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SLU Student on Kenya Program Charged With Drug Possession

By Michele A Fazekas

A St. Lawrence University student spending a semester in Kenya was arrested late last month and charged with possession of marijuana.

Frank Vernon Wright V ('92) pleaded guilty to the charges after he was arrested on Sunday, October 21 by three plain clothes officers. Wright was found with the equivalent of ten joints of marijuana in his possession.

According to David Hornung, director of international education at SLU, Wright spent three nights at a jail in Karen, a suburb of Nairobi. Wright received a fine of approximately \$100 and was then released. He returned to the United States on Friday, October 26.

Wright said that the Kenyan police did not allow him to contact anyone until the Monday after his arrest.

"It was so hard being in prison, totally powerless," said Wright.

Although there have been no repercussions from the Kenyan government as yet, Hornung said that the incident still presents a big worry for the program.

"When our students go to other countries, if they violate the laws of that country they really can put the whole program in jeopardy," said

Hornung.

According to Peter

**'It was so hard
being in
prison...'**

FitzRandolph, dean of student affairs, Wright has been

suspended from St. Lawrence for the rest of the year.

"I hope that the school does not make an example of me, and will handle it [the incident] with normal policy," said Wright.

"I admit that I made some serious mistakes; I am aware of what I have done and I am truly sorry," he said.

Peterson Picks On Pipeline

By Kim Cattat

The recent commotion over the high pressure gas line that runs through Canton and by several St. Lawrence University off-campus residences has sparked SLU administration into taking a stand.

President Patti McGill Peterson sent a letter to the president of the St. Lawrence Gas Company, conveying several of the administration's views.

The following recommendations were included in the letter:

1). "If you have not already done so, we would suggest High Pressure Gas Line markers along the pipeline route to warn of the presence of the pipeline. We would assume that the nature of the markers and their placement would be discussed with the appropriate village officials.

2). "In the area of the pipeline we suggest a ban on the practice of utilizing a 'torpedo' under roadways to provide for utilities service. We understand such a practice can increase the possibility of rupturing a line during such construction. Such a ban may fall under the control of the Village of Canton and, therefore, I am also forwarding a copy of this letter to appropriate village officials.

3). "We suggest that some automatic shutoff or at least a remote controlled shutoff be considered in the Gypsy Lane/State Street area as a



PROTEST STAGED: Citizens and students rally for freedom and peace outside Colclough trial

Photo by Mirja Laukkanen

precaution in the event of a line rupture. We are not, of course, versed in the technology available in this area, but conceptually the idea of more responsive shutoff capability is certainly appealing.

4). "We suggest the establishment of continuing education programs for the general public and excavators to provide a better understanding of the issues related to pipeline safety."

The letter was sent as a response to the concerns of the University community. Copies of the letter were also sent to Marilyn Mintener, mayor of Canton, and Charles Carvel, Village Superintendent.

J-Board Makes Changes

By Wells Blaxter
Kim Cattat

"We're trying to revamp J-Board and make it a very positive board," said Nick Klose ('91), chief justice of the student judiciary board.

Klose believes education is the main focus of this year's J-Board. Klose feels cases in the past have been heard but then not followed up on. As a result, Klose and the other justices are concentrating on the actions of individuals after the actual hearings are over.

J-Board has employed new sanctions that entail education and follow-up after the actual hearing is complete. For example, J-Board may require a student to make a

presentation on fire safety after violating the fire code, or a student may have to participate in an alcohol education program, by facilitating and organizing alcohol programs, after violating the university alcohol policy.

"Follow-ups are done through an extensive paperwork system in which students are given specific due dates for when completion is required," said Klose. "We have an extensive file on every sanction imposed and when they are due."

"Sanctions that are not completed result in a referral back to the J-Board," said Klose. "When students are called back they will go through the same system

they went through before."

"We are presently working on new creative sanctions for cases that are called back," he said.

Klose also said publicity of specific J-Board cases is essential to the effectiveness of the judicial system at SLU. "We want to send a message not only to those who have done something but also to those who are thinking about doing something," said Klose.

Klose and Peter FitzRandolph, dean of student affairs, both feel that the members of the St. Lawrence University community have a right to know what is going on around campus. Said FitzRandolph, "It is very important to have the actions of the J-Board made public. Part of the value of the judicial system is publicizing events so that the community at large can understand more clearly what the sanctions are and what is acceptable behavior."

According to FitzRandolph, the cases brought before the board this year so far have encompassed a variety of violations such as personal assault, destruction of property, verbal harassment, and theft from the bookstore.

The overwhelming factor that has been present in every J-Board incident has been alcohol. According to Klose, "Every one of the cases we've had so far has involved alcohol in some way."

Of the eight cases heard so far only two have involved upperclassmen, according to Klose. He said, "The board is concerned about this primarily. See J-BOARD, Page 5