

Canadian Man Released

Phnom Penh Municipal Court released a Canadian man on Friday, clearing him of debauchery charges after a four-hour trial. Orville Frank Mader, 51, was arrested in February, accused of sexually abusing two boys aged 11 and 14. In an interview following his arrest, Mader had said that he and some local boys, at least 20 of whom he allowed to stay at his rented house in Phnom Penh, engaged in "sex play." Judge Kong Sarith said he decided to release Mader after one boy denied in court his earlier claims of being sexually abused. The 14-year-old, however, testified that Mader had convinced him to perform oral sex.

(Khouth Sophak Chakrya)