

Micro-Credit Pioneer Wins Peace Prize

Economist, Bank Brought New Opportunity to Poor

By MOLLY MOORE
Washington Post Foreign Service

PARIS, Oct. 13 — Bangladeshi economist Muhammad Yunus and the Grameen Bank he created won the Nobel Peace Prize on Friday for leveraging small loans into major social change for impoverished families.

The Grameen Bank's pioneering use of micro-credit has been duplicated across the globe since Yunus started the project in his home village three decades ago. Loans as low as \$9 have helped beggars start small businesses and poor women buy cellular phones and basket-weaving materials.

"Lasting peace cannot be achieved unless large population groups find ways in which to break out of poverty," the Norwegian Nobel Committee said in its citation released Friday in Oslo. "Micro-credit is one such means."

The committee praised Yunus, 66, as "a leader who has managed to translate visions into practical action for the benefit of millions of people, not only in Bangladesh but across cultures and civilizations."

In a telephone interview, Yunus said he was overcome by the excitement of winning the prize after several years of being nominated.

"I was trying to find people to tell, and the phone kept buzzing, so I could hardly tell anybody," said Yunus, speaking from his home in Dhaka, the capital of Bangladesh. "Then people started coming and bringing flowers. It's

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D.C. and Gallaudet University police officers carry Latoya Plummer, who was among the dozens of protesters arrested on campus.

Dozens of Protesters Arrested At Gallaudet President's Order

By SUSAN KINZIE and MICHAEL E. RUANE
Washington Post Staff Writers

Campus police arrested dozens of student demonstrators at Gallaudet University last night to reopen the famed college for the deaf after a three-day shutdown staged in a long-simmering protest over the appointment of a new president.

The arrests began shortly before 9 p.m., when police began carrying away students from a jeering throng that had been blocking the school's Sixth Street NE entrance. Students hollered and signed, "This is our school!" Within an hour, several dozen had been

arrested on charges of unlawful assembly.

Teams of officers, acting on orders from President I. King Jordan and aided by interpreters in orange vests, picked up individual students, who went limp, and carried them to a D.C. police van.

The students were to be taken from the school, at 800 Florida Ave. NE, to a police training facility in Southwest Washington for processing, officials said.

The arrests brought to a head a bitter dispute that began in May between the administration and students angry about the appointment of provost Jane K. Fernandes as the university's next

president. She is scheduled to replace Jordan, who is to step down in December.

Protesters expressed dislike for Fernandes, saying she was remote and divisive. They argued that other candidates, especially minorities, had been overlooked. And they called for her to step aside.

She has refused, saying she is the target of student extremists. And earlier yesterday, speaking to the protesters for the first time this week, she said: "This has gone on long enough."

About 7 p.m., Jordan announced to demonstrators at the school's main gate

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Economist Muhammad Yunus, left, celebrates Nobel with his brother in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

New Law Cripples Internet Gambling

Banks Are Barred From Handling Transactions

By FRANK AHRENS
Washington Post Staff Writer

Placing bets over the Internet was effectively criminalized by the federal government yesterday, as lawmakers work to eliminate an activity enjoyed by as many as 23 million Americans who wagered an estimated \$6 billion last year.

Attached to a port-security bill signed by President Bush yesterday was the Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act, which prohibits online gamblers from using credit cards, checks and electronic fund transfers to place and settle bets. The law puts enforcement on the shoulders of banks and other U.S. financial institutions, some of which fought the legislation.

The bill's sponsor, Rep. Robert W. Goodlatte (R-Va.), said he opposes all gambling, citing its "ill effects on society," but particularly Internet gambling, which led him to draft the legislation in the summer. Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist (R-Tenn.) attached Goodlatte's bill to the port-security measure to ensure its passage and Bush's signature.

While proponents decried the effects of gambling on society, opponents pointed to the enormous popularity of Internet gambling and compared the new law to the

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Ney Pleads Guilty to Corruption Charges

Lawmaker's Conviction Is 8th in Abramoff Probe

By SUSAN SCHMIDT and JAMES V. GRIMALDI
Washington Post Staff Writers

Rep. Robert W. Ney (R-Ohio) pleaded guilty yesterday to corruption charges arising from the influence-peddling investigation of lobbyist Jack Abramoff, becoming the first elected official to fall in a scandal that may damage his party's chances in next month's elections.

Ney, 52, emerged from a month of alcoholism treatment to appear in federal court in Washington, where he admitted performing official acts for lobbyists in exchange for campaign contributions, expensive meals, luxury travel and skybox sports tickets. Ney also admitted taking thousands of dollars in gambling chips from an international businessman who sought his help with the State Department.

House Republican leaders, still struggling to blunt the impact of a scandal involving House pages, immediately vowed to expel Ney in a post-election session if he has not resigned by then. Ney's attorney said in court that the congressman will re-

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Democratic Faces That Could Launch Thousands of Votes

With a Parade of Attractive Candidates, the Party May Benefit From the Politics of Beauty

By SHAILLAGH MURRAY
Washington Post Staff Writer

AUBURN, N.Y. — Maybe Democratic candidate Michael Arcuri is running strong in this Republican House district because he pledges to expand health coverage, balance the budget and raise the minimum wage.

Or maybe it's his piercing Italian eyes and runner's physique.

"He is pretty good-looking," observed Paula Ferrin with admiration, as the 47-year-old district attorney worked the crowd at a local senior center.

"What we want is brains, honey," scolded her friend Rose Oliver.

"True," Ferrin answered, "but handsome doesn't hurt."

The research is unambiguous that Ferrin is right: Attractive politicians have an edge over not-so-attractive ones. The phenomenon is resonating especially this year. By a combination of luck and design, Democrats seem to be fielding an uncommonly high number of



Indiana sheriff Brad Ellsworth, left, a Democratic challenger for Congress, is among the candidates whose looks are turning heads this election season.

uncommonly good-looking candidates.

The beauty gap between the parties, some on Capitol Hill muse, could even be a factor in who controls Congress af-

ter Election Day.

Democratic operatives do not publicly say that they went out of their way this year to recruit candidates with a

high hotness quotient. Privately, however, they acknowledge that, as they focused on finding the most dynamic politicians to challenge vulnerable Republicans, it did not escape their notice that some of the most attractive prospects were indeed often quite attractive.

There is a certain logic to the trend. Back in 1994, when Republicans seized power in Congress from Democrats, the GOP had a number of fresh-faced challengers who knocked off incumbents who had grown worse for wear after years of committee hearings and fundraising receptions.

This year, it is the Democrats who have several ripe opportunities to unseat Republicans, some of whom have grown gray and portly during their years in power.

To gain the 15 seats needed to recapture House control, the party is targeting about 40 GOP-leaning districts, in-

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IN SUNDAY SOURCE: Want to get into the hottest clubs? Area bouncers have some tips. Plus, check out our new weekly look at fashion, beauty and style.

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Iraqi Colonel Who Bridged Sectarian Divide Is Killed

By ELLEN KNICKMEYER and JONATHAN FINER
Washington Post Foreign Service

BAGHDAD, Oct. 13 — Operating between the insurgent Sunni Arab suburbs of Baghdad and the Shiite militia-dominated south, Col. Salam al-Mamuri and his Scorpion commando team were a rarity among Iraqi security forces, American and Iraqi colleagues said: a police unit fighting on both sides of the country's sectarian divide.

On Friday, a bomb blew apart Mamuri and an aide at the Scorpions' headquarters in the southern city of Hilla. The attack ended the life of a broadly respected com-

mander who had been one of the longest-serving and longest-surviving men in a cadre of Iraqi army veterans struggling to restore law and order after the 2003 U.S.-led invasion.

Mamuri's comparative evenhandedness enforcing the law may have earned him an enemy within his own sect, the Shiites. Interior Minister Jawad al-Bolani in Baghdad called it a "possibility and a probability" that the assassination was at least in part an inside job, because the killer was able to gain access to Mamuri's office to plant the bomb.

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