

Keddie case reheard

After rehearing oral arguments August 13, U.S. District Court Judge Michael Sheridan again has taken under advisement the University's motion to dismiss Wells Keddie's \$70,000 tenure suit against the University.

Keddie's attorney, Fred Speaker, said he has no idea when a decision will be reached.

Keddie, a former assistant professor of labor studies at the University, filed suit Nov. 20 on the grounds that his tenure denial in June 1971 was in violation of his First and Fourteenth Amendment rights.

In his suit Keddie claims the reasons he was denied tenure

were because of his attempts to form a union to initiate collective bargaining with the University and his support of radical University groups such as Students for a Democratic Society and generally his criticism of the University.

The suit names the University, University President John W. Oswald, Dean of the College of the Liberal Arts Stanley F. Paulson and five John Does, members of the ad hoc faculty committee who were responsible for the tenure denial, as defendants.

The University filed a motion to dismiss Keddie's suit Dec. 18, after which arguments were heard on the motion Feb. 5.

But Speaker said Sheridan needed additional information to answer eight questions he had concerning "the nature of the University and types of federal jurisdiction."

"All we can do now is just wait," Speaker said. "I'm neither optimistic or pessimistic."

Lowenstein talk

The number seven man on the White House "enemies list," Allard Lowenstein, is scheduled to speak 8 p.m. Saturday in Schwab as part of the Orientation program.

Lowenstein, former New York insurgent Congressman, appeared here in May as part of Colloquy, but only was able to address a small audience in the HUB because he arrived late.

The controversial former Congressman is past chairman of Americans for Democratic Action. In 1970 Lowenstein was defeated in his re-election bid by Norman Lent, who

was nominated President Nixon for the Nobel Peace Prize.

Throughout 1971 and 1972 Lowenstein, an outspoken critic of the Vietnam war, was involved in the nationwide "Register for Peace" effort, which earned him a place on the "enemies list."

In May, Lowenstein resigned his ADA chairmanship although he has continued to speak and travel widely, retaining his interest and involvement in national causes.

Lowenstein has been rumored as a possible contender for the seat of Sen. Jacob Javits, R-N. Y., who is up for re-election next year.

Mast discusses legal problems

By RICK NELSON
Collegian City Editor

Have a legal problem? "We'll try to help you with anything you can get into," Yates Mast, University legal adviser, told a group of about 20 students yesterday.

At an orientation meeting in Thompson, Mast described everything from the effects of the change in the age of majority to legal problems in which students might find themselves involved in town.

The change of the age of majority in Pennsylvania is not really a change at all, Mast explained. He said that, while surrounding states simply lowered the age of majority to 18 in all cases, Pennsylvania kept it at 21 and lowered it to 18 in most cases.

He said 19 separate laws were passed allowing 18 year olds to become jurists, fireman, policemen, driver education instructors, school board members or even district attorneys, assuming an 18 year old could have completed law school.

He said one ruling not beneficial to 18-year-olds is that they are now eligible for taxation. "If you become known in this town, local Tax Collector (Paul) Bender will clip you for about \$23 a year," he said.

He said one way to avoid local taxation is to prove

residency in another community by producing a tax receipt from that community.

He said that showing poverty or a net flow of funds of less than \$1800 per year is another means of avoiding taxation. He said a case for poverty must be presented to the school board.

Another area affected by new laws regarding the age of majority is the ability to enter into contracts. Mast said this area is important in dealing with "a group of landlords and merchants who in my opinion prey upon students."

He said that, while before the ruling minors could not be held to contracts, 18-year-olds now are bound by them.

He cited as an example of possible trouble that students renting apartments under most leases are "jointly and severally responsible." This means that if four men leave a five-man apartment, the man left is financially responsible for the entire apartment.

He said some students have inadvertently signed leases that require 90-day notice before the lease expires to prevent automatic renewal and find themselves financially responsible for \$2,000 leases.

He mentioned the drinking age as one area in which the age of majority has not changed. Kevin Smith, head of the Undergraduate Student

Government Department of Legal Affairs, said at the meeting five or six people are arrested each week for underage drinking in State College.

As an example of other instances in which the age of majority has not changed, Mast said, "The University and the state have a lot of strange rules where the age of majority is still 21."

He said although a student over 21 can claim in-state residence for tuition purposes if he has resided in the state one year without attending school, a student under 21 has his residency imputed to that of his parents.

Aside from the age of majority question, Mast cited the case of a University of Pittsburgh student, a Pennsylvania resident, who married a man from Texas and had her residency reclassified as out-of-state by the University.

Mast said income as well as residency can be imputed for people under 21. He said although a parent might not contribute financially to a student's education, the student would not be eligible for financial aid if the parent's income were high enough.

Mast also cited drug laws as a possible source of legal problems.

He said a new Pennsylvania law outlaws possession of 138 drugs, including quaaludes. Penalties for possession could range from \$2,000 fines to three years imprisonment, Mast said.

He noted possession with intent to deliver is punishable by a prison sentence of up to 15 years.

Mast cited shoplifting as another possible source of legal trouble. He said two elements are necessary for a shoplifting:

actually taking an object and the intent to steal it.


He said if a person accidentally carries something out of a store, the person probably will not be convicted unless he admits guilt.

Smith said some stores have forms they encourage people suspected of shoplifting to sign. He said these forms are actually confessions. Mast added, "I encourage you never to plead guilty until you've thought about it."

He said writing checks is another possible source of trouble and advised students to make sure there is money in their accounts to cover checks.

He said merchants will have students arrested for writing bad checks, resulting in a \$50 fine rather than in paying the merchant the amount of the check.

Finally, Mast cited legal problems among students themselves. "Students sue each other all the time," he said.




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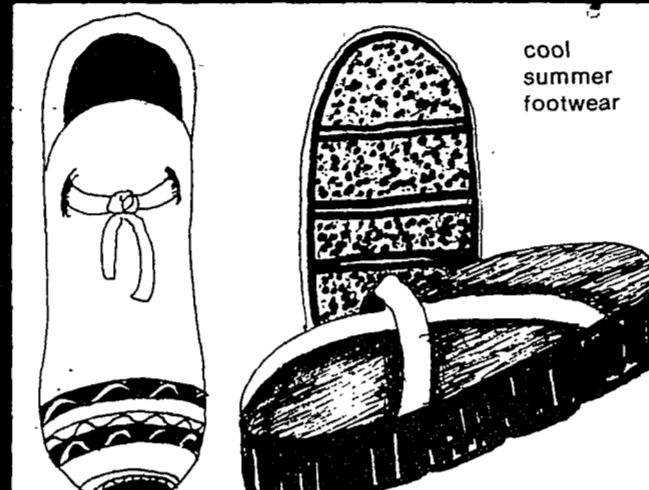
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