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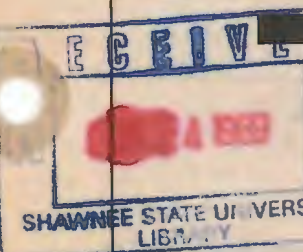
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2 New facilities will accommodate handicapped

6 SSU cheerleaders include men for first time

7 Lunch Box Theatre welcomes new or experienced actors



The Open Air

'Houses are built for you to hold councils in. Indians hold theirs in the open air. I am a Shawnee.'

-- Tecumseh, Shawnee chief, 1810

Shawnee State University

October 23, 1989 Volume 4 Issue 4

Portsmouth, Ohio

Amount of homework may be key to brightness

Portsmouth native returns to discuss math, science and society

By Linda Ygbuay
QA News Editor

Is the amount of homework the key to getting good grades? Can one's parents education determine how far a student will go in the academic world? Or does the environment one grows up in play the determining role in intelligence?

These and other important questions concerning education were discussed by Portsmouth native, Dr. Jon Miller, during his lecture on math, science and society Oct. 10 in Massie

theatre. Miller said that most of the student's fears about math and science are transferred to them from their parents who tell the students they

students were in trigonometry two, which would enable them to take calculus by their senior year of high school.

"Schools don't tell our students what to take," Miller said. "Courses are left up to 14- and 15-year-olds for self-selection."

That puts students to a disadvantage when they don't take required classes, he said, especially if they expect to go on to a pre-set program such as engineering.

who think math and science are difficult. he said teachers and parents believe this too.

"By sixth grade, teachers and public school systems, in most cases, know who will be in eighth grade algebra class," he said.

Miller said the talented-and-gifted programs many schools have separate very bright children from the rest.

In the U.S., he said, there is self-imposed separation into groups of students who can do it and students who will not do it. "Because of this, those five percent in the gifted program will probably get to calculus and the other 95 percent will not."

He said summers are "ill-spent" because when students have almost three months off, most do absolutely nothing. Having that much time off was good back in the old days when children had to help on the farms with harvesting, he said.

He said there needs to be restructuring in the educational system. "If we are to compete in the 21st century, we need to be as smart, as competitive, as the rest of the world."

Miller said that for every American baccalaureate degree there are 10 Japanese baccalaureate degrees. "Jobs of the future will be more technical," Miller said, "and they will require more intelligent people."

One area of concern Miller touched on was homework, again using the talented-and-gifted program as an example. One result that could be causing the "brightness syndrome," he said, is how much homework is expected of the children in the program compared to students on other levels.

Children on the higher levels were expected to do more than three hours homework each night and children on the lowest level were expected to do less than one-half an hour each night.

Miller said maybe it's not a question of intelligence but how much the teacher and parents are willing to expect a child to do.

With the additional hours of studying each night, any child would do better in any subject, he said.

Miller said graduating from high school is not necessarily proof of an education. "With a good chance, you can get a diploma -- if you can breathe for four years."

Another interesting opinion stated by Miller was that the U.S. has the slowest system in introducing and teaching new concepts in math.

"Our school system takes five years to teach long division," he said. "In a grade three level

See Homework page 4

■ 'Most American students, after some exposure to math and science, like it.'

-- Dr. Jon Miller

FOR REFERENCE

Do Not Take
From This Room



Photo by Linda Ygbuay, QA News Editor

Portsmouth High School graduate Dr. Jon Miller (center) is joined by Phyllis Kegley, associate professor of mathematics (left) and John W. Shupert, professor of mathematics, at Miller's lecture on math and science for high school students on Oct. 10 in Massie Theatre.

Theatre.

Miller said he conducted an intensive math and science study in several states with groups of seventh graders. He then followed the same groups to the sophomore level.

He said the first results from the seventh graders came when the groups rated their favorite and least favorite classes. Math and science led all the favorite categories for the seventh graders.

Yet, Miller said, by the time the group reached the 10th grade, only 13 percent of those stu-

were never any good in science or math.

"Students immediately assume they are not able to do the work either," Miller said. However, Miller said, "Most American students, after some exposure to math and science, like it."

Miller does not seem to think advanced math and science classes are only for the bright, even though many may think otherwise.

"Attitudes that have emerged are that these classes are too difficult for most students."

Miller said students are not the only people

New act to protect disabled against discrimination

SSU facilities redesigned to accomodate handicapped

By Latricia Sessor
OA Staff Writer

In a few weeks, President George Bush is expected to sign the Americans with disabilities act, a broad statement that will extend to the disabled the same protections against discrimination that were given to blacks in the 1960s and 1970s.

The Senate passed the measure 76 to 8 a few days ago, and the House is likely to approve it soon. The bill is a profound rethinking of how this country views disabled people, defined as anyone with a physical or mental impairment that "substantially limits" everyday living.

For the first time, America is saying that the biggest problem facing the disabled is not their own blindness, deafness or lack of mobility but discrimination.

According to an article in *Newsweek's* Sept. 18 issue, the bill was sponsored by Sen. Tom Harkin (D-Iowa). He said, "This bill is the emancipation proclamation for disabled Americans."

Under the new law, restaurants, stores, hotels and theaters can no longer turn away customers because of their handicaps. Employers would be prohibited from rejecting qualified applicants just because they are handicapped. They would also be required to make minor adjustments, such as placing a desk on blocks to raise it for a wheelchair user. The bill would also require public transit to be accessible for wheelchairs.

New buildings, or those undergoing

Latricia Sessor is a veteran Open Air Staff Writer. She is an SSU Social Science Major

reconstruction, would have to be made handicapped accessible. This would include shopping malls and all buildings more than two stories high.

The new library being built on campus has been looked at from every

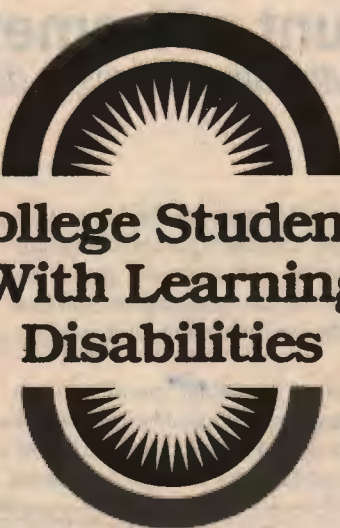
angle. The first plans called for a very steep incline into the auditorium. Dr. A.L. Addington, provost, brought this fact to the attention of the architects who then changed the design.

"It would have been almost impossible for a person that had difficulties walking or a wheelchair person to navigate," Addington said.

Mary Beaumont, director of handicapped and minority services, is keeping a close eye on the new facility. "Simple things like the height of lavatories and water fountains can make a major difference," she said.

The elevator in the new library will be large enough for a wheelchair persons to maneuver in and out by themselves. The present elevator in Massie Hall is not deep enough nor wide enough for a wheelchair to enter without assistance.

I hope this new disabilities act will help make the world accessible for everyone and not end up being little more than rhetoric.



College Students With Learning Disabilities

Disabled have rights under current laws

Physically or mentally disabled persons have the same right as anyone else to education, employment, health care, senior citizen activities, welfare or any other U.S. tax supported service.

Parents or guardians of a physically or mentally disabled child have the right to demand that a federally assisted public school system provide a free education appropriate to their child's needs.

The laws protecting handicapped are Title V, section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Public Law 93-112) and the Education for All Handicapped Children Act (Public Law 94-142).

COVERED DISABILITIES

Federal laws identify handicapped persons as those with a physical or mental disability that substantially impairs or restricts one or more of such major life activities as walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, working or learning. Persons who believe they have a disability, whether or not it is so, are recognized as handicapped by the regulations.

Handicapped conditions include, but are not limited to: Alcoholism, cancer, cerebral palsy, deafness or hearing impairment, diabetes, drug addiction, epilepsy, heart disease, mental or emotional illness, mental retardation, multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, orthopedic, speech or visual impairment, perceptual handicaps such as dyslexia, minimal brain dysfunction or developmental aphasia.

RIGHT TO EMPLOYMENT

Disabled persons have the same rights and benefits as nonhandicapped applicants and employees.

The person's ability, training and experience must be considered when applying for employment.

Their disability must not be considered -- unless it keeps them from doing the job adequately.

An employer receiving federal assistance may not discriminate against handicapped persons in recruitment, advertising or processing of applications for employment; hiring, promotion or demotion, transfer, layoff or rehiring; job assignments or promotions; leaves of absence, sick leave, training programs or other fringe benefits.

An employer must accommodate a disability, by reasonable means, such as furnishing a reader for blind persons, an interpreter for deaf where the job requires telephone contacts, adequate workspace and access to the workspace for wheelchair users.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION

A college, job-training or adult basic education program must consider an application only on the basis of academic and other school records. The disability cannot be a factor.

For example, the college or training program may not, require a pre-admission test that inadequately measures academic level because no special provisions were made for the fact

that a person is blind, deaf or otherwise disabled; inquire about any disability before admitting the student, unless it is trying to overcome the effects of prior limitations on enrollment of handicapped and the person is willing to volunteer the information, or limit the number of handicapped students admitted.

Colleges are not required to lower academic standards or alter degree requirements for handicapped persons. However, depending on a handicapped person's disability, the college may have to extend the time allowed for a degree to be earned or substitute one elective course for another; modify teaching methods and examinations so the handicapped person can fully participate in a degree program, or provide braille books or other aids if they are not available from other sources.

WHAT CAN BE DONE

Anyone whose rights have been violated because of their disability by a business, hospital, physician, school, college or any other institution receiving federal assistance may write, to:
Office of Civil Rights
Department of Education
300 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, Ill. 60606

Information furnished by:
Administration on Developmental Disabilities
Department of Health and Human Services
Washington, D.C. 20201

The Open Air

The Open Air, Shawnee State University's student-run newspaper, is a vehicle of expression for students reporting news and views.

Opinions expressed in the newspaper are not necessarily those of the newspaper staff, the adviser or the university.

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Alcohol is the most serious problem in Scioto County

Experts say addicts need to seek help

By Cindy Ann Gill
OA Staff Writer

It is a problem people like to shrug off by saying, "It won't happen to me," said Dr. Edward Scott, author of *The Adolescent Gap*.

But it is a hard fact that drugs are everywhere, even in the most elite and prestigious locations, as reported by Scott.

In his book, Scott said alcohol is the most serious problem facing public high schools and universities across the United States today. Eight out of 10 teenagers and young adults use alcohol; one out of five of those people will develop a serious addiction to alcohol and become an alcoholic later on in life, according to Scott.

Ed Hughes, director of the Scioto County

Counseling Center says, "Alcoholism is a progressive disease that can destroy a person's life." Hughes said that in the early stages of alcoholism, there is first a change in behavior: restlessness, resentment, irritability, fear and moodiness.

Hughes says this behavior change causes a strain on relationships with family and friends and a lack of performance at school or work.

After the change in behavior, Hughes said, "Next comes the problems created by drinking: possibly a DUI charge, job loss or flunking out of school."

The physical problems then develop: heart disease, diabetes or liver disease. The person's world is falling apart, piece by piece, but the amazing thing is that they do not realize it, Hughes said. "Alcohol seems to be

the answer for them -- they feel safe and in control as the need for alcohol progresses." Hughes also said the best words to describe alcoholism is "blame denial."

"They blame other people, places and things for their drinking and angrily deny they have a problem," Hughes said.

The drug of choice here in Scioto County is alcohol, followed by marijuana and prescription drugs, Hughes said. "Scioto County has a high rate of alcohol abuse," he said.

A lot of the alcohol abuse is due to the Appalachian heritage from some European countries which have a higher alcoholism rate, Hughes said.

Alcoholism is now considered to be a physical problem that needs to be recognized and treated. "If someone had cancer, they would

ask for help. This is what we see alcoholism as, a physical disease that they need to seek help for," Hughes said.

.....
CORRECTION - This advertisement ran with an incorrect phone number. The correct number is 800-950-8472 Ext. 20

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Photo by Cindijean Adkins
OA Staff Writer

Ed Hughes, director of the Scioto Counseling Center, (above) explains symptoms of chemically dependent individuals. For details contact Hughes at 354-6685.

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French girl welcomes life as an American

Differences in two countries are subtle

By Anthony Hama
OA Editor

She's a diminutive high school girl, clad in the latest fashions the times dictate.

Gerakine DeLbury is a junior at Portsmouth High School. The only thing that separates her from the rest of her classmates is her home across the Atlantic Ocean and the years of differences in the French and American culture.

DeLbury is from Burgandy, France, and is a participant in the Rotary Youth Exchange Program.

DeLbury likes Portsmouth and is making

many friends. But, she says at first she missed France and her family. The longing for home has waned after two months in Portsmouth, she says.

According to DeLbury, there are many parallels in the day-to-day lives of the two countries, yet there are differences.

According to DeLbury the differences are subtle, "... clothes, music, little things -- not very much," she says.

DeLbury says in France the education system is set differently than in the United States. There are some college prep classes during the high school years. Students attend Lycee,

the French version of high school, until the age of 18.

Then the student is required to take an examination, which according to DeLbury, is exhaustive. "If you do bad in a subject you must take that area of study over," she says.

She's convinced that once she returns to France the exam will offer her little difficulty. "In English I am very bad -- in other subjects I think it's good," she says.

She plans to go to Paris to attend the university. "We had an exam. I did better in economics than any other subject," she says.

At Portsmouth High, her favorite subject

is history. Of all the periods in history, she prefers the American Revolution best.

She claims not to have much knowledge of governments, yet she expounded on the 1992 opening of the European frontier common market. "It will be like one country; each country keeps its own money and language -- it's just for trade."

DeLbury says she is prepared to return home. She says she is optimistic about what the future will bring and is looking forward to returning to France to be with her parents, brother and sister.

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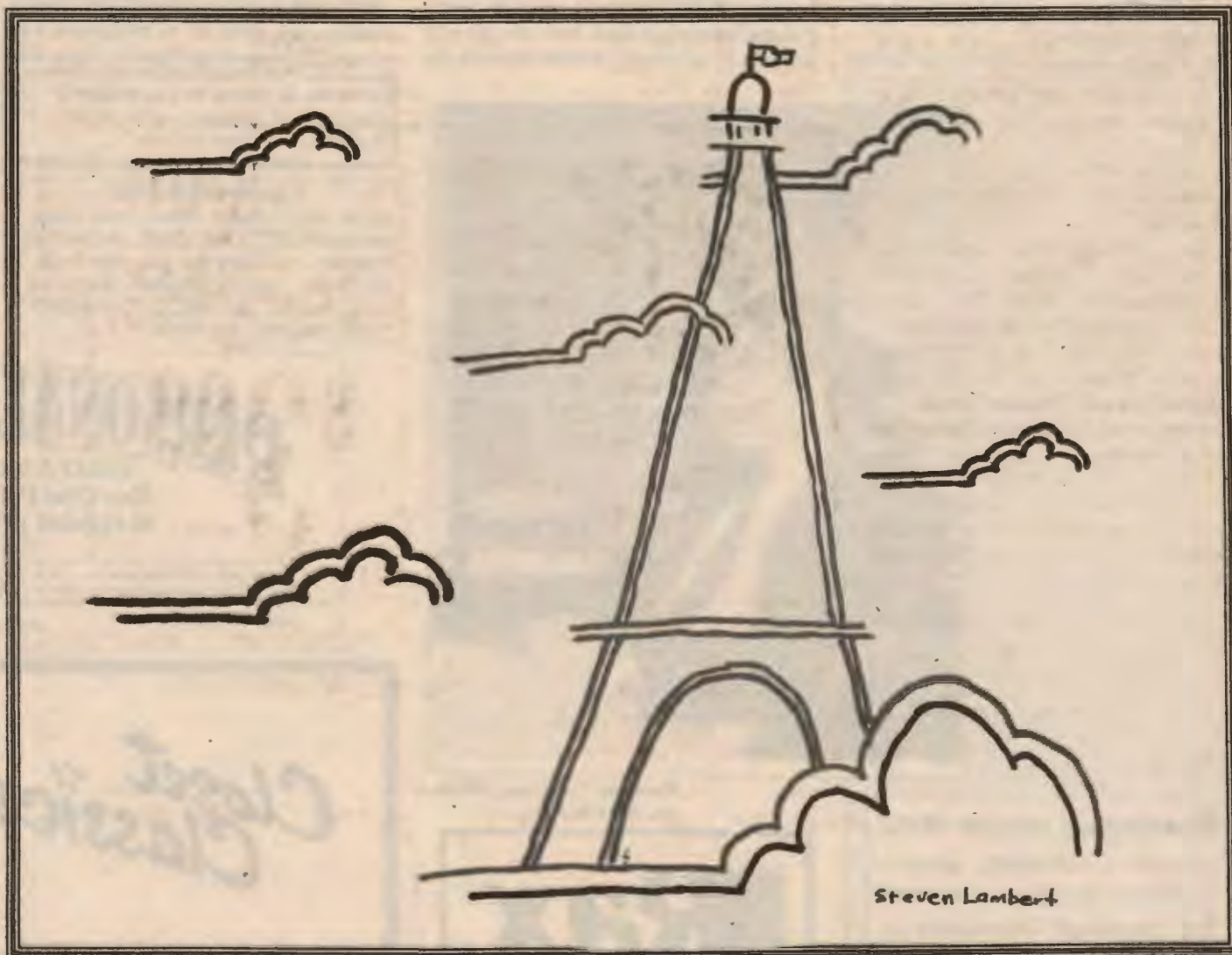
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University center partial financing approved

A \$3.25 million bond issue to assist in financing construction of the new university center was approved at the Oct. 16 meeting of the SSU board of trustees.

The total project is expected to reach \$4.6 million for phase one of the center.

The board authorized Dr. Clive Veri, SSU president, to investigate SSU membership in the Mid-Ohio Conference athletic confer-

ence. Veri will discuss the proposal with the student services athletic committee and the president's council before a recommendation is submitted to the educational policies committee.

The board also:

- Recognized William B. Coulter, chancellor of the Ohio board of regents, upon his planned retirement Dec. 31.

- Commended *The Open Air* for being awarded first class ratings by the Associated Collegiate Press.

- Approved submission of eight Pixley grant proposals to the Scioto County Area Foundation.

- Recognized royal blue and dove gray as SSU's official colors.

- Approved a policy and procedure statement for developing future SSU policies and procedures.

- Approved bylaws authorizing board committees. Included are finance and facilities, academic affairs, quality of university life and executive committees.

The next board of trustees meeting will be Friday, Dec. 8.

GED students complete summer preparation program

Aimee Hodge was awarded the GED student of the quarter award at the recent GED preparation program awards and recognition ceremony.

The general educational development test preparation program has held the ceremony for 15 consecutive quarters.

Sixteen participants were honored for their completion of the summer quarter session.

Bill Ogg, Scioto County commissioner, was the featured speaker.

Oggs speech emphasized the seven letters of "SUCCESS."

Students receiving certificates of completion were Carol Bingaman, Alfred Boyd, Rachael Brant, Kathy Brown, Joann Chatman, Ted Fitzpatrick, Michael Gulley, Hodge, Anthony Hodge, Kathy Howell, Angela Lewis, Betty Mays, William Price, Nancy Royster, Sandra Sanford and Christine Thomas.

Hodge received the student of the quarter award for demonstrating outstanding dedication and an ability to overcome obstacles in the completion of the program.

She was also honored for having the highest scores in the program's courses of math, English and reading.

Also receiving recognition for scoring the highest in selected areas were Howell, English and reading; Royster, English; Brant, social studies, science and math; Price, English and reading; Brown, social studies, reading and science; Bingaman, reading, and Chatman, reading.

Students whose test scores showed the

most improvement were Brant, English, social studies and reading; Gulley, science and math; Brown, English, reading and science; and Chatman, social studies and math.

Brant, Brown and Gulley also maintained perfect attendance.

SSU offers the GED preparation program, funded by the Community Action Organiza-

tion of Scioto County and the Private Industry Council, four times a year.

For further details, contact Jackie Evans, GED program coordinator, at 355-2298.



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Men and women Bears cheerleaders selected for 1989-90

Five women and four men were selected Oct. 4 to be SSU cheerleaders for the 1989-90 academic year.

Lois Rase, instructor of physical education and cheerleader adviser, said this is the first year SSU has had men cheerleaders.

She said the squad includes Tracey Davidson, Jamie Morrison, Lisa Haney, Julie Ann Hood, Julie Little, David Nelson, Jirawat Jeamvigite, Deacon Dzieuzawski and Kyle Chamberlain.

Davidson, a Hanging Rock native, is majoring in pre-radiology. She is a graduate of Rock Hill High School.

Morrison, a graduate of Coal Grove High School, is majoring in dental hygiene.

Haney is a graduate of Wheelersburg High School and is an elementary education major.

Hood, a Scioto native and a graduate of Portsmouth East High School is majoring in elementary education.

Little, also a Scioto native and

Portsmouth East graduate, is a pre-optometry major.

Nelson, the president of the student senate, is a Portsmouth high school graduate. He is a social science major.

Jeamvigite is a native of Thailand and a graduate of Notre Dame High School. His major is undecided.

Dzieuzawski is a social science-elementary education major.

Chamberlain, a Portsmouth East graduate, is majoring in education.

The Ohio University cheerleaders conducted a five-hour clinic in the activities center on Oct. 8 for the new SSU cheerleaders.

The cheerleaders will be cheering at all SSU Bears men's basketball home games and some away games, Rase said.



SSU Photo

SSU's 1989-90 cheerleaders are (front, left to right) Tracey Davidson, Jamie Morrison, Lisa Haney, Julie Ann Hood, Julie Little, (back) Lois Rase, adviser, David Nelson, Jirawat Jeamvigite, Deacon Dzieuzawski and Kyle Chamberlain.



SSU Photo

SSU's cheerleaders work out. Shown are (front) Tracey Davidson, (middle, left to right) Jamie Morrison, Julie Little, Lisa Haney, Julie Ann Hood, and (back) Kyle Chamberlain, Deacon Dzieuzawski, Jirawat Jeamvigite and David Nelson.

Cheerleader's new adviser

Lois Rase, who is beginning her second year as an SSU physical education instructor, is adviser for the cheerleading squad.

She is an experienced gymnastics and dance instructor.

Rase held an organizational meeting for prospective cheerleaders on Sept. 26 and a workshop on Sept. 28.

To be a cheerleading squad member, a person must be a full-time SSU student.

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■ 'Though speckled by violence and an abundance of obscene language, the movie managed to keep everything in proportion.'

An Innocent Man guilty of being great movie

Selleck proves himself versatile actor

By Anthony Hamm
QA Editor

Tom Selleck, TV heartthrob as Magnum P.I., dropped the sunglasses and Ferrari-driving playboy image to become Jimmy Rainwood in the remarkable, *An Innocent Man*.

Selleck plays Rainwood, an airline maintenance supervisor who is wrongly convicted of

drug possession and attempting to shoot a police officer.

Sentenced to six years in the Oroville (California) State Penitentiary, Rainwood must fight for his life and the respect of others. Completely out of his element in the pen, Rainwood is befriended by Virgil, a lifer who knows the prison system inside and out.

Although an unwilling student, Selleck soon finds the only road home is one of violence. Tainted, but not completely stained, after three years in prison, Rainwood sees the outside world -- only to be hassled again by the same two cops that put him into prison.

While I was comfortable with Selleck's role as a free-spirited Thomas Magnum, Hawaiian based private investigator-playboy, I was surprised at his ability to pull off such a serious role.

Though speckled by violence and an abundance of obscene language, the movie somehow managed to keep everything in proportion. From the ice-cold reality of prison to the fast-paced world of drug dealing, *An Innocent Man* takes the movie goer through a journey of trouble and the love of a determined woman.

The woman in Rainwood's life is his wife. She stands by him through

the prison years and backs him in his final act of vengeance -- a truly remarkable woman who demonstrates both strength and compassion.

Sentenced to six years in the Oroville State Penitentiary, Rainwood must fight for his life and the respect of others.

The movie is highlighted by brief moments of humor and tender love scenes. All in all *An Innocent Man* is a must-see for all those who are interested in good over evil.

TOM SELLECK

AN INNOCENT MAN



Arts Editor Wanted

The Open Air Newsroom Massie 411

Lunch Box Theatre

By Cendjean Adkins
QA Staff Writer

Students from the theater arts classes will be participants in producing, directing and acting in a series of plays noon until 1 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays.

John Huston, theater arts instructor, said the new Lunch Box Theatre will be held in Massie Theatre and will provide a foundation for the new theater arts dept.

Each 15 minute performance is tentatively scheduled and is designed to build a visual awareness for students, he said.

Students may receive class credit for partici-

pating in the program.

The theater will give both an opportunity for both amateur and experienced actors to participate, he said.

All persons interested in participating in the productions or viewing the performances are welcome, Huston said.

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Homework may be key to brightness

Continued from page one
math book, on most pages it has a 90 percent level of introductory concepts; that's compared with a grade eight level math book which has only 30 percent introductory concepts."

Two other areas covered in the lecture were literacy based on environment and parent education. Two studies done in 1987 covered these areas and the results were quite remarkable and shocking, Miller said.

The first study covered the literacy level in three areas: central city, suburban and small-town rural. Small-town rural fell more than

half below the suburban area in both boys and girls categories. Small-town rural fell approximately one-third below city boys and was one-third above city girls.

This, he said, puts small-town students at an extreme disadvantage in the job market in larger cities.

These results came from tests such as the SAT and ACT according to Miller.

The other study came from student success based on the level of parent education. This study showed a remarkable fact, he said. Students who went on to higher education showed that only .9 percent had parents who had less than a high school diploma, 4.9 per-

cent had a high school diploma, 5.7 percent had an associate degree, 9.6 percent had a bachelor's degree, 12.7 percent had a master's degree and the biggest jump, 20 percent had a doctoral degree.

"If the parents are teachers, more that likely they will place value on education," he said.

Also, parents who are businesspeople will place a high level of value on a business degree or training, he said.

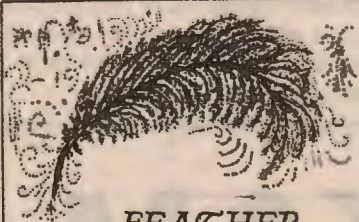
Miller said, "Don't tell a child that science or math will be easy. But, tell them that it can be learned and it will come surely and with hard work."

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Counselors at workshop

Tom Charles, director of transfer placement, addressed an assembly of high school guidance counselors and college admission officers at the annual Ohio Association of College Admission Counselors workshop.

The workshop, "Articulation-1989," was hosted by Columbus State Community College.

Charles and Susan Konoves of Columbus State, presented "Transfer Credit: Clarity from Confusion."

The program described how students can successfully transfer from a two-year college to a four-year college or university. The discussion included common pitfalls experienced by college counselors in leading students through the transition.

For transfer details, contact Charles at 355-2373.

Write for The Open Air for fun and credits

Coming Events

The Open Air staff meeting
Volunteers Welcome
Oct. 24, 1 p.m.
Newsroom, Massie 411

Student Senate
Oct. 24, 4 p.m.
Massie 214
Public Meeting

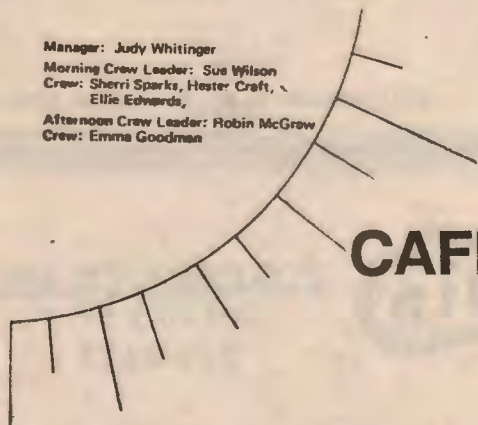
Car Wash
Oct. 26, 9 a.m. until 5 p.m.
At La Villa
Sponsored by LaTertulia
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Lunch Box Theatre
Oct. 30 and Nov. 1
Massie Theatre, noon-1 p.m.
Amateurs Welcome
Free to all

Halloween Dance
Oct. 27, 9 p.m. - 1 a.m.
Ramada Inn
Prizes for costumes. Refreshments.
Phil Malone D.J.
Free to students and guests. Register guests in Student Union by 4 p.m., Oct. 27.

Fiesta de la brujas (Festival of Witches)
La Tertulia
Oct. 27, 6 p.m.
Costumes at La Villa
Free and everyone welcome

Manager: Judy Whiting
Morning Crew Leader: Sue Wilson
Crew: Sherri Sparks, Hester Craft,
Ellie Edwards,
Afternoon Crew Leader: Robin McGrow
Crew: Emma Goodman



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