman requested a meeting with A.L. Addington January 12, 1995, to discuss the dismissal of Bowman and to permit Bowman the chance for him to discuss the hostile work environment Jahnke was accused of creating. Bowman was told that Jahnke wanted the meeting tape recorded but Miner and Bowman did not agree to permit taping of the meeting.

Jahnke failed to appear at the meeting, but the meeting was held with Bowman and Addington, Miner was not present.

On January 13, 1995, Jahnke resigned her position as Dean of Center for Teacher Ed. as was reported in the university newspaper on January 17, 1995.

The resignation was without explanation.

Jim Arnzen, Athletic Director for SSU, wrote a memo to Dr. Paul Crabtree and requested that Bowman be reinstated to his former position as Building Manager. It's unclear if this recommendation was ever implemented.

After Jahnke's resignation, Dr. Scott Come, Associate Provost,

was ordered to pull the letter concerning Bowman from his personnel file and to shred it.

Bowman was put back in his position as Co-coordinator of Sports Studies as stated in a memo from Dr. Come to Bowman, dated Feb. 2, 1995.

From February until June of 1995, Bowman appears to have been trying to resolve his complaint against Jahnke in an informal manner, in an attempt to keep the publicity down for himself and for the sake of the university.

"I did not know that Jessica was lesbian for two years because of how she would 'come on to' Tom." Marlene Domo

On April 27, 1995, Bowman filed a formal grievance under Article X, Section 7, the SSU/SEA contract. Bowman formally charged Jahnke with sexual harassment, which created a hostile employment environment.

But, because of the manner in which the university handled the matter, Bowman was forced to file a complaint with the Ohio Civil Rights Commission, on June 1, 1995.

In this complaint Bowman again cites sexual harassment, hostile work environment, and sex based discrimination as the basis for the OCRC's possible intervention into his problem.

Bowman states in the OCRC complaint that as of June 1, 1995, there had not been an investigation into his charge against his former superior.

On June 23, 1995, Candace McHenry, Interim Director for the Center for Teacher Education, denied Bowman's grievance and within her denial she states, "Even assuming everything you said was true, it does not even raise a prima facie case of sexual harassment." McHenry goes on to say, "Furthermore, some of the relief you seek has already been granted. The alleged offender, Dr. Jahnke, resigned from SSU on January 17, 1995..."

The Sentinel has obtained copies of "CONFIDENTIAL" interviews of faculty and staff members of the Center for Teacher Education that appears to support Bowman's claim of a hostile environment.

Marti Sherman, Associate Prof. of Education interviewed in the Personnel Office on June 30, 1995 at 11:00 am, with Elinda Boyles and stated the following in her interview: "There was an occasion where Jessica approached me about a relationship and I told her I was not interested."

Marlene Domo, faculty member in the Education Department was interviewed on August 3, 1995, in the Personnel Office, by Elinda Boyles. She stated, "Yes, I absolutely have observed sexual harassment against Tom (Bowman). And I believe I have been sexually harassed as well."

Domo further stated, "Jessica was always commenting on how 'cute' Tom was, she did this a lot. In fact, I did not know that Jessica was lesbian for 2 years because of how she would "come on to Tom," my then husband observed this as well."

Nowhere in the documentation reviewed by the Sentinel are documents which reveal that Bowman's case was ever placed before a formal sexual harassment committee, for a formal hearing.

Bowman has since been hospitalized numerous times attributable to this event and recently was granted a medical disability retirement from the State Teachers Retirement System.

Bowman was unavailable for comment at press time. ♦ ♦

## Supt. Osborn Apologizes, Lawsuit Paid Off

A Wilson Elementary school teacher received an undisclosed financial settlement stemming from her removal from her classroom in March 1993 by Superintendent Garry Osborn.

Sandra Welton, a first grade teacher at Wilson, claimed to have been assaulted at the school following the revelation that the school was involved in cheating on a mandatory test for the students in 1993.

In her claim filed in Scioto County Common Pleas Court she sued the Portsmouth Board of Education and Garry Osborn and asked for \$150,000 punitive and compensatory damages.

In mid October 1995, two and a half years after the suit was filed, Judge Walter Lytten dismissed the initial suit. Welton was preparing an appeal to the Court of Appeals when the bonding company for the Board of Education made a settlement with Welton.

Mrs. Welton said, "I am very satisfied with the resolution of this case, in that I received a fair agreement from Nationwide Insurance and a formal apology from Supt. Osborn."

She continued, "It was never my intention to ever take money away from the children. What I wanted, from day one, was an apology for the treatment I received from the administration of this district. Had they apologized and returned me back to the classroom as I requested in March of 1993, this would have never been in the courts."

"My settlement is with the bonding company, not the Portsmouth Board of Education, therefore no taxpayers money was used to settle this suit."

Welton is currently back at work completing her 30th year with Portsmouth Schools. All her years have been at Wilson Elementary School. ♦

## PCS Sued in Cheating Scandal

By Sentinel Staff

Former McKinley Middle School Principal Michael Welton, has filed a civil suit against the Portsmouth City School system in United States Federal Court in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Those named as defendants in the suit are, H. Garry Osborn, superintendent, Board of Education members Otto F. Apel, Steve Sturgill, Robert Stevens, Phyllis Fuller and Walter (Skip) Hickman Jr. It is unclear if this suit alleges claims against the new school board members, John Adams, Rusty Miller or Jackie Enz.

The suit stems from Welton's removal from his position as principal, after he and his

assistant principal, Gabe Canary, notified the Ohio Department of Education that the Portsmouth City School District was attempting to cheat in a state mandated test for the districts school children. Welton is the fifth employee to publicly state that the district was in the process of cheating on the CTBS test in early 1993.

Welton's attorney, David Torchia, claims that the "Defendant Board is being sued for its custom and practice of retaliating against individuals who speak on matters of public concern."

Torchia goes on to claim that, "A plan was proposed to provide questions and/or answers to achievement tests to students in advance of the test.

Plaintiff, (Welton), voiced his opposition to the plan at the meeting. Providing answers in advance violates O.R.C. 3319.151 and is grounds for forfeiture of teaching certificate."

Torchia states to the court that the Defendants in this case were made aware of Canary's letter later in 1993 and that upon receipt of this letter a decision was made by the defendants to retaliate against Welton and Canary.

Torchia claims that this was a violation of Welton's rights guaranteed under the First Amendment of the United States Constitution for speaking on a matter of public concern.

Welton demands that he be reinstated to a administrative position, compensation for all lost income and benefits, compensatory damages, punitive damages, reasonable attorneys fees and costs

and all other legal and equitable relief to which he is entitled. Welton has demanded a trial by jury.

Welton is currently employed as a high school math teacher at Portsmouth East High School, a position that pays approximately \$20,000.00 less a year than that of his former position as McKinley Middle School Principal. Welton has been with the Portsmouth City School District for 29 years and is one of the most senior tenured teachers within the district.

Welton's suit is the fourth suit stemming from the CTBS testing breach. Sandra Welton received an out-of-court settlement for an undisclosed amount, Michael Osborne has received \$195,000.00 from another settlement early in 1995, and Canary and Welton's suits are now pending in Federal Court. ♦ ♦ ♦

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## BOY GENIUS AT SSU

By Theresa Miller

Cabin fever abounds, winter doldrums sneak upon us and terse snows threaten each new day.

All is not lost. Gardeners ALERT! Seeds have been spotted in the stores. Does this mean spring can not be too far away?

Time to start planning and getting out the seed catalogs. This year the seed houses have more beautiful and unusual new selections to try.

Burpee is introducing an exclusive variety of Verbascum named 'Southern Charm'. The stately plant is decorated with hundreds of flowers in shades of lavender, creamy buff, and dusty rose. Excellent as cut flowers. Verbascum is also one of the medicinal herbs that has been used for coughs and congestion. Both plants and seeds are available from Burpee.

The spectrum of sunflowers this year will make your senses spin. From deep red to the palest yellow, you will find one or more irresistible. Some sunflowers are now been bred to be pollenless so they can be used in flower arrangements. Burpee has 14 different sunflowers - everyone a different color or size. They also range in height from 3 feet to over 15 feet.

Hugh Lakota winter squash is also featured in Burpee. Once thought to be lost but now Burpee has developed a strain that is now available. The beautiful fruits of orange and green are excellent for baking with a sweet and nutty taste.

Miller Nurseries has an outstanding selection of fruit trees, berries and grape vines. Most notably are the Steuben and Alden grapes. These are huge dessert grapes with exquisite flavor and aroma. No spraying needed with Steuben and a cluster of Alden grapes can weight up to one and a half pounds.

Kiwi and Pawpaw are also featured along with gooseberries and raspberries. Miller's Nurseries also has the largest selection of apple, pear and peach trees that I have seen. Their fruits are noted for their cold hardiness and disease resistance.

Many seed houses are offering the old roses and especially the rugosa roses which are back in style for good reason: Rugosa roses are noted for their cold hardiness and little or no diseases. Bright red, vitamin C packed hips take over in the fall after the flowers have gone.

Inflation has also affected the price of seeds. Open-pollinated seeds (seeds that can be collected and bear true) can be bought from nurseries that specialize in this type of seed.

Most seed houses have at least one variety of open-pollinated seeds of each selection.

Most perennials, plants that "keep on going" usually reseed or spread by root systems.

Add a few perennials each year along with your annuals to make a lasting garden.

Pinetree Garden Seeds sell smaller packages of seeds at a lower price. If you need 25 tomato plants instead of 100, this may be for you.

You can find out about all the new varieties through seed house catalogs.

Addresses for seed houses can be found in many gardening books at your library.

To receive a list of seed houses, send \$2.50 to 1365 11th Street, West Portsmouth, OH 45663.

We will be testing some of the new varieties mentioned above in our test gardens this summer. We will give you a full account in the fall.

Till next edition, HAPPY GARDEN DREAMS. ●

By Theresa Miller

Many people say math is not their best subject. But, the summer quarter of 1995, Math 105 was at least enjoyable for a select few. Sitting beside me was a student of rare talent - a genius. Not only was he talented but encompassed an enormous sense of humor.

Without knowing, this 4.0 student got me through that class without the inevitable stress that math produces. J. B. Kizer is the student's name. What is so remarkable about this student is that he is only 11 years old. Yes, he is a genius. But, what surprised me was his friendliness and sense of humor.

Most people acquaint geniusness with aloofness and stodginess. Not J. B. He has lots of friends and a very out-going personality. Mrs. Kizer stated that J. B.'s father is also a genius and a wonderful person and that J. B. has inherited his traits.

Since J. B. goes to college instead of grade school, his friends are from around his neighborhood. Even though he spends time studying, he manages to put in his play time. J. B. also has a computer in his room to keep him busy and to gain more information.

"Baseball was a favorite sport of his several years ago," his father said. "Now he likes to get physical playing gladiators."

Playing the piano at age five is another feat of J. B.'s. Mr. Kizer said, "A piano teacher friend from West Virginia could not believe what perfect timing J. B. had." "He sits down and plays a piece every now and then," his father said. Classical music is his favorite but he also likes ballads.

J. B.'s last grade school class that he attended was first grade. Since that time he has been taught by his parents through home study. Mr. Kizer said, "J. B. is very motivated. We let him set the direction as to what courses he wants to take at college." Depending on what is being offered, J. B. selects classes between Ohio University and Shawnee State.

The type of classes that he takes depend on what is being offered at each university. J. B. is taking general courses for the time being. He is not quite sure what he wants to be but is leaning toward science subjects and research in the medical field. He tried to enroll at Shawnee State, but was not allowed because he did not have a high school diploma. So, J. B. went to Ohio University which gladly accepted him as a student.

In the summer time, J. B. and his father take trips by train to the west coast which usually last three weeks. Warm weather also takes them down to the creek behind their house. J. B. said, "It is one of my favorite things to do." They visit the creek just to meditate and enjoy the many plants they have added there.

This past December J. B. qualified for the Geography Bee held here in Portsmouth. Should he be one of the top 100 winners, he will go to Columbus for the state competition and then on to the nationals. He came in third in the state last year - so there should be no doubt that he will do as well this year. J. B. did not forget to mention that there is a top prize of a \$25,000 scholarship.

Because of his preparation for the Spelling Bee in January, J. B. did not enroll at university this semester. Hopefully, in the not too distant future, other Shawnee students will also be captivated by this charming young man. ●

### CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

After you get brother-in-law out from under the car take a close look at the engine.

Check for loose, cracked or worn belts and for leaks around the master cylinder and around the gaskets of the cylinder head and the water pump.

Look at the oil dipstick. If you see water or anti-freeze on the oil stick, forget this baby and find another car to fall in love with.

Check the fluid in the radiator and look at the inside of the radiator cap. If it is oily, the car may have a cracked block, a blown head gasket or worse. Anti-freeze and oil should not be mixing in a car.

Check the fluid in the master cylinder. It should be full.

Take a look inside the car for tears, rips or gouges in the floor mats, seats or headliner. Headliner tears are almost impossible to fix. You can cover the other damage with seat covers or new floor mats.

Feel the carpet between the pedals up front. If damp, you may have a master cylinder leak.

Check the floor in front on the right side up next to the fire wall. If it is damp, you probably have a leak in the heater core.

Check the rubber seals around the windows, windshield and doors for dry rot and cracks.

Inspect the car for evidence of general wear and tear and compare that evidence with mileage indicated on the odometer. If the rubber is worn off the pedals and the interior looks a herd of hogs has wintered there, and the odometer shows only 37,000 miles, look out.

The odometer has likely been tampered with by "run back" artist. A run back artist is the fellow who can take thousands of miles off the odometer in just a few minutes.

Although it is strictly illegal, many car dealers have such a mechanic on their payroll.

Now you have completed the inspection. NO. Not so fast. You have more to do.

Start the engine, put the car in neutral, engage the emergency brake and open the hood. Now put

your brother-in-law in the driver's seat and have him straighten the steering wheel and rev up the engine. Look to see if the tires are facing straight ahead. If they are not, either the wheels need to be aligned or the car has been involved in an wreck.

Listen to the running engine and try to hear any knocks, pings, rattles, squeaks or ticks.

Have your brother-in-law turn on the lights, check high beams, low beams, turn signals, emergency flashers, parking lights, license plate lights, brake lights and back up lights.

While you are back of the car look at the smoke coming out of the tailpipe. If the smoke is blue, it is an oil burner. If the smoke is white, water is mixing with the fuel and if the smoke is black, the gasoline mixture is too rich.

Black smoke can usually be corrected with an adjustment.

White smoke or blue smoke is big trouble; you do not want this car.

Now take your brother-in-law's handkerchief and place it over the end of the tailpipe. If the handkerchief is sucked in, it means valve trouble. Forget this baby and find another.

If the handkerchief is not sucked up, you can begin the test drive.

Now get your brother-in-law out and you get in, and adjust the mirrors, check the wipers, air conditioner, heater, radio, electric windows and interior lights. All of them should work.

At last you are ready to test drive.

Buckle up your seat belt and take the car out on all kinds of roads, dirt roads, rough roads, brick streets, up and down steep hills, around sharp curves. See and feel how it handles.

Check the brakes out real good. Brakes are very important. There is nothing that can increase your heart rate quicker than brake failure while going down hill on a three mile grade. It is an adventure, it is exciting and it is possibly fatal.

If this ever happens to you forget about trying to put the transmission in Park. That will not work.

First go for the emergency brake and then jam

the car into Reverse. That will do it. You may need a new transmission, but that is minor.

Check the brakes. If they pull to the right or left when you apply them, you have trouble that may be very expensive. If the brakes drag, squeal, or grind, you need brake repair that may be very expensive.

While driving make sure all the gauges and indicators are working. If you see any big change in oil pressure of coolant temperature, beware. This indicates big trouble ahead.

When you return from your test drive check the transmission fluid. It should be reddish brown in color. A burnt smell or any indication of metal fragments may mean big trouble.

Finally, check the power steering fluid and look at the power steering hoses.

If you follow this guide when checking out an auto and find nothing major wrong, you probably have a reasonably good auto.

Start dealing. There is always a tremendous mark-up in autos, both new and used. The dealer will take less than he originally asks. You can lose nothing but money if fail to offer to pay less.

If you do not pay all cash up front, do your own financing. Letting the dealer do your loan for you means you usually pay four or five percent more than you should, with the dealer getting a kickback from the bank or loan company.

Car insurance is the same scam.

You can usually buy insurance from your agent 35 to 40 per cent cheaper than the dealer sells it.

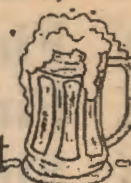
The usual kickback goes to the dealer from the insurance company. A good dealer who treats his employees fair will ordinarily give the salesman a percentage of the kick back money. One last bit of advice to prolong your car's life after you buy it: never let your brother-in-law borrow your car.



## TOP TEN REASONS TO ADVERTISE IN THE SENTINEL

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- X First time, Sheriff, Police and A.A.R.P. form Triad; for Senior Issues.**
- X First in cross training Deputies at SOCF in Shakedown & Cell Extraction.**
- X First Klan Rally in the history of Ohio without a single act of violence.**
- X First Scioto Co. Sheriff to provide an adequate level of equipment.**
- X Sheriff Sutterfield's Office has established heretofore nonexistent relationships with State and Federal law enforcement agencies.**

**"We have gained respect statewide." Sheriff Sutterfield**

# **Re-Elect Sheriff Sutterfield**