

St. Petersburg Times  
July 21, 1989

# Church demands pay-back

## Scientology seeks fine, jail for gag-order violation

By STEPHEN KOFF  
Times Staff Writer

She dared Church of Scientology officials to do something.

They did.

Meeting Margery Wakefield's challenge head-on, the church has asked a federal judge to jail her, fine her and make her repay \$240,000 from an out-of-court settlement. Ms. Wakefield's offense?

She talked, to reporters and talk-show hosts. No matter a May court order telling her that she would violate an injunction if she said certain things about Scientology; Ms. Wakefield, a 41-year-old former Scientologist, said she never thought the "gag order" was fair.

And besides, she said, *somebody* had to advise the public about Scientology, which has its spiritual headquarters in Clearwater.

So in early July, she began disclosing things on the radio that Scientologists didn't want made public. Those things included money she allegedly got in 1986 for dropping her 1982 lawsuit against Scientology. The settlement, which included a provision that neither side would talk, was supposed to lay to rest her charges against Scientology of fraud, breach of contract, false imprisonment and practicing medicine without a license.

But Ms. Wakefield said that the settlement unfairly muzzled her, and that it was forced on her by lawyers.

She also spoke on three Tampa Bay radio stations about Scientology's top-secret, science fictionlike training tech-

## Church from 1B

niques, and about alleged hypnosis and Satanism in the church.

The *St. Petersburg Times* wrote about her radio appearances, and according to court records, the *Tampa Tribune* interviewed Ms. Wakefield. Now, the Church of Scientology says Ms. Wakefield's comments to WUSF-FM, WMNF-FM, WTKN-AM and the two newspapers amount to five counts of contempt of court.

In papers filed Tuesday in Tampa, church lawyer Paul B. Johnson asked U.S. District Judge Elizabeth A. Kovachevich to find Ms. Wakefield in contempt. The church wants \$240,000 returned — the discrepancy between the \$200,000 figure Ms. Wakefield disclosed on WUSF and the \$240,000 is not explained, but Ms. Wakefield said Thursday that maybe "they're charging interest."

Scientology also wants Kovachevich to appoint the U.S. attorney's office or a private lawyer to prosecute Ms. Wakefield for criminal contempt. Johnson, the lawyer, asked for a \$500 fine for each act of contempt and up to six months in jail for each count. Kovachevich has not responded.

Ms. Wakefield's case files were sealed by Kovachevich in 1986, and Johnson asked that the motions and other court papers filed this week also be under seal and not public. Ms. Wakefield provided reporters with copies. The *St. Petersburg Times* last year asked Kovachevich to unseal those and oth-

er Scientology files and is awaiting a ruling by a federal magistrate.

Johnson declined to elaborate on the church's motions, as did Michael Lee Hertzberg, a New York lawyer who represents the church. "I don't want to comment on anything that is probably under court seal," Hertzberg said. "The church intends to abide by agreements that were made in court, even if Margery Wakefield does not. Therefore I can't comment."

Said Johnson: "I would just urge you to consider not assisting Margery Wakefield in flaunting any orders of a federal district judge."

The contempt motions were anticipated by Ms. Wakefield, who said that "the only surprise was that they waited so long to do it." She hopes to test the constitutionality of the gag order, which she says violates her First Amendment right to free speech.

Ms. Wakefield was a follower of Scientology, which she now considers a "cult," from 1969 until 1980. Scientologists, who consider their beliefs a religion, follow the teachings of the late L. Ron Hubbard, author of *Dianetics*. Practitioners use a device similar to a lie detector to uproot deep-seated psychological problems. In multi-level courses, Scientologists pay thousands of dollars to get rid of "thetans," beings that control their behavior.

The Church of Scientology owns 12 parcels worth more than \$21-million in Clearwater, making it the city's biggest property owner. Another church building is scheduled to be built this year.

Please see **CHURCH** 5B

The Tampa Tribune, Friday, July 21, 1989

## Woman said church

From Page 1B

Wakelield said, "My feelings are unchanged. I will not stop speaking out against Scientology. I feel what happened to me was atrocious."

She said she plans to continue her campaign against the church by joining with other ex-Scientologists to form a support group. Members hope to appear before the City Commission in Clearwater, where the church has its eastern U.S. headquarters, she said.

Paul Johnson, the church's Tampa lawyer, refused to confirm that the church has taken any action against Wakelield.

"Assuming that anything was filed, it was filed in camera, and under the court rules, I'm not permitted to discuss anything in camera," he said. "I'm not permitted to discuss these irresponsible statements she's been making to the news media, much as I would like to."

## Scientologists sue Woman for talking

### Suit deal broken, church group says

By ANNE BARTLETT  
Tribune Staff Writer

TAMPA — The Church of Scientology is asking a federal judge to punish a Tampa woman for publicly denouncing the church in violation of a lawsuit settlement.

In seven motions delivered Tuesday to U.S. District Judge Elizabeth Kovachevich, the church asks the judge to order Margery Wakefield, 41, a former Scientologist, to show why she should not be held in civil and criminal contempt for talking about Scientology to three radio stations and two newspapers, including The Tampa Tribune.

It asks Kovachevich to fine Wakefield up to \$500 or jail her for

up to six months for each act of criminal contempt, and requests that Wakefield be fined at least \$240,000 on civil contempt charges.

Kovachevich has sealed the motions. Wakefield gave copies of them to the Tribune.

Wakefield has acknowledged in recent press and radio interviews that she is violating the 1986 settlement of her lawsuit against the church by publicly discussing Scientology.

She said Thursday that she was not surprised by the church's legal action against her.

"It was pretty much what I ex-

See WOMAN, Page 13B

Wakelield was expelled from the church in 1980, after 12 years of membership. In 1982, she filed a lawsuit against the church, alleging she joined it because it falsely claimed it could cure her mental problems. That prevented her from seeking competent professional help, the lawsuit contended.

Wakelield says she's suffered since she was a teenager from episodes of what has been diagnosed as borderline schizophrenia. But she says her experience with Scientology is largely responsible for 14 stays in mental hospitals since she left the church.

In 1986, she says, she received \$200,000 from the church in return for agreeing to a lawsuit settlement that forbids her from speaking publicly about her experiences with Scientology. Her lawyers received half the money.

Kovachevich has sealed court records in the case. On May 16, Kovachevich also issued an injunction ordering Wakelield not to discuss the church.

the past decade to put a lid on legal bills and encourage law firms to engage in

## Biographer to View Work on Hubbard In Copyright Battle

By WADE LAMBERT

Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

NEW YORK — In a decision putting copyright concerns ahead of free-press interests, a federal judge ordered that a manuscript about L. Ron Hubbard be turned over to his authorized biographer for inspection before publication.

U.S. District Judge Louis Stanton ruled that New Era Publications International had reason to believe its copyrights might be violated by the planned book on the late Mr. Hubbard, who died in 1986. The judge said permitting New Era to see Carol Publishing Group's edited manuscript before publication "does not invade Carol's editorial process."

New Era has certain exclusive copyrights for some of Mr. Hubbard's private papers for the purpose of writing the authorized biography of the late founder of the Church of Scientology. New Era is a Copenhagen publisher of Scientology books. Scientology, founded by Mr. Hubbard, teaches that spiritual competence is achieved by "erasing" mental images in the unconscious mind that cause irrational behavior.

If New Era, prior to publication, found what it believed to be unauthorized use of copyrighted material in the Carol Publishing manuscript, New Era could sue to enjoin release of the planned book.

The ruling is part of a recent trend in federal courts in New York toward strengthening protection for copyrighted materials quoted in books. A panel of the Second U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New York recently ruled in New Era's favor in another case pitting copyright protection against First Amendment interests. That decision is pending before the full appeals court.

"This is the latest example of copyright law being used to overcome well-established First Amendment principles," said Floyd Abrams, a First Amendment lawyer in New York.

He added: "It's deeply disturbing for a court order to require a manuscript of a critical work to be turned over to the party being criticized on the mere suspicion that it may infringe the copyright law."

In the earlier appeals-court case, the panel ruled that a different book about Mr. Hubbard infringed New Era copyrights. But the court didn't grant any injunctive relief because the book had already been published abroad. The court also said New Era should have acted sooner to protect its copyrights.

In the case before Judge Stanton, the judge said the appeals-court decision in the earlier case implied that a court could have ordered the manuscript be turned over to New Era before publication.

The book in the earlier case drew on documents provided by Jonathan Caven-Atack, the author of the new book planned by Carol Publishing of New York.

New Era claims Mr. Caven-Atack's manuscript will infringe its copyrights. The appeals court found that the earlier book's use of Mr. Hubbard's boyhood diaries, provided by Mr. Caven-Atack, violated the copyrights.

Carol Publishing told Judge Stanton that the book it plans to publish contains only previously published materials that fall under the fair-use doctrine of the Copyright Act. The company also argued that pre-publication disclosure of the document would violate the First Amendment.

Judge Stanton, however, said First Amendment protection against prior restraint of publication didn't apply in this case because governmental suppression isn't involved.

Carol Publishing attorneys and executives couldn't be reached to comment on the judge's decision.

The judge said that while pre-publication disclosure "might not be justifiable as a general practice, it is appropriate here where New Era has put forth evidentiary grounds for expecting infringement."

# Continental offers in addition

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL FRIDAY, JULY 25, 1989 B3

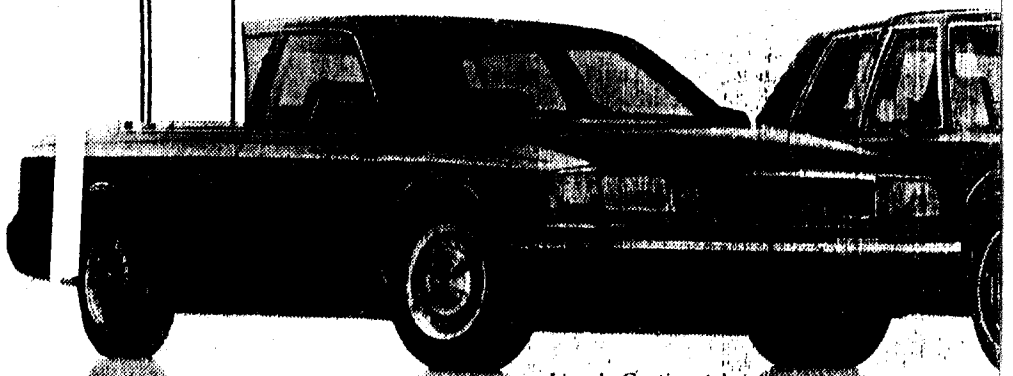
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# Up to custom

The luxuries inherent in owning a Lincoln come as no surprise to even the most discerning buyer. But now when you take retail delivery from dealer stock by July 31, 1989 a new luxurious Lincoln Town Car, Mark VII or Lincoln Continental you receive an additional luxury. \$1,500 customer cash on Town Car and Mark VII. Or \$1,000 customer cash on Continental.

Lincoln Town Car offers all the timeless elegance for which it's become legendary, and an impressive array of standard comforts and conveniences that includes V-8 power, air conditioning with automatic temperature control and much more.



Lincoln Continental

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Mail From Everywhere...

## Mayor Launches Narconon Inquiry After Receiving Adverse Reports From At Least Five Other States

Newkirk Mayor Garry Bilger says in the past two weeks he has been receiving mail from all over the country since an Associated Press article concerning Narconon Chilocco was released.

The article, which appeared in newspapers from Corpus Christi, Tx. to the New York Times, seems to have prompted the letters to Bilger. "I haven't received a letter favorable to the Narconon program yet... they are all negative!"

For example, a writer from Illinois says, "I can empathize with your town's plight and have the utmost admiration for those who are fighting to close down Narconon's newest operation before it actually is in operation.

"... it is strictly a method of recruitment, and their recovery claims are unfounded," the letter continues. The writer goes on...

"The Oklahoma Health Plan (sic) Commission had better do some fast and thorough homework - the information is available. They probably have never before been confronted with such a slick and deceptive organization."

Enclosed with the letter were clippings about Narconon's troubles in Italy and Spain.

A hand written letter from Pennsylvania says, "Without becoming too emotional, I want to tell you (my sister) gave thousands of dollars to Scientology, left all her Christian upbringing behind, and let Ron Hubbard rule her life with his values and teachings. Scientology is very sneaky, with their pseudonyms such as "Big Apple Schools" and "Narconon" - and practically took over a town in Florida.

She concludes, "Please, be very careful in letting them come into your town on their false pretenses."

Another example: "I have just read the New York Times article on your situation with Narconon and Scientology," this former Scientologist writes.

"...I will tell you straight out that Narconon is a sham. It is a front and a device used by the Church of Scientology to lure people into Scientology.

You must realize that you are deal-

ing with a very determined and ruthless bunch of fanatics. They resort to any deceit, any trickery to get their way... which is to promote and lure people into Scientology. Narconon fits very nicely into this as most people are concerned about Drug abuse and addiction and will give time and money to anything that looks like it might help.

Narconon is an elaborate scheme to entice people into Scientology, to promote Scientology and the name of L. Ron Hubbard. It looks like a noble work for the good of society. They will trot out a handful of people who will claim that they were helped with Narconon. They might even bring out a celebrity or two. Scientology will use very little of their own money in this con. They will go after Grants, donations, etc. and they are very skilled in getting other peoples money."

"...Sadly enough, most of the lower level Scientologists are not aware of the con and deception that they are involved with. They don't realize that they have been brainwashed. I didn't and went busily around promoting Scientology and Narconon all the while believing that I was working in a noble cause...."

"You can use what I have said here in any way you find useful. I would ask that you don't give my name or address to anyone connected to Narconon or Scientology.

Gary Smith, the Narconon spokesman quoted in the Times article, is lying through his teeth. You can quote me - I was there." concludes the writer.

Included with the letters are newspaper clippings from across the country alleging that Narconon units in at least five states have been shut down or severely curtailed over the years after questions were raised about their effectiveness and ties with Scientology.

In Michigan, for instance, a prison psychologist is reported to have charged that Narconon is a "con" to gain money and recruits for the Church of Scientology. A California report done for that state's Department of Health said Narconon's use of mega-

vitamins to detoxify addicts is a "hazardous" and "in some cases lethal" practice.

Prison programs in Delaware, Connecticut and Minnesota were reported terminated after questions were raised about the program's effectiveness.

In Clearwater, Florida, the program apparently never got off the ground, Scientology spokesmen complained in one clipping, due to the "climate" created by negative media reports about the Church of Scientology.

Michigan prison psychologist John Hand has been quoted as saying, "They are phony, a front for the Church of Scientology. We found out in Michigan that most of the money that we were paying Narconon was laundered back into the Church of Scientology." Gary Smith, Narconon's spokesman, was quoted in the same article, and branded Hand's assertion that money in Michigan was "laundered" as "ridiculous."

"It's just a basic technology whereby a person can get off drugs, back into life and be happy. We don't push it (Scientology) on anybody. We never have," Smith was quoted as saying.

But in view of the mounting material from across the country, as well as reports from abroad, Mayor Bilger has instructed an attorney to contact Corrections Department and Health Department officials in Michigan, California, Delaware, Connecticut, and Minnesota to find out the truth about the allegations.

# New drug clinic splinters Oklahoma town

## Scientology-affiliated treatment center alarms Newkirk residents

By Arnold Hamilton

Oklahoma Edition of The Dallas Morning News

**NEWKIRK, Okla.**—The people of this farming hamlet near the Oklahoma-Kansas border thought the idea was the perfect tonic for their rural economic ills.

Out-of-state investors offered to take over the abandoned Chillico Indian School and transform it into a major drug and alcohol treatment center. They signed a 25-year lease — worth an estimated \$16 million — with the five tribes that control the campus. They brought expecta-

tions of new jobs and increased business for the area.

Now, only seven months after state officials approved a license for the facility, the euphoria in Newkirk has evaporated. It has been supplanted by fears that the Narconon New Life Center is a front for the controversial Church of Scientology.

"It's real hard to differentiate Narconon from the religion of Scientology," said the Rev. Mark Jones, pastor of First Baptist Church in Newkirk.

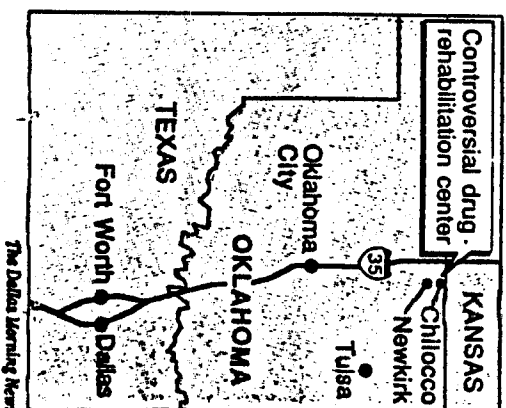
"In fact, a directive I saw out of

one of their publications said the purpose of Narconon and their other organizations was to bring people up the bridge or over the bridge into Scientology. They need to be aboveboard about that."

Instead, many Newkirk residents say, Narconon officials have ducked and dodged when asked to clarify the 23-year-old organization's ties to the Church of Scientology, founded in 1952 by science-fiction writer L. Ron Hubbard.

"They have not leveled with us on everything," said Newkirk resident Ron Hubbard.

Please see OKLAHOMA on Page 8A.



The Dallas Morning News

# Oklahoma residents fear being labeled a 'cult town'

Continued from Page 1A.

Mayor Garry Bilger.

"We just want to find out what Narconon's overall objective is. Is it what they say it is — drug and alcohol rehabilitation? Or is it an effort to prolong the cult of Scientology?"

Narconon spokesman Gary Smith confirmed that many of the program's staff members, including himself, are Scientologists and that some treatment methods were devised by the late Mr. Hubbard.

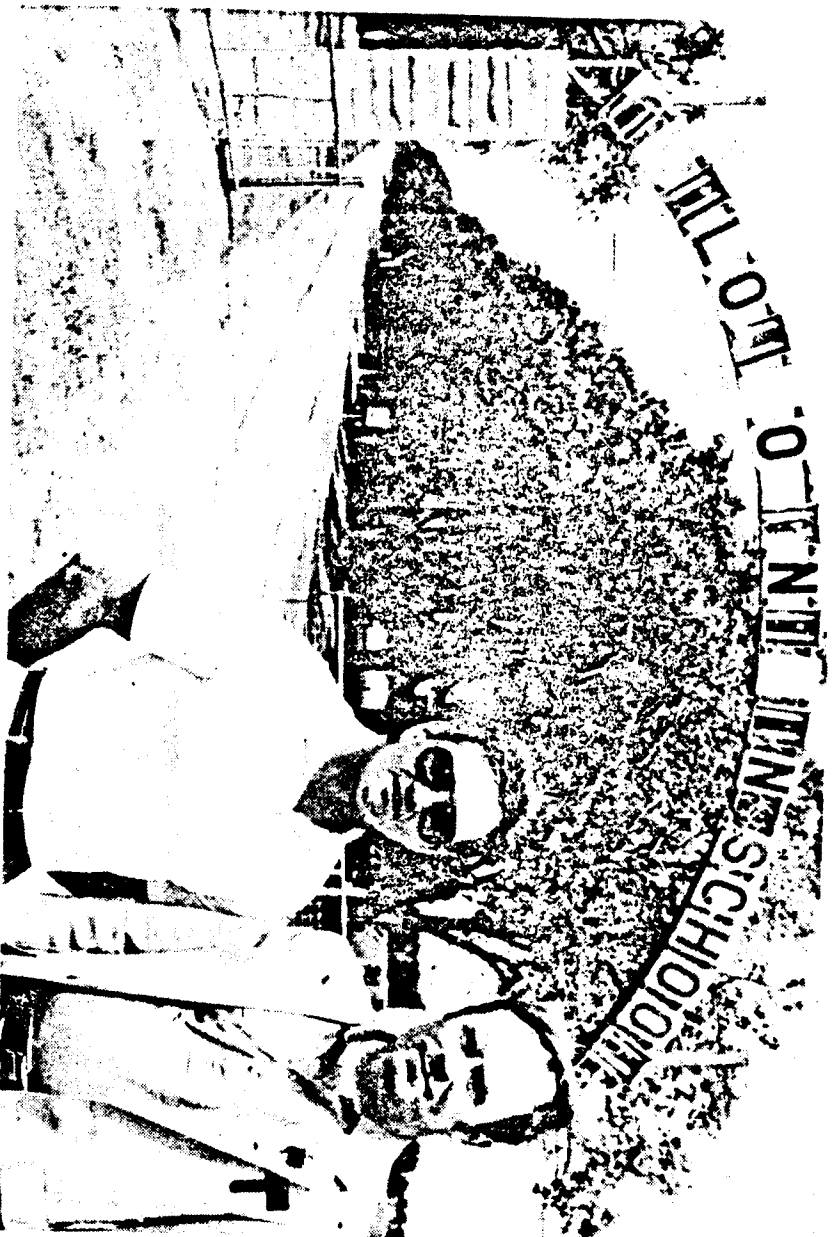
He also said many Scientologists, acting as individuals, have supported Narconon financially since its 1966 inception as an inmate substance abuse program at the Arizona State Penitentiary.

But Mr. Smith denied that Narconon is a subsidiary of the Church of Scientology or that it uses its treatment programs to help convert patients to the religion.

"They don't run Narconon and they don't give us money, although I can't say that if they did that I would turn it down," he said.

"It's not our right or job or purpose to dictate any religious affiliation. . . . Whatever a person chooses to worship, we encourage that, so long as it's not something negative like Satan worship."

The controversy has been swirling here since April 27 when the town's weekly newspaper, the *Newkirk Herald Journal*, first revealed the possible ties between Narconon and the Church of Scien-



The Rev. Mark Jones of the First Baptist Church (left) and the Rev. Mike Clifton of the First Christian Church oppose a Newkirk, Okla., drug treatment center that town residents say is linked to the Church of Scientology.

ology.

Since then, the treatment center has been a topic of intense debate on street corners in Mother's Family Cafe on Main Street and in the

town's churches.

In addition, the *Herald Journal* has published an almost weekly series of stories about the proposed fa-

mainline

Christian

clergy, Narconon and the Church of Scientology. Mayor Bilger, Rev. Jones and newspaper publisher Robert W. Lobsinger said they have received dozens of letters and tele-

phone calls from people across North America warning them about Narconon and the Church of Scientology and their potential impact on Newkirk.

As a result, the scheduled September opening of the 75-bed facility has emerged as perhaps the most controversial event in the history of this town of 2,400, located about 110 miles north of Oklahoma City.

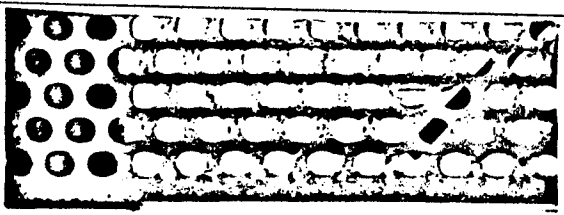
It is so disturbing, in fact, that several residents declined to be quoted, apparently fearing retribution from an organization that remains mysterious to them.

Some said fears were heightened when the treatment center hired a

private investigator from Stillter, Okla., to help identify the participants in what Narconon's Smith described as a "whisper campaign. The investigator was told to find out who distribute Narconon materials to staffers.

"There is a fear that it is a front to recruit for their church said Jana Shater, the local school board president. "I'd like to be proven wrong, but all the information we've received doesn't indicate that."

"We're a very careful community and we want what's best. Please see NARCONON on Page 9."



# Ex-Scientologist risks jail to speak against church

By Craig Dezern

OF THE SENTINEL STAFF

TAMPA — You shouldn't be reading this story.

The tale of Margery Wakefield vs. the Church of Scientology is supposed to be a secret. Church officials say so. So does a federal judge.

In fact, Wakefield could go to jail for talking about the 12 years she spent as a member of the cult, which has its spiritual headquarters

in Clearwater.

Wakefield, 41, is talking anyway, braving the threats of Scientology lawyers and testing the patience of a U.S. district judge.

"What do you do when you know something like this?" Wakefield asks. "I tried to walk away from it. For three years, I tried."

In 1982, Wakefield sued the Church of Scientology. Four years later she settled out of court and agreed never again to talk about her time in the church.

She agreed never to reveal to anyone but her immediate family that Scientology offi-

cials paid her \$200,000 for her silence. She also said she would never repeat publicly her charges in the suit that Scientologists held her captive, committed fraud, broke their promises to cure her mental illness and practiced medicine without a license.

U.S. District Judge Elizabeth A. Kovachovich in May reinforced the settlement, forbidding Wakefield to break the gag rule.

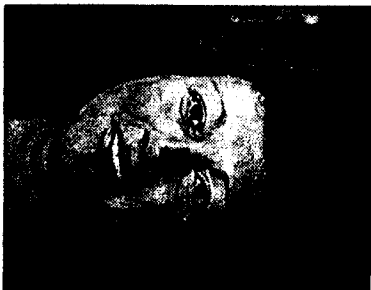
This month, though, Wakefield has defied that order with a vengeance, calling radio talk shows, local newspapers and television stations to offer interviews. She has distributed

internal church documents and damaging magazine stories. By her own account, she has broken the rule at least a half a dozen times.

Wakefield wanted to force a confrontation, and she quickly got one.

Paul B. Johnson, a Tampa lawyer for Scientology, has asked Kovachovich to find Wakefield in criminal contempt 10 times, punishing her for each offense with six months in jail or a \$500 fine. He also asked that Wakefield be held in civil contempt and fined \$240,000 for

Please see **CHURCH, A-9**



Margery Wakefield, former Scientologist

By recalling and reliving these events, known as "engrams," the follower can free them from his mind and eliminate the aberrant behavior they cause — at a cost of \$200 or more an hour.

As followers continue along the Scientology path of enlightenment into the once-secret upper levels, Wakefield said, the religion enters a twilight zone that seems straight out of a Hubbard science fiction novel.

Hubbard, who died in 1986, called Scientology "applied religious philosophy." In his book, *Thought, The Fundamentals of Scientology*, Hubbard wrote that the practice could increase intelligence, better behavior and unlock the secrets of life.

For the initiate, Scientology can seem a practical approach to solving problems. Using an "E-meter," a sort of crude lie detector, a follower is "audited" by a church counselor. He is questioned incessantly about painful events in his life (or lives because the church believes vigorously in reincarnation).

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## CHURCH

From A-1

About 75 million years ago, Hubbard claimed, an evil being named Xenu ruled the 90-planet Galactic Confederation. Faced with a crisis of overpopulation, the cruel Xenu sent many beings to a small planet called Teegeeach, which would later be known as Earth.

Xenu buried them under volcanoes and dropped hydrogen bombs on them, killing their physical bodies but releasing their spirits, or "thetans." The thetans were gathered into clusters that are implanted into each human being today and create misery.

Only Scientology, Hubbard said, could rid humans of their "thetan" guests. It's not cheap. The *St. Petersburg Times* reported that auditing at this level costs \$6,500, and the church takes in up to \$2 million every week through auditing and other enterprises.

### An easy target

Wakefield, who has curly blond hair and a wide smile, said she was an easy target for Scientology back in 1968. She was a confused freshman at the University of Michigan, away from her family and recovering from a nervous breakdown.

"All they had to say was they could help me," Wakefield said.

Willingly, she grasped the two tin cans that are hooked up to the E-meter. Her problems were severe, the "auditor" told her. She needed help only the church's California facility could give.

She packed up and left with only \$500, which the church quickly took from her. She became a counselor herself and began "auditing" children to pay for her own "auditing" sessions.

"You become an addict," Wakefield said. "You always have to have the next level."

From the beginning, she said,

she was hypnotized and brainwashed by the church. Scientology gained control of her mind and will during hours-long sessions in which she would repeatedly answer questions, stare at an everyday object or perform routine tasks again and again.

Told to earn \$20,000 for her fees, Wakefield left the church for several years and worked for IBM. By 1980, she had saved the money, which she paid to the church for advanced "auditing" sessions in Clearwater that introduced her to the secret "thetan" levels.

"They tell you these are the levels where you'll become a super-human person," she said. "You either think it's really weird and you leave or you say, 'Is that possible?'"

Wakefield thought it was, but something went wrong.

Instead of a new awareness and sense of freedom, Wakefield suffered intense headaches, paranoia and nightmares. "I started just going down the tubes," she said.

Scientology leaders feared that she was a suicide risk, Wakefield said, and feared she could bring bad publicity.

They locked her in a room for two weeks, she said, with guards outside the door at all times. Finally, they took her to the airport, told her to pick a destination and put her on a plane. She went back to her family in Madison, Wis.

In 1981 three Scientologists tracked her down. They took her to a motel and held her there for three days, she said, forcing her to sign an agreement promising not to sue the church in exchange for a \$16,000 check. She used the money to repay her father, who had lent her money for "auditing" sessions.

Wakefield said she made those allegations in a lawsuit filed in 1982, after she returned to Clearwater. At the request of Scientology lawyers, the court file in the case has been sealed from the public.

### Life after the church

Since leaving the church, Wakefield had been in and out of mental institutions 14 times in four years, mainly for depression. She blames the false promises of Scientology for keeping her from the psychiatric care she really needed.

In 1986 the church settled Wakefield's case and three others out of court. Wakefield said she received \$200,000. By accepting the money, she agreed never to speak against the church again. However, she now says that she believed the money was for damages, not for her silence.

She broke the gag rule for the first time in 1987 when she gave a television interview at a conference about cults. The Scientologists filed for a federal order to prevent Wakefield from speaking against the church again, and it was granted this May.

"I can't live with it," Wakefield said of the ruling. "I just decided I wasn't going to follow it."

Wakefield works with the Cult Awareness Network. The national, not-for-profit group uses her to warn potential Scientologists away from the church.

Cynthia Kisser, executive director of the network, said the firsthand knowledge of Wakefield and other former members is vital.

"It can help people who are on the verge of joining," Kisser said.

None of Wakefield's charges against the church are new.

Scores of books, newspaper articles and magazine stories have portrayed Hubbard as a liar, a satanist and a tax cheat who had to live at sea to avoid the Internal Revenue Service. Scientology was never a religion, the articles said, but a cynical business driven by mind control. Top church officials have been convicted of breaking into government offices to steal information damaging to their cause. In Spain the president of the international church is one of 11 defendants facing charges of coercion and fraud.

Scientologists counter that they are the victims of religious persecution and the millions of members they claim to have can't be wrong. (Others report membership in the tens of thousands.)

Although there are many other critics of Scientology, Wakefield thinks she knows why the church considers her a threat that must be silenced.

"One of their real fears is that all of the disgruntled ex-members will get organized," Wakefield said. She is working toward that goal.

She already has started a support group for former members, and with the help of her family and the Cult Awareness Network, she wants to contact former Scientologists across the country. The group can then compile sworn statements to be used by local, state or federal authorities to investigate the church.

"My biggest hope," Wakefield said, "is that something can be done about Scientology so that other people don't have to go through what I've gone through. It's been a horrible experience."