

ATTENTION: UNDERGRADUATE & GRADUATE STUDENTS

Students who will either complete all of the following requirements after the Fall '99 semester final grades are posted, or after commencement, may order their rings beginning approximately January 18, 2000 for April 2000 delivery. Please visit the Aggie Ring Office in the Clayton Williams Alumni Center beginning December 13 to complete an audit request and to receive order information. In the event you will not b in the College Station area between January 18 and February 11 to place your order in person, please pick up a mail order form and be sized for your ring between December 13 & 21.

Any student or former student who completed all the requirements as of summer '99, must visit the Aggie Ring Office to complete a ring audit no later than December 8 to order their ring by the December 10 deadline for March 2, 2000 delivery.



AGGIE RING ORDERS CLAYTON W. WILLIAMS, JR. ALUMNI CENTER DEADLINE: DECEMBER 8, 1999

Undergraduate Student Requirements:

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The Association"

OF FORMER STUDENTS

You must be a degree seeking student and have completed all of the following requirements to order an Aggie ring

1. 25 cumulative undergraduate credit hours reflected on the Texas A&M University Student Information Management System degree audit. (A course passed with a grade letter of D or better, which is repeated and passed, cannot count as additional credit hours unless the catalog states the course may be repeated for credit. The lowest grade is the repeated course.)

2. 60 undergraduate credit hours must have been completed in residence at Texas A&M University if your first semester at Texas A&M University was January 1994 or thereafter, or if you attended prior to 1994 and do not qualify under the suc-cessful semester requirement defined in the following paragraph. The 60 credit hour requirement will be waived if your degree is conferred with less than 60 A&M credit hours. The waiver will not be granted until after your degree is post-ed to screens #123 & #136 of the Student Information Management System.

30 undergraduate credit hours must have been completed in residence at Texas A&M Duriversity, providing that <u>prior to</u> January 1, 1994, you were enrolled at Texas A&M University and successfully completed either a fall/spring semester or summer term (I and II or 10 weeks) as a full-time student in good standing (A full-time student is defined in the university catalog as one that completes 12 credit hours with a 2.0 GPR in a spring or fall semester; or 4 credit hours with a 2.0 GPR in a 10 week session.)

Please remember that you will lose resident credits if you pass a course at A&M with a D or better and retake it at another institution and make a higher grade. The lowest grade is always deducted by the university as a repeated class.

3. 2.0 cumulative GPR at Texas A&M University.

4. Be in good standing with the University, including no registration or transcript blocks for past due fees, loans, parking tickets, returned checks, etc.

Graduate Student Requirements:

If you are a December 1999 degree candidate and do not have an Aggie ring from a prior degree, you may place an order after you meet the following requirements:

- 1. Your degree is conferred and posted on the Texas A&M University Student Information Management System; and
- 2. You are in good standing with the University, including no registration or tran-script blocks for past due fees, loans, parking tickets, returned checks, etc.

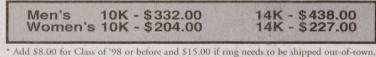
However, if you have completed all of your course work prior to this semester and have been cleared by the thesis clerk, you may request a "letter of completion" from the Office of Graduate Studies (providing it is not past their deadline). The original letter of completion, with the seal, may be presented to the Ring Office in lieu of your degree being posted

Procedure to order a ring:

If you meet all of the above requirements and you wish to receive your ring on March 2, 2000, you must visit the Ring Office <u>no later than</u> Wednesday, December 8, 1999 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. to complete the application for eligibility verification.

It is recommended that you do not wait until December 8 to apply for your ring Should there be a problem with your academic record, or if you are blocked, you may not have sufficient time to resolve these matters before the order closes out on December 10.

Return no later than December 10, 1999 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. to check on the status of your audit and if qualified, pay in full by cash, check, money order, or your personal Discover, Visa or MasterCard (with your name imprinted).



The ring delivery date is March 2, 2000.

Officials recruit, arms forces while on tour of Chechen city

Rebels retaliate by staging ambushes, firing at Russian jets

ACHKOI-MARTAN, Russia (AP) - The convicted embezzler tried to help the Moscow-backe d government in Chechnya collect and arm recruits for a paramilitary force during a tour yesterday of a Russian-held Chechen city.

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Meanwhile, Moscow shrugged off mounting international pressure yesterday for a diplomatic solution to the fighting, showering bombs on the last rebel-held route to Grozny in the ongoing battle for the Chechen capital.

The rebels retaliated by staging ambushes in s mall groups and firing at Russian jets with large-c aliber machine guns and shoulder-held rockets. The militants have been resisting tenaciously on several fronts in recent days.

In a new move yesterday, Russian commanders gave Kalashnikov rifles and uniforms to a pr o-Moscow militia composed of Chechens who sai d they will fight alongside federal troops.

The group is led by Bislan Gantamirov, a former mayor of Grozny who was serving a prison t erm for embezzlement before Russian President Boris Yeltsin pardoned him earlier this mont h and chose him to lead a Moscow-backed Chech en government.

Gantamirov said he would encourage rebel fighters to defect to his group, but did not say exactly what military role the force would play Gantamirov led a previous, Moscow-backed militia in 1994 that was defeated by separatist fighters.

His group of about 200 men looked disheveled. Some were unshaven. Some wore leath er jackets and others military fatigues. They stood in a line in a muddy, snowy field for inspection by Russian regional commander Col. Gen. Vi ktor Kazantsev.

RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP)

- It has been a turbulent month

First, the wife of Palestinian

leader Yasser Arafat publicly re-

nounced her mother for meddling in

her life. Then she caused an inter-

national uproar by accusing Israel of

intentionally poisoning Palestinians

with gas, deeply embarrassing first

riage to Arafat, a man twice her age,

is sound - even while acknowl-

edging she almost never sees him.

expectedly trained the spotlight on

the Palestinians' first family, espe-

cially on the 36-year-old Mrs.

Arafat. They have also embar-

rassed the Palestinian Authority

which has been under U.S. pres-

Tawil, said her daughter is simply

trying to assert her independence.

Arafat "understands [Soha's] quest for freedom," Tawil, 59, long

an influential force herself in the

Palestinian community, especially

Mrs. Arafat's mother, Raymonda

sure to distance itself from her.

All the while, she insists her mar-

Mrs. Arafat's remarks have un-

lady Hillary Rodham Clinton.

for Soha Arafat.

Meanwhile, the Russians are attempting to sur round Grozny and cut off militants from their bas es in the mountains. Yesterday's fighting was con centrated around Urus-Martan, a city about 12 mi les southwest of the capital. With sunny weather increasing visibility, the

WORLD

Russians sent barrages of rockets and artillery she lls slamming into Urus-Martan.

During lulls in the bombing, the rattle of automatic weapons fire could also be heard as Ru ssian troops tried to advance on the city from t he west

The Russian military command said 50 rebels were killed in yesterday's fighting around Urus-M artan, Grozny and other Chechen towns. Cheche n officials claimed significant Russian losses, but neither claim could be independently confirmed.

The Russians have showed no sign of easing up despite international pressure for a negotiated solution to the conflict.

Alvaro Gil-Robles, the Council of Europe's human rights commissioner, traveled to Russian-co ntrolled parts of Chechnya on Tuesday to inspect living conditions, Russian news reports said

French Foreign Minister Hubert Vedrine and G erman Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer criticized Russia for not setting a date for a visit to Ch echnya by Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe chairman Knut Vollebaek.

Vedrine and Fischer called on Russia to allow humanitarian aid into the region and said the y were "shocked by the consequences of the repression on the civilian population.'

Some 233,000 refugees — almost a third of Ch echnya's population — have fled the fighting.

U.S. State Department spokesman James Rubin said that Secretary of State Madeleine Al-

Russian forces attack Chechen rebel str the capital as Chechen fighters flock to its delens sday · Dec USHETIA CHECHNYA BY STA

Chechen rebels regroup to defend Groz

bright had spoken by phone with Res Mothers Aga eign Minister Igor Ivanov on Mondar (ADD) is hos

Albright stressed that the United andlelight vigi not believe "a purely military solution ho have lost th flict is possible," Rubin said. She told jured in alcoh t the war is "causing humanitatiday at 6 p.m. lems, damaging Russia's internation tion and complicating the achievement litical solution.

Russia said the military campaign lard for t ternal matter, and that it does not in gotiate with the Chechens until themi ave lost roundly defeated. Russia also blame tants for apartment bombings that killen alcoho ople in several Russian cities in Sent Support within Russia remains str

campaign, which has caused massiv tion in Chechnya, a territory already ed by a 1994-96 war in which Chechny facto independence.

Christianne Remarks from wife of Palestinian leader cause upre im advocat people af accidents

The holi

ccident

- Chris

MAD

in the late '80s when she The holida Arafat's attention. o have lost l Rumors abound that i ated] accid riage has been shaky for pty place at The Palestinian leader of before his 1989 wedding all said. We h married to the Palestini nembering t and many believe his pre have not really change we way. Arafat is no as poplar as in the event we have of the

band and has endured critic hames of the her affluent lifestyle. Mrs. Arafat painted a MADD rec picture of her relations, MADD rec the Palestinian leads the Ussion stater

ention of und stays in the office until the ban Tuscan "My husband and I and I a Bever "My husband and I a Bever type to display our sentime vigil to edu Arafat told Paris Match. the purpos

love, but we are not demon In the magazine interna Tuscano sai Arafat described a stark ew hotline c ADD to help marriage ceremony in underage dr bunker, without a white "Most peop dress or reception. Shes since then, she has never nctions of T. entire day alone with Arz mmunity to

"I must make do with rent jobs we d despite these constraints said. formed a very nice family Aggies 'R'

hours of the night.

kicks the mother."

- Raymonda Tawil Soha Arafat's mother

services for handicapped children, interview in her home in the West but has rarely accompanied her hus-Bank town of Ramallah. "Soha is like a bird. When it wants to leave There have been long stretches the nest, it kicks the mother.'

of seclusion in a Paris apartment, wealthy Christian family, grew up where she stayed with her 4-yearin the West Bank. old daughter, Zahwa, while Arafat Taught by nuns, she completed

For a long time, Mrs. Arafat and her mother were considered close. worked in the Palestinian Liberation

to Arafat, Mrs. Arafat has spoken weekly Paris Match that "my mother, herself, had let herself get caught up in [the Israelis'] machina-

she was severing ties.

Arafat's sudden declaration that

trying to destabilize the Palestinians,

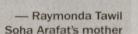
Mrs. Arafat last week told the French

Claiming that Israeli agents were

tions.

being

a bird. When it wants to leave the nest, it



for me as a mother," she said in an

Mrs. Tawil ac-

pushed

was

"This

by her

knowledged that

Mrs. Arafat, born into a

her education at the Sorbonne. She

"Soha [Arafat] is like

owned a Palestinian news agency

and her home was frequently a

gathering point for resistance

During her 10 years of marriage

against Israeli occupation, said.

out on a num-

ber of issues, in-

cluding corrup-

tion in the

Palestinian Au-

thority and the

peace talks with

Her public

role has been rel-

atively modest.

She has tended

to a few chari-

ties, including

band on his many trips abroad.

remained in Gaza City.

Israel.

away daughter painful. was very tough

in the '70s and '80s, when she Then, in October, came Mrs. Organization headquarters in Tunis daughter," she said.

