

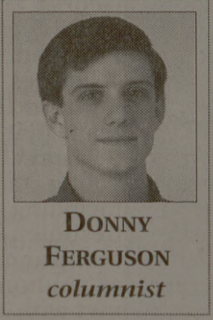
Monday • April 13, 1998

**PERSPECTIVES**

# Feminists v. Jones

## Women's groups failure to rally behind stands as evidence of selling out for political power

Call up some Arkansas State Troopers and prepare the Lincoln Bedroom, the Paula Jones sexual harassment case has been thrown out of court and a believed Bill Clinton dating again.



**DONNY FERGUSON**  
columnist

came public, NOW even went so far as to call Clinton's actions those of a "sexual predator," but stopped short of asking him to leave office. NOW's message is clear and simple: they love sexual predators, so long as they are leftist and pro-abortion.

Compare Clinton's NOW-issued lifetime pass with the treatment feminists gave Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas. Thomas, a conservative black scholar, was all but confirmed to the Supreme Court after his 1991 Bush appointment. However, feminists waged an eleventh-hour attempt to sabotage the confirmation hearings when Anita Hill, a former employee with no credibility, no evidence and four "witnesses" who couldn't seem to tell the same story came forward to charge Thomas with sexual harassment.

Most Senators proceeded to confirm Thomas when Hill began making outrageous statements such as the harassment began in the early spring of 1981, though she didn't even meet him until September, and her witnesses told differing stories. Despite the fact Hill had no evidence, no credibility, her witnesses were about as convincing as the *Weekly World News* and only 24 percent of Americans believed her, feminists adopted her charges as gospel. Willey, on the other hand, has corroborating witnesses, a credible story and no political motive, yet NOW gives Clinton a walk. This isn't the first time feminists have given a free sexual hunting license to predators.

A pantless legend, Senator Ted "I'd Drive You Home, But You Can't Swim" Kennedy could publish an entire Time-Life series on sexual assault and how to get away with it. Yet, despite his long, sordid history as a sexual offender he is Ally #1 of the feminist fringe. Among his low lights, he and Connecticut Senator Chris Dodd once made a "waitress sandwich" on Kennedy's lap at La Brasserie, a Washington, D.C., restaurant. Again, feminists not only refused to call for his resignation,

but stood by the pro-abortion senator unilaterally.

Why then, does Bill Clinton and his fellow love machines escape the high-pitched war whoops of feminists while Clarence Thomas and other become the targets of trumped-up charges? The answer is simple — feminists can be bought and sold like a '72 Pinto.

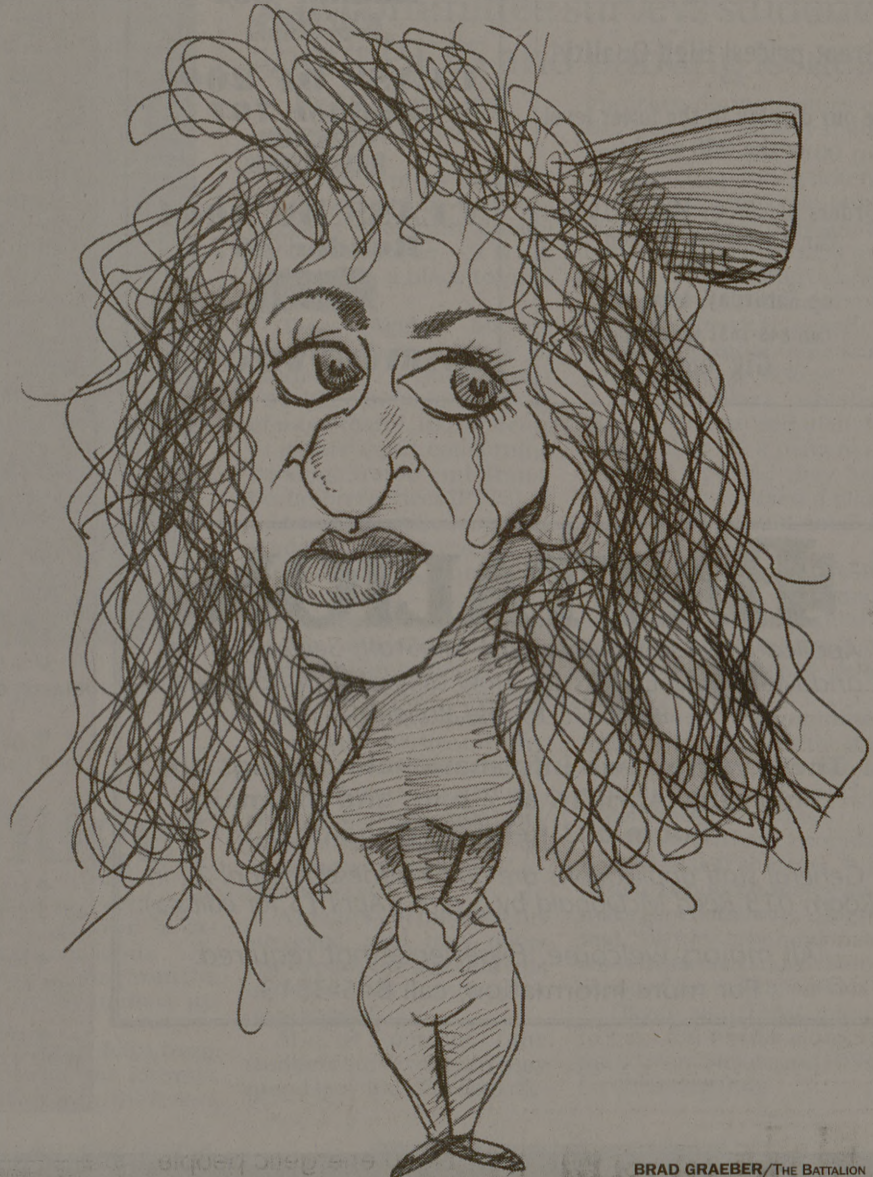
The NOW gang leaves sexual assault victims like Kathleen Willey out to dry because feminism isn't about standing up for women, it is about grabbing as much political power as you can and not letting go.

Clinton gets a free pass, mostly because of his anti-life stance on abortion. Not only did he repeatedly veto a ban on gruesome partial-birth abortion, so cruel and unusual even staunch pro-choicers like New York Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan call it "infanticide," he continues to fight for unlimited, unchecked abortions for all women, through all nine months of pregnancy.

In a July 1, 1992 campaign letter to pro-abortionists, Clinton noted that, "I have repeatedly called for national health insurance which would cover the cost of pregnancy-related medical procedures including abortions," and "I will sign the Freedom of Choice Act." While his love of taxpayer-funded abortions and the Freedom of Choice Act, which would allow abortions through all nine months of pregnancy, alienates and sickens most people, it pleases the pro-abortion National Organization for Women just fine.

Feminists have given the Bill Clintons and Ted Kennedys of the world a free pass for far too long. The NAACP wouldn't endorse David Duke if he hired a black campaign manager and People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals wouldn't flock to a Ted Turner hot dog luncheon. The National Organization for Women, however, has turned selling out into an art form, and Bill Clinton is cashing in.

Donny Ferguson is a junior political science major.

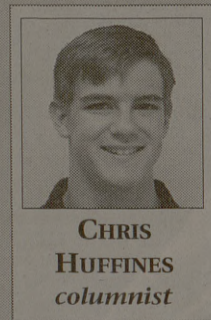


BRAD GRAEBER/THE BATTALION

### CAMPUS CONNECTION

## Eight o'clock classes do not benefit learning process

For hundreds of students at A&M, the day begins before dawn. The alarm goes off; they drag their tired, sleep-deprived, mental corpses out of bed and slowly stagger into the day.



**CHRIS HUFFINES**  
columnist

As they walk into class, lifeless behind their dull, glassy eyes, the rooster crows to meet the sun.

Many students and faculty here at A&M would probably give three reasons that eight o'clock classes are, if not necessary, at the very least, a good idea.

These would be that, in the real world, employees do not get to set their own hours. If you want to keep a job, when the boss says nine to five, you go in at nine and leave at five.

Another reason for eight o'clocks is that it builds character and discipline to get up that early. And finally, educational institutions have had eight o'clocks, or the equivalent thereof, since the time of Socrates and Aristotle. We've always done it that way. Why stop now?

Of course, A&M is not the "real world," A&M doesn't exist to just build character, and "we've always done it that way" is a logical fallacy. But, I get ahead of myself.

First, A&M is not the real world. The real world obeys certain natural laws that A&M does not feel it has to obey. For example, fees increase. In the real world, fees are known as taxes. In the real world, our elected officials (the U.S. and State governments) live in mortal fear of raising taxes too high and thus getting voted out of a nice, cushy job.

At A&M, our elected officials (Student Government and the Yell Leaders) have no say over fees, and do not have nice, cushy jobs.

Second, getting up at eight o'clock, I will admit, does build character. It builds an unflinching determination

to get out of bed, drag one's body into a chair in a certain room at a certain time, and from there enter the day in a zombie-like state of extreme stupor.

Unfortunately for the character of these individuals, this is Texas A&M University. That University word implies that there is some knowledge and learning associated with this place.

In other words, plopping your sleep-deprived body down in a chair and dozing through lecture really doesn't do anything for your learning.

The kick here is that knowledge leads to character, but as has just been shown, character does not necessarily lead to knowledge.

After all, character can be described as the habits that lead to a set of consequences. Good character leads to good consequences. Bad character leads to bad. And, since knowledge allows individuals to anticipate the consequences of their actions, it is pretty apparent that knowledge is the better choice of the two.

Finally, and my personal favorite, the "we've always done it that way" argument. This is what rhetoricians like to call a logical fallacy. It sounds good, and seems to make sense, but is really a lie. After all, for hundreds of years now, the major ethnicity in America oppressed the minorities.

First the French, then the Irish, then Italians and Slavs, and pretty much the entire time blacks and Asians.

We've always done it that way. But, does that make it right?

Just because we've always had eight o'clocks, it does not mean we should. Eight o'clock classes should be abolished, but they never will be.

The forces of social inertia are too strong, and there is no compelling reason to change.

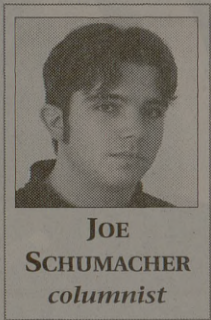
Human beings simply will not change unless they have to, even if it is the better option. It sounds stupid, but we've always done it that way.

Chris Huffines is a sophomore speech communications major.

### STATE OF THE UNION

## Clinton aid to Africa should be refocused toward United States

Clinton has returned from Africa, with a renewed concern for the environment. However, it is not the environment of America he is proposing a treaty for, but that of Africa's.



**JOE SCHUMACHER**  
columnist

Since returning from Africa, Clinton has promised to send more aid to Africa. He is trying to get Congress to nullify a \$350 million debt incurred by the nations on that continent. Clinton also wants to increase aid to African countries to \$840 million.

The fact that Clinton can propose all these benefit packages to another country certainly show the United States is in excellent condition. Obviously, if we can afford to eliminate debts and give aid we must be well off. It is a good thing that all of our social issues have been dealt with.

Africa should be left alone to sort out its differences without foreign intervention, including that of the United States. This would preserve Africa from entangling alliances with other nations.

This would also keep other nations from establishing a sphere of influence and asserting their own dominance in that region.

Maybe it is a lot easier to write treaties with other nations than it is to get current bills through Congress. These treaties probably make it look like Clinton is doing something not just for the good of the United States, but for the good of the world.

As far as the environment is concerned, the United States has its own significant environmental issues. However these issues differ greatly from most countries in Africa due to the fact the United States is an industrialized nation and the countries in Africa are mostly developing.

Additionally, the United States is not in a position to

tell developing nations to preserve their natural resources. In United States history, any time nature has gone up against business and industry, nature has lost.

The railroad industry during the 1800's was notorious for scarring the land. In Florida, the wetlands are being greatly reduced to accommodate more people living in the Sunshine State.

The lumber industry in the Pacific Northwest is currently having to be subsidized so it does not cut down anymore trees.

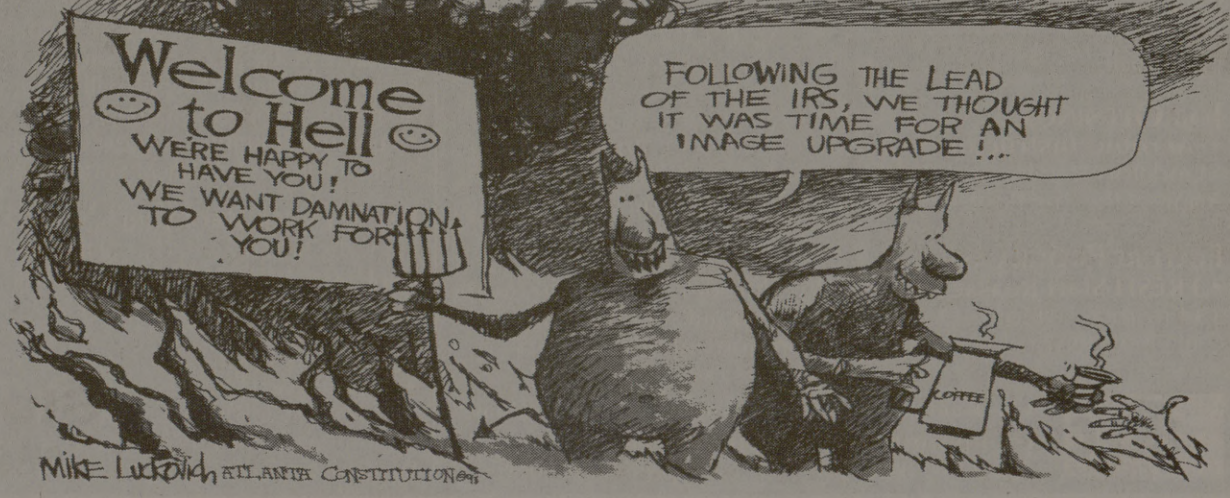
Another international treaty signed by Clinton that could have an even greater impact on the United States is a pact to support African-led peace keeping operations. The treaty was signed along with the nations of France and Great Britain. The idea is that the United States is spending \$2.2 billion a year on peace-keeping in Rwanda and Somalia, so if we joined in a concerted effort, we would ultimately end up saving money. In any "peace keeping" process there is the possibility of bloodshed, and American blood should be considered just as costly, if not more, than \$2.2 billion.

Perhaps the president is merely passing the time with these international treaties. He has to have something to take his mind off the current political scandals that he has faced.

The president should focus on the national issues instead of minor details abroad. There are important foreign policy issues. But the environment of Africa hardly qualifies, and the civil unrest on that continent, although terrible, is no concern of the United States.

These treaties are taking up valuable time in Congress — that could be spent on other issues directly affecting the people of the United States. The United States should spend more time dealing with its own problems instead of playing world park ranger and police officer.

Joe Schumacher is a junior journalism major.



MIKE LUCKOICH/ATLANTA CONSTITUTION