

able to determine when the violations began but that they had taken place for "several years." According to the charges, the ille-

Wisconsin Barge Line has filed for bankruptcy; the case is pending in U.S. Bankruptcy Court here.

posed by the dumping would be studied by federal, state and local agencies. He said he also expected the two

U.S. District Judge George F. Gunn Jr. Gunn scheduled sentencing for Aug. 14. Each company could be fined up to \$500,000.

sure environmental compliance." "There is no indication of any damage to property or the environment from the discharges," the statement

Agency, the Coast Guard's Marine Safety Office in St. Louis and Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael K. Fagan.

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Ex-DuBourg Teacher Sentenced In Sex Case

By Lisha Gayle
Of the Post-Dispatch Staff

A former history teacher at Bishop DuBourg High School was sentenced Thursday to six years in prison for engaging in sodomy with a male student and for videotaping sexual acts among teen-age boys.



Robben

The former teacher, Jerome B. Robben, 45, was sentenced by Judge Thomas W. Challis in St. Louis Circuit Court.

Robben told the judge: "My overwhelming emotion is sorrow for what I did and very deep remorse ... that it has affected others."

"Through therapy and reading of my own, I understand the problem now, and I am dealing with it. And I say this to you — you don't have to believe it — but it will not happen again."

On April 23, Robben pleaded guilty on one count of sodomy and 17 counts of promoting child pornography in the first degree.

Another former DuBourg teacher, the Rev. James A. Funke, 38, has been charged with deviate sexual assault in the case. Those charges — involving two male students — are pending in St. Louis County.

Charges against Robben involve three victims, who were 15 to 17 at the time, said Robert A. Margulis, an assistant circuit attorney. All three were students or former students at the school, 5850 Eichelberger Street in south St. Louis.

Police found nine videotapes in Robben's home in the 5100 block of Pennsylvania Avenue, Margulis said. On the tapes, Robben's voice could be heard directing the boys, Margulis said.

Robben was sentenced under a law

that allows the judge to review the sentence in a few months and perhaps grant probation. Challis said he would review Robben's sentence after 90 days.

Challis said that this was "one of the most — if not the most — difficult cases I've had to decide."

He said that he had considered "many letters, pro and con," that had been sent to him on the case. He said he had also considered a request by one victim and his mother that Robben be placed on probation.

Challis noted that Robben had been awarded honors for his work as a teacher. And he acknowledged that Robben had voluntarily surrendered his four Missouri teaching certificates.

Challis said he had also considered two reports prepared for the sentencing — one by state investigators and one by private investigators. The state investigators recommended against probation, Challis said.

"They feel that you, sir, would be a continued threat to society," Challis told Robben.

"You have done so much good but ... over the same span of time, you were doing bad," Challis said. "The cunning of your actions ... astounds me."

Robben's problem "must be some kind of sickness" but remains "an enigma to me," Challis said.

In deciding the sentence, Challis said he had taken into account the feelings of the victims, who are undergoing therapy. He also took into account the effect the sentence could have in deterring others from similar activities, he said.

Challis delayed the execution of Robben's sentence until July 31, when Robben must surrender to authorities. Challis allowed the delay because Robben's father, who is 78, underwent surgery Thursday morning, authorities said.

