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Posted: Monday, 14 May 2007 2:43PM

Gay marriage lawsuit heads to state's high court

C.P.

Hartford, CT (AP) -- A potentially groundbreaking case over same-sex marriage and the constitutionality of civil unions in Connecticut heads to the state Supreme Court tomorrow morning.

Eight gay and lesbian couples say in their lawsuit that the state's refusal to let them marry violates their constitutional rights. The couples filed suit in August of 2004.

A lower court dismissed the suit last year, saying they received the equality they sought when Connecticut passed a same-sex civil unions law in 2005.

The couples say that's not true, though.

They say married couples get benefits related to taxes, Social Security beneficiary rules, veterans' benefits and other rights that same-sex couples do not.

Arguments in the case start at 10 o'clock this morning. A decision is expected later this year.

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Today's Audio

Pitbull ban considered on Beacon Hill
Dr. Nicholas Dodman, an animal behavioral specialist at the Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University, describes the history of the so-called "pitbull." He told Massachusetts lawmakers, he objects to any "breed-specific" ban.

My WBZ Afternoon Headlines for 05/14/2007.
Al-Qaida says it's holding missing soldiers in Iraq. CT Supreme Court takes on gay marriage, Tuesday. Feds to monitor council vote in Boston. Wall Street, weather, more.

Big Dig payback
A.G. Martha Coakley talks to WBZ Editor Ed Golden about the settlement with A-I-G, the Big Dig's workers' compensation insurance carrier.

A small increase in gas prices
John Paul of AAA of Southern New England has the latest on gas prices in our area.

Forget rising gas prices, bike to work
WBZ's Carl Stevens tells us about how the MBTA is encouraging pedal power.

Josh Beckett talks about his injury
He talks to reporters about the injury to his finger.

Tyngsborough company builds military robot
The president of Black-I Robotics speaks with WBZ Producer Lauren Oaks about the 'Land Shark'.

Good samaritan resuscitates girl struck by car
A 16-year old Stoneham girl has an off-duty F.B.I. agent to thank for her life, after she's hit by a car on Main Street. WBZ's Carl Stevens spoke with agent Pete Bickmore about his heroics.

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Gay marriage lawsuit heads to state's high court

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