

Teen's Imprisonment Ruled Cruel

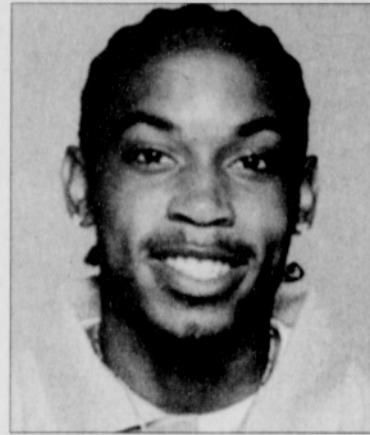
For consensual sex with another teen

(AP) -- Georgia's Supreme Court on Friday ordered the release of a young man who has been imprisoned for more than two years for having consensual oral sex with another teenager.

Genarlow Wilson's 10-year sentence was cruel and unusual punishment.

Wilson, 21, was convicted of aggravated child molestation following a 2003 New Year's Eve party at a Douglas County hotel room where he was videotaped having oral sex with a 15-year-old girl. He was 17 at the time.

Chief Justice Leah Ward Sears wrote that the severe punishment makes "no measurable



Genarlow Wilson

contribution to acceptable goals of punishment" and that Wilson's crime did not rise to the "level of adults who prey on children."

State Attorney General Thurbert Baker said he hopes the ruling will "put an end to this issue as a matter of contention in the hearts and minds of concerned Georgians and others across the country who have taken such a strong interest in this case."

Officer Sexually Abused Homeless Woman

Loses badge and placed on probation



Matthew Kohnke KATUMI/PHOTO

A veteran Portland police officer has lost his job and was sentenced to probation for sexually groping a homeless woman. In a plea agreement deal that

found him guilty, Matthew Kohnke, 33, pleaded no contest Friday to official misconduct charges.

He was sentenced to 24 months of probation and community service.

As part of the deal, he resigned from the force and lost his state law enforcement certification.

In a federal lawsuit filed earlier this week, a woman said she was living in a homeless camp in southeast Portland when Kohnke molested her.

She said he asked if he could search her for drugs or weapons, and pulled up her blouse exposing her breasts and reached down her pants and touched her sexually.

She was not arrested or cited. Court papers say three other women have complained about Kohnke behaving inappropriately with them.

He was on the force nine years. As part of his sentence, he will also pay a \$500 fine and perform 40 hours of community service.

Official Regrets Remarks

On black voters dying before old age

(AP) — The chief of the Justice Department's voting-rights division apologized Tuesday for saying that aging is not a problem with black voters because they die before they become elderly, unlike whites.

"I want to apologize for the comments I made at the recent meeting of the National Latino Congress about the impact of voter identification laws on elderly and minority voters," said John Tanner, voting-section chief of Justice's Civil Rights Division.

"My explanation of the data came across in a hurtful way, which I deeply regret," he told the House subcommittee on the Constitution, civil rights and civil liberties.

That wasn't good enough for some Democrats, who accused Tanner of policymaking and

analysis without facts to back it up. Presidential candidate Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., last week called for Tanner's firing.

Rep. Artur Davis, D-Ala., said that in the 2004 presidential race, for example, the same percentage of eligible black voters as whites cast ballots in his state. But of those groups, more blacks over age 60 voted than whites in the same age group.

Tanner, who said he too is from Alabama, said he was unaware of those statistics.

"You engaged in an analysis without knowing the numbers," Davis told Tanner. "If you are basing your conclusions on stereotypes rather than facts, then it suggests to some of us that someone else can do this job better than you can."

It is well documented that black Americans — particularly

black males — have shorter life expectancies than whites. A black person born in 2004 had an average life expectancy of 73.1 years, about five years less than for whites, according to the National Center for Health Statistics.

Rep. John Conyers, chairman of the full House Judiciary Committee, and other Democrats complained about Tanner's stewardship of the civil rights division's voting section.

Tanner has come under fire for clearing a Georgia law that requires voters to show government-issued photo IDs at the polls.

Opponents say photo ID laws will disenfranchise minorities, the poor and the elderly who don't have driver's licenses or other valid government-issued photo IDs. Supporters of such laws say they are needed to prevent voter fraud.

Time Changes this Sunday

Confusion over the change from daylight savings time to standard time may have caused some missed appointments last Sunday.

In the past we've traditionally turned our clocks back an hour the last weekend in October, a sign that fall is here and giving us that much-anticipated extra hour of sleep. This year, however, Daylight Savings Time has been pushed back a week to the first Sunday in November.

So set your clocks back one hour at 2 a.m. this Sunday, Nov. 4 and add us to the list of those who got it wrong in our last edition. We regret the error.

Ask Deanna!



Real People, Real Advice, Real Advice column known for reality based subjects!

Dear Deanna!
I'm stressed over my relationship and don't know what to do. My boyfriend plays mind games with me and I never know where I fully stand. One day he seems to love me to death and others he seems as if he wants to walk out the door. I feel suspicious that he may have someone else but I can't confirm it. He comes home every night and he may be moody or short tempered most times but at least he's at home. Can you help me figure out what I'm doing wrong? --Trinae; Dallas, TX

Dear Trinae:
You're making the mistake of wasting your time hoping this man will trip and fall in love with you and tell you what you want to hear. He's not connected to you and there's someone or something else pulling him away. He may be with you each night but his attitude and temperament indicates he doesn't want to be there. The end of your relationship is near and you should enjoy the ride and prepare to move on because the end is certainly on the horizon.

Dear Deanna!
My wife has become a stranger that I don't recognize anymore. She's defensive when I ask personal questions and always has a chip on her shoulder. I love her but I am not going to be mistreated, used or disrespected. She is pushing things too far now because she's embarrassing me in front of her friends. I don't know what is happening but her appearance, her mood and everything about her is different. How can I get to the bottom of these changes? --Anonymous; On-Line Reader

Dear Anonymous:
Your wife is showing guilty signs of having an affair. Whomever she is seeing has boosted her self-image, her confidence and she's become happy and bold. However, when she returns to reality and sees your face, she becomes deflated and rude which causes her to lash out at you over simple things. You need to be a real man and share your concerns, point out the changes and either accept or reject her explanations and keep it moving.

Dear Deanna!
I loaned money to my girlfriend's husband and now he won't pay the money back. I did this personal favor without talking to my friend first. He is now telling me to stop harassing him or he's going to accuse me of trying to sleep with him. I've been sending him e-mails to call along with text messages and I've called his cell phone. I thought I was doing the right thing by not mentioning the loan. How do I get my money without jeopardizing my friendship? --Miss CeeCee; Atlanta, GA

Dear CeeCee:
It's to your advantage to go ahead and write the money off unless you're willing to bring drama in your life. If there's no promissory note or paper trail indicating you loaned the money and it would be paid back, you're stuck. You're being blackmailed and it's going to get worse. Tell your friend about the loan, stop looking for payment and whatever happens in their relationship is not your fault because you chose to be honest and have integrity.

Ask Deanna is written by Deanna M. Write Ask Deanna! Email: askdeanna1@yahoo.com or 264 S. LaCienega Blvd. Suite 1283 Beverly Hills, CA 90211. Website: www.askdeanna.com

Car insurance with PERSONAL SERVICE. No extra charge.

At State Farm you get a competitive rate and an agent dedicated to helping you get the coverage that's right for you and the discounts you deserve. Nobody takes care of you like State Farm. Contact me. I'll prove it.



Michael David Holton, Agent
7223 SW Macadam Avenue
Portland, OR 97219-3076
Bus: 503-517-9090
www.michaelholton.com



LIKE A GOOD NEIGHBOR, STATE FARM IS THERE.
Providing Insurance and Financial Services

State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company • State Farm Indemnity Company
Bloomington, IL • statefarm.com



Who will be "Miss Black Oregon" USA 2008?

The Miss Black USA Scholarship Foundation is the premier African American Pageant. WE are looking for Miss Black Oregon USA 2008. We are Awarding \$3,500.00 in College Scholarship and the Winner receives A Year Reign as our Spokesperson for the Pageant, with Promotional & Endorsement Opportunities, Represent Oregon in an International Competition with many other consolation prizes; including a fabulous Two weeks all expenses paid trip to the Gambia, West Africa! (Ancestral Home of "Kunta Kinte" & Alex Haley)

Miss Black Oregon will compete in the Gambia, West Africa, for the Miss Black USA 2008 Title, \$20,000.00 cash prize, gifts, a Full Tuition College Scholarship and a experience of a lifetime!

The Pageant will be held on December 29 - 30th 2007!

At the Sheraton Portland Airport Hotel
8235 NE Airport Way, Portland, Oregon 97220

TAKING APPLICATIONS: MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH 2007, FROM 6:PM TO 8:PM
AT 10 N. RUSSELL ST. & WILLIAMS AVE * IN THE URBAN LEAGUE BUILDING

For More Info: Call Veronica Alberti
@ 971-409-8687

www.myspace.com/missblackoregonusa
www.missblackoregon.org
mbousa@yahoo.com

diversity in Print

Participate in Democracy

Return your ballot by mail or drop it off at any designated voter dropsite. Call 1-866-673-8683 to find a location near you.

The Portland Observer

City of Roses
Established in 1970
Volume XXXV • Number 40
Committed to Cultural Diversity
www.portlandobserver.com
Wednesday • October 3, 2004

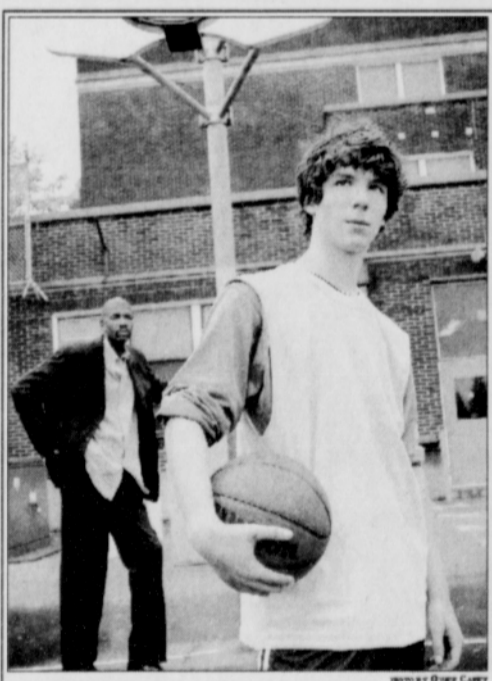
Week in the Review

Teen Record After Wilson
A 17-year-old Seattle girl who reported eight days after her car was stolen and tracked 2007 the down a car was later found. Wilson, which provided the information of a child car in her home, doctor visit. Less than a year ago, Wilson had been arrested for the same crime, and she's reported that she had the car stolen. She was arrested, but she was not charged. She was arrested, but she was not charged. She was arrested, but she was not charged.

Many Americans Quality as Working Poor
One in every five U.S. jobs pay less than a poverty-level wage for a family of three, according to a study by Georgetown University's Center for Labor Market Transitions.

Overlooked
Christopher Reeve often said he was not a hero. He was a man who was not a hero. He was a man who was not a hero. He was a man who was not a hero. He was a man who was not a hero.

Book Review: Laughed Off
Laughed Off is a book by David Shields and David Shields. It is a book about the history of the book. It is a book about the history of the book. It is a book about the history of the book.



It's his theater and his basketball court when Portland's Michael Hays (left) of Forest Park High and Sam Bane, a Great High School sophomore and professional Oregon Children's Theater actor, star in the production 'The Forum One-on-One Basketball Champion'.

Election Ballots On Way

People of color find a political fit

By Kenneth Cole
The Black and Latino voters in the Portland area are being urged to vote in the November 5 election. The Black and Latino voters in the Portland area are being urged to vote in the November 5 election.

Official ballot drop site is set for the 11th
The official ballot drop site is set for the 11th. The official ballot drop site is set for the 11th. The official ballot drop site is set for the 11th.

Professional model
The Black and Latino voters in the Portland area are being urged to vote in the November 5 election. The Black and Latino voters in the Portland area are being urged to vote in the November 5 election.

ONE-ON-ONE

Premiere bonds live theater to live basketball

Live theater and live basketball combine when Portland's Michael Hays (left) of Forest Park High and Sam Bane, a Great High School sophomore and professional Oregon Children's Theater actor, star in the production 'The Forum One-on-One Basketball Champion'.

To contact
The Portland Observer
Call 503-288-0033
or email ads@portlandobserver.com