

Weather
Partly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of thunderstorms. Details, Page 2-A.

Sarasota Herald-Tribune®

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Today's Chuckle
Advice to newlyweds: enjoy yourselves; it's later on you'll think.

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Another Former Client Files Suit Against Drug Program

CLEARWATER (UPI) - A man who claims the controversial drug rehabilitation program **Straight Inc.** falsely imprisoned him has become the third former client in one month to sue the facility.

Michael T. [REDACTED] of St. Petersburg filed suit against Straight on Friday in connection with the two months he spent at the program's St. Petersburg headquarters last year.

[REDACTED] 23, contends in the suit he was forced to join Straight in late March 1982 and was kept there until early May.

The suit says [REDACTED] was confined even though he "was neither addicted to, nor using any, drugs." It charges Straight with assault, intentional infliction of emotional

distress, false imprisonment, negligence and malpractice.

Keen is asking for more than \$25,000 in damages.

William D. Oliver, executive director at **Straight**, said he had not seen the lawsuit and would not comment on it.

"We'll assign this to our insurance company and they will assign an attorney," Oliver said. "So we'll respond to it when we get served."

Straight's treatment method is based on intense, prolonged group confrontation therapy. That has brought criticism from those who believe the program deprives clients of civil liberties.

Last month, two brothers filed suit after a stay in the Sarasota branch.