

Draft resister ordered to do public service

By James Hammond
Globe Staff

A federal judge in Boston yesterday sentenced a draft resister to six months in jail and 1000 hours of public service.

In sentencing Edward J. Hasbrouck, 22, formerly of Wellesley, Judge David S. Nelson said, "although you have clearly and absolutely acted in defiance of the law, you have acted out of conscience."

Hasbrouck's six-month sentence was suspended and Nelson placed him on two years probation.

Assistant US Atty. Robert Mueller had recommended that Hasbrouck receive a two-year prison term, describing him as a "self-appointed guardian of the [peace movement] . . . who held himself above the law and believed himself to be the law."

"I cannot agree that this offense merits incarceration, unless I wished to make a political statement," Nelson said. "Violent crimes have been dealt with by shorter incarceration."

Nelson directed Hasbrouck to perform community work at a hospital, poverty or senior citizens center during the probationary period.

Hasbrouck is the first in Massachusetts and at least the fourth person nationally convicted
DRAFT, Page 12



Edward Hasbrouck is embraced by his mother, Marguerite, outside Boston courthouse where he was sentenced yesterday for refusing to register for draft. AP PHOTO

Resister ordered to do public service

■ DRAFT

Continued from Page 1

of failing to register for the draft since registration was reinstated in 1980.

The maximum penalty for refusing to register for the draft is 5 years in jail and a \$10,000 fine.

Outside the courtroom, when Hasbrouck was asked his reaction to the sentence, he replied, "I don't know whether I'll be able to satisfy Judge Nelson and the probation office that we share the same idea about what kinds of work that are in the interests of the community."

"It's possible I may end up serving the six-month sentence that was suspended. Six months is a short time in comparison with other sentences that have been imposed thus far and before that ever becomes an issue I am very optimistic that the test will be dismissed by federal courts."

Nelson denied his request for a stay of sentence pending an appeal.

Hasbrouck was convicted last month of failing to register for the draft by a jury that deliberated only 15 minutes before returning with a guilty verdict. Hasbrouck refused to offer any defense.

In addressing the court before the sentence was imposed, Hasbrouck told Nelson that "a prison sentence isn't going to rehabilitate me."

Hasbrouck said that even if he were sent to jail he would continue his work in the interest of peace.

He said that the only reason he was prosecuted was that he spoke out against the draft.

When Hasbrouck finished, the more than 100 spectators in the courtroom, which included his mother, Marguerite Hasbrouck of Wellesley, broke out in a sustained applause.

Nelson made no attempt to curb the applause.