

This Week

Wednesday:

Jam Night featuring Parker Bradley of Last Free Exit & Greg Tivis
\$3 cover

Thursday:

Karaoke Night \$3 cover

FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE:

Big Otis
\$12 cover



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Hare Krishnas sued for child abuse

DALLAS (AP) — More than three dozen former students of Hare Krishna boarding schools have filed a \$400 million lawsuit against leaders of the religious community, alleging years of sexual, physical and emotional torture.

The 44 plaintiffs in the suit allege child abuse over two decades at boarding schools in the United States and India.

The federal suit, filed Monday morning in Dallas, names the International Society of Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) as lead defendant, along with

17 members of the group's governing board of top leaders and the estate of the movement's founder, A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada.

Plaintiffs' attorney Windle Turley called the abuse "the most unthinkable abuse and maltreatment of little children we have seen. It includes rape, sexual abuse, physical torture and emotional terror of children as young as three years of age."

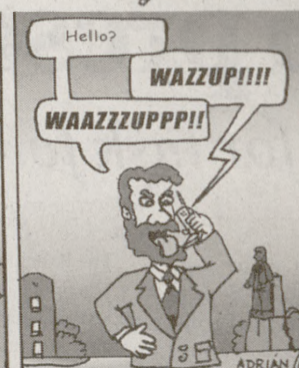
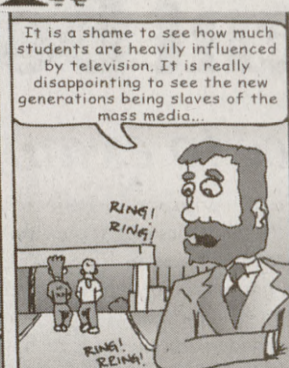
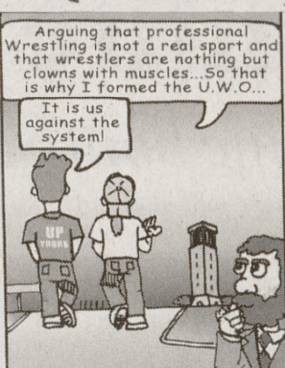
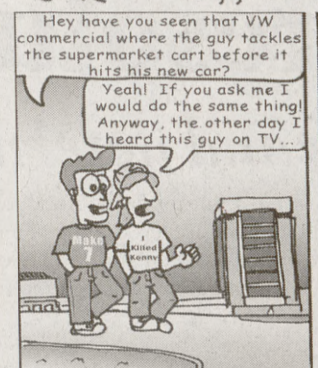
Anuttama, a Hare Krishna spokesperson, said the organization planned to comment on the lawsuit Monday.

Turley said the abuse started in 1972 at ISKCON's first school in Dallas, and continued at other U.S. schools and two in India.

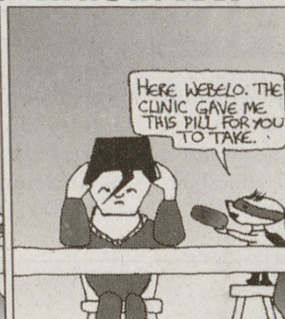
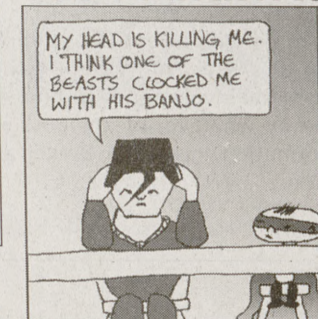
He said he believes more than half of the children in the schools were victimized.

"We believe the facts, as they are developed, reveal more than 1,000 child victims, many of whom have already taken their own lives or are today emotionally and socially dysfunctional," said Turley, whose Dallas law firm won millions in a sex abuse case against the Catholic Church.

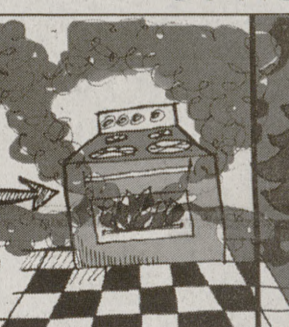
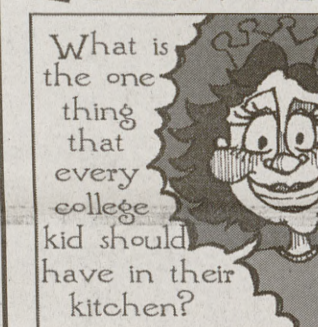
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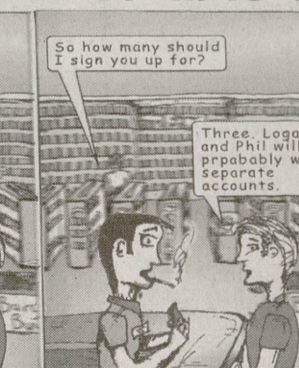
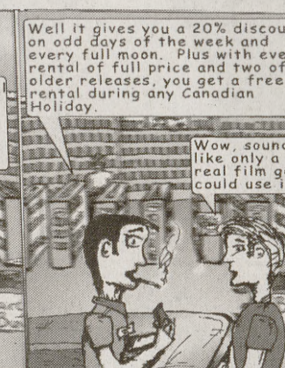
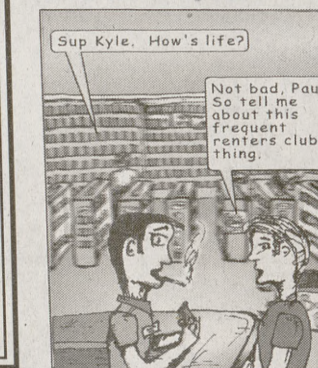
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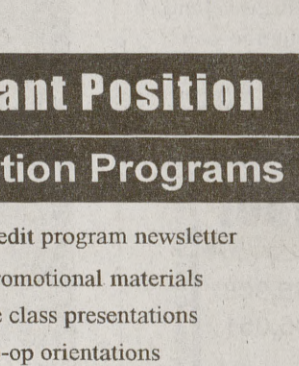
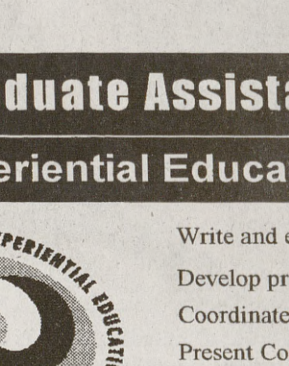
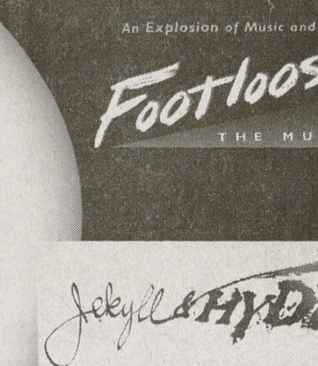
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by kyle w



Plaques removed from courthouse

AUSTIN (AP) — Two plaques bearing symbols of the Confederacy were removed from the building of the state Supreme Court by the weekend in spite of calls from Confederate heritage groups for a public hearing.

The plaques were replaced with new ones that say equality is available to all Texas "regardless of race, creed or color," and that the building was constructed with money from a Confederate pension fund and dedicated to Texas who served in the Confederacy.

Confederate heritage groups complained about the "dark night" removal and promised legal action.

The original plaques contained a quote from Gen. Robert E. Lee and included symbols of the Confederate battle flag and seal of the Confederacy.

The Texas chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and others called the original plaques offensive to minorities and had asked Gov. George Bush, the presumptive Republican presidential nominee, to have them removed.

The plaques were replaced by the state General Services Commission in consultation with the governor's office. Associate Supreme Court Justice Alberto Gonzales.

Gonzales told the American Statesman in Monday's edition that Bush's office consulted with various officials and officials to choose wording for the replacement plaques. He said they were viewed by lawyers in case of legal challenges.

A Bush spokesperson did not immediately return phone calls to The Associated Press.

Gonzales said the plaques were replaced at night to avoid disrupting court business on the day with the noise of construction into granite walls.

"The court never officially ruled on this," Gonzales said. "We're all hopeful we can get an issue behind us. Indirectly [controversy] was viewed as criticism of the court."

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The Battalion (ISSN #1055-4726) is published through Friday during the fall and spring semesters and through Thursday during the summer session (except on holidays and exam periods) at Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843-1111.

Postage: Paid at College Station, TX 77843-1111.

News: The Battalion news department is managed by Texas A&M University in the Division of Student Media, Department of Journalism, News offices are in 014 Kaldus Building, Newsroom phone: 845-3313; Fax: 845-3313; Thebattalion@hotmail.com; Web site: <http://battalion.tamu.edu>

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Subscriptions: A part of the Student Services Fee, TAMU student to pick up a single copy of The Battalion; additional copies 25¢. Mail subscriptions are \$10 for the fall or spring semester and \$17.50 for the year by Visa, MasterCard, Discover, or American Express.

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