

TAMU CCA
Texas A&M Chapter of the Coastal Conservation Association

First Meeting: 7:30 pm Monday, September 23 at T-Bone Jones Steakhouse on University Drive
 Come for food, fun, and fishing stories!
 For more information contact Nick Laskowski at 575-4332 or Jared Klostermann at 574-6122

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Fish
 by R. DeLuna

Beernuts by Rob Appling

funny side up ↑
 by Josh Darwin

Appeals court upholds clinic laws

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — A South Carolina law allowing state inspectors access to all abortion clinic records does not violate patients' privacy rights, a divided federal appeals court ruled Thursday.

The 2-1 decision by the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals reversed a lower court ruling on the privacy issue. It upheld part of the earlier ruling which said the other abortion clinic regulations are constitutional.

Two clinics had challenged the regulations, arguing the confidentiality of patient information is vital because women seeking abortions could face harassment. However, the appeals court noted that the state is required to keep patient records confidential.

"Even though the abortion clinics can conceive of circumstances where patients' privacy rights could be violated, either deliberately or through negligence, we cannot assume that the confidentiality measures adopted by South Carolina to prevent such violations will be administered improperly," Judge Paul V. Niemeyer wrote.

The clinics also claimed the law illegally gives hospitals the power to determine whether a physician can obtain a license to perform abortions.

Under the law, doctors who want to perform an abortion must have arrangements with a physician who has admitting privileges at a hospital in case of emergency.

The appeals court said the provision is "so obviously beneficial to patients" that it could not rule it unconstitutional.

The abortion providers argued that a provision requiring them to make clergy available for counseling coerces participation in religion and violates the constitutional separation of church and state. Again, the appeals court disagreed.

"This section would appear at most to require a clinic to accommodate the request of patients to exercise religion, a right also protected by the First Amendment," Niemeyer wrote.

The court also rejected the clinics' argument that the regulations, which cover standards ranging from door widths to air flow, are unconstitutionally vague.

In a dissenting opinion, Judge Robert King derided the regulation for "micromanaging everything from elevator safety to countertop varnish to the location of janitors' closets." Such regulations are intended to make abortions effectively unavailable, he said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

CA teacher sent to prison for molesting boys at two schools

SANTA ANA, Calif. (AP) — An elementary school teacher was sentenced Thursday to 24 years in prison for molesting three students in his classroom at two schools.

Jason Abhyankar, 28, was found guilty in February on nine counts of molestation. He was acquitted of one charge involving a fourth boy.

Abhyankar was convicted of molesting the boys, ages 9 to 11, in his fourth-grade classroom during school hours at Village View Elementary School in Huntington Beach and Portola Hills Elementary School in Trabuco Canyon. The crimes occurred between September 1998 and January 2000.

Prosecutors presented evidence that Huntington Beach school officials received many complaints from parents.

THE BATTALION

Dallas
 Continued from page 1

Gay, associate director of admissions.

Gay said the center is a "one stop shop," where students can find out anything they need to know regarding their application to A&M. Students receive the same services would receive traveling to College Station.

The center, Gay said, is a major advantage to the University, recruiting prospective students. The center will allow recruiters to establish a stronger relationship with schools in the area and allow them to fulfill the special need, she said.

Gay said that former students have offered to be a peer at the center.

Although the Dallas Short, said, the center is the actual regional recruiting center to A&M. It plans to construct additional centers in the Lower Rio Grande Valley, San Antonio, and El Paso.

Ivory Coast

Continued from page 1

and said the uprising was "except for pockets of violence" in the cities of Bouaké and Khorogo. As of now, "the has taken everything under control," Kouassi said.

The uprising was led by as many as 800 soldiers, embassy security personnel on condition of anonymity. There were no reports of political capital.

French Foreign Minister Dominique de Villepin said the uprising was a "major moment" in the history of the Ivory Coast's former colonial revolt appeared to be "led by certain soldiers" who were leaving the service.

Six paramilitary police were killed in the initial Abidjan, according to the military police officer in base. There was no word on casualties among assailants. At least two one soldier and a bystander reported killed outside Abidjan.

The attackers were from the base several days later, the officer said. and repeated heavy explosions apparently mortars, spraying other parts of the city, including the downtown and suburbs.

A rocket hit an anti-air post, injuring two officers and partially destroying the building authorities at the base said.

State radio and TV went the air.

Authorities closed the national airport, and were deserted in the city. Witnesses said soldiers were shooting at motorists approaching roadblocks.

The insurgents were a mix of civilian and military clothing, making it difficult to tell them apart.

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THE BATTALION (ISSN #1055-4726) is published daily, Monday through Friday during the fall and spring semesters and Monday through Thursday during the summer session (except University holidays and exam periods) at Texas A&M University, Periodicals Postage Paid at College Station, TX 77840. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Battalion, Texas A&M University, 1111 TAMU, College Station, TX 77843-1111.

News: The Battalion news department is managed by students at Texas A&M University in the Division of Student Media, a unit of the Department of Journalism. News offices are at 014 Reed McDonald Building. Newsroom phone: 845-3313; Fax: 845-2647; E-mail: newsroom@thebatt.com; Web site: http://www.thebatt.com

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