

BIG SPRING HERALD

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

TUESDAY
January 19, 1999

Tonight:



TONIGHT **WEDNESDAY**
45°-49° 73°-76°

Murder Mystery tickets are on sale

The Heritage Museum will sponsor its 1999 Murder Mystery event Saturday beginning at 6:30 p.m. Groups of eight players will meet at the museum for pizza, then move to various sites throughout the city to play one of three games with varied themes and settings.

Cost for the game and opening reception is \$15 per person, or \$25 a couple.

"This is one of the most interesting a unique events the museum sponsors," said curator Angle Way. "We have so many people that look forward to it each year."

Players in the murder mystery games are invited to dress in costume for their parts, ranging from western attire to evening gowns to business suits.

Call the museum at 267-8255 for more information.

WHAT'S UP...

TODAY

□ Big Spring Art Association, 7 p.m., West Texas Center for the Arts, Howard College Campus.

□ Big Spring Chapter No. 67, Order of the Eastern Star meeting, 7 p.m., Masonic Lodge, 219 Main.

WEDNESDAY

□ Optimist Club, 7 a.m., Howard College Cactus Room

□ Big Spring Downtown Lions Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room.

□ Line dancing, 1 p.m., Senior Citizens Center, Industrial Park.

□ Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie, 7 p.m., Eagles Lodge, 704 W. Third.

THURSDAY

□ Gideons International Big Spring Camp No. 4206, 7 a.m., Hermans.

□ Big Spring Senior Citizens Center art classes, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. for 55 and older.

□ Kiwanis Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room.

□ Rackley-Swords Chp. 379 Vietnam Veterans of America 7 p.m., 124 Jonesboro Road.

□ American Legion Post 506, 7 p.m. Call 263-2084.

□ Masonic Lodge No. 1340, 7:30 p.m., 2101 Lancaster.

FRIDAY

□ Spring City Senior Citizens country/western dance, 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. All seniors invited.

SATURDAY

□ Eagles Lodge pot luck supper, 7 p.m., Eagles Lodge.

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To reach us, please call 263-7331. Office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call 263-7335 before 7 p.m. on weekdays and 11 a.m. on Sunday.

Dream of summer youth hoops program coming together, says Webb

By MARSHA STURDIVANT
Staff Writer

Max Webb, director of Northside Community Center, started with an idea about a summer evening youth basketball program.

That idea grew into a dream, and now, thanks to the several foundation grants, has



WEBB

become a \$35,000 reality.

"This is really exciting, and my hope is to provide the youth of our community with something fun and athletic and competitive to do in the summer," Webb said.

A summer basketball program is Webb's idea. But toward that end, he knew he needed a way to light up the basketball court.

"Cap Electric, in Midland, estimated the lights will cost about \$20,000. We'll be breaking ground for the lights Thursday," he said.

Webb said the lights, which will allow basketball tourna-

ments in the cooler summer evenings, will be set according to the city youth curfew.

"That way, if the lights are on, they know they can play basketball," he said.

Bleachers and a score board are also part of the redesign of the basketball courts, located to the west of the community center building.

And now Webb is hoping to garner interest in adults who will volunteer to be coach, keep score and referee, as well as youth who want to take part in the tournament play.

"And we'll need someone to

divide the talent among the teams. This will really pay off for Big Spring, because with us starting kids so young, they will develop these skills and by the time they get to high school, they may really be super players," Webb said.

His goal, he said, is to provide youth an avenue for activity in the summer evenings. The teams will be divided into age, 12-18.

Webb said if there is an interest in younger students playing, that may be arranged as well.

"Our primary reason is to get kids off the streets and in to a

competitive sports arena," he said.

Webb intends for the first league season to begin the first week in June, and to last until the week before school begins.

That last week of play will be the all-city tournament, with trophies given to the winners.

Along with adult volunteers, Webb is also looking for merchants to sponsor basketball teams. The teams will be divided into boys and girls, as well as the age groups, and will need uniforms.

See HOOPS, Page 2

Former hotel might get a little notoriety

HERALD Staff Report

Big Spring's best known former eyesore, the Settles Hotel building, may be included in an upcoming Texas Monthly feature on renovated old hotels.

"They're doing the story on old hotels around the state that have been renovated and contacted me," explained Friends of the Settles chairman Tommy Churchwell. "I gave them some background and told them I would get some art to them for their project."

Churchwell said he is sending a copy of the front, full elevation from the original set of blueprints, which were drawn by the Abilene firm of David S. Castle Co. on Oct. 14, 1929.

"I thought that every place would have a photo and this might be different enough that they would use it," he said.

Meanwhile, work continues on the building.

The placement of windows is now complete on the second floor of the former Settles Hotel, leaving the ground floor windows as the last remaining to be installed.

Monies for the Settles Windows Project have been raised by Friends of the Settles with work being done by Quality Glass.

More than 400 windows were removed from the building and the window replacement project has been going on for almost two years, with more than \$55,000 raised.

Work has moved from concentrating on the windows to further securing the building while improving its appearance.

Last Friday, employees of Bob's Custom Woodwork rehanging the front doors to the building after the glass had



Chris Abshier, center, and Terry Sawyers of Bob's Custom Woodwork check the balance of the newly hung glass doors at the Settles building on Friday. The doors were removed to be resized and fitted with new glass panels.

See SETTLES, Page 2

Big Spring police are investigating aggravated robbery

By MARSHA STURDIVANT
Staff Writer

Big Spring police are investigating an aggravated robbery which took place Monday.

"Police were called to the 11th Place Laundry, across the street from Rannels Junior High School, at about 8:50 p.m. in response to an aggravated robbery," said Sgt. Roger Sweatt, with the Big Spring Police Department.

According to Sweatt, at about 8:50 p.m. Monday, two suspects wearing masks entered the 11th



SWEATT

Place Laundry, and demanded money from the 72-year-old clerk, threatening her with a semi-automatic handgun.

The suspects forced the woman to the safe, and held the gun to her head while they demanded she open it, Sweatt said.

The clerk explained she was unable to open the safe.

The suspects then noticed two

bank bags lying on a table, and decided to take the bags, which contained about \$120 cash, he said.

They then fled the building. Sweatt said the clerk was uninjured, although very frightened.

"They scared the fire out of her," he said.

See ROBBERY, Page 2

Area cotton producers to gather for conference

HERALD Staff Report

Permian Basin Cotton Conference in Stanton Wednesday offers area cotton producers an opportunity to hear speakers discuss "Cotton Marketing Outlook" and receive continuing education credit.

Registration and exhibit viewing begins at 8:30 a.m. in the Stanton Community Center.

The cost is \$10 per person at the door and lunch is part of the registration fee.

Sponsored by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, a tentative agenda includes a representative from the National Cotton Council, as well as Craig Fincham, Lubbock extension program specialist-risk management, who will present "Risk Management Education."

Also "Row Pattern, Spacing

and Plant Population" will be presented by Dr. Dan Kries, Texas Tech University crop physiology professor, and "Drip Irrigation" will be presented by Joe Henggeler, a Missouri irrigation specialist.

And "Reduced Tillage Systems" will be the topic by Ted Higginbottom, a cotton producer from Gaines County.

"Boll Weevil Management" will be presented by Dr. Tom Fuchs, a state pest management coordinator from San Angelo.

Other topics scheduled to be presented will be "Water Issues and State Bill 1," by Dr. Bruce Lesikar from Texas A&M University, and "Worker Protection Standard," by Shelly Borgstedt of Midland.

Wednesday's conference will earn attendees two and a half credits in continuing education units.

Rules flap

Coahoma youth challenges ISD's decision in case of AEP student

By MARSHA STURDIVANT
Staff Writer

Coahoma Independent School District's Monday night trustees meeting consisted of two lengthy executive sessions, an audience of about 40 people and little action.

Coahoma sophomore Chad Metcalf spoke to the board concerning



HARTMAN

University Interscholastic League rules, and his belief those rules have been broken during the recent Howard County Junior Livestock Show.

"This clearly states that a student may not participate in extracurricular activities or scored events if they are in AEP (alternative education program)," Metcalf said.

Metcalf contends that a Coahoma student was given special permission to compete in a livestock contest, contrary to UIL rules, while other students in the district have been held accountable to those rules.

"This is about ethics, and we'll all be losing if this is allowed to continue to go on," Metcalf said.

A Future Farmer's of America student, Metcalf presented copies of the UIL rules to trustees, as well as copies of local school policy, a letter presented to all parents and students assigned to Inner School Suspension (ISS) and a copy of the form that granted special permission to a student.

Board President Gail Wells and other trustees entered into executive session at the beginning of the meeting, before Metcalf's presentation.

"There are areas here we need

See CISD, Page 2



Three-year-old Macie Casillas gets by with a little help from her friends during her recent birthday party at the Westside Day Care Center. Helping her with the candles are Ashley Henderson, right, and Dakota Steelman.

JAN 19 1999

Clinton lays out his agenda as trial proceeds

WASHINGTON (AP) — On trial in the Senate, President Clinton goes before Congress and the nation tonight to make the case for his presidency with a State of the Union address setting an "ambitious and activist agenda" for the remainder of his administration.

Clinton's challenge was to generate interest in his proposals among lawmakers still caught up in the impeachment proceedings against him, and aides said his speech would be brimming with ideas on education, health care, Social Security and other issues.

"At the end of the speech, people will look not at an administration that has entered the last two years of office and is slowing down, but an administration that is energized and is looking forward to moving into the 21st century with an ambitious and activist agenda," White House spokesman Joe

Lockhart said Monday.

But the address fell on the same day Clinton's defense team began its presentation in the Senate, and White House officials conceded that the GOP-controlled Congress wouldn't rush to rubber-stamp the agenda of a chief executive many Republicans want to see removed from office.

Undaunted, Clinton's plan was to continue to portray himself hard at work on the nation's business, outlining initiatives to shore up the Social Security system and renewing calls to build new schools, overhaul the campaign finance system and increase the minimum wage.

Last year, Clinton challenged Congress to reserve all of the burgeoning budget surplus to "save Social Security first." This year, he was expected to offer some concrete steps to do just that. One proposal under

consideration by the administration calls for using the surplus to subsidize 401(k)-style accounts that would exist in addition to Social Security benefits, but not replace them.

Clinton planned to embrace a minimum wage proposal sponsored by Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., calling for a 50-cent increase in the hourly base pay in September 1999, and another in September 2000, bringing the rate to \$6.15 an hour. A similar plan was defeated last year.

And an administration official said the president will seek \$1 billion in block grants to the states to continue the welfare-to-work program begun two years ago for another year.

Clinton was scheduled to deliver his address at 8 p.m. CST in the House chamber before Congress and a live television and radio audience.

Some Republicans had urged Clinton to delay his visit to

Capitol Hill, and senior GOP senators were encouraging colleagues to adopt a stoic demeanor for the speech. Dennis Hastert, the new House speaker, asked colleagues to be courteous despite "discomfort" over the trial.

"Out of respect for the office of the presidency and for the state of our union, we will listen to the president's remarks soberly and with the dignity that befits the United States Congress," Hastert wrote.

Clinton was expected to seek a \$110 billion increase in Pentagon spending over six years and ask the Congress to allow Americans as young as 55 buy into Medicare.

The president has already said that his fiscal 2000 budget to be announced next month will seek tax incentives to encourage Wall Street to invest in underserved rural and inner-city communities.

Bush makes history today with second oath of office

AUSTIN (AP) — Republican George W. Bush was making history today as the first Texan to take the oath of office for a second consecutive four-year term as governor.

Bush and Lt. Gov.-elect Rick Perry were scheduled to be sworn in shortly after noon in a tradition-laden ceremony on the Capitol's south steps. Perry, a one-time Democrat, becomes the first Republican inaugurated as lieutenant governor.

"The politics is over for me. Now it's time to be the governor," Bush said. "I think people have come to say this man is an open-minded fellow who's got the best interests of Texans" at heart.

Bush, who won re-election in November with a staggering 69 percent of the vote, leads a state government that's nearly all-Republican for the first time since Reconstruction.

Democrats hold none of the 29 statewide offices. They run only one of the Legislature's two chambers, the House, where their majority of 78 seats is its lowest in a century.

His political popularity, combined with the famous name of his father the former president, have helped to make Bush a front-runner among potential GOP presidential candidates for 2000.

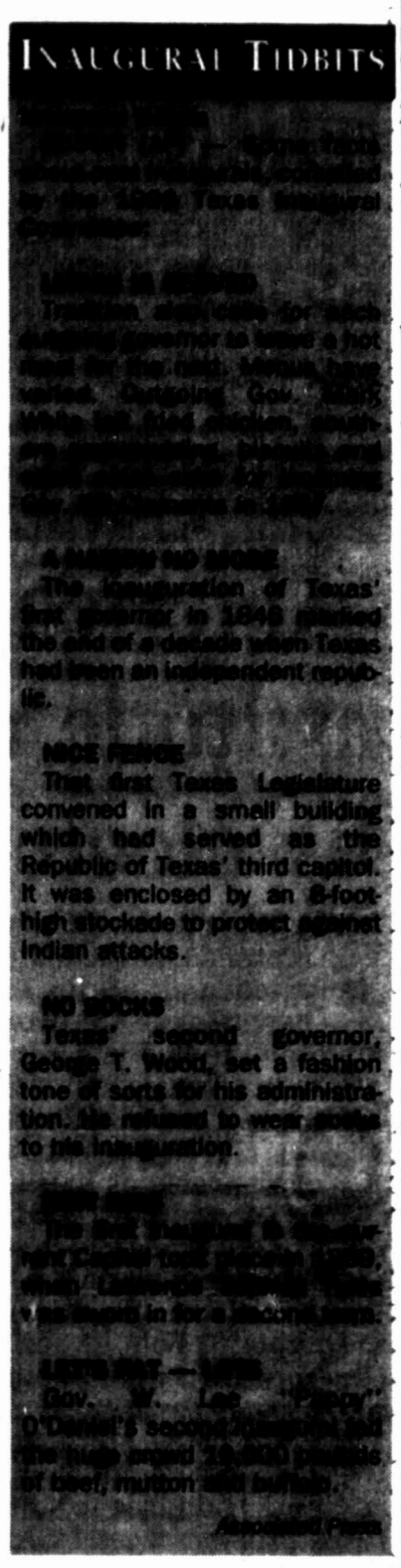
But as he prepared for today's swearing in, Bush said again that he hasn't made up his mind about higher office, even though several national opinion polls have shown him leading other prospective GOP candidates.

And a Dallas Morning News poll published over the weekend showed a majority of Texans favoring a presidential bid. That survey of 514 randomly selected Texans, conducted Jan. 5-6, found 69 percent favoring a Bush candidacy in 2000 and 21 percent opposed. The margin of error was plus or minus 4.5 percentage points.

Bush is only the second Republican to be governor



BUSH



INAUGURAL TIDBITS

The first Texas Legislature convened in a small building which had served as the Republic of Texas' third capitol. It was enclosed by an 8-foot-high blockade to protect against Indian attacks.

Texas' second governor, George T. Wood, set a fashion tone of sorts for his administration. He refused to wear pants to his inauguration.

White House lawyers mounting aggressive defense

WASHINGTON (AP) — White House lawyers are mounting an aggressive defense of President Clinton only hours before he delivers a State of the Union address from the very chamber where he was impeached for "high crimes and misdemeanors" a month ago.

In opening arguments before the Senate, Clinton's defense team was focusing on conflicts in testimony gathered by Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr, a shift in strategy aimed at undercutting House charges of perjury and obstruction of justice, sources say.

Clinton's lawyers have expressed interest in having some Democrats from the House Judiciary Committee join the defense team, according

to officials familiar with the White House discussions.

This will be the second year that Clinton's State of the Union address has been clouded by charges of marital infidelities. He presented his 1998 speech a few days after the Monica Lewinsky story was made public.

At his trial, the switch from not discussing the facts to disputing many of them could bolster Republican demands for witnesses to help resolve the disputes. The White House has been fighting that prospect but now expects witnesses, officials said.

John Podesta, the White House chief of staff, said today there is no assurance that witnesses could resolve whatever

conflicts might exist in testimony.

"We think after our defense team has put down the case on the facts, the law and the Constitution, have reminded the senators there are 60,000 pages of testimony from over 100 witnesses that are before them already, they may find there is no need for witnesses," Podesta said on NBC's "Today."

When Clinton's lawyers conclude their arguments, he said, they will move to dismiss the charges.

Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle said Monday that witnesses might be inevitable. In an interview with The Associated Press, the South Dakota Democrat said witnesses could lead to the spectacle of

100 senators watching former Ms. Lewinsky, the former White House intern, "point to where the president touched her."

Sen. Jon Kyl, R-Ariz., dismissed Daschle's warning as "all-or-nothing" scare tactics that are "just not true."

House GOP prosecutors on Saturday finished a three-day presentation of their case in support of two articles of impeachment that were approved Dec. 19 on mostly partisan votes.

The White House will get 24 hours to present its rebuttal. White House Counsel Charles F.C. Ruff was to spend several hours presenting opening defense arguments today before the trial recesses.

Impeachment brings out old House-Senate rivalries

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Founding Fathers were so worried about bad blood between the House and the Senate that they forbade the two bodies from even talking about each other. The impeachment trial in the Senate shows how right they were.

Breaking with custom, House prosecutors have been telling Senate jurors how to think and act. Their advice has not always gone over well.

Rep. Bob Barr, R-Ga., got things off on a bad foot when he said in a New York Times interview last month that "the senators' attention span is probably less than an average juror's so we'll need to simplify, simplify, simplify."

Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., retorted that "that kind of condescending arrogance" would not go over well in the Senate.

House Majority Whip Tom

DeLay, R-Texas, a strong supporter of impeachment, provoked another exchange when he suggested that senators study the "reams of evidence" in the Monica Lewinsky affair never made public. To tell the Senate what to do "is not a helpful suggestion," said Sen. John Breaux, D-La. "It will not be followed by the United States Senate."

Thomas Jefferson appears to have foreseen this potential for discord. In parliamentary rules that he wrote, lawmakers are barred from commenting on the opposite chamber — or even from referring to it directly. Jefferson's rules are still in effect in the House.

"Quoting them might beget reflections leading to a misunderstanding between the two houses," Jefferson wrote.

The understanding was that there would always be tension

between the House and the Senate. The House of Representatives, which always calls itself "the people's House," is directly elected every two years and presumed to be more attuned to popular sentiment. The Senate, whose members originally were chosen by state legislatures, was presumed to be beholden to the interests of the states.

The purpose of the Senate, said Edmund Randolph, an early governor of Virginia, was to provide a cure for the "turbulence and follies of democracy."

Lawmakers today must still refer to the group on the other side of the Capitol as "the other body," and are admonished by the chair for speaking directly of the House or Senate.

At the opening of this session, House leaders, aware of the unusual situation created by

the trial, announced that "it is a general principle of comity that certain references to the Senate are to be avoided" and members are "prohibited from urging the Senate to undertake a certain action."

That reminder came after not only impeachment enthusiasts such as Barr and DeLay, but also the chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, Rep. Henry Hyde, R-Ill. sniped at the Senate.

"I daresay they are innovative and creative over there on Mount Olympus," he told his House colleagues, "but here we're confined by the strictures of the Constitution."

"I think Henry Hyde is a fine human being," replied Sen. Bob Kerrey, D-Nebr., during the debate over how the Senate should structure the trial, "but I don't give a damn what he thinks our rules should be."

Nation honors far-reaching legacy of civil rights leader

ATLANTA (AP) — From the pulpit at Atlanta's Ebenezer Baptist Church, two foreign-born Nobel Peace Prize winners paid tribute to the powerful legacy of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu credited King and other American civil rights leaders for paving the way for the end of apartheid in his country.

"We drew enormous courage from your history. That you emerged from the furnace of

affliction, the furnace of injustice, the furnace of oppression of slavery, emerged as strong as you have been," he told the packed church Monday. "You helped us, 10,000 miles away."

During the service, King's widow, Coretta Scott King, presented the 1999 Martin Luther King Jr. Non-Violent Peace Prize to John Hume, who last year shared the Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts to bring peace to Northern Ireland.

"We believed in the words of Dr. Martin Luther King," Hume said. "We believed that true unity among all Irish people was unity of the heart, not unity of the soil."

The federal holiday commemorated what would have been the civil rights leader's 70th birthday. King was born Jan. 15, 1929, and died April 4, 1968, from an assassin's bullet.

President Clinton, joined by Vice President Al Gore and Washington Mayor Anthony Williams, marked the day by visiting senior citizens at a retirement home.

In South Carolina, Gov. Jim Hodges said at a breakfast honoring King that he wants to make King Day a permanent state holiday.

It is currently an optional day off for state workers and state offices were not closed.

New Hampshire is the only state that does not officially recognize the holiday, although legislation is pending to change the state's Civil Rights Day to a holiday specifically recognizing King.

A protest by the white supremacist group Nationalist Movement drew just three marchers in York, Neb.

They were greeted by about 80 spectators who cheered "God bless Martin Luther King!" and carried signs promoting racial harmony.

In Wallingford, Conn., St. Paul's Episcopal Church was crammed with 500 people who arrived to sing King's praises.

Funeral for slain women draws nearly 2,000 mourners

MIDLAND (AP) — Sobbing, distraught and disheartened, family members and friends of three women slain in a triple-murder suicide last week say it's the simple, everyday memories that make their loss so painful.

Some told stories about 67-year-old Margaret Compton's constant need to sweep the floor of her small antique shop. Others shared tales about how the three women organized projects to feed the poor.

"Right now it may feel like we're drowning in memories, but soon it will be those memories that will keep us afloat," said religious leader Ronnie White, to the nearly 2,000 people who attended the women's

funeral.

Many friends said the most obvious signs that Midland had lost three beloved residents were the darkened lights of her antique store, which was known for remaining open no matter the weather.

A small sign taped to the door Monday read: "Closed due to a death in the family."

Doug Jeffers, whose wife Janette Jeffers was killed, said he couldn't measure what losing her would mean for his life.

"My life has been divided into two halves, before Janette and after Janette," Jeffers said. "Everything good in my life started with her. I'll never regret a moment of it."

Police in the Dallas suburb of

Richardson said Allen Dale Price, 48, shot ex-wife Janette Jeffers, 43, her mother Margaret Compton and Mary Rowland, a family friend, before turning the gun on himself.

Investigators said Price was enraged because Mrs. Jeffers had obtained a court order demanding \$38,000 in unpaid child support.

Mrs. Jeffers' 12-year-old son, Nealon, climbed out a secondary window when the shooting started and escaped safely.

Jennifer, her 19-year-old daughter who was the focus of the child support battle, was at the University of Texas.

Both Mrs. Compton, 67, and Ms. Rowland, 63, were visiting from Midland.

The shootings seemed to be the culmination of Price's slow mental breakdown, police said.

After Price and Janette Jeffers divorced in 1982, Mrs. Jeffers won custody of the couple's daughter and eventually remarried.

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JAN 19 1999

EDITORIAL

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."
—FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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OUR VIEWS

'America first' attitude needed by elected officials

In Austin on Monday, several hundred Texans marched on the state capitol in protest of low oil prices and seeking support for a plan proposed by new Texas Railroad Commissioner Charles Matthews that would eliminate severance taxes on oil and natural gas when it drops below a specified level. While we repeatedly read in the newspapers and hear on the news about how strong the economy is, there are problems in West Texas. With yet another failed crop behind us and petroleum and natural gas prices at rock bottom, our economy is far from great. And while Austin may not be the proper place to go to complain about low oil prices, it is a starting point. Given the fact the national and international press is in Austin to cover the inauguration of Gov. George W. Bush — because political pundits every where feel he will seek the Republican nomination for president — it's not a bad place to start. The problem faced by America's petroleum industry is that our nationally elected officials have worked and struggled to ensure that OPEC is protected, that Argentinean oil is purchased and that we look out for everyone except the men and women who keep Americans working in America's oilpatch. America's farmers and ranchers face a similar problem.

Our own Congress ripped the footing from beneath the wool and mohair industry when they removed financial support, thus guaranteeing Australia, New Zealand and other countries the world market. Take a drive through communities like San Angelo and Eldorado and Sonora and Ozona and Del Rio and you'll find wool and mohair warehouses that were once thriving businesses employing large numbers of people. Today, you might find one or two still operational on a scaled-back level. While our own cotton farmers struggle, we open markets for cotton from other countries. Our hog and cattle producers face similar problems, as well. No, we don't advocate a policy of isolationism but we do believe our elected officials should be just a little more jingoistic in their attitude regarding their own country and their fellow countrymen. Yes, we are now part of a world market, but there is nothing wrong with working to ensure that our elected officials have an "America first" attitude as they sit at the negotiating tables. After all, if our own elected officials don't understand or care how important our own industries are to us, why should some member of the European Union?

OTHER VIEWS

Most African-Americans never got the 40 acres and a mule promised to them after emancipation in 1865. Instead, they were trapped in no-win sharecropping arrangements and forced into Jim Crow segregation. Those who oppose affirmative action and believe discrimination is a thing of the past should review recent evidence of systematic racial discrimination against black farmers during the 1980s and '90s. Long overdue compensation came through when the Clinton administration recently moved to settle a class-action lawsuit brought on behalf of black farmers. Under the agreement, an estimated 4,000 black farmers are eligible to receive the equivalent of \$200,000, including a \$50,000 cash settlement and forgiveness of federal loans. Biased farm aid decisions contributed to reducing the number of black farmers from 925,000 in 1920 to 18,000 in 1992. President Bill Clinton set the tone to make this landmark settlement and recognition possible. The next step should include "affirmative actions" to expand opportunities and increase the ranks of black

farmers. STAR TRIBUNE OF MINNEAPOLIS Will the Teamsters get a better Hoffa? His name is as politically valuable as gold, Kennedy or Rockefeller. It got him elected president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, though by fits and starts. What James P. Hoffa does with the Hoffa name now could ameliorate what his father, Jimmy, did to it during his glory and gloom. They were visited upon the son in 1996 when James P. Hoffa first sought to unseat incumbent reformer Ron Carey. It turned out, of course, that the reformer himself needed some reforming. Mr. Carey was kicked out of the union for using its money to beat Mr. Hoffa, his election voided by the federal government. Mr. Hoffa ... didn't waste his second chance, defeating a comparative unknown ... in a special election. Now, James P. has an opportunity to redeem the Hoffa name. He can start by using his power to benefit the members ... of the largest labor union in America. NORTHWEST FLORIDA DAILYNEWS

Easing of sanctions against Cuba a mistake

You would think, just as a matter of chance or accident, that Bill Clinton would do at least one thing right occasionally. Apparently, he can't. His easing of trade sanctions against Cuba is a big mistake. He claims allowing Americans to send more dollars to Cubans won't help Fidel Castro, but he's lying. The only place Cubans can spend dollars are in government stores. The extra dollars will end up in Castro's bank account. In order to wade through the muck of propaganda, let's clear up the difference between the trade sanctions against Cuba and the trade embargo against Iraq. The sanctions in regard to Cuba apply only to Americans and American businesses.

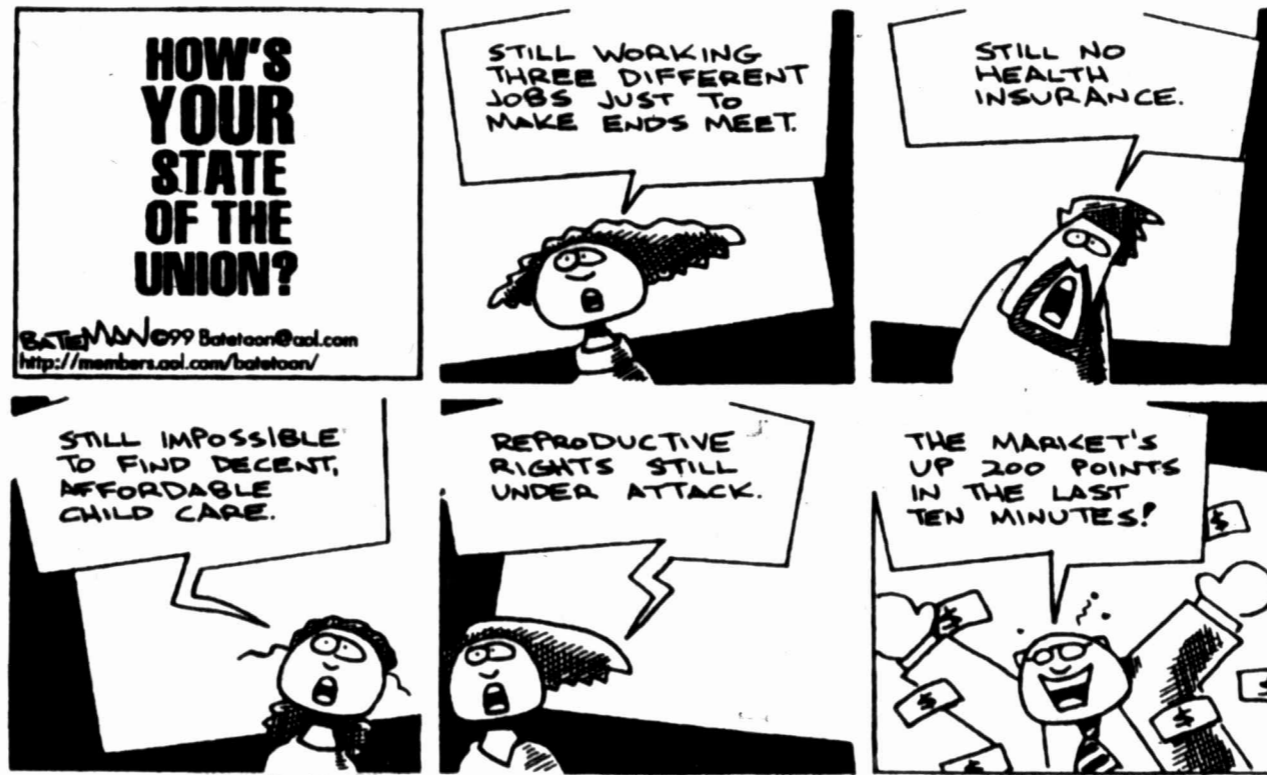


CHARLEY REESE

Castro is free to trade with every other country in the world. Cuba can export or import anything it wishes from any country except the United States. Therefore, Cuba's poverty cannot be laid at the feet of Americans. The sanctions against Iraq, however, are a true embargo. There is a military-enforced prohibition against Iraq exporting or importing anything without express permission of the United Nations. Therefore, the poverty in Iraq is a result of the embargo and of course, the bombing of Iraq's infrastructure. In Cuban waters, however, there are no American ships stopping anyone from other countries from visiting or investing or doing business with the bearded blowhard dictator. He blames poverty on us, but he's a Clinton-class liar. The poverty of the Cuban people is deliberately imposed by Castro who, like all communists, confiscated both the land and the people's labor. He exploits both to fill the communist coffers. As in all communist coun-

tries, the top Reds live well at the expense of the people. A few weeks ago, a friend of mine made his first visit to Cuba, spending nearly two weeks there and driving from one end of the island to the other. He said the country is astoundingly beautiful, the land is fertile, and there are crops and cattle everywhere. Yet, he said, the people are bordering on malnutrition, and even the stores that take dollars have bare shelves. Obviously, Castro is reserving the island's bounty for his cadre and for export to earn money to support his police state. Enforced poverty is a standard communist technique of control. People living on the subsistence level — and at the mercy of the Communist Party for even that — stay too busy just trying to survive to have any energy left for overthrowing the government. Communism truly is a blight on the human race. Communists have more than once used enforced starvation as a means of mass murder. Stalin murdered nearly 12 mil-

lion Ukrainians by forced starvation, and the deposed communist boss of Ethiopia used it against his enemies. Because of all the communists and leftists in America, Castro's image is blurred, but he is a murderous psychopath. Years ago, I had a long conversation with Huber Matos, one of the Cuban Revolution's most successful guerrillas. He finally broke with Castro and spent years in prison. He said Castro is very much like Adolf Hitler — a megalomaniac and a ruthless psychopath. More recently, Cuban defectors who held high positions in Castro's government have written that he has a pathological hatred of the United States. One even wrote that Castro would order a military attack on the United States rather than give up power. He said the dictator's ego would prefer destruction by the United States than to admit that he is a failed leader. Clinton and Castro both need to go, and sooner rather than later. Charley Reese's e-mail address is OSOREESE@aol.com.



A city's tributes to a not forgotten past

Duke Ellington had a way with words. "Night light is cut out of a very luxurious, royal-blue bolt of velvet," he said. And that's exactly what this city looks to be made of, after dark at least: yards of blue velvet scattered with random neon buttons. It sparkles. But then I'm in a mellow mood. A busload of reporters and editors is here to talk shop and see the seamless side of Kansas City, Mo. Its boosters say the town has more fountains than Rome. I believe them. Everywhere you look there's its squirting water and dancing light. I'll have to confess I didn't appreciate the city's velvety side on a previous visit to Kansas City. My old Auburn buddy David Housel and I came to town for my first major-league baseball game in 1974. We rushed to the stockyard's Golden Ox to eat steaks the size of our suitcases and to swill Cowboy Punch. There was something in that Cowboy Punch. We sang, loudly, all the way to the ballpark. That trip was more cowhide than velvet. I didn't know about this other, upscale, stylish Kansas City. Perhaps it wasn't even



RHETA GRIMSLEY JOHNSON

here 25 years ago. All cities have gotten a lot more image-conscious in the past couple of decades, adding landscaped parks and pyramids and big fish tanks. Southern cities have made museums of their civil rights battlefields and now charge admission. I guess you'd call it civic evolution. Our evening tour of Kansas City takes us to the historic district. The museums at 18th & Vine are tandem exhibitions, connected by an atrium and devoted to jazz and Negro Leagues Baseball. I make a quick pass through the jazz half, delighting in the old photographs of Louis Armstrong and in watching the visitors in headphones groove to blue notes nobody else can hear. But the baseball part of the building is what I really came to see. "Within the story of baseball lies one of the most shameful chapters in American history," the guidebook says. And it's true. Black sports heroes could travel this country, making lots of money for promoters, long before they could eat in most restaurants or book a room in even a second-rate hotel. There was, of course, a "gentleman's agreement" that kept them out of the major leagues. But even that couldn't keep them out of the game itself. The museum starts with the first black 19th-century baseball teams, the ones with such delightful names they might have been exotic nightclubs: the Blue Sky Club of Camden, N.J.; the Bachelors of Albany,

N.Y. And the museum ends on a high note, with barriers broken and black heroes finally taking the field. Mighty strange things have been done in the name of exclusion. Many a contortionist pose has been struck. There's been a dramatic reversal in this particular exodus, of course, but as early as 1908 black players made big money by leaving the United States to play "beisbol" in Cuba and the Dominican Republic. In June of 1925, the Wichita Klan 6 played the all-black Wichita Monroviens, and the newspaper got clever and wrote it up this way: "Strangleholds, razors, horse-whips and other violent implements of argument will be banned ..." The black team won. There were the black clown teams, of course, which the real Negro Leagues players resented. Whites were somehow more comfortable laughing at black athletes than at watching them play "straight." It was during World War II that absurdity reached its zenith. There were 50 soldiers from the Negro Leagues in combat, fighting and dying to protect a country that supposedly stood for freedom and loved baseball. In the museum shop I bought an Atlanta Black Crackers cap for my nephew's baseball collection. And I guess somebody, someday will have to explain to him why black players had a league of their own.

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SP

IN BR

Yearlings post in consolation
Runnels Junior School's Yearlings win over Snyder Tigers to take the championship of the Junior High Tournament on Saturday.
Dustyn Beauco Howard Johnson points each in Yearlings to the win.
Runnels reached final with over Monahans. Weaver hit a free end of the game to final margin. Beatty Butler paced 13 and 12 points.
The Yearlings tournament with to Andrews' host.

Mavs drop consolation championship
Golias Middle Mavericks got 11 Michael Ornales more from Bryson couldn't keep Lan Tornadoes from the win in the consolation of the Andrews Basketball Tournament.
The Mavs had consolation final win over Monahans tournament's second Ornales again lead with 13 points. Williams and chipped in six ap

Hunter Education scheduled for
A hunter education required for all on or after Sept. be conducted Feb. Big Spring Area Commerce office the corner of Thist streets.
Boyce Hale instructor, for which are scheduled to 5 p.m. both \$10 per person charged.
For more info Hale at 267-6957 Gun Shop at 267-

Helling signs to stay with R
ARLINGTON Helling, who tied major league leaguers, agreed \$10.5 million, the tract with the Helling, who record with a 4 starts, said, "M felt it was a we're happy wence the Range us for the long Helling will million in 1999, \$3 2000 and \$4.5 m Helling was ers with two t service who be for salary arbit of the 1990 lock "Obviously breakthrough year," said ager "As a result, th comfortable ext

TODAY

JUCO BASKETBA
6 p.m.
* San Angelo L Spring (girls and t
6:30 p.m.
* Plains at Coa boys).
* Eldorado at F boys).
* Seagraves at and boys).
7 p.m.
* Irion County (girls and boys).
* Westbrook at and boys).
* Ropes at Gra boys).
* Ira at Borden and boys).

ON TH

TODAY: 9 COLLEGE BASK
Men
6:30 p.m. — F State, ESPN, Ch
WINTER X-GAM
8:30 p.m. — F ESPN, Ch. 30.

TUESDAY

JAN. 19

Table with 24 columns representing different TV channels (KMD, KPEJ, KERA, etc.) and rows representing time slots (6:30, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30, 10:30, 11:30, 12:30) with program listings.

HAGAR



BLONDIE



B.C.



FAMILY CIRCUS



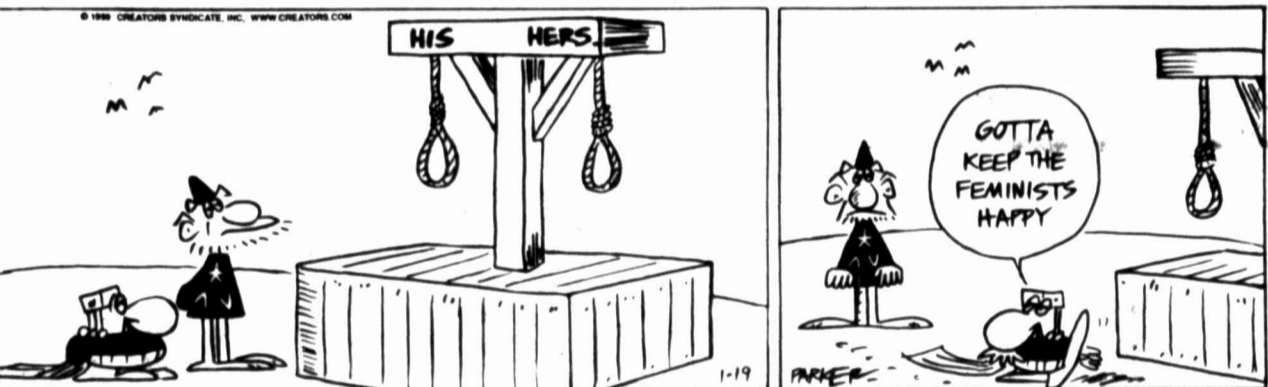
DENNIS THE MENACE



GEECH



WIZARD OF ID



HI AND LOIS



GASOLINE ALLEY



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILY



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

19th day of 1999. There are 346 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Jan. 19, 1807, Robert E. Lee, commander in chief of the Confederate armies, was born in Stratford, Va. On this date: In 1736, James Watt, inventor

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

Crossword puzzle grid with clues. ACROSS: 1 Opening letters, 6 Prevent, 9 Oregon capital, 14 Move certain, 15 Troy, NY school, 16 One-for-one deal, 17 Popular puzzle, 19 Incandescent, 20 City on the Irish River, 21 High card, 22 Toy-car sound effects, 23 Sch. trainees, 24 Superior examples, 26 Exposed, 28 Egt.-Syr., once, 29 Numbers pro, 32 Suggest, 34 Knocked for a loop, 36 Bowling alleys, 37 French river, 38 Supervise, 41 Lends a hand, 43 Affirmative, 44 Sault __ Marie, 45 Asian weights, 46 Benchmark, 48 Fidel's comrade, 51 Open a flag, 54 End of pay?, 55 Caspian feeder, 56 Twenty, 57 German medal, 59 Carine malady, 60 Girl of the house, 61 Brazilian palm, 62 Military student, 63 Mothers, 64 Try some. DOWN: 1 Flamboyant tie, 2 Myanmar, previously, 3 Poison symbol, 4 Cubicle furniture, 5 Hesitator's sounds, 6 Fabric with a raised design, 7 -ski, 8 Shed, 9 Ill-fated, 10 Rival of Sparta and Athens, 11 'Symphonie Espagnole' composer, 12 Dead Sea kingdom, 13 Street of stables, 18 Cardiff's county, 22 Small bottle, 24 Hollywood to Vine, e.g., 25 Word extension: abbr., 27 Impersonator, 29 Move back and forth, 30 Closely confined, 31 Thirst quenchers, 32 Stratagem, 33 Praise highly, 35 Trompe l' (photorealism), 39 & others, 40 Post-dusk, 41-Perplexed, 42 Plastic-wrap brand, 46 Sudden increase, 47 S.S. Andrea, 49 Attacks, 50 Borden's cow, 51 Branch of the mil., 52 Inter-campus sports grp., 53 Affectionate, 55 Bear constellation, 57 Belief system: suff., 58 Persian or Siamese

of the steam engine, was born in Scotland. In 1809, author Edgar Allan Poe was born in Boston. In 1853, Verdi's opera "Il Trovatore" premiered in Rome. In 1861, Georgia seceded from the Union. In 1944, the federal government relinquished control of the nation's railroads following settlement of a wage dispute. In 1955, a presidential news conference was filmed for television for the first time, with permission from President Eisenhower. In 1966, Indira Gandhi was elected prime minister of India. In 1970, President Nixon nominated G. Harrold Carswell to the Supreme Court; controversy over Carswell's past racial views defeated the nomination. In 1979, former Attorney General John N. Mitchell was released on parole after serving 19 months at a federal prison in Alabama. In 1981, the United States and Iran signed an agreement paying the way for the release of 52 Americans held hostage for more than 14 months. Ten years ago: The Senate Foreign Relations Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the full Senate approve the nomination of James A. Baker to be secretary of state. Five years ago: President Clinton visited quake-stricken Los Angeles, where he pledged fast and aggressive federal help. Figure skater Tonya Harding's ex-husband, Jeff Gillooly, surrendered to authorities in Portland, Ore., after being charged with conspiring to attack skater Nancy Kerrigan. One year ago: During a ceremony in Atlanta commemorating the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday, Vice President Gore announced that the Clinton administration would propose increasing spending on civil rights by \$86 million. "Rockabilly" pioneer Carl Perkins died in Jackson, Tenn., at age 65. Today's Birthdays: Actor-singer John Raitt is 82. Actress Jean Stapleton is 76. Actor Fritz Weaver is 73. Former PBS newsman Robert MacNeil is 68. Movie director Richard Lester is 67. Actress Tippi Hedren is 64. Singer Phil Everly is 60. Actor-singer Michael Crawford is 57. Actress Shelley Fabares is 55. Country singer Dolly Parton is 53. ABC newswoman Ann Compton is 52. Singer Robert Palmer is 50. Singer Harry McGilberry (Temptations) is 48. Actor Desi Arnaz Jr. is 46. Actress Katey Sagal is 43. Reggae musician Mickey Virtue (UB40) is 42. Actor Paul McCrane is 38.

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