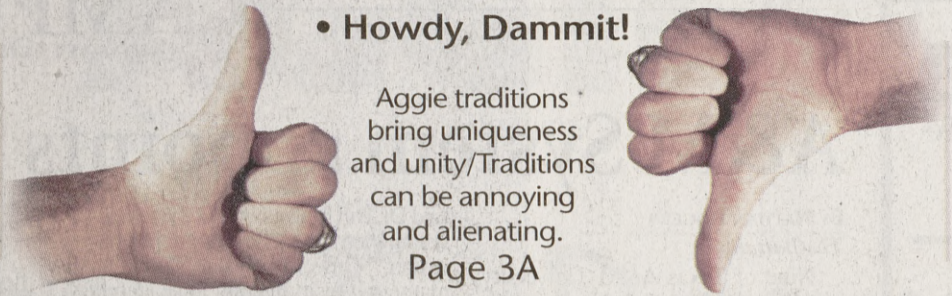


- Listen to KAMU 90.9 FM at 1:57 p.m. for details on a Brazos Valley Veterans' memorial hearing.
- Check out *The Battalion* online at battalion.tamu.edu.



• Howdy, Dammit!

Aggie traditions bring uniqueness and unity. Traditions can be annoying and alienating.
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Weather:
Partly cloudy with a high of 99 and a low of 74.

THE BATTALION

WEDNESDAY

August 30, 2000
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2 Sections
A 8 pages
B 6 pages

107 YEARS AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Clinton may face disbarment

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) — President Clinton said Tuesday he should not be disbarred over his testimony in the Paula Jones sexual harassment case, telling a state judge that losing his law license is too harsh a penalty.

In a five-page response to a complaint filed by the Arkansas Supreme Court Committee on Professional Conduct, the president said that court precedents in Arkansas would prohibit a stiff sanction.

"On the basis of the relevant facts, the governing law and the applicable decisions of the Arkansas courts ..., a sanction of disbarment would be excessively harsh, impermissibly punitive and unprecedented in the circumstances of this case," Clinton's lawyers wrote.

The state conduct committee says the president lied about his relationship with former White House intern Monica Lewinsky when asked about it, under oath, in January 1998.

The president's lawyers agreed with the state's claim that Clinton was trying to save face when asked about Lewinsky.

Clinton "took actions motivated in part by a desire to protect himself and others from embarrassment."

— President Clinton's lawyers in a written statement

Clinton "took actions motivated, in part, by a desire to protect himself and others from embarrassment," the lawyers wrote.

A federal judge found Clinton in contempt and fined him more than \$90,000, saying he intentionally gave misleading testimony while she presided over the deposition.

Clinton's lawyers also acknowledged that the president did not fight the contempt citation, but said he did not do so because the needs of the country came first.

Jones filed suit in May 1994, alleging Clinton made a crude sexual advance toward her three years earlier in a Little Rock hotel room. Jones had hoped to use evidence of the Lewinsky affair as part of an attempt to show a pattern of predatory behavior.

U.S. District Judge Susan Webber Wright, however, said the Lewinsky material was not essential to Jones' case, and later dismissed Jones' lawsuit.

High cotton



STUART VILLANUEVA/THE BATTALION

Roy Llanes Sr., an agricultural worker, labels and clips cotton plants at the Texas A&M Agricultural Research Center Tuesday. The cotton is to be used in research to produce disease-resistant varieties of the crop.

A&M policy deferred

Gay Ags question clause removal from Website

By ROLANDO GARCIA
The Battalion

Jubilation quickly turned to anger and frustration among gay student activists at Texas A&M after A&M President Dr. Ray M. Bowen did an about-face and rescinded a new clause in the 2000-2001 student rules that would prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

New rules were posted Aug. 15 on the student rules Website, listing sexual orientation as one of the protected categories covered by anti-discrimination policy. But gay students had little time to savor their victory — within 24 hours, the sexual orientation clause was removed and the previous wording, which does not list protected groups, was reinstated.

"[Administrators] have made no attempt to explain what happened," said Jordan Davis, president of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered Aggies (GLB-TA) and a junior English major. "We wanted a commitment in writing because all we have now is the slaveowner's word that he won't beat the slave, and, just as slaves don't trust the master, we don't trust the University."

Davis added that, while the University has taken steps to protect gay students from harassment and discrimination, the reworded statement that Bowen removed would have created an official enforcement mechanism and compel the University to foster a non-hostile environment for gay students.

Amy Hinze, a senior sociol-

ogy major, said the symbolic value of the rescinded clause was important.

"It's a great victory just to have sexual orientation recognized," she said. "That would have sent a very good message."

The reversal was prompted by a press release distributed by gay student activists announcing the rule change, said Associate Vice President for Student Affairs Dr. Bill Kibler.

"What happened is not a change in policy, but simply a rewording of the existing rule."

— Dr. Bill Kibler
associate vice president for Student Affairs

"[The students'] immediate response was to claim this change meant something different than what it really meant," Kibler said. "What happened is not a change in policy, but simply a rewording of the existing rule."

In Fall 1999, Bowen vetoed a proposal passed by the Student Senate and the Faculty Senate to specifically prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, citing the legal liability that would be placed on the University if it extended anti-discrimination pro-

tection to categories not covered by state and federal law.

The new clause was intended to clarify that University rules do protect gay students from harassment, including physical, sexual and emotional harassment, Kibler said.

"If, for example, a faculty member treats and grades a student differently just because that student is gay, we can do something about that," Kibler said.

Bowen has deferred implementation of the reworded statement until there is sufficient understanding of what it actually means, Kibler added.

Davis defended the students' press release and said Bowen rescinded the rule change in retaliation for the media attention gay students have brought to the issue.

"A lot of money is riding on the fact that this is a bastion of racism, sexism and homophobia," he said. "A lot of parents send their kids here and alumni make donations to this University because of that image."

Davis also said, despite assurances from some administrators that they would continue to meet with gay student leaders to hammer out an understanding, that Bowen was quick to dismiss him and another student when they went to the president's office to schedule a meeting.

"Bowen came out, and, in a rather curt, hostile and unprofessional way, said there would not be any meetings," Davis said.

Bowen was unavailable for comment.

Local police crack down on alcohol use

By MARIUM MOHIUDDIN
The Battalion

The College Station Police Department and the University Police Department announced the creation of a new task force to combat alcohol violations this semester.

"This [last] weekend we handed out 210 citations, which include MIP, public intoxication and consumption of alcohol after hours," said Bob Wiatt, director of UPD. "This weekend it was active because students were coming back in town and settling in."

The task force is a combined effort between the two police departments. Last weekend was the first time the program was enforced. The focus now turns to football game weekends, because there will be more people in town, Wiatt said.

"We want to make sure that kids know that

they are accountable to the law," he said. "We are trying to get the word out to students that they can't drink under the age of 21, but kids are still doing it."

Wiatt said the crackdown is a response to A&M's being plagued with tragic alcohol-related accidents.

"We have had many deaths because of alcohol poisoning," he said. "There was also that one student who was killed last January when he fell down the Southside Parking Garage stairs because he was drunk. We are just trying to make the campus safer."

The idea was introduced a few years ago by CSPD, UPD and Charles Sippial, then-assistant vice president for Physical Plant and now vice president for administration.

"This is just the first year that it has been implemented," Wiatt said.

The Bryan Police Department also is taking steps to reduce the number of alcohol citations. BPD has adopted a zero-tolerance policy.

"I have been on the force for 27 years, and we have always had a first-time warning policy," said Sgt. Ernie Montoya, public relations officer for BPD. "But now they are taking it away. You will get a citation for an MIP and you will be arrested if you are furnishing alcohol to minors because it is an arrestable offense."

Last weekend BPD handed out four citations and arrested seven people for alcohol violations.

Although they are not on the same task force, the three police departments, the Sheriff's Department and the Texas Alcohol and Beverage Com-

mission are independently the same types of practices.

Montoya said the easiest way for people to avoid citations and arrest is to use discretion and not break laws.

ALCOHOL PROBLEMS

THIS WEEKEND THERE WERE

210 Citations
College Station

Minor in Possession
Public Intoxication
Consumption after Hours

4 Citations in Bryan
7 Arrests in Bryan for
contributing to minors

BRANDON HENDERSON/THE BATTALION

CIS enforces printing charge

Students will be billed for printouts in excess of 150 pages

By RICHARD BRAY
The Battalion

Starting Fall 2000, the Department of Computing and Information Services (CIS) will charge students for printing in the Open Access Computing Labs.

Each student will be allocated a total of 150 pages for the fall and spring semesters and 75 pages for the summer semester, which is covered in computing fees. When the quota is reached, students will be charged 4.9 cents per black-and-white printed page. Students had been charged for only transparency, color and specialty printing last year.

My Print Charges, an application located on University computer desktops, will allow students to see how many pages they have printed and how much they will be charged.

"Increased printing was costing us much more money than we were

bringing in from the Computer Access Fee," said Tom Putnam, director of CIS. The new charges were implemented to recover some of the printing costs.

"We did take it to the Student Government last fall and informed people about it and asked for input on different ways of structuring it," he said. "One of the possibilities was raising the Computer Access Fee. The problem with that possibility is that it makes everyone pay when in fact the problem of excessive use is really limited to a small minority of the student population."

"We also considered not subsidizing any of the printing but just charging from the outset like many universities do, like the University of Texas, for example. I think the opinion was that people liked having the existing Computer Access Fee subsidy in place," Putnam said.

Other universities have taken similar action in the past, which have caused student printing to decrease, Putnam said.

"The experience that has been reported by other universities has been that, when people have to think of printing as something that actually costs money, then they are much less frivolous in their use and more responsible," he said. "Usually, what happens initially, is the people print about half of what they had been printing before charges were put in place."

Sue Dowling, computer equipment supervisor for CIS, said the new charges will force students to prioritize what they need to print.

"The students will have to put more thought into the planning or the importance of what needs to be printed," she said.

AOC advises on study program

By MARIANO CASTILLO
The Battalion

The Academic Operations Committee (AOC) deans advised the Corps of Cadets unit commanders and their scholastics personnel to re-evaluate the Corps study program at a forum Tuesday.

The forum was arranged to discuss concerns the AOC deans had about freshman cadets not faring as well as their non-reg counterparts.

The effectiveness of Call to Quarters (mandated study time), class loads for freshmen, average graduation rate and use of faculty advisers as a resource were among the issues brought to the floor.

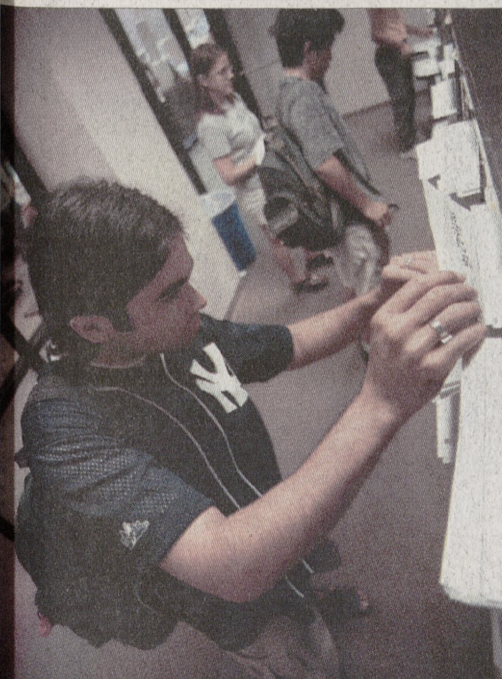
Associate Dean of Architecture Rodney Hill said the Corps regimentation can dis-

rupt the creative process, often resulting in less time spent on scholastic projects.

Cadets argued that the AOC deans need to consider the time new cadets need to invest in the Corps in order to fully reap its benefits.

Paul Jackman, 1st Group commander and a senior aerospace engineering major, said cadets who take smaller class loads traditionally get good grades and balance Corps and academic responsibilities without extending their college careers more than non-reg students. The Corps offers academic support to cadets, including quiz files and free tutoring from the O.R. Simpson Honor Society.

See AOC on Page 2A



STUART VILLANUEVA/THE BATTALION

Michael Neerman, a senior biology major, picks up his printouts at the Student Computing Center. Students will be charged for excess prints during the fall and spring semesters.