

Editor sentenced to three years in prison

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — The editor of a newspaper whose story on a monk's alleged sex-and-blackmail scheme sparked riots was convicted Sunday of undermining public security and sentenced to three years in prison.

In its ruling against Mamdouh Mahran, editor of the small weekly Al-Nabaa, the court did not say whether the allegations in the article were true, but it may issue a more comprehensive verdict later.

Mahran, who was not in court Sunday, published a story in June claiming that a Coptic Orthodox monk had sex with women in a southern Egyptian monastery and then blackmailed them.

A lawyer for the Coptic Orthodox Church said the sentence for the monk, who has been defrocked, was too lenient.

"Three years is not enough. We expected a more deterrent sentence," said the lawyer, Naguib Gobraiell.

The article, illustrated with blurred photographs, caused an outcry. The church condemned it, saying the man was no longer a monk and denying that any sex occurred inside the monastery. Hundreds of Copts demonstrated in Cairo and

clashed with police.

The Emergency State Security Court in Cairo was ringed by heavy security Sunday as it convicted Mahran of publishing material that undermined public security and inciting the public against Christian clerics.

A few people in the courtroom applauded the ruling, shouting "Long live justice!"

In addition to the prison sentence, the judges fined Mahran \$47 and ordered the confiscation of the June 17 edition of Al-Nabaa and the videotape from which the photographs taken.

Defense lawyers criticized the judgment.

"This is a (politically) motivated and hasty verdict," lawyer Nabih el-Wahsh told the Associated Press.

The verdict and sentence can be appealed only to President Hosni Mubarak.

The Press Syndicate supported the Church's protests over the article and revoked Mahran's membership, preventing him from working as a journalist. However, Mahran successfully appealed to Egypt's Administrative Court.

Copts make up about 10 percent of the population of mostly Muslim Egypt.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Earthquake shakes Greece but no injuries reported

KALAMATA, Greece (AP) — A moderate earthquake rattled southern Greece on Sunday, causing damage to some churches and homes. There were no serious injuries, reports said.

The quake, which had a preliminary magnitude of 5.2, occurred at 5:01 a.m. with an epicenter roughly 18 miles north of Kalamata near the southern tip of the Greek mainland, the Athens Geodynamic Institute said.

At least two churches suf-

fered large cracks and other structural damage. Some homes — mostly vacant, older dwellings previously damaged by quakes — collapsed or lost walls, reports said.

An earthquake of magnitude 2.5 to 3 is the smallest generally felt by people. A quake of magnitude 5 can cause moderate damage.

Gunmen raid village, at least 11 killed

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) — Members of a right-wing paramilitary group raided a Colombian village early Sunday and killed at least 11 people, authorities said.

National Police spokeswoman Jenny Alvarado said up to 15 people may have been executed in the early morning massacre near the township of Falan, some 74 miles west of the capital, Bogota.

Fighters from the United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia, or AUC, killed the villagers after accusing them of working with leftist guerrillas, said Tolima Police Col. Ciro Chitiva.

Authorities from the attorney general's office and the government's human rights office were heading to the region in Tolima state to investigate. Police said four people were badly injured in the massacre.

Picture perfect



Nine-year-old Anne Marie Wymola of Bryan shows her best surprised face in an emotions relay race during a children's literacy program at the Bryan Public Library on Sunday. Libraries in both Bryan and Coler Station recently began offering children's literacy programs guided by Texas A&M education majors.

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<p>• Come On In!—The Rec Center is open as usual, please exercise caution around the construction site in front of the Rec Center. On-campus students are encouraged to use the bus system to get to the Rec Center. Rec Members may enter the Rec Center through the Backyard west side entrance (facing Reed Arena) Monday–Friday from 11:30am–11:00pm. For the most up-to-date campus parking information call PTTS at 862–PARK.</p>	<p>• Golf Lessons!—Single and group lessons available for beginners to those looking to improve skills. Rates are a very competitive \$30.00 per individual lesson or \$50.00 per group lesson. Discounts are available for 3 lessons or more. Contact Rick Kahlich at 845-1723 for more information.</p> <p>Open to the public! We are located on the southside of the A&M campus. Call the Pro Shop at 845-1723 & visit us online.</p>	<p>• Rio Grande Thanksgiving Trip!—Join TAMU Outdoors for a Thanksgiving Break and get away from it all on the Rio Grande River. We will canoe the scenic wilderness of West Texas, hike through side canyons, explore the desert and sleep under the stars. Register through November 9th, travel November 21–25th. Price starts at \$243 for Rec Members.</p>																																													
PLAY EVERYDAY WITH INTRAMURALS	GET WET WITH AQUATICS	UPCOMING EVENT																																													
<p>• Volleyball Officials Orientation Clinics!—Earn some extra money this semester with this great starter job! No previous experience is necessary. Attend the orientation clinic on September 24th at 7:00pm in Rec Room 281 and get hired!</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; font-size: 0.8em;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Program</th> <th>Registration</th> <th>Cost</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Tennis (tourn. only)</td> <td>Sept. 10–Sept. 18</td> <td>FREE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CoRec Softball</td> <td>Sept. 17–Sept. 25</td> <td>\$40/team</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Squash</td> <td>Sept. 17–Sept. 25</td> <td>FREE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Handball</td> <td>Sept. 3–Sept. 25</td> <td>FREE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Golf Skills Challenge</td> <td>Sept. 17–Sept. 25</td> <td>FREE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Volleyball</td> <td>Sept. 24–Oct. 2</td> <td>\$40/team</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Horseshoes</td> <td>Sept. 24–Oct. 2</td> <td>FREE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Table Tennis</td> <td>Oct. 1–Oct. 9</td> <td>FREE</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>• Soccer Fanatics Get Ready To Cheer!—Come out and watch the excitement of Texas A&M club sports! The Men's and Women's Soccer Clubs will be competing soon. Check out the Recsports website for more details on this and all Sports Clubs events year round.</p>	Program	Registration	Cost	Tennis (tourn. only)	Sept. 10–Sept. 18	FREE	CoRec Softball	Sept. 17–Sept. 25	\$40/team	Squash	Sept. 17–Sept. 25	FREE	Handball	Sept. 3–Sept. 25	FREE	Golf Skills Challenge	Sept. 17–Sept. 25	FREE	Volleyball	Sept. 24–Oct. 2	\$40/team	Horseshoes	Sept. 24–Oct. 2	FREE	Table Tennis	Oct. 1–Oct. 9	FREE	<p>• NEW-MASTERS Swim Program!—Workouts are tailored to meet the individual's goals, whether you seek to increase your fitness, improve your stroke or have a desire to compete. Morning and evening practice times are offered as well as a Saturday workout. \$50 for 25 workout passes. Program has just started, get involved now.</p> <p>• NEW & FREE!—Polar Bear Club!—The 'Polar Bear Club' is a self-paced aquatics fitness program. Designed to motivate all levels of swimmers and water exercise enthusiasts in a fun, supportive environment. To sign up ask ANY aquatics staff member. After completion of 100 miles or 100 hours of workout—you will be inducted into the club—great prizes will be given away in May 2002.</p> <p>• Advanced SCUBA!—Expand your skills into specialty diving with this advanced SCUBA course. Classes will be held Oct. 4 & 5th, Mondays–Thursdays from 6:00–10:00 p.m. & Open Water Training dates TBA the first day of class. Cost starts at \$110 for Rec Members. Rescue Scuba also offered, registration ending October 10th.</p>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; font-size: 0.8em;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Upcoming Event</th> <th>Registration</th> <th>Event Date</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Intro To Rock Climbing</td> <td>Sept. 3–Sept. 19</td> <td>Sept. 22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kayak Open Practice</td> <td>Sept. 3–Sept. 24</td> <td>Sept. 25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rock Climb Enchanted Rock</td> <td>Sept. 3–Sept. 25</td> <td>Sept. 28–30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fly Fishing/Canoe Trip</td> <td>Sept. 3–Sept. 25</td> <td>Sept. 29</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Into To Rock Climbing</td> <td>Sept. 3–Sept. 26</td> <td>Sept. 30</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Upcoming Event	Registration	Event Date	Intro To Rock Climbing	Sept. 3–Sept. 19	Sept. 22	Kayak Open Practice	Sept. 3–Sept. 24	Sept. 25	Rock Climb Enchanted Rock	Sept. 3–Sept. 25	Sept. 28–30	Fly Fishing/Canoe Trip	Sept. 3–Sept. 25	Sept. 29	Into To Rock Climbing	Sept. 3–Sept. 26	Sept. 30
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<p>• NEW & FREE!—Weight Room Orientation!—Our newest FREE programming offering is available every Saturday at 11:00 a.m.</p> <p>• 'Jump Start' YOUR Fall Fitness Goals!—Begin your healthy lifestyle with: 1 personal training session, fitness profile, nutrition consultation & more for only \$30!</p> <p>• Fall 2001—Healthy Living Lecture Series!—All of these programs are FREE, you are asked to arrive in room 281 Rec before 5:30pm, no late admittance.</p> <p>September 19—<i>Eating Well on Campus—Is It Possible?</i> September 26—<i>Putting the Fun in Run!</i> October 3—<i>Running Injuries & Their Prevention</i> October 10—<i>Getting Out of Your Training Rut!</i> October 17—<i>Fad Diets: What is the meaning of this Madness!</i></p>																																															

NEWS IN BRIEF
 Recent developments related to a...
 • The New Exchange reop... first time since... attacks, with... Industrials d... points and pu... below 9000 fo... since Decembe... recovering som... House says ec... ally sound.
 • An hour... opened, the F... cut its key inte... keep the econo... ing into a reces... eighth rate cut...
 • Senior Pak... travel to... Afghanistan... Taliban's sup... hand over Osa... or risk massi... assault from th...
 • President G... pledges "crusa... world of evil-d... off reported bi... Vice President... warns that tho... terrorists face... of the United S...
 • Number m... Trade Center... 190 confirme... identified, the... names ma... Confirmed Pen... on the ground... for 118. Ident... two planes th... Trade Center... that struck Pen... York Fire Dep... motes 168 fir... void left by n... fighters still mi...
 • The IMF... Bank, both in... cancels Sept... meetings out... families touc... attacks and to... ment officials... issues raised b...

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