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## Class of '00

INTERESTED IN BEING A CLASS AGENT?

### To Qualify as a Potential Candidate:

You must run in a TEAM of THREE people that are enthusiastic, motivated leaders wanting to serve the Class of '00 until 2005.

### Requirements for Intent to Run:

- One member from each team MUST CONTACT Shannon Crockett '93 at 845-7514 before noon on February 14
- At least two of the three candidates from each team MUST ATTEND an instructional meeting on February 15 at 5:30 p.m. at the Clayton W. Williams, Jr. Alumni Center

### Class Agent Responsibility:

Class Agents will act as liaisons between the Class of '00, The Association of Former Students and Texas A&M University.

**Class Agents will be elected  
March 29 & 30 in the 2000 Spring  
Student Body Elections**



## PRIMARY

Continued from Page 1

McCain credited his agenda of political and campaign finance reform for his victory. "The Republican Party recovered its heritage of reform. And it's the beginning of the end of the truth-twisting politics of Bill Clinton and Al Gore," he said.

Voter interviews showed McCain winning in every demographic and income group. As expected, he was well ahead among independents in a state that allows its non-partisan voters to cast ballots in either primary. And he defeated Bush among Republican voters, a constituency that Bush had expected to dominate. McCain advantage over Bush among GOP voters bodes well for their next confrontation in South Carolina, a state that tends to back establishment candidates like Bush.

Social conservative Gary Bauer barely registered in the returns and was struggling to survive. "I'm a fighter but I'm not delusional," Bauer said, before flying home to Virginia to take stock of his candidacy.

Forbes had to be disappointed, too, finishing little better than he did in the 1996, after investing four years and millions of dollars for a second GOP bid. Yet Forbes said he would stay and fight for conservative voters who might be tempted to peel away from the suddenly vulnerable Bush.

"I make this appeal to those who may have backed others because of inevitability, I plead with you, please come home," he said.

"I will congratulate John McCain on his victory," said Keyes, "but I cannot agree with the stands he has portrayed on the issues in this election." Specifically, he claimed, "His heart is not pro-life," though McCain says his voting record has been exactly that.

McCain's gargantuan victory was certain to raise questions about Bush's strategy, relying on photo opportunities and scripted speeches while McCain held dozens of free-wheeling town hall meetings, appealing to finicky New Hampshire voters who expect a personal touch.

Bush aired TV ads that said he was the most likely candidate to be elected president, but voter interviews showed that less than 10 percent of GOP voters in New Hampshire said they considered a candidate's ability to get elected a top factor in their decision. Voter interviews showed that the top quality sought by Tuesday's GOP voters was a candidate who "stands up for what he believes in." Nearly as many voters were looking for a "strong and decisive leader."

After New Hampshire, Democrats turn their attention to an unprecedented mountain of primaries from New York to California on March 7. Republicans will compete in several states before March 7, including Delaware on Feb. 8, South Carolina on Feb. 19 and Arizona and Michigan on Feb. 22.

Bush has held a wide lead in South Carolina polls, but McCain has more than two weeks to chip away at the lead and hoped to marshal support from military veterans among Republican voters.

The Arizonaan invested most of his pre-primary time and money in New Hampshire, gambling that the state's independent-minded voters would be drawn to his reform agenda. Though his campaign is more national in scope, Bush also invested millions of dollars in hopes of winning New Hampshire and stopping McCain's insurgent candidacy.

Bush brought in his parents, former White House residents George and Barbara, for a sentimental rally that apparently did not resonate.

The tangible primary yield was 22 delegates to the Democratic convention and 17 delegates to the GOP convention, a tiny fraction of the totals needed to win the nominations. The true rewards of New Hampshire are momentum or simply validation of a candidate's campaign.

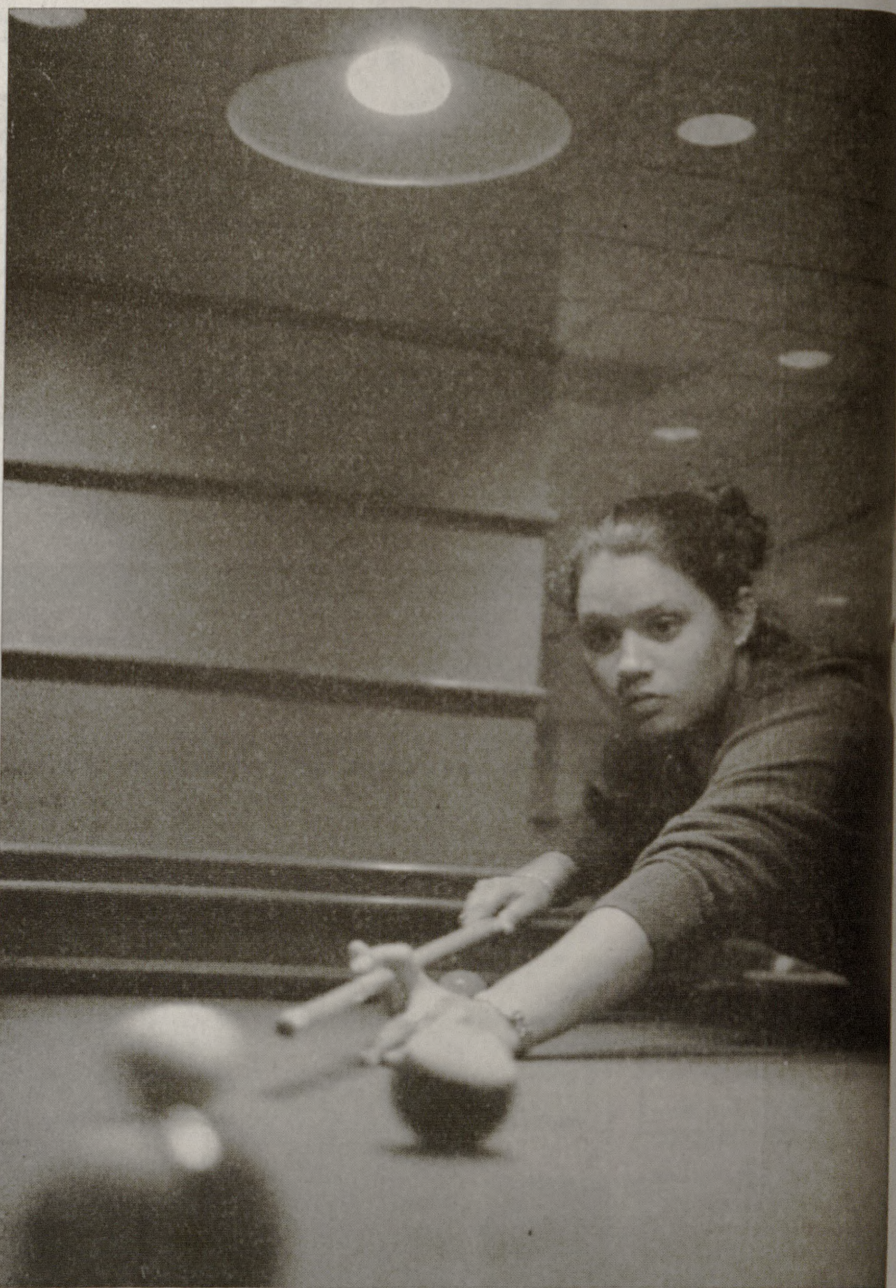
Voters seemed to be looking for character more than policy pronouncements.

Charles Baron, 51, an accountant from Manchester, accountant, said he typically votes Democratic but went for McCain. "I have the sense he's telling the truth," Baron said.

In the past two weeks, the Democrats shed almost any talk of issues to exchange bitter personal attacks. Bradley accused the vice president of stretching the truth on abortion. Gore, a hard-knuckle campaigner himself, indignantly accused the former New Jersey senator of breaking his promise to run a clean campaign.

One personal note had political implications: Bradley acknowledged just before the primary that his irregular heartbeat had required more treatment than he had previously said.

## Eight ball



KIMBER HUFF/TAMU

Nickle Espinoza, a freshman biology major, unwinds by playing a game of eight-ball with her friend Sara Rangel (not pictured) at the MSC on Tuesday.

## CIA chief defends handling of probe predecessor

WASHINGTON (AP) — CIA director George Tenet insisted Tuesday he took "decisive action" when faced with an investigation's finding that former director John Deutch violated security by working on secret material at home.

His decision to strip his former boss of his security clearances proved that he acted properly, Tenet said. He denied that the investigation was deliberately delayed, despite a CIA inquiry that suggested he and other top agency officials acted to slow down the process.

**"The bottom line is that a complete investigation was done ..."**

— George Tenet  
CIA director

## FIRE

Continued from Page 1

mandated by the State Fire Marshal," Dennis Davenport, corps area coordinator, said.

"We have had quite a bit more fire drills," Matt Oliver, a senior information management major, said. "To me it really seems like whatever precautions haven't been taken in the past, the University is taking a serious look into making sure it doesn't happen again."

At the time of the Dorm 9 fire, fire extinguishers were not in residence halls. Extinguishers have since been installed, and hall staff have been trained in using them.

"We were ready in the fact of looking out for each other," Davenport said.

"But, we were not [ready] in some fire codes." Davenport said directives given by the State Fire Marshal have helped them take a proactive position on fire safety. The University is well ahead of schedule from when Fire Marshal mandated the projects be done.

"We are much more ready, we are in code and we are in compliance," Davenport said.

Morefield agrees that more precautions should have been taken.

"I was upset by the way administration treated it as no big deal," he said. "Personally, I didn't feel that the proper foresight to the issue had been given before the fire."

## SENATE

Continued from

Kessler said.

Welch left his position as director of the Center for Economic Development in the Lowry Mays School of Business.

Wednesday's meeting will include discussion of a bill in the library usage fee increase proposed by the Student Senate by Dr. Fred dean of Sterling C. Evans Library Jan. 19 meeting.

There are also plans for a bill to create seats in the Student Senate. "The number of seats will be affected, but what those seats will be," Minyard said.

The reallocation will allow for seats to represent the different schools on campus.



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## THE BATTALION

Mariam Mohuddin  
Editor in Chief

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