News

Cello shots

## Page 14 • Thursday, October 21, 1999

## Indonesia elects Wahid president

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — A revered but frail Islamic party leader

won the first open presidential election in Indonesia's troubled his-

sia's troubled history yesterday, defeating the popular daughter of the country's founding father

and setting off a wave of violent protests by her disillusioned supporters.

WAHID

Abdurrahman Wahid comes to power as Indonesia grapples with its worst economic crisis in 30 years and continuing communal and separatist violence rages across this ethnically diverse archipelago of 210 million people. His election gives Islam unprecedented influence in the world's largest Muslim nation.

In the wake of the vote, gunshots rang throughout the capital of Jakarta.

About 10,000 supporters of Wahid's rival, Megawati Sukarnoputri, tried to march on Parliament, throwing rocks and gasoline bombs at police who stopped them with tear gas and warning shots. The clashes continued into the night before protesters drifted away. Gangs also roamed some streets and tried to hijack cars. At least one man was killed when a car exploded, injuring 18. A separate homemade bomb, hidden in a flower pot, injured five people at the city's main traffic circle. A third bomb went off harmlessly in a street after Jakarta's huge convention center was set on fire.

Inside the heavily guarded Parliament, Wahid — who has suffered two strokes, is nearly blind and can barely walk — was supported by two aides as he shuffled to a podium to make his inaugural speech calling for national unity. Although Wahid, 59, heads In-

Although Wahid, 59, heads Indonesia's largest Muslim organization, he has long supported cooperation among faiths and continuing the separation between religion and government.

Wahid, better known by his nickname, Gus Dur, is regarded as a voice of tolerance and democratic reform.

"It will be a heavy task to create a peaceful and prosperous society in the future," Wahid said in his first speech as president.

Until yesterday, Megawati, the daughter of Indonesia's first president, had been regarded as the presidential frontrunner.



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Jayme Elterman, a freshman environmental design major, practices the violin cello on a balcony at Keathley Hall Wednesday after noon. Elterman said she has played the cello for nine years and usually practices at least once a day,

et's Go Out To Eat Thursdays in The Battalion LONG 8081 Texas Ave. **College Station** and SILVER 3224 S. Texas Ave.

