campus & city

Worry plagues Iranians

y LAURA RUTHERFORD

n relatively

remote.

Battalion Reporter
The Vahdat sisters are afraid.
Asal, 24, Ghazaleh, 23, and Tala
aldat, 19, are from Iran. They are cerned about their future in

I don't want my situation to be

m really worried, worried that nerica might go to war with ne Minister n," — Asal Vahdat.

ative governmenthe months pardized because of this," (the nian situation) Asal said in an inew Sunday. "I hope they can it out and somehow get it over

ed to imagined uch a situation he three A&M seniors have been move fuel b America for four years and all have mposure gained from their time

itary profess. Sitting around the living room of great, however house in blue jeans, they seem of conscript infortable with the American lifes-

teer army has to real test. I had aloughter, talk about diets real test. I had sisterly quarrels they appear to o be that, for his a roomal college student lifes. we a normal college student lifes-e. But in reality, they face probnany students never dream of. m really worried, worried that ica might go to war with Iran,' said. She speaks for all her sisaccepting the role of older sister

levelheadedness, control and the right amount of emotion. azaleh, the link between Asal's headedness and Tala's subdued siasm, expresses their fear in a personal way. "From the time volution started, all the time hink, 'What is going to happen to she said. "You just can't conrate; indirectly you think about

hen the trio came to America and Ghazaleh spoke very little lish and began English classes at hern Illinois University. Tala e English well enough to begin school immediately

alagot her diploma after only one of high school in America, even igh she had attended high school ne year in Iran. This is because an high schools require such a

The Vahdat sisters said they came get enough sleep."

The Vahdat sisters said they came get enough sleep."

The sisters, all of whom have very to Texas because tuition for foreign students was less in Texas than anywhere else. This has since changed. In addition, Asal and Ghazaleh planned to get their degrees in bio-engineering and Texas A&M is the only university in Texas that offers

undergraduate degrees in that field. Tala caught up with her sisters scholastically when they transferred because Asal and Ghazaleh lost so many credit hours. "But," Asal said, 'That's A&M!"

All three plan to graduate in May. Tala will receive a political science

The three started their in America when Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi was in power in Iran. Now, with Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini plac-

"From the time the revolution started, all the time we think, 'What is going to happen to us?' You just can't concentrate." — Ghazaleh Vahdat

ing ever-increasing restrictions on Iranian women, the Vahdat sisters face the possibility they may not be able to use their degrees if they return to Iran. This is coupled with the fear that if they stay in America they may never be able to see their parents again

They said their parents visit them about once a year, staying several months each time they visit.

As long as they can renew their visa they stay here, when the immig-ration officer says 'no, that's it' they go back, " Tala said with a smile.

Their parents have been on vacation in India for the last month, but the sisters are afraid of what will happen when their parents return to their home in Tehran.

"If my parents go back to Iran right now, I don't think they will ever be able to come see us again,' Ghazaleh said.

"Never seeing them again, I can't think about it," Tala said. Telling Tala to accept the fact it might happen, Asal said, "That's what worries me, that's why I don't

Vinning weekend big for KAMU, too

Not only did the football team more than \$1,300. ge victorious, but pledges to MU, the University-owned and erated public television station,

ke all previous records. More than \$7,200 was pledged to pledged \$3,802. MU during special programs adcast during the football

ouring Friday's live telecast of the practice that was followed by special Aggie films — "We've tonight and a delayed broadcast of ver Been Licked" and "That Cer-the Bryan-College Station Holiday Spirit" — a total of \$3,402 was Parade Sunday.

Aggie-Longhorn football pledged by 161 individuals. That totend was a winner for Texas al exceeded the previous record of M University in more ways than contributions set in a single night by

That record was promptly broken Sunday night during the station's telecast of the Texas A&M-Texas football game, when 308 people

KAMU's December festival will continue through Sunday night. Other special programs during the de Bonfire and accompanying festival will include a live "Open House" program from 7-9 p.m.

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high grade point ratios, said the situation is not really affecting their grades, but they added they are having a bad time "When I study, I study, but when

"Now, when most of the students see me they think I am Khomeini. They forget I am a student here and haven't done anything." -Ghazaleh Vahdat.

I go to bed at night I can't really sleep," Asal said. "I'm thinking of

this situation all of the time. Although they said people here have been really nice to them, they said they don't feel they are totally accepted.
"We got dirty looks before be-

cause we were foreigners," Tala said.
"Now," Ghazaleh said, "When most of the students see me they think I am Khomeini. They forget I am a student here and haven't done

The three said they were raised in an upper middle class family. 'We are not considered rich

in our country," Asal asid.
"We were kind of spoiled, never far from something familiar," Asal

said. But they all agreed things are alot easier on them because three of them are together.

No matter what has happened, they said they liked their life here in America. "It's quiet here," Ghazaleh

Asal had a different perspec tive of their life here. "I just like the way of living here" she said. "I'm living for myself. I'm comfortable

and there is more privacy."

They compared the city of Tehran to that of Manhattan Island. Asal said she use to love the traffic but, "Now that I've lived in a small town for a while I don't think I could ever live in a big city again.

The trio said it is their goal to adopt American customs and culture. They said they even plan to put up a Christmas tree this year. The sisters are Moslem and don't celebrate Christmas as part of their religion, but they said everyone here is so involved with the occasion and they want to get involved.

The sisters say they don't date often. "It is not in our culture to date that much," Ghazaleh said. They said they have already had proposals to marry but they prefer to wait. They said some foreigners marry Americans just to get a permanent

MSC's old ones to be replaced

New chimes planned as gift

By KRIS WIESE

In case you haven't noticed, the chimes that used to ring every 15 minutes at the Memorial Student Center haven't been heard this

According to the Rudder Theatre Complex office, which is rsponsible for their maintenance, the chimes have been patched many times in their 29-year history. However, last semester they broke and could not be repaired again because of age.

The sound of the Westminster chimes will soon be heard again, though. Jeff Mason, Class of '81 president, said the class has decided to purchase a new clock and chimes as

its gift to the University. 'We haven't made an official

cause the Class of '80 hasn't presented their gift yet, and we don't want to compete with them. This is their senior year.

'It has been voted on by the class, though, and has been unofficially approved by the administration, Mason added.

The project will cost the class somewhere between \$8,000 and

Mason said there will be several differences between the old chimes and the Class of '81 gift.

The new set will have an indefinite life span, Mason said. "This should be the last chimes the University has to have," he said, adding that the old set had an expected life of 30 years.

In addition, the new clock and chimes will come with a speaker system that will have a one-mile listenheard all over campus, instead of only in the vicinity of the MSC.

The new chimes will do more than sound the time, too, Mason said. Tapes will also be purchased which will play "The Aggie War Hymn"

and "Taps." Mason said several dates have been discussed for installment of the

new chimes. 'Right now, we are considering

Parent's Day this year. That would be after the unveiling of the Class of '80's statue of E. King Gill," he said. That date is subject to change, Mason said. "Recently, several

members of the class have brought up the idea of waiting until the beginning of our senior year before playing the chimes. The idea has had strong support, so we may wait until

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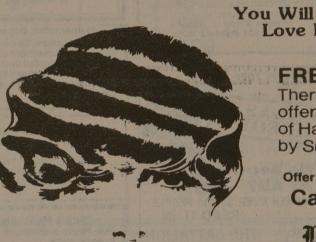
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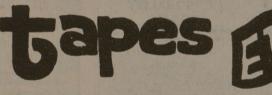
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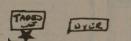
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