

# THE BATTALION

Vol. 102, No. 154 (6 pages)

Serving Texas A&M University Since 1893

THE BATT ON-LINE: <http://bat-web.tamu.edu>

Tuesday • June 25, 1996

## Court delays Jones suit

### The decision spares Clinton a possible embarrassing trial

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court agreed Monday to put Paula Jones' sexual harassment suit against President Clinton on hold until after the November election, sparing him the possibility of an embarrassing trial at the height of the campaign.

The justices decided to study whether the lawsuit should be delayed until Clinton leaves office. They are expected to hear arguments this fall or winter and likely will issue a ruling in 1997.

The court will hear Clinton's argument that presidents have "unique responsibilities" and almost never should have to face trial in private civil lawsuits while in office.

Clinton welcomed the development. "The White House is pleased that the court has recognized the merits in the petition put forward by the president's attorneys," press secretary Mike McCurry said while traveling with the president in Nashville, Tenn.

Jones' lawyer, Joseph Cammarata, said

the court's action "should not be any indication of how they are going to rule. The eventual decision is going to be a clear affirmation that we as American citizens are all equal in the eyes of the law. No one is above the law."

Jones' lawsuit alleges that Clinton propositioned her in a Little Rock hotel suite in 1991 while he was governor of Arkansas, but that she rejected his suggestion.

Clinton has denied ever having an encounter with Jones and has said he cannot recall ever meeting her.

Jones filed the lawsuit in May 1994 and is seeking more than \$700,000 in damages.

A federal judge in Arkansas ruled that a trial should be delayed until Clinton leaves office

but that pretrial fact-gathering could begin.

The 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals decided in January, however, that the case could go to trial during Clinton's presidency.

"We hold that the Constitution does not confer upon an incumbent president any immunity from civil actions that arise from his unofficial acts," the appeals court said.

In the appeal granted Monday, Clinton's lawyers said only "exceptional circumstances" should force a sitting president to face trial in a private civil lawsuit.

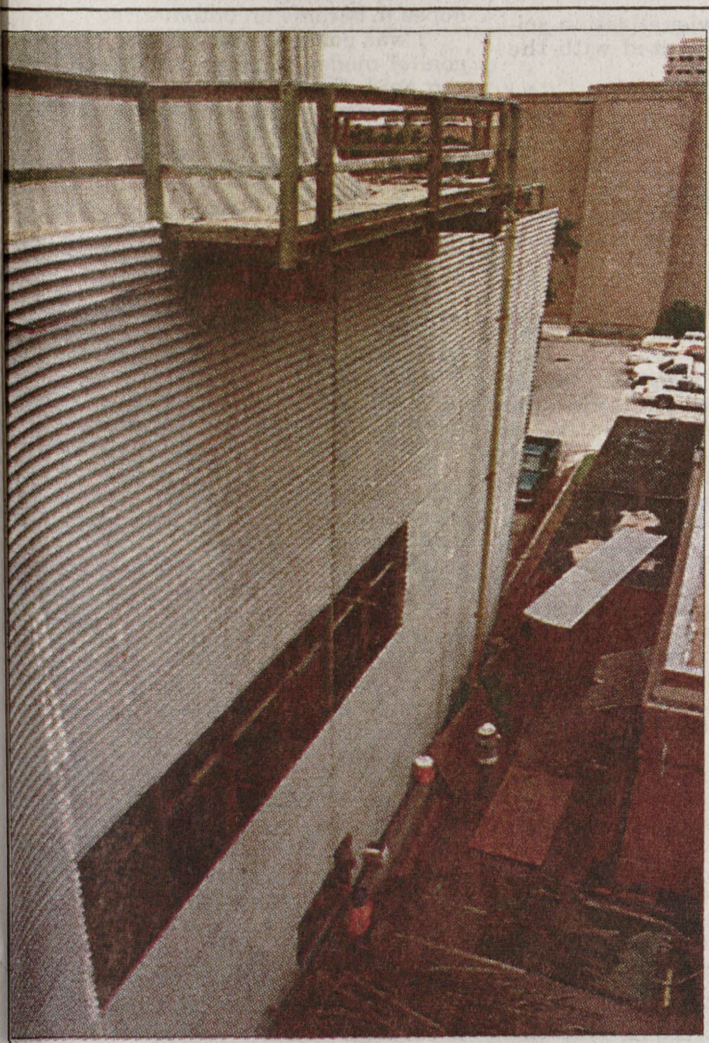
No other president has been compelled to do so, his lawyers said, adding that a trial could jeopardize the constitutional separation of powers between the judiciary and presidency.

Jones' lawyers had argued that a trial should go forward, adding that a delay would hurt her case.

Her lawyers said Clinton did not show that his presidential duties would be impaired by the case.



CLINTON



Pat James, THE BATTALION

## COOL REMODELING

Construction workers gut the inside of one of A&M's cooling towers. They will update the outdated structure with newer materials.

## Commandant search underway

Ann Marie Hauser  
THE BATTALION

Three of the four possible candidates to fill the Corps commandant position will be on campus for the next three weeks for interviews. The individuals selected for the interviews are Air Force Maj. Gen. Jay D. Blume Jr., Marine Corps Maj. Gen. M.T. "Ted" Hoppood Jr. and Army Lt. Gen. J.T. "Terry" Scott.

All three general officers are former students of Texas A&M. Scott and Blume received their degrees in 1964 and Hoppood in 1965.

Corps Commander Steve Foster, a senior political science major, said A&M is fortunate to have such high caliber officers applying for the position.

"Texas A&M and the Corps of Cadets will be extra lucky to have any one of these generals selected as commandant," Foster said. "Their leadership is truly impressive."

The interviewing process is an opportunity to have an interactive session with a panel of 15 cadets and each candidate, Foster said.

Blake McKinney, a member of the panel and a junior biomedical science major, said he plans to make sure the candidates see the students' position.

"We want to make sure he understands that the Corps is a student organization and academics is our first priority," McKinney said. Scott inspected McKinney's room his freshman year on a visit to A&M campus.

"He didn't say much," McKinney said. "He had a powerful quiet."

See Commandant, Page 2

## HOT steppin'

By Ann Marie Hauser  
THE BATTALION

One day it's camouflage, the next it's Calvin Klein. One week it's Texas Aggie Youth Camp counselor, the next it's a modeling contest at Disney's Epcot Center.

From runway shows for The Gap to 6:40 a.m. formations on the quad, Cadet Johnny Madison, a sophomore biomedical science major of Dallas, has experienced a rare first year at Texas A&M.

His modeling work began the summer before he came to A&M.

At first, Madison said, he was concerned about upperclassmen finding out about his modeling because he wanted to be known for excelling as a cadet, not as a model.

"Sometimes I wish people didn't know, because then it makes me feel like I'm not the red-ass fish I thought I was," Madison said. "There was no special treatment at all from my upperclassmen and that was the best thing that could have happened."

Madison's desire to be an Aggie outshines his interest in modeling.

In January, he decided to choose education over a modeling opportunity in Paris.

Madison made the decision in New York, where he was about to make a connecting flight to Paris. He changed his mind when he reflected on all he had established in College Station.

"I had promised my buddies that I wasn't quitting and I would be back," Madison said. "My friends and my education are a priority in my life right now. Modeling is just for fun."

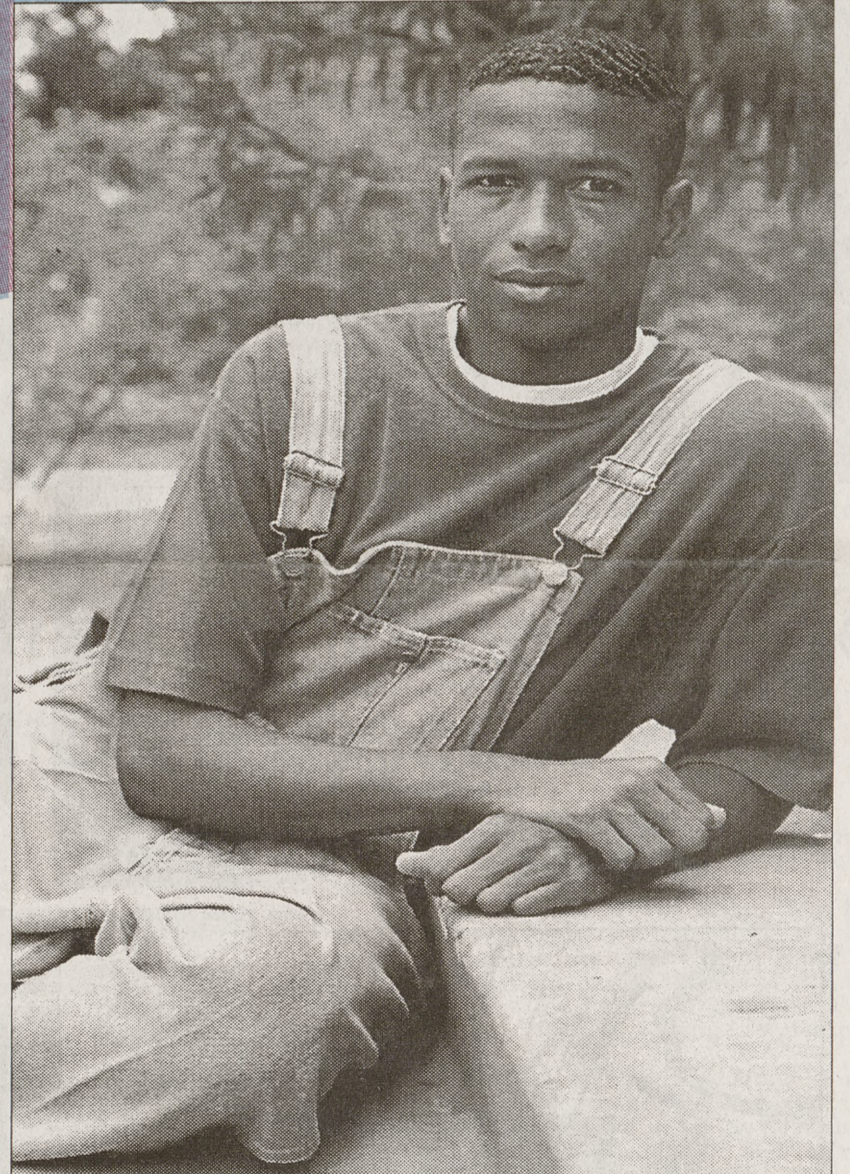
According to Madison, modeling is not always the glamorous life. He said it can get demanding and boring.

One of his least favorite memories of modeling was at a photo shoot in Colorado, where he had to ignore freezing conditions and smile naturally while modeling a short-sleeved shirt.

"They told me to quit faking my smile," Madison said. "I was freezing and ready to go home."

Madison admits modeling does have its moments.

See Model, Page 2



Gwendolyn Struve, THE BATTALION

Gap model Johnny Madison, a sophomore biomedical science major, is in Florida competing in talent, runway and print modeling competitions.

## A&M's grass roots weed out U.T.'s pump

### Kyle Field's renovation relies on mother nature

Kyle Field will have a new look as it enters the Big 12 for the 1996 football season. The stadium's astroturf was replaced with natural grass last spring.

Texas A&M will be one of five schools in the Big 12 with a natural grass field.

Leo Goertz, athletic field manager, said people have wondered for several years when A&M would make the switch from artificial turf to natural grass.

"The astroturf had reached its life expectancy," Goertz said. "It was time to replace it."

Goertz said the athletic department decided to switch to natural grass now instead of waiting.

Reasons for the change to grass are many. Many people believe the grass is healthier.

Recruiting and safety go hand in hand," Goertz said. "High school coaches and their parents are concerned because they read reports about injuries and astroturf."

Andre Williams, cornerback and a former marketing major, said he prefers grass over turf.

"There's no doubt grass feels better," Williams said. "If you fall on turf, nine times out of ten you get burned."

Sherrod Wyatt, free safety and a senior agricultural economics major, agreed with Williams.

"I'm glad we have grass now," Wyatt said. "It's softer and doesn't wear and tear on your knees as bad."

The new field is constructed in layers. There is a root zone mix made of a special particle-size sand and peat moss, a layer of gravel and a layer of drain lines.

The University of Texas switched Memorial Stadium's field to natural grass also, which leaves students to wonder whose field is better.

Doug Wilson, director of events and facilities for men's athletics at UT, said the main difference between A&M's and UT's fields is the drainage system. Kyle Field relies on gravity to drain water off the field, while Memorial Stadium uses a vacuum system.

"We have the ability to vacuum water off the field and to subirrigate," Wilson said.

Goertz said subirrigation is a better way to water the field than sprinklers because less water is evaporated in the process.

Dr. Richard White, associate professor of soil and crop sciences, said both drainage systems should work

equally well if constructed correctly.

Goertz said the gravity drainage system drains up to 15 inches of water in one hour.

"We could have a 15-inch rainstorm and in one hour it's dry," Goertz said.

He said that the subirrigation system of watering would not be a good idea for Kyle Field because of the poor quality of the water in College Station.

"It (the gravity drainage system) is a reasonably good choice for our area," White said.

Goertz said the athletic department has had positive feedback about the switch to grass.

"A tremendous amount of people a day come by to see the field," Goertz said.

Changes will have to be made in the use of Kyle Field since the switch has been made to grass. Goertz said the field will become a single-use facility.

Kinesiology classes and band practice will be held on the astroturf practice field. The Aggie Band will no longer be on the field at Yell Practice.

"In the short run there will be ill feelings because people can't do the things they used to do," Goertz said.

"In the long run they will appreciate it."

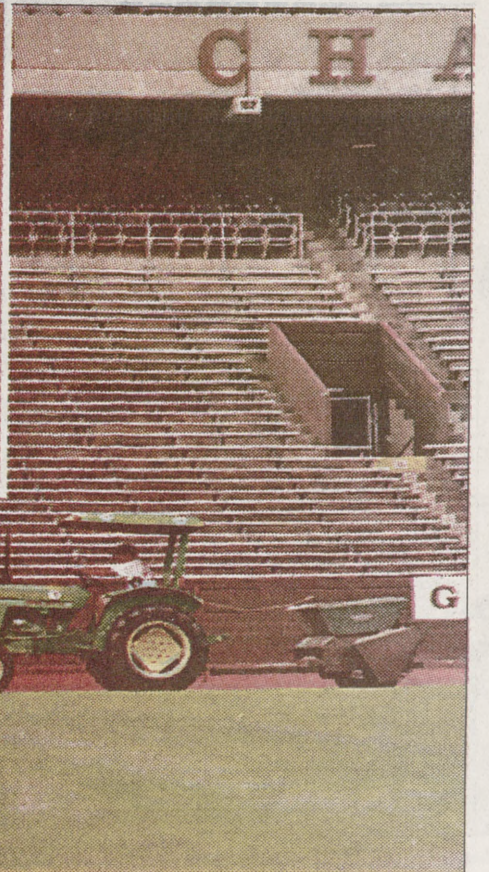
Goertz said the grass field will cool the stadium off during the hot months.

"Fans will realize how much cooler it is; grass absorbs heat, turf reflects it," Goertz said. "It will be about 15 or 20 degrees cooler with grass."

The old astroturf from Kyle Field is in storage for now. The athletic department has not yet decided what to do with it.

"It's not viable to use as a playing field anywhere else," Goertz said.

Goertz said athletic department officials are considering cutting up the astroturf and putting it on donor plaques or selling it to high schools for use in their weight rooms.



Shane Elkins, THE BATTALION

By Melissa Nunnery  
THE BATTALION