

Circulation 30,614

The Free Lance - Star

ESTABLISHED 1885 VOL. 99, NO. 124 FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA, THURSDAY, MAY 26, 1983 25 CENTS

Tonight Keeping its cool
TOMORROW Early spring
(Weather on Page 2)

Drug problem patient wins \$220,000 in suit

ALEXANDRIA (AP)—A 20-year-old awarded \$220,000 in damages for being held against his will by Straight, Inc. says his victory sends the drug rehabilitation center a message.

"I think we set the precedent that's going to tell Straight that they can't lock people up anymore," said Fred Collins after the award by a U.S. District Court jury Wednesday.

Collins, of Fairfax, said the award tells Straight that "that they're not above the law . . . that they're held liable for their actions."



The jury deliberated about three hours before returning the award in the suit brought against Straight by Collins, who had asked \$750,000 in damages.

The jury two weeks ago found

that Collins was held against his will at Straight's St. Petersburg, Fla., facility last June. Straight was exonerated of Collins' charge that he was physically and mentally abused.

Collins, who has denied ever having a drug habit, asked compensatory damages for loss of the family financial support for college and money to pay for psychiatric treatment for emotional problems coming from the treatment.

The jury awarded him \$40,000 in compensatory damages and \$180,000 in punitive damages.

25 students

director, Jennifer Fidura.

The new name brings the facility in line with recent efforts to eliminate stigmas attached to residents of such institutions, said Marion W. Campbell, spokeswoman for the state board.

Embezzlement probed at school

COLONIAL HEIGHTS, Va. (AP)—City authorities are investigating alleged embezzlement at the Colonial Heights High School vocational building.

Money allegedly was taken from the vocational building's vending