



Exploding The Phone

db934

www.explodingthephone.com

Bibliographic Cover Sheet

Title **USF To Rule Today on Whistler's Fate**

Publication *St. Petersburg Times*

Date 1968-11-28

V/I/P p. 4B

Abstract "University of South Florida officials said yesterday they will decide today if blind student Joe Engressia will be dismissed for allegedly defrauding telephone companies. [...]"

Keywords Josef C. Engressia; Joe Engressia

Source Google News Archive

The following pages may contain copyrighted material. We believe that our use of this material for non-commercial educational and research purposes constitutes "fair use" under Section 107 of U.S. Copyright Law. If you wish to use this material for purposes that go beyond "fair use," you must obtain permission from the copyright owner, if any. While it will make us slightly sad to do so, we will nonetheless comply with requests from copyright owners who want their material removed from our web site.

USF To Rule Today On Whistler's Fate

Times Bureau

TAMPA — University of South Florida officials said yesterday they will decide today if blind student Joe Engressia will be dismissed for allegedly defrauding telephone companies.

Engressia, an electrical engineering junior student from Miami, faces expulsion or probation for using a whistling technique to place free long distance telephone calls for fellow students.

Dr. Herbert Wunderlich, USF vice president and dean of student affairs, said he will announce his decision today after hearing a recommendation from the board of discipline and appeals.

THE NINE - MEMBER board met until late yesterday to evaluate testimony presented during a two-hour hearing.

Engressia, blind from birth, is appealing a USF offer to withdraw and lose credit for the current term or be suspended. If Engressia had withdrawn there would be no official entry against his college record but a suspension would have meant an unfavorable entry on his USF records.

Mrs. Josef Engressia, mother of the student, said that if the ruling is unfavorable and her son is expelled, she will appeal the case to the State Board of Regents or seek civil court action.

DURING YESTERDAY'S well-attended hearing, Engressia's counsel, student protest leader Paul Wallace,

sought to prove the blind student did not commit larceny under Florida law when the free calls were made.

Wallace argued that Engressia did not permanently deprive the telephone company of its property and he did not steal telephone company equipment.

During his testimony, Engressia declared, "It all started with a bet and the students practically forced me and begged me to make the calls. I stopped on my own initiative.

"I'm not ashamed of the feat. It was a mistake and I'm sorry I did it, but not because I got caught. My action was totally irresponsible and it shouldn't be condoned, but I don't think I should be penalized for a first offense so severely that it practically cuts off my education."

COUP

Valid Wednesday, D

Ross 28th ST

1228 - 28th

**Wednesday is
YOU SAVE**

FRESH—GEORGI

Whole Fry

Limit 2 with th

Watch for weekend spec