



One Army
Texas Aggie Men United
Men's Leadership Organization

Founded Texas A&M University, November 4, 1999

One Army would like to present and recognize its Candidate Elect Class for Spring 2000. These men have joined a new drive to learn leadership and improve the school they love.

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Ben Jackson | Josh Fitzgerald |
| Blake Windlow | Lent Rice |
| Brian Johnson | Louis Simmons |
| Carlton Holm | Mark Thomas |
| Chris Schrock | Mark Ferrell |
| Chris Park | Matt Blackwell |
| Dan Conoley | Matt Janes |
| David Brown | Michael Lloyd |
| Davyd Read | Mike Parker |
| DJ Pendleton | Nick Luton |
| Eric Ferguson | Scott Vickers |
| Jason Chaka | Seth Barron |
| Jason Burke | Taylor O'Brien |
| Jim Scott | Travis Walla |
| Josh Rosinski | Tyler O'Brien |
| | Zacy May |

One School,
One Spirit,
ONE ARMY.

Iran elections may help U.S. relations

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran's top parliamentary candidate said Tuesday that the country needs concrete action from the United States to lower the wall of mistrust between the two nations.

"We are waiting for practical steps from the United States more than nice words," Mohammadreza Khatami said Tuesday in his first comment on the issue since Friday's legislative elections.

Khatami, the younger brother of President Mohammad Khatami, heads the country's largest and most influential reformist group, the Islamic Iran Participation Front.

The election results are seen as a national endorsement of President Khatami's program for cultural, social and political reforms. The results also are a clear rejection of international isolation and the restrictive rules imposed by the clergy in the name of Islam.

Mohammadreza Khatami said in the new Parliament the reformists will work toward a freer press, more freedom of information and the lifting of a ban on satellite dishes to allow people more access to information.

He also criticized the United States for maintaining U.S. sanctions against Iran.

"The United States supported the totalitarian regime of the shah," he told reporters at a press conference. "And now that Iran has become one of the most free nations, it continues its policy of sanctions and continues its baseless claims against Iran."

U.S. relations with Iran broke off during the 1979 revolution, when demonstrators seized the U.S. Embassy and held 52 Americans captive until January 1981.

A U.S. law allows for sanctions on any company that invests more than \$20 million in Iran's oil industry. Washington accuses Tehran of trying to procure nuclear weapons and of opposing the Middle East peace process.

Khatami and other reformists have called for detente between Iran and the United States.

The president also has called for people-to-people exchanges with the United States, but has stopped short of calling for talks.

The conservative clergy considers

the United States Iran's archenemy, making the opening of contacts with Washington among the most sensitive of issues.

Most hard-liners have been silent about their stunning upset, but a top hard-line ideologue has accepted defeat in the parliamentary elections, saying in a report Tuesday that his camp will have to reconsider its policies.

"We will not change our principles and positions, but it is natural that we should reconsider our policies and methods," Mohammadreza Bahonar, a conservative lawmaker in the outgoing Parliament, was quoted as saying.

The independent Iran *Vij daily* quoted him Tuesday as saying that the reformist coalition was "more organized" in the elections.

Bahonar's comments marked the hard-liners' first acknowledgment of defeat. Their officials have refused to talk to reporters.

The hard-liners still wield power through key institutions such as the Guardians Council, which must approve all legislation. It is not clear if they will use those powers to block the reformists and risk angering a majority of Iranians.

Vote-counting in the capital, Tehran, was finished Tuesday, but results will not be announced for another two days, the official Islamic Republic News Agency said. Mohammadreza Khatami said formal announcement is being delayed due to bureaucratic glitches and to study complaints.

In Tehran, more than 55 percent of votes announced so far were for Khatami, who was likely to win. The Islamic Iran Participation Front has 109 seats out of the 195 decided so far. Reformists have 141 seats nationwide, only five short of a simple majority in the 290-member house.

Conservatives have won 44 seats and independents 10. Another 65 seats are to be decided in run-offs.

Only the results for 30 seats in Tehran are outstanding, and reformers are leading the vote count in nearly all of them, state television said.

Early results of Iran's election

Moderates are poised to wrest the legislature from hard-line control for the first time since Iran's 1979 Islamic Revolution ousted the shah and brought the Shiite Muslim clergy to power.

Total seats in parliament: 290
Reformers: 141
Conservatives: 44
Independents: 10



Results still outstanding: 30
To be decided in runoffs: 65

Source: Compiled from AP wire reports AP

I wanna be a millionaire



Brittany Stevener, a senior at Bryan High School, throws a chicken at the Educaid booth during Tuesday's Money Gras event in Rudder Tower.

Cell phones help 3rd world farmers

JOLARPAR, Bangladesh (AP) — Sitting outside her mud-walled hut, Jamirunnesa dials her Nokia cell phone to inquire about the latest poultry prices.

Monir Chowdhury, a neighbor, arrives panting to take a long distance call from his brother working in Malaysia. Later, village doctor Tofazzal Hossain comes to use the phone to arrange an appointment with a specialist in the city for one of his patients.

Jamirunnesa runs a mobile phone service, the only phone for the 5,000 people in the farming village of Jolarpar, 20 miles north of Dhaka, the capital.

She bought it a year ago with help from a bank that makes small loans to poor women to start home-based businesses — an example of the "microcredit" projects discussed at a conference last week in Washington.

Besides serving her neighbors for a fee, the phone helps the 38-year-old mother of four earn a profit from the poultry farm she runs.

"There are buyers who want to cheat me. But they can't because I've got the phone, which comes in handy to know at what rate the chickens are selling in the markets," Jamirunnesa said, waving her handset.

In Bangladesh, even ordinary telephones are still a luxury. Less than 1 percent of the 125 million people have a phone of any kind. The country's 100,000 mobile phones are usually for the urban rich.

Jamirunnesa, who like many Bangladeshis uses only one name, bought the phone with a loan of 18,000 takas (\$360) from Grameen Bank, which specializes in helping the poor get a start in business.

Grameen Bank, established in 1976 by Muhammad Yunus, then a university economics teacher, is the pioneer microcredit as a way of building the economies of developing nations. Since its founding, it has lent \$2 billion to 2 million Bangladeshis, most of them poor rural women.

GrameenPhone, the bank's telecommunications subsidiary, is one of the commercial cellular phone companies in Bangladesh, but the only one to extend its service to the mostly illiterate countryside.

It draws the operators of its phone service from borrowers who are already established good credit risks and demonstrated business talent.

"A telephone is no longer a luxury for villagers," said Mehbub Chowdhury, who heads the marketing of mobile phones. "It's a tool for economic growth."

Jamirunnesa, who has had almost no formal education, averages a monthly profit of \$50 from the phone service — twice Bangladesh's capita income.

When she took her first loan years ago, her family could not afford three meals a day, a situation faced about half of all Bangladeshis.

News in Brief

Henson's Muppets sold to Germans

FRANKFURT, Germany (AP) — It's not easy being green.

Kermit the Frog and Miss Piggy are becoming the latest American icons to go German, following in the footsteps of Chrysler Corp. and Random House.

Munich-based media company EM.TV and Merchandising is buying the Jim Henson Co. for \$680 million in cash and stock, giving it exclusive rights to such fuzzy critters as Kermit the Frog, Miss Piggy, Bert and Ernie, and the scraggly green furball, Oscar the Grouch.

"We are a strong believer in

brands," deputy chairman of EM.TV Florian Haffa said Monday. "With the Jim Henson Company, you don't get bigger internationally recognized brands than Kermit the Frog and Miss Piggy."

The deal, in the works for several months, also seals ownership of some of the world's best loved children's shows including "The Muppet Show," "Jim Henson's Muppet Babies" and "Fraggle Rock," not to mention a string of Muppet films.

The sale does not include the program "Sesame Street," only the rights to the characters developed for the show, first broadcast in 1969 and now seen in 140 countries.

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23
6:00-7:30 PM Rudder 308

Sponsored by:
Texas A&M Study Abroad Programs and ITS Tours & Travel

Study Abroad Programs Office 161 Bizzell Hall West 845-8544

This Week

Wednesday:
Jazz
open mike night
no cover

Thursday:
The Black Birds
\$5 cover

Friday:
Rob Roy Parnell
blues
\$5 cover

Saturday:
The Fire Ants
\$5.00 cover

Sunday:
Aggie Swing Dance
w/ Jeremy Mitchell
\$3 cover

3RD FLOOR
Casino

Where real musicians play!

201 W. 26th Street, Downtown Bryan
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Islam 101-An Intro to Islam

presents

Pillars of Islam

Discussion includes concept of worship, fasting, pilgrimage and other issues.

Refreshments served

Thursday Feb. 24th MSC 228 @ 7PM

Sponsored by Muslim Students' Association
Email: islam101@tamu.edu

Much Ado About Shakespeare
the
MSC Literary Arts Shakespeare Festival
February 20th through 26th

Sonnet Contest Awards & Open-Mic at Barnes and Noble on Texas Ave., Sunday Feb. 20 at 2pm with prizes provided by Barnes and Noble.

Cushing Library Tour Monday, Feb. 21 at Noon & Tuesday, Feb. 22 at 1pm.

Open-Mic in Rumours on Tuesday, Feb. 22 at Noon. You can share your favorite Shakespeare passages.

Shakespeare Abridged Tuesday, Feb. 22 at 8pm in MSC 201. A comedic live performance of all of Shakespeare's works condensed into two hours.

Film on Video Much Ado About Nothing (1995) at 7pm Thursday, Feb. 24 in the Visual Arts Gallery with introduction by Dr. Paul Parrish.

Dr. David Scott Kastan Friday, Feb. 25 on Shakespeare and Print in Cushing Library at 5pm.

Masquerade Ball Saturday, Feb. 26 at 8pm in the Forsyth Galleries. Tickets are available at the MSC Cashiers desk.

Sponsored in part by Norton Publishing

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Persons with disabilities please call 845-1515 to inform us of your special needs. We request notification three (3) working days prior to the event to enable us to assist you to the best of our abilities.