

METRO/IOWA

Psychiatrist faces Iowa sex exploitation charge

Texan who had an Iowa City practice denies charge

Gazette Johnson County Bureau
IOWA CITY — A former Iowa City psychiatrist is charged with sexually exploiting one of his patients at the Mental Health Center of Iowa City.

But James Wilcox, 39, now of El Paso, Texas, denies the charge and says he is the victim. Wilcox is scheduled to be arraigned in Johnson County District Court at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday.

According to a memorandum filed last week by the County Attorney's Office, Ann Nicholson, also of El Paso, states that Wilcox was her therapist at the Mental Health Center from 1991 to 1994.

Wilcox moved to Texas in

August 1994 but, Nicholson stated, called her when he was in Iowa City briefly in September 1994. The two began a sexual relationship, she stated, adding Wilcox sent her letters that referred to their relationship. Nicholson states she moved to El Paso in February to live with Wilcox.

The memorandum also includes testimony from Dennis Carr, associate director of the Iowa Board of Medical Examiners, who stated he received a complaint from Nicholson about her relationship with Wilcox.

Carr stated he met with Wilcox last spring and Wilcox told him he had fallen in love with Nicholson and planned to marry her. However, Wilcox told Carr that Nicholson had left him after Wilcox visited his estranged wife.

Wilcox authorized his attorney, Karen Harris, to speak on

his behalf.

"Mr. Wilcox was engaged to Miss Nicholson and was involved in a serious relationship during which she sent him graphic sexual pornographic letters to seduce him," Harris said.

Harris called the charges against Wilcox "preposterous." The statute of the code with which the county attorney is trying to charge Wilcox doesn't even apply, she said. She said Wilcox was not Nicholson's therapist, but instead prescribed medicine for her stage fright.

Documents on file with the state Board of Medical Examiners — where proceedings are pending against Wilcox — indicate the female patient had been diagnosed with mixed personality disorder with elements of borderline personality disorder, passive/aggressive disorder and narcissistic traits.

Scooping the loop



Gazette photo by Lisa Powell

Rita Gassmann, a Five Seasons Parking and Transportation employee, clears snow from the sidewalk in front of the Third Avenue Parkade in downtown Cedar Rapids on Monday.

C.R. board cool to plea on calendar

By Becky Stover
Gazette education writer

For the first time since questions about the school calendar were raised last October, members of the Cedar Rapids school board have expressed their views on the matter.

During discussion last night, Doug Henderson was the only board member sympathetic to views of district residents unhappy with the scheduling of this year's spring break.

The break is slated for March 25 to 29, and for the first time in at least 12 years, Cedar Rapids students will attend classes on Good Friday, April 5.

"Maybe this is an area in the future where we can have some compromise," Henderson said.

LORI HAYS, a parent and supporter of a petition drive that asks the district to continue to recognize Easter as a holiday, was one of three district residents who addressed the board again last night. Hays presented more petitions and said signatures now total nearly 2,000.

Henderson noted that Cedar Rapids is the only district in the metropolitan area whose spring break is not scheduled on days surrounding Easter. He called for better communication when future calendars are formulated.

Iowa City schools will break from March 18 through 22.

Other board members said they considered it a good idea to schedule spring break the same week each year, the fourth week of March. The Easter date varies, they pointed out.

Board member Susan McDermott said schools across Iowa do not have a common spring break. Students need a break by the end of March, board member Mary Ann Kucera added.

NO BOARD members were interested in changing calendars already approved by the board through 1997-98.

In other action, the board gave first approval to a weapons policy proposed by the administration. Under the policy, students who take firearms to school will be expelled for one year.

Coralville police link man to C.R. robbery

By Cindy Hadish
Gazette staff writer

A man arrested in Coralville faces charges in connection with the robbery and attempted robbery of two Cedar Rapids convenience stores.

Daniel L. Hodges, 34, of 900 Ninth St. SW, was taken into custody on unrelated warrants just after midnight Monday when Coralville police responded to a call of a loud party. Police would not say how they linked Hodges to the Cedar Rapids incidents.

Cedar Rapids Police Lt. Joe Hanrahan said Hodges faces two counts of first-degree robbery.

He is accused of robbing the Kum & Go, 2743 Mount Vernon Rd. SE, about 4:40 a.m. Sunday. Police say the suspect in that case was armed with a handgun.

Hodges is also accused of attempting to rob the Kwik Shop, 3301 J St. SW, just minutes after the

Kum & Go robbery.

According to police, a man entered the store, displayed a gun and demanded money. However, the clerk ran into the office, locked the door and called police. The man left without the money.

Hanrahan said a third robbery Sunday morning at the Comfort Inn, 5505 Rockwell Dr. NE, is still under investigation.

A man armed with a handgun robbed the front desk of the motel at 2 a.m.

Coralville Police Sgt. Bruce Freeman said officers interviewed Hodges after being called about a disturbance at a home where he had been staying.

The warrants on which Hodges was previously wanted charged him with two counts of forgery, second-degree burglary, delivery of a controlled substance and being a habitual offender. He was also charged with assault while displaying a dangerous weapon.

Fees: Arrangement was changed

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sion benefits in Iowa.

In its recent ruling denying the fees, the Supreme Court noted that Shuttleworth & Ingersoll originally agreed to an hourly fee arrangement, then later advanced a common fund theory for paying legal fees, if the case was successful — meaning the firm would get 5 percent of the total award.

Streit and Kutzko made the 5 percent claim after the Supreme Court awarded the \$33 million, claiming it was a common fund from which they should be paid.

The Department of Revenue and about 40 retirees protested the attorneys' claim at a court hearing. In April 1994, District Judge Lynne Brady approved the claim and ordered the Iowa Department of Revenue to pay 5 percent or about \$1.65 million to

the firm.

The Department of Revenue and six retirees, including former Senior Federal Judge Edward McManus of Cedar Rapids, appealed Brady's order to the Iowa Supreme Court.

In reversing Brady's order and scuttling the large fee award, the Supreme Court recently said there was no common fund, that all 13,000 retirees are treated and paid as individual claimants.

Fifteen other states also collected unlawful taxes from federal workers. In those cases, Streit said, the lowest attorney fee allowed was 15 percent of the total award. For instance, attorneys in Arkansas got 15 percent of \$40 million, he said.

Streit said there will be no appeal of the Supreme Court's

ruling. As a result, Shuttleworth & Ingersoll will be paid on an hourly basis and receive about \$50,000 from the National Association of Retired Federal Retirees in Iowa.

"The association only represents about a third of all the federal retirees in the state, so there are a lot of people out there getting this refund without it costing them anything," Streit said.

Though the original Supreme Court ruling came down two years ago, Streit said none of the retirees has been paid yet. The state was waiting until the Supreme Court ruled on the fees question, he said. Streit said he's written a letter to the Department of Revenue asking it to begin making payments.

Court upholds murder conviction of teen

DES MOINES (AP) — The attempted murder conviction of a Clayton County man who attacked a youth with a machete after watching a movie in which a machete was used has been upheld by the state appeals court.

Shane Suomala had claimed the June 1993 attack on his 10-year-old neighbor came after he was drinking beer and watch-

CLAYTON COUNTY

ing men cut sugar cane with a machete in the movie "Delta Force II."

"Something came over me. I don't know what it was," Suomala said, according to court records. "I went into my room, and on my wall I had a machete. And I grabbed it and I went

downstairs and outside."

Suomala, age 19 at the time, was accused of attacking Zachery Walter, who lived near Suomala. The boy's skull was dented, and he suffered numerous stab wounds court records said. Part of a finger was severed. Suomala was convicted by a Clayton County District Court jury and sentenced to up to 25 years in prison.

DAILY NOTEBOOK

TEL • US

To answer today's question call CITYLINE, 363-7000 or 337-7000 and enter category 1111 between 6 a.m. and 8 p.m.

YESTERDAY'S QUESTION: Is a proposed constitutional amendment to ban desecration of the American flag needed? (125 responses)

YES: 41% NO: 59%

TODAY'S QUESTION: Would you like to see the U.S. normalize diplomatic relations with Cuba?

WHAT'S YOUR OPINION ON TODAY'S TOPIC? If you have a computer and modem, call FYIowa, (319) 368-8800, and share your views in the daily "Tel•Us" forum.

TEL•US is a non-scientific sampling of public opinion

TODAY/Nov. 28, 1995

CANCELLATIONS

For a complete listing of closings and cancellations, call CITYLINE, 363-7000 or 337-7000, category 2105.

MEETINGS

8 a.m. — Five Seasons Center Commission, conference room, Five Seasons Center.

8:30 a.m. — Cedar Rapids City Council, council chambers, fourth floor, City Hall.

5:30 p.m. — Cedar Rapids Civil Rights Commission, Human Resources conference room, second floor, Veterans Memorial Building.

6:30 p.m. — Cedar Rapids Charter Commission, Wilson School, 2301 J St. SW.

7 p.m. — Hiawatha Planning and Zoning, City Hall.

7:30 p.m. — Linn County Board of Adjustment, conference room, Administrative Office Building.

TOURS

Victorian Holiday Tours, hourly from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Brucemore Mansion.

National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, 9:30 a.m.; \$3.50; sponsored by Indian Creek Nature Center Active Adults.

LECTURES

"Etruscan Forgeries: The Arts of Deception and Profit" by Professor Richard De Puma, University of Iowa School of Art and Art History, 8 p.m., E109 AB.

"Sexuality on Trial: Homophobia, Religion and the United States Armed Forces" by Navy Lt. Dirk Selland, 7:30 p.m., Cherry Auditorium, Coe College.

BOOKS

Jorie Graham reads from her collection of poetry, 8 p.m., Shambaugh Auditorium, University of Iowa Main Library.

RACES

HO Slot Car Races, 6 to 10 p.m., HO Raceway Park, Marion; entry fee \$3 per driver per class.

CLINIC

Venereal disease examination and treatment, 2 to 4 p.m., Linn County Health Department, 501 13th St. NW; appointment required at 398-3551.

RECYCLING TRUCK

Cedar Rapids recycling truck, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Hy-Vee, 20 Wilson Ave. SW, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

LOTTERIES

IOWA LOTTERY

\$100,000 CASH GAME: 8-17-22-28-32

ILLINOIS LOTTERY

PICK 3 MIDDAY: 1-6-0

PICK 4 MIDDAY: 2-4-5-9

PICK 3 EVENING: 2-2-4

PICK 4 EVENING: 1-6-8-2

LITTLE LOTTO: 1-24-26-27-29 6-of-54 JACKPOT: \$2 million

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

MERCY

Nov. 27 — Karen and Chuck Moore, Coggon, a daughter; Paulette and David Fye, 1925½ Mount Vernon Rd. SE, a daughter.

ST. LUKE'S

Nov. 27 — Katherine and Gregory Bjornsen, 1205 Tama St., Marion, a son; Marcia and William Daily, Belle Plaine, a son; Ditchhop and Victor Phan, 3701 Sprucewood Dr. NE, a son; Dawn and Michael Seehusen, Anamosa, a son; Anuradha and Varadan Soundarajan, 2040 Glass Rd. NE, a son.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Frank C. Orr Jr. and LaRhonda D. Martin, Mark S. Dunmore and Debra S. Copeland, Timothy E. Hofferber and Carli N. Evers, Richard F. Johnson Jr. and Jane K. Weber, Todd E. Taylor and Kimberly D. McClure, Curtis W. Den Beste and Maheaba I. Baloch, Gary F. Pribyl and Linda J. Romberg, James L. MacIn and Karen C. Hoffpauir, Philip D. Lewis and Angela D. Johnson, Larry R. Hosford Jr. and Jennifer M. Shaffer, all of Cedar Rapids. Mark A. Davenport and Shelley R. Rafits, Bradford J. Deck and Sue A. Kelly,

Jonathan E. Gallagher and Mary S. High, all of Marion. Richard A. Blaine, Cedar Rapids, Mary A. Gardner, Marion. Larry D. Balster, Cedar Rapids, and Patricia A. Strawn, Van Horn, Ralph M. Price Jr. and Lisa A. Stocker, Vinton. Maximiliano F. Tomas and Lisa L. Bailey, Selma, N.C.

MARRIAGE DISSOLUTIONS

Sherry L. Patrick and George F. Patrick III, John D. and Robin C. Christensen, Randall L. and Nancy L. Hinrichs.

DEGREE-DAYS

Total for Nov. 21, 1995	38
Total for Nov. 22, 1995	34
Total for Nov. 23, 1995	43
Total for Nov. 24, 1995	42
Total for Nov. 25, 1995	26
Total for Nov. 26, 1995	21
Total July 1 — Nov. 26, 1995	1,344
Total July 1 — Nov. 26, 1994	973
Percent of normal year	20%
Total normal year	6,647

Compiled by MidAmerican Energy Co.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Degree-days represent the difference between the day's average temperature and 65, the temperature at which indoor heating usually is needed. The figure provides a way to compare heating fuel needs for different dates.

THE LOG

Information for The Log is collected by The Gazette from public safety agencies in Linn County. Charges are subject to review by the Linn County Attorney's Office.

DRUNKEN DRIVING CHARGES

The following people charged with drunken driving are listed with time and place of arrest. Addresses are taken from court records.

James R. Webster, 27, Mount Vernon, Thursday in the 1500 block of Sixth Street SW.

Randall L. Walton, 29, Alburnett, Thursday on C Avenue Extension south of Old Center Road.

Donald H. Turner Jr., 27, Springville, Friday in the 1600 block of Center Street NE (second offense).

Michael J. Urbain, 19, 3909 20th Ave. SW, Saturday at Highway 13 and Turner Road.

Larry M. Frederick, 27, 1204 18th St. SW. Saturday in the 1900 block of First Avenue SE.

Russell D. Collins, 48, 414 19th St. NE, Saturday in the 2900 block of Center Point Road NE.

Jonathan S. Cole, 26, Shellsburg, Saturday at Blairs Ferry Road and Miller Road, Hiawatha.

Gary D. Carlson Jr., 27, Anamosa, Saturday at West Mount Vernon Road and Arrowhead Road. (third offense).

Joseph A. Mull Jr., 34, Mechanicsville, Saturday on Highway 30 in Lisbon.

Mark R. Williams, 38, 4047 Bobolink Ln., Hiawatha, Sunday in the 1900 block of First Avenue SE.

Michael S. Sorg, 31, 923 Fifth Ave. SW, Sunday in the

1000 block of Blairs Ferry Road, Hiawatha (third offense).

Ashlyn R. Peyton, 27, 24 Leisure Blvd. NE, Saturday in the 200 block of First Street NW.

Debra S. Parker, 36, 1515 Linmar Dr. NE, Sunday in the 3600 block of First Avenue SE.

Eric J. Joyce, 22, 65 Aosey Lane SW, Saturday in the 1600 block of Sixth Street SW (second offense).

Glen E. Hemming, 28, 7607 Council St. NE, Sunday in the 3000 block of Sixth Street SW.

Stacy E. Bruckner, 46, 1611 Park Towne Lane NE, Monday in the 1600 block of Park Towne Lane NE.

Jeffrey D. Chambers, 34, 1758 A Ave. NE, Sunday at Sixth Street and 33rd Avenue SW.

Karin J. Condon, 37, Dodgeville, Wis., Monday at Palisades Road and Highway 1.

William G. Jones Jr., 45, 1903 Gretchen Dr. SW, Sunday on Interstate 380 in Cedar Rapids.

Brian A. Lorimer, 18, 469 Owen St. NW, Monday at Wiley Boulevard and E Avenue NW.

BURGLARY CHARGE

Tony W. Ball, 39, 114 16th St. NE; charged with first-degree burglary and assault while displaying a dangerous weapon; accused of forcing his way into Bruce Azinger's apartment, 110 16th St. NE, late Saturday and stabbing Azinger.

CHILD ENDANGERMENT CHARGE

Brian D. Philiph, 32, 2200 Clark Ave., Marion; charged with child endangerment and drunken driving; accused of driving drunk Friday with four children in the car, none of whom was wearing a seat belt.

WEAPONS CHARGES

Anthony C. Backstrom, 29, 365 Olaf St. SW; charged with dominion and control of a firearm as a felon, carrying weapons, and possession of marijuana; accused of carrying and concealing a loaded, .25-caliber pistol on Thursday in the 1200 block of Boyson Road, Hiawatha.

ASSAULT CHARGES

Tony L. Beets, 31, 1019 Sixth St. SE; charged with felony assault with intent to commit sexual abuse with bodily injury; accused of entering residence of a female acquaintance, carrying a knife, striking her and announcing he was going to force her to have sex; the woman escaped.

Dean R. Hartman, 28, and Gale Mittlesteadt, 22, of 3151 Grove Ct. SE; he is charged with assault penalty enhanced for prior domestic assault conviction and she is charged with assault causing bodily injury; he is accused of grabbing her by the arms Thursday at home and she is accused of kicking him in the face.

David C. Pei, 29, and Victoria Pei, 20, 2514 31st St. SW; both charged with assault causing bodily injury; he is accused of pulling off his wife's clothes and scratching her neck and she is accused of pushing him in the chest and scratching his neck on Thursday at home.

Michael Robertson, 24, 500 17th St. SE; charged with assault causing bodily injury; accused of pushing Susan Isaac, hitting her in the head and grabbing her around the neck on Sunday at the 17th Street SE address.