

BIG SPRING HERALD

Reflecting A Proud Community

MONDAY
January 20, 1997

50 cents

Clinton embarks on second term stressing unity, meeting future

WASHINGTON (AP) — In a flourish of pageantry and prose, William Jefferson Clinton claims his second term as president today, urging political leaders to "lay down our partisan sniping" and unify the nation as it marches into the next millennium.

"Think big," he declared. The first Democrat in 60 years to win two terms was savoring his political triumph: Church in the morning, coffee with congressmen, a parade down Pennsylvania Avenue and 15 inaugural balls that will keep him dancing until nearly dawn.

At noon, Clinton was putting his hand on a Bible and reciting the same 35-word oath taken by every president since George Washington. Vice President Al Gore was being sworn in

minutes before.

It was sure to be a poignant moment for Clinton. His beloved mother, Virginia Kelley, stood nearby as he was sworn in as president four years ago; she died a year later.

"The president and I miss Virginia very much, particularly at a time like this," said Dick Kelley, the president's stepfather.

For thousands of visitors to the capital, it was a moment of celebration or at least a chance to witness history.

"It's a thrill of a lifetime, probably a once-in-a-lifetime thing," gushed Jean Leboff, who had just arrived from Pennsylvania.

With dawn breaking over the Capitol dome in soft reddish hues, Clinton supporters sought out television cameras

this morning to spread the president's message. "We're going to make real progress in trying to bring this country together on common ground," chief of staff Erskine Bowles said in the first hours of his first day on the job.

In a taped interview aired today on NBC, the president said voters are demanding civility from Washington and he plans to deliver.

"That's what the American people want us to do. They want us to lay down our partisan sniping," Clinton said. "Nothing was every built on petty political and personal hatreds and divisions. You build a future with labor and with dreams."

"When it starts to get small around here, I just tell everybody to think big. Don't be small. Be big. And you just

have so many days around here."

While gloves and mittens might still mute inaugural applause, Washington was thawing out today after a weekend blast of arctic air. Temperatures were expected to rise into the lower 40s, eking above the freezing point for the inaugural address.

Throughout the day, Clinton was paying tribute to Martin Luther King Jr., the slain civil rights leader whose birthday is honored today.

Casting a shadow over the second-term celebrations are legal and ethical problems lingering from the first term: Whitewater, questionable fund raising, the piles of FBI files and the sexual harassment allegations of Paula Jones.

Four years ago, Clinton swept in from Arkansas promising bold action

and cleaner government. The economy was weak, the federal government was \$4 trillion in debt and a world of foreign policy problems awaited his attention.

The economy recovered since that wintry day in 1993, budget deficits have ebbed and hopes for stability have increasingly taken root in Bosnia, the Middle East, Haiti and Northern Ireland.

Still, Clinton lost his Democratic majority in Congress, saw his plan to revamp health care fail and learned to repress the part of his nature that demanded "dramatic change" in his first inaugural address. He won re-election on a platform of bite-sized, low-cost initiatives, such as helping schools require student uniforms.

READY FOR SHOW



Shane takes his owner, Judy Flagle, for a walk after a long day at the Big Spring Kennel Club Dog Show Saturday afternoon. Pictured at the right is Perry, a Yorkshire Terrier that took fourth place in the toy category. For final results, please see page 2.

Thousands gather, march to remember Martin Luther King

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Thirty-seven years ago, Eddy Bexley and dozens of other blacks sat in silent protest at the lunch counter of the old Woolworth building in Tampa, Fla., enduring the curses of angry whites.

The goal was not hot dogs or hamburgers, recalls the Rev. Leon Lowry, now 83: "It was dignity, respect, consideration — to be recognized as human beings."

Because the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. did so much to advance those values, Bexley and about 60 others gathered at the site Saturday to recall the groundbreaking demonstration of 1960, part of commemorations across the country in honor of the slain civil rights leader's birthday.

"It took all I could do to come down here today," Bexley said. "When someone stands in front

of you and says, 'Nigger, get out of the building,' you get a bad feeling."

In New York, Brazilian, harmonica and youth choirs sang tributes to King at a gala tribute Sunday night at Harlem's Apollo Theater. Earlier, dozens marched silently through Manhattan, the day before the national holiday.

Luis Maldonado, 39, of New York, who attended the march and prayer, said King's life and struggle had influenced his own.

"It's because of him that Latinos today have a lot more freedom, opportunities and social acceptance," Maldonado said.

Even so, some of King's associates say his dream hasn't yet been realized.

"In black robes they assault our voting rights by day, and in white sheets they burn our churches by night," the Rev. Joseph Lowery told The Atlanta Journal-Constitution.

Lone Star District gets award, banquet drawing near

HERALD Staff Report

For the fifth consecutive year, the Lone Star District or the Buffalo Trail Council Boy Scouts of America has received scouting's Quality Award.

Recognition of membership gains, programs and activities will be given at the council's annual meeting Feb. 1 at the South Forty Cafe in Odessa, according to Ladd Smith, district chairman.

February's annual meeting ushers in Scout Week, which will be observed in the Big Spring area on Feb. 6 as part of the Lone Star District's banquet at First United Methodist Church's Garrett Hall. Tickets for the banquet are \$7.

The district will also have an open house from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Feb. 9 at its Scurry Street loca-

tion. Renovations, including new storm doors and windows, carpet and heating units have district officials excited about the future of scouting in the Big Spring area.

Finance Chairman Hayes Stripling Jr. announced a gift has been made to the council by the Dora Roberts Foundation for council operations, center improvements and for a ropes course.

Included in the district's overall membership gains, is a new Explorer post sponsored by Howard College.

This year marks the 50th year of the Buffalo Trails Scout Ranch in the Davis Mountains. As a prelude to the 50th anniversary of the, dozens of boys and girls camped out and explored the ranch with Scout leaders in mid-November.

According to District

Executive Warren Wallace, scouting is something every young boy should try.

"Scouting develops strong values in each young boy it touches. It honors the home, school, and church or synagogue as the origins of our youth's values," Wallace said.

Wallace added scouting's goal is to nurture and extend these values by emphasizing the Scout oath and law.

Camping out and hiking teaches boys basic self-assurance, teamwork and leadership - life skills they will take with them well into adulthood.

Wallace pointed out in today's times, when peer pressure as well as social pressure is what it is, young people make dozens of choices everyday that many adults never faced growing up. Some of today's young people make choices that come with

consequences they are not ready to handle, Wallace added.

Adults can help make those choices a lot easier by supporting a program that is a powerful teaching tool that promotes teamwork and self-esteem — scouting.

The entire Buffalo Trail Council is a program covering 18 West Texas counties. Services and facilities include trained volunteer staff members, the 6,600 acre Scout Ranch in the Davis Mountains, the 17-acre aquatic base and training center on Lake Colorado City, scout service centers in Midland and Odessa.

The district currently has eight Cub Scout Packs, students in grades one through five; eight Boy Scout Troops, boys ages 11 through 18; and six Explorer Posts, boys and girls ages 14 through 21.

Balanced budget amendment tests Congress' bipartisanship

WASHINGTON (AP) — Putting the new bipartisan spirit to an early test, Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott says Democrats are being "hysterical" in opposing a balanced budget amendment. The president's new chief of staff warns Republicans not to "muck around with the Constitution."

Republicans have promised to resurrect the balanced budget amendment as one of their top priorities in the new Congress. Lott, R-Miss., said the Democratic response could affect whether the two parties can work together on other issues.

"How they handle this issue

will affect our ability to work on other issues. So I would urge them to be careful with their rhetoric and be responsible in their conduct," he said Sunday on NBC's "Meet the Press."

The administration, after some earlier hesitation, last week came out strongly against amending the Constitution, say-

ing it would impair budget writers during times of recession or war and put too much control over the budget into the hands of the judiciary.

"I have always felt that was a gimmick," outgoing White House chief of staff Leon Panetta said on CBS' "Face the Nation."

Circuit City's agreement with state may benefit locals

HERALD Staff Report

Local residents may benefit by having more information on specialty advertising by large chains, following Texas Attorney General Dan Morales' recent agreement with Circuit City.

Morales announced an agreement with Circuit City which requires the national chain to provide additional disclosures to consumers in advertisement regarding the terms of no-interest financing options.

Similar agreement have also been reached with Victoria-based Lack's and Mattress Giant.

Morales brought concerns to the companies that their advertisements for no-interest financing programs did not adequately disclose all material terms and conditions of the programs. As a result, consumers may have believed that the applicable interest rate is zero percent when in fact interest accrues at a higher rate.

The companies provided

division with advertisement and participated in discussions that led to last week's agreements.

The agreement with Virginia-based Circuit City, known as Assurance of Voluntary Compliance and Statement of Understanding, was signed by 19 other states and the District of Columbia. Circuit City also agreed to pay \$225,000 to the nine states, including Texas, Arkansas, California, Florida, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Tennessee, Washington and Wisconsin.

The District of Columbia and other states signing the agreement, but were not part of the investigation.

"We are pleased that litigation was not necessary in obtaining these disclosures for consumers," Morales said. "We applaud the companies for their cooperation and hope that these agreements will provide a standard for the retail industry. We will continue to actively monitor other retailers' practices to insure that consumers are not misled when opting for these financing plans."

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TODAY'S WEATHER

▲ Highs
▼ Lows

Today: Partly cloudy. High in the 60s. Low in the lower 40s.

Tuesday: Partly cloudy. High in the upper 60s. Low in the upper 30s.

Extended outlook: Wednesday, decreasing clouds. High in the mid 60s. Low around 30. Thursday, fair and cooler. High in the 50s. Low in the upper 20s. Friday, fair and dry. High in the lower 50s. Low in the 20s.

RALD 1997
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TEXAS BRIEFS

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLK III: Christians must lead in keeping dream alive

DALLAS — The dream of racial harmony in America didn't die with the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., his son and namesake says.

Martin Luther King III told a Dallas church congregation on Sunday that the dream his father evoked so vividly in his famous 1963 speech on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial lives on.

It persists in the hearts of all Americans of good will and in church institutions that served as the foundation of his father's work, King said in a sermon to the Wilshire Baptist Church.

The vehicle for the dream is love, he said.

"That was true in 1957. It is true in 1997. It will be true in 2007. And it will be true through the ages of time," he said.

Web pages offer insight to Legislature, state agencies

AUSTIN — The Legislature's new session has drawn thousands of Texans to the Capitol. But getting a closer look at state government doesn't require a trip to Austin.

Many state agencies, the governor's office and both chambers of the Legislature have opened sites on the Internet's World Wide Web.

They say their move to the global connection of computers is a success, opening state government to more Texans and to the world.

The World Wide Web is a part of the Internet that brings together text, audio, video and graphic information.

"It used to be that you had to know somebody to get a copy of a bill or go to your legislator or a lobbyist," said Andy Welch, a spokesman for Comptroller John Sharp.

Judge to hear Val Verde suit over military voting by mail

SAN ANTONIO — A federal judge in Del Rio will hear arguments this week over two contested local elections in a case that could affect the way U.S. military personnel and Americans all over the world vote by mail.

At issue starting Tuesday are the posts of Val Verde County sheriff and Precinct 1 county commissioner, both won by Republicans last fall in Val Verde County, traditionally a Democratic, Hispanic stronghold.

In each race, the margin of victory came from hundreds of ballots mailed by airmen once posted to Laughlin AFB, just east of Del Rio in South Texas. The airmen now are serving elsewhere.

But Texas Rural Legal Aid claims in a lawsuit that none of the approximately 800 people who voted by mail is a Val Verde County resident.

The lawsuit claims that while they were eligible to vote for candidates for federal offices under the federal Voting Rights Act, they were not eligible to vote in state, county or local races also on the Nov. 5 ballot.

Legal battle brewing over adult clubs ordinance

HOUSTON — Topless clubs and bars, the target of a new Houston zoning ordinance, are gearing up for a big legal fight to protect their livelihood.

The new ordinance requires the businesses to relocate if they are within 1,500 feet of such community-related areas as schools or parks. Only five of 43 bars wouldn't have to relocate under the provision.

A First Amendment lawyer hired by the clubs says the ordinance would eliminate rather than regulate the adult entertainment industry in Houston.

Barnes' gift may have violated GTECH contract

HOUSTON (AP) — Former GTECH Corp. lobbyist Ben Barnes and his wife contributed \$2,000 to the Travis County district attorney's 1996 re-election campaign, a possible violation of GTECH's contract to run the state's lottery games, the Houston Chronicle reported today.

The former Texas lieutenant governor was GTECH's chief Texas lobbyist at the time of the contributions to Democrat Ronnie Earl's campaign, the Chronicle reported.

Barnes and his wife, Melanie, each gave \$1,000 to Earle's re-election campaign on June 28, according to Earle's campaign report.

GTECH's contract with Texas said its officers, agents and lobbyists "will not knowingly make a gift, loan or political contribution, either directly or indirectly to any Texas state officer or a member of the Texas State Legislature."

Barnes' lawyer, Ace Pickens, said the contributions do not violate the contract because Earle is a district officer of the state, lacking statewide jurisdiction.

"You've got all sorts of people who are officers of the state but are not state officials," Pickens said.

But Earle's office also prosecutes violations of state ethics laws through his Public Integrity Unit, which is directly funded by the Legislature.

Earle's office also has a \$200,000-a-year contract with the

Texas Lottery Commission to prosecute violations of the state lottery law.

On Jan. 6, the lottery commission on Jan. 6 told GTECH that it planned to fine the company \$25,000 because Barnes had given former Gov. Ann Richards a crystal paperweight worth about \$100 for Christmas 1992.

The company has claimed that the paperweight was a personal gift between friends and did not violate the company's contract.

GTECH spokesman Bob Rendine declined to comment. There was no answer at Earle's office early today and he could not be reached for comment.

Barnes recently quit as GTECH's Texas lobbyist. But he

American balloonist ends global flight in India

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — Steve Fossett wasn't able to circle the globe in his big silver balloon, but the American adventurer did break two records before a lack of fuel forced him to land today in eastern India.

Fossett, trying to become the first hot air balloonist to travel around the world without stopping, had set out from St. Louis on Jan. 13 on a quest to go around-the-world solo.

He had to settle for breaking his own record for the longest distance traveled in a balloon, and for staying aloft longer than any other balloonist.

Fossett, a 52-year-old securities trader from Chicago, touched down safely just after 1 p.m. today near the village of Prithviganj, 430 miles southeast of New Delhi.

Fossett covered about 9,000 miles and floated in the air for six days, two hours and 54 minutes, his team said. They have been keeping in touch with him via computer.

He matched a six-day, 16

minute balloon endurance mark about 11:30 a.m., then hovered 500 to 1,000 feet in the air, drifting with the winds for more than an hour to make his record official.

The balloonist eclipsed by several thousand miles his own world distance ballooning record, set at 5,435 miles during a 1995 flight from Seoul, South Korea, to Canada.

Fossett had lifted off with 700 gallons of propane fuel in tanks around his capsule, and his support team was unable to explain why he ran short.

"That's a big mystery to everybody here," crew member Doug Blount said at the team's headquarters at Loyola University in Chicago. "We just don't know. There are a bunch of different theories."

Fossett burned up extra fuel waiting for Libya to give him clearance to fly over, but that alone didn't account for the fuel shortfall.

Fossett was never able to relax because of threats to the trip, both natural and political.

'Evita,' Madonna tops in scattershot Golden Globes

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) — BRING on the Oscars.

Hollywood found out what the foreign press thinks is the best of 1996 cinema with the Golden Globe awards Sunday, as the Hollywood Foreign Press Association feted dramas with a definite foreign tone.

"The English Patient" was honored as best picture, England's Brenda Blethyn as top actress for "Secrets & Lies" and Australia's Geoffrey Rush for "Shine."

"Evita," the musical chronicling the life of legendary Argentine political figure Eva Peron, was a triple winner — taking honors for best musical or comedy movie, best musical-comedy actress for Madonna and best original song.

"I have been so incredibly blessed in this past year," Madonna, who had her first baby last year, said in accepting her Golden Globe. "Making this picture has been a great experience artistically and spiritually. I will never forget it."

No movie swept the awards, which launch Hollywood's movie awards season and often

presage the Academy Awards. The dark comedy "Fargo," which has won critics' awards in recent weeks, went home empty-handed.

After years of struggling for respect because of claims of voting corruption, the Hollywood Foreign Press Association finally achieved a degree of respectability last year with a prime-time TV broadcast.

Golden Globes were also bestowed on "The People vs. Larry Flynt," with awards to director Milos Forman and writers Scott Alexander and Larry Karaszewski.

In the television categories, "The X-Files" was voted top TV drama and its stars, David Duchovny and Gillian Anderson, won top TV dramatic actor honors.

NBC-TV's "3rd Rock From the Sun" won for top TV musical or comedy series and its star, John Lithgow, won for best actor in that category. Helen Hunt of "Mad About You" was the top TV comedy actress.

Tom Cruise, the sports agent of "Jerry Maguire" was the musical-comedy actor winner

Arafat meets with militant leaders; joint patrols begin

HEBRON, West Bank (AP) — Yasser Arafat won a pledge from some Islamic leaders that they would not challenge his rule in Hebron, and his security chief said today he would try to make the city safe for Jewish settlers.

Despite Israel's withdrawal from 80 percent of the city last week, the potential for violence remains high. Hebron is a magnet for Palestinian and Israeli militants opposed to the peace accords, and new violence in the city could sabotage future negotiations.

Arafat adopted a conciliatory tone Sunday in a speech before thousands of Hebron residents gathered outside the former Israeli military headquarters. They came to greet the Palestinian leader in his first visit to the city since 1965.

"Here, in Hebron, I tell the settlers in the city, we have no quarrel with you. We, too, are with peace," Arafat said.

Later Sunday, Arafat met

with Islamic leaders to win their assurance that they would not challenge his authority. Among those attending the meeting were moderate leaders of the Islamic group Hamas, including Sheik Talal Sidr and Hashem Natche. It was not clear whether the group spoke for Hamas hardliners.

"We told the chairman that the Hebron agreement is now a reality, although we were hoping it would be a better agreement," said Natche, head of the Hebron Chamber of Commerce.

Arafat's security chief in the West Bank, Jibril Rajoub, said the Islamic leaders told Arafat that "they will respect the Palestinian Authority and its law and order."

Rajoub said he would make Hebron a safe place for all, including Jewish settlers, as long as they do not try to provoke and attack Palestinians. Many of the settlers are ultra-nationalists, and Palestinians have complained of harassment by them.

Rajoub had come under fire for a speech he delivered in Hebron on Saturday in which he described the settlers as stones around the Palestinians' neck that should be discarded.

The Israelis responded angrily, saying Rajoub was inciting against the settlers. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said today he was pleased that Arafat's speech on Sunday was more moderate.

"We praise the more positive tone," Netanyahu told Israel radio. "Hebron was really for many long years a city of fighting and bloodshed and we know it can be something else."

Arafat arrived Sunday afternoon in Hebron, waving to the crowd from the window of his helicopter. En route to the Palestinian police headquarters, Arafat, wearing his black-and-white head scarf and green khaki uniform, sat atop the open sunroof of a car, reaching into the crowd to shake hands

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We can give you help in these considerations. For instance, in choosing a sofa, aside from those two basic — its beauty and its comfort — be sure it has the right size and shape for the rest of your room. And be sure to consider the color of the sofa in relation to your overall color scheme. Another thing to think about is the fabric. There are so many wonderful choices in fabrics today that can do so much for both the look of your sofa and its wearability.

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EDITORIAL

Quote of the Day

"Diplomacy is the art of saying 'nice doggie' until you can find a rock."

-Will Rogers

Opinions expressed on this page are those of the Editorial Board of the Big Spring Herald unless otherwise indicated.

Charles C. Williams Publisher

John H. Walker Managing Editor

John A. Moseley News Editor

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OUR VIEWS

Smoking ban wise move by commissioners' court

Howard County commissioners deserve considerable credit for their deliberations last week, having handled a difficult issue and arrived at a definitive decision — issuing a smoking ban in all county-owned buildings.

We are convinced it was the correct decision, as well. What is truly surprising, however, is the commissioners' court enacted the smoking ban on only the second instance in which the issue appeared on its agenda. Numerous other governmental entities, including the state of Texas have not been so lucky.

It must be remembered that the argument as to whether the individual smoker's "right to smoke" supercedes the right of others to breathe without being subjected to the health risks presented by inhaling secondary smoke is a heated one.

In fact, the "smoker's rights" question may well be one of the most contentious issues of our time, piling only in comparison to the United States Supreme Court's Roe vs. Wade decision and this nation's involvement in Vietnam.

Our commissioners, however, clearly understand the concept that one person's rights end at the point of another's nose.

Oddly enough, the commissioners reached their decision on the same day that the State Preservation Board announced that smoking would be prohibited in all public areas of the Texas Capitol.

Somehow one can't help but believe that if it's the right decision in Austin, it's the right one in Big Spring — at least in this one instance.

For the state ban to be reached, disabled rights advocates were forced to extraordinary lengths in arguing that smoking made the building inaccessible to people with breathing disorders.

They went so far, in fact, as to contend the state's previous policy violated the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act and requested an investigation by the U.S. Department of Justice.

Those complaints led to an evaluation by the Preservation Board staff.

"The self-evaluation was undertaken specifically because of that complaint," Rick Crawford, the board's executive director, explained. "The decision was made just because we think it's the right thing to do."

Enough said.

OTHER VIEWS

The Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. did not work tirelessly and die tragically for paper equality. Even in King's time, most states had that. But blacks somehow remained second-class citizens. What King and his followers truly sought was a new America, where the mix of equal opportunity, native talent and hard work could carry any citizen to dignity and success — whichever stick in the Creator's crayon box matched his or her skin.

It is clear that this new society yet eludes us. Being black still correlates too much with being ill-educated, poor, desperate. But what to do?

A great debate now rages over the expedient of affirmative action — the notion that, to redress racial wrongs, the wronged group, as a group, deserves a leg up when it comes to college admission, employment, job retention and the like.

For many blacks the debate is irrelevant. One does not get into any college if one has not mastered key academic skills. One does not win or long hold any job if one lacks the tools of knowledge to perform it. Sadly, half a lifespan after King's death, these deficits still curse millions.

Now, alas, it isn't beady-eyed deputies with dogs and cross-burning cretins who are keeping these miserable masses down. It is counterfeit liberals. Days before the nation paused to recall King's work, for example, a

Wisconsin state judge dismantled a school-choice program embraced by thousands of black Milwaukee children and their parents.

Begun in 1991, the plan gives vouchers to poor parents who understand that the city's public schools are condemning their kids to a dire life. (One Milwaukee high school enrolls hundreds of freshmen but typically graduates only around 40 seniors.) With the vouchers, children can attend any public or non-religious private school that will take them — just like the European-Americans in the ranch houses.

Perhaps it wouldn't work everywhere, but the results in Milwaukee are encouraging. Math test scores, for example, are up by as much as 12 percent. A survey by the Commercial Journal, serving Milwaukee's black community, found 90 per cent support, among informed readers, for school choice. But Judge Paul Higginbotham last week outlawed the whole experiment, in effect ordering 1,900 pupils back to their educational dungeons.

King had a dream. Once they tried to pound it down with truncheons. Now it's gavel. But it's a funny thing about dreams. Whether articulated by martyrdom-bound pastors or caring parents stymied by the status quo, the good ones eventually come true.

-SCRIPPS HOWARD NEWS SERVICE



What the Republicans are doing wrong

By PAUL CRAIG ROBERTS Scripps Howard News Service

What I have learned from the Gingrich affair is far more damaging to my confidence in the Republicans as a reform party than any ethical lapse by the Republican leader. Insofar as Mr. Gingrich himself is concerned, the affair is over. Newt has been re-elected speaker and can look forward to a reprimand from an oxymoron known as the House Ethics Committee for behaving like a Harvard or Stanford professor and using tax-free money to advance his political views, a punishment that could only happen to a Republican.

But the affair is much bigger than the Speaker. It is about the political incompetence of Republicans who allowed a crisis to be made from nothing.

It is bad enough that the majority party permitted its leader to be maligned for two years while a felonious Clinton administration achieved re-election. Republicans, ever the unready party, consistently lose their grip when confronted with the shamelessness of Democrats and liberal editorialists. The same editorialists at The Washington Post and The New York Times who urged us to re-elect Mr. Clinton found Mr. Gingrich too sullied to be

speaker of the House. Even a fool can see that the charges against Mr. Gingrich flowed from a strategic decision by politically minded Democrats to protect the status quo by depriving the Republican reformers of their leader.

Despite their majority, Republicans lost this obvious political game. Although they found the courage in the end to re-elect their leader, they are stuck with what House Banking Committee chairman Jim Leach, R, Iowa, brands "an ethically damaged speaker" who is less likely to stick his neck out in the future. Mr. Gingrich has found that Machiavelli's warning on the perils of undertaking change has an extra bite for the leader of a timorous party.

As Karl Marx said, "In politics, audacity is 90 percent of the battle. All the Republicans needed to defuse the Gingrich crisis was two words: "so what?" The Madonna defense so ably used by the singer when confronted with her indiscretion of posing in the nude. Hillary Clinton has also proved this defense to be effective. Perhaps Republicans need testosterone shots.

That might turn Republicans into a political party, but they would still need to come up with an answer to the question, "What is to be done?"

Not even Mr. Gingrich knows. Even he believes that the Republican mission is to reform the programs dating from "Great Society" and "New Deal" times. If carried through, this mission would only validate Big Government by reforming it and leave Democrats in charge of the agenda.

The important issues that must be addressed if we are to remain a free society have nothing whatsoever to do with the budget or the government's programs. They have to do with an unaccountable federal judiciary and bureaucracy.

The federal judiciary, especially the Supreme Court, has removed the most important moral and political decisions from the democratic process.

In place of persuasion and the expression of the people's will, the judiciary dictates. In defiance of the U.S. Constitution that they are sworn to uphold, judges have replaced equality under the law with legal privileges based on race, gender, and victim status. From Yonkers, NY, to Kansas City, judges have violated the clear separation of powers by seizing the power of the purse and ordering taxes to be raised.

The bureaucracy also exercises power without warrant. Bureaucrats are so accustomed to defining with regulation the

meaning of Congress' statutes that they now regulate in the absence of statutory law.

By abdication its responsibility to hold accountable the judiciary and bureaucracy, Congress is becoming a superfluous institution. Nothing better illustrates Congress' redundancy than the decision of the House Ethics Committee to leave it to the IRS to determine if Mr. Gingrich violated laws governing the operations of tax-exempt organizations. If Congress is not prepared to say what its own laws mean, where is its power?

A Republican Party that took as its mission to restore accountability to the judicial and administrative branches of government would be far more popular with the public than one that thinks its mission is to cut Medicare and Social Security, pass a balanced-budget amendment and expand welfare into the private school system through vouchers.

If Mr. Gingrich would address the usurpation of democracy by judgeocracy and bureaucracy, he would find himself leading the most popular revolution since 1776.

(Paul Craig Roberts is a former assistant secretary at the U.S. Treasury and the John M. Olin fellow at the Institute for Political Economy.)

Clinton's getting rare second chance at inaugural history

By MARSHA MERCER Media General News Service

WASHINGTON — To be president is to join a very exclusive club. Bill Clinton is only the 42nd member in history.

And when he takes the oath of office and delivers his second inaugural address on Monday, Clinton will be joining an even smaller fraternity.

He is only the 14th president to have consecutive terms, the 15th ever elected twice. Grover Cleveland's two terms were four years apart.

So, while most presidents get only one chance to make a memorable inaugural address, Clinton is getting a rare, second opportunity to say something that one day could be carved in stone.

White House press secretary Mike McCurry says Clinton is looking for the words, the poetry to inspire the nation.

Abraham Lincoln's second inaugural address was that kind of speech.

The Civil War was almost over on March 4, 1865, when Lincoln said, "With malice

toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan..."

You can read those words on the wall of the Lincoln Memorial.

Clinton's first inaugural address was blessedly short and had a line or two that seemed memorable that bright, cold noontime four years ago.

Citing Thomas Jefferson who believed the nation would need dramatic change from time to time, Clinton declared, "This is our time. Let us embrace it."

There was a palpable optimism and excitement in the capital. Thousands lined the streets exuberantly hoping for a glimpse of the first Democratic president in 12 years, the first baby boomer president ever. Clinton couldn't talk enough about making change our friend.

All too soon, though, the heady, hopeful mood was dashed as the on-the-job train-

ing phase of the Clinton presidency began.

Today, Clinton and his team are wiser and far smoother. His popularity is high. But, most people would be hard pressed to name any significant accomplishments from his first four years. Clinton's most ambitious plan — the reform of health care — failed miserably.

And what did he embrace? Don't ask, don't tell? Curfews and school uniforms? Republican ideas for reforming welfare and balancing the budget?

No wonder Clinton in his second inaugural address will focus on his bridge the 21st Century and the changes the country needs to make to be ready for the next millennium.

Looking ahead is a quintessentially American frame of mind. Nobody knew that better than one of the oldest presidents, Ronald Reagan, who said in his second inaugural speech, "We, the present-day Americans, are not given to looking backward. In this blessed land, there is always a better tomorrow." Reagan's speechwriters had a

knack for feel-good images. "We are creating a nation once again vibrant, robust, and alive. But there are many mountains yet to climb..."

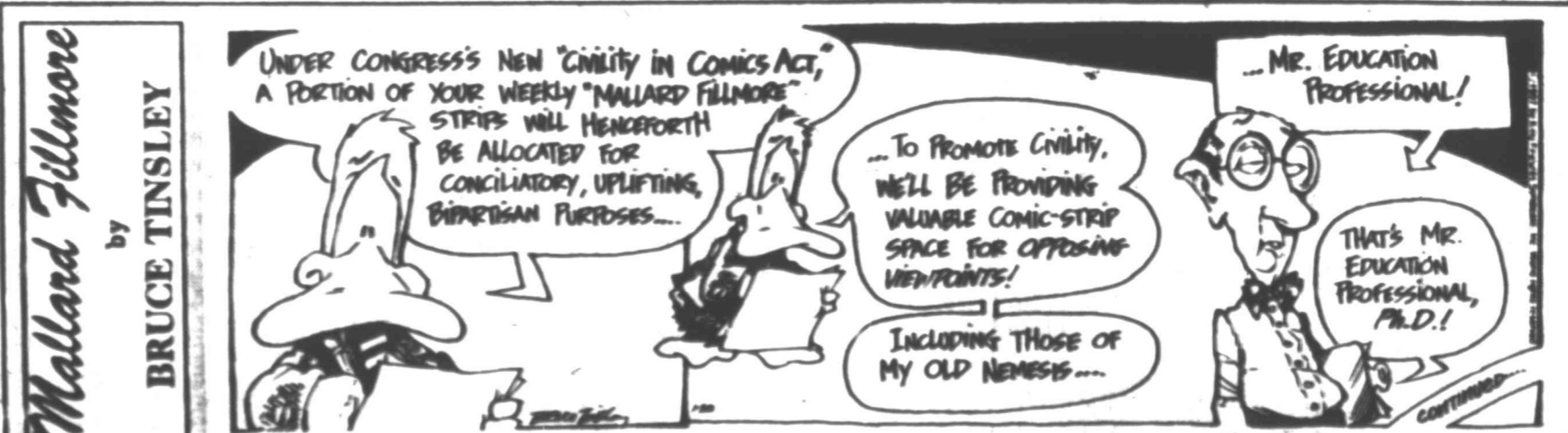
And, "Let history say of us, 'These were the golden years — when the American Revolution was reborn, when freedom gained new life, when America reached for her best.'"

To hear Mike McCurry tell it, speechwriting for Clinton is at once a solitary and a group process.

Clinton is a student of history. He thrives on discussion. "The president sits with his team and offers them his ideas and tries different riffs...and they take it, they work it, they shape it, they incorporate some other things, other ideas the president has," McCurry told reporters.

"But ultimately, I think, it will not be a finished product until the president lines out everything prepared for him and writes in his own hand as he internalizes the speech and gets prepared to give it."

This, after all, is Clinton's last chance to get an inaugural address right.



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MONDAY

JAN. 20

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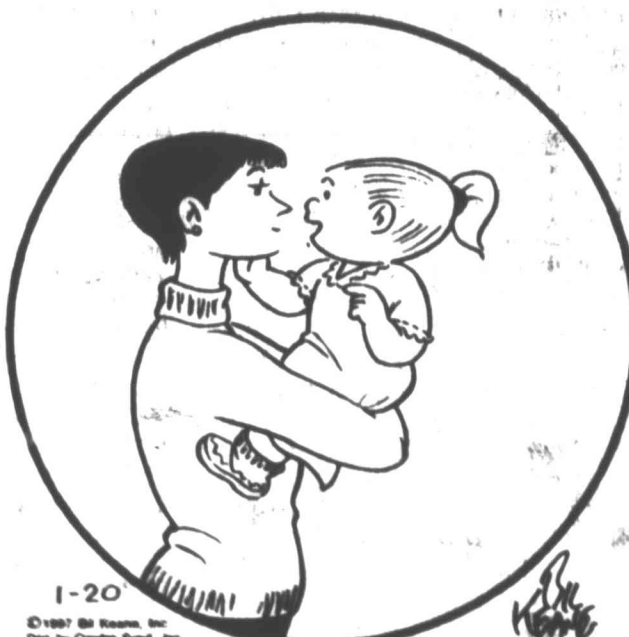
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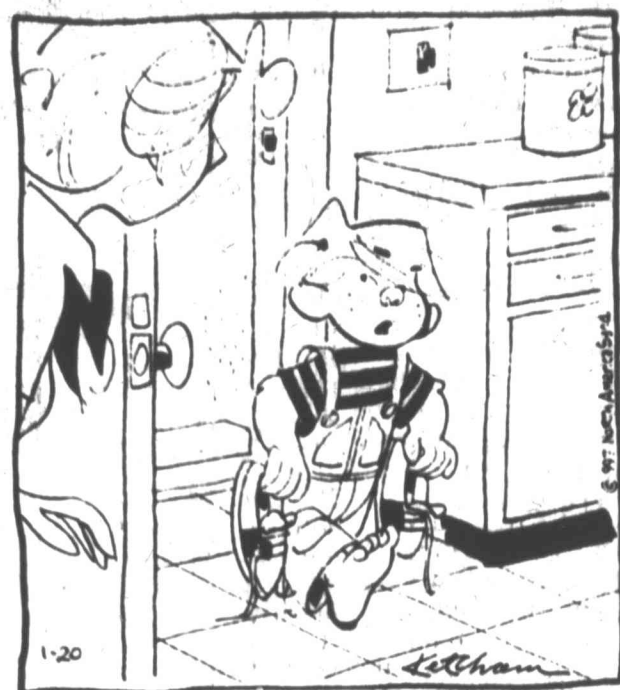
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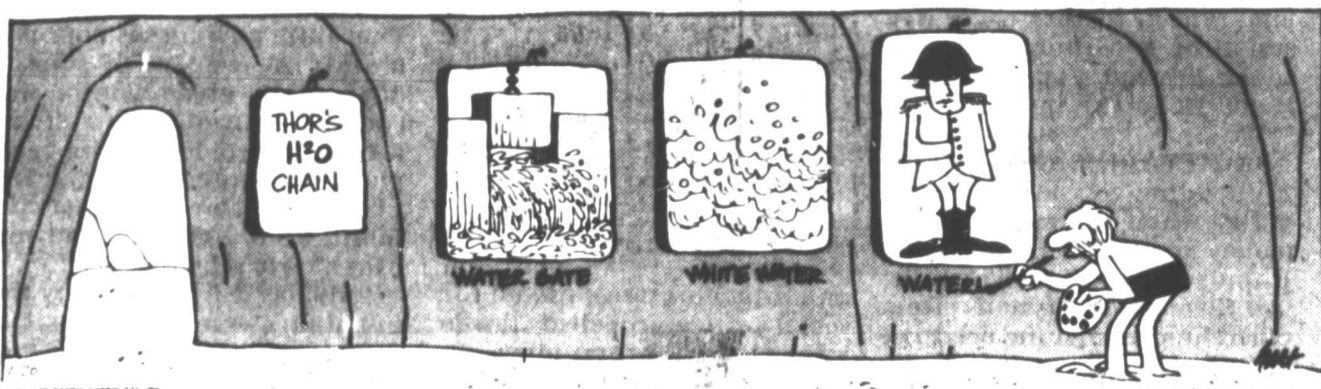
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THIS DATE IN HISTORY

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Monday, Jan. 20, the 20th day of 1997. There are 345 days left in the year. This is the

Martin Luther King Jr. federal holiday.

Today's Highlight in History: On Jan. 20, 1896, comedian George Burns was born Nathan Birnbaum in New York. Burns died March 9, 1996, at age 100.

On this date: In 1801, John Marshall was appointed chief justice of the United States.

In 1839, Chile defeated a confederation of Peru and Bolivia in the Battle of Yungay.

In 1841, the island of Hong Kong was ceded to Great Britain.

In 1887, the Senate approved an agreement to lease Pearl Harbor in Hawaii as a naval base.

In 1936, Britain's King George V died. He was succeeded by Edward VIII.

In 1937, President Roosevelt became the first chief executive to be inaugurated on Jan. 20 instead of March 4.

In 1942, Nazi officials held the notorious Wannsee conference, during which they arrived at their "final solution" that called for exterminating Europe's Jews.

In 1945, President Roosevelt was sworn into office for an unprecedented fourth term.

In 1981, Iran released 52 Americans it had held hostage for 444 days, minutes after the presidency had passed from Jimmy Carter to Ronald Reagan.

In 1986, the United States observed the first federal holiday in honor of slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr.

In 1986, Britain and France announced plans to build the Channel tunnel.

Ten years ago: Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite disappeared in Beirut, Lebanon, while attempting to negotiate the release of Western hostages. He was finally freed in November 1991.

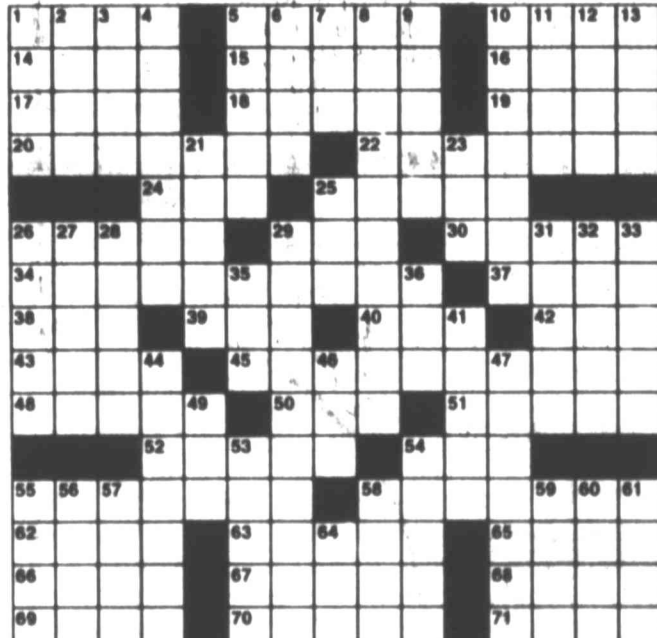
Five years ago: A French Airbus A-320 crashed near Strasbourg, killing 87 people. A German court convicted two former East German border guards of the last killing at the Berlin Wall.

One year ago: Hundreds of thousands of Palestinians turned out to vote in a festive first election, solidly endorsing Yasser Arafat and his peace policies. The space shuttle Endeavour landed after a nine-day mission that included snaring a Japanese satellite.

Today's Birthdays: Actor DeForest Kelley is 77. Band leader Ray Anthony is 75. Country singer Slim Whitman is 73. Actress Patricia Neal is 71. Former astronaut Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin is 67. Pop singer Ron Townson (The Fifth Dimension) is 64. Comedian Arte Johnson is 63. Actress Dorothy Provine is 60. Sen. Paul Coverdell, R-Ga., is 58. Movie director David Lynch is 51. Rock musician Paul Stanley (KISS) is 47. Reek musician Ian Hill (Judas Priest) is 46. Comedian Bill Maher is 41. Actor Lorenzo Lamas is 39. Country singer John Michael Montgomery is 32.

THE Daily Crossword

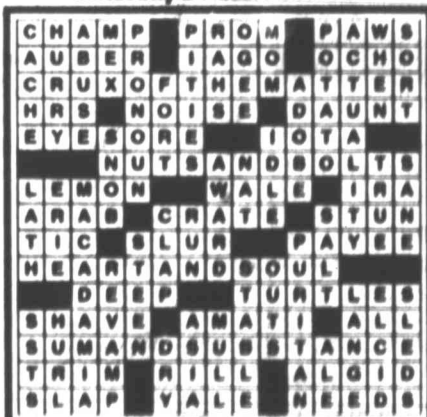
- ACROSS: 1 Gambol, 5 Dupe, 10 Take forty winks, 14 Part of T.A.E., 15 Strident, 16 Acknowledge, 17 Approach, 18 Chalcedony, 19 Decrease gradually, 20 Certain boarding places, 22 "Batman" character, 24 Lodge member, 25 French philosopher, 26 Corsican patriot, 29 - about town, 30 Insurgent, 34 Early settler in Britain, 37 Arrangement, 38 Nothing, 39 Levy, 40 Greatest degree, 42 Long long -, 43 Ledger entry, 45 With assiduity, 48 Was concerned, 50 Singer Davis, 51 Established, 52 Attach, 54 - in (confine), 55 Altar space, 58 Tranquil, 62 Unfeeling, 63 Actor David, 65 Legislator Sonny, 66 Lake port, 67 African capital, 68 Othello's "friend", 69 Put on, 70 Boredom, 71 Porters, 72 -



by William Canine

01/20/97

Saturday's Puzzle solved:



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- DOWN: 1 Scuttled, 2 Swiss painter, 3 A "terrible" czar, 4 Irish patriot, 5 Classroom need, 6 Beldams, 7 Time span, 8 Enormous, 9 Possessive, 10 Loitered, 11 Ellipse, 12 Region, 13 Pitcher, 21 Part of T.S.E., 23 -

- 24 Rosenkavalier, 25 Woodwind, 26 Funk, 27 Ekberg, 28 Peeping Tom, 29 Mexican emperor, 31 Trounces, 32 Colonel's insignia, 33 Actor, 34 Christopher, 35 Downhearted, 36 Pick at, 41 Sailing vessel, 44 Ramble, 46 Remiss, 47 Site of Windhoek, 49 Pilot's award, 53 Barrier, 54 Red River city, 55 Munch, 56 Lepord, 57 Oratorio high point, 58 Site of Cuzco, 59 Paddock baby, 60 "Picnic" author, 61 Dove sounds, 64 Coq au -

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