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G. P. Wene* (gpwene2011@hotmail.com), Department of Mathematics, The University of Texas at San Antonio, One UTSA Circle, San Antonio, TX 78249-0624. *Third Power Association In Finite semifields*. Preliminary report.

R. H. Oehmke [1] showed that a finite semifield S , characteristic not two, that satisfies the reflexive relation

$$(a,b,a) = 0$$

for all a, b in S , is commutative. The reflexive relation implies the association of cubes:

$$(a,a,a) = 0$$

for all elements a of the semifield. We ask "Does the association of cubes imply commutativity in finite semifields not of characteristic two?" Our preliminary result suggest a positive answer to this question. [1] R. H. Oehmke, On finite division rings, Proc. Amer. Math. Soc. 79 (1980), 174-176. (Received August 31, 2011)