

In her first appearance on David Letterman's "Late Show," first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton admitted to being "just a little" nervous.

Hillary aces N.Y. quiz on Letterman debut

Says she followed host from Midwest

NEW YORK (AP) — A nervous Hillary Rodham Clinton, saying that she lost a bet with Tipper Gore, appeared last night on the David Letterman show after weeks of cajoling by the late-night host.

The first lady made her first visit to the "Late Show" after the host made a running gag of her plan to run for Senate in New York. Mr. Letterman has called Mrs. Clinton a carpetbagger from Arkansas seeking political opportunity in New York.

Mr. Letterman at first set aside his trademark sarcasm and lobbed her a softball, asking her to "tell us a little bit about yourself."

Mrs. Clinton smiled and told Mr. Letterman she grew up in the Midwest — as he did — has a mother named Dorothy — as he does — and just couldn't resist the temptation to follow him to New York.

Mrs. Clinton's likely Senate opponent, Republican New York City Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani, has been on the show nearly 20 times, chatting with Mr. Letterman about the New York Yankees, Mrs. Clinton and life in New York. He's even gotten some laughs in a few comedy skits.

Mrs. Clinton admitted to being "just a little" nervous, but told Mr. Letterman: "I knew if I was going to run for Senate, I was going to have to come and sit in this chair and talk to the big guy."

She aced Mr. Letterman's New York quiz, correctly identifying the state bird (bluebird) and the state tree (sugar maple).

Her top 10 reasons for appearing on the show included: "I lost a bet with Tipper" and "If Dan Quayle did it, how hard could it be?"

The show aired at 11:30 last night.

Meanwhile, President Clinton, along with Mrs. Clinton's mother, hopped on an Air Force jet last night and flew to New York to join his wife at their new home in Chappaqua for a two-night stay.

It was the president's second visit in a week.

Today, he is scheduled to attend a Wall Street conference convened by the Rev. Jesse Jackson and decided to take advantage of the house's proximity to New York City. Mr. Clinton planned to stay overnight and return to the White House tomorrow.



On the air: Letterman conducted a fairly benign interview with the first lady. Her 'Top 10' list, 10A

Hillary steps into Dave's world

By Charisse Jones
USA TODAY

Senate candidate-to-be Hillary Rodham Clinton appeared on CBS's *Late Show With David Letterman* on Wednesday and joked that she did so because she had lost a bet with Tipper Gore.

Letterman, who chastised the first lady nightly for a month for not appearing on the show, asked her weighty questions such as whether she had Socks the cat declawed and whom she would root for in a contest between baseball's Yankees and Cubs. A native of the Chicago area, Clinton said such a contest would be a fairy tale and would never happen.

Clinton went on to ace Letterman's New York quiz, correctly identifying the state bird (bluebird) and the state tree (sugar maple).

Commenting on her likely opponent, New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani, the first lady said: "He's done a lot of stuff as mayor. But I think being a senator is a different kind of job."

At the end of her appearance, she read her own "Top Ten" list for why she finally came on the show.

No. 1? "If I can make it here, I can make it anywhere."

Before she left, Letterman gave her a gift that will come in handy at her new home in Chappaqua, N.Y. — a riding lawnmower.

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

The New York Times

From the Home Office in Chappaqua

By ADAM NAGOURNEY

For more than a month, David Letterman has begged — or "badgered" as he put it — Hillary Rodham Clinton to appear on his show.

And for more than a month, the first lady and candidate for senator from New York has resisted, sending her spokesman to put off Mr. Letterman and his executive producer, to the growing and public irritation of the host of "The Late Show With David Letterman."

Last night, Mrs. Clinton finally sat down on the CBS set at the Ed Sullivan Theater in Midtown. And 20 breezy minutes later, after she left to cheers from the audience and a hug and a kiss from Mr. Letterman — not to mention a gift of a tractor-mower — it was difficult to see why she had ever demurred in the first place.

"Are you nervous?" he asked.

"Just a little," she responded.

"Me, too," Mr. Letterman said, apparently in earnest.

From there, the host and the first lady traded chatter, jokes and, inevitably, Top 10 Lists. Mr. Letterman may have made something of a career of making jokes at the expense of Mrs. Clinton and her husband, but that was hard to tell last night.

Instead, he poked cordially through her political and family life, asking her about life in Chappaqua, N.Y., her views of Alan Greenspan, the state of relations between the Clintons' dog and cat (they fight like — well, you can guess). Most of all, though, Mr. Letterman seemed concerned about what President Clinton thought of Mr. Letterman.

"Does your husband know you're here?" Mr. Letterman inquired.

Yes, Mrs. Clinton responded. Mr. Letterman then recounted meeting Mr. Clinton some years ago and sensing that the president might have less than fond feelings for him. "Your husband was a little standoffish," he said. "I had the sense that I might remind him of a boob."



Barbara Nitke/CBS

Hillary Rodham Clinton brought her own Top 10 List for her appearance on "The Late Show with David Letterman" last night.

"I don't think it was that at all," Mrs. Clinton responded. "I think it was just that he was curious why you have never made a joke about him."

There were some of what might have seemed to the uninformed viewer to be challenging moments for Mrs. Clinton. Mr. Letterman presented her with a pop quiz about New York arcana, asking whether she could name the state bird (blue bird), the state tree (the sugar maple) and which Great Lakes touched New York (Erie and Ontario). She answered all the questions correctly.

Mr. Letterman's staff members said the quiz had been a surprise. Mrs. Clinton's spokesman, Howard Wolfson, allowed that Mrs. Clinton might, in fact, have been given a sneak peek at the questions before she went on.

She arrived with a Top 10 List of reasons why she had finally decided to appear on the show. (Among them: "If Dan Quayle did it, how hard can it be?") And when Mr. Letterman asked about how her move to Chappaqua went, she responded, "The only real problem that we had is when the satellite truck ran over the Welcome Wagon."

Mr. Letterman leaned across his desk and said, "Somebody has been writing material for you, haven't they?"

Mayor and Mrs. Clinton Open Soft Money Talks

By ADAM NAGOURNEY

With huffs and puffs and language that seemed more suited to nuclear arms negotiations than a contest for the United States Senate, aides to Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani and to Hillary Rodham Clinton opened talks yesterday on ways to limit the use of largely unregulated soft-money contributions for their campaigns. The talks faltered by dusk.

It seems unlikely at this point that either Mr. Giuliani or Mrs. Clinton would agree to any measures that would curtail spending on what both sides expect to be the most expensive Senate race in New York history. But at the very least, the exchanges — a telephone conversation between the two campaign managers, followed by faxed letters — allowed Mr. Giuliani and Mrs. Clinton to reprise complaints about each other's fund-raising practices while claiming to seize the ethical high ground.

The discussion began after Mrs. Clinton said to reporters in Syracuse last month that she would be willing to consider a bilateral ban on the soft money and on expenditures on behalf of the candidates by independent committees. Mrs. Clinton has come under attack for her aggressive efforts to raise soft money through a network of committees across the nation, and several Republicans have suggested that she floated the idea to gain some political cover.

Mrs. Clinton's campaign manager, Bill de Blasio, called Mr. Giuliani's campaign manager, Bruce Teitelbaum, on Tuesday to begin talks about the proposal. Mr. Teitelbaum called him back yesterday. They talked for five minutes. Within 30 minutes, Mr. Teitelbaum responded with a letter saying that Mr. Giuliani was open to such discussions but only if Mrs. Clinton took steps to create a "level playing field."

In his letter, Mr. Teitelbaum called on Mrs. Clinton to reimburse the Democratic National Committee for advertisements it financed on Mrs. Clinton's behalf that ran upstate last year, as well as an up-to-date accounting of soft money raised on her behalf. Soft money given to political parties is intended for "party building" activities, not campaigns, but it is used for advertising on issues.

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

New York Times

Take Heart, Big Guy

IT STARTED OUT AS A RED-LETTER WEEK FOR **David Letterman.** After weeks of goading would-be senator **Hillary Clinton** to be on his show, she finally appeared—and gave Letterman his highest ratings in six years to boot. Clinton proved to be a stand-up candidate, ad-libbing with Dave and fielding softballs like the name of the New York state bird and tree (bluebird and sugar maple). But Letterman didn't have long to savor the moment. By the next day, the 52-year-old host was in a New York City hospital undergoing quintuple bypass surgery. On Friday's "Late Show"—taped just hours after the Clinton coup on Thursday—the funnyman hit his audience with the sobering news that he had to undergo an angiogram, a diagnostic test, because of high cholesterol. He joked that the worst-case scenario would be having to "open daddy's rib cage." That's exactly what the doctors ordered, but his physicians say his prognosis is excellent. Meanwhile, the show will be in reruns until the main attraction returns. Which shouldn't be long, according to his doctors. "Dave has the heart of a 20-year-old," says Dr. O. Wayne Isom. And the soul of one too.



High point of his week: Clinton and Letterman

Newsweek

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2000

Washington Post

The Dave and Hillary Show

David Letterman has won his grueling battle to book New York Senate candidate **Hillary Rodham Clinton**, who has agreed to go on his CBS "Late Show" tonight.

"It was six solid weeks of phone calls and one Banana Republic gift certificate," Letterman's executive producer, **Rob Burnett**, told us yesterday. The reference to the gift certificate was a joke, Burnett explained. The real reason? "Having Dave on the air, night after night, badgering her, I think they took that seriously," Burnett said.

Last week, after repeated promises not to chase her around the studio with a hammer, Letterman tried reverse psychology and formally uninvited her. That seemed to do the trick. Clinton's campaign press secretary, **Howard Wolfson**—"weasel" and "pantywaist" as Letterman calls him—phoned around noon yesterday with the good news.

"She's looking forward to it," Wolfson's deputy, **Karen Dunn**, told us, noting that Clinton last appeared on the show with Letterman's mom, **Dorothy**, during the 1994 Lillehammer Olympics.



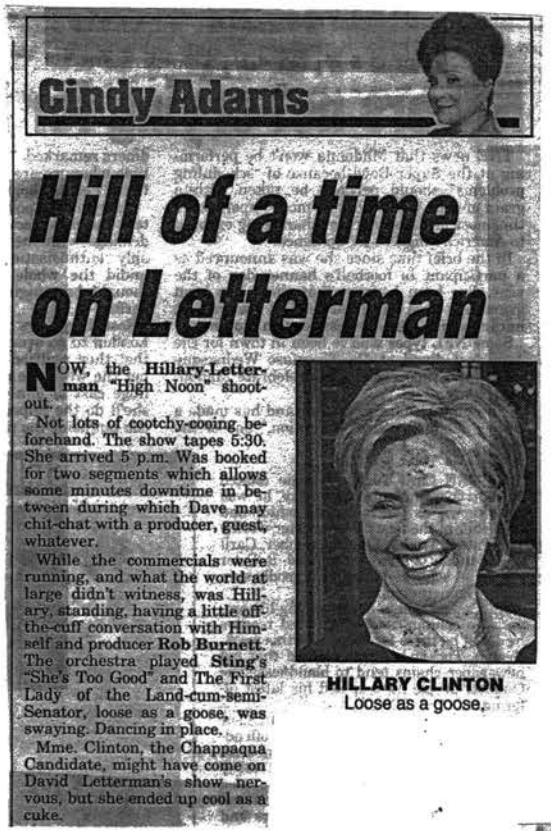
Letterman finally bagged the first lady as a guest.



FILE PHOTO/REUTERS

And what will Letterman do with the first lady? "The one thing we know right now, he will not chase her around the studio," Burnett said. "No ashtrays or hammers or anything like that. Everything else, your guess is as good as mine." He added: "We have 63 million viewers a night"—another joke: Viewership is more like 4 million—"and that could be 63 million voters as far as I'm concerned. It's all upside for her, really." Not upside the head, we hope.

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION



Cindy Adams

Hill of a time on Letterman

NOW, the Hillary-Letterman "High Noon" shootout.

Not lots of cootchy-cooing beforehand. The show tapes 5:30. She arrived 5 p.m. Was booked for two segments which allows some minutes downtime in between during which Dave may chit-chat with a producer, guest, whatever.

While the commercials were running, and what the world at large didn't witness, was Hillary, standing, having a little off-the-cuff conversation with Himself and producer **Rob Burnett**. The orchestra played **Sting**'s "She's Too Good" and The First Lady of the Land-cum-semi-Senator, loose as a goose, was swaying. Dancing in place.

Mme. Clinton, the Chappaqua Candidate, might have come on David Letterman's show nervous, but she ended up cool as a cuke.

HILLARY CLINTON
Loose as a goose.

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION



INSIDE

BY BARBARA WITKE—CBS VIA ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hillary Rodham Clinton did what New Yorkers wanted and parried with David Letterman on last night's "Late Show." Style, Page C1.

'Real' Warming

A worldwide rise in surface temperatures is "real" and appears to have accelerated, an independent scientific panel said.

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Contents © 2000 The Washington Post Company

Merger Fallout

America Online and Time Warner stock continued to fall, further lowering the $183 billion price of their proposed merger, but company officials said they expected that and it will not affect the deal.

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The Post on the Internet: www.washingtonpost.com



Hillary Clinton, Better 'Late' Than Never

By Dana Milbank
Washington Post Staff Writer

NEW YORK, Jan. 12

In the end, it must have been the polls.

For weeks, CBS's David Letterman has been badgering Hillary Rodham Clinton to join him on the "Late Show." He called her staff "pinheads" and her PR man a "weasel" and a "pantywaist." He noted that the president "no longer sleeps alone" since she moved to Westchester. He made fun of her legal woes and her overtures to Jews. "I've been imploring, beseeching, browbeating, taunting the first lady," Letterman said in his monologue tonight. But she wouldn't budge.

Then came the poll. The Marist poll of 621 registered New York voters found that, by a mar-

See LETTERMAN, C7, Col. 1

BY BARBARA WITKE—CBS VIA ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nagged onto his show by David Letterman, Hillary Clinton gave as good as she got.

Heeding a Poll, Hillary Appears With Letterman

LETTERMAN, *From C1*

gin of 58 percent to 24 percent, New Yorkers believed that Clinton should accept Letterman's invitation. Clearly, she had no choice. The poll was completed Monday. She announced her acceptance Tuesday. And tonight, she pulled up at the "Late Show" studios at Broadway and West 53rd Street, accompanied by a 10-vehicle motorcade—and joined by her pollster.

The event itself went far more smoothly for Clinton than the buildup. Letterman, warned at the start by Walter Cronkite to "try not to be a jackass," was gentle on his guest, and Clinton was a hit. Dressed in a dark pantsuit and peach blouse, she looked at ease and exchanged crisp one-liners with Letterman for 20 minutes. She entered to Billy Joel's "New York State of Mind" and finished to the chords of "New York, New York" and "God Bless America," as Letterman presented her with a riding lawn mower for her new home in Chappaqua.

Clinton passed with finesse a pop quiz about New York's fauna, flora, topography and geography, and she edged ever closer to her announcement. "I am going to run for the Senate," she said, but then qualified this seeming declaration with, "and I am officially going to declare" sometime next month.

Her best moments, though, were her quick replies to Letterman's provocations. When the host wondered why she'd agree to appear on his show after all the abuse he'd hurled at her, she parroted the line Letterman had used to taunt her on an earlier show: "I knew if I were going to run for the Senate I would have to sit in this chair and talk to the big guy."



BY MARK LENNIHAN—ASSOCIATED PRESS

Despite David Letterman's taunts, the first lady cheerfully arrives for her "Late Show" taping.

When Letterman noted that "every idiot in the area is going to drive by honking" outside the Clintons' Westchester home, she replied: "Was that you?" And when Letterman noted that the president seemed "standoffish" when they met, she responded, "He was just so curious as to why you've never made a joke about him."

True, she let fly a clunker or two, mentioning how the "satellite truck ran over the welcome wagon" at her new home. The line fell flat, and Letterman responded, "Somebody's been writing material for you, have they?" Clinton also displayed her political side, refusing to say whether she'd cheer for the Yankees over the Cubs. But she finished strong with her own top 10 list of reasons she decided to do the show. They included "Number 8: If Dan Quayle did it, how hard could it be?," "Number 4: 'When' they threw in a 'Late Show' tote bag, I said, 'Gas up the Taurus, Bill, we're goin' to Dave's.' "

The appearance must have been a great relief for Clinton, coming as it did at this low point in her campaign. The same Marist poll that demanded her appearance on "Letterman" also found that she hadn't made a dent in Rudy Giuliani's nine-point lead; Clinton has been down since last March. Worse, Giuliani is even with her among women, and slightly ahead among Jews. And fully 80 percent of New Yorkers see right through her little ruse: They believe she moved to New York just to run for the Senate. Still, that didn't stop Clinton, on the "Late Show," from citing Bobby Kennedy and claiming she's moving because "I wanted to live in New York."

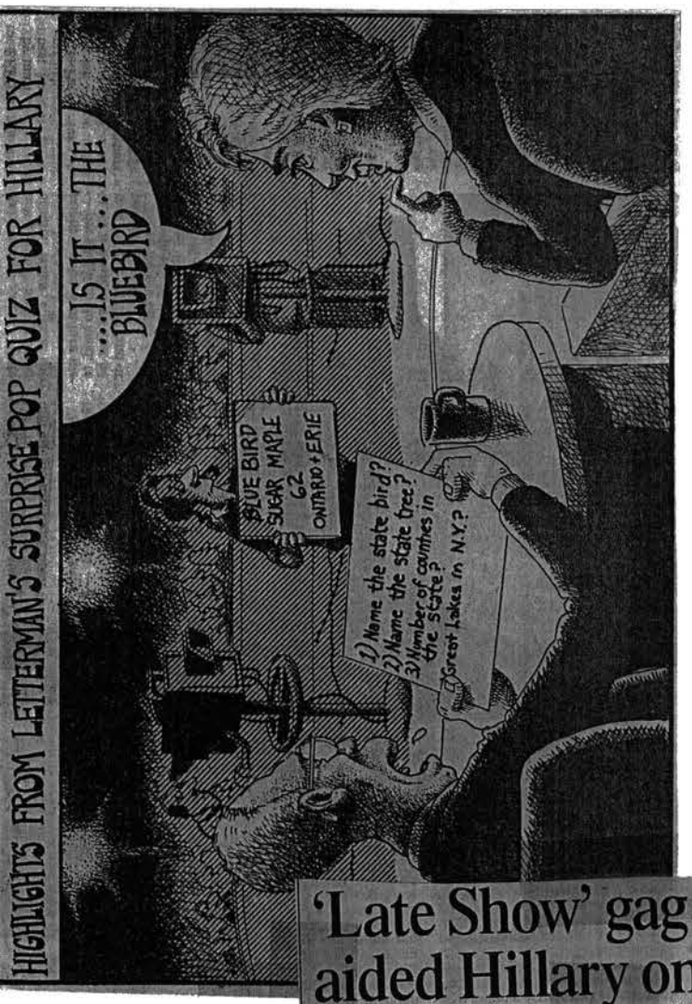
Clinton clearly has had difficulty here, and not just because of that unfortunate episode with Mrs. Arafat or that little matter of the Puerto Rican terrorists. At the moment, she's getting criticism for pandering to New York's many special interests—one day the teachers, one day the Jews, one day the African Americans. Tuesday she even executed the rarely attempted dairy pander. Buying some low-fat cheese in Rochester, she declared: "I'm a cheese person."

But if she's been pandering lately, Clinton's "Late Show" appearance proved she hasn't lost her ability to attack. She took a whack at Giuliani, noting tartly: "Being a senator, you can't go arrest a homeless person." The applause was scant, but she got a better response after Letterman mentioned that Rep. Dan Burton (R-Ind.) wanted to call a 6-year-old Cuban boy before his committee. "You know, Dan Burton subpoenas everybody—mass subpoenas," said Clinton, whose friends and colleagues have received a good many of them.

Outside the studio, 40 photographers and journalists crowded around police barricades to get a glimpse of Clinton. Scores of passers-by waited for a sighting. "This is gonna be huge for her," said Paul Marks, a Letterman fan in a Mets cap who came for a peek. Shortly before the first lady left the studio, a man in a bathrobe—Letterman's "Turkish guy"—emerged from the building, smoking a cigarette, and pronounced Clinton "very attractive."

But then, the late-night fun was over, and it was time for business. A minute before Clinton left the studio, her pollster, Mark Penn, materialized, and hopped into the van waiting for her. The first lady herself emerged from the studio beaming, pronouncing the whole thing "wonderful." Somebody in the crowd shouted "Go home!" but Clinton didn't appear to notice. She climbed into the van with her pollster, and the motorcade disappeared up 53rd Street.

PHOTOCOPY PRESERVATION



'Late Show' gag writers aided Hillary on 'Top 10'

By Thomas Hargrove
SCRIPPS HOWARD NEWS SERVICE

Hillary Rodham Clinton had a little help from professional comedy writers to produce her own "Top 10" list for her campaign-energizing appearance with talk-show host David Letterman.

The first lady also appears to have had a hand on a pop quiz — which news wires reported last night she "aced."

Clinton campaign spokesman Howard Wolfson was quoted in the New York Times yesterday as saying that she "might, in fact, have been given a sneak peak at the questions" before show time.

But Kimberly Izzo, spokeswoman for CBS' "The Late Show With David Letterman," said there was no collaboration on the pop quiz, in which the first lady correctly identified the bluebird as the official New York state bird, the sugar maple as its state tree and the correct number of counties in the state.

"They knew that there was going to be a quiz, and we gave them a hint that it was going to be about New York," she said. "But nothing more than that. The first lady is a very smart woman. And obviously, her campaign has done a good job in preparing her.

"None of that was scripted," Miss Izzo said, "But, yes, the 'Top 10' list was a collaboration between her people and some of our writers."

Mrs. Clinton appeared poised, almost relaxed, Wednesday night as she traded jokes with Mr. Letterman, who had been goading her for many days to appear on his show.

Mrs. Clinton produced a card with her own "Top 10" list — one of the most popular segments on the Letterman show — on why she agreed to appear on the after-hours program. Among them: "If Dan Quayle did it, how hard can it be?" and "I have not been to the Ed Sullivan Theater since I was dating Ringo."

Meanwhile, Mrs. Clinton's appearance appears to have drawn considerable attention from viewers. Overnight viewer ratings from 47 major markets indicated the usual 4 million Letterman viewers had jumped to at least 8 million for the Wednesday broadcast.

President Clinton opened his remarks in an appearance yesterday before students at Brooklyn's Boricua College to heap praise on his wife's television performance.

"I thought she was going to run for office here, but after David Letterman last night, she may be trying to get his job instead," the president said. "I thought I was supposed to be the funny one in this family."

Less certain is whether Mrs. Clinton's expected adversary for the Senate seat, New York City Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani, is suffering "Top 10" envy.

"The mayor is a frequent guest of our show and definitely a friend of the show," Miss Izzo said. "But, no, right now we have no plans to have the mayor back on."

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Defining prostitution

The horror stories of young girls lured or sold by their parents into a life of forced prostitution through businessmen in Thailand or criminal mafias in Russia are repelling enough. But the State Department estimates that 50,000 of the 2 million women and children said by activists to be trafficked internationally every year into prostitution could be in the United States. And the Clinton administration, not wanting to step on any prostitution-friendly countries' toes, just can't bring itself to support making *all* prostitution illegal. Interestingly, leading the effort for lending legitimacy to some forms of prostitution is the president's Interagency Council on Women, with Hillary Rodham Clinton as the honorary chair.

This new low for the Clinton administration is enough to get even the feminists up in arms. So much so that Patricia Ireland of the National Organization for Women, Gloria Feldt of Planned Parenthood and Gloria Steinem, among others, wrote President Clinton declaring their disapproval. In this they have joined forces with conservative and Christian organizations who are likewise appalled.

Apparently the pressure is working. A U.N. subcommittee working on the sex trafficking protocol to the U.N. Convention on Transnational Organized Crime was originally scheduled to vote on the protocol in Vienna Jan. 17, the Wall Street Journal reported. But the date came and went with no news out of Vienna. On Thursday, the United Nations told The Washington Times: "The Convention and its Protocols are still under negotiations. The Ad Hoc Committee charged with these negotiations has been asked by the General Assembly to complete its work by the end of 2000."

The end of 2000? This will not be the quick and easy vote the administration had hoped for. The administration makes the new sex trafficking language, which talks about "forced prostitution," sound harmless. This would just "focus" the scope of crime prevention, it argues. But the new language would actually open the door for more crime.

"Right now if you traffic across international borders women and girls for the purpose of prostitution you're an international criminal," Richard Land, president of the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission told The Washington Times. "If the Clinton administration has its way, the trafficking only becomes a crime if the trafficking is done against the women's will."

This would shift the focus from the traffickers to the victims, and courts would have to decide whether the woman was under duress to sign consent forms to partake in the prostitution. This process would assume that some forms of prostitution do not objectify women, essentially making the practice legal. It would also allow traffickers to continue their business while courts go through the motions of analyzing the women's motives.

"There's a reason why virtually all the G-77 [a coalition that acts in the name of developing countries for the United Nations] countries opposed this change," said Mr. Land, who along with Chuck Colson of Prison Fellowship Ministries, wrote Mrs. Clinton expressing his concern for the administration's position. "The reason is, they understand it is their women and their girls who will be trafficked across international borders for the purposes of prostitution. What we're talking about here is sexual imperialism and sexual colonialism on the part of developed nations of world in using the women and girls of the second and third world for their sexual gratification."

The Clinton administration's proposal would make a practice associated with abuse, coercion and denigration of women a mere voluntary career choice. It would make what has been considered internationally to be a crime perfectly legal.

Political Memo

Senate Race Is Forcing Hillary Clinton Out of Cocoon

By ADAM NAGOURNEY

As Hillary Rodham Clinton was leaving a news conference in White Plains earlier this week, she noticed a small group of reporters gathered on the street. Mrs. Clinton walked past her Secret Service contingent and, with no aides in sight, struck up a conversation about how, by her account, she had just mishandled a question about gay marriage. Mrs. Clinton chatted for nearly five minutes before retreating to her motorcade.

It was a moment entirely out of character.

In the seven months since Mrs. Clinton began traveling around New York as a prospective candidate for the United States Senate, she has constructed a largely controlled and often remote existence. As a rule, she has participated in generally staged events, mostly avoiding spontaneous contact with the public. She has held only a few formal news conferences. She has declined interviews with journalists and editorial boards. Her agreement to appear on "The Late Show With David Letterman" on Wednesday night was a reminder that she has yet to sit down for the television news shows that are normally standard stops for anyone running for office.

Now, as Mrs. Clinton prepares to formally announce her candidacy, there are signs of a thaw, evidenced both by her relenting to Mr. Letterman and her presumably spontaneous stroll over to the reporters in White Plains. She has held two news conferences this week, and her aides say they are preparing to grant a series of interviews, with reporters, editorial boards and television news programs, coinciding with the formal declaration of her candidacy in the first week of February.

For any other candidate running for public office in New York, this would be a relatively effortless, and unremarkable, turn of events. But Mrs. Clinton's uneasy passage into being a candidate reflects one of the central difficulties she faces in adjusting to this new life: the struggle between her overriding caution and distrust of the press on one side, and the pressure to burst through the White House bubble of staff and security on the other.

The push-and-pull of Mrs. Clinton's past and her future — from being the cocooned first lady in the White House to becoming a buffeted candidate — has until now remained in the background of her campaign. But it looms larger now that her candidacy seems inevitable, and as the pressure grows to act more like a conventional candidate, be it from Mr. Letterman or from The Daily News, which assailed her on its editorial page for declining an interview with its editorial board.

Mrs. Clinton's relative remoteness contrasts almost daily to the actions of her expected Republican opponent, Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani. The mayor holds almost daily news conferences, and while he certainly doesn't answer every question put to him — he has made a habit of refusing to answer questions if he senses that they are driven by Mrs. Clinton or her campaign — he is out there in a way that Mrs. Clinton is not.

Mr. Giuliani also has a weekly radio call-in show, frequently appears on the Sunday morning television interview shows, and holds monthly town hall meetings. He has been known to call reporters and even newspaper publishers to register a thought or a complaint.

To be fair, part of Mrs. Clinton's posture is beyond her control. Unlike Mr. Giuliani, she travels with a troop of Secret Service agents who can make it difficult for any member of the public to come within 50 feet of her. In addition, there are typically dozens of reporters following her wherever she goes; spontaneous engagements are cumbersome when you are being tracked by a bear of a press corps.

That said, Mrs. Clinton intentionally created this life of relative seclusion, after her disastrous effort to shepherd a national health care program into law in 1994 and the backlash over her role in the Whitewater real estate deal. Before then, on-the-record interviews and off-the-record lunches with reporters were a regular part of her schedule. Since then, for example, Mrs. Clinton, has not brought reporters along on her plane when she traveled, a way of discouraging coverage.

Her friends describe her as intensely distrustful of the press, and as she has turned to New York, she has been the subject of some fairly sharp coverage, particularly in The New York Post. All of that has reinforced the first lady's reluctance to lower her guard.

The irony is that based on the evidence to date, Mrs. Clinton would seem to be a skillful and even personable candidate. Although she tends to be exceedingly cautious in discussing tough issues, she has made only a few errors to date.

Several of Mrs. Clinton's advisers, noting just how strongly she is disliked by much of the public, have argued in recent weeks that the best thing she could do to shed the baggage of her past is to appear in unscripted public settings, so the public could get a better sense of the woman who has for six years stood mostly in Mr. Clinton's shadow. As the first lady was walking off Mr. Letterman's stage, to a hug from the host and applause from the audience, it seemed fair to say that this is one bit of advice she is likely to take.

YORK POST, MONDAY, JANUARY 17, 2000

Hillary's 'yellow' streak

By LINDA MASSARELLA

If Hillary Rodham Clinton takes her decorating tastes from the White House to her new Chappaqua house, she'll probably paint the entire $1.7 million home various shades of yellow.

A photo spread of the White House family private rooms — redecorated by the first lady and Arkansas designer pal Kaki Hockersmith — are shown for the first time in the upcoming issue of Traditional Home magazine.

Although they look presidential and historic, the rooms are cheery and bright because Clinton — who's expected to run against Mayor Giuliani for a U.S. Senate seat in New York — insisted on painting almost all the walls yellow.

"Every home Bill and I have lived in has had yellow in it," she told the magazine. "One was yellow on the inside and the outside."

Even the decor of modern vases and paintings features yellow, including a yellow striped vase by Seattle glassmaker Dale Chihuly.

But Mrs. Clinton also returned some history to the rooms when she decided to reintroduce an original walnut table — which had been ordered by President Grant for the Cabinet room — plus two 18th-century, blue and white tobacco jars that now adorn the mantel in the president's study.

Those pieces — plus a portrait of Benjamin Franklin and a Chippendale sofa made in 1760 — were found in the White House basement by Hockersmith and brought back into view for the first time in decades.

Mrs. Clinton expressed bittersweet sentiments about leaving the White House for Westchester.

"Even now, after being here eight years, I see new details every day or see them differently," she told the magazine.

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AP

The Rev. Al Sharpton speaks during the National Action Network's annual Martin Luther King Public Policy Forum in New York. First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton also spoke.

First lady invokes King lore in spurring her Senate race

Addresses gathering of Sharpton supporters

By Liz Trotta
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

NEW YORK — First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton told supporters of the Rev. Al Sharpton yesterday that when people ask her why she is considering a run for the U.S. Senate, she thinks of Martin Luther King's "unfinished journey."

As a 15-year-old, Mrs. Clinton heard King speak in Chicago and was "mesmerized," she said.

"When people ask me . . . why I would consider entering electoral life and running for the Senate from New York, I think about the unfinished journey of Dr. King and the question he always asked us: 'What are you doing for others?' " she said.

The expected meeting between Mrs. Clinton and Mr. Sharpton has been long anticipated, especially since the flamboyant minister has been taunting the first lady for the past few months.

Recently, he said, "I do not need Hillary Clinton to do what I do, but she's going to need people like me to achieve the U.S. Senate."

But yesterday, Mr. Sharpton was beaming with Mrs. Clinton by his side, turning his wrath on her expected opponent, Republican New York City Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani and accusing him of "polluting the spirit of New York." She was to meet with Mr. Sharpton privately later.

Mrs. Clinton also commiserated with Saikou and Kadi Diallo, the parents of Amadou Diallo, who sat facing her in the front row.

"I, too, wish to extend my and personal condolences and sympathy to the Diallo family. As a mother, I can't even begin to imagine your pain and grief over the loss of your son, and I know that your effort to seek justice is our effort as well," she said.

Mr. Diallo, an unarmed West Indian street peddler, was shot and killed by police in a hail of 41 bullets in February.

Mrs. Clinton has adopted a more animated approach in her speeches, repeatedly stabbing the air with her finger and raising her voice in a staccato on-the-stump style. If elected, she said, honing in on Mr. Giuliani, "I want to be defined as someone who unites, not divides; I want to be defined by who I lift up, not who I put down."

She concluded her speech to Mr. Sharpton's supporters, "God bless the America we are trying to create."

Members of the city and state Democratic leadership prowled the jammed meeting room, a dozen of them addressing the more than 400 people patiently waiting for Mrs. Clinton, who was running more than an hour late. The first lady was wearing her trademark pantsuit, accented by a sparkling necklace and earrings.

She concluded her speech to Mr. Sharpton's supporters saying, "God bless the America we are trying to create."

Despite the display of black unity, however, other civil rights activists criticized the meeting.

"I have a news flash for Hillary Rodham Clinton," said Michael Meyers of the New York Civil Rights Coalition. "Al Sharpton does not talk, walk or look like Martin Luther King Jr."

The Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) invited Mrs. Clinton and Mr. Giuliani to attend a dinner in honor of King last night, but she declined citing schedule conflicts.

"She would rather go the altar of the Rev. Sharpton. He's an entertaining character who doesn't have time for a real job," said CORE spokesman Niger Innis.

Sen. Orrin G. Hatch, Utah Republican and presidential candidate, was expected to accept a CORE award on behalf of former President Ronald Reagan, who signed the King federal holiday into law in 1983.

Earlier, Mrs. Clinton spoke at memorial tributes at the Brooklyn Academy of Music and the Convent Avenue Baptist Church in Harlem.

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

New York

First Lady Will Formally Announce Next Month

First lady **Hillary Rodham Clinton** (D) plans to officially announce her Senate bid next month, despite the fact that she still trails her likely rival in the race, New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani (R), by 9 points in the most recent independent poll.

"That's my timetable," she told reporters during a stop at a supermarket, according to the Associated Press, adding that she wanted President Clinton and their daughter, Chelsea, by her side when she formally takes the leap. "It will take awhile to get everybody organized to do it."

That announcement comes just as the first lady has moved into her new home in Westchester County and with the release of a new poll that showed the first lady's numbers continuing to lag behind those of Giuliani.

The Marist Institute for Public Opinion survey conducted among 621 registered voters Jan. 9 and 10 showed Giuliani leading Clinton by 49 to 40 percent, the same margin as in December 1999 but one that was 5 points higher than the same survey showed in October of last year.

Giuliani led Clinton by 14 points upstate, a traditional Republican stronghold, while the first lady topped the mayor in heavily Democratic New York City, 58 to 33 percent. But Giuliani continued to lead among suburban voters, 54 to 36 percent, and tied the first lady for support among women.

A majority of voters (53 percent) said they were either a "great deal" or "somewhat" concerned that the first lady isn't from New York, and 80 percent said she moved to the state "just to run" for office, not because she wanted to live there.

Furthermore, 58 percent of those polled believed the first lady should accept television talk-show host David Letterman's longstanding invitation to appear on his show. That message apparently got through to the Clinton campaign. The first lady was scheduled to appear on Letterman's show Wednesday night.

But the first lady has gone on the offensive against Giuliani even though she has not formally announced her candidacy, this week suggesting the mayor was temperamentally unsuited for the job as Senator because he does not work well with others.

Giuliani has yet to say when he will officially toss his hat into the ring for Senate, but has recently taken concrete steps in that direction, such as making the head of his political system, Bruce Teitelbaum, his campaign manager.

— R.V.D.

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

Hillary makes her pitch to women with appearance at on-line forum

By Barbara J. Saffir
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton said at an on-line forum last night that she is not using her Senate race as a launching pad for a presidential run.

"I am interested in running for and winning a Senate seat where I can be a voice and a vote for the people of New York and the issues that I think are important and I've worked on for a lifetime," Mrs. Clinton said when she was asked the question during an on-line forum geared toward women. "I would intend to serve out my Senate term and do the very best job I could."

Mrs. Clinton fielded more than 15 questions at her debut on iVillage's Town Hall meeting.

Women from across the country submitted 5,000 questions and about 4,000 women tuned in to hear Mrs. Clinton speak.

She told her audience she wanted "more tax credits for elderly care."

She said she plans to push incremental health care reforms after learning "a lot of important lessons about what is possible and how to get things done in Washington" when her earlier massive effort at health care reform failed.

In the latest Marist poll, Mrs. Clinton and her likely opponent, New York Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani were tied at 44 percent support among women and he was beating her 52 percentage points to 35 among white women.

"Nobody in New York has won in the memory of mankind without white women," said Maurice Carroll, director of the Quinnipiac College Polling Institute, which first noted the discrepancy reported Dec. 22 in The Washington Times.

After more news reports about her failure to obtain the traditional 10-point lead with women that most Democratic candidates enjoy, Mrs. Clinton's campaign approached iVillage to appear on the candidates' forum.

Choosing the women's site may have helped her "soften her image" and "subtly remind women that she's a wife, a mother, a working woman, a career woman," independent pollster John Zogby said. "She has to do that. She has very high unfavorables."

When asked what she was doing to bolster her support from white women, she said she would "work very hard to talk about the issues that women talk to me about and to express my views about what I would do as a senator and to be available to work with anyone who wants to be involved in helping my campaign communicate clearly what these issues are."

Mrs. Clinton also fielded several questions about her hairstyle, how much sleep she typically gets and how she enjoys the first lady role.

Many of the questions centered on women's roles.

The first lady said as a senator she would "like to see more support through the tax code for women who make that choice."

At 8:30 p.m., an hour before her hourlong chat began, more than 50 visitors on the site's on-line message board both blasted and praised Mrs. Clinton and Mr. Giuliani.

"You can't exactly judge Hillary on Bill's extramarital affairs. That is wrong," messaged one of her supporters who went by the on-screen name of Cathytowne.

"Hillary just snaps her fingers and [former Democratic Senate candidate New York Rep.] Nita [Lowey] is history," said a Giuliani supporter who tagged herself sojournertruth. "At least women are safe to walk around the city today. That's a difference with some substance. What are Hillary's accomplishments?"

Women against Hillary

One of the more startling statistics to shake out of the political fight of the century (so far, anyway) between Hillary Rodham Clinton and Rudy Giuliani is this: The people you would think are applauding the first-lady-turned-New-York-Senate-candidate with the most enthusiasm — white, educated, liberal women from New York — are so far sitting on their hands, or worse, contemplating a vote for Mr. Giuliani. A Jan. 11 Marist Poll shows the New York mayor running away with the white, female vote statewide, 52 percent to the first lady's 35 percent.

The figures themselves look bad enough, but just read what some of these women are actually saying about Mrs. Clinton in a recent New York Observer piece titled, "Meet the Smart New York Women Who Can't Stand Hillary Clinton." Their reasons for disliking Mrs. Clinton vary. Some cite her faux-feminism that belies her achievement of power through marriage, while others are pained by her countless unethical actions.

But there is a unifying sense of resentment, even irritation, one detects in the comments of these professional and generational peers of the first lady. As Ms. magazine editor Marcia Ann Gillespie, 55, says, there is "a certain kind of resentment" among such women who feel that their votes have been taken for granted. There is 49-year-old writer Fran Lebowitz, in whose animus toward Mr. Giuliani lies Mrs. Clinton's only hope for a vote. Ms. Lebowitz calls Mrs. Clinton "a very poor role model for girls" — among other things "poll-taker," "pulse-taker," "not a leader" — for having decided long ago not to become president, but rather to marry one. "She doesn't really seem to have any ideas," says Ms. Lebowitz. "Then she comes here and panders." And that's a potential supporter of Mrs. Clinton talking.

Then there's Patricia Allen, a 52-year-old obstetrician-gynecologist, who, sharing a background similar to Mrs. Clinton's, says she wanted to like the first lady. "But, you know, I'm ashamed of her," says Ms. Allen. "I can't look at her without seeing her through a veil of half-truths, obfuscation. I feel strongly that she believes she knows all the answers. I started to feel that way when she decided to single-handedly overhaul the health care system."

Brooke Hayward Duchin, the 62-year-old writer and wife of society bandleader Peter Duchin, sighs her way through her explanation of her feelings about Mrs. Clinton: "I don't think she handled many of her public chores terribly well," she says. "I don't think the Travelgate thing was effective . . . and for some reason I feel she's unethical."

Younger women, too, are not exactly leaping onto the Hillary bandwagon. Alexandra Brodsky, a filmmaker in her late 20s, was positively swept away by Mrs. Clinton after hearing her speak near Yale University during the 1992 presidential campaign. But what a difference almost two terms makes. "It's not even so much the scandal in the White House," Ms. Brodsky says. "She's been so calculated in her candidacy. And every sort of statement she makes, I feel, is designed for her own political advancement. I don't fully trust her."

Pandering. Health care. Travelgate. Ethics. Looks like these controversies may have mattered after all. "I always keep coming back to 'It Takes a Village,'" says 30-plus novelist Tama Janowitz. "Which just irritates me beyond belief. What the hell is she talking about? It's like some Midwest kind of thing, this lovely sentiment. It takes a village, and then meanwhile, there is no village! It's New York City! We're trying to get through the day without getting shot!"

Welcome to New York.

ELECTIONLINE

Hillary Clinton says she is with president for life

Hillary Rodham Clinton said Tuesday that she will "spend the rest of my life" with President Clinton.

"This will be our 25th year of marriage, and we have so much between us and so many shared experiences and a lot of love in our family, and I certainly intend to spend the rest of my life with him," Clinton told Buffalo's WKBW-TV.

The first lady, who is preparing to run for the Senate from New York, made the comment after being told people were saying that "when Bill leaves the White House, she's going to leave him." Since the president's affair with Monica Lewinsky became public, Hillary Clinton has faced questions about their marriage. She usually brushes them aside, although she has said in the past that she and the president still love each other.

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

Clinton, Giuliani Invite Each Other to Forgo Using Soft Money

From news services

ALBANY, N.Y., Jan. 12—Hillary Rodham Clinton's campaign manager today invited his counterpart on Rudolph W. Giuliani's political team to negotiate a mutual ban on the use of unlimited "soft money" contributions in their expected Senate race.

But Giuliani campaign chief Bruce Teitelbaum, in a letter to Clinton campaign manager Bill de Blasio, said that before any such negotiations could take place, the first lady would have to refund soft money already spent on her behalf.

"You should also determine how much soft money you have already raised and publicly declare that none of that money will be used to benefit the Clinton campaign in any way," wrote the aide to the Republican mayor of New York City.

Trading letters, de Blasio criticized Giuliani's fund-raising activities and said, "We are disappointed that you are apparently rejecting our offer to meet."

Thus far, the national Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee has raised several hundred thousand dollars in soft money donations aimed at helping Clinton's campaign in New York. It also spent more than $200,000 to finance television ads across upstate New York late last year promoting the first lady.

Under fire for her use of soft money, Clinton began pressing Giuliani last year to agree to a ban on the use of such funding and to disavow third-party advocacy advertising in the race to succeed Democratic Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan, who is retiring.

While Giuliani has not been actively raising soft money for the Senate race, he has not ruled out using such funds.

In addition to demanding that Clinton pay the cost of the DSCC-financed ads from her campaign account, Teitelbaum said "it would also be useful if we could agree on an ironclad, verifiable method of accountability to ensure that any agreement we reach will be honored throughout the campaign."

Under federal rules, Senate candidates can accept no more than $2,000 from individual contributors to spend on their races. But those same contributors can give unlimited money to political committees, such as the DSCC, which can then use it to promote a candidate, as long as they don't directly advocate voting for that candidate.

Appearing today at the third annual Wall Street Project conference organized by civil rights leader Jesse L. Jackson, Clinton said there were three "divides" to be bridged between mostly white-run corporate America and minorities—"the capital divide, the education divide and the digital divide."

She also said that because the poor often lack the money for dental care, poverty can sometimes be judged by looking at a person's teeth.

"The clearest way to know whether you are with a poor person in America is not by the logo on the clothes, because we all wear pretty much the same anymore," she said. "It's by looking into their eyes and seeing whether they look into yours and seeing what kind of teeth they have."

She added: "Poor Americans more than in any other way demonstrate their poverty these days by how much medical and dental care they either have or haven't received."

First Lady Credits King as Her Role Model

By LENNE DUKE
Washington Post Staff Writer

NEW YORK, Jan. 17—Hillary Rodham Clinton used the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday to campaign for the Senate before several black audiences around New York City, where she pledged support for affirmative action and the fight against police brutality and said her career had been shaped by King's message of service.

Polls show Clinton's support among African Americans to be the highest of any ethnic group, at over 80 percent. But some prominent black figures say Clinton has not paid enough attention to this core Democratic constituency as she tours this state she hopes will elect her in November to replace retiring Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan (D).

Among the groups that hosted her today was the National Action Network of Al Sharpton, a controversial civil rights activist and former Senate candidate who had routinely chided Clinton in recent months about when she would meet with him. In New York's political theater, Sharpton is among the more persistent and vocal figures, frequently leading marches or rallies on issues such as police brutality. He is a foe of New York City Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani, Clinton's likely opponent.

In a measure of how Clinton's bid for the Senate has shaken New York politics, both Sharpton and another old foe who once jailed him, former Mayor Edward I. Koch, shared the stage. Both are Democrats. Both want to see Giuliani defeated. Said Sharpton: "This stage represents a new definition of politics."

In one of three stops at King Day events around town, Clinton met with Sharpton briefly in the offices of his Harlem headquarters before delivering a speech to a jam-packed audience there.

While the two were out of the auditorium, one of Sharpton's National Action Network board members, Rev. Charles Norris, told a story with anti-Semitic overtones, about being fired from two jobs as a young man. In each case, he said derisively, the employer was "a Jew."

Apparently alerted by her aides of the statements made from the podium where she was about to speak, Clinton alluded to Norris's story during her speech. Reading from the same remarks she had delivered at two earlier events, Clinton deviated when discussing the social evils such as racism and discrimination that plague society. "We know that anti-Semitism still stalks our land as well," she said.

Throughout the day, at the Brooklyn Academy of Music and the Convent Avenue Baptist Church in Harlem, Clinton told of her encounter with King as a teenager. A white girl from an all-white Chicago suburb, she ventured into the city with her pastor and other teenagers, she said. It was 1963, and Clinton said that she remains indelibly moved by the occasion.

"I remember exactly how I felt when I heard him deliver that message of racial reconciliation," she said. "He showed us the indignities that African Americans faced every day—the doors locked shut, the dreams deferred." Afterward, "We stood in a long line to shake his hand. When he gently took my hand, I knew my life would never be the same."

"When people ask why I have dedicated my life to public service, I think about Dr. King," she said. "Dr. King asked us: What are you doing for others?"

Clinton said that among the things needed to heal racial divides was the continuation of affirmative action, which she said, echoing her husband, needs to be "mended, not ended."



BY BEBETO MATTHEWS—ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hillary Rodham Clinton shares stage at Convent Avenue Baptist Church with former New York City mayors Edward I. Koch, left, and David N. Dinkins.

And in a controversial New York case about to go to trial, she placed herself at the side of the family of Amadou Diallo, the unarmed Guinean immigrant shot 19 times by police last year. His parents attended today's Sharpton event and Clinton offered her condolences for their son's death.

PHOTOCOPY PRESERVATION

Is Hill Headed Back to Court?

Filegate returns from the grave



ROBERT D. NOVAK



FEDERAL District Judge Royce C. Lamberth, a Reagan appointee who has often ruled against the Clinton administration, may be nearing two decisions of profound importance for the president's legacy and for the first lady's future.

At issue is the most mysterious of the Clinton scandals: discovery at the White House of more than 900 secret FBI personnel files, including dossiers of prominent Republicans. For more than six months, Lamberth has had on his desk requests for sworn testimony by two people — a former White House aide's ex-wife who claims Hillary Rodham Clinton was associated with the files affair, and Mrs. Clinton herself. Lawyers familiar with Lamberth's court believe his decision is imminent.

The judge has more to consider than one woman's unsubstantiated allegations. Conservative Larry Klayman's Judicial Watch has collected at least 14 pieces of evidence in his class action suit in behalf of persons claiming exposure of their confidential files violated their privacy. His evidence certainly does not prove Mrs. Clinton's complicity, but suggests this was more than the FBI blunder described by the White House.

How could a sole controversial judicial activist uncover such material when Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr in late 1998 gave President Clinton a clean bill of health on the files scandal? Sources close to Starr's investigation say the burdens of simultaneous prosecutions in Washington and Little Rock forced him to pick and choose. Uninhibited by such demands, Klayman has ploughed ahead, collecting affidavits on a matter that even Republicans have abandoned, but Democrats consider the most dangerous of all Clinton improprieties.

The most recent Judicial Watch affidavit was taken Jan. 7 from Deborah Perroy, a former National Security Council (NSC) aide. In 1993, one evening after working hours, she said, "I came upon" her superior, NSC administrative director Robert Manzanares, and his assistant, Marcia Dimel, "looking through top-secret personnel background files" in the NSC's CIA liaison office — an off-limits area for them.

Asserting that Manzanares and Dimel were removing background files from a safe and "keeping some sort of list," Perroy said the files included FBI information on "virtually every top political and NSC aide to Presidents Reagan and Bush." She added that her colleagues "clearly reacted as if they did not expect me and had been caught doing something improper."

Perroy also claimed "personal knowledge of several meetings" between Manzanares and White House Personnel Security Chief Craig Livingstone, who was blamed for acquiring the FBI files. "Livingstone was really 'working for Mrs. Clinton' as far as everyone knew, and everyone dropped everything to accommodate Mr. Livingstone's requests," she added.

Although she left the White House in September 1993, Perroy did not "come forward until now," she said, "for fear of retaliation by the Clinton House." She added she was encouraged to speak out when she learned of an affidavit from another former White House staffer, Sheryl L. Hall.

Hall, a computer specialist who resigned last September, said her duties included helping Clinton administration lawyers reply to plaintiffs in the file scandal. Michelle Peterson of the White House counsel's office, Hall said, last spring "told me in her office that 'our strategy' for the Filegate lawsuit was to 'stall' because 'we had just a couple of years to go.'" White House spokesmen had no comments on either Perroy's or Hall's deposition.

Judge Lamberth now is considering the request for sworn testimony by the first lady and Leslie Gail Kennedy, who in 1994 was married to then White House Associate Counsel William Kennedy. Last June 11, Mrs. Kennedy told a Judicial Watch interviewer that she in 1994 observed her husband "on several occasions" transferring FBI files into his laptop computer. She expressed the opinion that Mrs. Clinton, her ex-husband's former law partner in Little Rock, was using the files against enemies of health reform.

To consider whether the first lady should be put under oath, the Judge might ponder the Dec. 14, 1998 deposition by the ubiquitous Linda Tripp. She testified that on two occasions she heard Kennedy talking about transferring FBI files into the White House database and that senior White House staffer Marsha Scott told him "Mrs. Clinton wanted this done." Is this enough to suggest that Ken Starr overlooked the worst Clinton scandal?

PHOTOCOPY PRESERVATION

Buffalo-grilled Hill slams radio host: I didn't cheat on Bill

Hillary Rodham Clinton hit the roof yesterday when a feisty radio talk-show host asked if she'd ever cheated on her husband — or had a fling with presidential aide Vince Foster.

"You know those kinds of questions are really out of bounds," fumed Clinton in an interview with WGR radio in Buffalo.

Host Tom Bauerley shot back, "Is the answer no?"

A testy Clinton responded, "Well, yes, of course it's no."

"But it's an inappropriate question, and at some point people should start focusing on their own families."

By Gregg Birnbaum in Buffalo and Kirsten Danis in New York

Foster, a White House lawyer and long-time friend of Mrs. Clinton's from Arkansas, committed suicide.

But the questions didn't stop there. Bauerley hit Clinton with another sensitive personal question — whether she had used marijuana or cocaine.

She laughed before repeating earlier denials of illegal drug use.

> ***"People should start focusing on their own families."***
> HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

"Again, I think this is the kind of stuff . . . I just think we ought to be talking about what we are going to do to bring good jobs to western New York," Mrs. Clinton said.

In a radio appearance of his own, Mayor Giuliani, the first lady's expected Senate opponent, hammered her appearance at a Martin Luther King Day celebration sponsored by the Rev. Al Sharpton.

The Rev. Charles Norris has come under fire for making anti-Semitic remarks while Sharpton and the first lady were out of the room.

"I think that speaks for itself as to who is creating a racial divide and ethnic divide," Giuliani told Buffalo's WBEN radio.

Mrs. Clinton shot back that Giuliani's comments were "odd . . . coming from someone who didn't even meet with [state Comptroller] Carl McCall for four years and didn't meet with Virginia Fields, president of the borough of Manhattan, for more than a year."

McCall and Fields are black.

Later in the day, former Mayor Ed Koch and Rep. Charles Rangel (D-Manhattan) held a news conference at City Hall to blast Giuliani for sharing a dais at a Congress of Racial Equality event Monday night with Joerg Haider, the leader of an Austrian political party who has praised the Waffen SS and Nazi labor policies.



BING . . . OH, NO! Things get hairy for candidate Hillary at the Cheektowaga Senior Center in Cheektowaga, N.Y. yesterday. She was calling a bingo game when a bunch of balls fell to the floor. AP

The mayor did not know Haider was there, mayoral spokeswoman Sunny Mindel said.

CORE Chairman Roy Innis said he invited Haider, who was one of 80 people on the dais, because "he has distanced himself" from his past remarks. Controversial hotheads are invited to the dinner in the hopes they may "have a change of heart," Innis said.

Is Hill headed back to court? Novak / Page 37

PHOTOCOPY PRESERVATION

Giuliani Chides Mrs. Clinton for Seeking Soft Money

By DAVID M. HERSZENHORN

Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani chastised Hillary Rodham Clinton yesterday for aggressively soliciting contributions to a political action committee that will support her campaign for United States Senate, a strategy designed to get around the legal limits on contributions to individual candidates.

But in repeating his criticism of Mrs. Clinton and her Democratic supporters, Mr. Giuliani again left open the possibility that he, too, would use the largely unregulated campaign contributions known as soft money if, as expected, he runs against the first lady this year. "I learned a long time ago that you don't tie one hand behind your back," Mr. Giuliani said at his daily news conference. "That isn't the way you win."

Last month, The New York Times reported that national Democratic Party officials had set up political action committees to channel large, unregulated contributions to Senate campaigns in New York, California, Florida, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan and Missouri.

Yesterday, The Washington Post reported that one of those committees, the one designed to help Mrs. Clinton, called New York Senate 2000, had raised more than $360,000, much of it in large contributions from a few wealthy people and corporations.

Republican Party officials, who first initiated this method of fund-raising two years ago, have established two such committees to help Senate candidates in Missouri and Pennsylvania. Party officials said they might also start a similar committee to assist Mr. Giuliani.

Mr. Giuliani said he might accept the help. "I believe you have to be competitive," he said. "I intend to get my message out. I intend to have enough money to do that, and the other campaign has already started using soft money big time, without any penalty, without any stopping of it."

The race for the New York Senate seat is likely to be the costliest Senate contest in state history, with Mrs. Clinton's side having projected months ago that it hoped to raise $25 million and Mr. Giuliani's aides predicting that they would need $20 million.

Mrs. Clinton has challenged Mr. Giuliani to agree to limit the amount of soft money used in the Senate race. But Mr. Giuliani and his aides have scoffed at that challenge, observing that the national and state Democratic committees have already paid for campaign commercials for Mrs. Clinton.

Howard Wolfson, the spokesman for Mrs. Clinton's campaign, repeated the challenge yesterday in response to the Mayor's criticism. "Why hasn't the Mayor responded to Hillary's proposal last month to limit soft money and independent expenditures from the race?" Mr. Wolfson said.

Jan 20, 2000 N.Y. Times

PHOTOCOPY PRESERVATION

Surprise! Rudy's winning the $$ race

By ROBERT HARDT Jr.

Mayor Giuliani stunned Hillary Rodham's Clinton's campaign yesterday, revealing that he raised $8.8 million over the past six months to her $8 million in their Senate race.

Clearly elated over the mayor's fund-raising results, Giuliani campaign manager Bruce Teitelbaum held a press conference 12 days before the paperwork is required to be filed with the Federal Election Commission.

"Given the massive Clinton fund-raising machine and the massive apparatus at their disposal, we fully expect that the Clinton campaign will raise — and they will file — more than we have in this period," Teitelbaum said.

But three hours later, Clinton campaign manager Bill de Blasio conceded the first lady had brought in $800,000 less than the mayor over the second half of last year.

"We are very proud of the work we've done, especially considering that this did not become a full-fledged committee until October," de Blasio said.

"We fully expected that the Giuliani fund-raising machine would be able to match us dollar-for-dollar, given his head start and the tremendous advantages of his incumbency."

It was the first time Clinton had revealed any fund-raising figures, ending months of speculation about how much financial support she could muster.

While Democratic observers said she was right where she needed to be, they were overwhelmed by Giuliani's numbers.

"He is running a much leaner operation because he is able to use his City Hall staff," said Hank Sheinkopf, a Democratic consultant. "But it's still shocking that he raised more money."



MAYOR GIULIANI
$8.8 million in six months.

New York Post
Thursday January 20, 2000

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

I'LL NEVER DUMP BILL

Hill tries to quiet talk of split

By GREGG BIRNBAUM
Post Correspondent

BUFFALO — First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton yesterday vowed never to leave her hubby.

Trying to put doubts about their love life to rest, a defiant Hillary declared, "I certainly intend to spend the rest of my life with him," when asked during a brief interview if she planned to split from President Clinton.

"I have been with my husband for more than half my life," she said.

"We've been together, this will be our 25th year of marriage, and we have so much between us and so many shared experiences and a lot of love in our family."

A local TV interviewer in Buffalo popped the surprise marriage question on Mrs. Clinton — who has rebuffed past inquiries into her private life — by saying he had told a friend at church that he would be speaking to the first lady.

The reporter said his friend told him: "You know what? When that Bill leaves the White House, she's going to leave him."

"What do you think?" the reporter asked Hillary. "There are people who really do think that."

Mrs. Clinton expressed her displeasure in the middle of the question, exclaiming, "Ohhhhh!"

But her subsequent answer was stunning — partly because she has been able to keep her marriage a non-issue. It appears to be her strongest comment yet on the condition of the first couple's union.

Speculation has been rampant that the president agreed to stick by Hillary during her Senate campaign as payback for standing by him during Sexgate and his affair with Monica Lewinsky. Then, once she got into office, all bets would be off.

And initially, some political analysts speculated that her loyalty to Bill during Sexgate — as the martyred wife — would pay off at the polls.

But the opposite may be proving true, considering recent polls show women voters almost evenly divided between Clinton and her likely Republican foe, Mayor Giuliani.

In an even stronger apparent denouncement of Hillary's campaign, the polls show that white women are overwhelmingly in the mayor's camp.

Clinton was scheduled to do an hourlong interview with the women-oriented Web site ivillage.com last night.

She made the comments on her marriage while she was in Buffalo, picking up the endorsement of the Erie County Democratic Committee.

■ *Hillary ditches her NYPD escort / Page 22*
■ *Hillary's lesson in politics of division: Editorial / Page 32*

PHOTOCOPY PRESERVATION

NEW YORK POST
America's oldest continuously published daily newspaper

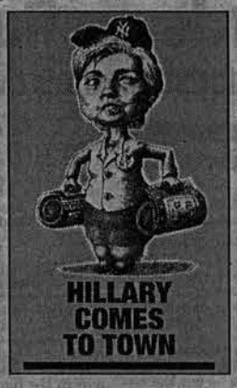
The First Lady's Lesson in the Politics of Division

Lie down with dogs, and you get up with fleas. Lie down with the Rev. Al Sharpton and you get up with the equally Rev. Charles Norris of Bethesda Missionary Baptist Church in Queens — a bitter old soul who once, to use his words, "was fired by a Jew" and who shared the experience in some detail with the crowd at Sharpton's Martin Luther King Day service in Harlem Monday morning.

Present to bend a knee to Sharpton was Hillary Rodham Clinton — who missed a potential reprise of her politically disastrous Suha Arafat hugfest largely because Rep. Eliot Engel (D-Bronx) ratted out the odious Rev. Norris in time for the first lady to gather her thoughts.

Norris' rant, according to folks familiar with him, was about par for the course. Not only had a Jew once fired him, he said derisively, "I was then employed by another Jew, named Jesus."

Mrs. Clinton was out of earshot at the time; once she got the heads-up from Engel, she criticized "an earlier speaker" for "divisive remarks."



No such admonishment came from Mrs. Clinton's host for the occasion — and no surprise there: Norris was more than an invited guest at Monday's affair. He is board member of Sharpton's National Action Network, and therefore an integral part of the package that Mrs. Clinton traveled to Harlem to embrace.

For sure, this was no "minor episode" — as some of her supporters tried to dismiss it. Indeed, it is necessary to wonder why Mrs. Clinton felt compelled to make a pilgrimage to a place where people talk like that.

Of course, the first lady is not the only Democrat who deems it necessary these days to obey a summons from the rotund rabble-rouser. She got protective cover Monday from two former mayors, Ed Koch and David Dinkins, who joined her for the event. State Attorney General Eliot Spitzer was also on hand.

Democratic presidential hopeful Bill Bradley, who insists, while he doesn't always agree with Al Sharpton, "I think he's got to be given respect" has made the pilgrimage. And Vice President Al Gore, who has yet to show up, doubtless will do so before New York's March 7 primary.

Now, it's no secret as to *why* the National Action Network headquarters is a regular pit-stop on the pander-politics tour. Conventional wisdom holds that because Sharpton has demonstrated that he can pull 120,000 votes for himself in a statewide race, his imprimatur could be worth a like number for Mrs. Clinton this fall.

That remains to be seen, of course.

But the question New Yorkers must ask themselves is this: What price is the first lady willing to pay for Sharpton's nod?

It can be argued that the Rev. Norris is a crank, and his slurs reflective of nothing beyond himself — though then one must ask why Sharpton suffers his presence on the NAN board.

Indeed, what is there about *Sharpton* that is so admirable?

There is no new Al Sharpton. He is as unrepentant about his role in the divisive Tawana Brawley hoax as he was when he was performing it.

And it was only a few years ago that Sharpton — under the National Action Network aegis — was exhorting his followers to oust a "white interloper" from Freddy's Fashion Mart in Harlem.

He was taken at his word; there was an arson attack that left seven innocent people dead — and then he vigorously denied any part in the affair.

Until, of course, he learned that his incitements had been caught on tape.

Oops.

Plus, like Rev. Norris, the leader of the Freddy's protests was a longtime Sharpton associate: Morris Powell, head of Sharpton's noxious "Buy Black Committee."

How could Mrs. Clinton not know this? Maybe she didn't. (She *is* new to town.) Maybe the trip to Harlem was just another pander — remember her "Jewish ancestor"? — undertaken in innocence or ignorance.

Maybe.

But probably not.

She sure did her best to make herself at home with the Sharpton crowd.

Didn't she denounce what she termed the "murder of Amadou Diallo" — as if that issue won't be decided by a judge and jury?

Indeed, didn't she then promise to seek federal intervention if it turns out that Bronx DA Robert Johnson's vastly over-reaching murder indictments are, ultimately, rejected by a jury?

And isn't she — a lawyer and an officer of the court — ethically bound to avoid such inflammatory commentary?

So wasn't this meant to further politicize one of the most racially polarizing incidents in the city's recent history?

Yes, on all counts.

In light of all that, what gave the first lady standing Monday morning to ask — in remarks clearly aimed at Mayor Giuliani — "Will you reject the politics of division and retribution and inspire people to come together?"

Nothing, of course. Besides, had the question been sincere, it would have been aimed at Al Sharpton. Or, more to the point, the Rev. Charles Norris.

Hill stirs up a storm by ditching her NYPD escort

By MURRAY WEISS
Criminal Justice Editor

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and the Secret Service have dropped the NYPD from her security detail — igniting an unprecedented flap between the White House and New York's Finest, The Post has learned.

Clinton, the all-but-announced Democratic Senate candidate against Republican Mayor Giuliani, ordered the Secret Service to dump marked NYPD cars that accompany dignitaries afforded special protection — and the privilege to run red lights and block intersections or highway ramps.

Sources say Clinton and the Secret Service alerted the NYPD she was considering traveling around the city without police escorts — but the issue came to a head Monday when her schedule included visiting the Rev. Al Sharpton and meeting with the mother of Amadou Diallo, the unarmed street vendor who was killed in a fusillade of police bullets last year.

The NYPD has informed the Clinton camp that, without a police escort, her motorcade will have to abide by all traffic laws.

"The Police Department believes the decision is a mistake and will jeopardize the first lady's safety as well as that of the citizens of New York City," Deputy Chief Daniel Oates wrote outgoing New York Secret Service head Chip Smith, according to letter obtained by The Post.

Writing that "the potential for a vehicle accident involving the first lady's motorcade is very high," Oates noted that large motorcades have "difficulty negotiating our city's crowded streets."

Sources said cops don't know why Clinton dumped the NYPD — but some officials speculated that she didn't want police to know her itinerary in advance for fear of tipping off City Hall.

Spokespeople for Clinton's campaign, the Secret Service and police declined comment last night.

January 19, 2000

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

Los Angeles Times

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WEDNESDAY
JANUARY 19, 2000



Howard Rosenberg
TELEVISION

The White House Is Just There to Help

The year 2000 has begun on a note of mistrust, with many Americans ever skeptical of such large institutions as the media and federal government.

An example is the present flap about TV networks being able to gain financially by integrating into prime-time entertainment scripts messages that reflect the U.S. government's anti-drug policy.

Here's how the program works:

When the government buys ad time for anti-drug spots, networks must match that investment with their own public service announcements, which costs them financially because these spots consume commercial time ordinarily sold to advertisers. So as an alternative, networks can earn credit from the government by instead including anti-drug themes within shows.

Although ABC says it dropped out of the program after the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy asked to see scripts, that office "does not veto, clear or otherwise dictate the content of network television or other programs," says its director, retired Gen. Barry R. McCaffrey.

Yet critics of the financial incentives program regard such White House-network collusion, however noble the goal, as a dangerous precedent that could encourage possible wider government intervention in program content all across TV.

Leading to the WHOOPS file...

Joe Garagiola
Legendary sports commentator
USA Network

Dear Mr. Garagiola,

It has come to our attention at the White House Office of Optional Programming Services (WHOOPS) that you will host "The Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show" Feb. 14-15 on the USA Network.

As you know, President Clinton and First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton own a chocolate Labrador retriever named Buddy. What you may not know is that Buddy has been depressed because of media attention lavished on the first family's cat, Socks.

Everyone at the White House would be extremely appreciative if you would consider having Buddy co-host this prestigious event with you. His veterinary therapist says it would do wonders for his ego and self-confidence.

By the way, the president and first lady want you to know how much they and Buddy admire you and other Italian Americans.

Kevin S. Bright, Marta Kauffman, David Crane
Executive producers, "Friends"
NBC

Dear Mr. Bright, Mr. Crane and Ms. Kauffman,

Congratulations on another successful

Please see Rosenberg, D5

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

Rosenberg

Continued from D1

season. While watching Thursday's episode, it occurred to some of us at WHOOPS that your fine series could benefit from the charismatic presence of Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan.

Consider this exciting scenario:

Chairman Greenspan stops by Central Perk coffeehouse in Greenwich Village, engages in a discussion and is heartened to learn that Monica, Rachel, Ross, Chandler, Joey and Phoebe agree with him that the economy is growing too fast and that raising interest rates is the best way to prevent inflation. Afterward, they all gather at Monica and Rachel's place for witty banter about bond trading.

Although this is entirely your call, be aware that we've already initiated discussions about Chairman Greenspan with "Veronica's Closet."

Joss Whedon
Executive producer,
"Buffy the Vampire Slayer"
The WB

Dear Mr. Whedon,

Having Buffy enter college this season was a stroke of genius. By the way, you may have noticed that Chelsea Clinton is also attending college.

Just a thought: What if Chelsea and Buffy were to meet in an episode? One possibility would be for them to become friends at a basketball game between their respective schools, Stanford and University of California Sunnydale.

Afterward, Chelsea could join Buffy in combating the dark evils that lurk among us. For example, they could join in destroying a vampire who resembled, say, Linda Tripp. Or even a certain former special prosecutor.



Photo

Madeleine K. Albright: Is the secretary of state destined to dance up a storm on 'Ally McBeal?'

Aaron Sorkin,
Thomas Schlamme, John Wells
Executive producers,
"The West Wing"
NBC

Gentlemen,

You have not responded to our suggestion that President Josiah Bartlett endorse extending U.S. trade sanctions against Cuba. As a footnote, be advised that "WWF Smackdown!" on UPN is receptive to our proposal that it expand its villains to include a Fidel Castro look-alike.

David E. Kelley
Executive producer,
"Ally McBeal"
Fox

Dear Mr. Kelley,

You may be unaware that Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright is a devoted viewer of "Ally McBeal" and especially admires one of its characters, John ("The Biscuit") Cage. It may have something to do with the affection they share for singer Barry White.

With that in mind, Secretary Albright suggests that, as you've already depicted Atty Gen. Janet Reno on "Ally McBeal," an episode could be created in which the secretary makes a personal appearance.

One thought is to have Secretary Albright and the Asian American character, Ling Woo, have a discussion about the undeniable wisdom of the administration's China policy. Then they could all go dancing.

Martha Williamson
Executive producer,
"Touched by an Angel"
CBS

Dear Ms. Williamson,

We hope you know how deeply felt your magnificent series is at the White House, where the president and first lady have always been personally touched by the soulfulness of your characters.

In that spirit, you may want to consider a story line they began tossing around after watching "Touched by an Angel" together one evening with members of their staffs. They believe the following parable would resonate with the public.

A woman, at a crossroads in her life, is unselfishly motivated by public service to move to another state and run for office there, only to come under severe attack from supporters of her unsavory opponent. As the hurtful assault on her character continues, her mood darkens and she begins to question whether she has made the right decision.

At that point she is visited by two campaign volunteers (angels Monica and Tess), who persuade her that God supports her relocation and wants her to continue. The hour could end with her working tirelessly at a food kitchen for the poor and her heartless opponent calling for the homeless to be evicted from a shelter in the dead of winter.

As an alternative, he could be visited by Andrew, the angel of death.

You should know, Ms. Williamson, that when the president and first lady mentioned this story idea to members of their staffs, quite a few were moved to tears, and their dear friend, James Carville, wept.

Howard Rosenberg's column appears Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. He can be contacted via e-mail at calendar.letters@latimes.com.

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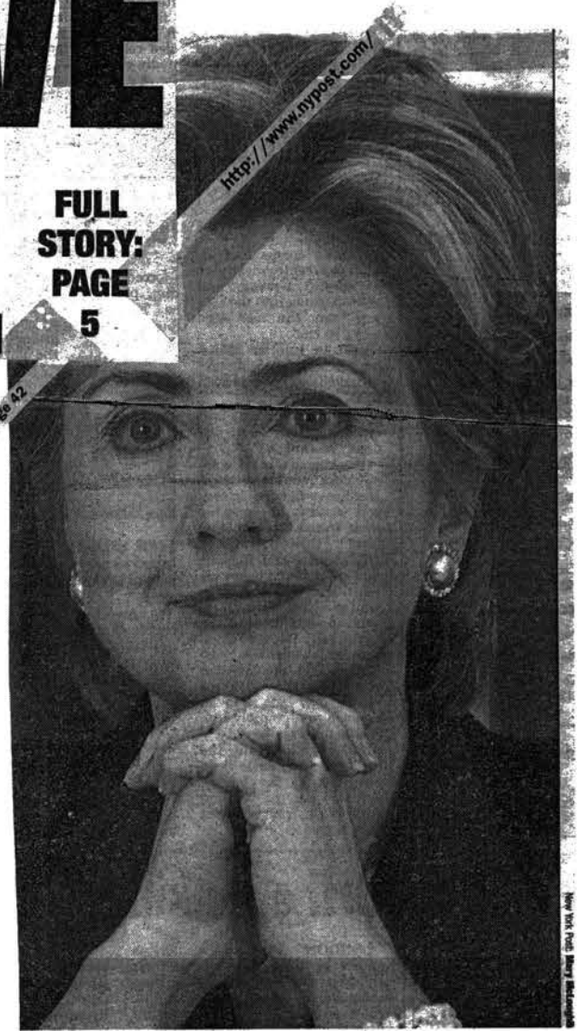
Hillary vows:

I'LL NEVER LEAVE BILL

FULL STORY: PAGE 5

http://www.nypost.com/

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2000 / Partly sunny, 25 / Weather: Page 42



New York Post: Mary McCormick

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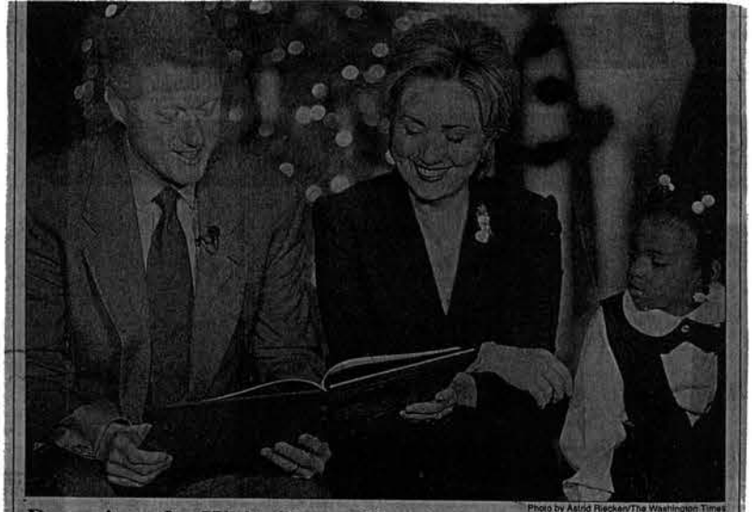


Photo by Astrid Riecken/The Washington Times

Dreaming of a White House Christmas

Tiara Rasheed, 5, of Washington, and about 50 other schoolchildren listen as President and Mrs. Clinton read "'Twas the Night Before Christmas" at a White House holiday celebration yesterday.

January 18, 2000 - The Washington Times

Hillary going on line to woo female voters

Internet town hall chat could be 'very effective'

By Barbara J. Saffir
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton is moving her quest for female voters to the Internet as a way to shore up lagging support.

The New York Senate candidate plans to hold her first on-line town hall chat tonight on "iVillage.com," a Web site geared to women.

Talking about education, health care and other issues on the network, which sees 7 million visitors a month, could prove "very effective," pollster John Zogby said.

"She needs to do anything she can to shore up her support among working women and younger women," he said. "iVillage is particularly useful because it's a 'girl thing.' And it's tantamount to advertising and appearing on "Lifetime" and bonding woman to woman, not candidate to woman."

Women determined the winner in the last New York Senate race and they have voted more than men in every presidential year election since 1964, records show.

Mrs. Clinton, however, is lagging behind a Democrat's typical strong showing with women and her likely Republican opponent is beating her among white women — the voters who populate the battleground region of upstate New York.

The popular Web site, where women share advice on issues as diverse as breast pumps to tax tips, already has hosted chats with Vice President Al Gore and Republican candidate Sen. John McCain.

"We're just really trying to become the nerve center for women and politics in 2000," said Hannah Pingree, the on-line producer for the year-old election portion of the New York City-based site.

When Mrs. Clinton's campaign approached them earlier this month about the chat, she agreed.

The town hall begins at 9:30 tonight during her campaign stop in Buffalo.

Moderator Nancy Evans will ask her questions about issues ranging from health care to taxes. Mrs. Clinton will then answer by telephone, while an assistant types her answers to be posted onto the site.

More than 1,000 visitors already have submitted questions, but visitors can log on at 8:30 to submit last-minute inquiries.

Some visitors already have been chatting about Mrs. Clinton's race against New York Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani on the site's message boards. Mr. Giuliani has also been invited to hold a townhall chat.

A man who described himself as a "born and bred New Yorker" blasted Mrs. Clinton over the carpetbagging issue, saying "the great state of New York deserves a true New Yorker."

A woman from Mrs. Clinton's home state of Illinois said: "I wish she'd decided to run here."

About 80 percent of iVillage's visitors are women and their average age is 33, Ms. Pingree said.

Mrs. Clinton will not see the questions in advance, she said. Also, they will not necessarily include questions submitted at the prompting of Mrs. Clinton's own Web site.

Her campaign is also using its Web site to attract volunteers and advertise an upcoming "house party."

So far the campaign has attracted 2,000 volunteers on line. It is asking on-line supporters to send for details about a "teleconference house party" Mrs. Clinton is planning for Feb. 6.

In the latest poll by the Marist Insitute for Public Opinion, Mrs. Clinton and Mr. Giuliani were tied at 44 percent support from women, with 12 percent undecided.

In 1998, New York Sen. Charles E. Schumer beat incumbent Alfonse M. D'Amato with 59 percent of the women's vote, according to exit polls by Voters News Service.

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

TALKING IT OVER

Housing Vouchers Help 'Fix The Roof' For The Poor



BY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

Seven years ago, when my husband took office, our country was plagued by record budget deficits and high unemployment. Today, we find ourselves at the beginning of a new century with record surpluses, the lowest unemployment in 30 years, and the longest economic expansion in the history of the United States. Unfortunately, there are still hard-working Americans—Americans who have jobs and play by the rules—who are hard-pressed to make ends meet. For many of them, a major problem is the lack of affordable housing.

Consider for a moment these examples: Angela, a widow, lives in Richmond, Va. She has two children and a job that pays $1,200 a month. Because her two-bedroom apartment costs $625 a month, she finds herself paying slightly more than half of her monthly income for housing alone.

Delores, a former welfare recipient, lives in Atlanta, Ga. She travels over an hour each way to a new job in the suburbs, where she makes $7.50 an hour. Delores wants to move closer to her job, not only to shorten her commute, but also to give her more time with her children. But a two-bedroom apartment near her job costs $700 a month, or 54 percent of her income. Without help, Delores knows she simply can't afford to move.

Bob and Francie live in Portland, Ore., where they both work at jobs paying slightly above the minimum wage. Although they bring home about $1,900 each month, they pay $690 a month for rent—nearly 40 percent of their income.

These families are working hard to stay off public assistance and make a good home for their children. But at the same time, they are finding themselves falling further and further behind because of the large portion of their incomes that go toward rent.

In today's booming economy, about two-thirds of new jobs are being created outside of the cities, often far from where many low-income families live. That is why my husband, as part of his effort to reform welfare, reward work, support working families and provide affordable housing for low-income families, has included $690 million in next year's budget for 120,000 new housing vouchers to help people like Angela, Delores, Bob and Francie.

Housing vouchers subsidize the rents of low-income Americans, and help them move closer to job opportunities, reduce a long commute, or secure more stable housing that will help them get or keep a job.

Here's how they work: In order to be eligible for vouchers, families must make less than 50 percent of the median income where they live, although most vouchers go to the poorest families—those with incomes below 30 percent of the median. They are responsible for paying approximately a third of their income for rent, after which, the housing voucher subsidizes the rest—up to a maximum amount for a modest apartment in the region.

With a voucher, Angela would pay $337 toward her rent, with her subsidy covering the remaining $288. Instead of spending more than half of her income on rent each month, Delores, who lives in a city where housing is more expensive, would now pay a more manageable one-third of her income, or $363. Bob and Francie could get approximately $150 of their rent covered by the voucher—an amount that would allow them to meet other important expenses.

Of the 120,000 new housing vouchers proposed by the president, 32,000 will be targeted to families moving from welfare to work; 18,000 will help homeless individuals and families, who have the most difficult time securing permanent housing; and 10,000 will be used to help low-income families move to new housing constructed through the Low Income Housing Tax Credit. The remaining 60,000 will be allocated to local areas to help meet the large need for affordable housing.

Housing vouchers build on my husband's record of helping hard-pressed and hard-working Americans. Two years ago, in the 1999 budget, he proposed and Congress approved 50,000 vouchers—the first in four years—to help current or former welfare recipients get or keep a job. Then, last November, he fought for and won 60,000 additional vouchers as part of the 2000 budget, despite the fact that, in their proposals, neither the House nor the Senate had included funding for vouchers at all.

President Kennedy once said, "The time to fix the roof is when the sun is shining." Right now, we have an unparalleled opportunity to fix the roof—to spread our prosperity to those who have been left behind.

Surely, most people would agree that every hard-working American should be able to live in safe and affordable housing. As members of Congress begin to consider their budget priorities for next year, I hope they will work with the administration, in a bipartisan fashion, to make meaningful progress toward this very important goal.

First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton's column is distributed by Creators Syndicate, Inc.

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PRESERVATION

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Although Hillary Rodham Clinton is famous for keeping the press at arm's length, she seemed to let *Vanity Fair's* Gail Sheehy get to know her more than most journalists during the presidential campaigns of 1992 and 1996. In return for that unusual level of access, Hillary was rewarded last year with Sheehy's book, "Hillary's Choice," which contained many unflattering observations about the first lady. As Sheehy made the round of political talk shows to promote her book, her once-friendly relationship with Camp Hillary was replaced by outright hostility as Mrs. Clinton's supporters openly impugned the veracity of the book.

With that acrimony still fresh in the public's consciousness, Sheehy showed up this month on the campaign bus of presidential hopeful Bill Bradley. It was not immediately clear whether the notoriously aloof Bradley or his wife Ernestine opted to bare their souls for Sheehy.

In the evening, the president traveled to the Clintons' new home in Chappaqua, N.Y. He watched first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton on "The Late Show with David Letterman" and remained overnight in "The Westchester White House." In the morning, Vice President Gore held an open meeting with undecided voters at Coe College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. In the afternoon, Gore addressed the United Auto Workers at UAW Hall Local 838 in Waterloo, Iowa. Before traveling to Sioux City, Iowa, he met with Democratic activists at Central Middle School in Waterloo. There he unveiled a $120 million initiative to create "smaller, safer and better high schools." The initiative will be included in the administration's budget for fiscal year 2001.

"Tragic incidents of school violence make it clear that many of our teenagers need more attention than larger high schools can give then. We must help working families struggling to give their children attention and direction by ensuring that our public high schools offer connections to caring adults as well as high academic standards," he said.

Earlier in the day, Gore announced that the administration's FY 2001 budget will increase the Safe Schools/Healthy Students Initiative by more than $100 million.

The vice president remained overnight in Sioux City.

In the morning, first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton delivered remarks at the opening plenary session of "The Wall Street Project," the Rainbow/Push Coalition 3rd Annual Conference at the Sheraton Hotel & Towers in Manhattan, N.Y.

In the early evening, the first lady taped an interview for an appearance on "The Late Show with David Letterman" to be broadcast later that evening.

Clinton named Richard J. Gonzales to the Advisory Council of the Border Environment Cooperation Commission.

In a statement, the president said that he and the first lady were deeply saddened to learn of the death of Tom Foerster, who served as Allegheny County Commissioner for 28 years.

Thursday, Jan. 13: ***Clinton Proposes 'First Accounts' Plan; First Lady Discusses Breast Cancer In N.Y.; White House Announces FY 2001 Cancer Funding***

In the morning, President Clinton attended the opening of the Small Business Development Center of Boricua College in Brooklyn, N.Y. Afterwards, he delivered remarks to the community, college and student leaders.

Around noon, Clinton attended and addressed the "The Wall Street Project" luncheon, sponsored by Rev. Jesse Jackson, founder and president of the Rainbow/Push Coalition, at the Sheraton Towers Hotel in Manhattan. In his address to 2,000 corporate leaders, the president announced that his fiscal year 2001 "New Markets" agenda. That agenda includes a $30-million initiative, called "First Accounts," to bring "the unbanked" into the financial mainstream. He also extended an invitation to corporate leaders to participate in a roundtable at the White House to discuss how the business community can build upon the Community Reinvestment Act.



In the evening, the president attended and addressed a reception in honor of The Wall Street Project at The New York Stock Exchange. Afterwards, he attended a Democratic National Committee reception in his honor, hosted by John Catsimatidis at a Manhattan, N.Y., residence.

The president remained overnight in at the Clinton's home in Chappaqua, N.Y. In the morning, Vice President Gore held a discussion on agricultural issues in Sloane, Iowa.

Afterwards, Gore traveled to New Hampshire. Tipper Gore remained in Iowa, where she campaigned for her husband.

In the evening, the vice president spoke with participants at the Community Action Agencies Conference at the Sheraton Tara Hotel in Nashua, N.H. Afterwards, he attended a discussion sponsored by the Jewish Leadership Council at Temple Beth Jacob in Concord, N.H. The vice president remained overnight in Boston.

In the afternoon, first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton participated in a roundtable discussion on breast cancer research at Adelphi University in Garden City, N.Y. During the day, the White House announced that the president's fiscal year 2001 budget will include $27 million—a 56 percent increase in last year's funding level—for the Centers for Disease Control and prevention Environmental Health Lab "to explore the largely unknown environmental causes of diseases like breast and prostate cancer."

Clinton named Michael M. Reyna as chairman of the Farm Credit Administration Board. He named Montana Gov. Marc Racicot as a member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for National and Community Service.

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

VIEWPOINT ■ Margaret Carlson

Hillary's Antiwar Movement

The First Lady settles in New York. Is that one way of making peace with Bill?

DO THEY HAVE KIDS? THAT'S WHAT WE ALWAYS WANTED TO know when a moving van pulled up in my old neighborhood. Back then, the arrival of the Clintons would have prompted other questions. Is she married? Then where's her husband? And who are all those tall men in the dark glasses?

As always, nothing is simple with the Clintons, who have given almost as many answers about their living arrangements as they did about the billing records. Originally, the President wasn't going to show up in Chappaqua until next week. But with news cameras trained on the five-bedroom, four-bath residence, the President hastily bailed out of the Middle East peace talks to forestall video of Hillary spending her first night alone. The next morning, in their end-of-driveway press conference, the First Lady made like a young bride, ecstatic to be unpacking gewgaws from Arkansas circa 1983. This helped fend off thoughts about her as a carpetbagger in need of a new zip code, or worse, as the first First Lady to abdicate. For the moment, the Clintons diverted attention from the fact that they are the first presidential couple to officially take up separate residences and that this most reckless of Presidents will now be Home Alone.



MOVING DAY The Clintons at their—or her?—new home

By turning compliance with New York's residency requirements into a Lifetime movie, the Clintons have given new meaning to keeping up appearances. Why force us to watch their melodrama? We're being asked to believe that "they" are staying married, that "they" are moving to New York, when by many people's definitions, "they" are doing neither. The headline in one New York paper was HERE TODAY, GONE TOMORROW, as the President returned to Shepherdstown, W.Va., for the Israeli-Syrian talks. Among their possessions, you could see a couple of rugs, a kitchen table and a large bed. Don Imus wondered whether the plastic would ever come off the mattress. I wondered whether there would ever be enough living in the living room to fill up such a huge space.

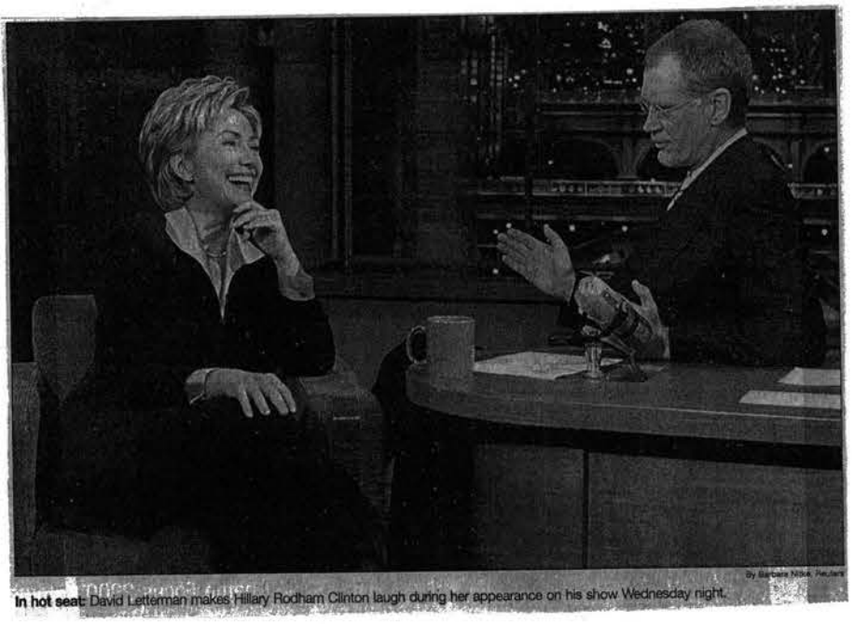
But the media pictures on the front porch may at least remind people of Hillary's bright and winning side, apparent in her early listening tour but obscured by a series of errors: the bungling of the Puerto Rican clemency issue, a messy mortgage that had to be scrapped after it raised ethical questions, her unfortunate embrace of an Arafat. Most recently, her campaign spokesman loudly denounced presumed rival Rudy Giuliani as "shameless" for starring in I Love New York–type ads, sponsored by the tourist bureau. Problem is, they aren't taxpayer financed, and it drew attention to her soft-money donations (more than $300,000 from corporate donors and wealthy private citizens) and her own blurring of the lines between official and campaign business. Most candidates have to take the shuttle between Washington and New York. She flies on Air Force jets.

Now that she has quit her day job, Charlie Cook, editor of the authoritative *Cook Report*, says she has time "to bring home the voters she should already have locked up but has fallen behind with"—women, Jews, union households—"and motivate those who've stuck with her, primarily African Americans." If she doesn't cause gridlock at the Grand Union, she might get back the soccer moms. Fortunately for Hillary, Giuliani's domestic life is no Norman Rockwell painting, either. As the Clintons were playing out their own soap opera, Rudy's wife Donna Hanover was announcing that she had signed on to play a recurring character on ABC's *One Life to Live*, a curious example of bad art imitating life. Hanover long ago dropped her married name and stopped attending political events, and the details of the curious Giuliani marriage were laid out in a notorious 1997 *Vanity Fair* article. Having garnered all the credit there is to get from saving the city, the mayor has some controversies of his own to overcome: police-brutality cases, his crackdown on the homeless, his feud with the just departed school chancellor. Cook notes that Hillary can turn the race around if she "makes the race about Rudy and not about her." In other words, pray for snow and another tasteless museum exhibit.

The photo-ops of the First Couple on Old House Lane may serve to bring down the curtain on the past two years in the White House. Once again, Hillary is nodding her head at everything the President says. Monica has found a job hawking a diet program. Linda Tripp is a "new man," as David Letterman observed, after her massive plastic surgery. Ken Starr is back at his law firm. Clinton is busily working on his legacy.

The amazing thing is not that we don't know whether the Clintons are a couple but that they themselves don't seem to. The President hemmed and hawed his way through a question about how they would manage to find time together. What even the adults in my old neighborhood wouldn't have been able to fathom is how the new woman down the block has passed through life's most traumatic events—marital meltdown, the death of her father and best friend, Whitewater and more than a year at the center of a crisis that laid bare her intimate life—and craves no down time to catch her breath. Picking through the charred embers of the conflagration of the past two years requires more attention than your average candidate can spare. But that may be just the way she wants it. ■

PHOTOCOPY PRESERVATION



By Barbara Nitke, Reuters

In hot seat: David Letterman makes Hillary Rodham Clinton laugh during her appearance on his show Wednesday night.

USA Today

Guest spot becomes a star turn

THE FIRST LADY TAKES ON LETTERMAN

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

It's all part of her political face-lift

By ROBERT HARDT Jr.

ANALYSIS

Hillary Rodham Clinton would sooner have had gum surgery than sit down with David Letterman in 1999.

But a Senate campaign will inspire you to do some funny things — including make a New Year's resolution to give yourself a political makeover.

After Clinton made her stunning announcement last July that she was interested in the Senate, she quickly became little more than a political Greta Garbo.

As she toured the state "listening" during the summer, the first lady said almost nothing of importance, infuriating reporters and annoying even some of her closest supporters.

From the start, some of her aides saw the danger of a "Queen Hillary" strategy, privately arguing that she needed to conduct fewer staged affairs — and instead pound the sidewalks.

But other longtime friends believed unscripted events and prolonged exposure to the media would only create more problems.

Clinton lost any early momentum she had by making two major gaffes.

First, she angered Latino supporters by waffling on the issue of clemency for Puerto Rican nationalists. Then, she angered Jews by remaining silent while Yasser Arafat's wife accused Israel of poisoning Palestinian children.

Always a tough partisan battler for her husband, the first lady oddly seemed wary of taking off the gloves, hesitant to even mention Mayor Giuliani, her likely opponent, by name.

It seems clear Clinton's Letterman appearance, her new attempts at being chummy with the press and her increased contact with the public at so-called "retail" events are all part of a new strategy.

Nothing better illustrates the change than two encounters she's had with veteran TV reporters in New York City over the past 15 months.

While campaigning for Chuck Schumer's Senate bid in the fall of 1998, she walked within 5 feet of New York 1's Andrew Kirtzman at a job-training center on the Lower East Side. Kirtzman politely asked her if she could answer a question.

As a Clinton aide dug her fingernails into Kirtzman's arm, the first lady breezed by without even batting an eye.

But yesterday, she bumped into WCBS-TV's Marcia Kramer on the sidewalk outside the Sheraton.

Could she answer a couple of questions for Channel 2?

But of course, came the reply.

NEW YORK POST, THURSDAY, JANUARY 13, 2000

HILLARY'S COOL ON

Funnyman can't stump candidate

By GREGG BIRNBAUM and ROBERT HARDT Jr.

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton last night aced a surprise pop quiz about New York — shocking even the man who tried to trip her up with it — TV's David Letterman.

Charming the edgy talk-show host by openly admitting she was "a little nervous" at appearing on his show — and that she finally agreed to after weeks of on-air ribbing because "I knew if I were going to run for the Senate, I had to sit in this chair and talk to the big guy" — Clinton correctly answered question after question lobbed at her by Letterman.

The seven questions were to name: the state bird (bluebird); state tree (sugar maple); number of counties in the state (62); Great Lakes in New York (Ontario and Erie); highest mountains (Adirondacks); and who in New York is feared as "the big man" (Letterman).

Before giving the quiz, an obviously playful Letterman warned Clinton: "This could make or break the entire campaign."

The crowd roared with approval at each correct answer given by the first lady, who's taken heat for her carpetbagger status.

Letterman appeared smitten too, calling Clinton as she waited back stage "sensational" looking in a rust pants suit and salmon, open-collar shirt.

Clinton walked on stage as the band played "New York State of Mind" — and just minutes after esteemed former TV anchor

PHOTOCOPY PRESERVATION

New York Post
Thurs, Jan. 13, 2000



BILL CLINTON
Will join wife on big day.

Supporters can join her new 'party'

By GREGG BIRNBAUM

Hillary Rodham Clinton's campaign is organizing "house parties" around the state to wire up supporters for the official announcement of her Senate run.

On Feb. 6, the campaign will use teleconferencing technology to link supporters for the live formal kickoff.

It's being called "Statewide House Party Day" and supporters can receive "kits" from the campaign telling them how to get hooked up to listen to Democrat Clinton's big speech.

"Invite friends, family and supporters to your home to hear Hillary via teleconference," says Clinton's Web site (www.hillary2000.org), inviting New Yorkers to e-mail her for more info.

The Web site doesn't reveal what's happening that day to warrant a Hillary house party — but officials have confirmed it's the long-awaited, sometimes-doubted announcement.

It is expected that President Clinton and the couple's daughter, Chelsea, will be on hand as the first lady finally throws her hat in the ring.

The Clinton campaign has not said where it plans to make the announcement.



JESS PASSING THROUGH: First Lady/Senate candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton is greeted by Rainbow/Push President Jesse Jackson during a breakfast meeting at the Sheraton yesterday.

New York Post W.A. Funches

First lady's Top 10 list

The top 10 reasons that Hillary Rodham Clinton finally decided to appear on the "Late Show With David Letterman" (as presented by her last night):

10. I lost a bet with Tipper.

9. I did think this was a show where you answer a couple of easy questions and you win a million dollars.

8. If Dan Quayle did it, how hard could it be?

7. I was already in town to interview for the Jets head coach position.

6. Four words: severe lapse of judgment.

5. I needed an excuse to get out of dinner with Donald Trump.

4. When they threw in a "Late Show" tote bag, I said gas up the Taurus, we're goin' to Dave's.

3. I have not been to the Ed Sullivan Theater since I was dating Ringo.

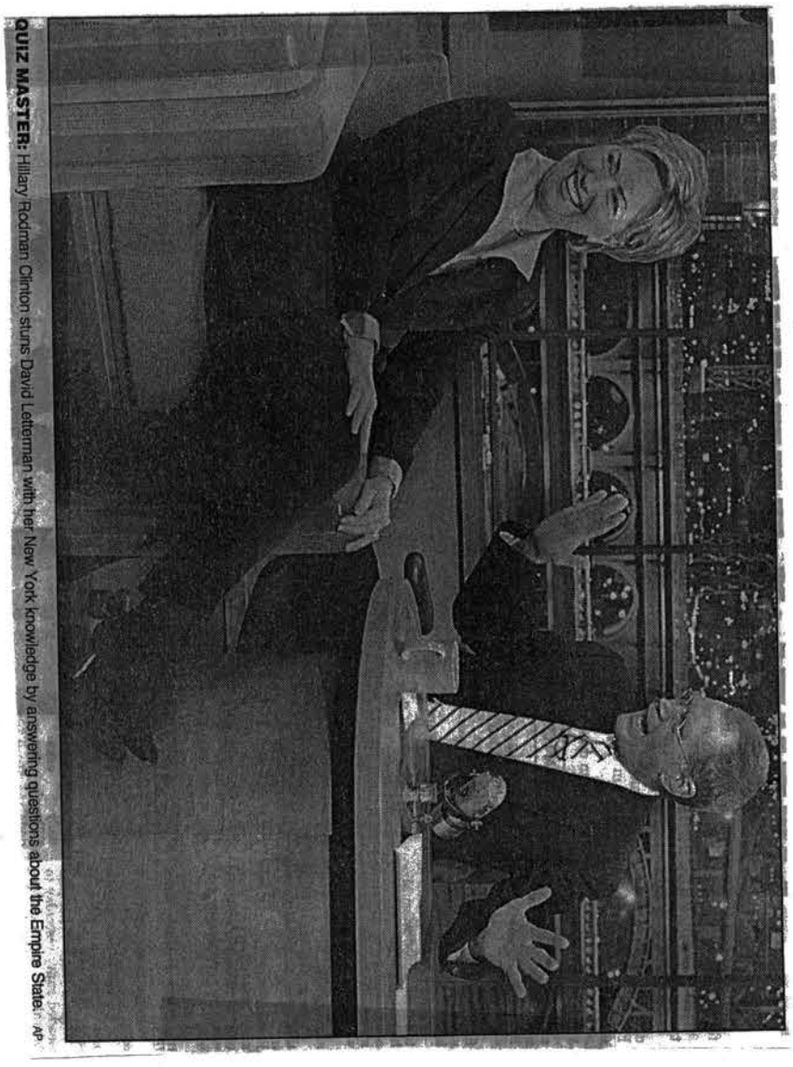
2. To tell you the truth, Dave, I thought Johnny hosted this show.

1. If I can make it here, I can make it anywhere.

(The show staff says the list was prepared by Clinton's aides, with a little help from Letterman's jokesters.)

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

New York Post
January 13, Thursday



QUIZ MASTER: Hillary Rodham Clinton stuns David Letterman with her New York knowledge by answering questions about the Empire State. AP

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

NEW YORK POST, THURSDAY, JANUARY 13, 2000

LETTERMAN'S GRILL

WAVE OF SUPPORT: Hillary makes her entrance at the Ed Sullivan Theater for yesterday's appearance on the David Letterman show. AP

It's all a sham, but she passes the test

DAVID LETTERMAN and Hillary Rodham Clinton were on their best behavior last night.

Hillary proved she could sustain a smile for longer than a four-second sound bite. Dave proved he can create entertainment from interacting with a novice guest from outside show business.

She knew the New York state bird (bluebird). He was gracious enough to refrain from joking about her husband, the wayward president who is ridiculed nightly on late-night TV.

She read a Top 10 list acknowledging her reluctance up until now to appear on Dave's "Late Show."

He gave her a riding mower as a housewarming gift.

And it was all as phony as a three-dollar bill.

Hillary must have rehearsed for hours in front of a mirror to prepare for last night's appearance. After it was over, her facial muscles must have collapsed from working overtime to freeze that smile in place.

She was probably nervous. She'd likely been persuaded by her handlers that appearing on Letterman's show was a necessary rite of passage on the road to the Senate.

That is the conventional wisdom these days — that if you come across as witty on late-night TV, voters will like you, and they just might like you in great enough numbers to elect you as their representative in Washington.

If the conventional wisdom is accurate, Hillary scored last night.

She parried Dave's questions with wit and intelligence, coming up with surprise answers to queries.

The only time she bridled was when Dave jokingly suggested that Buddy the dog had been neutered. Perhaps she was bracing for a crude remark about her husband.

If you know anything about TV, you know how phony late-night TV is. Entertaining as last night's appearance was, it doesn't change anything.

The lion's share of the credit for making last night's segments work so effectively goes to Dave, not Hillary. After it was over, she was still an out-of-towner trying desperately to be liked.

This could make or break the entire campaign."

DAVID LETTERMAN BEFORE GRILLING HILLARY CLINTON

...m Page 6

...lter Cronkite made a ...prise appearance at ...ve's side to warn him ...t when interviewing ...first lady: "Try not to ...a jackass."

...letterman occasionally ...d to throw a curve ball ...Clinton.

...ut the first lady, who's ...but formally an- ...nced her Senate candi- ...cy, kept her diplomatic ...l.

...hen asked if she liked ...pected opponent Mayor ...uliani, Clinton instead ...acked Giuliani's home- ...s plan, saying: "I think ...ng senator is a differ- ...t kind of job. As a sena- ... you can't arrest a ...meless person."

...asked who she'd root for ... a World Series pitting ...e New York Yankees vs. ...e Chicago Cubs since ...e's originally from Illi- ...s, Hillary again dodged ...potential political bullet ...calling a Cubs' trip to ...e Series "a fairy tale."

...She also presented the ...ows Top 10 list on why ...e finally agreed to ap- ...ar on the show.

...Before she left, Letter- ...an presented her with a ...ing lawn mower for her ...w house in Chappaqua.

...Clinton touched hands ...th Letterman as she ...as leaving, and he ...ssed her on the cheek.

...Giuliani has been a reg- ...ar guest on Letterman, ...here his poking fun at ...linton as a carpetbagger ...s been well-received — ...Letterman and the stu- ...o audience.

...The mayor told reporters ...e didn't know if he'd see ...e show featuring his ...kely Senate opponent.

..."I watch David Letter- ...an quite a bit, but not ...ery night," Giuliani ...ked.

...President Clinton, who ...pent the night with Mrs. ...linton at their new ...ome, planned to stay up ...o catch his wife's Letter- ...an stunt, a White House ...pokesman said.

Hillary: Wronged wife or just plain mean? / Page 32

Poised Hillary parries, banters with Dave and aces his pop quiz concerning New York trivia

By Martha T. Moore
USA TODAY

NEW YORK — Add another to the "only in New York" list: Only in New York is a candidate's appearance on a late-night humor show analyzed as if it were a debate performance.

After weeks of negotiation, Hillary Rodham Clinton, Senate candidate-to-be, met David Letterman, self-described political kingmaker, on Letterman's TV show Wednesday.

How'd she do? Boffo. Was she prepped in advance? Sort of. Did anyone watch? Yes, millions. Can she, ethically, keep the riding mower Letterman gave her? Unclear.

After the first lady, who moved to New York just last week, aced a test on Empire State trivia, critics wondered whether she had received an advance copy.

Clinton spokesman Howard Wolfson said the first lady did not know what she would be asked.

"She was told, 'We're going to have a little pop quiz for you,' and they let on that it was going to be about New York, which we assumed," he said.

Though most politicians can rattle off how many counties in the state they have visited — 40 of 62 in Clinton's case — the candidate had apparently also made it her business to learn the state bird (bluebird) and tree (sugar maple).

"Did you catch my wife on Letterman last night? Was she great, or what?" President Clinton asked during a speech Thursday in New York City. "It's bad enough that I have to give up being president; now I've got to give up being the funny one in my family."

Or at least he has to share the joke writers. Some of her jokes with Letterman were spontaneous, Wolfson said, such as her response to Letterman's telling her: "Every idiot in the area is going to drive by (her new home), honking now."

"It was that you?" the first lady shot back.

But as is usual on late-night shows, many of the topics — for instance, her move to Chappaqua — were discussed in advance, which gave her the opportunity to think up a few lines ahead of time.

Her list of the Top Ten reasons she finally agreed to come on the show was written by Letterman's staff and vetted by the campaign. One proposed line — "As first lady, it's my job to visit disaster areas" — was nixed by the campaign as too "severe," *Late Show* producer Rob Burnett said.

"We're here to make the guests look good. That's the truth of it," Burnett said. "This really isn't *Meet the Press*. We're here to get a few laughs. There was a real opportunity there for Hillary, and she maximized it. She showed a warm and friendly side."

New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani, expected to be Clinton's opponent in the Senate race, has made 17 appearances on Letterman's show.

Giuliani has also appeared on *Saturday Night Live*, in a dress and wig, no less. Clinton's campaign said she has not been invited to appear on that show.

The first lady-turned-candidate scored big with viewers. In preliminary national Nielsen results, Letterman received an 8.0 rating, his highest since 1994, when CBS carried the Winter Olympics. About 11 million people watched Wednesday night's show, CBS said, about three times more than usual. Rival Jay Leno, who usually beats Letterman, got a 3.6 rating Wednesday.

Did Clinton score with voters? "She did a good job. She was relaxed and funny, and she certainly did not disappoint on the entertainment scale. She's showed a side of herself that people haven't really seen. That worked," said Lee Miringoff, director of the Marist Institute of Public Opinion.

A Marist Poll released Monday showed Clinton trailing Giuliani by 9 percentage points.

She had to go on the show, political experts said.

"This is a requirement for running for office against Giuliani," said Mitchell Moss of New York University. "He's there so often, you have to at least show you can do it."

As a rule, neither candidate conveys much sense of humor, Moss said. "They both need Letterman in that way, to warm them up."

Former governor Mario Cuomo, a Democrat, applauded Clinton's performance: "She was good," he said. "That's what you're going to see more of: the real Hillary Clinton."

Clinton, who has had a reputation for avoiding the media as first lady, should "sin in favor of accessibility," Cuomo said.

Letterman has used the Clintons as joke fodder for years — and spent three weeks complaining about her failure to accept an invitation.

In the end, "she came out ahead," Democratic consultant Mark Mellman said. "I don't think you'll be hearing many more Letterman jokes at her expense."

Is the next stop Imus? Morning radio talk show host Don Imus has long mocked the Clintons, notably at a Washington dinner at which they were on the dais with him. But his show is a favorite of media and politicians, and then-candidate Bill Clinton phoned in during his 1992 campaign. The invitation has been proffered, both Imus and the Clinton campaign said.

"I think when Jesus comes on, she'll come on," Imus said Thursday.

Contributing: Kathy Kiely in Washington.

Reasons to risk the 'Late Show'

During Hillary Rodham Clinton's appearance on David Letterman's show Wednesday, she presented her own version of the host's Top Ten List.

From the home office in Chappaqua, New York. Top Ten Reasons I, Hillary Clinton, Finally Decided to Appear on *The Late Show*:

10. I lost a bet with Tipper.

9. Thought this was a show where you answered a couple easy questions and win a million dollars.

8. If Dan Quayle did it, how hard could it be?

7. Was already in town to interview for Jets' head coach position.

6. Four words: severe lapse of judgment.

5. I needed an excuse to get out of dinner with Donald Trump.

4. When they threw in a *Late Show* tote bag, I said, "Gas up the Taurus, Bill, we're goin' to Dave's."

3. I haven't been in the Ed Sullivan Theater since I was dating Ringo.

2. Um, to tell you the truth, I thought Johnny hosted this show.

1. If I can make it here, I can make it anywhere.

PHOTOCOPY PRESERVATION

HILL-BENT LETTERMAN TO GET HIS INTERVIEW

By GREGG BIRNBAUM *in New York*
and ROBERT HARDT Jr. *in Rochester*

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton has ripped up her "Top Ten Reasons Why I Won't Be a Guest on David Letterman's Show" — she's agreed to appear tonight with the prickly TV funnyman.

Letterman has been mocking Clinton almost nightly for not coming on his show. He hit the roof last week when the first lady's spokesman, Howard Wolfson, made fun of him in an on-air phone call.

"Late Night" executive producer Rob Burnett, who has spent weeks talking to Clinton's staff trying to coax her on stage, said there is only one ground rule for the first lady's appearance.

"Dave has promised he will not chase Hillary around the studio with a hammer," Burnett said.

Her likely opponent in the upcoming race for the Senate, Mayor Giuliani, has received a warm welcome from Letterman during his numerous appearances on the show.

Wolfson said Clinton feels the time is right to do Letterman, now that she has moved to New York.

Clinton's segment on "Late Night" comes as a new statewide poll showed her stuck behind Giuliani and as the first lady revealed plans for a formal announcement of her candidacy next month.

The survey by Marist College in Poughkeepsie found Giuliani leading Clinton, 49 percent to 40 percent. The mayor's lead was unchanged from December.

But Clinton's popularity rating slipped 4 percentage points since last month, to 48 percent —compared with Giuliani's 61 percent.

Clinton's favorable rating has nose-dived a whopping 20 percentage points from last February, when 68 percent of voters had a positive view of her.

The poll also raised doubts about the effectiveness of one of the Clinton campaign's main attacks against Giuliani — that he's a power-mad bully who won't be able to work well with other senators.

The survey of 821 registered voters last Saturday and Sunday has a margin of error of 4 percentage points.

Campaigning in Rochester, Clinton said for the first time that she will formally toss her hat into the Senate ring next month and will likely be joined on the big day by the president and daughter Chelsea.

Clinton also will launch into cyberspace Tuesday with an hourlong interview on a leading women's Web site, village.com, where visitors can submit their own questions.

Top 10 questions to ask first lady

From The Post's home office on Sixth Avenue, here are the Top 10 questions David Letterman should ask Hillary Clinton:

10) Will you ban Bill from New York's cigar bars?

9) Are you taking up the mayor on his offer of a doing a self-guided tour of Rikers?

8) Is it true Bill sent back his order of prime rib at Peter Luger's because the waitress was too fat?

7) Is this the first house you owned that didn't have wheels?

6) Is it true you and the president dubbed your new master bedroom, "Neverland"?

5) Can you put a stop to the president's plan to declare "McDonald's" and "Condomania" city landmarks?

4) How about the rumor that Bill wants Donald Trump to become his new social director?

3) Has Trump asked you out yet?

2) Is it true you're thinking of naming a city bus "A Streetcar Named Desire" in honor of the president?

1) Need Yankee tickets for tonight?

Bill Hoffmann and Linda Stasi

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION



SQUEEZE PLAY: Hillary Rodham Clinton, who will officially launch her campaign next month, hugs Jennifer Sands while stumping at a Rochester grocery yesterday. AP

New York Post
Friday
Jan. 14
2000

MORNING AFTER 'LATE NIGHT'

CAT LOVERS PET-PEEVED AT HILLARY

By GREGG BIRNBAUM and ROBERT HARDT Jr.

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton found herself in a catfight yesterday after an animal-rights group hissed at her for telling David Letterman she had First Feline Socks declawed.

"We . . . were horrified," growled a scathing letter to Clinton from People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, expressing "shock and dismay at your decision to mutilate Socks in this painful and unnecessary procedure."

The cat caper began innocently on Wednesday night, when Letterman asked Clinton if the White House pets, Socks and Buddy, a Labrador retriever, made the move to Chappaqua with her.

No, Clinton answered, they are staying in Washington for now.

"Don't tell me you had that Socks declawed," Letterman said.

"Ya, we did," Clinton confessed.

"Ohhhhhhhhh!!!" Letterman exclaimed. "Ouch! Whew!"

Clinton quickly tried to dig out of the hole:

"But he has really old furniture — like George Washington's chair. I didn't want to have to explain what happened."

In 1993, it was reported that Socks had been banished to the basement because of fears the then-clawed feline would shred the White House furniture.

It was said the Clintons exiled Socks because they were fearful declawing him would draw fire from animal-rights groups.

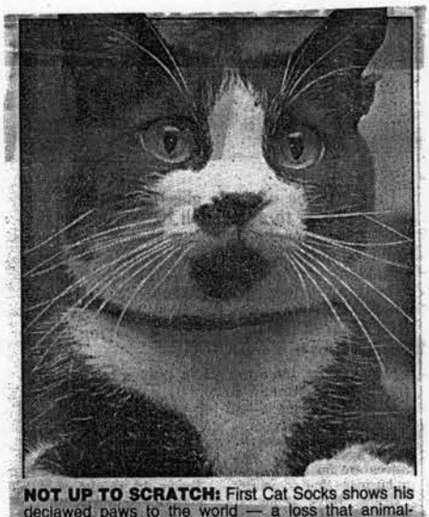
Apparently, the first couple decided to take the heat — and Socks' claws.

In her letter to Mrs. Clinton yesterday, PETA President Ingrid Newkirk said declawing is painful, leaves cats defenseless, and can trigger lingering physical and psychological problems for the pet.

"It's too late for Socks, but we beg you to use your position to speak out against declawing," Newkirk said.

"There are many people in your new home state who would like to see this grotesque procedure outlawed and who will refuse to vote for a candidate who supports it," she added, noting that 55,000 PETA members are registered to vote in New York.

Mrs. Clinton's spokesman, Howard Wolfson, said he had nothing to add to the first lady's remarks on "Late Night."



NOT UP TO SCRATCH: First Cat Socks shows his declawed paws to the world — a loss that animal-rights campaigners say could burden the Clintons' cat with physical and psychological problems. AP

■ *Hill's last laugh? / Podhoretz: Page 31*
■ *Ratings bonanza for Dave / Page 120*

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION



FREE RIDE: Hillary Rodham Clinton receives a housewarming gift — a riding mower — from David Letterman Wednesday night. But her Chappaqua neighbors fear they may pay the price — in noise. Barbara Nalke/CBS

Will she be a pain in the grass?

By GERSH KUNTZMAN

Hillary Rodham Clinton will lose plenty of votes from her new neighbors if she uses David Letterman's gift riding mower too early in the morning.

It's illegal in Chappaqua — where the first lady just bought a home — to operate "domestic tools and equipment" before 9 a.m. on weekends or before 8 a.m. during the week.

And the locals are already sounding the alarms.

"A lot of people have serious concerns about lawnmower noise," said Marion Sinek, supervisor for the town of New Castle, where Chappaqua is located.

Clinton campaign spokesman Howard Wolfson refused to speculate on whether the first lady or the soon-to-be-ex president will hire a gardener or operate the six-speed, 14.5-horsepower Poulan lawn tractor themselves.

History favors the gardener.

None of the four living ex-presidents — George Bush, Ronald Reagan, Jimmy Carter or Gerald Ford — is believed to cut his own lawn.

"It takes four guys to cut the lawn at Kennebunkport," admitted Giancarlo Peressutti, a spokesman for Bush. "He does not do it."

It is legal for the first lady to receive gifts — so the only way the lawnmower could get her in trouble is if Letterman has business before the government.

In that case, the gift could be construed as a campaign contribution, said a spokeswoman for the Federal Election Commission.

But the gift was not without some disharmony. Letterman producer Rob Burnett said the lawnmower was bought "somewhere in New Jersey" — hardly an appropriate purchase site for someone running for Senate from New York.

"But this is the Cadillac of lawn mowers," Burnett said.

New York Post, Jan. 14, 2000

PHOTOCOPY PRESERVATION

Dems want no part of her 'first aide'

CAMPAIGN BUZZ

ROBERT HARDT JR. AND GREGG BIRNBAUM

HILLARY Rodham Clinton's closeness with longtime aide Mandy Grunwald is scaring off big-name Democratic political consultants.

The first lady has been auditioning a parade of media gurus for months, but still hasn't hired anyone to mastermind her Senate advertising blitz — and insiders say Grunwald is the reason for the delay.

Sources close to the Clinton campaign said the latest media adviser who won't be working for the first lady is prominent consultant David Doak, who until recently had been the leading contender for the job. Doak, however, insists he's still in the running.

Top-flight consultants are afraid Grunwald — whose abilities are belittled by some — will only get in the way as they plot their important TV advertising war against Mayor Giuliani.

"Her presence in all of this is a factor," said one Washington insider.

"No one wants to have to take the fall for a mistake that might be Mandy's."

■

Who is paying for Bruce Teitelbaum's lawyer?

Teitelbaum, the mayor's former chief of staff and expected campaign manager, is the subject of unwanted attention from Brooklyn District Attorney Charles "Joe" Hynes' building inspector-City Hall probe.

Teitelbaum's lawyer, Richard Weinberg, released a statement recently saying his client "is presently neither a target nor a subject of any criminal investigation" and is only a potential witness.

But there's a mystery of whether it's the city, the mayor's campaign or Teitelbaum who's footing Weinberg's bill. Teitelbaum wouldn't say.

NEW YORK POST, FRIDAY, JANUARY 14, 2000
POSTOPINION

HILLARY CLINTON'S LAST LAUGH?

Why is her campaign failing? Look at her 'Late Show' fakery



JOHN PODHORETZ

HILLARY Clinton performed brilliantly in her "Late Show with David Letterman" appearance Wednesday night, making it the first brilliant — or even marginally intelligent — act of her Senate candidacy.

The key words here are "performance" and "act." She was relaxed, smiling and amused and oh, so well prepared, as ready with soundbites and one-liners as any comedienne facing Dave in the hot seat. True, her first joke bombed — something about how the only trouble with her Chappaqua move-in was "when the satellite truck ran over the welcome wagon" — and it brought the only needling of the night from Letterman, who said: "Somebody's been writing material for you, haven't they?"

Yes, Dave. Only that "somebody" was you.

The "satellite truck" line might have been supplied by one of the Democratic Party's joke writers-for-hire, like Mark Katz, or even by Hillary's Hollywood buddy Linda Bloodworth-Thomason. But "Late Night" producer Rob Burnett acknowledged that his show's staff helped to punch up Hillary's material, including her supposedly self-drafted Top 10 list about why she had decided to appear on the Letterman program.

Not only that, she was also tipped off about Letterman's "surprise" pop quiz on New York state. "Oh, boy," Hillary said when Dave pulled out the quiz, acting nervous as only a cheater could before displaying a ludicrous amount of knowledge about the state bird ("I *know* that, it's the bluebird") and the state tree (she cleverly went through a few different maples before settling on the sugar maple). This is the sort of trivia unknown to all but a few dozen of the state's 18,175,301 residents, but it did make Hillary sounds like she's getting to know New York pretty well.

Letterman is an entertainer, not an ambush interviewer, and his show is intended to amuse folks as they fall asleep, not to catch Hillary Clinton out in lies and deceits. Still, Letterman and Hillary may have stumbled into sensitive territory with this mini-version of the 1950s quiz-show scandals.

Imagine, for a moment, how differently things would be for George W. Bush if he had gotten the answers in advance on that pop quiz to which he was subjected by Boston TV reporter Andy Hiller. Bush was asked questions by Hiller that almost nobody except the president of the Council on Foreign Relations could have answered off the top of his head. Yet the Republican presidential front-runner's inability to name the rebel president of Chechnya, or the prime minister of India, inaugurated a spate of stories and jokes questioning his intelligence.



Some "surprise": Letterman staff helped Hillary with the quiz *and* her Top 10 list. AP

Indeed, Letterman went after Bush for exactly this reason in his No. 1 entry on Wednesday night's "Top 10 Things a Dumb Guy Would Ask Hillary Clinton": "Have you ever met my dad, George Bush?"

Bush may be a lightweight; the jury is still out — but then the jury is also still out on just how clever Hillary Clinton really is. Don't forget — *never* forget — clemency for the FALN terrorists, kissing Mrs. Arafat on both cheeks after the blood-libel accusation, blaming Bill's hanky-panky on fights between his ma and grandma, or her outrageous claim to be a lifelong Yankee fan.

And the fact that she cheated on the Letterman quiz offers a reminder she can't possibly want to New Yorkers of the way she plays it fast and loose. A woman who once made a $100,000 profit in a commodities flip should not be cutting corners on national television, especially not at a time when the nation's TV viewers are watching ordinary Joes trying to answer enough questions to get a million bucks out of Regis Philbin.

A hard look at the results of the Marist College poll on the New York Senate race reminds us anew what a terrible candidate Hillary has been so far.

When her gavotte with New York started a year ago, 52 percent of registered voters said they would cast a ballot for her as against Giuliani's 42 percent. By July, she had dipped to 41 percent and has stayed there, while Giuliani has risen to 49 percent and has basically stayed there.

Her numbers haven't improved, nor have Giuliani's fallen, even during the relentless effort to give him a black eye for his homeless policies over the past two months. The only moment besides the bad joke during which Hillary showed poor judgment on Wednesday night was in choosing to attack the mayor directly on that issue instead of keeping things light and airy when she said that "as senator you can't arrest a homeless person."

That line probably tickled Mary Brosnahan and the city's other homelessness mau-mauers no end, but will do little to rally support for Mrs. Clinton with the relatively tiny 11 percent of New Yorkers who profess themselves as undecided between her and the mayor.

Mrs. Clinton had a good night. But her campaign is still in crisis. It's flat-lined, like a dead patient on a hospital monitor, and the Letterman appearance wasn't quite the shot of adrenalin straight into the heart that Mrs. Clinton needed to get her campaign to show some life again.

Next time, she should try not cheating. But then, her name wouldn't be Hillary Clinton, would it?

John Podhoretz's column appears Tuesdays and Fridays. E-mail: podhoretz@nypost.com

PHOTOCOPY PRESERVATION



Hillary Rodham Clinton banters with David Letterman on his show Wednesday.

Reuters

Night in Hot Seat Turns Into Housewarming

By JOSH GETLIN
TIMES STAFF WRITER

NEW YORK—She survived Dave Letterman, unscathed and with dignity intact. Next up: Al Sharpton.

Hillary Rodham Clinton, continuing the gantlet of New York celebrity politics, swapped one-liners with Letterman on Wednesday and seemed very much at ease before a loudly supportive audience. After weeks of playing cat and mouse with the host of CBS's "Late Show," she finally agreed to appear—and it was clear that Letterman was on his best behavior with the first lady, who is running for a U.S. Senate seat from New York.

"You're interviewing the first lady of the United States tonight," former CBS anchorman Walter Cronkite reminded him in a surprise appearance during Letterman's monologue. "So don't be a jackass."

As the band played "New York State of Mind," Mrs. Clinton strolled on stage and answered familiar questions—why she is running in New York and what she thinks of her probable opponent, New York Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani. Submitting to a "pop quiz" about the Empire State, she answered all five questions about New York correctly, then got off some zingers of her own in a "Top Ten" list of why she decided to appear.

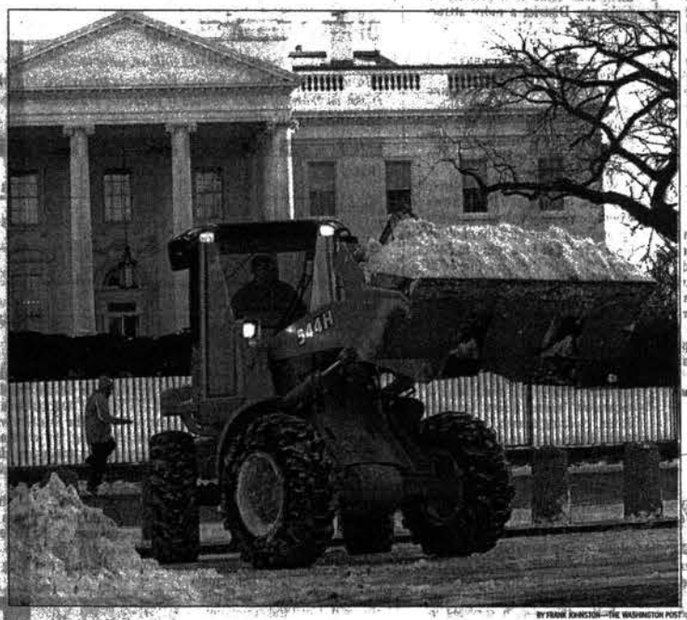
Number 8: "If Dan Quayle did it, how hard could it be?" Number 5: "I needed an excuse to get out of dinner with Donald Trump." And perhaps inevitably, Number 1: "If I can make it here, I can make it anywhere." Aides to Letterman said Mrs. Clinton's list was produced jointly by her staff and the show's writers.

In previous weeks, Letterman had become visibly upset with Mrs. Clinton's campaign aides, who had refused to commit to an appearance on his show. But all was forgiven Wednesday: She gave him a smooch on the cheek at the end of her segment, and he gave her a lawn mower as a gag housewarming gift for her new home in suburban Westchester County.

Aides to Mrs. Clinton can only hope that she gets a similar reception next week in Harlem, when she pays a visit to the Rev. Al Sharpton's headquarters on Martin Luther King Day. Like Letterman, the feisty community leader has grumbled that she has ignored him.

New York Times

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION



BY FRANK JOHNSTON—THE WASHINGTON POST

National Park Service workers use a plow to remove snow from Pennsylvania Avenue in front of the White House.

Just Do It

The Snow's Cold, the Labor's Hard, But Someone's Got to Start Shoveling

By Caryle Murphy
Washington Post Staff Writer

The excuses, er, explanations run the gamut.

It's gonna melt anyway. I didn't really notice the snow. The owner is in Florida. Shoveling is unhealthy. It's the city's job. Someone stole our shovel.

Unshoveled sidewalks bring shame and dishonor in most cities. But for many residents and shop owners in the Washington area, shoveling snow is not yet a universally accepted civic duty, or so it seems.

"Oh my goodness, it's still there," said a surprised Consuelo Aaron, gazing through the window at the inches-high pack of melting snow in front of her art gallery on Connecticut Avenue. "But with the sun, it's getting softer."

The District and many surrounding jurisdictions have laws requiring homeowners and merchants to expeditiously clear their sidewalks of snow. The D.C. law mandates removal within the first eight hours of daylight "after the ceasing to fall of any snow or

See SHOVEL, B5, Col. 1



BY MICHAEL LUTZKY—THE WASHINGTON POST

With pipe and hat, Charles Patterson, 88, performs his civic duty and clears the sidewalk in front of his home on 37th Street NW.

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

Losing the Women

By Lee M. Miringoff

In her recent appearance on "Late Show with David Letterman," Hillary Clinton provided a few chuckles, but also a glimpse into why she has had a bumpy transition from celebrity Clinton to candidate Clinton.

When Mr. Letterman asked what should happen to Elián González, the Cuban child caught in an international custody war, Mrs. Clinton managed to do everything but provide a direct response. She said that the interest of the child should be paramount — a mere sliver of what her ardent supporters have expected from a woman who has always been seen as a strong advocate for children and families.

In this moment lies a clue to the vanishing gender gap in the coming New York Senate race.

A year ago, when the trial balloon for Mrs. Clinton's candidacy first went up, the polls showed strong potential support. A poll by Marist College in January 1999 placed her 10 points ahead of Rudolph Giuliani, her presumed rival. Her lead was fueled by her huge advantage — 24 percent — among women voters, especially those under 45. Her support among women scrambled traditional voting patterns upstate, where the Republican Party is strong.

Now, one year later, she trails Mr. Giuliani by nine points statewide and is only even with him among female voters. In one year, her support among women under 45 dropped 29 points. Her early 28-point lead upstate among women voters is now a 22-point deficit in our polls.

What happened? Mrs. Clinton's core constituency — young, professional women — were initially energized by the opportunity to send a woman to the Senate. They were eager to have the First Lady establish her own political career and triumph in her own right. Many of them saw in her a dedicated advocate for children.

But Mrs. Clinton has offered little to her core constituency. She has not reinforced her image as a crusader for children, nor did she quickly emphasize her differences with Mr. Giuliani on health care, education and the economy.

Instead, Mrs. Clinton has largely tried to out-Rudy Rudy with unsuccessful appeals to New York's diverse ethnic communities. Last summer, she became embroiled in the controversy over clemency for Puerto Rican nationalists. In November, she unwittingly created an international incident when she failed to respond to remarks by Yasir Arafat's wife, Suha Arafat, who during an appearance with Mrs. Clinton made accusations about Israeli policies toward Palestinians.

> Hillary Clinton has let an early gender advantage slip away.

Mrs. Clinton's campaign seems to realize it has gone off track. She has recently attacked Mr. Giuliani's record on education, and the campaign scheduled more meetings with women's groups. And despite her missteps, polls show that she is still just a few points behind Mayor Giuliani, who has yet to declare his own candidacy. To succeed, she needs to be not only less scripted and more forceful but also more focused on her core issues. Removing advocacy from the repertoire is for her what failure to mention New York City's falling crime rates would be for Mr. Giuliani.

Perhaps, when she formally announces her candidacy in the next week, Mrs. Clinton will, as the political consultants are fond of saying, get on message. There's no time to waste. The political clock is ticking.□

Lee M. Miringoff is the director of the Marist College Institute for Public Opinion, a nonpartisan research center in Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

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PRESERVATION

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PRESERVATION

THE NEW YORK TIMES **NATIONAL** FRIDAY, JANUARY 28, 2000

THE OVERVIEW

Clinton Claims Bragging Rights to Nation's Prosperity

Paul Hosefros/The New York Times

At the State of the Union address last night, Hillary Rodham Clinton and the Clintons' daughter, Chelsea, were joined by Hank Aaron, an Atlanta Braves executive who holds baseball's career home run record.

TIME

And Mr. President, Don't Forget to Salute the Mrs.

SO YOU SNOOZED THROUGH THE STATE of the Union, or maybe you were watching *WWF Smackdown* on UPN instead. Here's the lowdown: at 89 minutes, it was the longest personally delivered State of the Union speech ever. (In 1946, Harry Truman sent his 25,000-word message to be read by a clerk. It took more than three hours.) Clinton spoke 9,298 words at 104 words per minute, a leisurely pace compared with his 9,375-word, 116-words-per-minute marathon in 1995, delivered in 81 minutes. The 2000 address received a record 119 ovations. Not one Supreme Court Justice showed up. And after praising Hillary, Clinton mouthed, "I love you" at her—exactly as he did in 1999.

Is There a Person Behind Hillary's Evita Mask?



RICHARD COHEN

BECAUSE she was a woman, she attached herself to an ambitious man. When he came to power, she became his first lady, a renowned feminist and his de facto health minister as well. As his power waned, she struck out on her own. People either loved her or hated her. She is our own Evita. Don't cry for her, Giuliani.

The similarities between Hillary Clinton and Eva Peron are striking. Peron not only became Argentina's health minister, but she also founded the country's feminist party and was broadly resented for her influence. Of course, her private life — not to mention her past — was always a topic of speculation.

But there the similarities end. The Evita of fact, myth and the musical stage was an independent woman and totally — to use the cliche of the moment — authentic. Our Evita shares some of those characteristics but she remains, as she has ever been, inauthentic — not a passionate operatic figure, but a silhouette glimpsed behind a screen. Her third dimension is always hidden.

It is, of course, too soon for anyone to cry for Hillary Clinton. She is behind in the polls, but the election is not until November. She is doing poorly with middle-class women, but this is not a lost constituency, merely an alienated one. Their issues are hers: health care, education, the things it takes to make a village. They wait, as we all do, to see if there is a woman behind that smile.

So far, though, Mrs. Clinton has been as robotic as one of those recorded messages saying what a valued customer you are.

For instance, she allowed a Buffalo radio host to ask about her personal life and then, in the manner of someone pitching a book, soldiered on to her message. "You're going to hate me," the radio guy said before asking if she had ever been "sexually unfaithful" to her husband or, specifically, had an affair with the late Vince Foster.

"Well, you know, Tom, I do hate you for that," Mrs. Clinton responded. She called the question "out of bounds," answered it anyway and then lapsed into politicalese: such a question "diverts attention from really talking about and working on what we can do together to help people."

No! Such a question does not merely "divert attention." Such a question is an outrage, designed not to elicit a response but to draw attention to the host. It is the sort of question this guy would never have asked a man, but you can usually rely on Mrs. Clinton to mimic one of those bottom-weighted dolls. Knock her down with an insult and she pops up with a policy initiative.

Is it any wonder that so many New York women want Hillary Clinton to just go away? She doesn't represent them. The women I know would have told the guy he was being rude, crude and maybe just plain sexist. Would he have put the same question to Rudolph Giuliani, the likely GOP senatorial candidate? Real people get mad when asked if they had an affair with a close friend — in this case, a depressive who killed himself. They don't try to change the subject. They go to the mattresses.

A day earlier, Mrs. Clinton was asked if she intends to stay married to Bill Clinton. She said she does. That time, too, she did not react as you or I might — with anger, shock or by turning on our heels and walking out. Instead, she talked of family and home and her intention to be with Bill until the end of their respective days. The mask was on. Hillary the Hidden had spoken.

It's understandable that people want to know about Hillary Clinton's personal life. Her husband's, after all, nearly cost him the presidency. But not all her business is our business.

The first Evita, the real one, became both a working-class and feminist hero because, to her fans, she had fire, juice — a passion for her causes and a passion for life itself. But our Evita appears emotionless, synthetic — not a role model, but an admonition. It's tough to cry for Hillary Clinton. It's tough even to know who she really is.

NEW YORK POST, THURSDAY, JANUARY 27, 2000

PHOTOCOPY PRESERVATION

JOYCE PURNICK/Metro Matters

The Burdens of Being Hillary Clinton

A TEST for voters, an old one, but it still works.

PART I

Imagine a candidate who is outspoken, opinionated and litigious, who rewards loyalists, assails critics and berates reporters.

Imagine this candidate as a man. See him in your mind's eye (which in this case is not very difficult). What adjectives come to mind? Be honest with yourself. Strong. Aggressive. Tough. Right?

Now imagine this candidate as a woman. The adjectives change a bit, don't they?

PART II

Consider a candidate (male or female) with opinions about everything, who ducks rarely and knows the issues inside-out.

Now consider a candidate who ducks and parries, who rehearses spontaneity and seems frightened of candor.

Which candidate do you prefer?

A month into the Senate election year, and two of Hillary Rodham Clinton's three big problems (see below for the third) are as crystal clear as the ice on her Chappaqua driveway. She had it half-right on Tuesday in Albany, when asked why some New Yorkers do not seem to like her. She cited her positions, adding, "and maybe a little of it is because I'm a woman taking those positions."

Any woman who has ever been in a position of responsibility knows that it is still more difficult for women to succeed than for men. That's just how it is. Women in public life still have to be on their guard. They cannot be as combative or, heaven forfend, emotional. They have to be candid, but not aggressively so. Direct, not cutting.

Sometimes, they just can't win.

Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani can be angry in public and it seems to help. Three years ago, when Vanity Fair ran a nasty, anonymously sourced story claiming that his marriage was in trouble and that he was having an "intimate" relationship with an aide, he angrily denounced the story as "scurrilous" and "untrue," did not directly answer questions about the status of his marriage and said he'd have no more to say. End of episode.

When a radio reporter in Buffalo recently asked Mrs. Clinton if she'd been faithful to her husband, even if she'd been unfaithful with Vincent W. Foster Jr., the Clinton friend and adviser who committed suicide, the protective wall came up. Mrs. Clinton chose her words carefully. She kept her voice even, saying, "Those kinds of questions are really out of bounds, and everybody who knows me knows the answer to those questions." When the reporter pressed her — "Is the answer no?" — she answered, "Well, yes, of course it's no."

> Three big hurdles, two out of a candidate's control.

A pundit or two have argued that she should have lost her temper and refused to answer. Sure. And then the tabloids would have gone on and on asking why didn't she say no? What is she hiding? Critics would have denounced her for unsenatorially losing her cool.

In the artificial game of politics, women simply have to do even heavier role-playing than men.

But why does Mrs. Clinton appear equally careful and calculated when the questions are not personal, when the political burdens of sex are irrelevant? She said in Albany that she had probably alienated some voters because of her positions. But polls show that many voters agree with her. The problem is not her positions, but how she shares them. Gingerly. That does not work with New Yorkers.

NEW YORKERS like attitude. Hyperbole. Confrontation. Equanimity is O.K. for Aspen. New York demands flair.

A few weeks ago, the wordwas that Mrs. Clinton was ready to mix it up. But her ballyhooed appearance with David Letterman, while beautifully performed, was orchestrated. She favors campaign finance reform, but is about to set a record for spending. She favors the "concept" of mayoral control of education, but not with this mayor, and she won't even say whether Elián González should go home to Cuba, punting to the courts.

Mr. Giuliani said weeks ago that the boy should stay here. Agree or disagree, the mayor's got a position.

Mrs. Clinton has given herself a tough job. Not only is she a controversial woman who has to figure how to be guarded but not artificial, she also has a lot of baggage (big problem No. 3): she's got that husband, her health care debacle, the "vast right-wing conspiracy," Whitewater, her commodities deal and a conflict: how can you be a convincing feminist while acting like a female victim in a Jacqueline Susann novel?

Yes, campaigning is harder for a woman. Mrs. Clinton can't change that. Nor can she lose that baggage. But she can control the core of her candidacy — how she conducts herself and talks about issues important to voters. One out of three ain't bad.

The New York Times
THURSDAY, JANUARY 27, 2000

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

INSIDE THE BELTWAY

By John McCaslin

Dees and Finch

What do Morris Dees and Atticus Finch have in common?

Lawyers in Washington found out during a lull between snowstorms this week, as the Bar Association of the District of Columbia honored Mr. Dees, head of the Southern Poverty Law Center, for having "taken the Klan to the cleaners."

As in the Ku Klux Klan, said bar President Jack Olender.

The Heroes in Law recognition at the University of the District of Columbia's David A. Clarke School of Law applauded Mr. Dees' multimillion-dollar lawsuits, their attempt to bankrupt hate groups and their leaders.

Mr. Dees surprised the audience when he revealed that his hero and inspiration is actually a character in fiction, Atticus Finch from Harper Lee's novel "To Kill a Mockingbird."

From the podium, Mr. Dees described a scene from a movie based on the novel in which Finch, played by Gregory Peck, exited the courtroom after having lost a jury verdict against an unjustly accused black man.

As he passed, the blacks segregated in the balcony rose from their seats as a gesture of their respect for Finch. As Mr. Dees recalled the scene, his voice cracked with emotion until he paused to regain his composure.

"I have been in many courtrooms," he resumed, "and I have seen many balconies filled with blacks. I really understood."

Meaningful legislation

An unprecedented meeting will be held Friday in Washington concerning the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), with the objective to make legislation improve government service to the taxpayer.

The day begins with a keynote address by Rep. Steve Horn, California Republican, who will discuss current and future performance measures in government appropriations and agency accountability.

His address will be followed by a panel discussion on the current state of GPRA with three unique perspectives — Congress, the Office of Management and Budget, and government agencies.

Robert Shea, who works with Sen. Fred Thompson, Tennessee Republican, on the Governmental Affairs Committee, will discuss current and future efforts to assess agency performance.

Other participants of the meeting, much of which will be closed to the media, include Walter Groscyk of the Office of Management and Budget; Alan Balutis, deputy chief information officer of the Department of Commerce; and OMB acting Director for Management Deidre Lee.

Buying votes

Now that political wannabe Hillary Rodham Clinton is opening herself up to questions, Thomas Oathout has written to ask her advice on a CD rollover.

"I have CD [certificate of deposit] in an [individual retirement account] coming due in two weeks and I have to decide what to do with it," he tells Mrs. Clinton, who you'll remember cashed in $100,000 from a $1,000 investment almost overnight.



A writer told investment guru Hillary Rodham Clinton how she can buy his vote.

"Hillary, you apparently proved you had great skill and acumen with your $1,000 investment, why did you quit? I mean do the math. After taxes you had $50,000, which reinvested with the same skill and acumen would have been $5 million, which after taxes would have been $25 million, which, reinvested with the same skill and acumen, would have been $250 million . . ."

Before running out of paper, Mr. Oathout calculated that Hillary, skillful at investing as she was, could have pulled in $625 billion from her initial $1,000 investment.

"Help me with that kind of return on my investment and my loyalty is yours," he writes. "And talk about buying my vote."

Bandits and Yankees

Interestingly, far more Americans residing outside the Beltway mailed in definitions of "Inside the Beltway," as readers from both planets were invited to do last week.

Tony Matta, of Austin, Texas, observes:

"Having once lived in Washington, D.C., and having seen our federal government in action (or should I say inaction?), I really cannot imagine Beltway standing for anything other than:

B Bloated
E Elitist
L Lawmakers
T Thoughtlessly
W Wasting
A All
Y Your dollars

While Bob Caro, closer to the coast in Corpus Christi, Texas, says: "Those of us in Texas have always known what Beltway stands for:

B Buncha
E Evil
L Lawyers
T Thieves
W Weasels
A And
Y Yankees.

• *John McCaslin can be reached at 202/636-3284 or by e-mail (mccasl@twtmail.com).*

PHOTOCOPY PRESERVATION



Associated Press

Circus Atmosphere at City Hall

Security officers yesterday removed two protesters from City Hall, where Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani, left, was presenting a proclamation honoring the Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus. The protesters, who threw fake money, were from People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals. The group says the circus mistreats animals.

Mrs. Clinton Attacks Giuliani's Schools Agenda

By RAYMOND HERNANDEZ

COLONIE, N.Y., Jan. 25 — Hillary Rodham Clinton today sharpened her attacks on Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani's education agenda, criticizing his support for school vouchers and suggesting that his attacks on the New York City Board of Education were counterproductive.

Mrs. Clinton never once mentioned the name of her likely opponent in this year's race for the United States Senate. But she left little doubt about her meaning during a speech to members of the State Council of Superintendents.

Earlier in the day, she shrugged off questions by a radio talk show host in Albany, who asked her why she elicited such intense dislike from certain people. She first said it might be because she is a woman but then flippantly added that some people did not like her hair style. Later in the day, she tried to tamp down efforts by Republicans who suggested that she was trying to inject "gender politics" into the race.

Mrs. Clinton sought to keep the focus of her Albany appearances on an issue that she believes will be important. Mr. Giuliani has been highly critical of the city's school board, orchestrating the ouster of Schools Chancellor Rudy Crew in December.

Mrs. Clinton tried to draw clear distinctions between her solutions and the mayor's, saying she would strive to be a constructive force in the debate on how to improve the state's most troubled schools. "When it comes to education, we have real problems," she said. "We have real problems that demand action, not rhetoric or political posturing."

She also reiterated her opposition to school vouchers, something that she believes would undermine the public school system. Mr. Giuliani has long wanted to offer vouchers to parents who want to send their children to private schools.

Mrs. Clinton offered her own prescription for the problems plaguing public schools, focusing at one point on a looming shortage of teachers that schools face. The solution she offered was a plan to make it easier for retirees and professionals from other fields to teach in public schools.

On the talk show on WGY-AM, Don Weeks, the host, asked Mrs. Clinton specifically if she ever wondered why people were "foaming at the mouth" at the mention of her name. After momentary laughter from Mrs. Clinton, Mr. Weeks asked if she "ever tried to understand that venom and does it bother you?"

Mrs. Clinton replied: "I know that it's out there and I think some of it is because of the positions that I've taken and maybe a little of it is because I'm a woman taking those positions. And, maybe some of it is people don't like my hair style. I don't know what it is."

Mr. Giuliani's campaign manager, Bruce Teitelbaum, said: "First, it was a right-wing conspiracy. Then, we were told about a secret network of extremists. Now, Mrs. Clinton is blaming her campaign woes on her gender. What's next?"

After her speech, Mrs. Clinton emphasized that she had only been kidding, "Maybe I'm not tall enough," she said. "Maybe I'm not short enough. You don't know."

PHOTOCOPY PRESERVATION

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PRESERVATION

New York Post, Wednesday, January 26, 2000

A Fine Time For Outrage

Hillary's fans now think personal questions are a no-no



ERIC FETTMANN
ON
WEDNESDAY

Those Hillary supporters, led by Rep. Carolyn Maloney, who denounced those "cheap personal questions" that were thrown in Mrs. Clinton's face by an upstate radio shock jock are probably right — albeit for all the wrong reasons.

"Enough is enough — let's stop that type of interviewing," blared Maloney, who added that she was launching a "media privacy watch" to monitor press coverage of various campaigns.

Even within the news media, there was revulsion over Tom Bauerle's demands that Hillary Clinton answer his questions about infidelity and past drug use. CBS News veteran Bob Schieffer declaimed on-air that "amongst the reporters I've talked to, they all seem to agree that it was out of bounds. I haven't talked to a single reporter who thinks that was a proper question."

Nor was Schieffer alone in such sentiments. "It's just out of bounds, it really isn't necessary," said Newsweek's media writer, Jonathan Alter, who called Bauerle's question about Hillary and the late Vince Foster "a real, real low." NBC's Andrea Mitchell was noticeably disturbed by the "rather rude questions from some reporters" who followed up Bauerle's themes.

"Veteran political reporters say the latest questions about Mrs. Clinton are below the belt," declared CBS correspondent Diana Olick. "In the past few days, she's been asked about the future of her marriage, her own fidelity and if she's ever smoked pot or used cocaine. What does all that have to do with being a senator from New York?"

(As always, I'm indebted to the Media Research Center for monitoring TV newscasts and compiling these quotes.)

Like Maloney & Co., Olick and her colleagues aren't wrong, of course. There is something profoundly humiliating about the political process having been reduced to a moral inquisition.

But there's no blanket rule here, either. The fact that JFK shared a mistress with the head of the Chicago mob can't be considered irrelevant to his job performance as president.

But you have to wonder why Maloney and the media have erupted in righteous indignation just now, when Hillary is on the hot seat. George W. Bush found himself besieged by reporters last year on the question of *his* possible past drug use, even though no one has presented any evidence whatsoever.

Yet Steve Roberts of U.S. News and World Report told us that "we in the press have an enormous obligation to help the voters understand the ... morality and the character" of candidates for high office, "and there is only one way we can do that, and that is to explore the judgments that they have made in the past."

> **"Yes, it's time to move the news media out of the bedroom — but it shouldn't be predicated on who's feeling the heat."**

OK, so maybe when it comes to alleged cocaine use, that's a legitimate inquiry. But private, consensual sexual behavior has to be off limits, right? Tell that to Gov. Bush's father, the former president. In 1987, he was hounded by reporters investigating what turned out to be a fallacious rumor that he'd had an affair with a former staff member.

CNN's Mary Tillotson asked the president flat out about the supposed affair during a live, nationally broadcast press conference, saying she was justified "because you've said that family values and character are likely to be important in the presidential campaign." Despite Bush's denial, NBC's Stone Phillips asked the same question later that day during an Oval Office interview.

Did their colleagues tsk-tsk about rude, out-of-bounds inquiries? Of course not — CNN Vice President Ed Turner defended Tillotson, saying "it's the role of the reporter to ask questions. What comes out of them determines the news value."

And who, by the way, was pushing reporters to probe deeply into George Bush's rumored peccadilloes? Why, none other than Hillary Clinton! Talking to her friend Gail Sheehy for a 1992 Vanity Fair profile, Mrs. Clinton complained: "I don't understand why nothing's ever said about a George Bush girlfriend." As Sheehy writes in her new biography of the first lady, Mrs. Clinton "purposefully planted a toxic tidbit in my tape recorder."

What about the furor a few years back surrounding Mayor Giuliani's supposed affair with a top aide? Back then, reporters were taken to task for *not* pursuing the story; The Washington Post's Howard Kurtz called it "the story that every New York reporter believes but few have dared to hint at in print."

On CNN, Kurtz added: "Ultimately, it seems to me that readers and viewers in New York were being deprived of something that was common knowledge in the journalistic community" — although the Times' Maureen Dowd and others did their best to repair the problem.

Where was the outrage about "cheap personal questions"? Where were the demands to "stop that type of interviewing"?

In fact, the blatant partisanship of such demands was in evidence at the Maloney press conference, where Councilwoman Mary Pinkett, while denouncing the questions to Hillary, said "reporters should also go after Mayor Giuliani" about his marriage.

Yes, it's time to move the news media out of the bedroom — but it shouldn't be predicated on who's feeling the heat.

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POLITICS

Now That She's In, Mrs. Clinton Needs to Shed Outsider Role

1 of 2



Hillary Rodham Clinton, with president at new home in Chappaqua, N.Y., where the carpetbagging issue hasn't caught fire.

Carpetbagging isn't seen as an issue in her Senate quest. But she needs to make New Yorkers 'feel that she is truly one of them.'

By JOSH GETLIN
TIMES STAFF WRITER

NEW YORK—As the New York U.S. Senate race heats up, Republicans are directing heavy fire at a candidate who has no roots in the Empire State and whose political ambition is a ripe target. Yet others dismiss the whole carpetbagger issue as "truly ridiculous," hoping that "cosmopolitan New Yorkers can rise above such a provincial attitude," according to one writer.

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton may take solace from these words as she unpacks boxes in her newly purchased home in suburban Westchester County—but the author won't be cheering her on this fall. For the year was 1964, the carpetbagging Senate candidate was Robert F. Kennedy and the writer was a Manhattan College student (and liberal Democrat) named Rudolph W. Giuliani.

Today, Giuliani is the Republican mayor of New York and Clinton's likely opponent in the November election. He routinely belittles her as an outsider who does not understand New York, and his supporters have brushed off his earlier comments, noting that political attitudes can change.

Issue Rarely Affects Outcome of Campaigns

But so do addresses, say a host of political observers, suggesting that the carpetbagger issue, while undeniably potent with some voters, is rarely the kind of attack that by itself determines the outcome of a campaign, in New York or anywhere else. It didn't hurt Kennedy, who won by more than 700,000 votes, and Clinton hopes the state's history of welcoming political outsiders will also be a factor in her race.

"It's hard to base a campaign against your opponent on the carpetbagging issue, especially in New York, because millions of voters here are newcomers in one way or another," said George Arzt a veteran New York political consultant. "New York has a long tradition of welcoming people. . . . It's almost expected that you're going to be from someplace else."

Moving from one place to another is an American tradition. About 16% of the population moves each year—about 40 million people, more than any other country—according to the Census Bureau. The majority leave cities for suburbs, but before Clinton takes comfort in such demographic trends, she has much bigger problems to confront, says John Mollenkopf, professor of political science at the City University of New York.

"The first lady needs to articulate a better vision of who she is and what she stands for, so New Yorkers will feel that she is truly one of them," he said, noting that Giuliani leads her, 49% to 40%, in the latest poll by the Marist Institute for Public Opinion. The mayor led her among white female voters—an astonishing fact to many observers who expected Clinton to exploit a gender gap.

In a Daily News poll released Friday, however, Giuliani and Clinton were in a statistical dead heat, with the mayor holding a 46%-to-44% lead. Meanwhile, as she increased the tempo of her campaign, Clinton underwent bruising press interviews. She denied rumors she intends to separate from President Clinton or that she had ever used drugs. Tying

PHOTOCOPY PRESERVATION

PHOTOCOPY
RESERVATION

Los Angeles Times
Tuesday, Jan 25, 2000

said, "and I don't think we've seen anything like that."

The issue inflames Clinton's die-hard opponents, but it hasn't caught fire in Chappaqua, the first couple's new home, because relatively few residents have put down longtime roots. As Manhattanites moved in during recent years, lured by elegant homes and excellent schools, the population has grown to more than 11,000. The upscale community, 35 miles north of New York, looks more like a leafy village than a suburb, with small shops and semi-rural neighborhoods—but it is filled with big-city lawyers, stockbrokers and other new arrivals.

Ever since the first couple moved in, residents have expressed sharply differing views of Mrs. Clinton's campaign. But few have said her outsider status would change many votes in a town where so many people hail from other places. Indeed, many believe that what Mrs. Clinton does, if anything, to blend into her new community may have more of an impact.

"There's a lot of goodwill toward her here," said Susan Wiseman, an attorney and mother of two who moved to Chappaqua 18 months ago. "But I think she needs to look as if she's part of the community somehow, to get involved."

Few seem to be harping on the residency issue, and that includes die-hard opponents. "I am a lifelong Republican, I have lived here 27 years, and I won't support her," said Patsy Kuntz, who plans to move to Vermont within two years. "But that [the carpetbagger question] is not the main reason. It's just that I disagree with her on so many issues."

On the Democratic side of the fence, attorney Bruce Cohen (late of Scarsdale and Manhattan) says too much has been made of the residency issue, suggesting that "the bottom line is what a candidate thinks, not how long she's lived here."

If they're riled about anything, Chappaquetians grumble about the long traffic delays they've been experiencing since the Clintons moved into their $1.7-million Dutch Colonial on a cul-de-sac just off a main road. They worry that hordes of gawking tourists will destroy their hard-earned privacy.

"The other day, when Hillary was in town, a school bus was stuck in traffic for 40 minutes," said Leslie Fitts, who recently moved to Chappaqua after 38 years in Southern California. "You also hear skeptical talk about her just moving in and running for Senate. It's in the back of some peoples' minds, but what she's doing is perfectly legal."

While voters have said in several surveys that Hillary Clinton's biggest negative is her lack of New York roots, many pollsters believe these are people who already oppose her. In the most recent Marist survey, 53% said they were concerned by her recent arrival, but 52% liked the fact that she had moved to Chappaqua. This split has prompted some GOP strategists to approach the carpetbagging issue with great caution.

'A Steppingstone to the U.S. Presidency?'

"I think countless New Yorkers hear the carpetbagger charge and they say, 'Hello? *I'm* from somewhere else, my *family* was from somewhere else,' so it doesn't resonate all that much with them," says Jay Severin a GOP political consultant. "If this charge is going to stick, Republicans should make it part of a larger question: Is she going to stay here? Or is this a steppingstone to the U.S. presidency?"

Beyond New York, numerous outsiders have fought off carpetbagging charges to win office. In Arizona, a war hero named John McCain was blasted for moving to Tucson in 1982 for the sole purpose of winning a congressional seat; he triumphed, telling voters that, as an Army brat and POW during the Vietnam War, Hanoi was where he had lived the longest.

In California, Republican Rep. Robert K. Dornan moved into Orange County in 1984 after reapportionment squeezed him out of his Los Angeles district; he went on to beat a longtime incumbent. Currently, the 20th Congressional District seat in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., is held by Peter Deutsch, a New Yorker who graduated from Yale Law School in June 1982, moved to Florida and six months later was elected to the state Legislature.

Assuming the residency issue fades, Hillary Clinton will have much bigger issues to confront, such as her surprising lack of support among New York women, said Wiseman. "Maybe it's because of all the scandals," she noted, "or the fact that women can often judge women more harshly than men."

To put on a more human face, the first lady might try to become a familiar figure around town, Wiseman suggested. "Maybe she can make a speech at the high school, or invite people over for tea. But I don't think I'll run into her at Starbucks—there's a limit to how neighborly she can be."

to steer the debate back to the issues, she said such personal questions were out of bounds.

"She's got some rough sledding ahead," Mollenkopf said, but he stressed that while the residency question will play a role in the race—some experts expect the Giuliani campaign to run a TV political spot showing Hillary Clinton awkwardly putting on a Yankee baseball cap—it will probably not be a killer issue.

Under New York law, Senate candidates need only be a resident on election day. And Clinton is not the first to campaign as a newcomer. In fact, New York's first U.S. senator, Rufus King, was a longtime Massachusetts resident who moved into the state just before his election in 1792.

Yet Clinton's campaign is "unquestionably one of the purest forms of carpetbagging we've seen," said Alan Ehrenhalt, editor of Governing magazine. He noted that Kennedy had at least grown up in nearby Bronxville and that James Buckley, a longtime Connecticut resident who won a New York Senate seat in 1970, practiced law in New York for 14 years. "Mrs. Clinton had no roots here; she began her campaign before she even moved into the state," Ehrenhalt

Hill: Hair's why folks hate me

By Gregg Birnbaum in Albany and Kirsten Danis in New York

ALBANY — First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton said yesterday some people despise her because she is a woman who takes stands on the issues — or maybe they just don't like her hairstyle.

Asked on an Albany radio show about critics who just can't stand her, Clinton said, "I know that it's there.

"I think some of it is because of the positions I've taken, and maybe a little bit of it is because I'm a woman taking those positions," she added.

Laughing, she continued, "Maybe some of it is people don't like my hairstyle. I don't know what it is."

Recent polls have found that about half the state's voters have an unfavorable opinion of the first lady. The number has risen significantly since Clinton started her campaign last summer.

Mayor Giuliani's campaign spokeswoman, Kim Serafin, scoffed, "First, it was a vast right-wing conspiracy. Then we were told about a secret network of extremists. Now Hillary Clinton is blaming her latest campaign woes on her gender."

Giuliani declined to scalp the first lady for her quip.

"I'm not going to touch any hair stories," the spare-haired mayor said. "I got my hat on."

Clinton's aides quickly sought to downplay her gender remarks — the first time in New York she has made that charge.

The first lady told reporters afterward that she was only joking.

"It could be a million reasons" some people can't stomach her, she said. "There's no way to determine."

New York has never elected a woman to statewide office — something Clinton said must change.

"I think it would be great if New York joined the rest of the country in electing a woman statewide in the 21st century," Clinton said.



COOTCHIE-COO: Hillary Rodham Clinton keeps 10-month-old William Colpoys amused at an appearance in Albany, where she also wondered in a radio interview whether voters dislike her for her gender or hairstyle. AP

PHOTOCOPY PRESERVATION

She en-genders own woes, then blames others



ANDREA PEYSER

HILLARY, Hillary, Hillary.

She just doesn't get it. And probably never will.

Hillary Clinton was up to her tired, old tricks yesterday, blaming things beyond her control for all the failings and fiascoes that have plagued her almost-campaign. Things that are very much in her control.

Trying to explain on an Albany radio show why so many New Yorkers are "foaming at the mouth" — the host's words — at the mention of her name, Mrs. Clinton insulted New Yorkers by accusing them of sexism.

"I think some of it is because of the positions that I've taken and maybe a little of it is because I'm a woman taking those positions," said Mrs. C.

Then, displaying that rapier-like wit she unveiled for David Letterman, Hillary added:

"And maybe some of it is people don't like my hairstyle."

She's got that one wrong. Her hair looks fabulous.

Maybe Hillary just can't help herself. She has gotten so accustomed to blaming others for Clinton crimes and blunders that casting herself as the victim has become reflexive. Not to mention, insulting to women.

And infantile.

Bill didn't cheat. He was the victim of the "vast, right-wing conspiracy," Hillary told the nation.

Bill couldn't help himself with Monica Lewinsky. He was the victim of a mother and grandmother who fought all the time, Hillary told a magazine.

In the old days, Hillary talked the feminist talk. She was less a first lady than a co-president, a Yalie lawyer the equal of any man. She denigrated women who stayed home and baked cookies, even taking a shot at Tammy Wynette for suggesting a woman "Stand By Your Man."

But that was in the bad-hair days. Before her health-care plan crashed and burned, before her hands were caught in Filegate, Travelgate, Monicagate, and her marriage was revealed to be a sham. When times are tough, Hillary finds safe harbor in playing the martyr, seeking pity when a true adult equal would accept her lumps.

And, like Monica Lewinsky and Linda Tripp, two girlie gals who spruced up their outward appearances to compensate for deep inner flaws, Mrs. Clinton is not above seeking a new 'do now and again to perk herself up when she falls on her face.

But it's become clear that this focus on her outer shell isn't doing Mrs. Clinton much good. She is limping today not because of her hair or gender, but because of her own ill-conceived actions and words.

Hillary's visit to the Rev. Al Sharpton's National Action Network on Jan. 17, an event endlessly deconstructed by the media, was stunning not so much because the crackpot Rev. Charles Norris threw around the word "Jew" like a curse. In this company, what would you expect?

What was so egregious was the way Hillary took pains to appear so gosh-darned surprised at the fallout.

Is she really so naive to believe that she can walk into the den of Al Sharpton and walk out unscathed? Remember, this is the man who stood in front of Freddy's Fashion Mart in Harlem with a bullhorn, calling the Jewish landlords "white interlopers" — immediately before the store was burned to the ground.

Sitting in the auditorium, I was offended not so much by the undercurrent of anti-Semitism, but by Hillary's clumsy attempts to pander to the crowd.

Speaking about affirmative action, Mrs. Clinton argued that blacks have difficulty getting mortgages, while "there are too many places where a white person got an advantage" — a curious statement from a

See PETYSER on Page 29

Hillary always blames others

PETYSER from Page 2

woman who got a mortgage on a Chappaqua estate that, under normal circumstances, she could never afford.

Rather than suffer from gender discrimination, Hillary, as the career wife of a powerful man, has always enjoyed preferential treatment. But the princess act doesn't fly when you run for office in a place like New York.

Here, when you screw up, you can't point your fingers and stomp your feet like a child.

If you want to make it here, Hillary, you're going to have to grow up.

PHOTOCOPY PRESERVATION

First lady has a bad 'air' day, too

By ROBERT HARDT Jr.

EXCLUSIVE

A North Carolina congressman is accusing Hillary Rodham Clinton of appropriating a government jet that was scheduled to take a congressional fact-finding mission to Latin America.

Rep. Cass Ballenger (R-N.C.) says taxpayers were unnecessarily billed thousands of dollars when his four-member delegation last week was forced to fly two small Air Force planes on a trip to Latin America rather than a larger plane he had reserved in December.

Clinton last week used an Air Force jet to fly from Washington to New York City and Buffalo, where she was campaigning for Senate.

Ballenger's delegation consisted of Rep. Mark Souder (R-Ind.), Rep. Bill Delahunt (D-Mass.), Rep. Sam Farr (D-Calif.), Ballenger's wife, two staff members, and two military escorts.

Ballenger told The Post his group reserved a Gulfstream Air Force jet that seats 14 people.

Instead, Ballenger said, the delegation had to use two six-seat planes for the trip, which ended Jan. 22.

Farr, Souder and Ballenger traveled to flood-ravaged Venezuela to discuss disaster relief, and to Colombia, Mexico and Guatemala to talk about each country's drug-interdiction policies. Delahunt joined the group in Caracas.

"It just really ticked me off that here we were doing legitimate work and Hillary had to grab our plane so she can run for Senate," Ballenger said.

The Air Force did not return repeated calls, over two days, seeking comment.

Howard Wolfson, Clinton's campaign spokesman, said Ballenger's claims are false, but he wouldn't elaborate, citing security.

Albany, Senate Rivals ross Swords, if Not Paths

y RICHARD PÉREZ-PEÑA

BANY, Jan. 24 — Hillary Rod- Clinton today compared the -raising tactics of Rudolph W. ani to those of Senator Jesse ns, and the New York mayor, in onse, dared her to try to paint as a right-wing extremist.

rs. Clinton and Mr. Giuliani, the umed candidates for the United es Senate, and their surrogates ed barbs throughout a day in h both of them passed through State Capitol without crossing s. For Mrs. Clinton, it was an- r chance to suggest that the or was too conservative for New k State.

n Sunday, The New York Times orted that Mr. Giuliani's Senate paign had made extensive use of -raising mailings to conserva- s in other states. The tone of the eals was far more hostile toward . Clinton than were his mailings lew York State.

I think he's learned from people Jesse Helms," Mrs. Clinton said n morning appearance in White ins, "that you run some of these npaigns, these negative cam- gns, out of state so that you can go und saying you're not doing it in- te and hope that nobody will catch . That seems to be the pattern it's been a pretty tried-and-true hnique of the right-wing Republi- s for a long time."

sked about her comments here s evening, she said, "I did not npare anyone to Jesse Helms," North Carolina Republican. But n, citing press reports, she added t Mr. Giuliani was relying on ailing lists from "far-right organi- tions" and that the tactic was "a llmark of what Senator Helms has ne for years."

At a news conference with Gov. eorge E. Pataki, the mayor, laugh- g, said, "She said it was part of a ght-wing conspiracy, right?" That as a reference to Mrs. Clinton's sertion, early in the Lewinsky in- stigation, that there was "vast ght-wing conspiracy" against her sband.

"You've got a right-wing conspir- y again," said Mr. Giuliani, who is nerally regarded — certainly by ost Republicans — as a moderate. That's going to be an interesting ne to try to sell. Yogi Berra has an xpression for that: 'déjà vu all over gain.' I'm a lot of things, but you're oing to try to put that label on me, ive it a try. We'll see if that one oesn't backfire."

The mayor was here for his annual emarks to the Legislature about the tate budget, while Mrs. Clinton ame at the invitation of Assembly peaker Sheldon Silver for a private uestion-and-answer session with Democratic lawmakers.

Mr. Giuliani's fellow Republicans, the governor and Joseph L. Bruno, the Senate majority leader, accused Mrs. Clinton of trying to upstage the mayor. "There's no question in my mind that the fact that the first lady chose today to come is because she doesn't want people to hear the positive message of the successful record of Mayor Giuliani," Mr. Pataki said.

Mrs. Clinton noted that Mr. Silver had arranged the visit and said, "At last count, I've been in upstate New York in the last six months more than 30 times, and I've never run into the mayor on any of those trips."

After her meeting, several Democratic legislators said they were gravely concerned about the state of her campaign, with Mrs. Clinton trailing in public opinion surveys and fund-raising. Some lawmakers from New York City, usually the most fertile ground for a Democrat, said they thought that the mayor would win their districts.

Pataki accuses Mrs. Clinton of trying to upstage Giuliani.

Earlier in the day, at Sam's, a restaurant in White Plains, Mrs. Clinton, a new resident of nearby Chappaqua, gave the most detailed description to date of her environmental agenda, in a speech before a mostly sympathetic audience of 100 people invited by groups including the Sierra Club and the League of Conservation Voters.

She said she would vote to ratify the Kyoto Protocol, a 1997 treaty calling for worldwide cuts in emissions of gases that are thought to cause global warming. The Clinton administration has signed the treaty, but the Senate has refused to ratify it. She also said she would push for legislation to curb acid rain.

Mr. Giuliani again tried to distance himself from the failings of the New York City schools system and disparaged "the bureaucratic infrastructure that is so damaging, where job protection is put ahead of helping children." He reiterated his contention that he should be given control of the schools, telling a joint Assembly-Senate committee, "Do away with the Board of Education."

Mrs. Clinton said: "It's appeared to me that the mayor's had control of the schools. He's hired and fired two chancellors."

PHOTOCOPY PRESERVATION

TUESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2000



David Jennings for The New York Times

Sheldon Silver, speaker of the New York State Assembly, introduced

So, what questions *do* you ask 'rapist's' wife?



LAST week, a friend was leaving a lunch in Midtown when he got caught up in a hubbub on the street. Hillary Clinton was also departing from a lunch date, and the crowds were agog.

"I wanted to scream out, 'What about Juanita Broaddrick!'" he said. "But I couldn't bring myself to do it. I'm not sure what the right thing to do was."

A gentleman can never go wrong by resisting the temptation to yell the equivalent of "Your husband is a rapist!" at a woman on the street. Even those who consider Hillary a menace to society winced when an upstate radio host asked the first lady if she used to boink poor, dead Vince Foster.

"People are mean," she complained to Talk magazine last year. "I think it's a real disservice, the way we sort of strip away everybody's sense of dignity, of privacy. People need support, not disdain."

See **DREHER** *on Page 20*

What *do* you ask Hillary?

DREHER *from Page 6*

True — to a point. Nobody wants to have the first lady (or Mayor Giuliani) discuss the details of their sex lives. Beyond that, the personal is unavoidably political with Hillary Clinton.

Her private actions have affected public affairs, and what they reveal about her character is very much the public's business.

Hillary Clinton, a candidate for U.S. Senate, has a whole lot of 'splainin' to do. If anyone wants to shout something at her on the street — or ask it politely in an interview — consider the following queries:

When are you going to apologize to the Vast Right-Wing Conspiracy?

The uncovering of the Lewinsky frock uniquely initialed by her husband ultimately proved nearly everything the president's alleged enemies charged. Does Hillary still consider the sex, lies and manifest corruption rampant in her husband's White House somebody else's fault?

What about Filegate?

Nine-hundred private FBI files containing personal information about Republicans were obtained by the Clinton White House. Sworn testimony indicates that the first lady played a key role in ordering the Nixonian violation of privacy. Hillary wants her privacy respected, yet there's reason to believe she cared nothing for the privacy of her presumed political adversaries.

What about the billing records?

Hillary claimed that she did only the slightest bit of work for the failed Madison Guaranty savings-and-loan. Investigators suspected otherwise, and subpoenaed the firm's billing records — which mysteriously disappeared. They turned up two years later in the White House, and proved Hillary had been neck-deep in Madison's affairs. Oddly enough, the statute of limitations under which Hillary could have been held responsible in civil court expired two days before the records were found.

Why did you try to ruin the lives of the Travel Office staff?

An investigation has found that Hillary was far more directly involved in the illegal firings of the White House Travel Office staffers than she initially admitted. She may even have lied under oath to cover her tracks.

What kind of feminist are you, anyway?

Hillary has been puffed as a feminist icon, yet she has acted like the ultimate doormat wife, craven to her loutish husband for position in the world.

"I want to be judged on my own merits," Hillary has said. Well, what has she done in public life that didn't depend on her husband's power and place? She has stood by her man even as he harassed or carried on with other women, and even defended him as his henchmen then tried to destroy those women's reputations — and, perhaps worse, (think of the threats Kathleen Willey received) when they dared to speak out.

On second thought: hell yeah: *What about Juanita Broaddrick?*

e-mail: dreher@nypost.com

New York Post
Tuesday June 25, 2000

Giuliani Outpaced Clinton in Donations

New York City Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani's (R) undeclared Senate campaign raised $4 million more than that of Hillary Rodham Clinton (D) last year, collecting a record pre-election year total of close to $12 million for a contest expected to be the year's costliest.

The first lady's campaign said late yesterday that she had collected about $8 million since last July, when she began her unprecedented Senate bid with her husband still in the White House. Giuliani had a fund-raising head start over Clinton, raising $2.1 million by June 30. He still outdid her in the six months after she started running.

The year-end figures released yesterday also showed that the mayor has significantly more left in the bank than Clinton, with about $8 million cash, compared with $4.5 million to $5 million for Clinton.

Still, Giuliani campaign manager Bruce J. Teitelbaum said in an interview that he expects to be outmatched by Clinton. "The Clinton campaign has boasted that they will raise $25 million or more, and we have no doubt they're going to raise more than us because of the incredible fund-raising apparatus available to them nationwide," he said.

Clinton's campaign manager played down the mayor's higher totals. "By any measure, both campaigns have hit a record for an off year," Bill de Blasio said. He attributed the first lady's higher rate of spending to the fact that Giuliani has been relying on his mayoral staff and a bare-bones campaign operation, saying, "We have an operation that pays for itself. We do not have a City Hall to work the campaign out of."

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

Rudy's L-word jab so 'right,' it's wrong: Hill

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton yesterday accused Mayor Giuliani of getting down and dirty on the campaign trail — and insisted she's no liberal.

"A lot of these names and labels they're trying to stick on me are purely for the sake of stirring up the right wing," Clinton said at a stop in White Plains, charging that Giuliani would be "beholden to the far right."

In Albany, Giuliani mocked Clinton, saying, "I think the 'right-wing conspiracy' thing is hilarious ... That's *deja vu* all over again."

Giuliani was referring to the first lady's well-known — and much-criticized — statement in a TV interview in 1998, during the Monica Lewinsky scandal, that she and President Clinton were the victims of a "vast right-wing conspiracy."

By GREGG BIRNBAUM and FREDRIC U. DICKER

Mrs. Clinton's barbs at Giuliani came after the mayor's recent direct-mail fund-raising letters, which blast the first lady as an "ultra-liberal" and promoter of a "radical agenda" of higher taxes and spending.

She said the left-wing label doesn't fit.

"I think it's going to be very important for the people of New York to know I supported welfare reform," she said. "I support the New Democrat agenda."

Giuliani's fund-raising appeals should worry New Yorkers, Mrs. Clinton said.

"The people of New York are going to be asking themselves come next November, 'Do I want to vote for someone who is going to be beholden to the far right of the Republican Party and fringe groups because they helped raise all this money, or do I want someone who is going to listen to New Yorkers?'" the first lady said.

Mrs. Clinton yesterday visited the state Capitol to meet behind closed doors with Democratic legislators. Gov. Pataki accused her of trying to upstage Giuliani, who earlier in the day had testified before a legislative committee about the impact on the city of the proposed state budget.

"She doesn't want the people to hear the positive message of the successful record of Mayor Giuliani," Pataki said in a news conference with the mayor.

In another development, Mrs. Clinton said she had not seen a full-page ad in yesterday's Post that purported to be an open letter to the first lady from the drowned mother of raft boy Elian Gonzalez.

The ad, which was paid for by the anti-Castro Jorge Mas Canosa group in Miami, appealed to the first lady to keep Elian in the country and "take my son into your village."

White House is Hill's campaign HQ / Morris: P. 31

Giuliani, Clinton rake it in

Likely contenders set money records

By Martha T. Moore
USA TODAY



By David Duprey, AP

Bingo! Hillary Rodham Clinton and Cheektowaga, N.Y., Town Supervisor Dennis Gabryszak

NEW YORK — In what's shaping up as a high-stakes Senate race, the players have revealed their opening stacks of chips: Mayor Rudy Giuliani has raised nearly $12 million for his expected campaign, and his likely opponent, first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, has raised $8 million.

The war chests, announced by the campaigns Wednesday, set records for a Senate candidate in the year before the election, topping the $6.6 million raised in 1997 by then-senator Al D'Amato.

The campaigns must file detailed fundraising reports for 1999 with the Federal Election Commission by Jan. 31. Clinton and Giuliani are expected to raise as much as $25 million apiece by the time the race is over in November.

Clinton, who said Wednesday that she'll make a formal announcement Feb. 6, declared her intent to run in November and has been raising money since June. Her campaign manager, Bill de Blasio, attributed Giuliani's larger war chest to the "advantages of his incumbency."

"The mayor has clearly tapped into a national network of well-funded right-wing donors intent on keeping Hillary Clinton's progressive policies from the Senate," de Blasio said.

Giuliani hasn't formally announced that he's running for Senate. However, he has spent $800,000 for TV ads in upstate cities and has been raising money since March, including fundraising trips to California, Las Vegas and Little Rock, as well as upstate. He also has run an aggressive direct-mail campaign nationwide, his aides said.

In those fundraising letters, Giuliani has tried to play on so-called "Clinton fatigue" to fill his Senate coffers.

"I'm writing to you because I think you'll agree with me when I say that eight years of the Clintons in Washington has been more than enough," the Republican mayor says in a letter that describes Hillary Clinton as "the leader of the ultra left-wing Democrats."

The Clinton campaign did not provide details of its fundraising. Giuliani's campaign fund received contributions from more than 90,000 donors, 63% of whom gave $100 or less, said Bruce Teitelbaum, head of Giuliani's exploratory committee. The committee has more than $7 million cash on hand.

"People are giving us money because they see the difference in New York (City)," Teitelbaum said.

Campaigning Wednesday in western New York, Clinton faced questions on sex and drugs rather than money.

A Buffalo radio host asked Clinton whether she had been unfaithful to her husband. "I think those questions are out of bounds," Clinton responded. Pressed on whether the answer was no, she added, "Of course it's 'no.'"

The radio host, Tom Bauerle of WGR-FM, also asked Clinton whether she had used drugs.

"Tom, what did you have breakfast for this morning?" Clinton said before responding "no" to the question. "We ought to be talking about bringing good jobs to western New York and health care and child care."

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

New York Post, Thurs, Jan 20, 2000

Rudy: Hill's a relic of days city 'left' behind

By FREDRIC U. DICKER
State Editor

ALBANY — Mayor Giuliani yesterday charged that Hillary Rodham Clinton has the "extreme left-wing way of looking at things" that once brought New York City to its knees.

"In other words, basically what was going on in this city, a tremendous amount of homelessness, a tremendous amount of crime, a million people on welfare," Giuliani said of the first lady, his likely Democratic opponent in the Senate race.

"Sort of the philosophy that says, 'People have a right to live on the street' . . . as opposed to my philosophy, which I consider to be the philosophy of accountability . . .

"I think it's the classic difference between the left-wing thinking, which used to govern the city and state, and a much more progressive way of looking at things, which says people have responsibilities," Giuliani said during an interview on WROW radio in Albany.

Clinton spokesman Howard Wolfson strongly denied Giuliani's charge, insisting "Hillary is a new Democrat who supports balanced budgets, tax cuts and the death penalty."

Giuliani's pointed attack is expected to become a centerpiece of his Senate campaign strategy.

"I think throughout this campaign you're going to see a big philosophical difference between the old fashioned classical left-wing thinking, which I think Mrs. Clinton at least so far has been embracing, and a more progressive way of looking at things which have made governments, particularly New York City, much more accountable," said Giuliani.

The mayor said he would like to have a "certain number of debates" with Clinton in order to "lay out thoughts, ideas and thinking."



MAYOR GIULIANI
Wants to debate Hillary.

Campaigning From Home

The White House is Hillary's campaign headquarters

In its long and varied tenure as the residence of presidents, the White House has been burned by the British and trashed by Andrew Jackson's inaugural guests. Woodrow Wilson used it as a romantic lair to court Edith after the death of his wife. James Buchanan used it as a bachelor pad. Bill Clinton rented it out to raise money. Under Warren Harding and Harry Truman it accommodated a weekly poker game. For Winston Churchill it was a guest house at the invitation of FDR and Eleanor.

Now it's a Senate campaign headquarters for Hillary Clinton.

Substantively, President Clinton has turned federal policy-making into an exercise in advancing his wife's campaign. Stylistically, the social life at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue has become an instrument of fund-raising for the first lady's New York Senate race.

Bill Clinton is running the presidency as if it were the governorship of New York. After seven years of neglect, Clinton has allocated new funding for low-income housing. He's pardoned FALN terrorists. He banned live ammunition tests from the Vieques, Puerto Rico, Navy training grounds. Medicare reimbursements to New York teaching hospitals have been expanded after Clinton cut them back in 1996. Homelessness has become a White House preoccupation for the first time. New funding is available for capital improvements in New York.

Forgetting for a moment that she is not supposed to let people know that she is the president, Hillary muses out loud that if the police are acquitted in the Diallo shooting, she may find a "federal role" in the case. Presumably after she did so, the attorney general, having felt the heat, would see the light.

Meanwhile, the first lady has organized the social whirl at the nation's center to accommodate the requisites of campaign fund raising. The millennium celebration in Washington was nothing more and nothing less than a campaign event.

Seated with the first lady, at her table, was Dennis Rivera, New York local president of the Service Employees International Union, a $10,000 campaign donor with 300,000 members in New York. Also at her table was Bernard Schwartz, who heads the Loral Corporation. Schwartz was invited despite the fact that his New York based company is under Justice Department investigation for sharing satellite technology secrets with the Chinese. He and his wife have donated $40,000 in soft money to Hillary Clinton's campaign. If Wen Ho Lee had been similarly generous, one wonders if he might not have gotten an invitation too.



DICK MORRIS ON TUESDAY

At least seven of Hillary's other contributors attended the millennium bash, but many more may have been in attendance. The first lady and the National Park Service Foundation, under her thumb, has only seen fit to tell us the names of 288 of the guests at the 10 events in the capital. Many thousands more reportedly attended. The first lady even refuses to release the names of more than 600 people invited for dancing at the White House. So much for it being the "people's house"?

Mrs. Clinton's campaign aide, the president, also hosted donors at his table including Sugar Daddy Terry McAuliffe (who initially guaranteed the Clintons' mortgage) and Walter Shorenstein, one of the Democratic Party's top 50 soft-money patrons, according to the recently published book "The Buying of the President, 2000." Shorenstein's son, Robert Schrum, heads Gore's consulting team. Among the president's other special guests were Daniel Abraham, who was listed in Mother Jones magazine as one of America's top 10 political donors. Niranjan Shah also sat at the president's table. Shah, a $3,000 Hillary donor, may also have contributed between $100,000 and $250,000 to the millennium event, according to the Washington Times.

"Hillary's White House HQ also provides her with glitzy and convenient transportation. Her 35 trips to New York in 1999 were aboard military jets."

The millennium celebration should have been a nonpolitical, national event. It should have featured leading Americans of every political persuasion and loyalty. As the French watched celebratory lights explode around their Eiffel Tower, they did not have to wonder whether the event sponsors were donors of President Jacques Chirac. But in the Hillary Clinton Senate campaign, every seat at every White House event is for sale.

According to US News and World Report, President Clinton asked the president of the European Community, on Oct. 27 to permit the landing of American aircraft in Europe equipped with "hush kits" to abate noise. One leading manufacturer of these kits is ABS Partnership, whose principals, Sandra Wagenfeld and Francine Goldstein, both of Westport, Conn., contributed $160,000 to a campaign fund for Hillary shortly before the president pleaded their case. Wagenfeld and Goldstein, who had also donated $301,000 to the Democratic National Committee in 1999, were guests at a White House state dinner in June of last year for Arpad Goncz, the president of Hungary.

Hillary's White House HQ also provides her with glitzy and convenient transportation. Her 35 trips to New York in 1999 were aboard military jets. Hillary's campaign reimburses the government for these trips, but only at a very low rate reflecting commercial airfares, despite the fact that these military aircraft are at her beck and call.

The White House — what a nice location for a campaign headquarters. Even for a New York campaign.

New York Post, Tues Jan 25, 2000

AN OPEN LETTER TO HILLARY CLINTON.



Dear Mrs. Clinton:

As a mother, I know you understand that motherhood is about love, but it is also about making sacrifices. On November 21, 1999, in search of freedom, my new husband and I joined 11 others in a small boat in a desperate attempt to escape Castro's tyranny for a new life in the United States. I boarded that vessel full of hopes and dreams, carrying with me my most precious possession - my 5-year old Elián.

Yes, I knew the trip would be perilous – and I knew I was endangering the life of my little boy – but life had become intolerable in Castro's island-prison. I did no different than any other mother trying to save her son. I could no longer accept a world without hope for Elián. I desperately wanted to give my child a future with dignity and above all, choices. I did it so they could not force my child to become a Communist Pioneer willing to renounce God, and to place the party above family and friends.

Parents in Cuba have no real rights over their children. Did you know that at age 7 milk is no longer available in their ration card? At age 11 they are forced to work in the fields, away from their parents, with little or no adult supervision. Did you know that school records register the children's political behavior as well as that of their parents? Communist propaganda permeates elementary school age books to the extent that they are taught that the letter F is for "fusil" (rifle) and G for "guerrillero" (guerrilla fighter). This is what in Cuba they call a "free education".

I lost my life, as did nearly everyone else on that fateful voyage. However, through a miracle of God, Elián was spared, and today he is free. I can't understand why now the U.S. government has decided to return him to the regime we fled. Castro is demanding his return, the same Castro who doesn't care about the human rights of children in Cuba, suddenly cares about Elián. Ask yourself why. Because our escape to freedom, a faithful reflection of his failed revolution - has become an embarrassment to him. How can anyone believe that Fidel Castro is concerned about children? This is the same Castro who on July 13th, 1994, ordered the sinking of the tugboat "13 de Marzo" in the bay of Havana. His thugs used water hoses so powerful that children were swept from their mothers' protective embrace.

All of us dream of changing the world. For someone like me, born in slavery, that was a remote possibility. Yet, someone like you, willing to hold public office, can make all the difference in the world. This is not about politics. This is about life and liberty.

Please, Mrs. Clinton, a desperate mother needs your help. I beg you to open your arms and take my son into your village. Don't let them send my little boy to Fidel Castro. As I gasped for life in the middle of the ocean, holding on to the precious bundle I tied to an inner tube, I prayed to God to spare him. God heard me, will you?

Elisabet Brotón

Elisabet Brotón gave her life for the freedom of her 5-year old son, Elián. In her sacrifice she evokes the struggle of millions of mothers throughout the world who don't stop at anything to see their children free from tyranny, hatred and hunger. Don't let her dreams drown with her! Don't send Elian back!

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NEW YORK POST, MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 2000

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WHITE HOUSE WEEKLY

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Monday, January 24, 2000 WHW Volume 21, Number 4

Hillary Retails Her Candidacy While Buying Retail

BY LINDA GAPARELLO

New York women who don't know why first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton wants to be their senator should shop at the Grand Union supermarket in Chappaqua. That possibility cropped up during an online "town hall" meeting with the first lady last Tuesday night.

That morning, the first lady, who had to stock the refrigerator in her new home, "was walking up and down the aisles of the Grand Union and visited with a lot of people in Chappaqua. And I had a woman raise her concerns about coverage for mental health problems. Someone else asked me my plans to make schools better and better equipped for the future.

"It's those concerns, I think, that are on the minds of New Yorkers. And I would be a senator who wouldn't stop listening and would bring a lifetime of advocacy to creating results and trying to build a coalition that would actually make a difference in the daily lives of your community and throughout New York state," the first lady said during her first online event as a candidate for the U.S. Senate.

New York women logged on to iVillage.com to learn about the first lady's

(Continued on page 9)

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Hillary Retails Her Candidacy While Buying Retail...

(Continued from page one)

stance on matters such as childcare, obtaining funding to attract more teachers, economic development in western New York and long-term health care. Indeed, 4,000 women from all over the country, submitted some 6,000 questions to the first lady, which were relayed to her by Nancy Evans, co-founder and editor in chief of iVillage, the women's online network.

During the hour-long event, which was transmitted live via videostreaming, Evans asked the first lady about the ambivalence heard on iVillage message boards about Hillary Clinton—"the candidate."

The first lady responded: "It's understandable and something I take very seriously. Women voters want to be sure I'm committed to this campaign and to doing the very best job I can do for the people of New York. It's legitimate to wonder why I'm doing this; what I hope to achieve; why I'm doing this in New York.

"But I'm very impressed and pleased that people are interested in what I really care about and what motivates me. I have to become 'Hillary,' so people know me—the Hillary like my friends know, and I have to say what I believe and not what people say I believe."

Her first lady role, she said, was a "subsidiary" one for her. "I had my own life and volunteer interests before the White House." Now, like Vice president Gore, for whom she has "a lot of sympathy and respect," she has to present "what I'm about" to the voters.

Evans, who conducted two previous town-hall meeting with Vice President Gore and Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.), said the first lady appeared confident in her positions and seemed to understand the need to talk more directly to women, especially in her attempt to capture their vote.

A sampling of the first lady's positions on New York, national and personal matters follows:

Stopping manufacturing job losses in western New York: "As senator, I would work very hard :to make sure that the high cost of utilities in western New York is addressed. We are going through a period of deregulation in the electric industry. Western New York has some of the highest utility costs and this doesn't help us keep and attract manufacturing jobs.

"I would work with [Sen.] Chuck Schumer and [Rep.] Louise Slaughter on airfares because you have to have competitively priced air and trucking and rail prices for manufacturers to stay in a location.

"And I would address the high taxes that are an impediment by continuing Sen. Moynihan's work—by making sure New York got its fair share of federal dollars. New York sends about $15 billion more to Washington than it gets back."

Long-term health care costs: "I would propose a long-term health care tax credit. I think that we need to look at the whole continuum of care that older people need and by that I mean that we have to be sure that our nursing homes are properly monitored and that appropriate regulations are enforced.

"We have to do more for respite care, so that families who are taking care of an older relative or other person with disabilities will have some respite from being a caregiver.

"We need to have adult care, so that people will have a place for their loved ones to be cared for while they are at work.

"Another issue, I have heard about quite often, is affordable housing for the elderly. We need support, vouchers, subsidies so that people who can't afford to stay in the home they raised a family in will have a place to stay in the community."

The Elian Gonzales case: "We are struck by the desire we all have for him to be free. I would like to have this case with good testimony being presented in court so whatever decision is made, it can be made as soon as possible.

"It's hard for me to believe that it's in a child's best interest to be deprived of his father and all of his grandparents. Everything I know says it isn't, but I did enough of those cases as a lawyer to know we need unbiased professionals to interview this boy and make a recommendation that the court will consider and follow."

Her new short hairdo: "It's a delight to hear that I have a hairstyle that finally works."



Congress 2000:

The Outlook for Energy Legislation

Tuesday, February 15, 2000 • Washington, DC

The final session of the 106th Congress will face some of the most important energy issues in decades. The question facing the energy industry is what will Congress accomplish in the way of legislation affecting the electricity, gas and oil industries in this crucial year?

The Energy Daily and ***The Hill*** are co-sponsoring a one-day seminar designed to clarify what can be expected from this final session.

The conference will feature such key players as:

The Hon. Joe Barton (R-Texas), Chairman of the House Energy and Power Subcommittee

The Hon. Bill Scherman, former FERC General Counsel

The Hon. J. Bennett Johnston, former Chairman of the Senate Energy and Power Subcommittee

...and many more!

For more information and to register, please contact Keith Payne at (202) 662-9715 or send an email to payne@kingpublishing.com

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TALKING IT OVER

Traffickers Turn Women's Dreams Into Nightmares



BY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

Every day, in countries around the world, women and girls, desperate for economic opportunity, and seeking to follow their dreams of a better life, are lured from home by the promises of jobs and security. Sadly, though, they too often find themselves trapped in a nightmare, imprisoned by employers, mistreated, abused and often never seen nor heard from again.

Since the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995, I have been working to raise awareness of the heinous practice of buying and selling women and children like commodities. This week, representatives of over 100 countries, including the United States, are meeting in Vienna to continue negotiating a United Nations treaty that would protect these victims of trafficking and punish the perpetrators.

There are some who charge that international efforts to deal with trafficking will somehow undermine laws designed to eliminate prostitution. This is certainly not true. The U.S. government has made it absolutely clear that our country will continue to support and enforce its laws and policies aimed at ending prostitution in all its forms.

As the delegates debate the language of this vitally important treaty, it is critical that we keep our eye on the real issue—trafficking. Every year, approximately 1 million women and girls are trafficked and sold into a modern form of slavery. The State Department believes that 50,000 of them, primarily from the former Soviet Union, Southeast Asia and Latin America, end up right here in our own country.

Here are just a few examples of trafficking cases that have been prosecuted in American courts: Teenage Mexican girls, promised jobs in restaurants, child care and landscaping, enslaved and forced into prostitution in Florida and the Carolinas; Thai women held captive and forced to work in sweatshops in California; and hearing-impaired men and women from Mexico—enslaved, beaten and forced to peddle trinkets on the streets of New York and other cities.

No country is doing more than the United States to bring the worldwide trafficking of women and girls out of the shadows and into the glare of public attention.

In the summer of 1997, I met with women leaders from Eastern and Central Europe as well as victims' family members who, with tears in their eyes, pleaded with me for help in dealing with this growing problem. Later that year, in Lviv, Ukraine, I launched a new information campaign designed to warn young women about the dangers posed by traffickers.

In March of 1998, I joined the president, Secretary of State Albright, Attorney General Reno, U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan and a high-ranking member of the Thai government for a White House announcement of a presidential directive to prevent and deter trafficking and protect its victims.

Last fall, in Istanbul, Turkey, at the meeting of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, I announced a $1 million U.S. commitment to combat trafficking, and called for greater economic opportunities to prevent young women from being driven into the hands of traffickers.

Our State Department is working in partnership with several foreign governments. The Attorney General and the Secretary of Labor have established a Worker Exploitation Task Force, which is actively investigating and prosecuting trafficking cases in the United States.

And the administration is working with Congress to craft bipartisan legislation to end trafficking by providing effective punishments for perpetrators and protections for victims. Passing this legislation is critical if we are to continue to make progress in fighting trafficking.

The draft U.N. treaty being debated in Vienna this week offers a unique opportunity to bring the power of international consensus, backed by punishment of the criminals and much-needed assistance for the victims, to the issue of trafficking.

In no way will it, as critics claim, weaken existing international law or the laws of any individual nation. In fact, it will punish those who profit from buying and selling human beings, and encourage countries to offer truly unprecedented protections to the victims—including the possibility of lawful resident status, health care, shelter, restitution, and other tools to rebuild their lives.

Every day, more women and girls are being sold into the sex industry, domestic servitude, sweatshop labor, debt bondage and other forms of modern-day slavery. These crimes are violations of human dignity, and the United States will not rest until they are stopped.

We must not allow those who would distort the truth about this treaty derail the process. If they do, the only winners will be the international criminals who prey on desperate women and girls. The losers will be the victims of trafficking who, unless we take steps to protect them now, will continue to suffer unspeakable harm. They need our help. We must not let them down.

First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton's column is distributed by Creators Syndicate, Inc.

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NEW YORK POST, FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 2

MAYOR'S LOVE LIFE IS ABOVE QUESTION

By GREGG BIRNBAUM and DAVID SEIFMAN

Mayor Giuliani said yesterday he will win respect from voters by keeping mum about his personal life — just a day after First Lady Hillary Clinton talked to reporters about the state of her marriage.

"I know there are questions I won't answer because I think your private life should remain private," Giuliani said.

"I actually think people respect you more when you do that."

Giuliani's marriage to actress and TV personality Donna Hanover, who didn't campaign with him in 1997 and rarely appears in public with him, has been the subject of speculation for years.

When the mayor has been asked about their relationship, he has often refused to answer, saying the questions aren't proper. He vehemently denied claims in a 1997 Vanity Fair article that he had an affair with former top aide Cristyne Lategano.

Clinton, his likely Senate opponent, was deluged in Buffalo earlier this week with questions about the state of her marriage, and whether she's been true to her husband.

In response to a question from a local TV reporter about whether she planned to divorce the president, she said she intended to spend "the rest of my life with him."

The next day the first lady, answering questions from a radio talk-show host, said she hadn't cheated on President Clinton and didn't have an affair with White House lawyer Vincent Foster, who killed himself in 1993.

Mrs. Clinton repeatedly complained on the air that the questions were way out of line — but she went on to answer them anyway.

Meanwhile, a new poll showed Giuliani holding a 4-point edge over Mrs. Clinton, while another survey found the first lady's popularity across the country has slipped dramatically over the past year.

Giuliani leads Clinton, 46 percent to 42 percent, which is within the margin of error and statistically unchanged from polls in October, November and December, according to the latest from Quinnipiac College.

Mrs. Clinton's pollster, Mark Penn, said, "The race remains very tight. This is a great place to start the year."

Nationally, an Associated Press survey found 51 percent of those questioned said they have a favorable opinion of the first lady, while 40 percent don't.

When the impeachment scandal was raging a year ago, Mrs. Clinton's national favorability ratings were in the high 60s.



STATE OF THE UNION: Hillary Rodham Clinton's thoughts are on higher things yesterday at a D.C. education conference — but that look on Bill's face makes you wonder what's on his mind. AP

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OST OPINION



Not That Much for a Senate Seat

But what about the cash that *doesn't* get reported?



BOB McMANUS
ON
THURSDAY

DEREK Jeter may not be the best shortstop in the major leagues, but he plays baseball well enough that the Yankees want to pay him $17 million a year to do it in New York City — $119 million over the seven years of his new contract. Thus Jeter stands to be the highest-paid player in the game, at least for the next 45 minutes, and only the odd crank thinks of this as extraordinary.

So why is everybody in such a swivet over how much it's going to cost to elect a junior senator from New York state this year?

No matter how entertaining the Yankees are this year (spring training starts in 27 days!) they won't be as much fun as Hillary-Rudy 2000 — and total Senate-race spending certainly will come in well under the Yankees' total payroll.

At least, that is, the portion of the Senate spending that's subject to honest reporting. Wednesday, the day New York learned of Jeter's good fortune, it also was announced that Mayor Giuliani's campaign has raised $12 million — without having broken a sweat. Such is the power of George W. Bush's fund-raising engine that he can smile on a local candidate and cause a cash tsunami.

Hillary Rodham Clinton raised $8 million, and for sure there's going to be a lot more.

Early — and probably conservative — estimates are that some $47 million will be spent by the two major candidates between now and November. This represents a rise of about 25 percent over the $38 million that Alfonse D'Amato and Chuck Schumer spent in their memorable 1997 slugfest.

But let's put this increase in perspective: David Cone just got a *50* percent pay hike — to $12 million — though, of course, he pitched a perfect game for the Yankees last year.

George Steinbrenner, to put it mildly, doesn't agree to raises of this sort because he has a soft spot in his heart — or his head. Fact is, there's a lot of discretionary money bobbing about in this extraordinary economy of ours.

If there's enough cash available to push Steinbrenner's payroll well above $100 million this year — and sports-business analysts believe that will happen — what's so terrible about spending less than one-half that amount on a benchmark race for the United States Senate?

There are not many questions more significant than whether the Yankees can win three World Series in a row. But the matter of which junior senator from New York will be voting on the next nomination to the U.S. Supreme Court — Rudy Giuliani or Hillary Rodham Clinton — is right up there.

> ***"New Yorkers willingly pay $5.50 for a tub of beer at Yankee Stadium, so what's wrong with spending under three bucks apiece on the Senate campaign?"***

New Yorkers willingly pay $5.50 for a tub of beer at Yankee Stadium — and $10 for a Pokemon video — so what's wrong with spending under three bucks apiece on the Senate campaign?

True enough, direct contributions to the campaign come mostly in denominations of $1,000 — and the cash is rolling in from out of state.

This may *seem* to twist the debate in favor of the affluent (or, in Mrs. Clinton's case, the Peoples Liberation Army) — but it really doesn't.

There are many special-interest bulldozers at work leveling the playing field — like the extraordinary political slush fund assembled by Dennis Rivera of New York's hospital workers union. More often than not, there are no meaningful reporting requirements attending special-interest participation.

Rivera's union, Local 1199, has been an unofficial partner in the Clinton campaign for at least a year.

Sometimes the assistance comes in the form of hard currency: Six weeks ago, 1199 gave $500,000 of its members' money to the U.S. Senate Democratic Campaign committee — which turned around and sprinkled a like amount on Mrs. Clinton's undertaking.

Sometimes it's an in-kind effort, like the 10-day-long anti-Giuliani rally staged in front of One Police Plaza last March — demonstrations that no doubt Rivera means to replicate as the Amadou Diallo case proceeds in Albany County.

Rivera — working wholly within the law, to be sure — last year manipulated the union's pension funds so as to produce a $14-million-plus slush fund (whence came the $500,000 spent directly on Hillary's behalf). Much of the money went to fund a TV ad campaign that frightened Gov. Pataki so badly that he mortgaged New York's future on new health-care entitlements — but there's plenty left to help out the first lady this fall.

And it's not just Rivera. Look for a lot of teachers-union cash to go to ads that dovetail with the Clinton message on education — virtually none of which will be reportable as campaign contributions.

There is, intrinsically, nothing wrong with this. The First Amendment applies to unions, too. (But wouldn't it be nice if soft-money ads carried disclaimers, like on cigarette packages: "Warning. This ad contains hot air that could turn your head"?)

Actually, there's nothing wrong with spending $47 million — or *$60* million — on this Senate campaign. Its outcome is that important.

And, just for the record, so is Derek Jeter.

E-mail: mcmanus@nypost.com

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letters@nypost.com

Hillary and Al Pour Fuel on the Race-Relations Fire

•Now we have heard everything ("Hill courts Rev. Al — and black vote," Jan. 18). Addressing an enthusiastic crowd at Al Sharpton's National Action Network in Harlem, Hillary Clinton actually uttered these words: "Real leadership is about healing our racial divide — not exploiting it for personal and political reasons."

She said this with no discernible sense of irony while dignifying, with her presence, the awful Al Sharpton.

She breaks bread with Sharpton and tells us she wants "to be defined as someone who unites, not divides." It's preposterous enough to make you want to laugh. But alas, it also makes you want to cry.

John Perazzo
Thornwood

•Andrea Peyser's coverage of Hillary and Al was great ("Two carpetbaggers seal deal with a kiss," Jan. 18). With only a few words, she

Al Sharpton

punctured their balloon of puffery and silliness. There should be a literacy test for voting.

Rich Sestili
Atlanta, Ga.

•Hillary's performance with Al Sharpton showed how desperate she is. In her power-hungry and frantic effort to turn the polls on Mayor Giuliani, she allies herself with the wrong people.

This will cause further racial strife and divide the people of New York. She does not have the sense and clarity of vision to see and know what is wrong with her course. No wonder Bill has gotten away with so much! I pity anyone who votes for her.

James Grant
Fort Worth, Tex.

•Forget the bluebird. If we are crazy enough to elect Hillary Clinton, the state bird should be the cuckoo.

Steve Spiegler
Hastings

•Perhaps it would have been safer for White House employees, as well as female staffers, if Hillary had undergone Socks' de-clawing operation and Bill had received Buddy's.

Georgia Craig
Sudbury, Mass.

•After Hillary's appearance on Letterman, we can say we have witnessed the new Clinton health plan. Hillary will visit you personally and leave you with a heart attack.

John Kanca III
Middlebury, Conn.

Where they stand on issues in N.Y.

First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani on the issues:

WHERE THEY AGREE:

Clemency for FALN terrorists
▶ Giuliani opposed President Clinton's decision to offer clemency to 16 members of a Puerto Rican nationalist group.
▶ Clinton first supported her husband's decision, then said she opposed it.

Vieques bombing
▶ Both called on the Pentagon to stop using the island off Puerto Rico for bombing practice.

Raising the minimum wage
▶ Clinton supported a congressional bill to raise the minimum wage to $6.15 an hour.
▶ Giuliani first said a wage hike might do more harm than good, then supported it.

Expanding the Family and Medical Leave Act
▶ Clinton supports expanding the three-month unpaid leave requirement to companies with 25 or more employees. It covers companies with 50 or more employees.
▶ Giuliani has said he supports extending family leave but hasn't settled on a specific plan.

A ban on late-term abortions
▶ Clinton opposes a ban.
▶ Giuliani opposes a ban, which has cost him the endorsment of the New York Conservative Party.

Milk prices
▶ Clinton supported federal legislation designed to prop up milk prices for dairy farmers, going against her husband's administration.

Supporting the dairy legislation is good politics in upstate New York.
▶ Giuliani first opposed the legislation, then said he supported it.

St. Patrick's Day parade
▶ Clinton has said she wants to march in the parade, but it's unclear whether she was aware that many Democratic politicians skip the parade because it bars gay groups from marching.
▶ Giuliani, while supportive of gay rights, has always marched in the parade.

The New York Yankees
▶ Giuliani is a lifelong fan.
▶ Clinton donned a Yankees cap when the World Series champs visited the White House; a longtime Chicago Cubs fan, she says the Yankees are her favorite American League baseball team.

WHERE THEY DISAGREE:

Vouchers for private schools
▶ Giuliani favors them.
▶ Clinton opposes them.

Brooklyn Art Museum funds
▶ Giuliani tried to cut off city funds to the museum when it put on an exhibition including a portrait of the Virgin Mary embellished with elephant dung.
▶ Clinton opposed cutting off city funds on First Amendment grounds. (A federal court agreed, and the money was restored.)

Arrests of homeless people
▶ Giuliani ordered a crackdown on people sleeping on the streets after a woman was critically injured in a random attack by an apparently homeless man.
▶ Clinton accused him of criminalizing homelessness.

Patients' bill of rights
▶ Clinton supports sweeping managed-care reform legislation.
▶ Giuliani declined to endorse reform legislation passed by the House of Representatives.

Compiled by Martha T. Moore

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Al Sharpton, friend of Hillary

First, it was Tawana Brawley — whose story about smeared feces, rape and assault at the hands of white policemen in upstate New York turned out to be a lie — whom The Rev. Al Sharpton championed. Unabashed at later revelations about the story's fraudulence, Mr. Sharpton, along with Robert "Sonny" Carson, went on to agitate the black community of Crown Heights, where days of violence in 1991 against Hasidic Jewish residents culminated in the murder of Yankel Rosenbaum. In 1995 came the move on Freddy's Fashion Mart, where Mr. Sharpton cheered on and participated in two months of protests against the Jewish-owned Harlem store. This ended with the torching of the store, killing five young Hispanic women and a black security guard trapped inside. After a tragic police shooting last year left Amadou Diallo, an unarmed Guinean immigrant, dead in the Bronx, Mr. Sharpton convinced the bereaved family to cancel a scheduled meeting with New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani, subsequently kicking off weeks of mass protests against the mayor and the New York Police Department. Now Mr. Sharpton is considering the cause of Hillary Rodham Clinton's Senate candidacy.

Joining a processional of Democratic officials seeking Mr. Sharpton's favor, Mrs. Clinton just made a Martin Luther King Jr. Day pilgrimage to the National Action Network, Mr. Sharpton's Harlem headquarters. Calling for more affirmative action and a higher minimum wage, Mrs. Clinton told the crowd what it wanted to hear. In her remarks about "the tragic murder of Amadou Diallo," however, Mrs. Clinton crossed way beyond the line of campaign promises. When asked whether she would recommend federal intervention should a jury acquit the four policemen who have yet to come to trial, Mrs. Clinton signaled her willingness to trump such a verdict, replying, according to a New York Post reporter, "If there is a role for the federal government, I will certainly urge and encourage that that occur."

Mrs. Clinton's appearance immediately followed that of The Rev. Charles Norris, a leader of the Sharpton-run organization, who told a heartwarming tale about his having been unfairly fired from a job where he had become fed up "working for those two Jews." Mrs. Clinton may well have said later that she "soundly reject[s]" such "divisive remarks," but the fact is, this sort of ugliness — and this was mild stuff — is commonplace with the group Mrs. Clinton is so ardently courting.

As senator, "I would want to be defined as someone who unites, not divides," said Mrs. Clinton, staking out from her place on the podium alongside Mr. Sharpton, a rhetorical realm beyond parody. Things got still curiouser, as they say, when Mrs. Clinton, listing opportunities she said were too often denied to minorities, mentioned home-mortgage loans. As noted by columnist Andrea Peyser, Mrs. Clinton said that many blacks "can't get a loan for the home they dream of, they can't get the credit. There are too many places where a white person got an advantage" — including, perhaps, those two white persons from the White House who recently found themselves on the receiving end of a more than generous $1.7 million home loan and favors from a rich Democratic fundraiser.

Mrs. Clinton is hardly a lone political pilgrim seeking Mr. Sharpton's blessing, as noted here recently. Those dueling Democrats, Al Gore and Bill Bradley, in their ongoing game of top-this, both displayed their Sharpton seals-of-approval at the Iowa presidential forum this week. Asked whether they would meet with Mr. Sharpton, Mr. Gore replied that he already had, at least in a group, while Mr. Bradley said that he'd already paid a personal call to Sharpton headquarters last year.

By bowing to Mr. Sharpton as kingmaker in New York circles, these three prominent Democrats have surely signaled that racial unity is not what their campaigns are about, not by a long stretch. Mrs. Clinton came, she hugged, she pandered, thus rendering the act of Mr. Sharpton's political beatification by the Democratic Party all but complete. Shame on her.

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

America's Millennium News Clips



September 1999 – February 2000

Hushed Millennial Party Goes On

By Susan Levine
Washington Post Staff Writer

Here's the ultimate trivia quiz stumper: What do $1 million worth of donated seeds, Gaithersburg, Mars and a stretch of old rail bed through Washington have in common?

They're all part of the nation's official millennial observance, which, yes, is *still* going on and seems to include a little bit of everything these days. Gaithersburg is one of 424 Millennium Communities across the land. The red planet is the focus of the Mars Millennium Project for children. The rail bed is among 50 Millennium Legacy Trails for hiker-bikers young and old.

And those seeds? If the plug-a-plant idea dubbed Millennium Green takes off, by summer they'll be sprouting in backyard and schoolyard gardens in every state.

Although many Americans probably figured that they were done with the M-word after the New Year's Eve ball drops and fireworks, the celebration continues until 2001. So does the White House Millennium Council, the small umbrella organization that essentially has been in business since 1997, creating or coordinating the national activities for what President Clinton has called "this historic time."

Asking what the effort has accomplished so far—or what the lasting impact will be—is no trivia question. The council's programs, often publicized through the prominence of first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, have tried to span culture, history, science and community. More than $140 million in federal and private funds already have been pledged for the larger initiatives, though a total cost may never be calculated.

To some critics, the country's investment has bought nothing truly significant, nothing to match a project like England's Millennium Dome, for example. That immense structure, built for $1.2 billion on the banks of the Thames River in Greenwich, will showcase educational exhibits.

"The wealthiest, most powerful nation on Earth will leave little permanent behind to mark the moment," author James Reston Jr. fumed in an Outlook article in The Washington Post in October.

Others say the country's more modest and diffuse tack will prove itself in the end. The British may have heaved one huge boulder into the pond, compared with the numerous smaller pebbles the United States has tossed. Since New Year's Eve, the Millennium Dome has been beset by controversy, plummeting attendance and cash-flow problems.

"We just took a really different approach," said Ellen McCulloch Lovell, executive director of the Millennium Council. More grassroots, she explained, and more democratic. "It may make [the celebration's sweep] a little more difficult to grasp, but it's a lot more American in spirit."

She points to projects such as Save America's Treasures. With two congressional appropriations and intensive private solicitations, it has raised $100 million to help rescue, at last count, 454 deteriorating or endangered historic sites, relics and documents, including the Mesa Verde cliff dwellings in Colorado, the Thomas Edison Invention Factory in New Jersey and the Apollo Space Program Artifacts at the National Air and Space Museum.

"I'm really proud that in ... 50 years, we'll look around and see all these treasures that have been saved," McCulloch Lovell said.

Nearly five dozen of them are in Maryland, the District and Virginia, including the Hanover Tavern north of Richmond. Its historical claim dates to when Patrick Henry's in-laws owned the property in the 1760s and he argued key legal cases in the courthouse across the street.

"This is kind of a validation," said Joseph Kyle of the Hanover Tavern Foundation, which in December received a $30,000 millennium grant to catalogue the building's age and the changes made in three centuries. "We're thrilled that we've been listed."

Indeed, at the local level, there's significant support for those pebbles and the ripples they've already made—regardless of whether money has flowed from them.

"It's speeding up the process," D.C. Parks and Recreation planning officer Ted Pochter said of the Millennium Legacy honorific bestowed on the seven-mile Metropolitan Branch Trail, which ultimately will connect Union Station with Silver Spring. The White House recognition included no direct funds but has helped prod negotiations on trail sections. There is no target date for completion, but "the expectations are high to build this," Pochter said.

Similar enthusiasm exists in Gaithersburg, which applied early to be an official Millennium Community. A citizens panel, assembled to suggest ideas that would earn the designation, came up with proposals such as a millennium garden and millennium museum. The museum will open Feb. 16 in Lake Forest Mall, with hundreds of items donated by local residents.

"Any time the White House endorses something, it's just kind of a feather in your cap," said city spokeswoman Suzanne Ross.

Other millennial ventures, involving a jumble of federal agencies, civic groups and foundations, have hit home on several fronts. More than 123,000 Mars Millennium Project kits were distributed or downloaded from the Internet last year to schoolchildren designing a livable Martian community circa 2030. Millennium Green aims to get 250 million trees and 1 million gardens planted across the country during 2000, and the America the Beautiful Fund is supplying the starter seeds.

Still, little of the millennium commemoration has permeated the national consciousness, according to Todd Gitlin, a professor of culture, journalism and sociology at New York University. Even with Hillary Rodham Clinton as its most forceful advocate, the program as a whole didn't catch on with the media, he said, so there was "no way [for it] to break through the static."

Clinton's spokeswoman insists the first lady is no less committed to seeing the millennium programs through this year, despite her Senate campaign in New York. "This stuff is so tied in her mind to civil society," Lissa Muscatine said. "She will continue to participate and oversee some things and remain as involved as much as she can."

There will be more historic treasures named, and in June, 2,000 Community Millennium Trails will be announced. The White House also will host several more Millennium Evenings, which in the past have featured such prominent figures as historian Bernard Bailyn, Nobel Laureate Elie Wiesel and jazz musician Wynton Marsalis.

And, McCulloch-Lovell delights, "We still have people coming to us with ideas!"

The Washington Post
Wednesday, February 2, 2000

Jet

January 31, 2000

SECTION: COVER STORY; Pg. 61

LENGTH: 651 words

HEADLINE: Kicks Off The Millennium With New Album 'Willennium'

BODY:

Will Smith always knows how to let the good times roll when it comes to making music. The famed rapper-actor also knows how to keep a crowd moving on the dance floor as he recently ushered in the new millennium with his second solo album, Willennium.

The project's kick-off song, the millennium party anthem Will 2K, was an instant smash when it hit the airwaves. The tune, which features the soulful sound of K-Ci, celebrates the coming of 2000 and the hype that centered around ringing in the new millennium.

Willennium also includes the popular songs Wild Wild West, taken from the soundtrack of the movie by the same name in which Smith starred, and So Fresh, featuring rap veterans Biz Markie and Slick Rick.

And, in addition to a hodgepodge of songs with guest performers that range from Lil' Kim to Eve to his former "Fresh Prince of Bel-Air" TV co-star Tatyana Ali, the album also includes a spoken word from his actress wife, Jada Pinkett Smith, on the song Afro Angel.

A true rap pioneer who's won notoriety for more than a decade while staying true to witty, good-humored rhymes, Smith believes that the album is his best thus far.

"Historically, rap music has been a genre of disposable artists and one-hit summers. From one summer to the next, there's no telling who's gonna be out here," he explained. "I feel blessed at this point in my career to still be getting better. Willennium is unequivocally the best work of my career."

Willennium is the follow-up album to his debut solo album Big Willie Style. The multiplatinum album produced the top-selling tunes Men In Black, Gettin' Jiggy Wit It, Just The Two Of Us and Miami. Men In Black, the title track taken from the soundtrack of the movie by the same name in which he starred, and Gettin' Jiggy Wit It both earned him Grammy Awards.

Ringing in the millennium with a new album wasn't the only way the handsome performer celebrated 2000's inception.

He also hosted one of the top end-of-the-century bashes of the year, America's Millennium, a national millennium block party that was the official entertainment of the White House. Held on the Washington Mall, the

much-talked-about gala was co-produced by music mogul Quincy Jones and filmmaker George Stevens Jr.

As he always does with his music, Smith had the crowd rocking, including President Bill Clinton, as he performed Will 2K, where he urged Clinton during the celebration to join in and "Raise the roof, Bill."

With an explosive acting career that boasts such blockbuster films as Independence Day, Men In Black and Enemy Of The State, Smith has the best of both worlds as a hot actor and top rapper.

He also manages to find time to be a husband and doting father to two sons, Trey and Jaden.

Though the superstar entertainer has inarguably won the hearts of the masses as an actor and as a rapper thanks to his firm stand to promote lyric-friendly rhymes without profanity, the 30-year-old performer has often been criticized by his rap counterparts for being too fluffy and not hard-core enough.

"You can be more aggressive without being profane," Smith pointed out to Billboard. "I could easily write an album full of profane records. But that's way too easy. I challenge profane rappers to do what I do -- write an album full of non-profane records."

But, the handsome multi-Grammy Award-winning rapper hasn't let people's opinions pressure him into wanting to stray from doing songs that center around fun, family and fame.

"Rap music has always been a music that's about records; it's never been about musicians," he added to Billboard. "Being a rapper is about who you are, who you've been, and how you've grown up. The records are completely about yourself."

It's a new millennium and you can surely bet that Smith plans to keep it real by making music the Big Willie way.

GRAPHIC: Picture 1, Rap Star Will Smith is ringing in the millennium with a hot new album Willennium; Picture 2, Not just a popular rapper, Smith also is an accomplished actor and family man. He attended the premiere of the film in which he starred last year, Wild Wild West, along with his wife, actress Jada Pinkett Smith, their toddler son, Jaden, his son, Trey, and his nephew, Kyle; Picture 3, Smith recently celebrated the millennium as host of the White House gala America's Millennium. Joined by his wife, and famed husband-wife actors Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee, the versatile performer enjoys festivities at the big event in Washington. Priscilla Clarke; Picture 4, The fun-loving entertainer has earned crossover appeal with his lyric-friendly raps which have earned him numerous accolades. Last year he won a Grammy Award for the song Gettin' Jiggy Wit It; Picture 5, "Willennium is unequivocally the best work of my career," boasts Smith, whose single W2K has become a party anthem of the millennium.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: February 1, 2000

Washington Times
January 15, 2000

Hillary's Senate run gets a holiday boost

Big donors attend Washington gala

By Barbara J. Saffir
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Staying in Washington for the holidays did not keep first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton from her New York Senate race.

During a star-studded White House dinner on New Year's Eve, Mrs. Clinton invited two of her key supporters to share her head table: Dennis Rivera, chapter president of a union with 300,000 members in New York, and Bernard Schwartz, a wealthy Democratic donor who heads the New York-based Loral Space and Communications Ltd.

Newly released campaign finance reports show that Mr. Schwartz and his wife, Irene, donated $40,000 to a special fund-raising account created to help Mrs. Clinton beat New York Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani.

Although Mrs. Clinton will not file her first report with the Federal Election Commission until Jan. 31, records recently filed by her donors indicate that Mr. Rivera's Service Employees International Union contributed $10,000 to her campaign.

The FEC reports and other new information also show:

- At least seven of her donors attended the White House New Year's party.
- Many more contributors may have attended that and 10 other holiday parties, but Mrs. Clinton's office only identified 288 of the "thousands and thousands" of the guests at one event.
- One of Mrs. Clinton's joint fund-raising committees raised nearly $1.2 million as of Nov. 30.
- A contributor to that committee works for Refco, the trading firm involved in Mrs. Clinton's controversial 1978 cattle futures deal that turned her $1,000 investment into $100,000 in 10 months.
- Many donors won't be identified until committees file their biannual 1999 FEC reports on Jan. 31 and their 2000 reports in August.

see **DONORS**, *page A4*

FROM PAGE ONE

DONORS

From page A1

• Other notable guests included the Clintons' longtime friend and fund-raiser, Terry McAuliffe, and Walter Kaye, the Democratic donor whose clout helped get Monica Lewinsky her internship.

Several other guests were recently named the Democratic Party's 50 wealthiest donors. They made tax-deductible contributions to a foundation for "America's Millennium," the White House-sponsored public extravaganza on the Mall that was held in conjunction with the private party.

"Big gifts like that are rarely given with only one thought in mind," said Larry Makinson of the campaign finance watchdog group the Center for Responsive Politics. "If you give to a foundation that's also connected with a politician, there's an extra bonus there because the politician will be grateful to you for doing it. And that can come in very handy years later if there's a particular issue where that politician could be helpful to you."

While the intertwined web of donations may not be uncommon in presidential politics, he said it could cause political fallout for Mrs. Clinton if it reminds "people about the systematic way in which President Clinton used the White House to raise funds for his presidential campaign."

The first-time candidate is using the same fund-raiser for her Senate race, Mr. McAuliffe, who helped her husband craft the much-criticized practice of inviting big donors to sleep in the Lincoln Bedroom.

Niranjan Shah, one of Mrs. Clinton's donors and a former guest at a White House coffees, once told the Voice of America that the Indian community he represents tries "to influence the U.S. foreign policy." He said its lobbying helped defeat a bill that would have cut off aid to India — the same type of legislation Mrs. Clinton would vote on as a senator.

The Chicago-based company Mr. Shah heads, Globetrotters International Inc., donated $3,000 to "New York Senate 2000," a joint fund-raising committee of Mrs. Clinton's campaign and the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee. Another one of his companies, Globetrotters Engineering Corp., made a generous tax-deductible donation to "America's Millennium."

Mr. Shah did not return calls but a fund-raiser for the festivities said the contribution may have been in the $100,000 to $250,000 range. Mrs. Clinton's office, the National Park Service foundation, which received the $15 million in donations, and other top officials connected to the event all declined to disclose a complete list of the donations.

A $1 million sponsor of the gala, Vinod Gupta, said he also donated the "maximum" legal amount he could to Mrs. Clinton's Senate campaign.

Mr. Gupta, founder of INFOusa, a company that sells computerized mailing lists, said he thinks he donated $1,000 but that it may have been $2,000. He also said he plans to hold a fund-raiser for Mrs. Clinton.

Individuals can give a candidate's own committee $1,000 for the primary election and another $1,000 for the general election. But the two joint fund-raising committees set up for Mrs. Clinton's race can collect unlimited "soft money" from corporations. Soft money — the unlimited donations parties can receive for so-called "party-building" activities — has already paid for TV ads featuring Mrs. Clinton.

"New York Democratic Victory 2000," a joint fund-raising committee of Mrs. Clinton's committee and the Democratic National Committee, will not file its first report until Jan. 31.

Mr. Gupta sat at President Clinton's table at the New Year's gala, where they dined on truffle-marinated rack of lamb, beluga caviar, lobster and foie gras. They were joined by Mr. McAuliffe, Elizabeth Taylor, Sophia Loren, and several others.

Also seated with Mr. Clinton was Walter Shorenstein, who was just named in a new book, "The Buying of the President 2000," as one of the Democratic Party's top 50 "soft money" patrons. Daniel Abraham, who made a $1 million tax-deductible donation for the year-2000 extravaganza and heads the Florida-based Slim-Fast Foods and the New-York based Thompson Medical Co., was also at the president's table.

Mr. Abraham made Mother Jones magazine's list as one of the country's top 10 political donors. Active on behalf of Israeli causes, he could help Mrs. Clinton win over the important Jewish vote in New York.

Mrs. Clinton headed her own table at the gala. She sat with Mr. Rivera and Mr. Schwartz, whose foundation helped sponsor the event, along with actors Robert De Niro and Lynda Carter.

One of the guests who also contributed to Mrs. Clinton's joint committee was Washingtonian Liz Robbins, who donated $5,000. Agnes Gund, president of New York's Museum of Modern Art, donated $20,000 to the committee and was also a major sponsor — a "vice chair" — of the year-2000 extravaganza. Her financial assistant, Patricia Lazak, represented her at the White House soiree.

Walter Kaye, whose $330,000 in donations to the Democratic Party helped Monica Lewinsky gain a White House internship, also attended. His name does not appear on campaign finance reports filed to date and he did not return calls.

Although Mrs. Clinton named virtually all of the 288-plus guests at the New Year's dinner, she declined through her spokesman to disclose the names of the roughly 700 additional partygoers who mingled with celebrities and other luminaries at the White House disco-type party later that night.

Florida businessman Paul McCarthy moved to Washington for six months to direct the public and private festivities that made up the "America's Millennium" celebration. The group was formed by the White House Millennium Council, a cultural history project Mrs. Clinton has directed since she and President Clinton created it.

— Researchers John Sopko and Jae Dell Smith contributed to this report.

A PLACE AT THE TABLE

White House Millennium Party guests known to have donated to Hillary Clinton's Senate campaign committees:

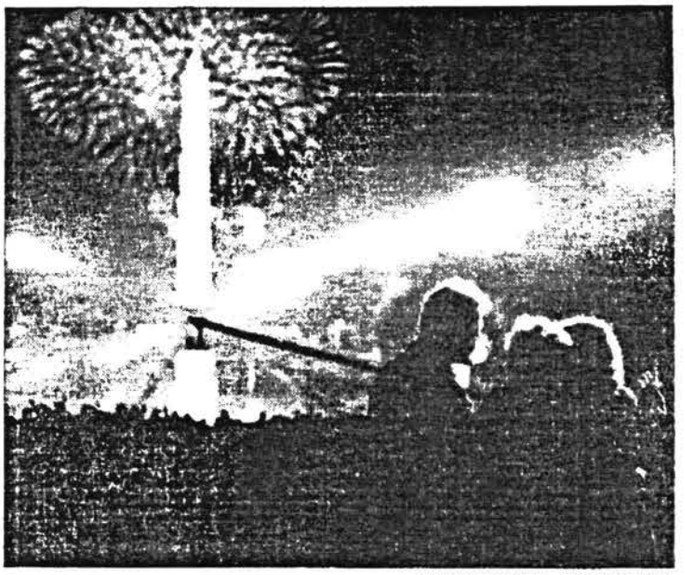
Name	Company	Donation
Bernard Schwartz	Loral Space and Communications	$20,000
Irene Schwartz		20,000
Agnes Gund	New York's Museum of Modern Art	20,000
Dennis Rivera	Service Employees International Union	10,000
Liz Robbins	Liz Robbins Associates	5,000
Prathiba and Niranjan Shah	Globetrotters International	3,000
Vinod Gupta	INFOusa	1,000
Total known to date:		$79,000

Notes: Mr. Gupta said he may have donated more. Mr. Rivera is president of SEIU's Health and Human Service Employees Union 1199 chapter in New York City. Ms. Gund's financial assistant, Patricia Lazak, represented her.
Sources: Federal Election Commission reports, interviews, White House guest list

The Washington Times

THE WASHINGTON POST

THURSDAY, JANUARY 13, 2000



FILE PHOTO/BY RICH LIPSKY THE WASHINGTON POST

The Clintons attended the nation's New Year's Eve party on the Mall, which unlike the city's party on Constitution Avenue has come under criticism.

District's Y2K Party Turns $40K Surplus

Organizers Report a Bug-Free Festival

By SUSAN LEVINE
Washington Post Staff Writer

Washington's two-day New Year's festival, a homegrown affair along Constitution Avenue NW that was planned in just five months, came off with nary a hitch and cleared about $40,000, according to its organizers.

The District's "Main Street Millennium," overcoming skeptics who doubted the city could throw a successful party, drew a crowd estimated at more than 300,000 people Dec. 31 and Jan. 1. Organizers also made good on their pledge that no public dollars would be spent, raising $465,000 in sponsorships and about $310,000 in food, drink and souvenir sales.

"This was the best of D.C.," said Sandy McCall, executive director of Millennium Washington, an effort that will continue through 2000 to commemorate the city's 200th anniversary as the nation's capital. There were no altercations, no public drunkenness, "not even one incident of a police officer going up and saying, 'Hey, buddy, calm it down,' " McCall said.

And the Jan. 2 cleanup went so smoothly that workers were able to reopen Constitution Avenue several hours ahead of schedule, city officials said.

For 20 hours of celebration, the festival filled four blocks of that prominent thoroughfare with a sweeping melange of music, food and people. On one stage alone one afternoon, Celtic song followed salsa rhythms followed doo-wop beat. It was intensely up close and local, in part because of performers like Mary Jefferson, who began her blues career on U Street almost six decades ago.

"Nearly all of Washington, D.C., turned out," the Washington Afro American applauded in an article last weekend. The newspaper, often critical of Mayor Anthony A. Williams (D), offered him a grudging compliment, saying the festival "may have been one of the few events the mayor has sponsored that turned out to be a success, and one where the residents of the city

The universal praise for the District's millennial welcome was in sharp contrast to assessments of the New Year's Eve celebrity show at the Lincoln Memorial, which was faulted by some in-the-crowd critics as a television event catering mainly to the White House and its VIP guests. There were complaints about long lines to get onto the memorial grounds, long waits between acts to accommodate commercials, and a midnight fireworks display that, while spectacular, was too brief, with many in the audience not aware that more fireworks would be going off at 1 a.m.

For the city celebration, several firms initially submitted proposals that would have cost well over $3 million. A few bills remain to be paid, but McCall expects the bottom line to be about $734,000, nearly half of which went for tents, generators and signs.

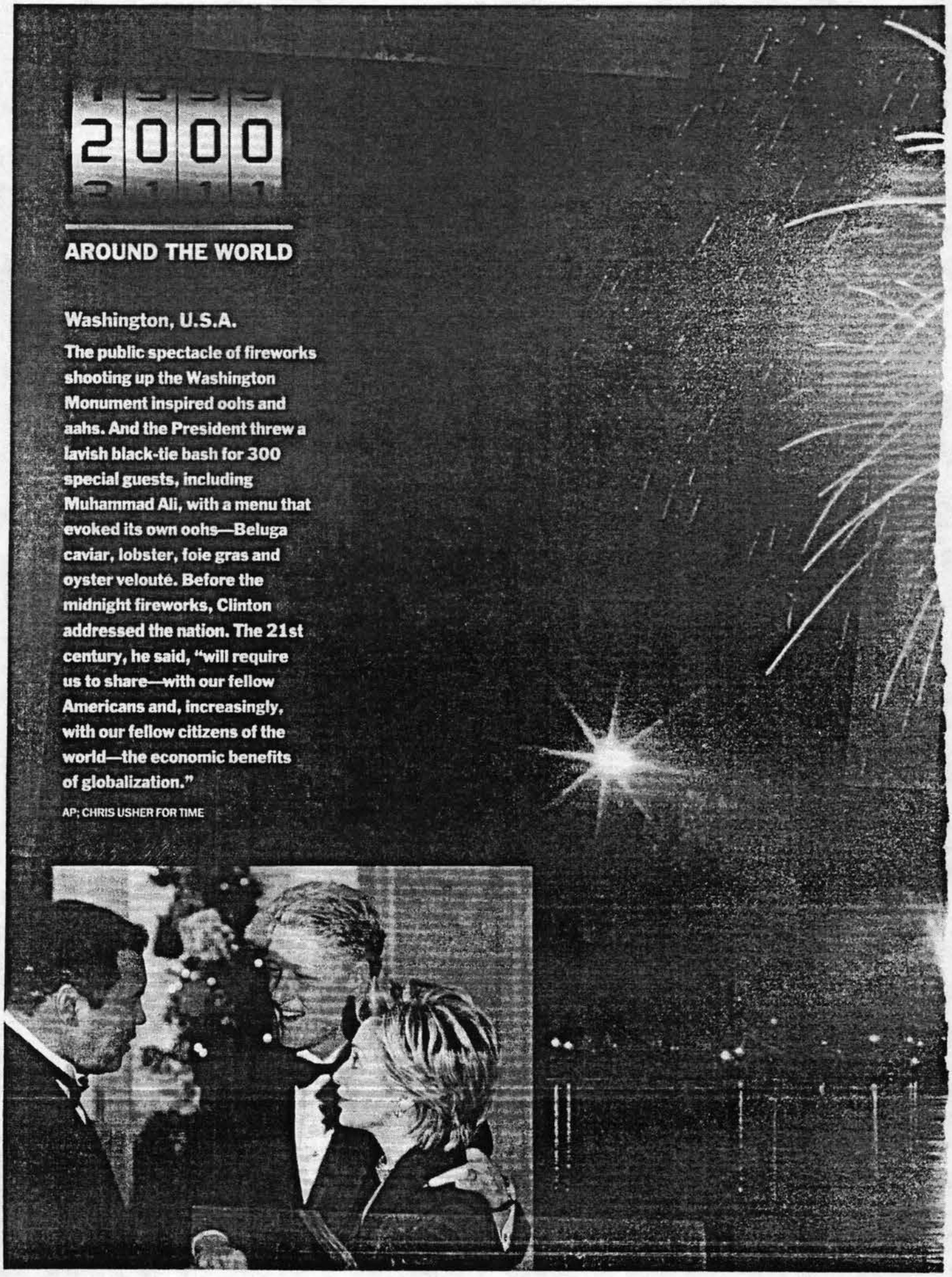
How to spend the leftover $40,000 is under discussion. One option is to use it to kick off a nonprofit city parks conservancy to help fund youth recreation programs.

An announcement likely will be made next month when the mayor unveils the city's "legacy year" program of events and exhibits to mark its bicentennial. A high-powered committee headed by James V. Kimsey, a founder and chairman emeritus of America Online Inc., has raised nearly $500,000 so far in support of those activities.

Relaxing in his office this week, surrounded by the leftover pamphlets, McCall said several things helped the small contingent of city employees, consultants and volunteers pull off a successful party. Attendance likely was boosted by the cancellation of two other downtown New Year's Eve galas. Mother Nature cooperated, too, offering the crowd springlike temperatures.

But McCall never worried about the weather.

"When you go through as many ups and downs as we did to pull this off in five months, with as few resources as we had except for the goodwill of people, I had no doubt



AROUND THE WORLD

Washington, U.S.A.

The public spectacle of fireworks shooting up the Washington Monument inspired oohs and aahs. And the President threw a lavish black-tie bash for 300 special guests, including Muhammad Ali, with a menu that evoked its own oohs—Beluga caviar, lobster, foie gras and oyster velouté. Before the midnight fireworks, Clinton addressed the nation. The 21st century, he said, "will require us to share—with our fellow Americans and, increasingly, with our fellow citizens of the world—the economic benefits of globalization."

AP; CHRIS USHER FOR TIME

Time, Jan. 10, 2000



Jamie, Jan. 1st, 2000

1 of 3



Washington, D.C.

A Capital Show: With an assist from scaffolding in place for a $10 million restoration project, the 555-foot-tall Washington Monument glowed like a giant sparkler, gleaming in the Reflecting Pool and across the skyline

ROBERT GIROUX—LIAISON AGENCY


THE END
IS NE
Kodak
MILLENNIUM GALLERY

TALKING IT OVER

My Own 'Prayer For The New Millennium'



BY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

On Jan. 2, my husband and I were honored to participate in services at the Washington National Cathedral. Many presidents and their families have worshiped in the magnificent Gothic structure that sits on the highest point in Washington. But until that Sunday, no president had ever taken an active role in a service.

Bill and I were asked first to read the "Prayers of the People"—a responsive litany of prayers and thanksgiving. Then, the president offered his own "Prayer for the New Millennium."

That weekend marked an extraordinary event in human history, as the world ushered in not just a new year, but a new century and a new millennium. Thanks to the wonders of modern technology, billions of people were able to share in the excitement and spectacle of celebrations around the world.

With so much attention focused on the countdown to midnight, it could have been easy to forget the true meaning of the millennium. A Christian concept marking the birth of Jesus 2,000 years ago, the turning of the millennium year offers us an opportunity not only to reflect on the past, but more importantly, a new chance to do better in the future.

God is offering America a new chance as well, for in the new millennium, the world will look to our country for leadership in meeting our common challenges. If we take this opportunity to extend our prosperity to those who have been left behind, then, perhaps, the global economy will bring a better life to the 1.4 billion people who live on less than $1 a day. If we provide our children with a world-class education, then, perhaps, every child in the world will have a chance for a good education as well. And, if we can build one America, making our diversity our greatest strength, then, perhaps, other nations will see the advantage of working to overcome their own ethnic and religious tensions.

Bill's Jan. 2 "Prayer for the New Millennium" asked God for the strength and wisdom to meet these challenges. As we take our first steps in the new millennium, I'd like to offer this prayer to you as well: "Dear Lord, as we awaken to this second morning of a new millennium, help us to remember that all we are and all we do begins with you, for whom a thousand years are but as yesterday when it is passed, and as a watch in the night.

"So we begin this jubilee year in humility, with profound thanks for the divine light first revealed 2,000 years ago that has brought us now to this sacred place today. Each in our own way, we thank you for the blessings of this life. For me and my family, I give you thanks for good health, good fortune, and the opportunity to serve the American people.

"We thank you for the amazing grace you have shown in getting us through and beyond our individual and collective sins and trials. Through the darkest hours of the 20th century, the shameful trauma of racial oppression, the pain and sacrifice of war, the fear and deprivation of depression, when all we could do was walk by faith, it was your guiding light that saw us through.

"We thank you for the promise of the new century, and ask your guidance and grace in helping us to make the most of it; to free our children of hunger, neglect and war; to ease the burdens of the less fortunate; to strengthen the bonds of family; to preserve and protect our earthly home; to use new advances in science and technology to lift all the human family and draw us all closer together.

"Finally, we thank you for the rich and wonderful diversity of human life with which you have graced this planet, and ask you to give us the strength and wisdom to give up our fear, distrust and hatred of those who are different. Teach us instead to learn from each other, and celebrate our differences, secure in the knowledge that we are all your children.

"Our Constitution tells us you created us all equal. Jesus told us to love our neighbors as ourselves. The Koran says we must do unto all men as you wished to have done to you, and reject for others what you would reject for yourself. The Talmud instructs us, should anyone turn aside the right of the stranger, it is as though he were to turn aside the right of the most high God.

"By your grace, we have survived in spite of our blindness to this, your truth. Help us now to accept, at long last, the enduring truth that the most important fact of life is not wealth, or power, or beauty, or scientific advance, but our kinship as brothers and sisters, and our oneness as children of God.

"This, Holy Father, is our prayer for the new millennium. Amen."

First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton's column is distributed by Creators Syndicate, Inc.

ARIANNA HUFFINGTON

Nailing down the arrival of a new era

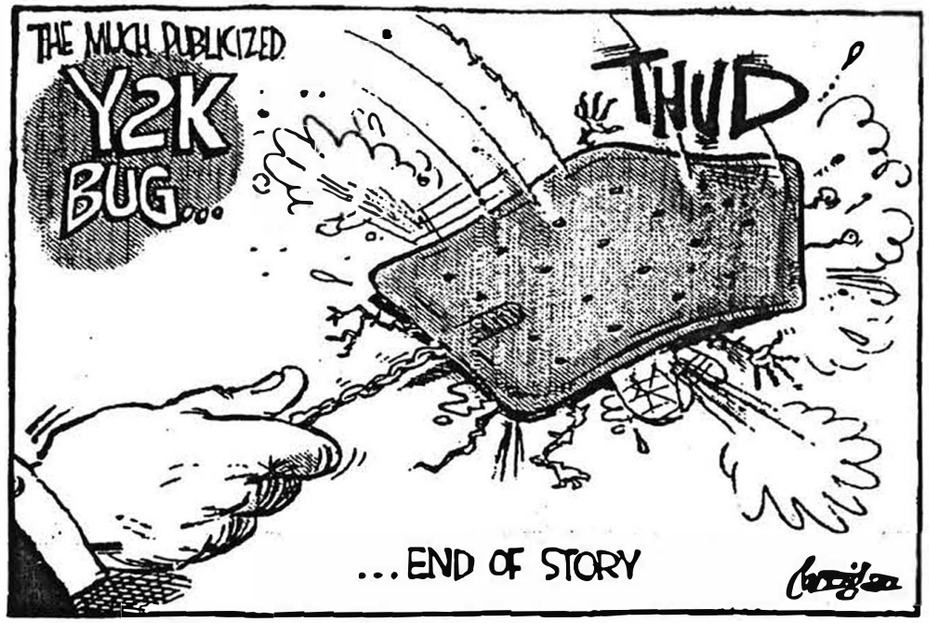
We are a week into the new millennium, and there is a definite feeling of anti-climax. The best anyone can say is nothing horrible happened —no terrorist attacks, no Y2K meltdown — and that the fireworks were fabulous. But this was the beginning — at least the symbolic beginning — of the third millennium, and even among those who were not looking for "a new heaven and a new Earth," a new messiah or the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse, there was a sense of expectancy surrounding the start of Anno Domini 2000. After all, this was an event less of the calendar than of the imagination. No wonder we feel let down.

Technically, it was superb. The transglobal wiring really worked, but the substance didn't rise any higher than comparing the fireworks in Sydney to the fireworks in Paris. And as for the message from the leader of the Free World, it was flatter than week-old champagne. There was no challenge issued, no call to action, not even a phrase to carry with us as a memento a little less ephemeral than the confetti and Kenny G's rendition of "Auld Lang Syne."

"The sun will always rise on America," said President Clinton just after Tom Jones belted out "It's Not Unusual." "Our children are ready. So, again, the torch is passed — to a new century of young Americans." It sounded more like Dick Clark's Rockin' Eve than an epoch-inaugurating speech.

It was truly a squandered moment — an opportunity that won't come again for another thousand years. What made this sense of "what might have been" even more poignant was my turn-of-the-millennium experience with Habitat for Humanity in Hilton Head, S.C. The local Habitat, with the help of the Renaissance Weekend (a four-day forum-filled retreat founded in 1981 by Linda and Phil Lader, who is now U.S. ambassador to Britain), had decided to ring in the New Year by building a house in 3.5 days for Sheila Singleton, a single mother of three daughters who also is helping raise her granddaughter.

So before dawn on Jan. 1, 2000, a few hundred of us who had helped with the building got on buses and arrived at 89 Gum Tree Rd. to dedicate Sheila's new home. Still standing beside it was her old house, awaiting demolition. The day before, Sheila, along with Millard and Linda Fuller, who founded Habitat for Humanity, had taken me inside the ramshackle place Sheila has called home for the past 30 years. The ceiling was caving in, the electrical wiring faulty, the foundation infested with termites. And the smell of mold and mildew was everywhere. When I asked Sheila what was the hardest thing about living there, she didn't hesitate: "The cold. Sometimes at night we'd have to bring our mattresses into the kitchen and put them by the stove in order to be able to sleep."



Yet Sheila Singleton was not included in any government statistics that quantify our social problems: She was not homeless; she was not on welfare; she was not unemployed (she works at a child care center); she was not below the poverty line. A family of five living in Third World squalor is apparently no reason to put a damper on the celebration of our economic good times.

For Habitat, eliminating such conditions is more than a New Year's resolution. Its 21st Century Challenge Program works with communities to set a date no more than 20 years out to eliminate substandard housing. "The vision," Millard Fuller told me, "is not to build for a few lucky families. We are not 'Lottery for Humanity.' Our goal is that everyone should have at least a simple, decent place to live. But we build relationships — not just houses. That's what breaks the cycle of poverty."

This was hammered home during the sunrise dedication — a giddy mix of the sublime and the comic. "Don't you love my driveway?" enthused one Renaissance participant who had spent the previous day shoveling gravel. I, meanwhile, was offering guided tours of "my" state-of-the-art tool shed. But the underlying mood was crystallized by Tony Campolo — minister, anti-poverty crusader and presidential spiritual adviser — in an emotional barn-raising speech. "Visions and dreams," he said, "energize people. Where there are no visions and dreams, the people shall perish."

If that is indeed the case, most of us must be ready for life support. At the White House black-tie dinner preceding "America's Millennium Gala Event" (a Quincy Jones production), the president toasted the first lady: "No one has done more to infuse this milestone with national purpose." But that is precisely what was missing from all the hoopla — a national purpose. It was, instead, provided by Habitat.

Think how many more millions could have been inspired and engaged if Habitat's 21st Century Challenge had been the millennial message issued from the Lincoln Memorial. People would still be talking about it, and better yet acting on it, instead of scratching their heads and wondering: Is that all there is? Is that what all the buildup was about — Tom Jones, cool fireworks and warmed-over homilies? The alternative — starting the new century by giving a family a new start, being part of something bigger than oneself — may not have been as spectacular as the fireworks that lit up the sky across the country, but the memory of the glow on Sheila's face will last a lot longer.

Arianna Huffington is a nationally syndicated columnist.

Washington Times
January 9, 2000

Arkansas Democrat - Gazette
January 9, 2000

An all-star A-list glitters, shivers and dances the night away as the Clintons go all-out to welcome new year.

BY JANE FULLERTON
ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

WASHINGTON — President Clinton and first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton rang in the new year with a star-studded "millennial bash" at the White House featuring a black-tie dinner and all-night dancing.

While the White House tends to throw a good party, this one was all-out — A-list guests such as Elizabeth Taylor, Sophia Loren, Jack Nicholson and Robert De Niro dined on a five-star menu that included caviar, lobster, oysters and lamb before heading to the Lincoln Memorial for a three-hour entertainment extravaganza that culminated in midnight fireworks. And then it was back to the White House for dancing into the wee hours, followed by New Year's Day breakfast.

For the Clintons, dinner came after a full-day of events to welcome the new year. With his toast, the president set the tone for the evening — historic and reflective, but not so much as to dampen the party mood.

"Tonight, we rise to the mountaintop of a new millennium," Clinton told the 320 dinner guests. "Behind us we see a great expanse of American experience, and before us, vast frontiers of possibility still to be explored."

For the dinner heralding the so-called millennium, the Clintons invited "renowned American innovators and creators" from the fields of art and history, science and technology, and sports and entertainment.

That meant the evening was heavy on star-power: boxer Muhammad Ali; Olympian Carl Lewis; actors Julie Harris and Mary Tyler Moore; playwrights Neil Simon, Edward Albee and August Wilson; violinist Itzhak Perlman; musicians Dave Brubeck, Bobby McFerrin and Don McLean; opera divas Jessye Norman and Kathleen Battle; and historian Arthur Schlesinger.

While many Americans chose to spend New Year's Eve at home, these guests were in the mood to celebrate.

"It's a huge honor. I'm thrilled," said actress Elizabeth Taylor, resplendent in burgundy velvet and diamonds, as she arrived so late she missed the president's toast. "I can't think of anyplace else I'd rather be."

Nicholson agreed: "It's the beginning of a new year, a wonderful new year, and a new century."

So why mark the occasion at the White House?

"This is America here," Nicholson replied, flashing his trademark grin.

For Loren, wearing a low-cut Armani gown accented with diamonds and rubies, the evening was an opportunity to reflect on history and the American liberation of her native Italy in World War II. "I come here for this evening with great, great emotion," she said catching her breath. "See — I'm getting already very emotional about it."

Historian John Hope Franklin, who earlier in the day had contributed a copy of the 14th Amendment to a time capsule filled with 20th-century artifacts, was looking to the future. "I have a regret that we have not yet achieved full equality and a hope that in the next century we will achieve it," he said.

PAST AND PRESENT

The air of history was palpable as guests arrived and headed to a pre-dinner reception under a tent in the sculpture garden that bears the name of Jacqueline Kennedy.

Lynda Bird Johnson Robb, daughter of Lyndon Johnson and wife of Virginia Sen. Charles Robb, contributed to that feeling by donning a red and black velvet smoking jacket that had belonged to her father.

Schlesinger, the noted writer who served as a senior aide to John F. Kennedy, seemed ready to cast the century to the history books. When asked whether he had a "millennium message," he replied succinctly: "I'm glad it's over."

Arkansas was represented at the dinner by Janice Griffin, a Hope native and Washington lobbyist, and Mary Mel French, the



Associated Press

Muhammad Ali is greeted by President Clinton.

State Department's chief of protocol.

In addition, deputy White House counsel Bruce Lindsey, the presidential confidante and former Little Rock lawyer, came with Cheryl Mills, the former White House lawyer who captured the spotlight with her defense of the president during the Senate impeachment trial.

ABSENT BUT INVOLVED

Among those not on hand for the dinner were another pair of Arkansans playing key roles in monitoring events as the calendar flipped from 1999 to 2000 — James Lee Witt, director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and Rodney Slater, secretary of Transportation, both of whom were invited to join the White House festivities.

Witt, who spent the day and night keeping an eye on the national computer-glitch situation from FEMA's operations center just a few blocks from the festivities on the National Mall, declined the offer. With the "Y2K bug" essentially eradicated, he and his wife, Lea Ellen, wanted to take in the fireworks from the roof of FEMA's headquarters, but security issues prevented that. So they had to settle for watching the festivities on television.

Slater, who spent most of his time monitoring the nation's airlines from the Federal Aviation Administration command center in suburban Virginia, missed the White House dinner. His wife, Cassandra, arrived without her husband just before the president offered his toast. But Slater was able to make it over for some of the festivities at the Lincoln Memorial as well as the party at the White House afterward.

What was billed as the "White House Millennium Dinner" followed the format of a State Dinner, with the president and first lady, joined by their daughter, Chelsea, greeting their visitors in a formal receiving line. The first lady opted for a black satin gown with rhinestone buttons and a rhinestone choker, while the first daughter wore a midnight blue satin gown.

The Clintons were joined by so many guests that the meal had to be served in both the State Dining Room and the East Room, where the shimmering tables were set with gleaming white china and decorated with silver bowls overflowing with white flowers. Another 100 family members of the guests — many of whom arrived to greet the new year with their children — dined in a heated tent in the Rose Garden.

The president presided over the East Room, where he was seated between actresses Taylor and Loren. The first lady's table was in the State Dining Room, where she sat between De Niro and Washington Mayor Anthony Williams. Chelsea Clinton began in the East

Room at her father's table, but wound up with family and friends dining in the Rose Garden.

If this celebration called for a "once-in-a-millennium" meal, the White House did not disappoint. The guests began with beluga caviar, lobster, foie gras and oyster veloute — and that was just the appetizer. They then moved on to truffle-marinated rack of lamb accompanied by roasted artichoke and pepper ragout with a crispy garlic polenta. After a salad course, they ended with a dessert billed simply as "chocolate and champagne delight."

With diners at either end of the White House and in the Rose Garden, the president had to offer his toast three times.

And Clinton toasted three things: the guests who "contributed so indelibly to the narrative of this American century," his wife who "inspired us all to welcome the new millennium by honoring our past and imagining our future," and, finally, "a thousand years of history."

"By far, my most solemn prayer for this new millennium is that we will find, somehow, the strength and wisdom in our hearts to keep growing together — first, as one America, and then as one people on this ever-smaller planet we all call home," he said.

After dinner, the guests bundled up against the chilly winter evening — the White House provided goody bags with seat cushions, hats and gloves — and shuttled to the Lincoln Memorial, where they sat up front for the three-hour, $12 million, nationally televised gala produced by Quincy Jones and George Stevens Jr. The evening featured entertainment by the likes of Will Smith, Tom Jones, Kenny Rogers, Trisha Yearwood, Kathy Mattea, Don McLean and Luther Vandross.

As midnight approached, the crowd viewed the premier of Steven Spielberg's 18-minute film, *The Unfinished Journey*, which offered a photo montage of the nation's 20th-century history to date.

Then, with only about five minutes left in the expiring year, Clinton urged Americans to "embrace our shared humanity and our common destiny" in the next.

"We celebrate the future, imagining an even more remarkable 21st century," he said on the marble steps of the Lincoln Memorial. "As we marvel at the changes of the last hundred years, we dream of what changes the next hundred and the next thousand will bring."



Associated Press

President Clinton gives his daughter, Chelsea, a New Year's kiss.

With that, five children standing at the foot of the Lincoln Memorial lighted a fuse that ran the length of the Reflecting Pool to spark the fireworks that illuminated the Washington Monument at the stroke of midnight.

After the gala concluded, the Clintons returned to the White House to host a private party for some 1,000 guests that featured former Supreme Mary Wilson providing the dance music in the East Room. The party lasted until 5 a.m. and included a New Year's Day breakfast.

INDEFATIGABLE EXECUTIVE

Despite the late night, the Clintons were up early New Year's Day to give a televised version of the president's weekly radio address. Hillary Clinton joined her husband and called on Americans to lead by example in making the world a better place for all its inhabitants.

"In the new millennium, the world will be looking to America for leadership in meeting our great common challenges," she said.

The Clintons wrapped up the New Year's weekend in a more solemn manner the next morning by attending the first Sunday services of 2000 at the National Cathedral.

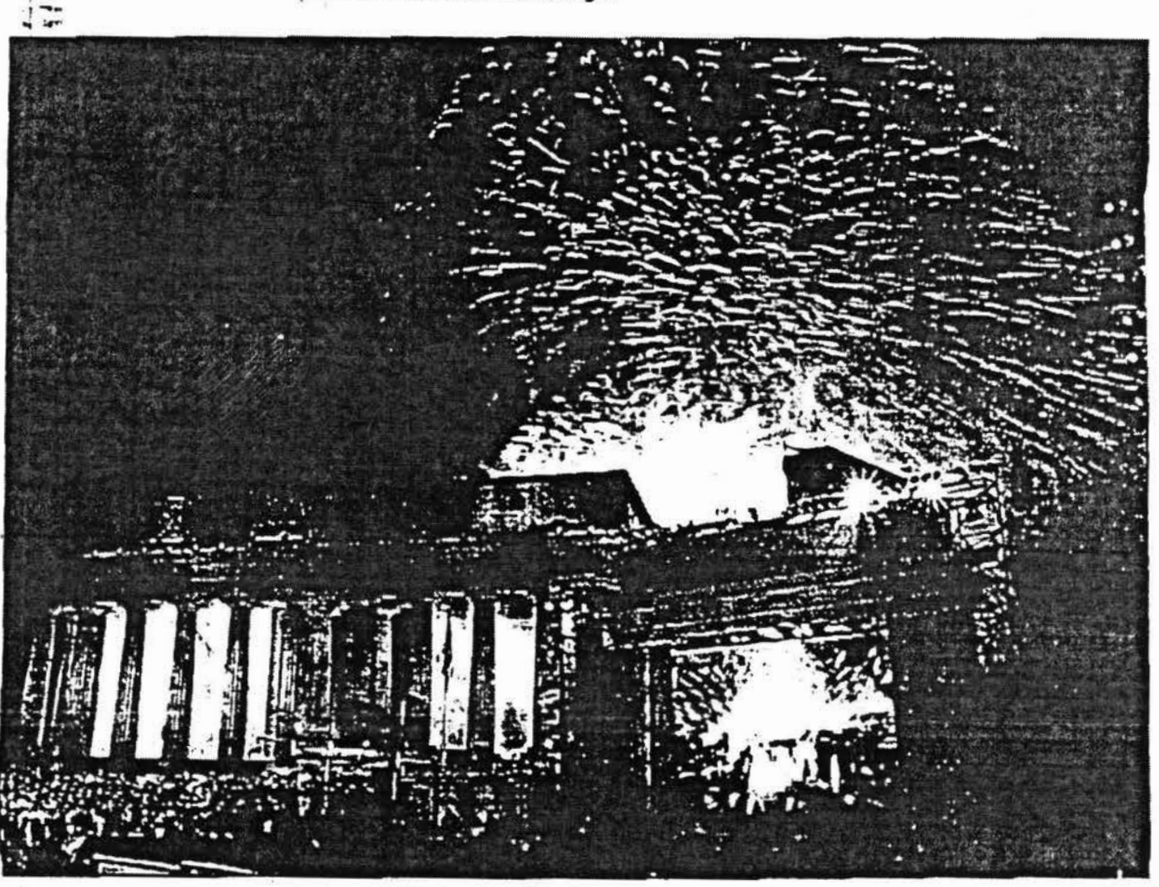
"We thank you for the promise of the new century," he said in leading a prayer at the service, "and ask your guidance and grace in helping us to make the most of it."

Ultimate eve at

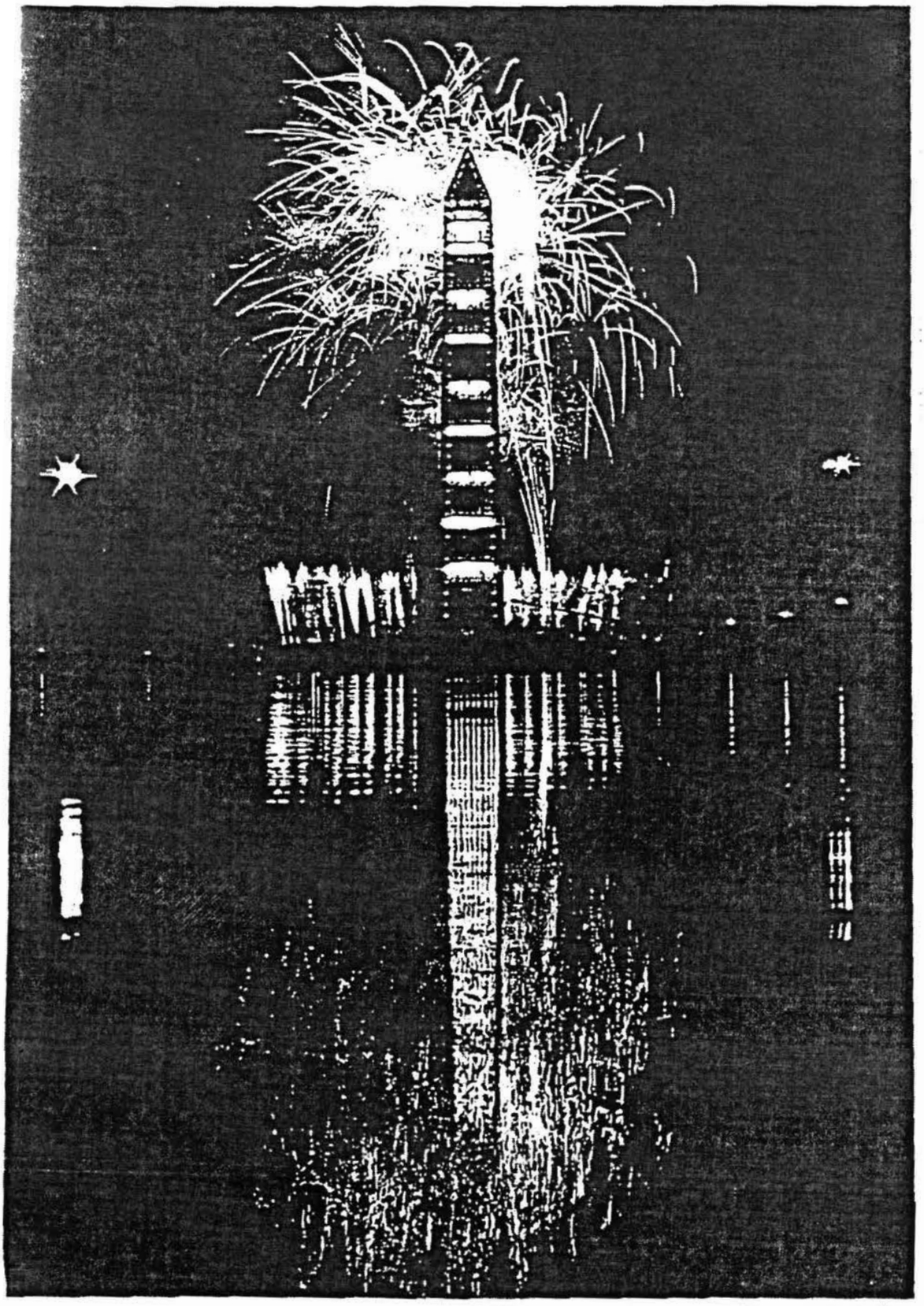


Associated Press

President Clinton with first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and their daughter, Chelsea, toast the new year in the East Room of the White House. Sophia Loren is seated on the right.



the first house



Associated Press

Fireworks illuminate the Washington Monument.

JOYCE PURNICK/Metro Matters

London and Paris Dazzled As New York Dropped Ball

BEFORE we forget New Year's Eve and let our appallingly short attention spans wander to the next distraction, a moment of reflection on New Year's Eve.

Paris gave us the sight of a breathtaking Eiffel Tower, encircled in ascending spirals of fireworks. Britain offered fireworks sweeping over the Thames and a new Millennial Dome in Greenwich. Red Square turned ethereal, with fireworks and snowflakes falling on St. Basil's Cathedral. Sydney was aglow and so was Beijing, even though the Chinese new year is next month.

New York? A pretty ball descended a tower in Times Square, illuminating an ad for Discover, the credit card. Fireworks were hard to see, scattered pyrotechnics around town were nice.

Yes, it was fun and orderly in Times Square. The 24-hour street show was impressive, the N.Y.P.D. did great, people behaved. The ball (made by Waterford) was a new improved model and the electronic glitz of a renewed 42nd Street area provided a glittering backdrop.

But let's face it: for a world-class city we didn't measure up. Anybody who saw those stunning global productions has to admit that. Washington's was O.K., with its lasers and fired-up Washington Monument, but it was so packed with celebrities that it seemed like a cliché — a political cliché thanks to President Clinton's platitudes.

Washington is a capital city, like London and Paris, but New York is New York, so back to the ball and Times Square. Why so unmillennial?

The main reason was money. Except for Sydney's fireworks, paid for by corporate sponsors, celebrations in the other great cities were government-financed. The City of Paris spent about $550,000 to create that magical Eiffel Tower, and the Ministry of Culture invested $11 million for those Ferris wheels on the Champs-Élysées. The fireworks on the Thames (spectacular even without the promised flames) cost $8 million, and the permanent Millennium Dome $1.2 billion. Most of the money came from lottery profits, appropriated by the government.

Times Square got no government money at all (unless you count the cost of police, fire and other city services). The celebration cost less than $5 million, contributed by Con Ed, Discover, Waterford, Korbel, the Doubletree Hotel and the Times Square Business Improvement District. Timothy's donated thousands of cups of coffee.

The very idea of asking the federal government for money never even came up, said Brendan Sexton, president of the Times Square B.I.D. In fact, Washington chose to compete with New York. In any case, "We do a different kind of event," Mr. Sexton explained. "Don't get me wrong; we could have used more money, but the crowd is the event here."

O.K., then why not stage something grand elsewhere in New York City? We've done it before. The shimmering Brooklyn Bridge Centennial celebration in 1983, for instance. "This should have been the occasion to do something grand and permanent for the city," said Senator Charles E. Schumer. "If Americans had the same attitude toward New York City, regarding it as a jewel as the French do toward Paris and the English do toward London, we could do these things, and we should."

JEWEL is not exactly the word the average American would use to describe the city. It is a place most love to hate, or at least distrust. And that showed on Dec. 31. Even now, despite our celebrated Wall Street-driven renaissance, crime-fighting mayor, kinder, safer streets and Seinfeld legacy, New York remains alien territory to many in the country.

Ask John Rocker. Look at the presidential candidates who never mention New York unless they rush through to raise funds or are fighting to get themselves on our well-guarded ballots. Consider also how we are perpetually shortchanged by Washington, getting back fewer federal dollars than we contribute in taxes.

It took a mighty struggle just to prevent Congress from cutting operating subsidies to mass transit last year, recalls Mr. Schumer. No New Yorker could even dream of getting fancy subway extensions of the kind bestowed on Paris and London last year by their national governments.

Those projects "were done with purpose of having them stay global cities," said Robert Paaswell of the University Transportation Research Center, at City College. "They know their position in the world."

So does New York. It's the rest of America that hasn't figured it out yet.

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

January 5, 2000, Wednesday Final

SECTION: News Pg. 6

LENGTH: 603 words

HEADLINE: Clinton contributors joined in millennium party
Those who financed festivities were invited to private gala with president

BYLINE: TOM HAMBURGER

SOURCE: McClatchy News Service

DATELINE: Washington

BODY:

The National Mall in Washington rivaled Times Square as the place for network television cameras to be New Year's Eve, thanks to an entertainment spectacular created with $16 million in private donations.

The made-for-television event was made possible by a list of contributors that reads in part like the roster of Democratic National Committee supporters. The first couple dominated key parts of the televised spectacular.

In exchange for financing the event, many contributors were invited to ringside seats at the extravaganza. Afterward, they and a thousand other guests danced with the Clintons, members of the cabinet and the other luminaries at a White House party closed to the media.

"It seems crass and inappropriate," said Charles Lewis of the Washington-based Center for Public Integrity, a watchdog group. "Americans don't begrudge the president and first lady for wanting to make the millennium celebration a significant event, but most people don't like the idea that it might be used for political purposes."

Not only did the event showcase the Clintons, but it also rewarded longtime contributors with what Lewis called "one of the ultimate perks," being included in an exclusive White House millennial celebration.

To be sure, some of those listed as sponsors are non-partisan organizations, or contribute to both parties. But fund raising for the event was led by Terry McAuliffe, a real estate and banking baron who gained national attention as finance chair of the Clinton-Gore re-election campaign in 1996. The controversial use of the Lincoln Bedroom as a perk for donors grew out of a memo he wrote the president during that campaign.

After the election, McAuliffe helped raise money for the inaugural celebration. He then turned to raising money for the president's legal defense fund, presidential library and, more recently, Hillary Rodham Clinton's Senate campaign.

Hillary Clinton's office was in charge of the New Year's celebration, dubbed "America's Millennium." And once again the Clintons called on McAuliffe.

"From the beginning, it was decided that this event should be funded by private contributions," said Toby Graff, deputy press secretary to Hillary Clinton. "There was no quid pro quo. The guest list at all events was balanced, including friends, family and supporters." Financial backers, she said, were publicly acknowledged in the widely distributed program.

She said that two prominent Republicans, House Speaker Dennis Hastert of Illinois and Majority Leader Trent Lott of Mississippi, were also on the committee for America's Millennium. Neither was on the guest list, however, and they could not be reached for comment.

Many of those who gave were treated to one of the most opulent evenings Washington has ever seen. The big contributors, such as real estate investor Walter Shorenstein or Teligent Vice President Laurence Harris, joined luminaries from the worlds of sports, entertainment and the arts at a private White House dinner.

The guests, mingling with the likes of actress Sophia Loren, boxer Muhammad Ali and jazz musician Dave Brubeck, dined on Beluga caviar, lobster and rack of lamb before heading to the Mall, where they had front-row seats at a two-hour show emceed by actor Will Smith.

At midnight, the guests watched an initial burst of fireworks before returning to the White House with 1,000 other guests, many of them contributors as well. A second fireworks display at 1 a.m. was visible from the White House lawn and kicked off a second round of partying from which the media were

Newsday (New York, NY)

January 4, 2000, Tuesday ALL EDITIONS

SECTION: VIEWPOINTS; Page A30

LENGTH: 730 words

HEADLINE: FIRST LADY TURNS NEW YEAR INTO ORWELL'S '1984'

BYLINE: James P. Pinkerton. James P. Pinkerton's e-mail address is pinkertofix.netcom.com.

BODY:

IN HIS NOVEL "1984," George Orwell wrote the formula for would-be thought dictators: "Who controls the past controls the future." By that reckoning, Steven Spielberg's new movie, "The Unfinished Journey," which premiered Friday night as part of "America's Millennium Gala," ranks as a minor classic of neo-Orwellianism.

Just as Orwell's "Ministry of Truth" propagandized on behalf of Big Brother, so Spielberg's 18- minute film was yoked to the political ambitions of Big Sister-Hillary Rodham Clinton. And American history was indeed double-thinked by the Washington-Hollywood axis.

To be sure, the Spielberg film and the entire extravaganza -three hours of pop-rock music interspersed with long, loving shots of the first family hugging and nuzzling each other -were televised on only one network: the faithfully Clintonophilic CBS. So one can't accuse the Clintons of being media-monopolizers.

But one can accuse Hillary Rodham Clinton of cooking up a pseudo-event on public property, having it scripted by loyal Democratic operatives such as Bob Shrum, and paying for it with $ 16 million in fat-cat funding shaken loose by first friend Terry McAuliffe, all to advance her own ego gratification and political ambition.

Emcee Will Smith opened the show with these words: "We're all here because one person had an idea. Let's give a warm round of applause to the architect of America's Millennium, our first lady, Hillary Clinton." (Note to Will: If you ever want to see the inside of the Lincoln Bedroom, remember the "Rodham" next time.) But, if first lady Nancy Davis Reagan had ever had such an idea for an event, she would have been run out of D.C. faster than Katherine Graham could say "Unfair!" The gala's performers danced and pranced on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, facing the Mall, but they were invisible to ordinary people on the grass beside the Reflecting Pool because huge bleachers and camera stands

had been set up in front of them. That's right: At this "people's" event, only VIPs and pressies could see the show directly; mere taxpayers had to crane their necks toward jumbotrons.

That the Clintons love the lifestyle of the rich and famous is not new; what is new is their effort to shape American history to their own advantage. Enter Spielberg and "The Unfinished Journey"; this film will surely turn up in libraries, museums and schools, subtly shaping perceptions of the future by bending the past.

All one really needed to know about Spielberg's "Journey" came in the first few seconds as the image of Abraham Lincoln morphed into Bill Clinton, who recited the words from the 16th president's "with malice toward none" second inaugural address.

Then comes the rest of the film, seemingly a history of America in the 20th Century, done in rapid-fire style, set to John Williams' score.

Yet Spielberg the cineaste gets the better of Spielberg the chronicler; the World War I snippet in his movie features French, not American, soldiers. If only the Tennessee-born Sgt. Alvin York had thought to bring a camera crew as he won his Congressional Medal of Honor! The film makes time for Spielberg's own "Jurassic Park" dinosaurs, but has no time for U.S. war heroes such as Audie Murphy, George Patton or the Marines planting the flag atop Mt. Suribachi.

Spielberg does delight in American technical and scientific exuberance, from rolling assembly lines to towering skycrapers to rocketing space ships. But a larger share of the film is dedicated to leftward social and political change.

Yet, even here, the historical value of "Journey" is marred by an ahistorical skew toward liberal Democratic icons.

Legendary labor leaders such as Samuel Gompers, John L. Lewis and Walter Reuther have all disappeared down Spielberg's memory hole, replaced by a Clinton-baby boomer cavalcade of stars, including Martin Luther King, John F.

Kennedy, Malcolm X, Cesar Chavez, Gloria Steinem, Barbara Jordan, Harvey Milk-even Madeleine Albright.

In one of her many appearances Friday night, Hillary Rodham Clinton quoted Franklin D. Roosevelt. He was first elected from New York, get it? But, after reciting FDR's "four freedoms" -freedom of speech and religion, plus freedom from want and fear -she neglected to mention the freedom that's really needed right now: freedom from being propagandized by one's own government.

LANGUAGE: English

LOAD-DATE: January 5, 2000

THE WASHINGTON POST

MONDAY, JANUARY 3, 2000

In a Millennial Prayer, President Gives Thanks

By CARYLE MURPHY
Washington Post Staff Writer

President Clinton offered a "prayer for the new millennium" on behalf of the nation during services yesterday at Washington National Cathedral, giving thanks "for the promise of the new century" and asking divine guidance "in helping us to make the most of it."

Clinton was accompanied by his wife, Hillary Rodham Clinton, who also read parts of "Prayers of the People," the communal petitions offered at each worship service. Nearly 900 people, including six Cabinet members, filled the cathedral, which was decorated with boughs of pine and red poinsettias.

The Clintons had attended funerals and Christmas Eve services at the imposing, hilltop cathedral in Northwest Washington, seat of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington. But yesterday was the first time any president had taken an active part in services there, cathedral spokesman Bob Beckett said.

"It's important and appropriate for us to have the president at the first Eucharist of the millennium, and we feel his presence fulfills a symbolic role that the cathedral fills as a house for prayer for all people," Becker said. Clinton is a Baptist but often attends services at a United Methodist church.

The 11 a.m. Eucharist service opened with Clinton and his wife joining the procession of clergy and choristers, all singing "The First Noel," down the cathedral's main aisle.

Clinton, dressed in a black suit, and his wife, attired in a wide-striped, blue and purple suit, sat in the left front pew beside Mary Ellen Baxter, wife of the cathedral's dean, the Very Rev. Nathan D. Baxter.

Baxter sermonized on religious tolerance. "If there is anything we have learned in the years since the birth of Christ, it is that there is no world peace without peace among the religions," he said.

"We must expand the sense of who is in God's family beyond our own religious identities," Baxter added. "We must grow beyond any bigotry or arrogance that keeps us from loving and respecting others as God would have us to do."

After the sermon, Clinton and his wife were escorted to a wooden lectern on the left of the sanctuary behind the altar where they alternated reading the communal prayer petitions written by cathedral staff.

The final petition was Clinton's own, which echoed the millennial themes preached in religious services around the nation yesterday. It said in part:

"Dear Lord, as we awaken to this second morning of a new millennium, help us to remember that all we are and all we do begins with you, for whom a thousand years are but as yesterday when it is passed, and as a watch in the night.



BY SUSAN BIDDLE—THE WASHINGTON POST

After reading prayers, the Clintons are escorted from the lectern at Washington National Cathedral by its dean, the Rev. Nathan D. Baxter, right, and verger Stephen Lott.

"So we begin this jubilee year in humility. . . . For me and my family, I give you thanks for good health, good fortune, and the opportunity to serve the American people.

"We thank you for the amazing grace you have shown in getting us through and beyond our individual and collective sins and trials. Through the darkest hours of the 20th century, the shameful trauma of racial oppression, the pain and sacrifice of war, the fear and deprivation of depression, when all we could do was walk by faith, it was your guiding light that saw us through. . . .

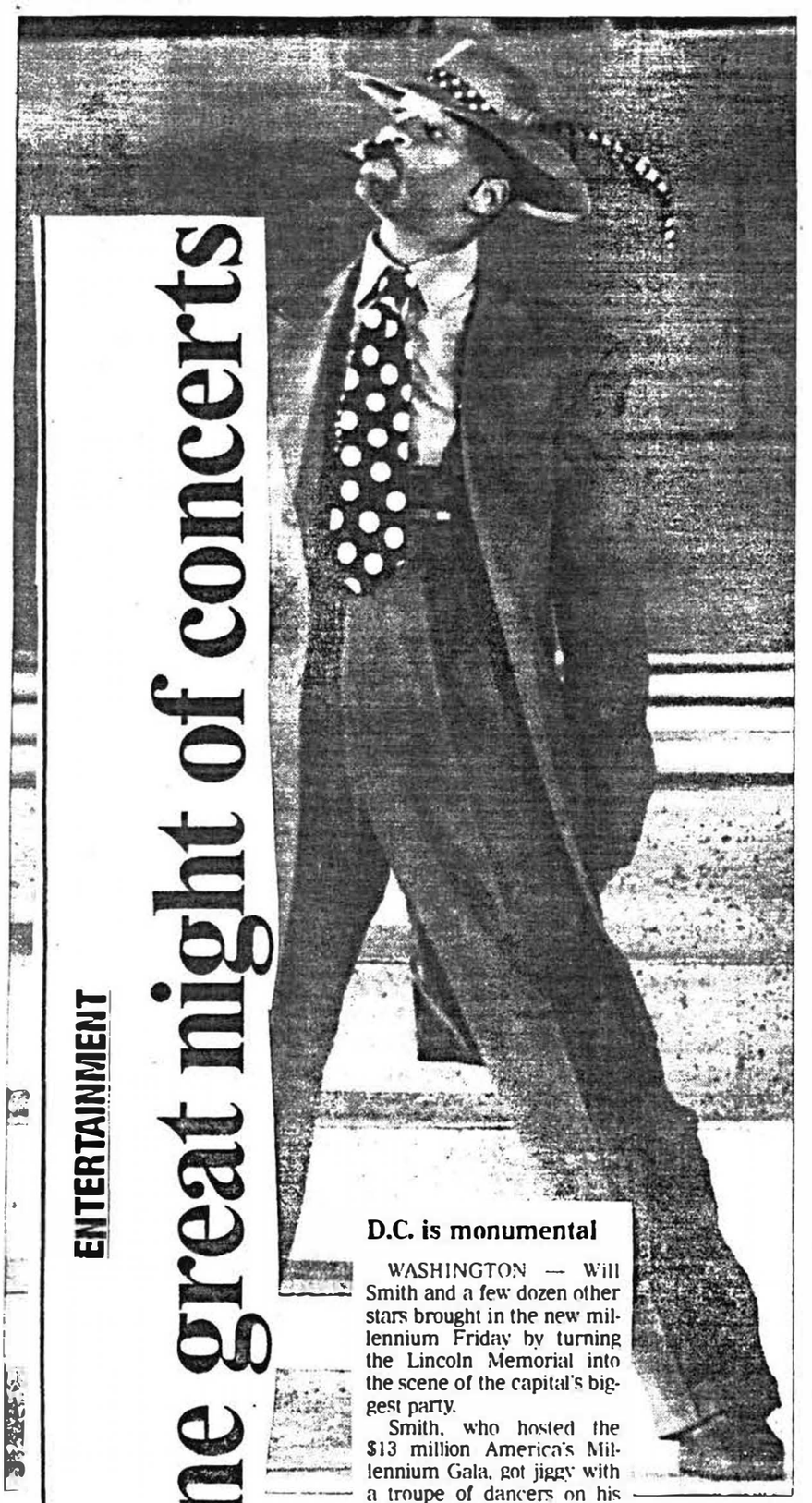
"Finally, we thank you for the rich and wonderful diversity of human life with which you have graced this planet, and ask you to give us the strength and wisdom to give up our fear, distrust and hatred of those who are different. . . .

"Help us now to accept at long last the enduring truth that the most important fact of life is not wealth, or power, or beauty, or scientific advance, but our kinship as brothers and sisters, and our oneness as children of God. This, Holy Father, is our prayer for the new millennium."

Clinton and his wife then shook hands with clergy around the altar and with a few members of the congregation seated in the right front pew. Both received communion following the Eucharist prayer offered by the Rev. Canon Frank M. Harron II.

"It was beautiful and heartfelt," Kimberly Collinsworth, 33, of Los Angeles, said of the president's prayer. "And it meant a lot to me, to give us hope and peace and that we should love one another and help each other out."

2000, and one great night of concerts



D.C. is monumental

WASHINGTON — Will Smith and a few dozen other stars brought in the new millennium Friday by turning the Lincoln Memorial into the scene of the capital's biggest party.

Smith, who hosted the $13 million America's Millennium Gala, got jiggy with a troupe of dancers on his bouncy *Will2K*, pushing his palms to the open sky and chanting to President Clinton, "Raise the roof, Bill."

The estimated 300,000 people who thronged the Mall enjoyed mini-sets from some of music's biggest stars.

Leading up to midnight, it was the past century in song — jazz, rock 'n' roll, pop, folk, country, opera and hip-hop — that was celebrated in the Quincy Jones- and George Stevens Jr.-produced spectacle.

Some of the night's unusual combinations worked — Trisha Yearwood and Brian McKnight crooning *Abraham, Martin and John*, or Kathy Mattea, Luther Vandross and violinist Michel Bell doing *People Get Ready*. Others, such as R&B star Usher and Kris Kristofferson struggling with *The Weight*, did not.

Stars like Tom Jones (*It's Not Unusual*), Kenny Rogers (*The Gambler*), Foreigner's Lou Gramm and Mick Jones (*I Want to Know What Love Is*) and Don McLean (*American Pie*) had the chance to do their signature tunes in front of a once-in-a-lifetime crowd.

The most stirring sounds came from divas Jessye Norman and Kathleen Battle, singing on the site of African-American opera star Marian Anderson's 1939 Easter Sunday concert, which followed the Daughters of the American Revolution's refusal to allow her to perform at Washington's Constitution Hall.

After midnight, most of the crowd began drifting off, but those who stayed for another hour saw most of the night's cast return to sing *America, the Beautiful* before U2's Bono performed and the cast of *Stomp* put a percussive stamp on the evening.



By Eric Parsons, The Tennessean

A toast: Faith Hill welcomes the new year with front-row fans in Nashville.



Above: by Ethan Miller, Reuters; left: by Larry Downing, Reuters

In performance: Elton John, above, was in Las Vegas. Will Smith, at left, took the stage at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C.

The nation celebrates a new century in concert

By Ken Barnes
USA TODAY

While most Americans witnessed the dawn of the millennium from their couches, those willing to forsake their cocoons (and most of the contents of their wallets) celebrated in style at concert venues across the USA.

Arenas were sometimes less than full, but the audiences occupying the seats experienced marathon musical retrospectives with spectacular stage sets and special effects galore.

Music lovers ventured to locations ranging from the Florida Everglades (where quirky rockers Phish staged a massive concert) to San Rafael, Calif. (where Bonnie Raitt headlined).

An estimated 2 million people packed New York's Times Square area to watch festivities, musical and otherwise.

Sweet harmony from Miami to the Mall, 6D

Also on display:

▶ In Las Vegas, fans who paid up to $2,500 a ticket saw Barbra Streisand recap her storied career in what may be her last U.S. concerts.

▶ Country devotees witnessed the reunion of The Judds in Phoenix and the union of two fans (via a midconcert marriage proposal) at Tim McGraw and Faith Hill's Nashville show.

▶ Boomers celebrated L.A.-style with local icons The Eagles, partied in Miami with hometown heroine Gloria Estefan and entered a New York state of mind with Long Island's Billy Joel.

▶ High rollers and hipsters saw private shows by Elton John, Tina Turner and Celine Dion in Vegas and by Sting and a glittery MTV lineup in New York.

▶ An estimated 300,000 thronged the National Mall in Washington to watch the fireworks and hear a galaxy of stars spanning a wide musical range — Will Smith, Kathleen Battle, Don McLean, John Fogerty, Trisha Yearwood, Luther Vandross, Tom Jones, Jessye Norman, Brian McKnight and more.

▶ Fans in Las Vegas watched Bette Midler combine the traditional and the satirical as only she can in a show that featured both *Auld Lang Syne* and impressionists mocking Cher, Michael Jackson, Rod Stewart and even Streisand.

Inside today's Life section, a team of USA TODAY reporters recounts the sites, sights and sounds of some of the weekend's hottest millennial concerts.



BJ Productions

A rare appearance: Barbra Streisand's Las Vegas concerts were big hits.

www.usatoday.com

USA TODAY

Life

MONDAY, JANUARY 3, 2000

TV sends 1900s out with a bang

Global absence of malice made it a grand party

TV NEWS & VIEWS
By Robert Blanco

Well, that had to be the most uneventful 24 hours of "event TV" ever.

And wasn't it wonderful?

No terrorist attacks, no power failures, no airplane or computer crashes. Instead, New Year's Eve offered a day of celebratory TV — an immensely entertaining lesson in comparative cultures laced with music, dance and fireworks.

It was a grand party, and there was no better host than ABC, led by a relaxed, appealingly avuncular and emotional Peter Jennings. He even kept his dignity when a string from his suit became a prop in David Blaine's magic act, and that was no easy trick.

Though cable's 24-hour newscasts all offered coverage, Jennings and ABC best captured the shifting mood of the day. At first, as he waited to see whether problems would arise, Jennings exuded caution and a bit of uncertainty. As Australian drag star Dame Edna told him, it was as if we were all having "terrible problems summoning up the right emotions" for the millennial shift.

But as the day progressed without disaster, you could almost hear Jennings lead a communal sigh of relief. By the time Cokie Roberts launched into a silly but spirited debate with Barbara Walters and Charles Gibson over the respective merits of Italy, France and Great Britain, it was clear ABC had let its guard down and was ready to celebrate.

The other broadcast networks came to the party late and never caught up. CBS misjudged the spirit of the occasion, opening with a David Letterman special designed to prove he's too smart for the millennium. (Letterman has precisely one note, ironic distance, and this was not the night for it.) While CBS' slate improved with its broadcast of Washington, D.C.'s *America's Millennium*, the network was too tied to one city to convey the global nature of the event.

Worse still was NBC, which seemed more interested in promoting Jay Leno than in covering the worldwide countdown. The nadir, however, was Tom Brokaw's fawning interview with tiresome self-proclaimed Washington society queen Sally Quinn, who prattled on about the social ambitions of the Georgetown party crowd.

There were, of course, plenty of other TV choices. CNN was steady and newsy, but its correspondents can't match ABC's for star power, and its regularly scheduled shows were a drag on the proceedings — particularly *TalkBack Live*'s Webcam chat with author Arthur C. Clarke. Internet interviews may be the technology of the future, but they're unwatchable in the present.

PBS ran the most complete footage of international artistic performances but undercut them with a steady stream of somnambulant narration. MSNBC was often annoyingly chipper, particularly in those painful hours when Jodi Applegate anchored from London with all the decorum of a tipsy sorority girl. Fox News Channel was too tied to New York and to tabloid fluff like Page Six and its imaginary gossip of the future — though to its credit, it was the only network to have a translator ready for the pope's address from Rome.

Still, by the time midnight approached, most viewers were probably in such a good mood, even the shots of Barry Manilow trying to dance were endearing. Some other moments to remember:

▶ The pyrotechnics at Australia's Sydney Harbor, though I would have advised them to drop the smiley face from the bridge.

▶ Cokie Roberts ending her interview with her mother, Lindy Boggs (ambassador to the Holy See), with "Thank you, Mommy. Happy new year."

▶ The light shows at the Pyramids and the Parthenon.

▶ The Eiffel Tower seeming to explode in Paris, easily capturing the world's prize for Best in Show.

▶ London's Big Ben signaling what was claimed to be the world's largest fireworks show. It was something, all right — though if we were the ones who had spent a billion dollars on a huge dome, fireworks and Vegas dancers in skimpy clothes, we'd be hearing about our ostentatious bad taste for the rest of the century.

▶ The incredible countdown at the Washington Monument, America's only real monumental challenge to Paris and the only event ABC undercovered.

▶ A befuddled Barbara Walters getting so lost in a card trick with Blaine, he had to tell her to drop out.

And there was so much more, as we saw the ways the world has been Westernized (they sang *Auld Lang Syne* in Thailand, which doesn't hit the new year on its calendar until April) and the ways it hasn't. "We've looked at the world with such a sense of awe today," Jennings said — and we had fun, too.

Not a bad way to spend a New Year's Eve.





Left, ABC; above, CBS

A magical night: Peter Jennings, left, with David Blaine; David Letterman, above right, with Rudy Giuliani

White House shimmers with celebrity guests

By Ann Geracimos
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Movers and shakers from the fields of art, sports, entertainment and business were among more than 350 guests at last night's White House millennium dinner.

Even with Elizabeth Taylor stalled somewhere in traffic before the start of the evening, the Hollywood celebrity quotient was easily filled by the likes of Sophia Loren, Jack Nicholson, Mary Tyler Moore, Robert De Niro and Martin Scorsese.

The dinner was billed as a tribute to American creators and innovators. But the more obvious majority was the number of private company representatives on the list, at least one of whom conceded that the million dollars his company contributed to the weekend celebration was well spent.

Some guests were known to be invited to contribute as much as $100,000 to take part in the festivities.

Representing the world of sports were Carl Lewis, Mohammad Ali and Bill Russell. The arts were represented in part by architect Michael Graves; Maya Lin, designer of the Vietnam War memorial; poet Rita Dove; playwright Edward Albee; actors Ruby Dee and Ossie Davis; and jazz musician Dave Brubeck, among others.

And why was Mr. Nicholson here, rather than in Hollywood? "This is America, honey. America is here," the actor said.

Perhaps the real story of the night had to do with who wasn't present, given the draw of the White House and importance of the evening.

In addition to the regular holiday decorations, the mansion was transformed into a white and silver fantasy land, with glass tree sculptures by artist Dale Chilhuly on show in the Grand Foyer.

The menu included caviar, lobster and rack of lamb.

"Our country is probably in the best condition it has ever been and also has the most responsibilities it has ever had. And I think we can meet them."

—Sen. Patrick J. Leahy

President Clinton gave the toasts — generally optimistic homages to the future — in the three dining areas (East Room, State Dining Room and a tent set up in the Rose Garden for family members of honored guests). First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and daughter Chelsea Clinton were at his side, both in black gowns.

Sen. Patrick J. Leahy, Vermont Democrat, attended with his daughter, Alicia. He was celebrating the fact that "our country is probably in the best condition it has ever been and also has the most responsibilities it has ever had," Mr. Leahy said. "And I think we can meet them."

"A century ago, blacks couldn't come to dinner here," the Rev. Jesse Jackson said upon entering the gala.

Humor wasn't entirely absent, however. Asked by reporters to name the greatest invention of the century, Miss Moore responded: "The blow dryer."

Sen. John B. Breaux, Louisiana Democrat, was more conventional in his reply: "The jet engine. It has brought the world closer together."



Photo by Astrid Riecken/The Washington Times

President and Mrs. Clinton and their daughter, Chelsea, greet Muhammad Ali at the White House Millennium Dinner yesterday.

Several hundred more guests were invited to attend a post-gala party at the White House, in addition to the earlier crowd.

Singer Mary Wilson was the entertainer at what was being billed as a breakfast feast scheduled to last until 6 a.m.

Washington Times
January 3, 2000

Party lines: The Washington Times

people, places and politics

Revelers welcome year in extravagant fashion

If clothing choices worn by guests to the White House millennium dinner are any indication of trends to come, then more men will be wearing more colorful hats and more women will be in strapless dresses with shawls.

Fabrics were luscious. Jewels were eye-catching, especially when seen atop a generous bosom. Designer dresses garnered the most attention — as usual.

In other words, extravagance may well be the theme of next century's fashions.

The economy booms on as mere mortals continue to ape celebrity attire.

Jack Nicholson arrived at the White House East Wing entrance dapper and smiling, as did **Will Smith**, the titular host for the late-night gala. Mr. Nicholson had on a black fedora above his signature bad-boy grin, Mr. Smith a porkpie.

Even better, Mr. Smith was wearing a sparkling coral-colored vest made to order for the occasion by Donatella Versace to match the knockout clinging chiffon number worn by his wife, **Jada Pinkett Smith.** The couple proudly paraded before the press as they hurried into the pre-dinner reception being held under a tent in the sculpture garden.

Next to draw gasps of surprise and admiration was the low-cut black Armani gown chosen by **Sophia Loren** to show off her diamond and ruby necklace from Van Cleef & Arpels. (Whether borrowed for the occasion or a gift from admirers, she didn't say.) **Elizabeth Taylor** showed up later in shimmering burgundy velvet with a feather shoulder wrap in a lighter shade, escorted by photographer **Firooz Zahedi**, nephew of former Iranian ambassador to the United States Ardeshir Zahedi, with whom Miss Taylor was linked romantically in the 1970s. President Clinton, no fool he, chose Miss Loren and Miss Taylor to be his tablemates at dinner along with Mr. Nicholson. (Hillary Rodham Clinton sat beside District Mayor **Anthony Williams**, with a national labor union official **Dennis Rivera** at the same table.) Conversation was "very strong," Mr. Nicolson reported later in typical wise-guy manner.

Perhaps mindful of unexpectedly benign weather conditions, singer **Kathleen Battle** and many other women had on equally colorful strapless taffeta or satin gowns under furs and stoles. Miss Battle's was a light pink, worn under an enveloping cape of quilted white satin. Actress **Lara Flynn Boyle** of TV's "The Practice," who was Mr. Nicholson's date, looked alarmingly thin in her strapless pink creation worn without cover. **Mary Tyler Moore** chose a jewel-encrusted baby blue gown with tiny sleeves. **Lynda Johnson Robb** was a standout as well in a red and black brocade smoking jacket that she said had once belonged to her father, the late Lyndon B. Johnson.

Singer **Mary Wilson**, entertainer for the early-morning post-gala White House party, hit all the right notes in her brilliant sweeping red satin gown and sequin-trimmed Coke bottle purse. She was both elegant and sassy at once.

It certainly wasn't an occasion to be modest or mercenary. Bring on the glad rags. Internet entrepreneur **Vinton Cerf**, senior vice president for Internet architecture and technology at MCI WorldCom, said he had looked forward to the evening if only because of the opportunity to wear the top hat given him along with an honorary doctorate from the University of Lurea in Sweden. "I've been waiting for more than a year," he said. "I'm celebrating the 21st century infrastructure. It is all going to immerse us in a sea of connectedness."

With 360 guests, to be joined later by some 500 others frolicking in two dining rooms and two outsized tents, closeness and connectedness were certainly the evening's themes. No wonder a former White House communications official **Don Baer** suggested jokingly that the best invention of the last century was "roll-on deodorant — it made us all more social."

— **Ann Geracimos**





Photos by Astrid Riecken/The Washington Times

Sen. Patrick J. Leahy and his daughter, Alicia Leahy, arrive for the Millennium Dinner (below) hosted by President and Mrs. Clinton. Singer Mary Wilson, an original member of the Supremes, chats with the assembled press (below right) in a heated tent on the White House grounds.

The Washington Times
MONDAY, JANUARY 3, 2000

Smithsonian honors past, reflects on future

Thousands attend New Year's events

By Ellen Sorokin
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

An estimated 10,000 people crowded the museums of the Smithsonian Institution this weekend to honor the country's past and reflect on its future during the America's Millennium on the Mall celebration.

Area residents, tourists and political leaders — including President Clinton, first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and daughter Chelsea — began celebrating the new year Friday morning, when the Smithsonian kicked off its free programs, which focused on passing traditions — from music and cooking to scientific knowledge — from one generation to another.

The unseasonably warm weather helped contribute to the success of the Mall events as temperatures yesterday reached 68 degrees, nearly beating the record high of 71 degrees set in 1876.

Legendary blues musician B.B. King concluded the three-day event last night by performing his signature "The Thrill is Gone" on the electric guitar he calls Lucille, before a crowd of 565 fans at the Baird Auditorium at the National Museum of Natural History.

"We wanted to offer a moment of a little more quiet reflection on the millennium, on the new century," said Richard Kurin, director of folk life and cultural heritage at the Smithsonian and organizer of the weekend events.

"It's really about bringing people from all backgrounds together and building a bridge from the past to the future," Mr. Kurin explained.

The events took place at the National Museum of Natural History, National Museum of American History and the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden. Each museum hosted a different menu of programs, which included "Future Visions," "American Voices" and "Story Circle."

Among the events were: "Technologies of the Millennium," "Searching for Extraterrestrial Life," "40 Years of Sports Photography," "Blues Music Past and Future," and "A Heritage of Pictures and Words." Each program was about an hour long.

The Clintons on Friday attended the session called "Bluegrass: America's Roots Music," which featured a conversation with musician Ricky Skaggs, who has been hailed by music critics as a "Master of Bluegrass."

The National Air and Space Museum also welcomed 2000 by hosting the Mars Millennium Project, a nationwide contest to design a village settlement on Mars. All participants received a Mars Millennium poster.

"The celebration has been pretty successful," said Vicki Moeser, a Smithsonian spokeswoman. "We've seen a lot of people who had a lot of enthusiasm come to the museums to participate in the programs over the weekend. It's been a wonderful weekend."

The visitors, who continued to file into the museums along Constitution and Independence avenues at 4 p.m. yesterday, agreed.

"It's been very impressive," said Doris Sprull, a D.C. mother who brought her 9-year-old son, Malik, to the programs this weekend. "There was a wide variety of pro-

see MALL, *page C2*

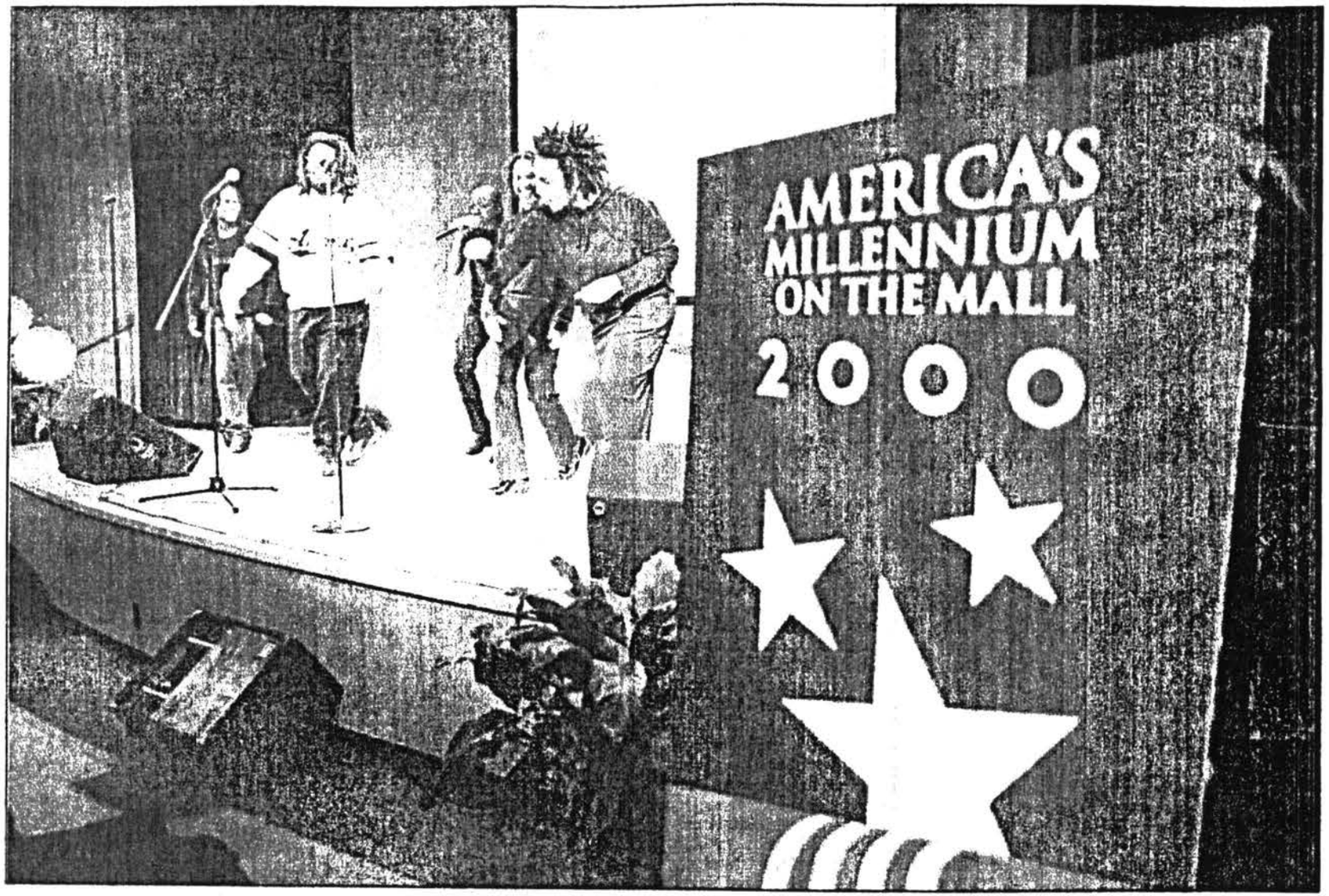


Photo by Michael Connor/The Washington Times

Freestyle Union, a rap group that promotes positive images, performs yesterday as part of the Smithsonian's year-2000 celebrations.

MALL

From page C1

grams people of all ages could be interested in. I had a good time."

So did Malik, a student at Shepherd Elementary School, who on Saturday enjoyed seeing award-winning actors Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee read vignettes about the lives of abolitionist Frederick Douglass, scholar W.E.B. Du Bois, poet Langston Hughes and educator Booker T. Washington.

Tourists also got a chance to take part in the activities even though tickets were required to attend the events. All 12,000 tickets were distributed by Dec. 10.

Mr. Kurin said organizers expected that about 25 percent of the ticket holders would not show up for the activities. That gave tourists like Tammy and Wayne Cuslik, of Cleveland, a chance to enjoy the programs.

"We got lucky," Mrs. Cuslik said. What better way to spend the first weekend of the new year and the new century than being in the nation's capital and taking in all that the city has to offer."



Photo by Michael Connor/The Washington Times

Cherokee storyteller Gayle Ross tells tales inspired by her grandmother at the Museum of American History.

Arkansas Democrat-Gazette
January 2, 2000

Clintons offer preview of

BY SUSAN ROTH
ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

WASHINGTON — A Twinkie, a cell phone and a copy of the *Log Cabin Democrat* newspaper from Conway, Ark., may be in a time capsule unveiled by the president and first lady Friday.

President and Hillary Clinton presented a prototype of the capsule, which resembles a large trunk bearing an American flag design, at the opening ceremony of national New Year's celebrations in downtown Washington.

The prototype will go on display at the Smithsonian's Museum of American History. The actual capsule will be filled in the coming months with artifacts representing America as the century ends. It will be sealed in a year and stored in the National Archives, to be opened in a century.

"Almost three years ago, when the White House Millennium Council began planning a celebration for the National Mall, we decided that an important way to capture this moment in time would be by filling a national time capsule," the first lady told a crowd of 1,500 people gathered under a cloudless sky between the National Museum of American History and the National Museum of Natural History.

"We invited the thinkers and builders and creators of this century — all the past recipients of our nation's highest honors in the arts and humanities, in science and technology, in citizenship and leadership, as well as builders and creators of the future, the students who are taught by the state teachers of the year across America. We asked them all to help us fill this time capsule, and their responses have been overwhelming," Mrs. Clinton said.

Three of the suggestions alone — a transistor, a piece of the Berlin Wall and Louis Armstrong's trumpet — could tell the story of the 20th century, she said. The transistor started the information age, Armstrong's instrument heralded the rise of jazz and American music around the world, and the parcel of the Berlin Wall "announced the triumph of democracy over dictatorship," the first lady said.

Some of the other items submitted include a World War II helmet, singer Ray Charles' sunglasses, a

century time capsule

piece of Corning Ware and many photos — of the earth from space, of the liberation of a Nazi concentration camp, of fast-food restaurants and of convenience stores.

A group of those thinkers and builders and students who submitted ideas joined the president and first lady onstage to offer proposals for what to include in the capsule.

John Hope Franklin, Duke University history professor emeritus, suggested a copy of the Constitution's 14th Amendment of 1868, which granted citizenship and equal legal protection to all people born in the United States.

Dr. Maurice Hilleman, a pioneer in immunology, contributed a transparent Lucite block containing eight vials of 20th century vaccines that have "prevented illness, disability and death and changed the face of the world."

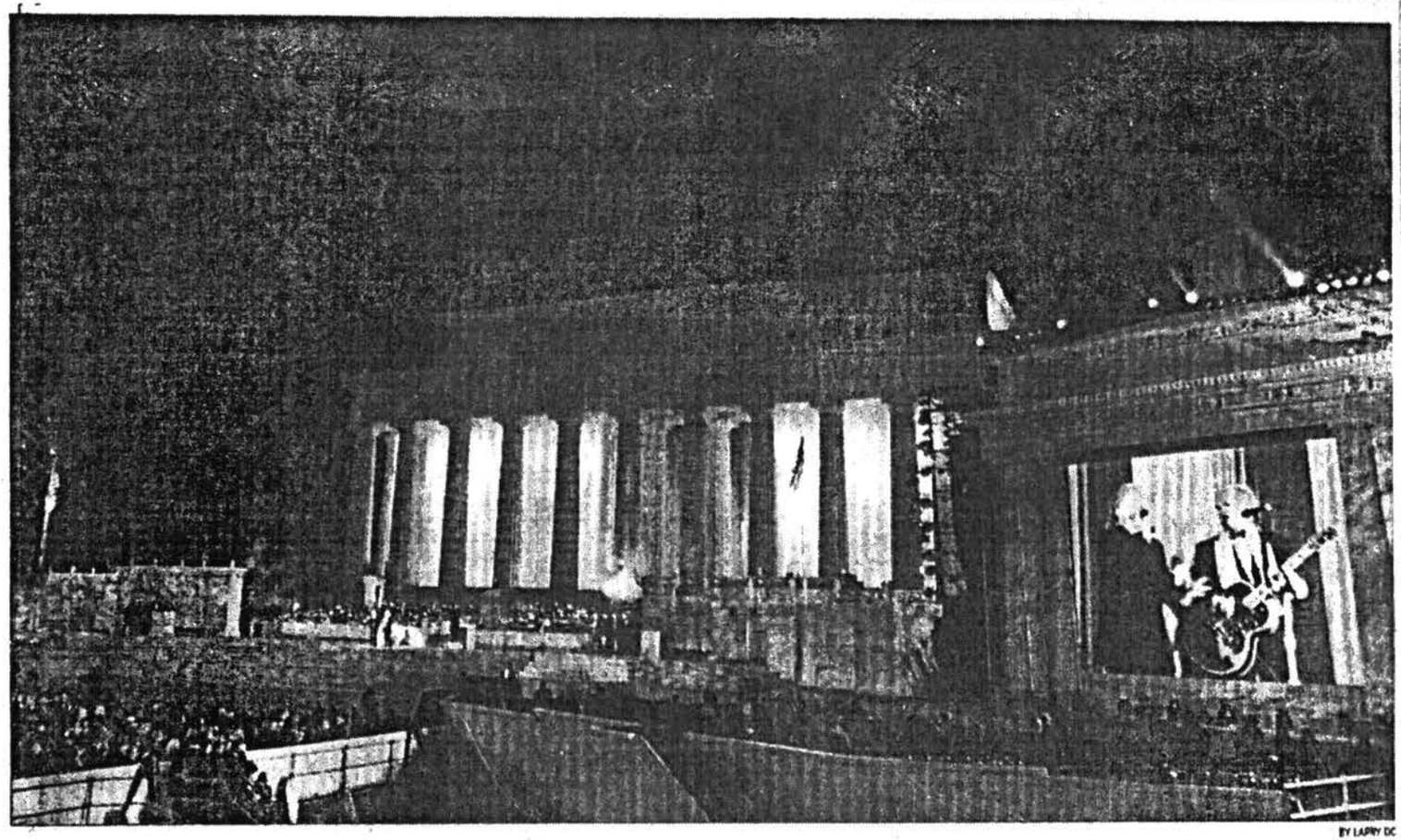
Retired Army Gen. Colin Powell, who received a rousing ovation, offered a set of GI dog tags to honor the "millions of Americans who have been willing to go in harm's way."

And Washington sixth-grader Eric Timmons expressed the hope of "stopping violence so that we can live in peace."

The time capsule will be made of three metals: steel for the Industrial Age, copper for the Information Age and titanium for the age to come, Mrs. Clinton said.

The flag design symbolizes "our optimistic country that is always in motion, always moving forward, always pushing back the frontiers of technology and progress, of tolerance and justice," she said.

January, 2000



BY LARRY DC

Memorial millennium: Most of the crowd that thronged to the Mall got to see the performers—such as Kenny Rogers and Don McLean—only on video screens.

A Grand Night of Eclectic Performances



BY LARRY DOWNING—REUTERS

Wild, wild Will: Will Smith hams it up during the opening of the millennium celebration.

Performance

On the Mall And Beyond, A Night of Epoch, And Odd, Proportions

By Megan Rosenfeld and Teresa Wiltz
Washington Post Staff Writers

As the century drew to a close last night, pictures from the "American Century" flashed across big screens set up near the Lincoln Memorial—anxious immigrants, scared soldiers, tap-dancing entertainers, construction workers, celebrities and other examples of American iconography. Compiled by director Steven Spielberg, the 20-minute film titled "The Unfinished Journey" tried to capture the country's agony as well as its glory, with the live grace note of an unknown elderly couple exchanging a kiss at the close of their turn as narrators.

However bombastic the film may seem to partygoers in the year 3000, it led up dramatically to a speech by President Clinton and the eagerly awaited fireworks display that climaxed the "America's Millennium" gala, a three-hour smorgasbord of entertainment that drew thousands to the Mall to celebrate the New Year. Indeed, all across town, America's music sounded—from gospel to folk, Vegas to Broadway, opera, jazz and rap—as hundreds of performers brought in the new

See PERFORMANCE, *C7, Col. 1*

century in song.

The Mall gala often seemed designed more for television (on CBS) than for those who were actually present, as only the 3,000 ticket-holders in the bleachers near the Lincoln Memorial could actually see the stage. The masses thronged around the Reflecting Pool could see the performers only on big screens, which at times—as when Will Smith's "Willennium" video was playing—meant that audience members stood in line to see television.

Nonetheless, it was probably the first time Abraham Lincoln got to watch a "Soul Train" line. As 30 dancers leapt around a stage built for the event, his marble eminence looked on.

Smith also got President Clinton to pump his fist in a "Raise the Roof" dance moment. "Yo, bro," he called to the commander in chief.

Thousands of folks hoping to get a glimpse of Smith or Trisha Yearwood found themselves light-years away from the headliners, waiting for at least an hour to get through security checkpoints. "I don't mind," said Patrice Haffeman of Frederick, Md. "I'd rather feel safe."

Others were not so sanguine. "They should at least tell us what's going on," said Eldred Deklerk, a police trainer from Cape Town, South Africa. "Some people are giving up and going home." By 11 p.m., the crowd was pushing down the hurricane fencing to get in, according to television reports.

At least they didn't have to listen to commercials, as the cocooners at home did. And even the elite ticket-holders found themselves waiting in line, trying to get up the stairs to their seats as performers were trying to get down.

Across town, the superb mezzo-soprano of Washington's own Denyce Graves soared into the far reaches of the National City Christian Church before an audience of 700. Wearing a stunning coat-dress of white and gold brocade and accompanied by pianist Brian Zeger, she sang a versatile mix of classical arias, jazz and spirituals. Combined with her now-earthy, now-velvet tone, her luminous stage presence and gracious song introductions clearly transported her audience, who seemed to respond to her every note.

Her most striking numbers were an aria from Handel's opera "Amadigi di Gaula," which she performed with spectacular ornamentation, and her signature tune, Camille Saint-Saens' "Mon Coeur s'Ouvre à ta Voix" ("My Heart Opens at Thy Voice"), which brought wild applause.

In Landover, there was a big party at the Jericho City of Praise—in the name of Jesus—with laser lights, a live band and bellowing gospel singers. And just across the Beltway, at US Airways Arena, Ebenezer AME Church drew more than 10,000 people to its "Holy Ghost Praise Party." The old basketball floor trembled as people rocked in their seats and sang an old song titled "Can't Nobody Do Me Like Jesus."

On the Mall, the lineup at the millennium gala was eclectic, to say the least, too often saddled with a tired variety-show feeling. The combination of pop heartthrob Usher, looking uncomfortable in a tuxedo, with aging folkie Kris Kristofferson for a rendition of "The Weight" was the oddest of several odd pairings during the evening. To add to the made-for-TV-feeling, the announcer broke into a powerful rendition of "I'll Take You There" by BeBe Winans and Patti Austin with an inappropriate "Only on CBS!"

During lulls in the show—and there were many—Smith hammed it up in front of the bleachers to the delight of the ticket-holding crowd. Inexplicably, producer Quincy Jones failed to use Smith much beyond the opening and the closing, a mistake considering how adept the actor is at impromptu crowd-pleasing.

Not far from the mall, Billy Taylor presided in the Kennedy Center's Terrace Theater as the first century of jazz gave way to the third millennium. The sold-



BY PAUL RICHARDS—AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

British star Tom Jones croons "It's Not Unusual" at the Lincoln Memorial.

National Public Radio, initially found Taylor leading a septet composed of the evening's special guests, including tenor saxophonist Stanley Turrentine, vibist Stefon Harris, guitarist Russell Malone and trumpeter Terence Blanchard. The band opened with "At la Carousel," an upbeat charmer brightened by dashing solos from Taylor and Harris, tempered by the soulful attack of Turrentine and Malone and brilliantly illuminated by Blanchard's brassy fireworks.

"Soul Sister," another Taylor composition, featured the pianist's trio alone onstage, conjuring a relaxed, after-hours groove punctuated by bassist Chip Jackson's inventive and invigorating handiwork. Drummer Winard Harper, a new member of Taylor's trio, then used sticks, mallets, rattlers and bells to create a festive symphony of percussion on Taylor's engaging Latin jazz piece "Tito-ro." The band leader's open suite for piano followed. And though the trio arrangement was pared down to the elegant essentials, the piece nevertheless managed to encapsulate much of the history of jazz piano with great verve and finesse.

Following the second set, the entire audience was invited to don party garb (provided to each ticket-holder) and welcome in the new year at a bash in the grand foyer.

Over at the Kennedy Center's Concert Hall, some men wore suits, some wore tuxedos. One man standing outside the lobby was in a tuxedo with sneakers—prepared for all eventualities.

The National Symphony Orchestra's New Year's Eve concert was equal parts Old World music making and New World slapstick. While grand divas Kathleen Battle and Jessye Norman were down on the Mall, NSO Music Director Leonard Slatkin chose to spend the evening with family and friends—his wife, the soprano Linda Hohenfeld and old chums from his salad days, pianists Jeffrey Siegel and Joseph Kalichstein.

Plus several thousand listeners and a passel of journalists. This was a very weird concert, weird and wonderful. Unlike the usual New Year's Eve concerts around the world that model themselves on the famous Vienna New Year's Day event—dour Viennese soberly listening to champagne music from the dead Strausses—Slatkin gave it a local twist.

The maestro, who marked the millennium by conducting the New Year's eve concert for the first time since he arrived at the NSO, announced from the stage that he would have none of the usual waltzes: too European, too not-American. But he began with music of France. Why? Because he wanted to.

The centerpiece of the program was Saint-Saens' "Carnival of the Animals," a collection of light character sketches devoted to a baker's dozen of nature's wild creatures (this is the suite for which the universally beloved "The Swan" was composed). Slatkin dropped the Ogden Nash poems that have become attached to the various movements and substituted new verses by 14 prominent journalists from The Washington Post, ABC News and the Weekly Standard. It was a one-time event, he promised. The texts, kept under wraps until the event itself, stole the orchestra's thunder. But that was the point.

Post Publisher Donald E. Graham stayed above the fray, reminding the audience of nobler things. ABC's John Cochran, who read verses for absentee versifiers, contributed his own, a philosophical query about the relative ego size of journalists and conductors. The Post's Henry Allen, who had the "Cuckoo" movement, chose a poetical allusion—"In Xanadu did Cuckoo Kahn, a stately pleasure nest decree . . ." And his colleague Tony Kornheiser mockingly went for the jugular with a discussion of local fossils (he began with Sens. Jesse Helms and Strom Thurmond, and ended with himself).

Slatkin, always a masterful programmer, arranged the evening as if to say "Relax, the modern orchestra has been bug-free for 300 years." He played soothing music—Faure's "Pavane"—and music that looked back to this century's forgotten technological marvels—Leroy Anderson's "The Typewriter" and "The Syncopated Clock." He played the typewriter himself—"The hardest thing I've had to do in four years." Hohenfeld sang songs by Jerome Kern, and Siegel and Kalichstein were the pianists in the Saint-Saens.

But no audience will leave without the New Year's hit of all time, the Strauss "Radetzky" March. They applauded until Slatkin gave it to them, as an encore. They clapped in time, as audiences have for decades, a small nod to tradition before heading out into the brisk night to greet a new century.

No one would mistake the Black Cat on 14th Street NW for the Kennedy Center, but the post-punk club glittered last night, with strands of tiny white lights hung from the ceiling and the bar. The entertainment was equally grunge-free. Peaches O'Dell and Her Black Cat Orchestra, a 10-piece combo that specializes in songs originally recorded by the likes of Frank Sinatra and the Andrews Sisters.

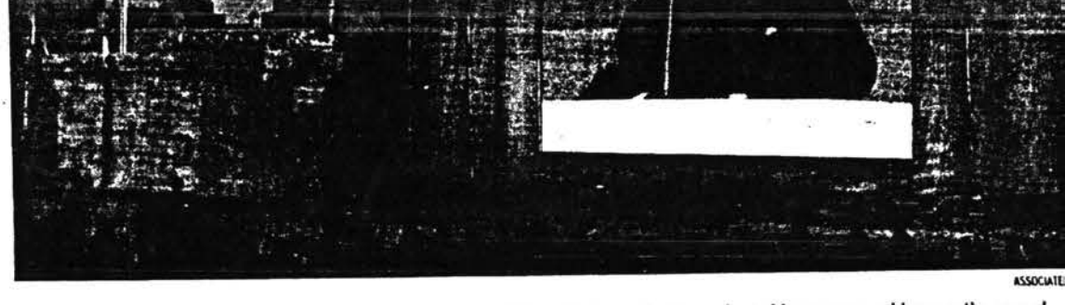
Fewer than 50 patrons were in attendance when the orchestra began playing shortly after 10 p.m., but the dance floor was nearly full an hour later, a creditable turnout for a club that reaches capacity when a hot alternative-rock band draws 500 fans. While the first couple to dance was dressed as if for a Fred Astaire movie, others wore the club's customary black-on-black uniform.

O'Dell promised to return in a "tacky" outfit as her group finished its first set and yielded to the Hidden Persuaders, a minimalist trio that performed such lounge standards as "Moon River" and "The Look of Love."

At midnight, after the stunning flash that lit of the Washington Monument, the Mall gala continued along it's guerrilla-like way. Following the inevitable "Fanfare for the Common Man" and a children's choir leading "America the Beautiful," a panoply of notables came out to read quotes from other notables. They included a surprise visit from Elizabeth Taylor (dark-haired again), and people like Edward James Olmos quoting Ronald Reagan and Atallah Shabazz quoting Ceasar Chavez.

Will Smith was seen leaving around then, carrying a child and accompanying his wife. The show wasn't over—it was scheduled to continue with the cast of Stomp and Irish singer Bono, plus a lot more fireworks—but for many, the night was over and the new century was underway.

Cecelia Porter, Philip Kennicott, Mike Joyce, Hamil R. Harris, Mark Jenkins and Sari Horwitz contributed to this report.



ASSOCIATED

The White House's Repast for the Future

By ROXANNE ROBERTS
Washington Post Staff Writer

It was a once-in-a-lifetime invitation—greeting the new century at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave.

Muhammad Ali, Elizabeth Taylor, Sophia Loren, Robert De Niro, Martin Scorsese, Jack Nicholson, Will Smith, Sid Caesar, Neil Simon all chose to be in Washington for this unique moment in history. So did Arthur Schlesinger Jr., Julie Harris, Bob Dole, Itzhak Perlman, Maya Lin, Arthur Mitchell, Robert Rauschenberg, Kathleen Battle, Edward Villella, Jessye Norman, Carl Lewis, Bill Russell and Sen. John Glenn.

"I think it's a wonderful evening," said Loren, who was clearly moved to be invited to what President Clinton called an "unforgettable celebration." Americans liberated her village during World War II, she recalled, and it meant so much to be here on this night. "I come here this evening—which is a very important evening—with great, great emotion."

"This is America here!" said Nicholson with his wicked grin. "Yeeahh!"

This was a dusk-to-dawn affair: The guests began arriving just after 5:30 p.m. and were scheduled to dance and eat breakfast until sunrise. The festivities began with a black-tie dinner for 360 guests in the White House, who were then bused to the Lincoln Memorial for the nationally televised New Year's Eve extravaganza produced by Quincy Jones and George Stevens Jr. After the midnight fireworks display, approximately 600 more people were invited back to the executive mansion for breakfast and dancing until dawn.

The much-hyped "American Creators" celebration was a private, exclusive evening, however. Reporters were allowed to speak briefly to dinner guests as they arrived, but barred from covering the rest of the events at the White House. No explanation was given, although the decision was made in the first lady's office.

"We're not opening the after-party," said Marsha Berry, press secretary for Hillary Clinton. "It's closed because it's closed."

Perhaps it had something to do with money. What started as a millennium celebration headed by Hillary Rodham Clinton evolved into an off-the-record fund-raiser, with corporate sponsors shelling out millions to mingle with the Clintons' celebrity guests.

"We raised over $16 million," said Democratic fund-raiser Terry McAuliffe, who led the private sector drive to pay for the millennium production on the Mall and two days of public family activities at the Smithsonian Institution.

But the primary perk was dinner and dancing with the president and first lady in what could arguably be considered the most historic venue in the country. Will Smith strode in looking dapper and adorable, all at the same time. Elizabeth Taylor arrived last—almost two hours after the other guests—wearing velvet and (what else?) diamonds. Loren was her usual spectacular vision. Mary Tyler Moore flanked her new TV movie. John Williams gave Jessye Norman an enormous bear hug. Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee made the cutest couple. Even World Bank President James Wolfensohn, who originally planned to spend the night at his home in Jackson Hole, Wyo., couldn't stay away. "There was this feeling you were going to miss something," said his wife, Elaine.

Everybody got into the act, with many guests bringing their children. In order to keep families together on this night, the White House invited 100 children of dinner guests to dine in a tent in the Rose Garden before joining their parents for the show at the Lincoln Memorial.

But the real show was the East Room and State Dining Room, which were transformed into a fantasy of white and silver, with white orchids and roses set atop silver velvet tablecloths. The president went into each room to toast his guests: "I cannot help but think how different America is, how different history is, and how much better because of those of you in this room and those you represent were able to imagine, to invent, to aspire."

Then an extravagant New Year's Eve dinner was served: Beluga caviar, lobster, foie gras, rack of lamb and polenta, and a special dessert of chocolate and champagne.





PHOTOS BY RICH LIPSKI — THE WASHINGTON POST

Muhammad Ali, above, still jabbing; and Elizabeth Taylor bedecked in velvet and diamonds at the Millennium Dinner.

After dinner, it was time to bundle up and head outside for the Lincoln Memorial show. Guests were advised to bring their warmest coats, hats, sweaters and other cold-weather outerwear, and the White House designated the party black tie instead of white tie, which allowed female guests to wear evening pants with long underwear.

But girls will be girls: The women were adorned in the most elaborate gowns, many strapless and bare. There were many minks flung over jewel-clad wrists, although the unseasonably warm temperatures averted what could have been millennium freezing toes.

The guests were transported by bus and trolley to the Mall, where they were seated in open-air chairs in front of the memorial. Every guest received a goody bag with a muffler, a hand-warmer and a seat cushion bearing the official Millennium logo.

The real party—the dance fest after the gala—featured former Supreme Mary Wilson, who was expected to sing all the old songs to ring in the new century. "I'm very excited," she said, giggling. Given Clinton's love of music, it was undoubtedly a grand night of boogieing in presidential history.

Speaking of history . . . who better to sum up the millennium than historian Arthur Schlesinger?

"I'm glad it's over," he said, stepping once again onto the marble floors of the White House. No word on how he greeted the new year, but one suspects he was not dancing on the East Room tables.

But then, we may never know.

The guest list for last night's dinner:

President Clinton, Hillary Rodham Clinton and Chelsea Clinton
Daniel Abraham, Standard Foods Co., and Eva Abraham
David Al Ameel, Atlas Group, and Martha Al Ameel, Jefferson Dental Clinic
Edward Albee, playwright, and Jonathan Thomas, sculptor
Madeleine Albright, secretary of state, and Ricardo Dell'Olio, Barter Technologies Corp.
Muhammad Ali, boxer, and Yolanda Ali
Robert Allman, Zoomtrain Media Inc., and Lynda Carter, actress
Bruce Babbitt, secretary of the interior, and Hamet Babbitt, United States Agency for International Development
Elizabeth Frawley Bagley, senior advisor to the secretary of state, and Smith Bagley, Arca Foundation
Robert Bartlett, Williams and Connolly, and Rita Braver, CBS News
Leonard and Lynne Barrack
Kathleen Battle, opera singer, and Dean Mitchell
Samuel Berger, assistant to the president for national security affairs, and Susan Berger
Sen. John Breaux (D-La.) and Lois Breaux
John Brophy, Lockheed Martin IMS, and Louise Brophy
Dave Brubeck, musician and composer, and Iola Brubeck
Sid Caesar, entertainer, and Florence Caesar
Benny Carter, composer and musician, and Hilma Carter, retired language educator
Vinton Cerf, MCI WorldCom, and Sigrid Cerf
Rashid Chaudary, Razor Corp., and Samia Chaudary
Wayne Collingo, Larkhaven Marble, and Arlene Collingo
Ludwina Cook, Global Crossing, and Carole Cook
Andrew Cuomo, secretary of housing and urban development, and Kerry Kennedy Cuomo
William Daley, secretary of commerce
Sen. Tom Daschle (D-S.D.) and Linda Daschle, Baker, Donelson, Bearman and Caldwell
Robert De Niro, actor
Ruby Dee, actor and author, and Ossie Davis, actor and author
Thomas Donnelon, Corboy & Demetrio, and Eve Marie Reilly, Cook County state's attorney
Mark S. Dixon, president, Bombay Congress, and Hema Dixon, artist
Rep. John Dingell (D-Mich.) and Deborah Dingell, General Motors Foundation
E. J. Dionne, The Washington Post, and Mary Boyle
Sen. Christopher Dodd (D-Conn.) and Jackie Clegg, Export-Import Bank
Rita Dove, University of Virginia, and Fred Viebahn
Ronald Dozoretz, ValueOptions, and Beth Dozoretz
Todd Eberle, Todd Eberle Photography, and Richard Pandiscio
Marina Echavarria, assistant to the president and deputy chief of staff, and Christopher Edley, Harvard Law School
Mark Ein, Venturehouse Group, and Marian Lee Lewis, librarian of Medicine, National Academies of Science
Sahir Erguvan, Overseas Partners
A. Haile Farbaki, Financial Instrument and Investment Corp., and Samia Farbaki
Renee Fleming, opera singer, and Richard Fleming
John Fogerty, musician, and Julie Fogerty
John Hope Franklin, Duke University
Mary Mel French, chief of protocol
Rep. Martin Frost (D-Tex.) and Kathryn Frost
John Gardner, AT&T, and Nancy J. Roudebush, International Monetary Fund
Murray Gell-Mann, physicist, and Tala Shire
Neil Gershenfeld, MIT Media Lab, and Laura Breeze
John Glenn, former senator (D-Ohio), and Annie Glenn
Daniel Glickman, secretary of agriculture, and Rhoda Glickman, deputy chief of staff of housing and urban development
Michael Graves, architect, and Lynn Mie Shibao, International Alan Greenspan, chairman, Federal Reserve Board, and Andrea Mitchell, NBC
Brian Greenspun, the Greenspun Co., and Mona Greenspun, travel consultant
Janice Griffin, Griffin and Associates
Vinod Gupta, infoUSA Inc., and Lauriel Gottheiman, infoUSA Inc.
Carl T.C. Gutierrez, governor of Guam, and Geraldine Gutierrez
Julie Harris, actress, and Jennifer Crier Johnston, actress
Lawrence Harris, Teligent Inc., and Susan B. Harris
John S. Hendricks, Discovery Communications, and Maureen Hendricks
Alexis Herman, secretary of labor, and Charles Franklin
Bono, singer, and Ali Hewson
Robert Isabell, Robert Isabell Inc., and James Reginato, W magazine
Jesse Jackson Sr., Rainbow PUSH Coalition, and Jacqueline Lavinia
Quincy Jones, Quincy Jones Media Group, and Lisette Dornstein
Vernon Jordan, Lazard Freres, and Ann Jordan
Robert Kahn, Corporation for National Research Initiatives, and Patricia Lyons
Said Kamil, George Washington University, and Mary Jane Kamil, actress
Walter Kaye, former civilian aide to the secretary of the army, and Selma Kaye
Ellsworth Kelly, artist, and Jack Shear, artist
Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.) and Victoria Reggie Kennedy
Kamlyn Khan, Blood Corp., and Hamida Khan, physician
Peter Kovler, Marjorie Kovler Fund, and Judy Kovler, psychotherapist
Raymond Kurzweil, Kurzweil Technologies, and Sonya Kurzweil
Playspace for Young Children and Parents
Richard Langlois, Motorola, and Julia Langlois, librarian
Patricia Lazos, financial assistant to Agnes Gund, and James Lazos, Pilgrim Psychiatric Center
Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.) and Alicia Leahy
Jonathan Ledecky, Washington Capitals, and Marina McClelland, Marriott International
James Levin, IHL Enterprises, and Kristy Swanson
Carl Lewis, Olympian and actor, and Carol Lewis, television broadcaster
Ann Lewis, counselor to the president
Mike Lipinski, special assistant to the director, Office of Naval Research
Maya Lin, artist and architect, and Daniel Wolf, Warm Spirit Inc.
Mark Lindsay, director of White House management and administration, and Carla Lindsay
Bruce Lindsey, deputy counsel to the president, and Cheryl Mills
Joseph Lockhart, White House press secretary, and Mary Lockhart
Sophia Loren, actress, and Carlo Ponti, film producer
William Maines, Fannie Mae, and Heidi Maines
Robert and Barbara Maurer
Terrence McAuliffe, American Heritage Homes, and Dorothy McAuliffe
Paul McCarthy, "America's Millennium" director, and Martha Berry, deputy assistant to the president and director of communications for the first lady
Ellen McCulloch-Lovell, deputy assistant to the president and adviser to the first lady, and Christopher Lovell
Bobby McFerrin, musician, and Debra McFerrin
Judith A. McHale, Discovery Communications, and Michael P. O'Halloran
Don McLean, musician, and Patricia McLean
Arthur Mitchell, Dance Theatre of Harlem, and Virginia Johnson, Dance Theatre of Harlem
Leslie Moonves, CBS Television, and Nancy Moonves
Mary Tyler Moore, international chairman, Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, and S. Robert Levine, Progressive Policy Institute
Jack Nicholson, actor, and Lara Flynn Boyle, actress
Ruth Nolan, counselor to the president, and Donald Nowicki
Jessye Norman, soprano, and George Norman, Ball South
Dennis O'Connor, Smithsonian Institution, and Anne O'Connor
Edward James Olmos, actor, and Bodie James Olmos, filmmaker
Michael Orebaw, and Jill Abramson, New York Times
Dean Ornish, Preventive Medicine Research Institute, and Molly Ornish
Rep. Donald Payne (D-N.J.) and Denise Banks, deputy director for civil rights, Department of Agriculture
Itzhak Perlman, violinist, Toby Perlman, Perlman Music Program, and Ariella Perlman
Robert Pinsky, U.S. poet laureate, and Elsie Pinsky
John Podesta, chief of staff to the president, and Mary Podesta
Sunil Puri, First Rockford Group, and Janina Cannuli-Puri
Robert M. Rauschenberg, artist, and Darryl Pottorf, artist
Bruce Reed, assistant to the president for domestic policy, and Bonnie Lippard
Janet Reno, attorney general
Steven Recchetti, assistant to the president and deputy chief staff, and Amy Blanchard
William Richardson, secretary of energy, and Barbara Richardson
Richard Riley, secretary of education, and Anne Riley
Dennis Rivers, 11199/SEIU Health and Human Service Project
Union, and Maria Alvarez, consultant
Maxwell Roach, percussionist and composer, and Connie Chapman
Sen. Charles Robb (D-Va.) and Lynda Robb, Reading Is Fundamental
Liz Robbins, Liz Robbins Associates
Wayne Rogers, Synergies Energy Development, and Valerie Rogers
Allen and Nicole Salmasi, Nextwave Telecom, and Michael Saylor, MicroStrategy, and Phyllis Saylor
Arthur Schlesinger, historian, and Alexandra Schlesinger
Bernard Schwartz, Loral Space and Communications, and Ina Schwartz
Martin Scorsese, film director, and Helen Scorsese
Niranjan and Pratima Shah, Globetrotters Engineering
Walter Shorenstein, Shorenstein Co., and Carlotta Alvarez
Robert Shrum, Shrum, Devine, Donilon, and Marylouise Oates, writer
Arnold Simon, Arts Industries, and Debra Simon
Neil Simon, playwright, and Elaine Simon
Rodney Slater, secretary of transportation, and Cassandra Slater
Will Smith, actor, and Jada Smith, actress
Sen. Gordon Smith (R-Ore.) and Sharon Smith
Jean Kennedy Smith, former ambassador to Ireland
Harold Snyder and Tamar Hirschl
Gene Sperling, assistant to the president for economic policy, and Susanne Weintraub
Robert Stanton, National Park Service director, and Janet Stanton
David Steiner, Steiner Equities Group, and Sylvia Steiner
George Stevens Jr., "America's Millennium" producer, and Elizabeth Stevens
Michael Stevens, "America's Millennium" producer
Maria Tallchief, dancer
Elizabeth Taylor, actress, and Franco Zeffirelli, choreographer
Julie Taymor, theater and film director, and Elliot Goldenthal, composer
Howard Tullman, Tarsis.com, and Judith Tullman
Melanne Verveer, assistant to the president and chief of staff, the first lady, and Philip Verveer, Willkie Farr & Gallagher
Edward and Linda Villella, Miami City Ballet
James Watson, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, and Elizabeth Watson
Mark Weiner, Financial Innovations, and Susan Weiner
Togo D. West Jr., secretary of veterans affairs, and Gail West, Armstrong Worldwide
John Williams, composer and conductor, and Michael Gerber
Mayor Anthony Williams and Diane Simmons Williams
August Wilson, playwright, and Constanza Romero
Mary Wilson, author and singer, and Linda Greer, event planner
Joseph T. Wilson, National Council for the Traditional Arts, and Kathryn Jones, Oasis Program
James Wolfensohn, World Bank, and Elaine Wolfensohn
Pete Young, Tenney Hilliger (TN), and Lorey Young Jr., Gorilla Lumber Products
Pinchas Zukerman, violinist and conductor, and Amanda Forsyth, cellist



BY RICH LIPSKI — THE WASHINGTON POST

Sophia Loren at the White House.



BY RICH LIPSKI—THE WASHINGTO

George Stevens Jr. and Quincy Jones, producers of the "America's Millennium" extravaga

Washington Post
January 1, 2000

Contributing to coverage of the new year in Washington were the following staff writers: Amy Argetsinger, Bill Broadway, Justin Blum, Ruben Castaneda, D'Vera Cohn, Michael H. Cottman, Patricia Davis, Petula Dvorak, David Fallis, Darryl Fears, Stephen C. Fehr, Patrice Gaines, Martin Glod, Avram Goldstein, Annie Gowen, Dana Hedgpeth, Sari Horwitz, Spencer S. Hsu, Tom Jackman, Lyndsey Layton, Michael Leahy, Daniel Le Duc, Jennifer Lenhart, Cindy Loose, Phuong Ly, Jay Mathews, Raymond McCaffrey, Raja Mishra, David Montgomery, Sylvia Moreno, Matthew Mosk, David Nakamura, Ann O'Hanlon, Peter Pae, Angela Paik, Philip P. Pan, Manuel Perez-Rivas, Tracy Reeves, Lisa Rein, Jacqueline L. Salmon, Christina Samuels, Arthur Santana, Brigid Schulte, Katherine Shaver, Michael D. Shear, Fern Shen, Todd Shields, Alan Sipress, Leef Smith, Jackie Spinner, Jamie Stockwell, Christine Swerda, Craig Timberg, Nancy Trejos, Steve Vogel, Emily Wax, Martin Weil, Linda Wheeler, Josh White, Craig Whitlock, Debbi Wilgoren, Scott Wilson, Yolanda Woodlee and Graeme Zielinski. Assistant City Editor Karlyn Barker coordinated the coverage.

Sparks Were Flying Before Fireworks

Concern for Washington Monument Initially Jeopardized Pyrotechnics Program

By Michael E. Ruane
Washington Post Staff Writer

The idea seemed brilliant.

Washington's millennial celebration on the national Mall would of course need fireworks. But there were fireworks on the Mall every July. How could these be made memorable? What would elevate this show above all others?

The millennium gala's co-producer, George Stevens Jr., found the answer towering right in front of him: 555 feet of shimmering stone, caged for the moment in repair scaffolding: the Washington Monument.

It was perfect.

Might a 10-second fireworks countdown, or count up, be created to safely ascend the hallowed structure right before midnight? Absolutely, replied his fireworks contractor, the Long Island pyrotechnics firm of Fireworks by Grucci.

But when the idea was posed to the National Park Service, the monument's steward, the answer was a grade-A, government-inspected "No way."

The "Midnight Moment"—in which 1999's final seconds were ticked off by fireworks ascending the monument's scaffolding in 50-foot increments—almost didn't happen.

It grew out of Stevens's suggestion, and then survived a delicate, months-long waltz involving the advocates of showmanship, pyrotechnic art and historic dignity that ended just days ago.

It weathered the Park Service's initial no, evolved into a program in which three sides of the structure would be illuminated, then was almost canceled after a congressman called it a "desecration" and the Park Service got cold feet on Tuesday.

In the end, pyrotechnics were ignited only on the west side of the monument, where a $60,000, 500-foot sheet of fireproof protective plastic had been hung between the stone and the scaffolding.

The fireworks company, which dates to 19th-century Italy, had 26 pyrotechnists working for 15 days to string 135 miles of wire and set up scores of Fiberglas firing "guns" and hundreds of fireworks.

More than 700 cigar-size "waterfalls," for example, lashed to the monument scaffolding three feet apart, were used on the countdown—leaving the structure fully illuminated for about 20 seconds.

Three hundred other small fireworks, arranged in a line of 100 stands in the Mall's Reflecting Pool, made up a simulated fuse preceding the countdown.

They were followed by a two-minute barrage of more than 90 aerial fireworks shot from flatbed tractor-trailers east of the monument, ground-level 40-millimeter roman candles fired north and south of the monument, and the ignition of red strobe lights framing the monument.

A 50-foot-tall structure facing the Lincoln Memorial flashed the number "2000" at midnight. The display at the monument lasted two or three minutes.

A second, six-minute aerial fireworks display was fired from two barges in the Potomac River behind the Lincoln Memorial to cap the festivities about 1 a.m.

The family-run Grucci company, which has also done fireworks for five presidential inaugurations and the centennials of the Statue of Liberty and the Brooklyn Bridge, began planning the show in September in the face of the Park Service's opposition.

"They said no," recalled M. Philip Butler, the Grucci producer for the show. "Then they said, 'What part of no don't you understand?' . . . It was tough."

Phil Grucci, a vice president of the company and the grandson of its American founder, added: "The first few responses were no, until we had an opportunity to really explain and present our case."

"Roman candles and fireworks spewing out of the top of it, I'm sure, was the first vision of the people that we proposed it to," he said.

In an interview last month at company headquarters in the pine barrens of central Long Island, Grucci stressed that they planned to work with "the utmost dignity to the structure."

"It's very important for us not to turn it into a roman candle," he said. "It's very important to the nation that we present this with the highest degree of dignity."

The government finally gave the green light for the countdown just three weeks ago. Initially, the plan was for the monument to be "wrapped" in curtains of fireworks on the west, north and south sides.

Grucci technicians traveled to Washington and quickly wired the monument scaffolding on the three sides with hundreds of the modest "waterfall" devices.

The waterfalls were connected with hundreds of yards of pink "shock tube," a lightning-fast fuse made of thin plastic filled with powdered explosive. Shock tube can carry a spark 6,800 feet per second.

Then, on Dec. 17, Rep. Ralph Regula (R-Ohio), chairman of the House subcommittee on interior and related agencies, wrote a letter of protest to the White House. Regula pointed out that the scaffolding was part of a multimillion-dollar effort to refurbish the monument's exterior stone work, which might be damaged or soiled by the display.

In addition, he wrote, such a fireworks display would be a "desecration" of "one of the most important symbols of the nation's capital, a monument to the father of our country, and a symbol of our patriotism and Democracy."

At the White House, a millennium gala coordinator said all precautions had been taken and no problems were anticipated. Grucci said the waterfalls were too small to be harmful.

But the National Park Service was still worried.

On Monday, the Park Service test fired one of the waterfalls at the monument, and didn't like the results. The agency "became concerned that there might be some slight soot or something, which would require the cleaning of the whole monument," said Stevens, the legendary producer of the Kennedy Center honors, said in an interview Wednesday.



BY JAMES A. PARCELL—THE WASHINGTON POST

David Ellis, 13, visiting from Indiana, wears his year 2000 hat at the Mall celebration.

A solution had to be found, or the countdown might have to go.

The program was saved by plastic. "The solution was to erect a polyurethane sheet over the whole west side of the monument," Stevens said, "500 feet."

In addition, the producers agreed to ignite the waterfalls only on the monument's protected west side and to forgo the unprotected north and south sides.

"We all wished to take every precaution to make certain that it was totally safe," Stevens said, and to exert "the last full measure of devotion to the monument to our founding father."

For the Gruccis, "It's an honor for our family," Phil Grucci said. "This is one of the major benchmarks of our careers, if you will, in the pyrotechnics and the fireworks industry.

"Having the opportunity to do the America's millennium, certainly it's a moment that when you sit down and you speak to your children and grandchildren, as the years go on, this is one that's going to be one of the highlights."

Washington Times
January 1, 2000

Revelers make Mall hum with no trouble in sight

Security produces long lines for entry

By Jabeen Bhatti
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

A manmade "sunrise" this morning lit up the National Mall as tens of thousands of revelers welcomed the year 2000 in a glitzy celebration bursting with celebrities, costumes, music and foods from around the world.

The Lincoln Memorial was the focal point of the White House's three-hour "America's Millennium: A Celebration for the Nation" — a $12 million Hollywood-produced extravaganza of lights and sounds.

Just before midnight, President Clinton, in his New Year's address, encouraged all Americans to "celebrate the future."

"When memories outweigh our dreams, we become old. It is the destiny of America to remain forever young. We Americans must not fear change. Instead, let us welcome it, embrace it and create it," the president told the throng moments before fireworks illuminated the balmy winter sky.

Five children representing different ethnic groups ignited a fuse running the length of the Reflecting Pool from the Lincoln Memorial to the Washington Monument, which lit up section by section as 2000 arrived. Then a bank of lights lifted by 175-foot cranes created a "sunrise" for the new millennium.

"If the story of the 20th century is the triumph of freedom, then let the 21st century be the triumph of freedom wisely used," said Mr. Clinton, flanked by the 19-foot statue of Abraham Lincoln.

see MALL, *page A5*

MALL

From page A1

Actor-rapper Will Smith, wearing a zoot suit, kicked off the festivities with a song-and-dance performance that energized the crowd, which enjoyed the outdoor gala in the unseasonably warm air with little apparent concern for terrorist threats.

Other celebrities quickly followed, including actor Sam Waterston and singers Tom Jones, Kenny Rogers, Trisha Yearwood, Brian McKnight and John Fogerty.

First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton welcomed the crowd and evoked memories of the 1963 civil rights march on Washington that ended at the Lincoln Memorial: "Here we have come again as individuals with our children in hand and by the hundreds of thousands to witness and strive for what is best in our country and ourselves."

Filmmaker Steven Spielberg debuted his 18-minute film montage, "The Unfinished Journey," saluting America's role in the past century, accompanied by an orchestral score by John Williams.

The film, narrated in part by Mr. Clinton, actress Ruby Dee and poet Maya Angelou, was projected onto large screens near the memorial, while Mr. Williams conducted a symphony orchestra.

D.C. police had fenced off the Mall for extra security and allowed revelers to enter the area only through a few sites monitored by metal detectors. Lines waiting to get onto the Mall last night stretched for blocks.

At 9:45 p.m., Police Chief Charles H. Ramsey saw the crowd and stopped his cruiser at 19th Street and Constitution Avenue.

Patrick Shamburg of Herndon walked up and asked, "Are you the chief of police? I can't believe you invited us down here and won't let us in."

Chief Ramsey replied: "I agree with you." He then asked Park Police to move the folks along — and offered help.

Soon after, a busload of D.C. officers arrived to confront lines that stretched for eight blocks.

Mr. Shamburg said he and his friends had waited in a line that didn't move for two hours.

"We just got tired of it and are going home to watch on television," he said.

By 10:20 p.m., police dropped the barriers and allowed partygoers to enter the Mall without security checks. The revelers swelled the area until it was a standing-room-only event.

Police reported that a man was killed in the 5300 block of Fifth Street NW about 9:15 p.m.; otherwise, there were only a few arrests for minor infractions. Few celebrants ignored the police ban on bringing alcoholic beverages to the event.

The rest of Washington was a virtual ghost town. Police officers, waiting for the Mall crowds to disperse, stood on street corners with no cars or pedestrians in sight.

Throughout the District's "Main Street Millennium" celebration during the day, the sounds of salsa music merged with the thrum of rap and the smooth strains of the blues all along the Mall, where celebrants rocked to the city's varied beats.

"This is really cool," said David Giampocaro, of Arlington. "I don't know when again you are going to

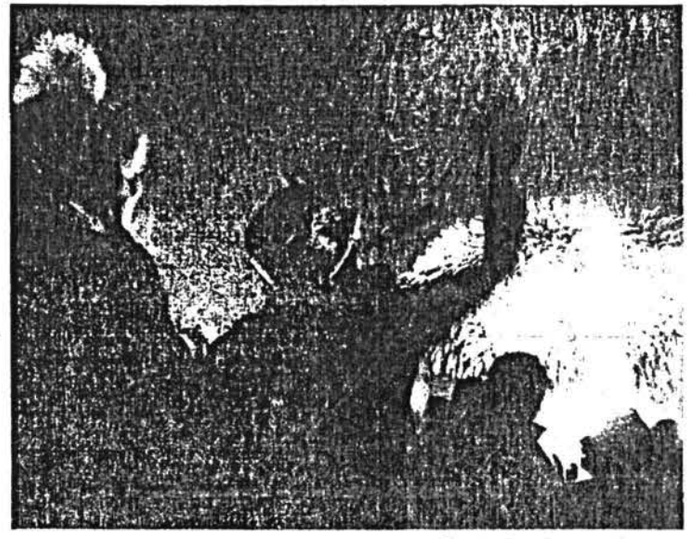


Photo by Sean Dougherty/The Washington Times

Debbie and Johannes Williams of Silver Spring celebrate along with 500,000 of their closest friends on the Mall just after midnight.



Photo by J.M. Eddins Jr./The Washington Times

Will Smith was master of ceremonies for the festivities, which many Mall visitors had trouble getting near, thanks to tight security.

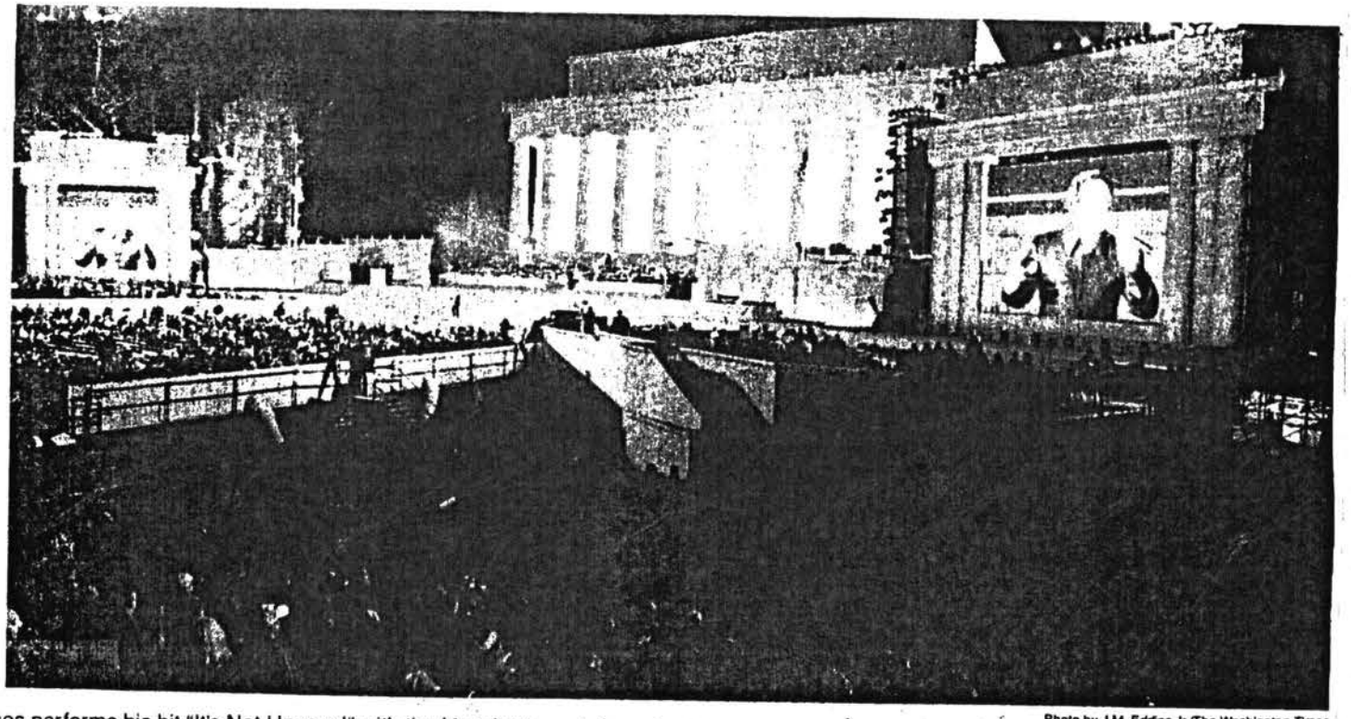


Photo by J.M. Eddins Jr./The Washington Times

Tom Jones performs his hit "It's Not Unusual" with the Lincoln Memorial as a backdrop at the beginning of last night's Mall celebration.

see this much of Constitution Avenue closed in celebration."

Scores of residents and visitors strolled Constitution Avenue, stopping in large, white, heated tents to sing, dance and be lured to food stands by the smells of barbecue and jerk chicken.

On the main stage at 12th Street NW, a big screen flashed scenes of New Year's celebrations around the world. Drums rumbled, bells clanged and dancers moved to African rhythms.

Celebrants offered differing views about the coming millennium.

"I hope for good things for the world, that things change for the better," said Patrice Dayes, 16, of the District. "I also hope the new year brings better job, education and heath opportunities for us."

"I don't think that any magic is going to happen just because we are changing a century," said Marc Stecker, of Manassas. "I am just looking to blame anything I can on the millennium."

Terrorist threats didn't keep these partiers away. Most interviewed said they believed the warnings were overstated.

"I'm not worried," Steven Hietpas said. "You can't stop living or experiencing out of fear. What's going to happen is going to happen. This celebration is a once-in-a-lifetime chance."

Earlier yesterday, the Clintons and Mayor Anthony A. Williams started the District's year-2000 celebration by showing off the National Millennium Time Capsule, to be opened in the next century.

Hundreds of the nation's most celebrated inventors, entertainers and industrial leaders contributed items to the time capsule, which will be housed at the National Archives.

Around 1:30 p.m., the World Children's Choir performed songs of peace from around the globe to more than 300 from the city's international community.

The Clintons and Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright joined the celebration, held in the light and airy atrium of the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center to salute children around the globe.

Austin American-Statesman

January 1, 2000, Saturday

SECTION: Special -- AAS 2000; Pg. 2

LENGTH: 215 words

HEADLINE: WASHINGTON, D.C.: Ideal weather draws thousands to National Mall

BYLINE: Scott Montgomery

BODY:

Mild temperatures and a string of flawless midnight New Year's rollovers around the globe enticed tens of thousands to the National Mall for a fireworks spectacular ignited by President Clinton to welcome 2000.

Throngs of people streamed in by nightfall to find grassy seats on the heavily-secured Mall. They choked into long, thick lines through a handful of security checkpoints where revelers submitted to searches. At one point, crowds on 17th Street pushed through barriers and rushed past police .

Clinton, the first president to bring in a new century since William McKinley, stowed 20th century artifacts into a time capsule, including Army dog tags and a library card.

For his final speech of the century, Clinton quoted Abraham Lincoln: "Let us pledge that the new millennium will bring, in the words of the Great Emancipator, 'a new birth of freedom.' "

At midnight, white fireworks cascaded up the 555-foot Washington Monument, sparked by a fuse that ran along the reflecting pool from the Lincoln Memorial.

At the Lincoln Memorial, actor and musician Will Smith hosted the three-hour America's Millennium Gala for Clinton and other dignitaries . The show was broadcast on giant-screen televisions on the Mall.

-- Scott Montgomery, Cox News Service/AP

LOAD-DATE: January 7, 2000

Chicago Tribune

January 1, 2000 Saturday, MILLENNIAL EDITION

SECTION: NEWS; Pg. 5; ZONE: C

LENGTH: 962 words

HEADLINE: CHICAGO QUIETLY BIDS 1999 GOODBYE . . . WHILE AN EXUBERANT WORLD GREETS 2000;
A BASH HEARD ROUND THE WORLD

BYLINE: By Lisa Anderson, Tribune Staff Writer.; Tribune correspondents Michael Lev in Tokyo; Liz Sly in Beijing; Colin McMahon in Moscow; Paul Salopek in Johannesburg; Hugh Dellios in Jerusalem; Tom Hundley in Rome; Ray Moseley in London; Paul de la Garza in Mexico City; Laurie Goering in Rio de Janeiro; Stevenson Swanson, Julie Deardorff and Pat Cole in New York; Michael Kilian and Naftali Bendavid in Washington; V. Dion Haynes in Seattle; and Vincent J. Schodolski and Gary Dretzka in Los Angeles contributed to this report.

BODY:

A chance to celebrate like this comes only once every 1,000 years, and Americans made the most of it.

In New York's Times Square, ablaze with the lights of television cameras and towering electronic billboards, some 2 million people cheered as a sparkling Waterford crystal ball dropped at the stroke of midnight and some 4,000 pounds of confetti rained onto the square.

Under the watchful eyes of 8,000 police officers, merrymakers donned shiny Mylar hats and waved balloons within a 75-square-block "frozen zone," where manhole covers and mailboxes had been soldered shut for security.

Gazing up at the glittering millennial ball, August Diarrassouba, 28, of Ivory Coast, was still wondering why so many people would gather outside for hours just to watch a ball fall from a skyscraper. "No one knows why," said the mystified Diarrassouba, after quizzing some of those jammed in around him.

"It's like a new beginning," said another New York reveler, Marilyn Shure , 50, a nurse from Atlanta. "It's like watching the odometer change in the car," she added, clearly struggling for a suitable metaphor.

"They canceled everything in Seattle, so we're glad to be here," said Todd Lucas, 26, a commercial fisherman from Washington state. Seattle may have had the grimmest New Year's Eve celebration on the planet, shutting down its festivities at 6 p.m. because of security concerns.

In the other Washington, the nation's capital, the final countdown was punctuated by a rising cascade of lights that worked its way up the Washington Monument, moving one stage higher with each final second of 1999. Fireworks exploded from the top of the familiar obelisk in a spectacular finale.

An appearance by President Clinton capped a three-hour extravaganza on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial dubbed America's Millennium Gala by the White House. Hosted by actor-singer Will Smith, it featured a dazzling array of artists, from Bobby McFerrin to Kris Kristofferson.

On the Pacific Coast in Los Angeles, the famous "HOLLYWOOD" sign in the hills above Tinseltown was illuminated for the first time in decades. In Pasadena, where preparations for the annual Tournament of Roses Parade went on throughout the night, Disney's new film, "Fantasia 2000," premiered, accompanied by a midnight display of fireworks timed to live classical music from the movie.

New York may host the most famous New Year's Eve party in the U.S., but the nation's official "It" party unfolded at the White House, where Clinton and First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton welcomed a glittering list of America's best, brightest and most glamorous.

Figures as illustrious as DNA discoverer and Nobel laureate James Watson, as creative as poet Rita Dove, as high-flying as septuagenarian astronaut Sen. John Glenn and as stupendous as film legend Sophia Loren dined on caviar and lobster.

"To be invited to the White House," said Loren, "my mind went back like a flash to the war, when the Americans invaded Italy and liberated us. I came here this evening with great, great emotion."

While all the major European capitals glowed on New Year's Eve, London staged the most expensive celebration in Europe. In what Prime Minister Tony Blair called "the greatest show on Earth in the year 2000," the city unveiled a 443-foot-high Ferris wheel, called the London Eye, along the Thames, as well as a $1.25 billion Millennium Dome entertainment complex, the largest structure of its kind in the world.

The new year arrived in balmy Rio de Janeiro to a samba beat, as nearly 3 million Brazilians packed the city's famed Copacabana neighborhood for what was billed as the world's largest party.

In Rome, tens of thousands of shivering celebrators from countless countries packed into St. Peter's Square, the spiritual epicenter of millenium festivities, to receive the pope's New Year's blessing at midnight.

The even more ancient city of Jerusalem was solemn and subdued as midnight arrived. Fear of terrorism and a heavy police presence weren't the only factors that kept partying to a minimum. Many parties were canceled in Jerusalem, where the chief rabbi forbade public celebrations because of the sabbath.

Standing on the Mt. of Olives, gazing at the illuminated Dome of the Rock, Perniooe Rohadneier, 26, of Copenhagen said it was all very beautiful, but "we're a bit disappointed. The old city wall didn't cave in, and the messiah didn't come. But it's OK because we had run out of film, anyway."

At midnight in Moscow a heavy snow fell like sparkling confetti on crowds gathered to watch the fireworks blazing over the Kremlin and St. Basil's Cathedral in Red Square.

Russia is struggling, but optimism reigned. "It's the Russian mentality," said Svetlana Vorobetz, 35. "Things can be really bad, but one still hopes."

For the first time in its 5,000-year history, China witnessed mass celebrations of a Western new year. Chinese usually mark the traditional lunar new year in February.

In Tokyo, thousands of people filled the streets around Zozoji Temple, one of the largest temples and a traditional site to ring in the new year.

At midnight, with the crowd counting down the seconds, the bells began to ring--108 times to rid man of all the sins and evils Buddhism ascribes to him.

As for the close of the 20th century, American historian Arthur Schlesinger, celebrating at the White House dinner, may have had the final word: "I'm glad it's over."

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

January 1, 2000, Saturday SPECIAL REPORT

SECTION: Wrapper JANUARY 1 2000 Pg. 6

LENGTH: 568 words

Entertainers warm up party in Washington

BYLINE: FRANK A. AUKOFER

SOURCE: Journal Sentinel staff

DATELINE: Washington

BODY:

Fortified against terrorism with the possibly pesky Y2K bug hovering in the background, the nation's capital welcomed the new millennium with all the warmth and spectacle it could muster.

President Clinton and first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton played leading roles in the public celebrations Friday and early today, while thousands of government workers stood guard in virtually every federal agency and department to monitor systems against Y2K gremlins.

The climax of the day's public events was a "millennium gala" at the Lincoln Memorial, featuring nationally televised performances by an array of entertainers and a special 18-minute film by director Steven Spielberg and composer John Williams.

As 1999 passed into 2000, Clinton touched off a fuse that sent sparks flying across the Reflecting Pool and up the scaffold-surrounded Washington Monument for a countdown to the New Year.

"As the calendar carries us ever forward from our nation's birth, let us pledge that each year we will be closer to this, our founding principle," Clinton said. "Let us pledge that the new millennium will bring, in the words of the Great Emancipator, 'A new birth of freedom.' "

The program included Muhammad Ali, Bill Russell, Robert Duvall and Diane Keaton. At an earlier White House dinner were Robert De Niro, Jack Nicholson, Lara Flynn Boyle, Sophia Loren and Carlo Ponti.

The gala at the National Mall drew thousands of revelers on what was, even for Washington, a balmy winter respite. Of necessity, the celebration was sober as well as enthusiastic. The U.S. Park Police banned all alcoholic beverages on the Mall.

In the "America's Millennium" official program, the sponsors conceded that the U.S. Naval Observatory had stated unequivocally that the third millennium starts not in 2000, but on Jan. 1, 2001.

"Even so," it said, "most Americans and much of the world will focus on the flip of the calendar from '99 to '00. . . . Greeting a new millennium is a once-in-a-thousand years experience. . . . Let's make the celebration last!"

At an opening ceremony sandwiched between two federal buildings just off the Mall -- a location chosen for maximum security -- the Clintons showed off the prototype of a time capsule that will contain artifacts of American life in the waning days of the 20th century. It will be stored at the National Archives and opened 100 years from now.

Symbolic deposits into the capsule were made by, among others, historian John Hope Franklin and retired Gen. Colin Powell.

Powell, who received a standing ovation from more than 1,000 people gathered for the opening ceremony, brought a set of military dog tags, inscribed "the American GI." Franklin's contribution was a copy of 1868's 14th Amendment to the Constitution, which guaranteed Americans equal protection of the laws.

Clinton said there was no better time than the new millennium to start a new chapter of progress and possibilities for everyone, "no better time to be a truly good neighbor to the people of the world who share this smaller and smaller planet."

After the opening ceremony, the Clintons moved to the Ronald Reagan International Trade Center, which was given over to performances and works of art by children from around the world.

The Clintons also hosted a dinner at the White House before traveling to the Lincoln Memorial for the $12 million gala.

Newsday (New York, NY)

January 1, 2000, Saturday ALL EDITIONS

SECTION: NEWS; Page H11

LENGTH: 419 words

HEADLINE: HELLO 2000! / WELCOMING 2000, FROM THE CAPITAL

BYLINE: By James Toedtman. WASHINGTON BUREAU CHIEF

DATELINE: Washington

BODY:

Washington-Surrounded by Hollywood celebrities and children from around the world, President Bill Clinton confidently led the nation's capital into a new century yesterday.

The president, taking his cue from the song "Rising Like the Sun," performed by a special children's choir, ad-libbed for a cheering crowd of about 4,000: "Their voices are living proof that the light may be fading on the 20th Century, but the sun is still shining on America." From the sidewalks of the city, to the expansive atrium of the Reagan International Trade Center, to a lavish White House dinner, and finally to a planned midnight entertainment and fireworks spectacular on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, the nation's host in chief balanced a tribute to past accomplishments with anticipation for the next century.

"This is a unique moment in our calendar-but it is also a unique moment for our country," he said, opening the city's weekend festivities. "Our social fabric is on the mend. We're moving forward on America's remarkable journey toward a more united nation, a more just society and a more perfect union." First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, who over the past two years has directed preparations for the celebration, presented a steel, copper and titanium time capsule that will be displayed at the Smithsonian Institution over the next year, then closed and stored at the National Archives for a century.

Yesterday, retired Gen. Colin Powell presented a military dog tag in the name of ''The American GI'' and John Hope Franklin, who had chaired the White House Commission on Race, placed a copy of the 14th Amendment guaranteeing equal protection under the law to all Americans, in the capsule.

As Clinton spoke, the new year had already arrived in Asiawithout significant incident or disruption. As the hours passed without incident, the mood relaxed and confidence rose and the Clintons prepared for a boisterous celebration.

For the public, the highlight would occur around midnight, when Clinton was to join the entertainment extravaganza in front of the Lincoln Memorial featuring a film by Stephen Spielberg and music composed by John Williams. Just before midnight, Clinton planned to welcome the new year with a tribute to Lincoln.

"We Americans do not fear change. We welcome it. We embrace it. We create it.

Yet on this night, I am struck not only by what has changed, but by what endures: our freedom, our faith, our ceaseless pilgrimage toward the ideals of our fathers."

GRAPHIC: AP Photo - A CHORUS OF HELLOS. President Bill Clinton greets members of the New Millennium Chorus yesterday during thhe opening ceremony of the " America's Millennium" celebration.

LANGUAGE: English

LOAD-DATE: January 1, 2000

The Washington Post

METRO

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1999

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Parties for All, at Home or on Mall

1 of 2

Fireworks to Dazzle, Delight

Pyrotechnics Prepared for Monument

By MICHAEL E. RUANE
Washington Post Staff Writer

It should be way better than the ball.

The last 10 seconds to 2000 will be counted down, or rather up, tonight in a spectacular pyrotechnic display of light that will ascend the Washington Monument, fracture the midnight sky and be visible for miles.

A simulated "fuse," consisting of a line of 100 separate fireworks positions suspended three feet above the Reflecting Pool, will be ignited by President Clinton and a group of children from the floor of the Lincoln Memorial—the focus of the evening's entertainment gala—and signal the start of the monument countdown.

Then, using hundreds of cigar-sized pyrotechnics lashed to the monument's scaffolding, Fireworks by Grucci, the venerable Long Island fireworks firm, will sheath the 555-foot monument step-by-step in ten 50-foot segments of glittering white light. At the climax of Washington's "Midnight Moment," the monument will be almost fully illuminated for 20 seconds.

Next will come a barrage of aerial fireworks shot from three flatbed tractor-trailers east of the monument; the ignition of banks of ground-level 40-millimeter Roman candles north and south of the monument; and the firing of scores of red strobe lights framing the obelisk.

See FIREWORKS, *B8, Col. 1*



BY ROBERT A. REEDER—THE WASHINGTON POST

Pyrotechnists Bob Citko, left, and Matt Carrara load Grucci fireworks.

Fri., Dec. 31, 1999

Washington Post

2 of 2

Fireworks Producer Predicts the Mall Will Beat 'the Ball'

FIREWORKS, *From B1*

In addition, a 50-foot-tall structure bearing the number "2000" and facing the Lincoln Memorial will be switched on at midnight and will then flash on and off.

The Midnight Moment will be brief, lasting about two or three minutes, but "inspiring," said George Stevens Jr., the co-producer of the America's Millennium extravaganza.

As for New York's legendary ball—"The ball's going to be blown away," said M. Philip Butler, the Grucci producer for the Washington show. "I won't hype it beyond the obvious."

A second six-minute aerial fireworks display over the Lincoln Memorial is scheduled to follow 50 minutes of post-midnight entertainment, capping the evening's festivities about 1 a.m.

That display will be launched from special barges that will be anchored in the Potomac River just west of the Lincoln Memorial.

The best place to see the whole show will be the Mall, which is expected to be ground zero for tens of thousands of revelers assembled to party and welcome the next 10 centuries.

But the countdown should be visible from any locale where the monument can be glimpsed.

"It's going to have some overlap, and it's going to be visible from all sides," Butler said of the pyrotechnic display. "It has a lot of wander to it."

Some prime viewing spots beyond the Mall are expected to be Meridian Hill Park at 16th and W streets in Northwest Washington; the Jefferson Memorial; the U.S. Capitol; Hains Point; and West Potomac Park. Good vantage points across the Potomac River will probably be near the Iwo Jima Memorial or Lady Bird Johnson Park.

Many local roads will be closed on both sides of the river, though, and access to many viewing spots may be only via Metro or on foot.

The monument countdown is a stroke of sheer coincidence, fireworks producers have said. Had the scaffolding—which was erected as part of a $5 million exterior stonework restoration project—not been in place, such a show would not have been possible.

Stevens is generally credited with coming up with the idea of an illuminated monument "count up," though he said this week, "Victory has many fathers."

Even with the scaffolding, there have been complaints that fireworks on the monument are potentially dangerous and damaging to the national treasure.

White House and Grucci officials say all precautions have been taken, and Stevens said Wednesday that a giant sheet of plastic has been erected on the Monument's west face, behind the scaffolding, to protect the stone from soot.

The Grucci company, which helped put on the fireworks displays at the centennials of the Statue of Liberty and the Brooklyn Bridge, won't say exactly how much the show, which is being funded by private donations, is costing.

It's in the "high six figures," Butler said, and is believed to be the most expensive fireworks show being staged for the millennium.

New Year's Pyrotechnic Countdown

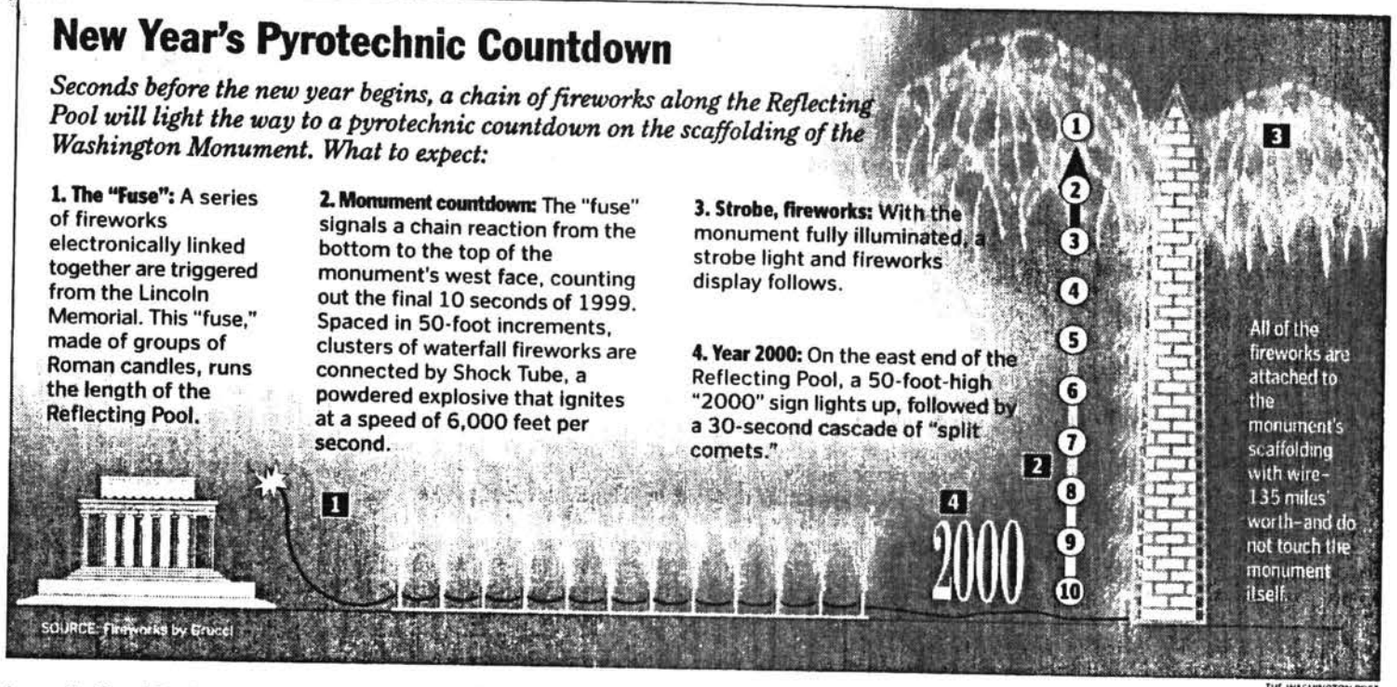
Seconds before the new year begins, a chain of fireworks along the Reflecting Pool will light the way to a pyrotechnic countdown on the scaffolding of the Washington Monument. What to expect:

1. The "Fuse": A series of fireworks electronically linked together are triggered from the Lincoln Memorial. This "fuse," made of groups of Roman candles, runs the length of the Reflecting Pool.

2. Monument countdown: The "fuse" signals a chain reaction from the bottom to the top of the monument's west face, counting out the final 10 seconds of 1999. Spaced in 50-foot increments, clusters of waterfall fireworks are connected by Shock Tube, a powdered explosive that ignites at a speed of 6,000 feet per second.

3. Strobe, fireworks: With the monument fully illuminated, a strobe light and fireworks display follows.

4. Year 2000: On the east end of the Reflecting Pool, a 50-foot-high "2000" sign lights up, followed by a 30-second cascade of "split comets."

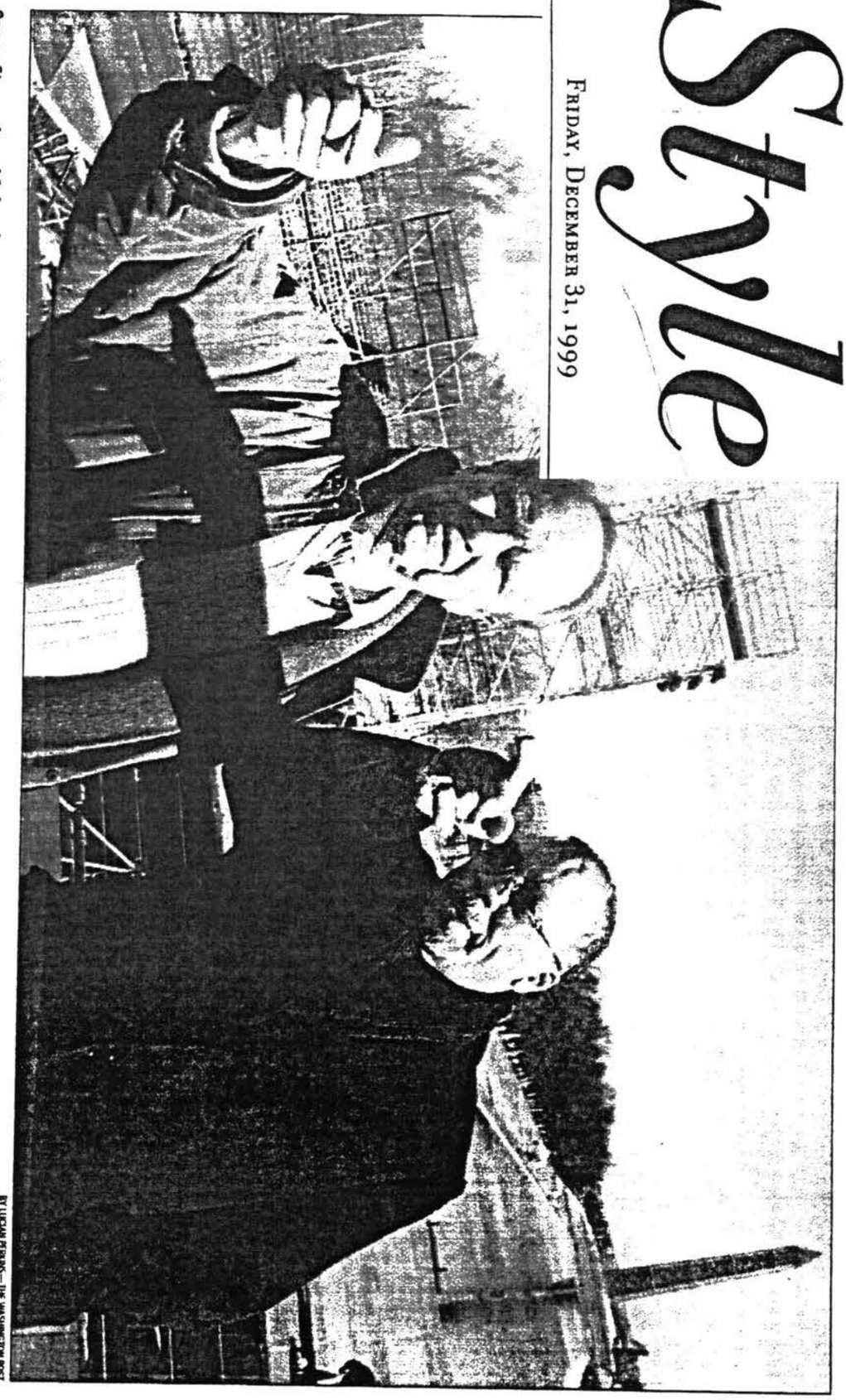


SOURCE: Fireworks by Grucci

The Washington Post

Style

Friday, December 31, 1999



George Stevens Jr. and Quincy Jones scope out their New Year's Eve production. "Sometimes you want to see how big you can dream. And this is big," Jones says.

BY LUCIAN PERKINS—THE WASHINGTON POST

Man With the Plans

The Millennium Celebration On the Mall? Quincy Jones Is Glad You Asked.

By Teresa Wiltz
Washington Post Staff Writer

You don't hold a conversation with this man as much as you surf it, riding a stream of turbocharged consciousness. Ask a question, and hang on:

"This thing is about the joviality, and embracing and reaching out to each other and celebration. People crack me up when they talk about next year. I mean, 1997-1998, *that's* 'next year'; 1999-2000, that's not next year, that's the beginning of the next *thousand* years. I don't know how anyone can be cynical about that. Because that's pretty heavy stuff. Not many people ever get to cross that line into the next thousand years, really. Not even into a new *century*. It's more than that. A person that for instance would become a hundred years old New Year's Eve night has seen *three* centuries. . . . That's awesome, just awesome. . . . It's a big deal to me, crossing over."

Ever the musician, Quincy Jones takes one phrase in the conversation—in the above instance, why he chose Will Smith to host the White House's millennium gala—and riffs on it, stretching it out, turning it upside down, returning to the original motif and then chasing it away, until the notes tumble every which way just like a bebop blitz blar-

See JONES, *C5, Col. 3*

■ **"America's Millennium" co-producer George Stevens Jr.; plus New Year's Eve on TV.** | *Pages C5, C7*

Riffing With Quincy

JONES, *From C1*

ing from Bird's hot.

In other words, Quincy Delight Jones Jr. is a motormouth.

But then he's got a lot to talk about. This is a man who's spent his life amassing a major musical portfolio, working in his award-winning, nearly 50-year career with everyone from Michael Jackson to Sarah Vaughan to Count Basie and Frank Sinatra.

And along the way he's seen it all: The gangster life in Al Capone's Chicago. Losing his mother to mental illness. Dining on baked "rats and frill greens" as a hungry kid growing up in Chicago, and then Seattle. Playing polkas with a very young Ray Charles, and then taking on jazz with Charlie Parker, Miles Davis and Lionel Hampton. Watching Billie Holiday self-destruct. Suffering through three failed marriages. Surviving two brain aneurysms that have left him with a metal plate in his head, holding things together. Surmounting a nervous breakdown and a couple of near-death experiences and coming through to the other side, convinced that life is ... "Awesome! Just awesome."

These days, he can't seem to contain that much experience in the narrow confines of a recording studio. In fact, he hasn't released a CD of original recordings since "Q's Jook Joint" : '95. Instead he's turned his attention to large-scale endeavors, from overseeing a multimedia company to founding Vibe magazine to producing the Oscars and Clinton's inaugural fete to his last effort, co-producing the White House's New Year's Eve celebration, "America's Millennium."

"It's going to be a smoking night," Jones says. "Almost anything we can conceive, we can achieve. Sometimes you want to see how big you can dream. And this is big."

But big is what he does. At heart he's a conductor who relishes pulling together the disparate components of a symphony, smoothing over the discordant notes until they're all on key. Doing his bidding.

"You have to love the people you're working with enough to dig and probe," he says. "Then you have to create the environment so that they have no choice but to give it up. You hit that button. The emotion button."

Most of the time he chooses to ignore "no." As Michael Jackson once attested, "I told him that I had something but I didn't want to play it for him. And so he forced me to drive to my house, he forced me to get the engineer and do the song. I was there singing my heart out to this song, and when it was over, he just loved it. He said, 'That was just the song that we were looking for. It was 'Beat It.'"

There's the image of Quincy, the cool Q, the young Q, the Q seen in black-and-white, clutching his horn to his chest as a cigarette dangles from his lips, a haze of smoke misting over his pretty-boy face.

Back in the day, he was a devotee of healthful living, sweaty sessions of Bikram yoga and sushi. But never mind all that. Right now, what he'd really like is some ham hocks and salami.

Greasy food. Really-bad-for-you food.

Because, hey, when you've got a show to pull out of thin air, you've gotta have sustenance.

"Where can I get some soul food around here? I've been feeling like I'm homeless."

The week of the show, Jones is on the phone in his makeshift office just outside the Lincoln Memorial, where the New Year's Eve gala will take place. He's talking to South Africa, trying to nail down Nelson Mandela for the show. No need for him to fly in, but how about wishing the United States "Happy New Millennium" via satellite?

Mandela's people promise to get back to him. He hangs up, and the fax machine spits out pages upon pages of the score from his hip-hop hybrid hit, "Stomp!"

"This is great," Jones says. "This is just great. I'm so excited."

In the show, he explains, the song will introduce the drum-dance ensemble Stomp!, which he says was named after his song.

It's another example of things coming full circle, a notion that he likes.

Four days until showtime and he's still looking for some local rappers to fill out the hip-hop quotient and he really can't tell you just what Robert De Niro and Kris Kristofferson are going to do, but Q is playing it cool.

He doesn't believe in the "paralysis of analysis," preferring instead the rush of deadlines, that gun-to-the-head feeling that forces you to "write from your belly button."

Which means sleep gets short shrift. Fine by him. If you're sleeping, he says, the muses will pass you by, on down the street to someone more receptive to their charms.

His is the classic case of the workaholic artist, living the life of a man so absorbed in the process of creation that he doesn't look up until his lovers have moved on and his children are grown.

"I substituted my need for a mother with music," Jones says. "If I had a great family, I'd probably be a sad musician."

To that end, he's spent much of his romantic life hooking up with a succession of glamorous blondes, including actresses Peggy Lipton and Nastassja Kinski. The relationships, which resulted in seven children ranging in age from forty-something to 7, inevitably broke up, casualties of his career. This time around he's spending his time with Lisette Derouaux, an ebony-haired, olive-skinned publicist of Zairean-Belgian-Portuguese descent.

They met four years ago at the Montreux Jazz Festival.

First we were friends, Derouaux says.

"Then we became better friends," Jones says, beaming like a man who just won the lottery.

Derouaux is wise beyond her years, Jones says, "28 going on 50."

And then there's the other Q, the cuddly Q, the one who is poised on the edge of a new century: the 66-year-old grandfather who's given to wearing sued bucks, gabardine slacks and a preppy V-neck sweater, a tiny gold hoop in his right ear the only betrayal of his hipster roots. The once-sleek belly has expanded into a gentle paunch, pads of fat soften hooded eyes. Time changes things. Time changes him.

She dotes and she coos, plying him with a concoction of echinacea and Snapple for his cold, urging him to eat the smoked-salmon sandwich that she's brought just for him. He stubs his finger; she picks it up and kisses it.

Quincy soaks up the love, melting into mellow mush. And for a little while, the motormouth is ... still.

THE WASHINGTON POST
December 31, 1999

George Stevens's Latest Honor

The Production Of a Millennium

By TERESA WILTZ
Washington Post Staff Writer



BY LUCIAN PERKINS—THE WASHINGTON POST

George Stevens, with co-producer Quincy Jones: "Someone told me once, 'You're a historian.' It colors what I do."

For just a minute, the clock is pushed back, and there's no such thing as this impending millennium, no such thing as deadlines and divas and no-it-can't-wait faxes.

The construction scaffolding that obliterates the Lincoln Memorial fades into the background, and George Stevens Jr. is no longer a harried co-producer of the Y2K gala to end all Y2K galas. Instead, he's morphed into the lord of the country manor, out for a stroll with his faithful companion, Samantha, an English springer spaniel.

You can almost see the mist drifting off the moors.

Except that there's this security guard who's frantically waving his arms. He's waving his arms and he's yelling.

At Stevens.

The waving arms are accompanied by a question:

"Who are you?"

So Stevens tells him—like, hey, he's the guy running this thing—and suddenly the guard is all apologies and just-doing-my-job.

"I don't have too much pull here," Stevens tells a visitor. And grins.

His grin is the satisfied smile of a man who knows he's got juice—especially when it comes to the White House's New Year's Eve shindig, "America's Millennium," to be held tonight at the Lincoln Memorial. Never mind the windowless office in an obscure corner of the Kennedy Center, where every year he heads up the Kennedy Center Honors. Never mind that at an outdoor news conference for "America's Millennium," all the gaping tourists trekking through the Mall were trying to get next to Stevens's far more famous co-producers—Steven Spielberg and Quincy Jones.

Never mind that he's George Stevens *Jr.*, and not the Sr. who's known for directing such classic flicks as "Giant," "Shane" and "A Place in the Sun." He's a Hollywood native who's been in this business for a very long time, writing, directing and producing films and TV shows. At 67, he's also a naturalized Washingtonian who's been in and around the business of politics a long time as well. And he's got the pictures in his office to prove both connections: There he is, hanging out on the set of "Giant" with Liz Taylor itier after his writing-directing-producing turn with the TV miniseries "Separate but Equal." Then there are the photos of the Clintons and the Kennedys. And more photos of Bobby Kennedy. (Stevens's wife, Liz, serves as trustee of the Robert F. Kennedy Foundation and worked on President Clinton's 1992 campaign.)

He started out working with his dad on "A Place in the Sun," "Giant," "The Diary of Anne Frank" and "The Greatest Story Ever Told." At 30, he was tapped to run the U.S. Information Agency's motion picture division, where he oversaw the production and distribution of 300 documentaries each year. Later, he helped create the American Film Institute, where he served as director for more than 12 years.

George Stevens Jr. is nothing if not connected.

Those connections hold him in good stead each year when he puts together the Kennedy Center Honors. (The Honors earned him an Emmy, although critics have accused the show of pandering to the lowest common denominator: TV, rather than art.) And those connections helped him pull in luminaries like Warren Beatty and John Huston for a valentine of a documentary about his father's life that he wrote, directed and produced: "George Stevens: A Filmmaker's Journey."

"A lot of what I do comes from me being a writer," Stevens says. "Someone told me once, 'You're a historian.' It colors what I do."

Indeed, the idea of making history inspired him to get involved in "America's Millennium." In fact, this whole millennium celebration thing came about when Stevens sat next to Hillary Rodham Clinton at some event a few years back. He turned to the first lady and asked, "What are you doing New Year's Eve?"

He couldn't resist the challenge of putting on a pull-out-all-the-stops production on the most

"The phrase that stuck was to do something 'entertaining and ennobling,' " Stevens says. "You realize it's an extraordinary moment, going from one century to the next. . . . One would have to be cynical not to have feelings about our democracy on this night."

Stevens's buddy Quincy Jones (Stevens calls him "Q") came on board, as did Spielberg. And as they planned for the event, Stevens and Jones rode around Washington, imagining what could be. They stopped at the Mall, and stood on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, and said, "Why not?"

These are, after all, men who know how to orchestrate grand moments. And they figured that ringing in the New Millennium under the watchful gaze of Abraham Lincoln would be the granddaddy of all grand moments.

To that end, there will be footage of Marian Anderson singing in her famous Lincoln Memorial concert, followed by a performance by two present-day African American divas, Jessye Norman and Kathleen Battle. An 18-minute film by Spielberg chronicling the highlights of the century, accompanied by a John Williams score. Marching bands upon marching bands. Dancers boogying with Will Smith, the evening's host. A parade of celebrities: Robert De Niro. Diane Keaton. Kris Kristofferson. Usher. Luther Vandross. John Fogerty. Trisha Yearwood. Tom Jones. Kenny Rogers. Bono. Muhammad Ali.

Suggest that the evening is geared more toward boomers than the younger set, and Stevens bristles.

"Will Smith?" he says, throwing out names as evidence of Gen-X credentials. "Usher? I'm not at home playing Usher records. But I know he's going to be terrific and add something to the show."

Grab him in an interview, and he's got his back up, wary and defensive. But then he gets going bration and this great country of ours and, well, he gets all misty-eyed.

He's a seemingly unassuming man whose office passes out a 41-page bio to the press. He's a behind-the-scenes man who's made a career of supporting the arts more than creating them. Not that he sees things that way.

"Creating is what I enjoy, whether it's creating the Film Institute, which is a lot like making a movie, or when I was in the government creating nearly hundreds of films that I'm actually still very proud of. Your question leads me into an immodest description of myself. There's the Kennedy Center Honors, where I'm figuring out what's going to be on the stage.

"My real satisfaction is creating things that engage people. And if they're good enough, they'll be around for people to see. My appetite has never been to be a personality."

He points to his horoscope—he's an Aries—hanging on the wall:

"Circumstances turn in your favor. Be selective. Imprint style. Take initiative; let others know you mean business when you say, 'I deserve the very best and nothing less.' "

THE WASHINGTON POST

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1999

Security, Computers Readied for Real Test

By SUSAN LEVINE
and DAVID MONTGOMERY
Washington Post Staff Writers

From the steps of the Lincoln Memorial to the aisles of a Burtonsville grocery store and the emergency operations headquarters in Fairfax County, dress rehearsals for both celebration and disaster filled the final hours of preparation yesterday for the most anticipated New Year's Eve of this or any millennium.

Government agencies and private companies alike tested computer programs yet again to make sure their systems recognize the new calendar's double-nought as 2000—averting, they hope, any Y2K crashes that could wreak havoc on power, telephones and other aspects of modern life.

Shoppers stocked up, nonetheless, just to be safe. Some local grocery stores and gas stations reported higher than usual business but assured customers that their inventories are not depleted.

Performers from Don McLean to Kathy Mattea rehearsed their numbers on the massive outdoor stage that the Lincoln Memorial has become, a scene of organized chaos of musicians, set-builders, cables, cameras and squealing microphones that tonight will jell into a kaleidoscopic extravaganza of sound and light.

"Ladies and gentlemen, your host for America's Millennium, Will Smith!" the announcer practiced repeatedly yesterday, despite the actor-singer's afternoon absence.

And police forces, already on heightened alert because of security concerns, reviewed their preparations for the tens of thousands of people expected on the Mall and the major crowds likely to be lured to numerous other public celebrations across the Washington region. District officials even have a new mobile command center, equipped with infrared camera, generators and satellite phones, capable of responding to such catastrophes as riots or terrorist attacks.

"We are definitely taking a lot

See CELEBRATION, *A21, Col. 1*



BY TRACY A. WOODWARD—THE WASHINGTON POST

Visitors at the Lincoln Memorial last evening look toward the east end of the Reflecting Pool, where the illuminated "1999" will change to "2000" tonight as fireworks ascend and light the Washington Monument.

1 of 2

Singers, Systems Awaiting Tonight's Tests

CELEBRATION, *From A1*

of precautions," said Sgt. Rob MacLean of the U.S. Park Police, which will deploy hundreds of officers for the Lincoln Memorial extravaganza. State Department alerts in recent weeks have warned about possible terrorist threats both abroad and at home, but MacLean stressed, "We do not have any specific threats for this event or any monument."

An equal show of D.C. police force will be evident at the city's two-day block party along Constitution Avenue NW, and some of those officers were kept busy yesterday responding to three separate bomb alarms. All were false.

The first occurred about 6:40 a.m. when bomb-sniffing dogs doing a routine check of the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center signaled the possible presence of explosive chemicals. At 3:30 p.m., police searched the Adams National Bank branch at Union Station because of a letter saying a bomb had been placed there. Half an hour later, a report of a suspicious package at Chevy Chase Pavilion forced evacuation of that shopping center and the nearby Mazza Gallerie, as well as closing several blocks of Wisconsin Avenue during rush hour.

"These fake threats are something that we, unfortunately, know we are going to have to spend a lot of time looking into over the next few days," said Officer Kenny Bryson, a police spokesman. "We don't want to alarm people, but we have to look into each one."

For the most part, though, the penultimate countdown focused on the future.

"Everything we have done is ready," said Quentin Banks, spokesman for the Maryland Emergency Management Agency. "We are just waiting for the time to come upon us."

At the state's emergency operations center in Reistertown, representatives from more than 30 federal, state and nonprofit agencies drilled once more with software designed to track any possible problem. Still, the day was one of relative leisure. Even Y2K information hot lines were quieter than usual.

Some restless county leaders hit the streets, however. Howard County Executive James N. Robey (D), a former police chief, toured public buildings and emergency centers in a spot inspection of county preparedness. Montgomery County officials deployed portable stop signs in case of power malfunctions.

At the Burtonsville Giant, Noble and Denise Jolley lay in supplies. "I think there are only going to be sporadic problems, but you never know," she said, glancing at the five gallons of water and 24 rolls of toilet paper in their cart. "With five teens in my house, you can't take a lot of chances."

Those worries aside, this is a New Year's Eve fraught with complications—the most contentious of which is the mathematical reality that, zeroes or not, 2000 is one year shy of a new millennium.

But few have paid attention to that distinction, and hotels and special events have promoted it to the hilt, with prices to match. Since Thanksgiving, numerous celebrations have been scaled back or scrapped, including, this week, a huge affair at MCI Center and a turn-of-the-century masquerade ball that was to have been part of the Maryland city of Frederick's ringing-in. According to a USA Today/CNN/Gallup Poll released yesterday, nearly three-fourths of Americans still had no special plans for tonight.

With some, blame procrastination. In the Washington area, numerous businesses that specialize in catering, limousines and babysitters found themselves besieged this week for last-minute assistance.

At White House Nannies Inc. of Bethesda, the calls in the last few days became increasingly urgent, according to Mary K. Lyddane, director of temporary services.

"It's been pretty busy," Lyddane said between efforts to aid several hotels in locating sitters for their guests. "We've been able to place some sitters, but we're still working on getting help for other families."

One nanny was able to negotiate a lucrative deal with a couple who plan to celebrate the New Year by staying out all night. For a flat fee of $600, she will arrive at their home this afternoon to feed her charges dinner. She then will spend the night, get up with the children and feed them breakfast.

Other families have planned a celebration to include young and old alike. Edwin Jesiolowski, a Haddonfield, N.J., architect, should be arriving in Washington this afternoon with 19 relatives and friends, including eight children, all pumped about the fantastical fireworks finale promised on the Mall at midnight.

"My wife is a fireworks nut," he said earlier this week, explaining why he had called Fireworks by Grucci, the Long Island pyrotechnics company doing the show, to determine the premier place to be Dec. 31.

"They said, 'If you want the best of the best that we've ever done, go to Washington.' " So, he recounted, "I told my wife, 'We're going to Washington.' "

Some of what Jesiolowski and crew will get, well before the clock strikes 12, was on display yesterday afternoon, to the delight of an impromptu audience of hundreds who strained to see celebrity performers during an extended rehearsal.

Capt. Tom Walczyk, a dentist with the Navy, strolled over from his nearby office—and will return tonight.

"This is the essence of America," he said. "To be able to touch and see this. . . . It's got all the lights, the actors, the music, the volume. It epitomizes gung-ho America."

Jennifer Schonberger, 16, a junior at West Springfield High, felt a little disappointed that she couldn't get closer to the stars on stage. But just approaching ground zero of millennial hubbub made the trip worthwhile for her and her mother, Farideh.

Not that the Schonbergers will be grooving on the Mall tonight. They have a party scheduled with friends.

Program organizers say they are expecting 100,000 revelers, though since this New Year's gala is a first, they have no real way of estimating the turnout. Four large screens are in place on the west and south sides of the Reflecting Pool, which is how the real-people crowd will see most of the action. A sizable contingent of VIPs, including the president and first family, will enjoy up-close seats and bleachers.

The public must enter the area through four gates on Constitution Avenue, Independence Avenue and 17th Street, and anyone is subject to a search by Park Police. Security measures will force closure of the Last Firebase, a camouflage-painted kiosk near the foot of the Lincoln Memorial where veterans sell souvenirs and keep hope alive for comrades missing in action. Their vigil has continued nonstop since 1986, but tonight, per U.S. Secret Service orders, they'll shut from 9 p.m. until the president departs.

As yesterday's dry run of the nearly $13 million spectacle proved, the croonings of Tom Jones, Kathleen Battle's soaring high C's, the clashing chords of "Also Sprach Zarathustra" and the percussive parade of the Broadway show "Stomp" will carry nearly to the Washington Monument.

"This is the place to be if you're going to be anywhere," Jones told reporters. Asked if this was how he had envisioned the century's end, the 59-year-old veteran entertainer cracked, "It's good just to be here, to still be alive at this point."

Minutes later, Kris Kristofferson laughed off the notion that anyone should be worried about security during the evening. "I have concerns about breathing," said the singer-songwriter, 63. "I'm an old man. I have concerns about being hit by a car. I don't live in fear of terrorists."

Staff writers Rajiv Chandrasekaran, Stephen C. Fehr, Raja Mishra, Tracey Reeves, Michael D. Shear, Emily Wax and Scott Wilson contributed to this report.

New Year's Performances

The "America's Millennium Gala" at the Lincoln Memorial tonight features nearly 500 singers, musicians and dancers. The tentative lineup and schedule of the three-hour show includes:

9:58 p.m. National Anthem, Bobby McFerrin.

10:01 p.m. Opening, Will Smith.

10:18 p.m. Tom Jones, Kenny Rogers, Foreigner, Don McLean.

10:23 p.m. Welcome, Hillary Rodham Clinton.

10:27 p.m. Trisha Yearwood and Brian McKnight.

10:33 p.m. Avery Brooks.

10:40 p.m. Kathy Mattea, Luther Vandross, Mark O'Connor, Kris Kristofferson, Usher, BeBe Winans, Patti Austin.

10:45 p.m. Jack Nicholson, John Fogerty, Vernon Reid, Slash, Nathan East, Greg Phillinganes, Kenny Aronoff, Edgar Winter.

11:01 p.m. Kathleen Battle, Jessye Norman, the Symphonic Choir, Bobby McFerrin.

11:12 p.m. Mary Tyler Moore, Brian Stokes Mitchell, the Savion Glover Tappers, Michel Bell, Renee Fleming, Tom Wopat, Bebe Neuwirth, Priscilla Lopez, cast and dancers from "Chicago."

11:31 p.m. "The Unfinished Journey" by Steven Spielberg, music by John Williams, readings by Ruby Dee, Ossie Davis, Sam Waterston, Nathan and Evelyn Hoffman, Rita Dove, Robert Pinsky, Edward James Olmos.

11:59 p.m. "Millennium Address" by President Clinton.

Midnight Fireworks and music.

12:02 a.m. U.S. Army Herald Trumpets, Symphonic Choir, World Children's Choir, Brian McKnight, Luther Vandross, Trisha Yearwood, Kathleen Battle, Renee Fleming, Jessye Norman, the Garrett Gospel Choir.

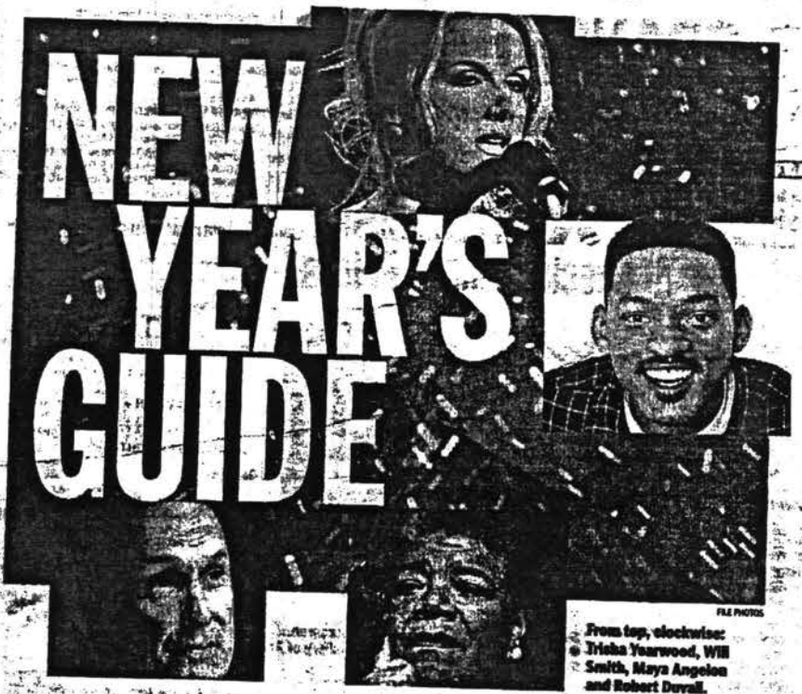
12:16 a.m. Bono and Daniel Lanois.

12:35 a.m. Broadway cast of "Stomp."

12:52 a.m. Fireworks finale and song medley.

THE WASHINGTON POST

NEW YEAR'S GUIDE



FILE PHOTOS

From top, clockwise: Trisha Yearwood, Will Smith, Maya Angelou and Robert Duvall.

Here's your guide to celebrating New Year's on the Mall. On these four pages we tell you about events, how to get around and suggest places to eat and other diversions in the area. Turn this page for a detailed map of the Mall.

–By Larry Fox

America's Millennium

The main event Friday is the celebration at the Lincoln Memorial. Actor Will Smith will host the three-hour nationally televised show on CBS, which starts at 10 p.m. on Friday, New Year's Eve. The entertainment will actually begin an hour earlier, at 9 p.m. with concerts by military bands. Joining Smith will be Jessye Norman and fellow opera diva Kathleen Battle; actors Robert Duvall, Brian Stokes Mitchell, Sam Waterston and Diane Keaton; Luke Creswell and the company of "Stomp"; singers Trisha Yearwood, Bono, Luther Vandross, Usher, Tom Jones, Don McLean, Kathy Mattea, Bobby McFerrin, Kenny Rogers and BeBe Winans; and numerous other celebrities. Poet laureate Robert Pinsky, poet Rita Dove and author Maya Angelou will read original poems.

At 11:30, a live orchestra will premiere a score by Academy Award-winning composer John Williams as a Steven Spielberg film, "The Unfinished Journey," is shown on four giant screens—one in front of the Lincoln Memorial and three on one side of the Reflecting Pool. Just before midnight, President Clinton, speaking from the Lincoln Memorial, will address the nation on television. And at midnight, there will be a high-powered fireworks show, with pyrotechnic cascades ascending the Washington Monument. After the fireworks, there will be more entertainment for 50 minutes and then a five-minute fireworks finale fired from barges anchored in the Potomac behind the Lincoln Memorial.

For more information, call 888/294-2100 or visit the Web site: *www.si.edu/americasmillennium*.

The area of the Mall from 17th Street west to the Lincoln Memorial, between Constitution and Independence avenues, will be fenced off. Public access will be through four entrances only: 17th Street at the Rainbow Pool (two entrances), Constitution Avenue at 19th Street NW and Independence Avenue at the D.C. War Memorial entrance, just west of the Kutz Bridge. These entrances will open at 6 p.m. Alcohol will not be permitted on the Mall. The Washington Monument grounds will be closed to the public, though the sidewalks will remain

At the Smithsonian

Free family programs, concerts, performances and demonstrations are featured in the Smithsonian Institution's "America's Millennium on the Mall," Friday through Sunday from 11:30 to 5 in these museums: The Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, the National Museum of American History and the National Museum of Natural History.

Tickets to these free events have already been given away. Unclaimed seats will be given to standbys 15 minutes before each event. Halls will be cleared after each event. For more information, call 202/357-2700 (TDD: 202/357-1729).

The schedule of events:

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

Baird Auditorium, 10th Street and Constitution Avenue NW (Metro: Federal Triangle, Smithsonian).

Friday

11:30 A.M. — NBA Hall of Fame player Bill Russell and Washington Mystics players Chamique Holdsclaw and Nikki McCray will discuss "Basketball: We Come to Play."
1 P.M. — Music star Ricky Skaggs discusses and demonstrates "Bluegrass: America's Roots Music."
2:30 P.M. — Scholar Clay Jenkinson, activist Julian Bond and Richard West, director of the National Museum of the American Indian, discuss the "Paradox of Thomas Jefferson."
3:30 P.M. — Author Gayle Ross on "Rabbit Meets Coyote: Trickster Tales."
4 P.M. — Author/storyteller Jose Griego on "Cuentos & Songs From Northern New Mexico."

Sunday

NOON — Jazz workshop by the Smithsonian Jazz Masterworks Orchestra Quintet.
1:30 P.M. — Storyteller Marc Spiegel on "Fantasy for the Universal Child."
3 P.M. — The Freestyle Union presents "SLAM! Poetry for Young People."

HIRSHHORN MUSEUM AND SCULPTURE GARDEN

Ring Auditorium, Seventh Street and Independence Avenue SW, (Metro: L'Enfant Plaza).

Friday

NOON — Physicist Neil Gershenfeld and other scholars from MIT discuss "Glimpsing the Future: Technologies for the Millennium."
1:15 P.M. — Christopher Chyba, Seth Shostak, Kent Cullers and Dan Werthimer, from the SETI (Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence) Institute, discuss "Searching for Extraterrestrial Life in the New Millennium."
2:30 P.M. — Computer entrepreneur/MIT professor Ray Kurzweil discusses "The Age of Spiritual Machines."
3:45 P.M. — Officials of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention discuss "Are Humans Endangered?"

Saturday

NOON — Author/sportswriter John Feinstein talks about "Can Sports Be Mended in the New Millennium?"
1:15 P.M. — Physicists Neil Gershenfeld and Philip Morrison, 8-year-old David Dalrymple, 16-year-old Hillary McQualde and MIT doctoral candidate Yael Maguire discuss "What's in Your Future?"
2:30 P.M. — Chefs Martin Yan, Vertamae Grosvenor and Raji Jallepalli discuss "The Future of American Taste."
4:30 P.M. — U.S. Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky reads from his works.

Sunday

NOON — "The Future of Planet Earth," with James Baker, administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Charles G. Groat, director of the U.S. Geological Survey.
1:15 P.M. — Writer Virginia Postrel on "The Open Future: Progress Without a Plan."
2:30 P.M. — "The Future of Democracy," with Jeanne Kirkpatrick, former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations.
3:45 P.M. — "The Prospect of Peace," by Richard H. Solomon, president of the U.S. Institute of Peace.

NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM

Sixth Street and Constitution Avenue NW (Metro: L'Enfant Plaza)

Children will be invited to participate in the Mars Millennium Project, a contest to design a village settlement on Mars. The activities run from 11 to 3 Friday and Saturday. All talks take place in the Space Hall.

Friday

12:15 — Living and working in space, by shuttle astronaut Roger Crouch.
1 — Exploring Mars, by Donna Shirley, former manager of the Mars Pathfinder program.
2 — Visiting Mir, by shuttle astronaut Wendy Lawrence.
3 — Becoming a space engineer, by Donna Shirley.
4 — Visiting Mir, by Wendy Lawrence.

Saturday

11 — Exploring Mars, by Donna Shirley.

The District Of Columbia Celebration

The District of Columbia's "Main Street Millennium" festival is Friday from 10 a.m. to midnight and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. along Constitution Avenue NW, between Ninth and 14th streets.

The festival will feature huge tents with interactive exhibits showcasing Washington and five stages of entertainment.

Partygoers can buy tickets for the food and drink that will be served at four heated pavilions throughout the festival area. Eight tickets will cost $5. Food and drink items will require differing numbers of tickets.

For more information, call 202/727-8449 or visit the Web site: www.2000dc.com.

Here is the schedule (subject to change):

Friday

Millennium Stage

On 12th Street just north of Constitution Avenue:
10 A.M. — Marine Band concert
11 — Opening ceremony, with the president and Hillary Clinton, Mayor Anthony Williams.
1:30 — Okyerema Asante with Plunky (African percussion)
3 — Brother Ah World Music Ensemble
4:15 — Nap Turner Sextet (blues)
5:35 — Bill Kirchen & Too Much Fun (folk)



© DAVID CLARK/IMAX 1995

"Galapagos," a 3-D IMAX film, is at the National Museum of Natural History.

Other Things To Do

So you've decided to head downtown (along with umpteen of your closest friends) to partake in "America's Millennium on the Mall" and the "Main Street Millennium."

But what to do if you can't get in to see Ricky Skaggs, or if you just need to kill time between Pookie Hudson and Robert Pinsky? Fortunately, you're in museum country, where plenty of great alternatives to millennial madness beckon.

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY — 10th Street and Constitution Avenue NW (Metro: Federal Triangle). "Galapagos," the stunning 3-D IMAX film in the Samuel C. Johnson Theater, is its own sound-and-light show. While at the museum, you might also check out the new, permanent African Voices Hall or the special exhibition "Ainu: Spirit of a Northern People." The museum is open daily from 10 to 5:30. "Galapagos" screens daily at 10:15, 1, 2 and 4:40. Tickets are $6.50, $5.50 for children 2 through 17 and for seniors 55 and older. Admission to the museum is free. 202/357-2700 (TDD: 357-1729).

HIRSHHORN MUSEUM AND SCULPTURE GARDEN — Independence Avenue and Seventh Street SW (Metro: L'Enfant Plaza). There's a lot of new stuff, including the large—and largely lovely—"Regarding Beauty" survey of contemporary art and an exhibit of watercolor miniatures by Pakistan-born painter Shahzia Sikander. Outside are two newly installed sculptures by the majestic Mark di Suvero and the mercenary Jeff Koons. The Hirshhorn is open 10 to 5 daily. Free. 202/357-2700 (TDD: 357-1729).

ARTHUR M. SACKLER GALLERY — 950 Independence Ave. SW (Metro: Smithsonian). This gallery has mounted three small but worthy shows around the theme of Orientalism: Antoin Sevruguin's photos of Iran from the late 1870s to the 1930s, Janaane al-Ani's contemporary photographic meditation on the subject of the veil and a calligraphy sampler from antiquity to today. Without ever leaving the building, you can also scurry underground to the nearby **NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AFRICAN ART** (1050 Independence Ave. SW), where an exhibition on Ghanaian kente cloth will be up through Sunday. Both are open 10 to 5:30 daily. Free. 202/357-2700 (TDD: 357-1729).

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART — The Gallery is at Fourth Street and Constitution Avenue NW, and the ice skating rink is at Seventh and Constitution (Metro: Archives/Navy Memorial). The gallery will be open Friday from 10 to 5 and Sunday from 11 to 6, but is closed New Year's Day. Its new Sculpture Garden Ice Skating Rink, normally open 10 to 10 on Fridays and Saturdays, will close at 5 on Friday and won't reopen until Sunday from 11 to 10. Inside the museum are some great special exhibits on Johannes Vermeer's "The Art of Painting," Chinese archaeology and Parisian photographs of Brassaï and favorite works from the collection of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mellon. Free. 202/737-4215 (TDD: 202/842-6176).

CORCORAN GALLERY OF ART — 500 17th St. NW (Metro: Farragut West). The Corcoran has eight special exhibitions, the best of which are Annie Leibovitz's photographs of famous, infamous and unfamous women; sculptor Tara Donovan's fuzzy installation made from four tons of nylon fiber; and a large survey of art from the collections of America's historically black colleges and universities. The Corcoran is open 10 to 5 Friday and Sunday; it's closed Saturday, New Year's Day. Admission is by suggested donation of $3; $1 for seniors and students; $5 for family groups. 202/639-1700.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES — Constitution Avenue between Seventh and Ninth streets NW (Metro: Archives/Navy Memorial). The original, signed Emancipation Proclamation will be on view through Sunday. Open 10 to 5:30 daily. Free. 202/501-5000.

OLD PATENT OFFICE BUILDING — Eighth Street between G and F streets NW (Metro: Gallery Place/Chinatown). This building, home to two museums, is getting ready to shut down for three years of renovation. You can still catch **NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY** exhibits on Ernest Hemingway, the caricatures of Edward Sorel, the photographs of Henri Cartier-Bresson and the daguerreotypes of Augustus Washington. Under the same roof, the **NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART** features the watercolors of Edward Hopper and a small taste of paintings and sculptures from the Sara Roby Foundation collection. Both museums open 10 to 5:30 daily. Free. 202/357-2700 (TDD:357-1729).

—*Michael O'Sullivan*

Places to Eat

While several of the museums on the Mall have cafeterias, including the National Gallery of Art and the Air and Space, Natural History and American History museums, they are likely to be packed during the festivities.

The pavilions at the District's "Main Street Millennium" celebration on Constitution Avenue between 10th and 14th streets NW will feature food by area restaurants from 11 to midnight Friday and 11 to 6 Saturday. And the sidewalk concessionaires will be around. For those who'd like something more substantial, here are some restaurants in the vicinity that will be open over the weekend.

AMERICA — In Union Station at 50 Massachusetts Ave. NE (Metro: Union Station). 202/682-9555. Open Friday 11:30 to 4, Saturday and Sunday from 11:30 a.m. on. Casual menu of sandwiches, entrees and "regional specialities."

AMERICAN GRILL — In Lowes L'Enfant Plaza Hotel, 480 L'Enfant Plaza SW (Metro: L'Enfant Plaza). 202/484-1000. Open daily from 6:30 on. Nice, broad family fare.

AUSTIN GRILL — 750 E St. NW (Metro: Gallery Place/Chinatown). 202/393-3776. Open Friday 11 to 3, Saturday and Sunday from 11 on. Good Tex-Mex food, excellent chips and salsa, funky atmosphere, great music.

B. SMITH'S — In Union Station at 50 Massachusetts Ave. NE (Metro: Union Station). 202/289-6188. Opens Friday at 5, Saturday at noon and Sunday at 11:30. Updated southern fare with both soul and smarts.

BERTOLINI'S — 801 Pennsylvania Ave. NW (Metro: Archives/Navy Memorial). 202/638-2140. Open Friday 11:30 to 8, closed Saturday, open Sunday 11:30 to 9. Modern-Italian yuppie magnet.

BIS — In Hotel George, 15 E St. NW (Metro: Union Station). 202/661-2700. Open Friday, fixed-price only after 5:30; Saturday 11:30 to 4:30; Sunday from 11:30 on. Classic French bistro fare in large portions and upscale atmosphere.

CAFE ATLANTICO — 405 Eighth St. NW (Metro: Archives/Navy Memorial). 202/393-0812. Friday, fixed-price dinner only after 5; Saturday and Sunday after 5. Quirky and satisfying Mediterranean fare.

CAPITAL GRILLE — 601 Pennsylvania Ave. NW (Metro: Archives/Navy Memorial). 202/737-8200. Open Friday 11:30 to 3, dinner seatings at 5, 8 and 11 only; Saturday and Sunday from 5 on. Expense-account steakhouse with opportunities for celebrity sightings.

CHRISTOPHER MARK'S — 1301 Pennsylvania Ave. NW (Metro: Federal Triangle). 202/628-8838. Open Friday and Saturday from 11:30, Sunday at 4. Upscale surf 'n' turf fast kid-friendly.

CORNER BAKERY — In the National Press Building at 14th and Pennsylvania NW (Metro: Metro Center). 202/662-7600. Open Friday 7 to 5, Saturday 10 to 4, Sunday 10 to 3. Gourmet salads and sandwiches.

LES HALLES — 1201 Pennsylvania Ave. NW (Metro: Federal Triangle). 202/347-6848. Open daily from 11:30. Franco-American steakhouse with the atmosphere of a French cafe.

HARD ROCK CAFE — 999 E St. NW (Metro: Gallery Place/Chinatown). 202/737-7625. Open Friday lunch only 11 to 3, Saturday and Sunday from 11 on. Hamburgers, barbecue, nachos.

NATIONAL PLACE — 1331 Pennsylvania Ave. NW (Metro: Metro Center). Food court open Friday noon to 5, closed Saturday, open Sunday noon to 5.

OCCIDENTAL GRILL — In the Willard Hotel at 15th and Pennsylvania NW (Metro: Metro Center). 202/783-1475. Opens Friday for fixed-price only at 5, seatings at 7:30 and 10. Saturday at 5 and Sunday from noon on. Modern-eclectic American fare with casual in-crowd atmosphere and good views.

OLD EBBITT GRILL — 675 15th St. NW (Metro: Metro Center). 202/347-4801. Open Friday 7 to 5, Saturday and Sunday from 9:30 on. Tavern fare made modern American: signature chili and oyster bar.

OLD POST OFFICE PAVILION — 12th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue NW (Metro: Federal Triangle). Food court open Friday 10 to 5, closed Saturday, open Sunday noon to 6.

PALOMINO EURO BISTRO — In the Ronald Reagan International Trade Center at 13th and Pennsylvania Ave. NW (Metro: Federal Triangle). 202/842-9800. Cafe opens Friday at 11:30, dining room opens Saturday at 5, Sunday at noon. Mod-California fare, from pizzas to rotisserie chickens.

PLANET HOLLYWOOD — 1101 Pennsylvania Ave. NW (Metro: Federal Triangle). 202/783-7827. Open Friday and Saturday from 11 to 7, Sunday from 11 to 10:30. Pub-plus fare.

TGI FRIDAY'S — 12th and Pennsylvania NW (Metro: Federal Triangle). 202/628-8443. Open Friday at noon, Saturday and Sunday from 11 on. Familiar family franchise with reliable and fairly varied fare.

UNION STATION — 50 Massachusetts Ave. NW (Metro: Union Station). Food court open Friday 10 to 6, closed Saturday, open Sunday noon to 6.

— *Eve Zibart*

Fun for the Whole Family

The Mall is home to many adventures, including those that you and your children might enjoy. One major attraction—the Washington Monument—is not open to the public this millennial weekend. Admission to the Smithsonian museums is free. For more information, call 202/357-2700 (TDD: 202/357-1729) or the numbers listed below.

NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM — 6th Street and Independence Avenue SW (Metro: L'Enfant Plaza). This museum tells the story of flight and space exploration through exhibits, interactive displays, computer kiosks, multimedia shows and movies. On exhibit are more than 360 important aircraft, about 300 rockets and space vehicles and hundreds of other aeronautical items. Movies in the Samuel P. Langley IMAX Theater are: "To Fly" daily at 10:10, 12:20, 2:30 and 4:40. "Cosmic Voyage," daily at 10:45, 12:55, 3:05 and 5:15. "Mission to Mir," daily at 11:30, 1:40 and 3:50; "Wings in Space," daily at 6. "Time Stands Still," Friday-Sunday at 8. Admission is $5.50, $4.25 seniors and children 2 through 17. Call 202/357-1686 for the Airbus Emulator Flight Simulator, which provides participants with a 30-minute program on astronomy and space and is offered every 40 minutes from 11 to 5. Admission is $3.75. The museum also has a restaurant and cafeteria. Call 202/357-1686.

NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM — 10th Street and Constitution Avenue NW (Metro: Federal Triangle). The new Hall of Dinosaurs, dinosaurs, fossils and bugs. Start in the Rotunda, where an African bush elephant dominates the area. Dinosaurs, including a life-size model of a pterosaur with a 40-foot wingspan and an 80-foot diplodocus, are featured in the first floor Dinosaurs Hall. The Hope Diamond, said to be cursed, is the star of the Janet Annenberg Hooker Hall of Geology, Gems and Minerals. Real tarantulas, live giant cockroaches and other crawling things can be found in the O. Orkin Insect Zoo. The museum has a restaurant.

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY — 14th Street and Constitution Avenue NW (Metro: Federal Triangle, Smithsonian). The museum explores the rich diversity of American history, offering interactive exhibits that will draw children in. In the Hands-On History Room, visitors can send a telegraph message and pedal a high-wheel bicycle. In the Hands-On Science Center, experimenters can measure radioactive hot spots, explore magnetism and measure distances with a laser. Major exhibits include the Star-Spangled Banner, steam locomotives, military history and dresses worn by first ladies. The museum has a restaurant.

THE CAROUSEL — On the Mall just north of the Arts and Industries Building, 900 Jefferson Dr. SW (Metro: Smithsonian). The carousel runs from 11 to 5 weekdays, 10 to 6 weekends, weather permitting. Rides are $1.25.

OLD POST OFFICE PAVILION — 12th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue NW (Metro: Federal Triangle). Take the elevator to the tower for a grand view of the capital city. Open 10 to 5 Friday, closed Saturday and open noon to 6 Sunday.

WHITE HOUSE — 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW (Metro: McPherson Square). The White House will be open to visitors on Saturday, New Year's Day, from noon to 2. No tickets are required. The line will begin at the southeast gate of the White House, East Executive Avenue and E Street NW. All in line by 2 will be admitted. 202/208-1631.

from page 27

8:30 — Ben Andrews Trio
10 — Joe Stanley/Big Four Combo (swing/R&B)
11 — Joe Stanley/Big Four Combo

Southwest Stage

On Constitution Avenue between 12th and 14th streets:
12:15 — Bob Smith as Benjamin Banneker
1:15 — Los de la Mount Pleasant (salsa)
2:30 — Ivan Cuesta y sus Vallenatos Autenticos (Latin/Colombian)
4 — Cecily Patterson (as Sojourner Truth)
5 — Umoja String Quartet
6:30 — United House of Prayer Brass Band
8 — Diimo Kaputo & Mamusu African
11 — Charles Sayles Quartet (electronic harmonica)

Southeast Stage

On Constitution Avenue between 12th and 14th streets:
12 — Chinese entertainers
1 — Shir Delite (klezmer)
2:30 — Don Nunley Trio (sax)
4 — Los de la Mount Pleasant
5:05 — Cecily Patterson as Sojourner Truth
5:35 — Bob Smith as Benjamin Banneker
6:30 — Rising Sun (reggae)
8 — Movement (poetry)
9:30 — Charles Sayles Quartet
11 — Kenny Reed Quartet (trumpet)

Northwest Stage

12:30 — Don Nunley Trio
2:10 — Shir Delite
3:30 — Danny Doyle (Irish)
5 — Okyerema Asante with Plunky
6:30 — Umoja String Quartet
8 — Broto Roy & Ganga
9:30 — Kenny Reed Quartet
11 — Mary Jefferson

Northeast Stage:

On Constitution Avenue between 10th and 12th streets:
12:30 — United House of Prayer Brass Band
2 — Bill Kirchen & Too Much Fun
3:30 — Bob Smith as Benjamin Banneker
4 — Jean Claude Toran (poet)
5 — Danny Doyle
6:30 — Brother Ah

Saturday

Millennium Stage:

11 — Pookie Hudson & the Spaniels
12:30 — Don Rouse Spasm Band
2 — Sonny Til's Legendary Orioles
3:30 — John Cephas & Phil Wiggins
5 — Keter Betts Trio

Southwest Stage:

11 — Sonny Til's Legendary Orioles
12:30 — Blues Work Trio
2 — Cephas & Wiggins
3:30 — John Jackson
5 — Rising Sun

Southeast Stage:

11 — Lauren Lewis portrays a slave girl
11:25 — Amitiyah Hyman portrays an Indian girl
12:30 — Amitiyah Hyman portrays an Indian girl
1:15 — Poet Jean Claude Toran
2 — Pookie Hudson & the Spaniels
2:15 — Don Sheehy's Mariachi Amigos
3:45 — Sunny Sumter Quartet
5 — Movement (poetry and music)

Northwest Stage:

11 — Blues Work Trio
12:30 — John Jackson
2 — Keter Betts Trio
3:30 — Curtis Pope & the Midnight Movers
5 — Sunny Sumter quartet

Northeast Stage:

11 — Bob Smith as Benjamin Banneker
12 — Lauren Lewis portrays a slave girl
12:30 — Amitiyah Hyman portrays an Indian girl
1:15 — Poet Jean Claude Toran
2 — Pookie Hudson & the Spaniels

WASHINGTON POST MAGAZINE, DECEMBER 31, 1999

Weekend's Best

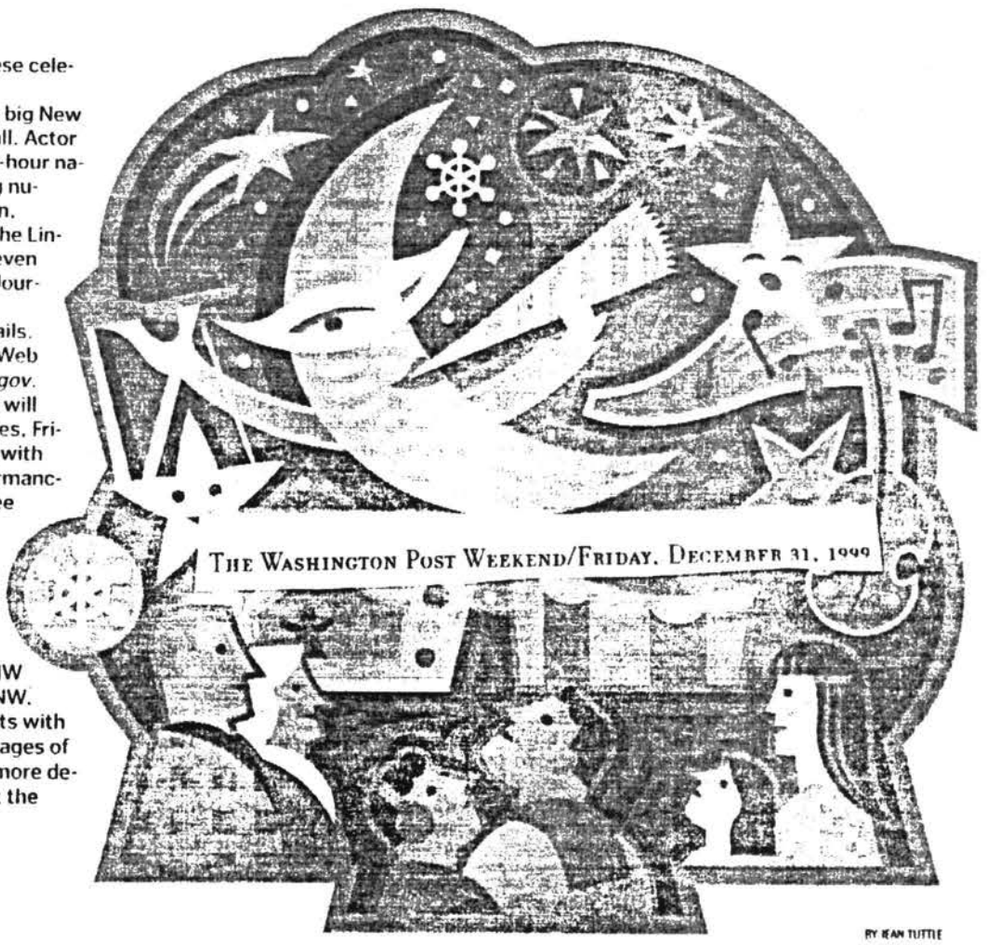
Millennium Mania

The millennium arrives, with these celebrations in Washington:

■ **America's Millennium** is the big New Year's Eve celebration on the Mall. Actor Will Smith will host a free, three-hour nationally televised show featuring numerous stars of stage and screen, starting Friday at 10 p.m. from the Lincoln Memorial, followed by a Steven Spielberg film, "The Unfinished Journey," and a midnight fireworks show. See Page 27 for more details. Call 888/294-2100 or visit the Web site: *www.americasmillennium.gov*.

■ The **Smithsonian Institution** will host three days of indoor activities, Friday through Sunday 11:30 to 5, with dozens of discussions and performances about a variety of subjects. See Page 27 for more details. Call 202/357-2700 (TDD: 202/357-1729).

■ The **District of Columbia** will hold a festival Friday from 10 to midnight and Saturday 11 to 6 along Constitution Avenue NW between 10th and 14th streets NW. The festival will feature huge tents with exhibits and activities and five stages of entertainment. See Page 27 for more details. Call 202/727-8449 or visit the Web site: *www.2000dc.com*.



BY JEAN TUTTLE

Unprecedented security at nation's capital for gala

Organizers expect about 500,000 at the $12 million fest. Officials are closing streets and bridges and beefing up law enforcement.

By Laurence McQuillan
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON — President Clinton has been dreaming of ushering in 2000 with a celebration like none other in the storied history of Washington, where party planners always try to outdo their predecessors.

It looks like his dream will come true.

Never before has there been an extravaganza with such glamour, glitter and fireworks. Never before have government officials shut down bridges, closed so many streets and called out the National Guard to do it.

The "America's Millennium" celebration is being tempered by concerns about potential terrorism and possible Y2K glitches. Officials are happy to make grand predictions about the next 1,000 years but are less certain about this weekend. "We're trying to strike a balance between taking the right precautionary measures and letting people know the information we have and not creating an unnecessary fear," Deputy White House press secretary Jake Siewert said.

"We obviously wouldn't have invited people to the Mall unless we were intent upon making it safe," he said.

Gala security

Organizers predict that about 500,000 revelers will turn out for a $12 million New Year's Eve celebration set at the Lincoln Memorial. It features an array of big name performers and a special 18-minute Steven Spielberg film. The event is funded by private and corporate donations.

USATODAY.com

USATODAY.com covers the world as it moves into the 21st century. Coverage begins with the first New Year's celebrations (5 a.m. ET Friday) and includes:

- ▶ Worldwide photo coverage
- ▶ Interactive map tracking the dawn of 2000
- ▶ Conversations with cybercafes around the globe
- ▶ Exclusive reports from the USA and abroad
- ▶ Live cybercasts from big-city celebrations

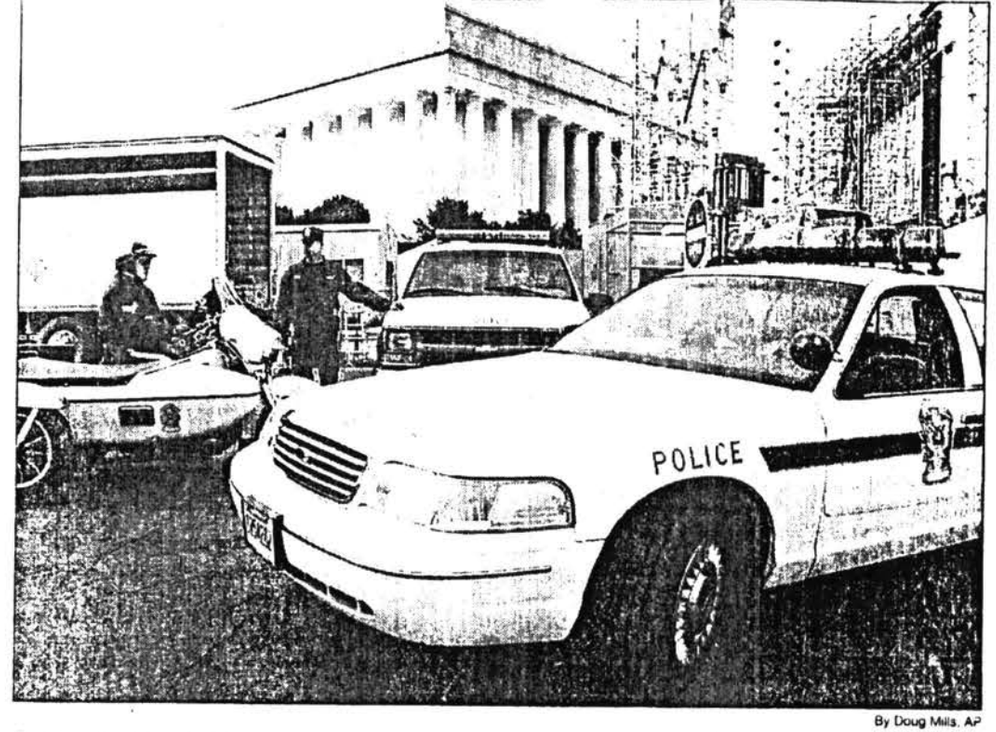
The program, which will be aired live by CBS, includes a dramatic fireworks display that planners say will out sparkle anything ever done in Washington, a city that takes its July 4th festivities seriously.

So how do you protect half a million people on a night that prompted cities such as Seattle to call off plans for galas because of security worries?

You put the District of Columbia's 3,500 police officers on extended shifts, and then ask the Defense Department and the city's National Guard for additional help.

Law enforcement officers will direct traffic at about 150 street intersections. Large sections of major arteries in the city's downtown will be shut down, as will the Memorial and Theodore Roosevelt bridges and the George Washington Memorial Parkway.

Snow fences have been set up in the area between the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument to help control and monitor the crowd.



By Doug Mills, AP

Outside the Lincoln Memorial: U.S. Park Police officers keep watch near the memorial Thursday in Washington. The District of Columbia's 3,500 police officers also are on extended shifts.

Officers of the U.S. Park Police will be stationed at each of the four entrances to the viewing area to inspect packages and look for suspicious behavior, officials said.

'Midnight moment'

About 50 stars and 450 singers, dancers and musicians will participate in the extravaganza produced by Quincy Jones and George Stevens Jr. The list of entertainers includes such stars as Will Smith, who hosts the event, Tom Jones and Diane Keaton.

Clinton, who will host a private gala at the White House earlier in the evening, plans to read some passages from the works of Abraham Lincoln during remarks just before the stroke of midnight.

Organizers say the "midnight moment" will feature fireworks and sound-and-light displays centered on the 555-feet-tall Washington Monument.

Worries about possible violence surfaced Thursday when police briefly closed the city's second-largest federal government office complex and a road just four blocks from the White House because of a security scare. Police converged on the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center after a government bomb-sniffing dog on routine patrol reacted to what could have been explosive material, a police spokesman said. The police bomb squad found no explosives there.

This afternoon, the president and the first lady will participate in a celebration of children around the world at the building, which is the largest U.S. government office structure after the Pentagon.

Producer Stevens and Ellen Lovell, director of the White House Millennium Council, dismissed thoughts that their grand plans will fall victim to concerns generated by terrorists. "It's never crossed our minds to cancel this. We are prepared," Lovell said.

Special, and safe

Gazing at the preparations at the Lincoln Memorial, Stevens agreed: "I have a feeling the space we're on will be the safest place anywhere in the United States. People should enjoy the night and live it and consider it as a night of celebration.

"There's lots to be said about staying at home near the fireplace," the producer said, "but for those who come here, they will see something special that they will remember for the rest of their lives."

D.C. set to celebrate – in style

Spielberg's film, Clinton's speech featured on Mall

Washington Times
Friday, Dec. 31, 1999

1 of 2

By Patrick Butters
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

President Clinton will light a fuse at the Lincoln Memorial just before midnight tonight, setting fireworks — and America's celebration of the year 2000 — in motion.

It is the climactic moment to "America's Millennium: A Celebration for the Nation." Children also will light fuses to spark beads of light dancing over the Reflecting Pool to the Washington Monument. The scaffolded, 555-foot obelisk will then light up in sections, timed with Mall revelers counting down the seconds to midnight.

Finaliy, the piece de resistance: The Ferris wheel next to the Lincoln Memorial, which has been lording over passing traffic on Henry Bacon Drive, will rise 175 feet into the air. Powered by three massive cranes, the fat hunks of metal will ignite a circle of beams. More than 500 stage lights will form a sun to blaze in the new year.

This caps a privately funded but very public $12 million pyrotechnic blast that will ring in 2000. Not surprisingly, Steven Spielberg, Quincy Jones and George Stevens Jr. all have a hand in the production.

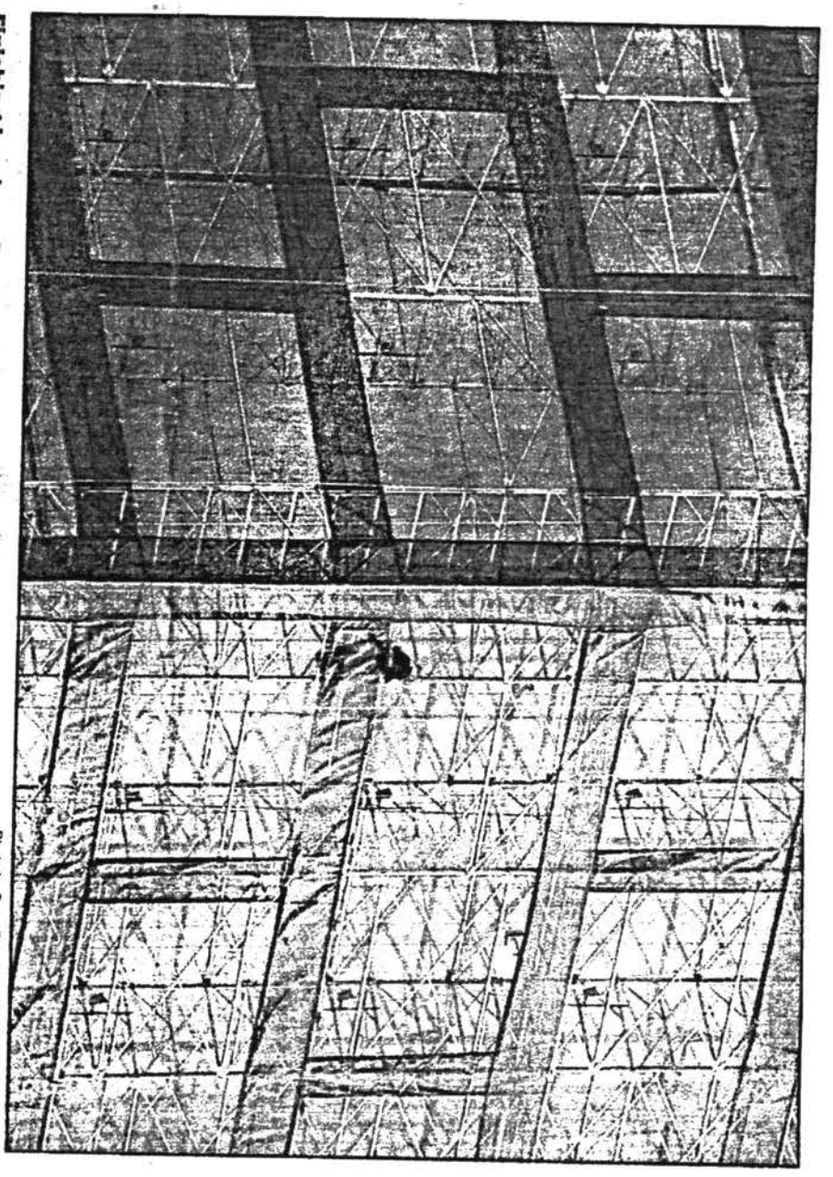
The celebratory spectacle extends from the Lincoln Memorial to other sites around the city.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu, a Nobel Peace Prize winner, and eight other clerics will lead services at the Washington National Cathedral. Thousands will gather at the U.S. Naval Observatory for the time-ball drop and time-cannon blast. (The observatory, however, is sticking with its insistence that the millennium officially begins on Jan. 1, 2001.)

"We expect two to three thousand people," says spokesman Geoff Chester, who added that all public tickets have been snapped up. "Anybody who didn't get a ticket can't get in."

The mega-bash "National Millennium 2000" at the Grand Hyatt features four party "levels" with

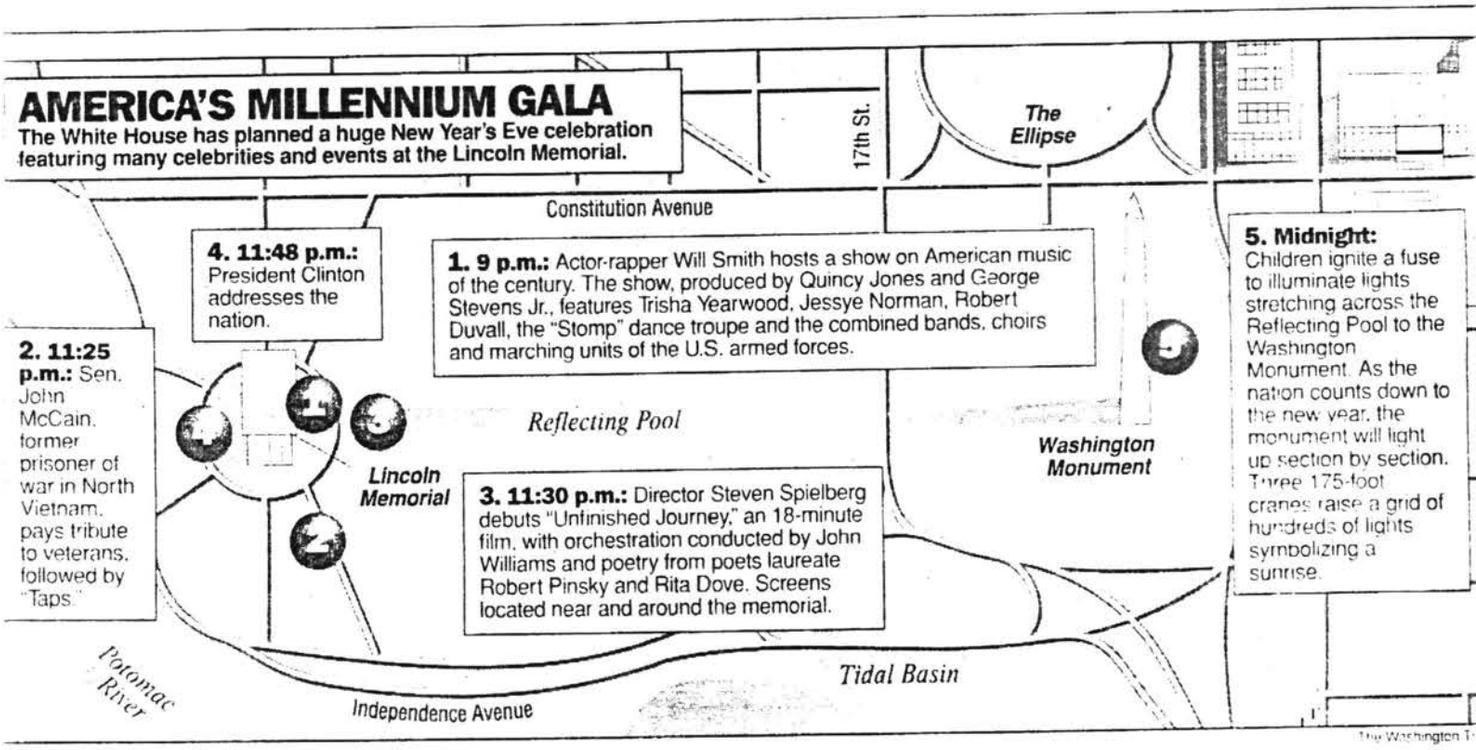
see **MALL**, *page A10*



Finishing touches: A worker does his part in getting the Washington Monument ready for tonight's Mall extravaganza. "America's Millennium: A Celebration for the Nation" will feature a film by Steven Spielberg.

Photo by Sean Dougherty/The Washington Times

FROM PAGE ONE



2 of 2

MALL

From page A1

performances by Marvelous 3, 2 Skinnee J's and Emmet Swimming.

"Washington will sell out today," said Jennifer Fonts of Lindy Promotions, which has also organized parties in Baltimore and Atlanta. "Baltimore's selling rapidly and Atlanta's skyrocketed. There's absolutely no way we are canceling any of our events."

This comes on the heels of cancellations of three major D.C. events. Yesterday, a New Year's Eve gala at the MCI Center featuring Third Eye Blind was scrubbed. Earlier, fetes at Georgetown Park — which had merged into the MCI party — and the Ronald Reagan Building — with a charity show starring the Who's Roger Daltrey — also fizzled due to lackluster sales.

Daylight will still see the Smithsonian Institution holding more than three dozen programs spread out over three days. "America's Millennium on the Mall" touches on the U.S. experience in four tourist hot spots: "American Voices," Natural History; "Story Circle," American History; "Future Visions," Hirshhorn Museum; and "Launch 2000," Air and Space.

Terrorist fears — including Seattle's cancellation of its festivities — haven't shaken the film director, musician and producer behind the New Year's Eve "America's Millennium" gala on the Mall.

"I have a feeling that the space we're on, on Friday night is going to be the safest place in the United States," said Mr. Stevens in a press conference Tuesday at the base of the Lincoln Memorial.

"We have to feed into fear or love at one point," Mr. Jones added. "We refuse to feed into fear."

The District will have 3,500 police patrolling the city, buttressed by the FBI and 300 members of the National Guard. Although there will be no metal detectors on the Mall, bags and packages will be screened. Alcohol is not permitted at the event.

The public gala, which begins at 9 p.m., is hosted by movie star/rapper Will Smith. Others appearing include actors Jack Nicholson, Sam Waterston, Robert Duvall and Diane Keaton, former Sen. John Glenn, presidential candidate and Sen. John McCain, ex-Boston Celtics center and Hall of Famer Bill Russell, ex-boxer Muhammad Ali, children's author/illustrator/puppeteer David Wisniewski, gospel singer Bebe Winans, pop singers Bono, Tom Jones and Don McLean, opera singer Kathleen Battle, country singers Kenny Rogers, Kathy Mattea and Trisha Yearwood, "Ragtime" star Brian Stokes Mitchell, and the cast from Broadway's 25-member "Stomp."

At 11:30 p.m., Mr. Spielberg tops the show by presenting his 18-minute film, "Unfinished Journey," which will be shown on three screens near and around the Reflecting Pool. On Tuesday, Mr. Spielberg called it a "kind of musical and poetic celebration of why we are all here today, what were the shoulders we stood on to achieve this moment in time and in history."

The film includes poems by U.S. poet laureate Robert Pinsky, previous laureate Rita Dove and author-poet Maya Angelou. Mr. Clinton will read from Abraham Lincoln. John Williams conducts his own orchestration. Then Mr. Clinton addresses the expected crowd of 100,000 as well as a nationally televised audience.

The huge stage at the base of the Lincoln is ribboned with 250 miles of cable, which workers were still threading through trees yesterday morning. The president, first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and thousands of his closest pals will sit on heated risers, buffered from the crowd.

"Are you looking forward to this great mess on the Mall?" asked actress Elizabeth Perry from her New York home. "What they're talking about on TV — in Washington, New York and Seattle — is scary stuff."

Her one-woman show, "Sunflower, the Life and Loves of Elizabeth Cady Stanton," plays at 4 p.m. today at the National Museum of Natural History. It's part of the three-day "America's Millennium on the Mall" program. Born 1815, Stanton delivered the "De laration of Sentiments" at the fi Woman's Rights Convention Seneca Falls, N.Y. It led to t eventual women's suffrage amen ment to the Constitution 70 yea later. Miss Perry's show was fe tured at the 150th anniversary. S also performed it for New Yo Gov. George E. Pataki's Econom Summit for Young Women.

"I wanted to show a woman wi love in her heart for humanit said Miss Perry. "There is a vi of [some women as being as] ou spoken as battleaxes. That's not m view or my experience. And I' glad when men come to my pl and bring their sons, becau Elizabeth loved her husband ar her sons."

Over at the State Theatre Falls Church, rangy blues guitari Tom Principato will be cuttin loose when the clock strikes 1 The local guitar hero said he ju bought a European gypsy guit and is experimenting with wor music.

Southern rockers Little Feat ar local folkies Seldom Scene w headline Montgomery County fifth-annual, nonalcoholic Fir Night celebration. For the fir time, it will be held at the Mon gomery County Fairgrounds i Gaithersburg instead of downto Silver Spring. Fireworks will go o at 6 p.m.

• *This article is based in part o wire service reports.*

The Washington Times

★ FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1999 / PAGE A17

PAUL GREENBERG

White House jubilee

Talk about a New Year's Eve bash: The Clintons are planning one that perfectly captures the spirit of this new gilded age. It sounds boffo: There'll be celebs galore, deep thoughts ever so attractively packaged, and fireworks right up the Washington Monument.

The first couple will be having 320 people in for dinner. The guests will have to be split between the State Dining Room and East Room, with a hundred more in a heated tent outside, not counting the additional 500 to 600 who are invited for a post-midnight dance before breakfast.

I feel full just reading about it. Between dinner and breakfast, there'll be a three-hour show outside. (Have no fear: The goody bags for the guests feature scarves, seat cushions and hand warmers; heated air will be piped in under the seats.)

Not even the shah of Iran ever put on a bash this splendiferous. Everything's been provided except that indefinable quality that Mr. Jefferson called republican simplicity. It won't do for this, an imperial age.

The president himself is to ignite a long fuse that goes from the Lincoln Memorial across the Reflecting Pool before it sends a cascade of fireworks all the way up the Washington Monument. Hot ziggedy. It's hard to sum up the spirit of this whole enterprise in any single word. Rome, maybe.

"This will be no ordinary party for no ordinary time," to quote the first lady. "This is a tremendous opportunity to really unite the nation." And indeed the size of the guest list does approach the U.S. Census.

Actually, it all sounds like an ordinary party in ordinary times, only with elephantiasis. For the outsized arrangements are enough to make ordinary wretched excess seem modest.

Why is it that the Clintons' national celebrations tend to turn into celebrations of themselves, or at least of their — and this time the awful word is appropriate — lifestyle?

Because the Clintons R Us, circa 1992-00. Because they're the very image of the strangely spiritless spirit of the age. Because they could have stepped out of, or into, the pages of Vanity Fair, or the advertisements in the New Yorker, or the interchangeable Arts and Style sections of the New York Times at any time during this directionless decade.

How do they do it? How do the Clintons manage to capture us at any given, passing time? It's not just the emphasis on PR, the habitual spin for the sake of spin or the 24-hour war room. It's not even the inevitable next election coming up, this one in New York.

No, it's something more: It's the Clintons' perfect, conscious contemporaneity. They're the spirit of the Nineties to the hollowed-out core. They're completely Now. There is no room in their omnipresent for any thoughts of past greatness or future destiny, except perhaps for rhetorical purposes. And it is this freedom from past and future that eliminates any need for moral consistency.

Some concern has been expressed about the effect of these fireworks on the Washington Monument, but the only thing really to be feared is that, at the stroke of midnight, the familiar handwriting will appear on the walls: Mene mene tekel upharsin. But HRC knows that, should she be weighed in the balance, she will not be found wanting if she can just keep her thumb on the scales. Perception is reality.

Hillary Clinton says it's a great opportunity to unite the nation. (The way she's united New York?) But the Clintons are never so polarizing as when they are intent on uniting us. How can that be? Maybe it's their perfectly fabricated authenticity. The '90s have had much the same effect, stirring the same vague dissatisfactions — and sparking sudden outbursts of temper. What was it that poor, embarrassed David Brinkley, thinking his mike was off, said after the president's victory speech in '96? "We all look forward with great pleasure to four years of wonderful, inspiring speeches, full of wit, poetry, music, love and affection, plus more . . . nonsense."

At the time, David Brinkley was only at the halfway point of the Clinton administration, and he'd already lost it. His extemporaneous analysis had to be one of the great unrehearsed and unrehearsable moments in the history of American television, though you are not likely to see it mentioned in any of the endless turn-of-the-century retrospectives this weekend. True art seldom is.

Speaking of "wonderful, inspiring speeches, full of wit, poetry, music, love and affection, plus more . . . nonsense," don't you wish you could spend New Year's at the White House? You could hobnob with Elizabeth (Cleopatra) Taylor, a legend in her own time and several others, and Arthur Schlesinger Jr., noted polemicist and son of the great historian. You could hear a poem by Maya Angelou, and not one but two toasts by Bill Clinton —plus still another of his speeches.

Maybe if David Brinkley were seated across the table offering his comments sotto voce, all this might be fun. Then again, as Bill Faulkner commented on declining an invite to the White House, it's a fur piece to go for supper.

It was John F. Kennedy who greeted a gathering of Nobel Prize winners at the White House (the one Mr. Faulkner couldn't make) by saying they represented the greatest collection of intellect under that roof since Thomas Jefferson dined there alone. This little gathering New Year's Eve represents the greatest collection of showmanship under that roof since Teddy Roosevelt dined there alone, if he ever did.

Looking over the extent of the guest list and the Olympic nature of the partying, it's all enough to make one yearn for a quiet New Year's evening curled up in front of the fireplace with a book and somebody you love. Make that an old book. Maybe one of Mr. Faulkner's. Not for nothing does the Constitution itself extol domestic tranquility.

Paul Greenberg is a nationally syndicated columnist.

Arkansas Democrat - Gazette
December 31, 1999

EDITORIALS



Hey, what a party



New Year's at the White House

TALK ABOUT a New Year's Eve bash: The Clintons are planning one that perfectly captures the spirit of this new gilded age. It sounds boffo: There'll be celebs galore, deep thoughts ever so attractively packaged, and fireworks right up the Washington Monument.

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"THIS WILL be no ordinary party for no ordinary time," to quote the First Lady. "This is a tremendous opportunity to really unite the nation." And indeed the size of the guest list does approach the U.S. Census.

Actually, it all sounds like an ordinary party in ordinary times, only with elephantiasis. For the outsized arrangements are enough to make ordinary wretched excess seem modest.

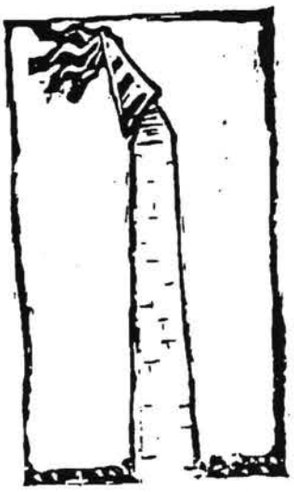
Why is it that the Clintons' national celebrations tend to turn into celebrations of themselves, or at least of their—and this time the awful word is appropriate—lifestyle?

Because the Clintons R Us, circa 1992-00. Because they're the very image of the strangely spiritless spirit of the age. Because they could have stepped out of, or into, the pages of *Vanity Fair*, or the advertisements in *The New Yorker*, or the interchangeable Arts and Style sections of the *New York Times* at any time during this directionless decade.

How do they do it? How do the Clintons manage to capture us at any given, passing time? It's not just the emphasis on PR, the habitual spin for the sake of spin, or the 24-hour war room. It's not even the inevitable next election coming up, this one in New York.

No, it's something more: It's the Clintons' perfect, conscious contemporaneity. They're the spirit of the Nineties to the hollowed-out core. They're completely Now. There is no room in their omni-present for any thoughts of past greatness or future destiny, except perhaps for rhetorical purposes. And it is this freedom from past and future that eliminates the need for moral consistency.

By now the country's First Lady has moved qualmlessly through more conflicting roles than a Hollywood bit player. The activist who denounced the 1980s as a Decade of Greed was making a quiet killing in cattle futures at the same time. The socially conscious candidate who's running for the Senate in New York is also the impresario of this Belshazzar's Feast at the White House.



Some concern has been expressed about the effect of these fireworks on the Washington Monument, but the only thing really to be feared is that, at the stroke of midnight, the familiar handwriting will appear on the walls: *Mene mene tekel upharsin.* But HRC knows that, should she be weighed in the balance, she will not be found wanting if she can just keep her thumb on the scales. Perception

is reality.

When people speak of First Couple's sense of history, if they do, they must be referring to last week. The Clintons glide along the surface of history; they don't make it. Or bear it. Their sympathies, like their animosities, are remarkably weightless. They are the picture of cool.

Word has it William Jefferson Clinton himself is to recite Honest Abe's lines in this New Year's Eve pageant. Whoever writes these scripts has a natural talent for irony. For some irrepressible reason, we can't help but think of that costume party in *The Manchurian Candidate*, complete with Red Queen and Abe Lincoln in stovepipe hat and fake beard.

HILLARY CLINTON says this party is an opportunity to unite the nation. (The way she's united New York?) But the Clintons are never so polarizing as when they are intent on uniting us. How can that be? Maybe it's their perfectly fabricated authenticity. The Nineties have had much the same effect, stirring the same vague dissatisfactions—and sparking sudden outbursts of temper. What was it that poor, embarrassed David Brinkley, thinking his mike was off, said after the president's victory speech in '96? "We all look forward with great pleasure to four years of wonderful, inspiring speeches, full of wit, poetry, music, love and affection, plus more goddam nonsense."

Still not finished, Mr. Brinkley added that this president "has not a creative bone in his body. Therefore, he's a bore, and will always be a bore." Oh, dear. The commentator's unintentionally public thoughts were all the more embarrassing for being so widely shared by any Americans still sentient four years into the Age of Clinton. But it's one thing to notice such things, quite another to say them out loud. Why belabor the obvious?

At the time, David Brinkley was only at the halfway point of the Clinton administration, and he'd already lost it. His extemporaneous analysis had to be one of the great, unrehearsed and unrehearsable moments in the history of American television, though you are not likely to see it mentioned in any of the endless turn-of-the-century retrospectives this weekend. True art seldom is.

SPEAKING OF "wonderful, inspiring speeches, full of wit, poetry, music, love and affection, plus more goddam nonsense," don't you wish you could spend New Year's at the White House? You could hobnob with Elizabeth (Cleopatra) Taylor, a legend in her own time and several others, and Arthur Schlesinger Jr., noted polemicist and son of the great historian. You could hear a poem by Maya Angelou, and not one but two toasts by Bill Clinton—plus still another of his speeches.

Maybe if David Brinkley were seated across the table offering his comments *sotto voce*, all this might be fun. Then again, as Bill Faulkner commented on declining an invite to the White House, it's a fur piece to go for supper.

It was John F. Kennedy who greeted a gathering of Nobel Prize winners at the White House (the one Mr. Faulkner couldn't make) by saying they represented the greatest collection of intellect under that roof since Thomas Jefferson dined there alone. This little gathering New Year's Eve represents the greatest collection of showmanship under that roof since Teddy Roosevelt dined alone, if he ever did.

Looking over the extent of the guest list and the Olympic nature of the partying, it's all enough to make one yearn for a quiet New Year's evening curled up in front of the fireplace with a book and somebody you love. Make that an old book. Maybe one of Mr. Faulkner's. Not for nothing does the Constitution itself extol domestic tranquility.

The Denver Post

December 31, 1999 Friday 2D EDITION

SECTION: E; Pg. E-01

LENGTH: 343 words

HEADLINE: Pyrotechnics to top gala on D.C.'s Mall

BYLINE: Denver Post Wire Services,

BODY:

WASHINGTON - The plan is to end the year with a bang, not a whimper.

A crowd of more than 100,000 is expected to gather at the base of the Lincoln Memorial on New Year's Eve for the celebration of 'America's Millennium,' a $ 10 million extravaganza on the Mall.

President Clinton is scheduled to speak a few minutes before midnight, after a 19-minute Steven Spielberg paean to America called 'The Unfinished Journey' accompanied by an original score by film composer John Williams.

In keeping with the patriotic theme, the host will be Will Smith, the actor who saved America from aliens bent on annihilation in 'Independence Day,' backed up by 30 dancers.

Opera divas Jessye Norman and Kathleen Battle will be there to raise the brow of the event.

The show's co-producers are director George Stevens and composer Quincy Jones.

While the producers have devoted thousands of hours to planning the entertainment and the speeches, the event may be remembered most for the fireworks.

A half-minute before midnight, a burning fuse will travel the length of the reflecting pool, ending at the base of the Washington Monument.

As the final seconds of the 1900s tick away, the monument will be transformed into a giant Roman candle, sheathed in cascading pyrotechnic light.

At the stroke of midnight, the sky behind the obelisk will turn golden with fireworks, symbolizing, Stevens said, 'something about aspiration and the future.'

The idea of the whole program, Stevens said, is to celebrate the American experiment in popular government - and to have a little fun along the way.

'Despite all the persiflage and hype and expense,' he said, 'our hope is to somehow capture a little of the wonder of democracy on the swamp that George Washington chose as our capital and designed into a city, between the monuments to Lincoln and Washington with the Capitol in the background.'

'In this cynical age,' he concluded, 'it makes your heart beat a little faster.'

GRAPHIC: PHOTO: Knight Ridder/Chuck Kennedy Workers assemble scaffolding at the end of the Reflecting Pool at the site of the Millennium Celebration on the Mall in Washington.

LOAD-DATE: December 31, 1999

The Des Moines Register

December 31, 1999, Friday

SECTION: Main News Pg.12

LENGTH: 594 words

HEADLINE: Security is tight in Washington

SOURCE: USA Today

BODY:

for tonight's unprecedented gala

By LAURENCE McQUILLAN
USA Today

Washington, D.C. - President Clinton has been dreaming of ushering in 2000 with a celebration like none other in the storied history of Washington, where party planners always try to outdo their predecessors. It looks like his dream will come true.

Never before has there been an extravaganza with such glamour and fireworks. Never before have government officials shut down bridges, closed so many streets and called out the National Guard to do it.

The "America's Millennium" celebration is being tempered by concerns about potential terrorism and possible Y2K glitches. Officials are happy to make grand predictions about the next 1,000 years but are less certain about this weekend.

"We're trying to strike a balance between taking the right precautionary measures and letting people know the information we have and not creating an unnecessary fear," Deputy White House press secretary Jake Siewert said. "We obviously wouldn't have invited people to the mall unless we were intent upon making it safe," he said.

Organizers predict about 500,000 revelers will turn out for a $ 12 million New Year's Eve celebration at the Lincoln Memorial. It features an array of big-name performers and a special 18-minute Steven Spielberg film. The event is funded by private and corporate donations.

The program, to be shown live on CBS, includes a dramatic fireworks display that planners say will out-sparkle anything ever done in Washington, a city that takes its Fourth of July festivities seriously.

So how do you protect half a million people on a night that prompted cities such as Seattle to cancel galas because of security worries?

You put the District of Columbia's 3,500 police officers on extended shifts and then ask the Defense Department and the city's National Guard for additional help.

Law enforcement officers will direct traffic at about 150 street intersections. Large sections of major arteries downtown will be shut down, as will the Memorial and Theodore Roosevelt bridges and the adjacent sections of the George Washington Memorial Parkway.

Snow fences have been set up between the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument to help control and monitor the crowd. Officers of the U. S. Park Police will be stationed at each of the four entrances to the viewing area to inspect packages and look for suspicious behavior, officials said.

About 50 stars and 450 singers, dancers and musicians will participate in the extravaganza produced by Quincy Jones and George Stevens Jr. The list of entertainers includes host Will Smith, Tom Jones and Diane Keaton.

Clinton, who will have a private gala at the White House earlier in the evening, plans to read some passages from the works of Abraham Lincoln during remarks just before the stroke of midnight.

Organizers say the "midnight moment" will feature fireworks and sound-and-light displays centered on the 555-foot-tall monument.

Worries about possible violence surfaced Thursday when police briefly closed the city's second-largest federal government office complex and a road just four blocks from the White House because of a security scare. Police converged on the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center after a bomb-sniffing dog on routine patrol reacted to what could have been explosive material, a police spokesman said. The police bomb squad found no explosives there.

This afternoon, the president and first lady will participate in a celebration of children.

United Press International

December 31, 1999, Friday

SECTION: GENERAL NEWS

LENGTH: 508 words

HEADLINE: Yearlong celebration

DATELINE: WASHINGTON, Dec. 31

BODY:

Yearlong celebration- President Clinton opened America's millennium celebration New Year's Eve Friday by saying it was not just "a kick off" but a whole yearlong of events throughout the coming year. He deferred mainly to first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton who has been planning the celebration for the past two years and set the tone with the motto: "Honor the past and imagine the future." Several activities were planned, including a star-studded, black tie dinner at the White House, and a three-hour gala at the Lincoln Memorial. A highlight of the program under blue skies and a bright warm sun on the Mall was the first lady's announcement of the items to go into the refrigerator-sized national time capsule, including: Louie Armstrong's trumpet, a piece of the Berlin Wall and a transistor that launched the information age. Retired Gen. Colin Powell contributed dog tags from the wars American soldiers fought, The time capsule, to be stored in the National Archives, will be opened in 100 years. "This is more than a unique moment for our calendar; it is also a unique moment for our country," Clinton told the outdoor crowd.

"Our economy is strong, our social fabric is on the mend. We are moving forward on America's remarkable journey of creating a more unified nation, a more just society, a more perfect union," he added. In introducing his wife, Clinton said: "Now, it is my privilege to present the person who has done more than anyone else in America to help us appreciate and properly celebrate the dawn of the new millennium. Ladies and gentlemen, the first lady of the United States." "Almost three years ago, when the White House Millennium Council began planning a celebration for the National Mall built around our theme, 'To Honor the Past and Imagine the Future,'" the president said, "we decided that an important way to capture this moment in time would be by filling a national time capsule -- filled not only with the symbols and achievements of the century just past, but with our hopes and dreams for the next." The first lady said thinkers and builders and creators of this century were invited to contribute to the time capsule, including "all the past recipients of our nation's highest honors in the arts and humanities, in science and technology, in citizenship and leadership -- as well as the thinkers and builders and creators of the future" and students from across the country. "We asked them all to help us fill this time capsule, and their responses have been overwhelming," she said. Teachers and students nominated computers, while scientists nominated the transistors that made them possible, the first lady revealed. She said Bruce Penniman's English class in Amherst, Massachusetts, sent a highlighted copy of Ralph Ellison's "The Invisible Man," while novelist Philip Roth recommended works by William Faulkner and Saul Bellow. June Moore's second grade class in Laramie, Wyoming, selected the sport of baseball, while playwright August Wilson suggested a recording by Bessie Smith. -- --

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: January 1, 2000

The Washington Post

METRO

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1999

Making Music for the Millennium



BY ROBERT A. REEDER—THE WASHINGTON POST

Performers from the cast of the New York musical "Stomp" rehearse at the Lincoln Memorial for their New Year's Eve performance in "America's Millennium Gala." A list of events, including times and acts, is available at *www.americasmillennium.gov*.

Time Capsule Contents

The nation's millennium time capsule—which won't be opened until 2100—will contain items like these: a Hostess Twinkie, **Ray Charles's** sunglasses, a chunk of the Berlin Wall, a cell phone, a World War II helmet and a student-made collage featuring pictures of Pokemon cartoon characters, **Fidel Castro** and a box of Lean Cuisine. **President Clinton** and **Hillary Rodham Clinton,** who hatched the idea of the capsule to symbolize America at the century's end, will officially unveil its contents at a ceremony tomorrow. A prototype will then go on display at the National Museum of American History, and the actual capsule—a 4-by-6-by-2-foot chest—will be built in the spring and then stored in the National Archives.

Washington Post
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1999

Daily News (New York)

December 29, 1999, Wednesday SPORTS FINAL EDITION

SECTION: NEWS; Pg. 6 MILLENNIUM COUNTDOWN

LENGTH: 254 words

HEADLINE: MILLENNIUM SPECTACULAR SET FOR D.C.

BYLINE: By KENNETH R. BAZINET DAILY NEWS WASHINGTON BUREAU

BODY:
WASHINGTON - The most spectacular New Year's celebration may not be in Times Square, but on the National Mall, where President Clinton and 500,000 others will celebrate - guarded by a thick cordon of police.

"America's Millennium Gala at the Lincoln Memorial" will be a star-studded extravaganza that CBS will air live from 10 p.m. Friday to 1 a.m. Saturday.

Unlike Seattle, where fears of a terrorist attack shut down that city's millennium celebration, the show will go on in the nation's capital, with the President and First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton in attendance.

"We refuse to feed into the fear," said co-producer Quincy Jones.

Clinton will later play host to a couple of black-tie White House parties, although he may have his sleeve tugged in mid-waltz if any serious Y2K problems flare up.

The highlight of the Washington bash will occur at midnight, when Clinton lights a fuse that will run down the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, over the Reflecting Pool and shoot up the Washington Monument to ignite a massive fireworks display.

Before partygoers get a chance to see the fireworks or listen to entertainers - ranging from U2's Bono to Las Vegas crooner Tom Jones to opera diva Jessye Norman - they will have to pass through one of four security checkpoints.

Much of the mall will be fenced in and lined with personnel from the FBI, Washington police, U.S. Park Police, Capitol police and Secret Service agents, among others. Bomb-sniffing dogs will search coolers, backpacks and purses.

LOAD-DATE: December 29, 1999

Gannett News Service

December 29, 1999, Wednesday, FINAL EDITION

SECTION: Pg. ARC

LENGTH: 755 words

HEADLINE: New Year's Eve splash on the Mall promises star-studded memories

BYLINE: STEVE DiMEGLIO; Gannett News Service

DATELINE: WASHINGTON

BODY:

WASHINGTON -- When midnight tolls on Friday, the Washington Monument will become a giant sparkler. Thirty minutes before, the Lincoln Memorial will be a giant movie screen for Academy Award-winning director Steve Spielberg's tribute to the nation as some 500,000 celebrants will hear the strains of composer John Williams' latest original score.

And before the evening is over here -- sometime around 1 a.m. Eastern -- about 50 stars and almost 450 singers, dancers and musicians will have appeared during the three-hour New Year's Eve extravaganza at the National Mall co-produced by Quincy Jones and George Stevens Jr.

"You will see almost everything you could imagine," Jones said.

Americans not on the Mall can view it on CBS, which has the exclusive broadcast rights to what is being billed as "America's Millennium Gala." The show starts at 10 p.m. Eastern.

Tuesday, a contingent of workers raced to complete the giant outdoor stage featuring jumbo movie screens and thousands of lights at the base of the Lincoln Memorial that will be the centerpiece of the gala. Beyond the Reflecting Pool at the Washington Monument, a similar group of workers worked feverishly on final details of a pyrotechnic outburst that is set to explode at midnight.

And in the middle of the frenzy that is transforming the mall into one of the world's largest sound and stage theaters, Spielberg rushed to finish his latest cinematic wonder, an effort that has consumed a hefty block of his time since June. But he isn't being pressed to meet the deadline of a major motion picture studio. Instead, he's busy wrapping up a movie for the president of the United States.

Called "The Unfinished Journey," Spielberg has collaborated

with Williams to develop a 20-minute concert of original music, poetry and images highlighting the 20th century.

"We've put together a musical and gaudy celebration of why we are all here today, and what were the shoulders we stood on to achieve this moment in time," Spielberg, whose credits include "Schindler's List," "Saving Private Ryan," and "E.T.," said about his movie.

"It's just a thank you to the past and a present for the future, and this is the most symbolic setting to bring in the next 1,000 years and salute the last 100."

Slated for an 11:33 p.m. showing, the movie features five acts - immigration and the building of America; the various wars the country fought; sports and show business personalities; the Civil Rights and Women's Rights movements; and flight and technology.

President Clinton and first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton will host 3,000 stars, diplomats, congressional leaders and friends for the millennium gala. Among the celebrities invited to an elegant White House dinner and the festivities on the Mall are Muhammad Ali, Elizabeth Taylor, Don McLean, Robert De Niro, Robert Duvall, Bono, Diane Keaton and Jack Nicholson.

Clinton will make a brief speech. The gala's emcee is actor Will Smith.

The high-profile, celebrity-studded party will also include performances by Tom Jones, Trisha Yearwood, Kenny Rodgers, The Supremes and the 25-member company of "Stomp," along with a 100-piece orchestra and the combined bands, choirs and marching units of the U.S. Armed Forces. Everything from jazz to rock 'n' roll to country and western will be played.

"The music runs the full gamut," Jones said.

The celebration culminates at midnight with a high-tech, sound and light display. Clinton will light a special fuse at the Lincoln Memorial that will race down the middle of the Reflecting Pool and ignite a pyrotechnic explosion that will feature two separate bursts of fireworks. Cascades of fireworks will turn the 555-foot Washington Monument into a giant sparkler.

Stevens and Ellen Lovell, director of the White House Millennium Council, said the show would go on rain, shine or snow - and despite concerns over possible terrorist acts that led to the cancellation of Seattle's millennium party.

"It's never crossed our minds to cancel this. We are prepared," Lovell said.

"I have a feeling the space we're on will be the safest place anywhere in the United States," Stevens said. "People should enjoy the night and live it and consider it as a night of celebration.

"There's lots to be said about staying at home near the fireplace, but for those who come here, they will see something special that they will remember for the rest of their lives."

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: December 30, 1999

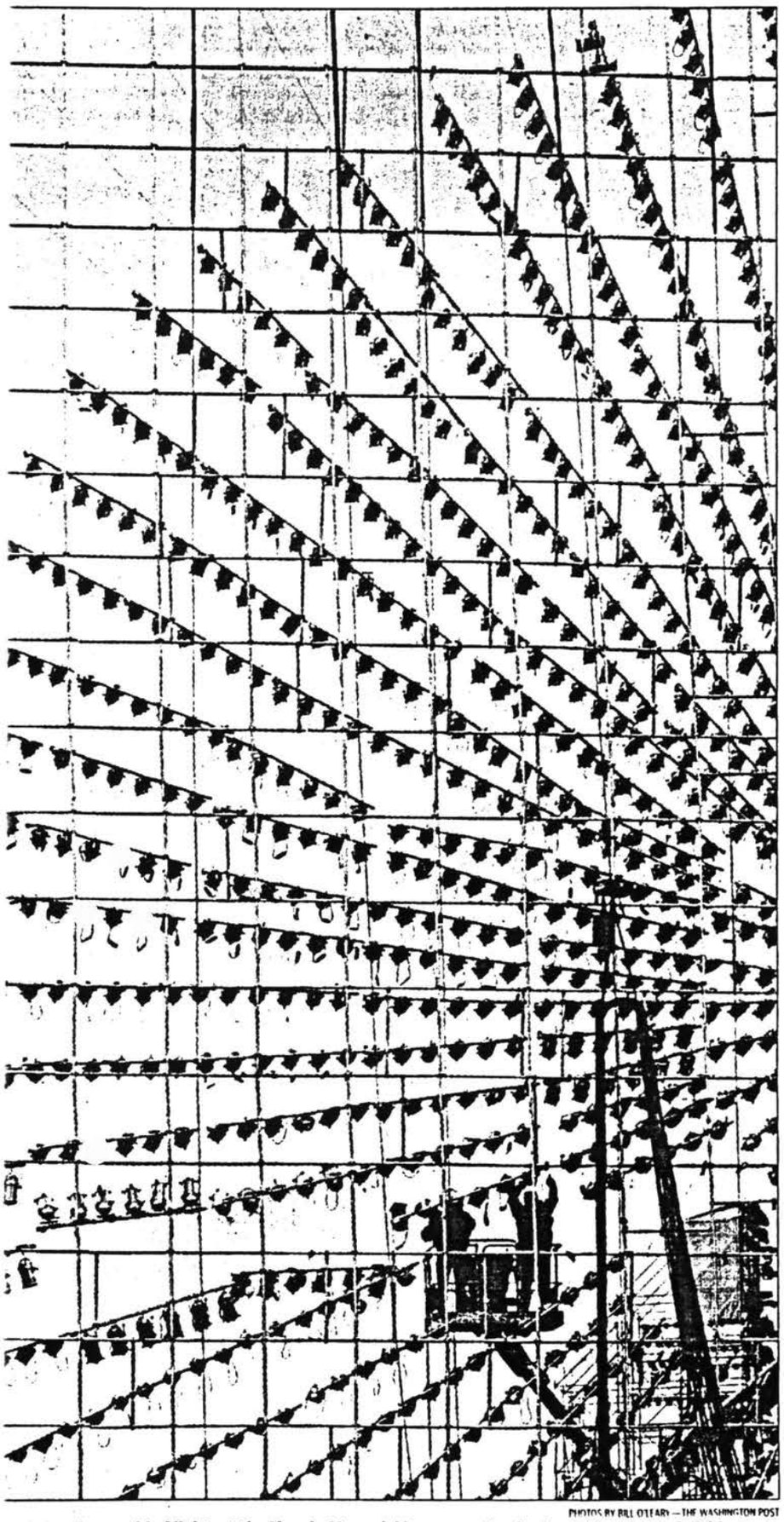
The Washington Post

METRO

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Obituaries
Weather

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1999



PHOTOS BY BILL O'LEARY—THE WASHINGTON POST

ients to a huge grid of lights at the Lincoln Memorial in preparation for the millennium gala Friday.

New Year's Financing A 'Success'

Nearly $15 Million Raised In 3-Month Money Sprint

By SUSAN LEVINE
Washington Post Staff Writer

The New Year's Eve extravaganza that will rock the Lincoln Memorial is being financed with nearly $15 million from about 40 companies, foundations and individuals, the event's main money man said yesterday.

The total includes more than $3.2 million that CBS television paid to broadcast the Friday night show live, which means the network will not be cutting away to the traditional ball-drop at Times Square in New York.

"It's been a huge success," fund-raiser Terence R. McAuliffe declared gleefully, having helped to raise what White House organizers expect they will need to host the weekend of celebration. "There's been a huge outpouring of people . . . on very short notice."

Holiday Street Closings

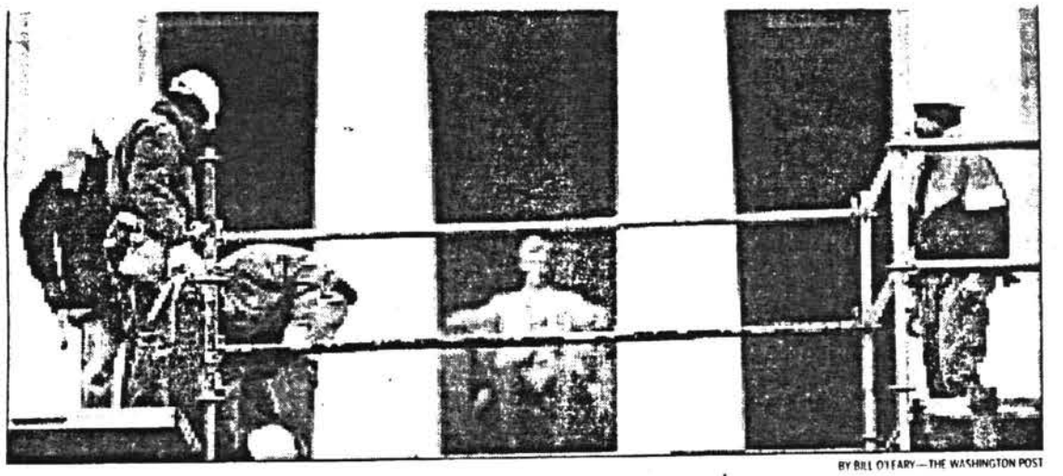
Some sections of streets in the District will be closed, starting today. A map showing the closings appears on *Page B5.*

The nail-biting, three-month time line to pull in the money was "very late," McAuliffe said, especially because many corporate and philanthropic budgets had been committed for the year. It also complicated planning for the show, which is costing nearly $13 million, and for the Smithsonian Institution's three days of programs, demonstrations and exhibits.

See FUNDS, *B5, Col. 4*



Dave and Vickie Spencer, visiting Washington from Newport News, Va., huddle for warmth near the Lincoln Memorial, which is closed to the public during the preparations for the New Year's Eve extravaganza.



BY BILL O'LEARY—THE WASHINGTON POST

Workers erect scaffolding as part of the process of transforming the Lincoln Memorial into a giant outdoor stage.

Donations to Fund New Year's Show

FUNDS, *From B1*

But by mid-December, he and finance co-chairman David Jones knew they would meet their goal and surpass it by a healthy million. It didn't hurt that they pitched the fund-raising as a way to help the entire nation celebrate the millennium—or that other major events elsewhere folded for lack of interest and support.

Three companies contributed at least $1 million, and the names of Slim-Fast Foods Co., of West Palm Beach, Fla., Cisco Systems Inc., of San Jose, and InfoUSA.com, of Omaha, probably will be displayed prominently at the memorial Friday night.

Three other companies gave $500,000 to $1 million, according to sources involved in the planning. On that short list are Discovery Communications Inc., of Bethesda, Lockheed Martin Corp., of Bethesda, and Tommy Hilfiger Corp., of New York.

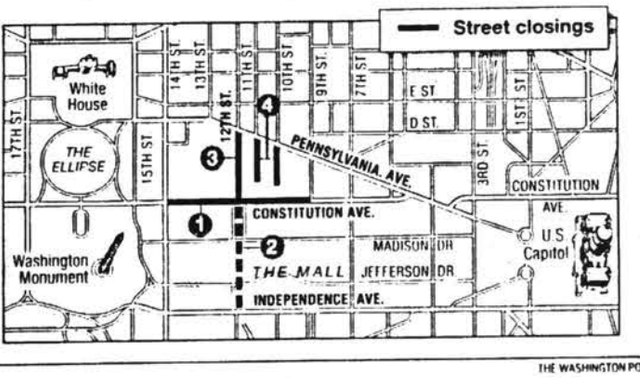
Programs to be distributed Friday, starting at an 11 a.m. opening ceremony with President Clinton and Hillary Rodham Clinton, will list the dozens of others who donated at least $100,000—including Synergics Energy Development, of Annapolis; the Kovler Foundation of Washington; James Kimsey, chairman emeritus of America Online Inc.; America Online, of Dulles; Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac; Jonathan Ledecky, co-owner of the Washington Capitals; and Larry Harris, general counsel for Teligent Inc. of Vienna.

By then, the memorial's transformation into giant outdoor stage will be complete. And before the final bows at 1 a.m. New Year's Day, some 50 stars will have paraded before the audience, joined by almost 450 singers, dancers and musicians in the three-hour production.

Road Closings

A number of street closings will be in effect for this weekend, but some streets are closing sections as early as today. Below are the street closings for the District up to Friday. A more complete guide to street closings, including Friday and Saturday closings, will appear later in the week.

1. **Today (starting at 7 p.m.)** Constitution Avenue between 9th and 14th until 11 p.m. Jan. 2.
2. **Tomorrow (starting at 1 p.m.)** 12th Street Tunnel northbound
3. **Tomorrow (starting at 1 p.m.)** 12th Street between Independence and Pennsylvania; both reopen at 11 p.m. Jan. 2.
4. **Thursday (starting at 12:01 p.m.)** Tenth and 11th streets, NW, between Constitution and Pennsylvania avenues, until 7a.m. Jan. 2.



THE WASHINGTON POST

The show will be topped by two separate bursts of fireworks that one organizer estimates are costing $500,000 to $1 million.

The front steps of the memorial were a hectic, scaffolded scene yesterday as hundreds of workers in hard hats continued construction of the wide stage floor and elevated VIP seating. To the right and left stand the massive light towers that will spotlight performers, and two huge cranes hold a metal-framed sun that will provide one of the program's most illuminating surprises.

Tourists and gawkers stopped and pointed, and those who followed Lincoln's gaze toward the Washington Monument could see the line of fireworks stanchions down the middle of the Reflecting Pool.

Just seconds before midnight Friday, President Clinton will light the fuse that will race down the pool and ignite a pyrotechnic razzmatazz at the monument.

Arkansas Democrat-Gazette
December 27, 1999

Stars, pyrotechnics to shine brightly as

BY JANE FULLERTON
ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

WASHINGTON — Leave it to the Clinton White House to celebrate the advent of 2000 with a Hollywood flourish set against the backdrop of American history.

That's the plan for New Year's Eve as President Clinton and first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton are set to lead a full day of festivities to mark the beginning of 2000 by unveiling a time capsule, hosting a White House dinner and attending a three-hour extravaganza at the Lincoln Memorial, culminating in a midnight fireworks show at the Washington Monument.

It's all part of a three-day celebration of "America's Millennium" in the nation's capital that combines big-name entertainment with deep-thought seminars in a spectacle that organizers hope will fulfill their theme to "honor the past — imagine the future."

"This will be no ordinary party for no ordinary time," Mrs. Clinton said recently in announcing the events. "This is a tremendous opportunity to really unite our nation."

Indeed, it will be no ordinary party for the approximately 320 people invited to ring in the new year by dining at the White House

White House welcomes 2000

— and that's the short list. Another 100 family members of those guests also have been invited, but they'll be dining in a heated tent in the Rose Garden. And yet another 500 to 600 guests will join the White House party for post-midnight dancing.

While White House dinners always include an assortment of big names from the worlds of entertainment, business, government and academia, this one looks to really pull out all the stops.

"These people are innovators and creators, from the fields of art and history to sports and entertainment, who have greatly contributed to our American culture and heritage," said Toby Graff, a spokesman for the first lady's office.

The illustrious list includes

See PARTY, Page 9A

Party

• Continued from Page 1A

such cultural icons as boxer Muhammad Ali and actress Elizabeth Taylor. Also on the guest list are actors Robert DeNiro, Jack Nicholson and Mary Tyler Moore; playwright Neil Simon; violinist Itzhak Perlman; opera divas Jessye Norman and Kathleen Battle; and historian Arthur Schlesinger.

The millennium dinner will follow the format of a state dinner, with the president and first lady greeting their visitors in a formal receiving line. But so many guests will be present that the meal will be served in both the State Dining Room and the East Room, an arrangement that will require the president to offer two toasts.

After dinner, the Clintons and their guests will head to the Lincoln Memorial for a three-hour gala produced by Quincy Jones and George Stevens Jr. That site was chosen because of its significance, having been the site of such historic events as Marian Anderson's 1939 concert after being denied access to Constitution Hall by the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s 1963 "I Have a Dream" speech. It was also here that Clinton celebrated his 1993 inauguration.

This time, the entertainment is scheduled to include actor and singer Will Smith, who will serve as master of ceremonies, along with actors Robert Duvall, Sam Waterston, Diane Keaton and Kathy Mattea; singers Bobby McFerrin, Kenny Rogers, Luther Vandross, Trisha Yearwood, BeBe Winans and Don McLean; Broadway star Brian Stokes Mitchell; producer Luke Cresswell and his 25-member company of the Broadway production *Stomp*, as well as the combined bands, choirs and marching units of the U.S. Armed Forces. The show will be broadcast nationally by CBS.

Here's the catch: While the invitation to join the Clintons may be hot, it's a good bet the weather will be cold.

So what, precisely, should one wear to a black-tie dinner at the White House that includes a three-hour after-dinner show held outdoors in the middle of a notoriously fickle Washington winter?

Silk long johns.

At least that's what White House aides are recommending to their dinner guests. And it's good advice for the rest of the 3,000 invited guests — the White House diners, along with various diplomats, members of Congress and local elected officials — who'll also be sitting outside for the show, scheduled to begin at 10 p.m. Washington time and last until 1 a.m.

The event is also open to the public, but organizers won't predict how many people will turn out.

Despite the tricky fashion logistics, White House aides and event organizers are confident the invited guests are up to the challenge. And they'll be receiving goody bags with "warming items" — as one aide described them — such as scarves, seat cushions and hand-warmers.

In addition, warm air will be piped under the seats, and heated hospitality centers will be located along the Mall.

While the White House is making arrangements for any guests who don't want to endure the open-air show, most seem to be game for the millennial event.

"I don't think anyone's had a problem so far," said one White House aide.

In the final half-hour of 1999, those willing to sit it out will hear from the president as he makes remarks and will watch the premiere of an 18-minute film, *The Unfinished Journey*, produced by Steven Spielberg.

The film will feature "original music, poetry and images, evoking the highlights and spirit of the last century," according to organizers. Poets Robert Pinsky, Rita Dove and Maya Angelou are contributing original works, while conductor John Williams is composing an original score.

The event will build toward a "midnight moment" fireworks spectacle that organizers say will "mark the time we pass into the new century and new millennium."

But not everyone, even the organizers, agrees with that interpretation of the timing.

On its Web site, the White House Millennium Council, which is coordinating the events, acknowledges that, technically speaking, "the next millennium is not officially reached until January 1, 2001."

That's why the White House is actually celebrating a "millennium year" to accommodate both the partyers and the purists.

Nevertheless, come Friday the show must go on, because, as the council's Web site points out: "Much of the world is planning to celebrate on December 31, 1999, when the calendar flips to the year 2000."

That Web site, which includes details on the festivities, is at:

www.americasmillennium.gov

The pyrotechnic spectacle will be started by the president, who, in the moments before midnight, will light a long fuse at the Lincoln Memorial that will travel the length of the Reflecting Pool to ignite the fireworks at the Washington Monument. At 11:59:50 EST, a countdown of 10 firework cascades will start, ascending the monument to ultimately illuminate the entire obelisk at midnight.

That will be followed by the lighting of a 50-foot-high illuminated "2000" in front of the monument.

Stevens, one of the event's producers, has characterized the display as "a once-in-a-lifetime sight."

Part of the reason it's once-in-a-lifetime is that organizers had to secure a change in the regulations regarding use of the monument to pull off this spectacle. It seems the National Park Service was a bit concerned about the use of pyrotechnics so close to the monument, which has just undergone a $10 million cleaning.

The idea even elicited a letter of opposition from Rep. Ralph Regula, R-Ohio, who chairs a subcommittee overseeing the Interior Department, which oversees the park service. Regula objected to fireworks being attached to the scaffolding that now covers the 555-foot monument.

"A fireworks display attached to the monument is a desecration of the values inherent in our designation of such monuments," Regula wrote in a letter to Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt.

But organizers and White House aides insist steps are being taken to protect the monument. They point out the fireworks are not the large, exploding kind, but "sparkler things, like you set off as a kid," which will be attached to the scaffolding rather than the monument itself.

After the midnight display, the entertainment will continue for about an hour. It will conclude with a fireworks finale originating from barges anchored in the Potomac River behind the Lincoln Memorial, similar to the setup used for July Fourth festivities.

In the wee hours of the morning, the Clintons and their guests, now totaling about 1,000 people, will make their way back to 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue for dancing followed by another meal: breakfast.

Austin American-Statesman

December 27, 1999, Monday

SECTION: News; Pg. A1

LENGTH: 567 words

HEADLINE: Fireworks cascade to welcome Y2K in Washington

BYLINE: Jeff Nesmith

BODY:

WASHINGTON -- Champagne, music, a fireworks display -- and a touch of anxiety -- will set the tone of the "America's Millennium" celebration on the Washington Mall on New Year's Eve.

The White House office of the first lady, which is coordinating the plans, was predicting last week that 100,000 people would show up for the festivities.

That's quite a drop from the 600,000 originally expected.

The difference is likely the result of continuous cautions from President Clinton and other officials for Americans to be "vigilant" about possible terrorist acts during the holiday season.

A 37-foot-long mobile command center has been stationed on the Mall for use by police, fire and other emergency officials -- another reminder of the vague but real concern about Y2K terrorism.

If all goes well, a daylong celebration will climax with a pyrotechnic extravaganza described by its producer as a once-in-a-millennium cascade of brilliant white "stars" raining down from the 555-foot Washington Monument.

From the Lincoln Memorial several hundred yards away, Clinton will light a fuse 20 seconds before midnight to set off the finale. It will take 10 seconds for the fuse to burn its way to the base of the Washington Monument, currently surrounded by an elaborate scaffold because of refurbishing work.

Then, starting at 11:59:50, 10 successive bursts of brilliant white stars will rain down the sides of the monument, each 55 feet above the one before it.

Finally, beginning at precisely midnight, the entire monument will be covered with "a stunningly beautiful waterfall" of white pyrotechnics, said Philip Butler, who is producing the show for Fireworks by Grucci, a venerable Long Island company.

For a period of 20 seconds, all 10 segments of the fireworks display will burn simultaneously. Then, beginning again at the bottom, they will start shutting down.

An "America's Millennium Gala" show preceding the fireworks will be televised by CBS.

But the millennium events are to take up most of the day, beginning at 11 a.m. with performances on the Mall by youth choirs, the U.S. Marine Corps Band and other performers. The president and first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton will unveil a "National Millennium Time Capsule," containing artifacts representing America at the end of the 20th century, at the 11 a.m. event.

Beer, wine and champagne will be sold at the Mall celebration, but alcohol consumption will be monitored with a wristband accounting system and limited to a four-block area east of the Washington Monument.

The Clintons will host a dinner for 1,000 invited guests at the White House. A select 320 guests, including Muhammad Ali and Elizabeth Taylor, will sit down with the first couple in the White House. The rest -- members of Congress and others -- will dine in a heated tent in the Rose Garden.

After dinner, the Clintons and 500 of their guests will go to the Lincoln Memorial for a splashy "America's Millennium Gala," hosted by actor-rapper Will Smith.

In the last half-hour of the year, large projection screens erected beside the Lincoln Memorial will show an 18-minute movie, "The Unfinished Journey," by Steven Spielberg.

The president will speak briefly, then light the fuse.

You may contact Jeff Nesmith atjeffnfcoxnews.com.

The Atlanta Journal and Constitution

December 26, 1999, Sunday, Home Edition

SECTION: Reader; Pg. 3E

LENGTH: 833 words

HEADLINE: Mall madness: D.C. gala ready to ring

BYLINE: Jeff Nesmith, Staff

SOURCE: AJC

DATELINE: Washington

BODY:
Champagne, music, a spectacular fireworks display --- and a touch of anxiety --- will set the tone of the "America's Millennium" celebration on the Washington Mall on New Year's Eve.

The White House office of the first lady, which is coordinating plans for ringing in the first year that starts with a "2" --- the next millennium won't actually start until Jan. 1, 2001 --- predicted last week that 100,000 people would show up for the festivities.

That's quite a drop from the 600,000 originally expected.

The difference is likely the result of cautions from President Clinton and other officials for Americans to be "vigilant" about possible terrorist acts during the holiday season.

In addition to the customary "lost kids" tent, a new 37-foot-long mobile command center has been stationed on the Mall for use by police, fire and other emergency officials --- another reminder of the vague but real concern of Y2K terrorism.

If all goes well, a daylong celebration will climax with a pyrotechnic extravaganza described by its producer as a once-in-a-millennium cascade of brilliant white "stars" raining down from the 555-foot Washington Monument.

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Finally, beginning at precisely midnight, the entire monument will be covered with "a stunningly beautiful waterfall" of white pyrotechnics, said Philip Butler, who is producing the show for Fireworks by Grucci, a venerable Long Island, N.Y., company.

For 20 seconds, all 10 segments of the fireworks display will burn simultaneously. Then, beginning again at the bottom, they will start shutting down.

"The monument is a national icon which is held in great reverence," Butler said last week, "and we could never use it as a fireworks stage, except for the scaffolding being there.

"Through a lot of effort on everybody's part, including the National Park Service, we worked out a way to use the scaffolds and not the monument itself for our spectacular. This will never be done again --- unless maybe in the year 3000."

"America's Millennium Gala," a TV show, will be televised by CBS preceding the fireworks.

But the millennium events are to take up most of the day, beginning at 11 a. m. with performances on the Mall by youth choirs, the U.S. Marine Corps Band and other performers.

The president and first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton will unveil the " National Millennium Time Capsule," containing artifacts representing America at the end of the 20th century, at the 11 a.m. event.

Four Smithsonian Mall museums --- the National Air and Space Museum, the National Museum of Natural History, the Hirshhorn Museum and the National Museum of American History --- will operate at their normal hours, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., throughout the New Year's weekend, Dec. 31 through Jan. 2.

In addition, auditoriums in the Hirshhorn and the museums of American history and national history will present a continuous series of 33 hourlong lectures on subjects ranging from bluegrass music to the future of sports in America.

Tickets are free, but have all been given out on a first-come, first-served basis, a Smithsonian spokesperson said.

Beer, wine and champagne will be sold at the Mall celebration, but alcohol consumption will be monitored with a wristband accounting system and limited to a four-block area east of the Washington Monument.

Streets immediately around the Mall will be closed, and city officials have urged those attending the celebration to use the subway system. Subways will operate until 3 a.m. and buses until 4 a.m.

The Clintons will host a dinner for 1,000 invited guests at the White House. A select 320, including former boxing champ Muhammad Ali and actress Elizabeth Taylor, will sit down with the first couple in the White House. The rest, members of Congress and others, will dine in a heated tent in the Rose Garden.

After dinner, the Clintons and 500 guests will go to the Lincoln Memorial for the splashy "America's Millennium Gala," hosted by actor-rapper Will Smith.

The gala will include entertainment by Robert Duvall, Diane Keaton, Kathy Mattea, Bobby McFerrin, Don McLean, Brian Stokes Mitchell, Kenny Rogers, Luther Vandross, Tricia Yearwood, Sam Waterston, BeBe Winans and Luke Cresswell, accompanied by the 25-member company of the Broadway production " Stomp."

In the last half-hour of the year, large projection screens erected beside the Lincoln Memorial will show an 18-minute movie, "The Unfinished Journey" by Steven Spielberg.

The president will speak briefly, then light the fuse.

GRAPHIC: Photo
Actress Elizabeth Taylor
Photo
Former boxing champ Muhammad Ali

LOAD-DATE: December 26, 1999

Sacramento Bee

December 26, 1999, METRO FINAL

SECTION: TRAVEL; Pg. J6

LENGTH: 1076 words

HEADLINE: CELEBRATIONS AMERICAN STYLE

BYLINE: Bee Staff and News Services

BODY:

Washington, D.C.: There will be lots of flag-waving in the nation's capital, which is throwing a three-day America's Millennium party on the National Mall. New Year's Eve events will feature a stirring show at the Lincoln Memorial, hosted by the Clintons. Stars of the entertainment world, including Quincy Jones and The Supremes, are slated to perform, along with a 100-piece orchestra and the combined bands, choirs and marching units of the U.S. Armed Forces. An 18-minute Steven Spielberg film about the highlights of the 20th century will be shown for the first time. The celebration culminates at midnight with a high-tech sound-and-light display. Meanwhile, the four Smithsonian museums are staging special exhibits and performances Dec. 31-Jan. 2. All are free. For more information: (202) 789-7000 or (800) 294-2100. On the Web: www.washington.org; www.americasmilennium/.

New York: More than 1 million people are expected for what's supposed to be the biggest Times Square New Year's Eve party ever. There's even a new ball that will drop at midnight -- a 6-foot-diameter, 1,070-pound ball covered with 504 Waterford crystal triangles and illuminated by 600 multicolored light bulbs and nearly 100 strobe lights and mirrors. Whew!

The party begins at 7 a.m. with the arrival of the year 2000 in the South Pacific. For the next 24 hours, six gigantic Panasonic Astrovision video screens set up around the square will broadcast live images of the people and cultures of each of the world's time zones. At midnight, the ball drop will be accompanied by a light show, fireworks, puppets, waves of confetti and thousands of balloons. Can't stand crowds? For high rollers there's a party with entertainment by Sting, Aretha Franklin, Enrique Iglasias and Andrea Bocelli. For more information: (800) 692-84-748 NYC-VISIT, or www.celebration2000.com.

Las Vegas: Barbra Streisand's show at the MGM Grand is getting all the press, but there are plenty of other things going on. For classic rock fans, there's the Fremont Street Experience, a trippy light show and rock concert starring REO Speedwagon, Guess Who and Starship. Bette Midler plays the Mandalay Resort and Casino; Pat Benatar is at the Las Vegas Hilton; Rod Stewart is at the Rio Hotel; Hall and Oates are at Caesar's Palace; and Elton John and Tina Turner play the Thomas Mack Arena on Dec. 30. For a complete lineup: millenniumvegas.com or (702) 892-7575.

Chicago: The Windy City is throwing a 2,000-Minute Party, dubbed Dance 'til the Dawn of the New Millennium, at which a dance step commissioned for the occasion, the Milly, will be introduced. At Navy Pier on Lake Michigan, a clock posted on the 150-foot Ferris wheel will count down the seconds until midnight, when the sky over the lake will light up with fireworks and lasers. For more information: (312) 742-2001 or www.chicago2001.org.

New Orleans: The passing of 1999 will be mourned in New Orleans as the Big Easy ushers out the old year with an old-fashioned jazz funeral. Beginning at 10 a.m. on New Year's Eve, a Mass of resurrection (formerly known as a requiem Mass) will be held at St. Augustine Catholic Church. A traditional jazz funeral follows: a full funeral cortege, with dirges playing and a horse-drawn casket, will progress from the church to the gates of the St. Louis No. 1 Cemetery. There, a gate-side ceremony in which "the body is cut loose" will officially put the 1900s to rest. Participants then will march and dance through the French Quarter, symbolizing the good years ahead. For more information: (504) 565-8104.

Anchorage, Alaska: The streets of Anchorage will blaze with light when the city welcomes the new millennium. Lighting one candle from another, residents will march in a parade through the city. The Night of Light also will feature a giant lighted arch leading into a downtown area filled with such displays as an outdoor garden of lights that will seem to turn the night sky into day. For more information: (907) 274-3531 or www.anchorage.net.

Lubec, Maine: The small town of Lubec, Maine, will usher in the new year with fireworks at dawn rather than midnight. Lubec, the easternmost point in the continental United States, is taking advantage of its distinction: Residents and visitors can park cars at the water's edge and face east to see one of North America's first sunrises of 2000. For more information: www.nemaine.com/lubecmillennium.

Louisville, Ky.: It sounds like science fiction: At the stroke of midnight, a "phototonic transmitter" (giant laser), will power up and launch the official Millennium Message of Louisville into deep space. Driven by a massive array of YAG lasers, a collection of humanity's thoughts on the new millennium - sent to the city via e-mail from around the world - will be digitized and beamed into the night sky. For more information: (888) 568-4784.

Philadelphia: More than 2,000 Rockys - identical in gray sweats and navy knit caps - will storm up the steps of the Philadelphia Art Museum like the hero of the 1976 Sylvester Stallone movie. The running of the Rockys, at 7 a.m. New Year's Eve, kicks off 24 Events in 24 Hours, a citywide celebration. For more information: (215) 686-2000 or millennium.philadelphia.org.

Key West, Fla.: Key West never drops the ball when celebrating the new year. The Florida city just drops everything else. Thousands will flock to Sloppy Joe's Bar to watch the annual dropping of the conch shell to welcome 2000. The Atlantic Shores Resort invites celebrants to watch as an "alien" is dropped into the resort's swimming pool at the stroke of midnight. If those celebrations are a little too tame, revelers can head over to upper Duval Street, where they can count down as a red, 6-foot-long, high-heeled shoe lowers Sushi, a drag queen, from the balcony of the Bourbon Street Pub/New Orleans House. For more information: (800) 527-8539 or www.fla-keys.com.

Seattle: The party of the century in this neck of the woods takes place at Seattle Center, a 72-acre urban park downtown. The Seattle Millennium Festival, Dec. 26-Jan. 1, is a free family event featuring cultural music and dancing, light shows, a performance by Cirque Eos, a sculptural fire ceremony, art and food vendors and street performers. The celebration peaks at midnight with the launch of thousands of fireworks from the Space Needle.

For more information: (206) 615-0345 or www.seattlecenter.com/millennium.

GRAPHIC: The Queen Mary, a ship turned hotel in Long Beach, is among dozens of California hotels planning New Year's Eve celebrations. The Queen has the advantage of offering front-rail views of the fireworks at midnight.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: December 27, 1999

The Washington Post

METRO

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1999

B

Obituaries
Federal Diary
Weather

Not a Bad Seat on Mall, Gala Organizers Say

By SUSAN LEVINE
Washington Post Staff Writer

The orchestra seats are all taken. If there were a dress circle, it would be filled, too. On New Year's Eve, the closest the hoi polloi will get to the star-packed production at the Lincoln Memorial will be down and out—quite literally—at the edge of the Reflecting Pool.

A map put out yesterday by White House organizers shows that public viewing areas for "America's Millennium Gala" will start well beyond the drive that encircles the memorial, behind a huge VIP section for such famous faces as Robert De Niro, Elizabeth Taylor and Muhammed Ali.

But the show's co-producer, George Stevens Jr., said distance should matter little for the tens of thousands of people expected on the Mall that night. "We've been very attentive and most interested in making this work for the public," he said.

Four huge video screens will be near the stage and along the southern edge of the Reflecting Pool to provide close-ups of host Will Smith and nearly three hours worth of entertainers. An extensive sound system will carry the music well down the Mall, Stevens said, so that people will have no trouble hearing Bono, Luther Vandross, Usher and Tom Jones—four more performers whose names were added to the program yesterday.

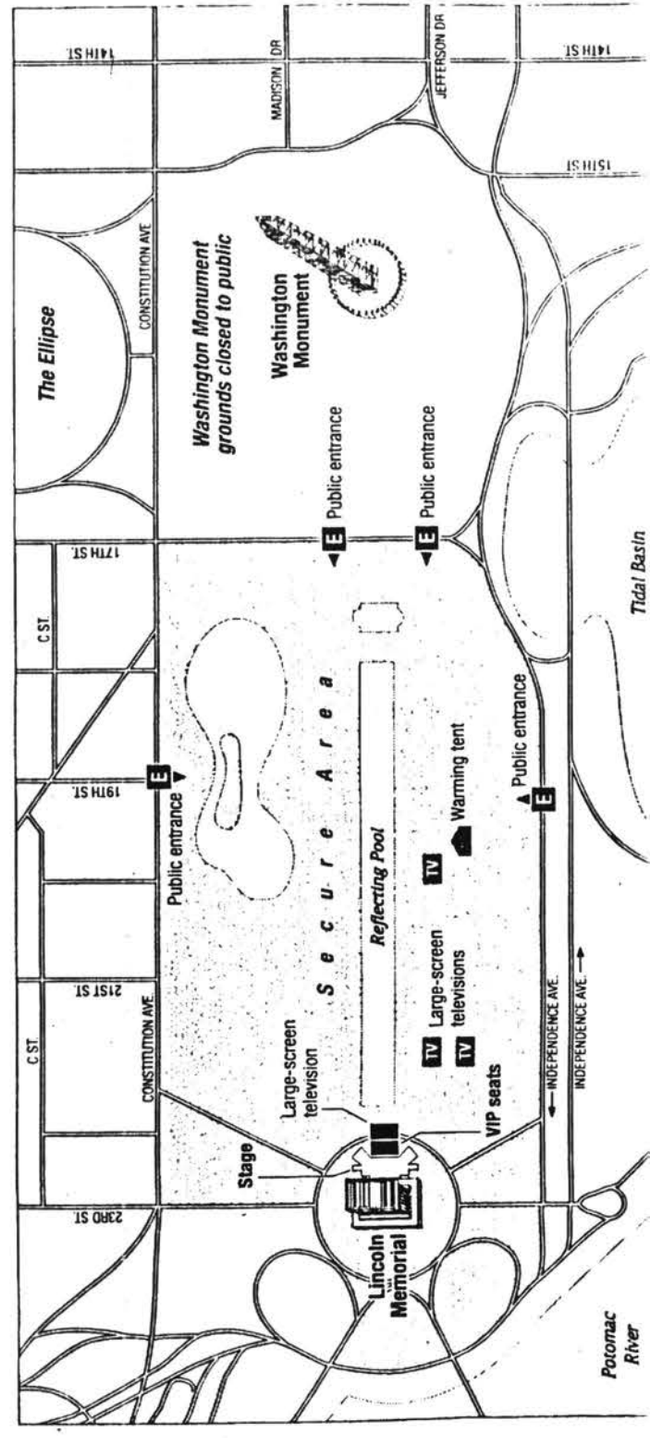
And anyway, by midnight, the best seats in the open-air house will be those facing in the other direction. When the aerial pyrotechnics begin at 11:59.50, Stevens said with delight, the people farther out will have "the absolute best view of the only, once-in-a-lifetime . . . illumination of the Washington Monument."

In several key ways, the Dec. 31 production will differ significantly from its most frequent comparison, the annual Fourth of July show at the Mall's Sylvan Theatre. That owes in part to the demands of the site: The Lincoln Memorial drops away sharply from its top steps, pushing the public back farther. The size of the show also has required special staging accommodations.

"It's a very unique situation," said Vikki Keys, a deputy superintendent at the National Park Service.

In addition, given increasingly dire alerts this week about possible terrorist attacks in the United States over the holidays, the gala's organizers have scrutinized their plans. But there apparently has

See GALA, *B4, Col. 1*



Producers Put Finishing Touches on Mall Bash

GALA, *From B1*

been no discussion of scrapping the show.

"They've done what they could to strike a balance between security, overcrowding and the reality of the terrain," a White House official said.

U.S. Park Police will be out in force, as will the Secret Service because of the presence of President Clinton and Hillary Rodham Clinton. Metal detectors will be positioned in certain areas.

"It's not going to be business as usual. Things will be increased as far as visitor protection," a Park Police supervisor said.

People who come—braving low temperatures that typically hover just below freezing on Dec. 31—will have to pass through one of four secured entrances off Constitution Avenue, Independence Avenue or 17th Street. Nearly all of the area immediately around the Lincoln Memorial will be off-limits to the public, according to the White House map.

First aid tents will be on either side of the Reflecting Pool, and concessions and souvenirs will be sold from a large warming tent.

As the audience gathers that night, military bands will begin playing at 9 p.m. The Clintons will be bused over with their celebrity entourage at 9:30. The show, broadcast nationally by CBS, will start half an hour later.

Now comes the last-minute fine-tuning. With only one week to go, construction of the stage is nearly complete, and the fireworks technicians are checking their countdown. Stevens and co-producer Quincy Jones were at the memorial last night looking things over.

"Quincy and I are exhilarated," Stevens said. "We were just out on the stage, looking at the Washington Monument reflected in the Reflecting Pool. . . . It's the best canvas two struggling producers could ask for."

THE WASHINGTON POST FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1999

IN THE LOOP

Al Kamen

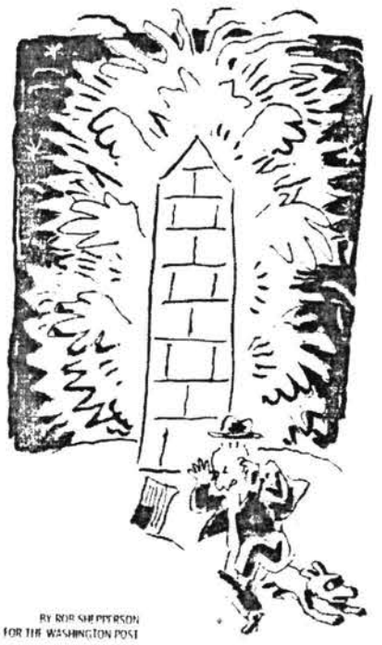
For George: a Chair, a Wreath and the Works

The planned New Year's Eve millennium fireworks extravaganza, featuring fireworks cascades down the sides of the Washington Monument, is almost certain to be, as event co-producer **George Stevens Jr.** says, "a once-in-a-lifetime sight."

That's because the scheme had to overcome a federal rule against hanging things from the monument and some strong objections from the National Park Service. NPS, after a meeting about two weeks ago between Stevens and NPS chief **Robert Stanton**, nixed the idea of using the Founding Father's monument as a giant launch pad.

NPS officials said a long-standing regulation—enacted to keep the monument off-limits to anti-war, abortion and other demonstrators—barred hanging explosives from the monument.

The Park Service apparently was concerned that pyrotechnics can be a bit dirty and it had just spent more than $10 million to clean the monument. Also, the Park Service is renting that scaffolding by the day and was hoping to take it down by the end of the year or thereabouts, but this will delay that and the reopening of the monument. And then there was the question of creating a precedent for getting an exemption to the regulation—not for some important political issue with free speech implications or even for some patriotic event—but for a New Year's Eve bash.



BY BOB SHEPPERSON
FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

But this will never do, the millennium planners protested. Their exceptionally fine plan would have **President Clinton** light some kind of fuse at the Lincoln Memorial that would go down along the reflecting pool and then over to and up the monument to start the cascades and other explosions. This would be huge, extraordinary—millennial!

So, not to be deterred, the millennium planning folks went to the White House to see if they could roll the Park Service. The story gets a bit murky here. Naturally, there were suspicions of political string-pulling, what with **Steven Spielberg** and other big contributors involved, but White House folks say their lawyers simply referred the planners' lawyers to the Department of Interior. No indication of any call from Clinton to Interior Secretary **Bruce Babbitt**, said an Interior Department spokesman, only questions from the planners on "how to make this happen."

And guess what? Department lawyers scampered down Wednesday—that would be the 200th anniversary of **George Washington**'s death—to file a rule revision in the Federal Register to allow the fireworks.

A key point favoring the move is that the rule against using the "restricted zone" around the monument had an "exception" for the "official annual commemorative Washington birthday celebration," according to the filing.

Of course, that "exception" only allows chairs to be set up near the monument and a wreath to be placed inside the monument at the foot of Washington's statue.

Chairs, fireworks. Hey, one exception's as good as another.

Francis, Airborne Till His Wings Get Clipped

Highflying National Transportation Safety Board vice chairman **Robert T. Francis** may be spending more time on the ground next year. His five-year term expires at the end of the month, though he may stay on for a couple of weeks.

Francis, who hasn't been talking much to colleagues since he learned he was not being renominated—he ruffled feathers by skipping holiday and goodbye parties for senior officials—is reported to have circumnavigated the globe at least three times to carry out his NTSB duties.

And there was still one more trip to go. This was a 10-day jaunt last month to Paris, Brussels and Toulouse on his way to a speech in Morocco. NTSB paid only $2,366.18 and the Moroccan government picked up the rest.

NEC and NEC

The National Economic Council is gearing up: **Gigi Georges**, director of government relations for the American Federation of Teachers, is to be National Economic Council chief **Gene Sperling**'s overall right-hand policy person on several big issues, including China and the World Trade Organization. Also, California lawyer **David Tseng**, who worked at the Labor Department in this administration and went home to be chief assistant treasurer of San Francisco, returns to be NEC staff director. And, history professor **Sean Dobson**, who worked at the Holocaust museum, is advising on communications and strategy.

THE WASHINGTON POST
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1999

Smithsonian Sets Final New Year's Party Plan

By SUSAN LEVINE
Washington Post Staff Writer

The Smithsonian Institution's party planners yesterday issued the final word on their New Year's weekend headliners: The king will be coming, the queen won't.

Legendary bluesman B.B. King will appear the afternoon of Jan. 2 as part of the Smithsonian's "America's Millennium on the Mall" festivities, although not in an outdoor concert as organizers announced prematurely in September. Instead, King will play and talk about the evolution of his music in the far more intimate setting of the National Museum of Natural History's 565-seat Baird Auditorium.

Intimacy has its drawbacks, however. Tickets for New Year's weekend programs became available only on Monday, and those for King already are gone—although Smithsonian officials were not allowed even to utter the initials B.B. publicly until today because of contractual obligations related to the musician's concert last night at Constitution Hall.

The Smithsonian had hoped for a similar millennial "conversation" with the queen of soul, Aretha Franklin, who agreed months ago to perform Jan. 2 on the Mall. But when budget constraints forced organizers to move the program to three museum auditoriums, Franklin's promoters nixed her participation. The changed venue also led to the cancellation of rock-and-roller Chuck Berry's Jan. 1 show.

"We're disappointed, of course," said Richard Kurin, director of the Smithsonian Institution's Center for Folklife Programs and Cultural Studies and the man in charge of the weekend's exhibits, readings and lectures. "Because we've changed the nature of the event . . . we feel we cannot do inside a museum what they'd like to do."

Although Franklin and Berry were among the biggest names in the initial lineup, Kurin is taking their loss in stride. More than 50 people—from actor Edward James Olmos and civil rights activist and scholar Julian Bond to scientists at the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence Institute—are part of the eclectic discussions and performances the Smithsonian will offer Dec. 31-Jan. 2.

About 12,000 people will be able to attend the nearly three dozen events in the auditoriums at the National Museum of Natural History, the National Museum of American History and the Hirshhorn Museum. About 5,000 tickets—which are free but required for admission—already have been requested through the Smithsonian's number (202-786-9115 or 202-633-9467 TTY).

"My only sorrow is we don't have places to accommodate larger audiences," Kurin said. Already, tickets also are gone for the Dec. 31 discussion with Neil Gershenfeld of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology on future technologies.

One small consolation is that all sessions will be taped for dissemination through cyberspace Webcasts. The schedule, including plans for the outdoor gala that will begin at 10 p.m. New Year's Eve at the Lincoln Memorial, is on the Internet at *www.americasmillennium.gov*.

The Smithsonian's program schedule and ticket information also are listed today in the Weekend section of The Post.

Details for the District's "Main Street Millennium" on Dec. 31 and Jan. 1 are still being fine-tuned, though city officials said yesterday that a complete schedule soon will be posted on the Internet at *www.2000dc.com*. The centerpiece of the free D.C. festival, which will stretch four blocks of Constitution Avenue NW, will be the "Millennium Washington Stage" at 12th Street. Music will begin at 11:30 a.m. on New Year's Eve with the Latin band Ivan Cuesta y sus Vallenatos Autenticos, and Big Joe & the Joe Stanley Quartet will swing from 10 p.m. to nearly midnight.

Organizers said yesterday that about two dozen food vendors will offer Jamaican, Indian, Asian and other cuisines in heated pavilions that will spotlight each of the city's quadrants. The city is charging each vendor a $1,000 upfront fee and will receive 15 percent of sales.

PARTY CLASHERS

Next November, Hillary Clinton and Rudy Giuliani will trade political punches in a battle to win a New York Senate seat. But first, these Capitol Hill hopefuls square off to determine whose New Year's Eve wingding will be wilder.

	VENUE	PICKING UP THE TAB	FINGER FOOD	WARM-FUZZY FACTOR	RAZZLE-DAZZLE	GRAND FINALE
 HILLARY	 Washington, D.C.: The Mall, site of Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech.	Private donors fingered by Terry McAuliffe, the Dems' super shake-down man. 	 A free food fair running along Constitution Avenue.	An 18-minute Steven Spielberg film "expressing the highlights of the twentieth century." 	 Will Smith, hosting a concert featuring Aretha Franklin, Chuck Berry, and B.B. King.	Top-secret Midnight Moment sound-and-light display. 
 RUDY	 New York City: Times Square, site of MTV's "I Wanna Be a V.J." contest.	The Discover Card, Waterford Crystal, and Korbel champagne. 	 $2 pretzels and soft drinks on most corners.	Live big-screen broadcasts of millennium celebrations from cities around the globe. 	 24 separate acts set to go off as each time zone welcomes the new millennium.	The ever popular Ball Drop, followed by an even more impressive subway exodus. 
AND THE WINNER IS...	**Rudy** Giant digital tickers allow hizzoner to send real-time behavioral edicts to the gathered throngs.	**Rudy** The first lady may wish she saved the $12.5 million spent on her shindig for the Senate race.	**Hillary** Though this White House wife will never be mistaken for Martha Stewart, you can't beat free grub.	**Hillary** Spielberg knows schmaltz. The centennial roundup trumps the 2000 remix of "We Are the World."	**Rudy** This Broadway epic pleases key voting blocs by displaying their cultures on the Great White Way.	**Hillary** Partygoers do like tradition, but they *love* a surprise.

George magazine
Dec / Jan 2000

HOW WILL *THEY* SPEND NEW YEAR'S?

BILL AND HILLARY CLINTON
The First Couple will mix with the people at ceremonies along the National Mall in Washington. Then they will attend a show produced by Quincy Jones that will showcase music by John Williams, a 17-min. film by Steven Spielberg and the marching units of the U.S. Armed Forces. Aretha Franklin and Will Smith are among the celebrities who will join the festivities



DONALD TRUMP
The man who would be President is throwing a party at the Mar-a-Lago in Palm Beach, Fla. Gladys Knight will perform



EVANDER HOLYFIELD
The former champ will be praying at the World Changers Church in Georgia. Service starts at 10 p.m.



RICKY MARTIN
He's leaving *La Vida Loca* to spend the evening with his family in Puerto Rico



KIRSTIE ALLEY
The *Veronica's Closet* star will be in Paris with her boyfriend when the clock winds down



RICHARD SIMMONS
"It will be a spotty one for me," says TV's frenetically cheery fitness guru. "It will be me and my Dalmatians listening to Broadway tunes. And, yes, they will be wearing millennium party hats." Maybe he can see if Dave Letterman is doing anything



JOHN MCCAIN
The Republican presidential hopeful will spend New Year's with his family at a cabin in Cottonwood, Ariz.



"I will be spending New Year's at home in Los Angeles with my kids and husband ... just the four of us, something very simple."

—PAMELA ANDERSON LEE



LANZANO—AP, LEE—AP, MILLS—AP, WALSH—AP, FOTOS INT'L—ARCHIVE PHOTOS, SIECO—UPI, KRAFT—CORBIS SYGMA FOR TIME, PROUSER—REUTERS

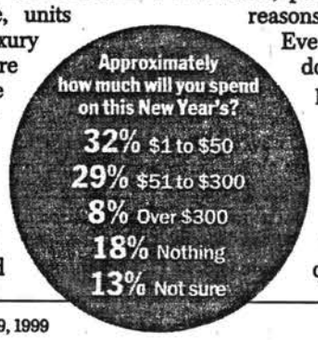
millennium," says Imtiaz Muqbil, executive editor of Travel Impact Newswire. In London there's a prospect of empty seats greeting the Queen and the Prime Minister as they open the much vaunted Millennium Dome on New Year's Eve, while all six suites in the New York City Palace's $25,000 "Splurge of the Century" are yours for the taking.

There are economic reasons for some of these millennial disappointments. Predictions of widespread, money's-no-object revels were just that—predictions, of an event that hasn't occurred since the airplane was invented, the Crusades gave way to package tours and Dick Clark was soldered together in a top-secret government warehouse. So proprietors aimed for the stratosphere and whiffed. Hotels supersized their room rates; tour operators assessed $1,000 cancellation fees; property owners in New York City and Miami put up their pads for sublet at five-figure rates (few takers, so far); British star chef Marco Pierre White tried and failed to auction off private parties at his restaurants at Sotheby's in London. Even in this boom time, the millennium is, like Yogi Berra's fabled night spot, so crowded nobody goes there.

New Year's Eve, of course, is known for disappointment, freighted with the pressure to be the wildest night of the year but often ending in ennui, regret and beer stains. Is this one simply shaping up to be a letdown on a millennial scale? Not necessarily. Party planners and business people predict that customers will start filling hotels, parties and restaurants in the next few weeks—especially if prices drop enough.

BUT MORE IMPORTANT, AN UNDERbooked New Year's is a letdown only by a fairly consumerist measure, one that assumes you can divine enthusiasm and millennial spirit in terms of buzz and box office, units moved and luxury suites occupied. People are not so much dismissing the event as trying to determine how to mark it in a way that's meaningful to them. So a lot of people are making low-key, local plans, like neighbors and single dads Bruce Rave and Charlie O'Dowd of Albuquerque, N.M., who are planning a minimalist block party. "We'll set up a tent with a kerosene heater for the old people and probably me too," says Rave, 45. There will be meat cooking on propane grills—no electricity at this Y2K-themed party—and plenty of soccer, football, basketball and Hula Hoops. "Kids and adults playing together in the street—a family day," says O'Dowd, 48. "We had this type of party constantly when I was growing up, and I want it to be memorable, you know, turn of the century and family and community."

That's a heavy burden for one little weenie roast. But across the country and the world, people are finding as many reasons to stay in this New Year's Eve as to go out. Most boil down to one thing: other people. With no basis in nature, the passage of a thousand years is a man-made phenomenon, and so are its attendant worries. The question of how you mark this millennium is partly a question of faith—not reli-



The Washington Post

METRO

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1999

White House Plans Starry, Starry Night

Celebrities to Pack Washington For New Year's Weekend Events

By SUSAN LEVINE
Washington Post Staff Writer

White House organizers finally raised the curtain yesterday on New Year's weekend festivities on the Mall, revealing a cast of performers and speakers including actor Robert Duvall, singer Jessye Norman, basketball great Bill Russell and children's author David Wisniewski.









FILE PHOTOS

Scheduled to participate in millennial events, from top: actor Will Smith, actress Diane Keaton, singer Jessye Norman and actor Robert Duvall.

Although the Smithsonian Institution will host three days of indoor activities—dozens of discussions about subjects both esoteric and everyday—the brightest spotlight will be on the Lincoln Memorial and the nationally televised New Year's Eve show that actor Will Smith will host starting at 10 p.m.

Joining Smith will be country singer Trisha Yearwood, Norman and fellow opera diva Kathleen Battle, Duvall and actors Sam Waterston and Diane Keaton. Also appearing will be gospel singer Bebe Winans, the New York cast of the musical hit "Stomp," Brian Stokes Mitchell, former star of Broadway's "Ragtime," and numerous other celebrities that organizers, intent on the element of surprise, declined yesterday to identify.

But they promised that the three-hour spectacle, the creation of musician Quincy Jones and producer-director George Stevens Jr., will live up to its advance billing and offer a thoughtful melange of 20th-century America.

"It's meant to be moving and uplifting rather than just a musical show," said Paul McCarthy, executive director of America's Millennium, the entity coordinating all Mall events that weekend. The Lincoln Memorial has stood witness to key moments in history, he noted: "The setting where we're doing this puts us at a high standard."

As midnight approaches, a live orchestra will premiere a score by award-winning composer John Williams as images of the American century—tableaux chosen by movie maker Steven Spielberg—play on giant screens on three sides of the Reflecting Pool. New works by U.S. poet laureate Rob-

See MILLENNIUM, *B8, Col. 5*

Starry, Starry Night Planned as Part of New Year's Weekend

MILLENNIUM, *From B1*

ert Pinsky, his predecessor Rita Dove and poet-writer Maya Angelou will accompany the orchestral-film arrangement.

From Dec. 31 to Jan. 2, the Smithsonian's diverse lectures and demonstrations will focus on a trio of themes—"Future Visions" at the Hirshhorn Museum, "American Voices" at the Museum of Natural History, and "Story Circle" at the Museum of American History.

At the natural history museum, the lineup will include musician Ricky Skaggs, who will play and talk about that distinctly American art form of bluegrass, and Susan Butcher, who will recount her repeated championship runs on the Alaskan Iditarod.

At the Hirshhorn, a panel of chefs will prognosticate on the future of American taste, and scientists such as MIT's Neil Gershenfeld will discuss science, technologies, future explorations and extraterrestrial intelligence.

At the American history museum, Sweet Honey in the Rock founder Bernice Johnson Reagon and music legend Ella Jenkins will wax mellifluous, while authors and storytellers for children and adults alike will read aloud.

In addition, an interactive exhibit at the Air and Space Museum will offer visitors a chance to participate in "Launch 2000," a nationwide project challenging students to design the first village settlement on Mars, circa 2030.

Officials estimate that 12,000 people will attend Smithsonian activities, which have been moved inside because of budgetary constraints. A complete schedule, with the times of all lectures and exhibits, will be available in early December. Previously announced appearances by rock-n-roller Chuck Berry and soul queen Aretha Franklin still are being negotiated.

Also yesterday, organizers of the District's two-day festival along Constitution Avenue NW announced more performers who will help the city ring in the New Year. They include master percussionist Okyerema Asante, the Midnight Movers reggae band, the Keter Betts Quintet and the BET Urban Nation Hip Hop choir.

The president and first lady will celebrate New Year's Eve with a White House "Creators Dinner" to honor some of the country's most prominent figures in sports, arts and sciences. Playwrights Edward Albee, August Wilson, Arthur Miller and Neil Simon will be among them, as well as musicians Itzhak Perlman, Pinchas Zuckerman, and Marilyn Horne; and dancers Edward Villella and Arthur Mitchell. Artist Robert Rauschenberg, architect Maya Lin, Olympian Carl Lewis and Internet co-founder Vinton Cerf will attend, too.

After dinner, a motorcade will take the Clintons and their guests to the Lincoln Memorial, where they will join a Mall crowd that—depending on the weather—could number 100,000 people, organizers said.

And then, at 10 p.m., come sleet or snow, the show will go on.

Washington Post 11/19/99

Mall's Millennium Bash

Smithsonian's Event Scaled Back, Moved Indoors

By Susan Levine
Washington Post Staff Writer

The Smithsonian Institution is moving its New Year's millennium celebration indoors and scaling back the scope of the three-day event, a signal that fund-raising has not kept pace with the more ambitious party plans announced earlier by the White House.

Officials say that the Smithsonian activities, featuring prominent figures and programs in the arts, sciences and culture, will be just as stimulating and fun and that the New Year's Eve concert at the Lincoln Memorial and midnight fireworks will go on as scheduled.

Still, bringing the daytime events inside definitely will alter the character of the "Millennium on the Mall," which had been advertised as a panoply of "pavilions and museums stretching along the Mall from the U.S. Capitol to the Washington Monument."

With just six weeks to go—and deadlines looming even sooner on contracts for performers and equipment—budget issues forced the decision, said Richard Kurin, the Smithsonian's director of the Center for Folklife Programs and Cultural Studies. A major weekend program costs about $1 million, he noted, whereas the price tag can be three times that much for an outdoor event at whi tents, generators, public amenities a security must be arranged.

Some programs and panel discussio may be combined because of space co straints. The plus, however, is that the door setting will be "a bit more intima and a bit more focused." Also, Kurin n ed, "it makes it warmer."

See SMITHSONIAN, B4, Col. 1

Smithsonian Event Moved Inside

SMITHSONIAN, *From B1*

For now, the Smithsonian plans to use its Museum of American History, Museum of Natural History and the Hirshhorn Museum for an array of performances, demonstrations and talks Dec. 31 through Jan. 2. Baird Auditorium in the Natural History Museum holds fewer than 600 people, while Carmichael and Ring auditoriums at the two other sites have only 270 seats each.

The move parallels a decision last month by D.C. officials to downsize the festival they're planning along a four-block section of Constitution Avenue; instead of three days, their "Main Street Millennium" will take place Dec. 31 and Jan. 1.

Together, the changes suggest that fund-raising targets for these mega-events were too ambitious or that the work to bring in the bucks started too late. Money concerns have greatly complicated planning—from putting down deposits on tents to confirming guest performers to concerns about losing deposits if venues change or are canceled.

"It takes a large effort that got started pretty late and that's running up against lots of other things," said one official involved with the national celebration.

"We've hustled like hell" to organize the District's festival, said mayoral assistant Sandy McCall. He said $800,000 is in hand or pledged for an event he expects to cost under $1 million. In addition, the D.C. financial control board has approved a $175,000 float loan from the Washington Convention Center Authority to use for millennium-themed programs through 2000.

But McCall concedes the lost opportunity: "If we'd started a year ago . . ."

Kurin declined Tuesday to say how much money he has received from America's Millennium, the entity coordinating all Mall events among three federal groups.

Its chief fund-raiser, Terry McAuliffe, the same lead money man for the Clinton presidential library, to name just one project, said he couldn't answer any questions about expenditures. He declined to specify how much of his $10 million target he's met but emphasized that, in the end, the fund-raising will do "exactly what we said we were going to do."

At a news conference with Hillary Rodham Clinton in late September, organizers pegged their budget at $12.5 million. America's Millennium executive director, Paul McCarthy, indicated this week that television rights cover the rest of the funding. CBS purchased the rights to broadcast the star-spangled New Year's Eve show, which is being produced by composer-musician Quincy Jones and filmmaker George Stevens Jr. Neither the producers nor the network will say how much CBS paid.

"You have to work it incrementally, and it all comes together in the end," McCarthy said, voicing confidence in McAuliffe's ability to deliver the money. "Any privately funded program is a challenge."

McCarthy supports bringing the Smithsonian events indoors. "Not having to deal with the weather . . . probably will be a good thing," he said. "I think it's going to come together excellently."

Additional details of the New Year's Eve weekend program may be announced next week, organizers said, letting the general public know who is performing—as well as when and where. Some of the stars in the audience VIP section Dec. 31 may attract just as much attention: McAuliffe said Muhammed Ali, Robert DeNiro and Martin Scorcese have accepted invitations to be the Clintons' guests that night.

Although the District hopes to spend most of 2000 commemorating its bicentennial as the nation's capital, McCall said, the money raised so far will pay for the two-day New Year's festival on Constitution Avenue between 10th and 14th streets NW.

Most of that funding is coming from sponsorship commitments, he said. Pledges from five individuals and corporations make up a quarter of the $800,000, including one contribution of $100,000. Except for District Cablevision and America Online, which are sponsoring media and technology tents, McCall wouldn't identify contributors.

The reluctance of city and White House organizers to release more specific budget numbers and the names of sponsors and other contributors contrasts with the approach of Maryland 2000, the organization marking the millennial year in that state. The group has posted a sponsorship list on its Web site and, a spokeswoman said, raised about $850,000 of its $1 million goal.

Staff writer Angela Paik contributed to this report.

Washington Post
11/19/1999

Businessman Is One in a Million With Mega-Gift



BY FRANK JOHNSTON—THE WASHINGTON POST

Vinod Gupta is the lone individual donor identified by organizers of Mall festivities.

By Susan Levine
Washington Post Staff Writer

Washington's millennium celebrations could use a few more folks like Vinod Gupta.

The Omaha businessman is the only donor to the New Year's festivities fund who has been identified by officials organizing the White House-promoted events on the Mall. His seven-figure contribution was announced very publicly—at a September news conference with Hillary Rodham Clinton. Since then, those federal officials and also the District officials putting together a separate city-sponsored party on Constitution Avenue NW have declined to name any other individuals who are helping to pay for the three days of celebration.

Which leaves Gupta, and his $1 million check, alone in the spotlight.

"I've been blessed with a lot of good fortune," he said, as if that alone might explain why he decided to help stage the White House show in such generous fashion. He'd called the first lady's chief fund-raiser, Terry McAuliffe, to ask how he could assist, and was told money would be nice. "I figured, a million dollars is a million dollars, but what the hell."

Gupta is no stranger to fund-raisers. He's given much and often to Democratic candidates and causes during the last eight years, including U.S. Sen. Bob Kerrey (Neb.), Bill Clinton, Al Gore, the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee and the Democratic National Committee. In 1997, public-interest groups accused him of buying his way into the running for the consular general post in Bermuda. The job went to someone else.

The 53-year-old Gupta is a philanthropist of some note in Nebraska, where he founded the company now called infoUSA Inc., and in his native India, where his parents still live. His village of

See MILLION, B4, Col. 1

For Millennium Celebration, Donor Stands Alone in Spotlight

MILLION, From B1

Rampur Manhyaran, about 100 miles north of New Delhi, had no electricity, roads, toilets or phones when he was growing up. He left in 1967—with $58 in his pocket, according to his biography—to attend graduate school at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln.

The village still doesn't have reliable electricity, but it soon will open a technical trade school for women with another $1 million gift by Gupta. He's given twice that much to the Indian Institutes of Technology, where he received an undergraduate engineering degree, as well as $2.5 million to the University of Nebraska.

InfoUSA, which markets business and consumer databases, today is a $300 million firm with some 2,000 employees, and Gupta owns houses in Omaha, Colorado, California and Hawaii. Come Dec. 31, though, he'll be on the Mall. His donation should guarantee him a choice seat for the glitzy evening show and fireworks at the Lincoln Memorial.

"I would have loved a quiet New Year's Eve," he said. "But this is definitely worth it."

News & Record (Greensboro, NC)

November 15, 1999, Monday, ALL EDITIONS

SECTION: LIFE, Pg. D4

LENGTH: 527 words

HEADLINE: NATION'S CAPITAL PROMISES ''BIG BASH'' TO GREET NEW YEAR; WILL SMITH, ARETHA FRANKLIN AND CHUCK BERRY ARE SOME OF THE STARS WHO HAVE; COMMITTED TO PERFORMING AT ''AMERICA'S MILLENNIUM: A CELEBRATION FOR THE; NATION.''

BYLINE: BY BOB DART COX NEWS SERVICE

DATELINE: WASHINGTON

BODY:

Promising ''no ordinary party'' for ''no ordinary time,'' first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton invited America to a Y2K bash in the nation's capital.

''Music of our century will be rocking and rolling, swinging and soaring through the air,'' said Hillary Clinton in announcing details of a three-day event called ''America's Millennium: A Celebration for the Nation.''

On New Year's Eve, actor and rapper Will Smith will host a show at the Lincoln Memorial that will be televised live on CBS, beginning at 10 p.m. The program will include an 18-minute film highlighting the 20th century that will be produced by Steven Spielberg. Half an hour before midnight, the movie titled ''The Unfinished Journey'' will premiere on giant outdoor screens as an orchestra plays an original score by composer John Williams.

Organizers of ''America's Millennium'' said in a statement that ''great stars of the entertainment world will perform'' but would only confirm appearances by Aretha Franklin, Chuck Berry and Mickey Hart (former drummer of the Grateful Dead). Producer George Stevens Jr. conceded that many top entertainers have long been booked for millennium appearances - Barbra Streisand, for example - but he predicted plenty of celebrity power at the Washington event.

The show will be ''extravagantly entertaining,'' Stevens vowed. He said the show will be an ''expression of what this country is all about.''

Stevens, the producer of the movie ''The Thin Red Line'' and the creator of the television events ''The Kennedy Center Honors'' and ''Christmas in Washington,'' will co-produce ''America's Millennium Gala'' with composer and musician Quincy Jones.

Organizers said President Clinton and the first lady will attend the Lincoln Memorial affair. The televised event in Washington will rival the traditional Times Square New Year's Eve celebration in New York.

Hillary Clinton, Stevens and District of Columbia Mayor Anthony Williams announced the millennium plans recently at the Old Executive Office Building, next door to the White House. They said $ 12.5 million has been budgeted for the national events, with funding coming from private donations and the sale of TV rights. The celebration will begin on New Year's Eve of 1999 and last through Jan. 2, 2000.

In addition to the national celebration, Williams said the District will sponsor a ''Main Street Millennium'' block party along Constitution on Dec. 31. Despite fears that the Y2K bug might render some computers useless, the mayor vowed that ''lights won't go out'' and ''all systems are going to work.'' He urged tourists to book hotel rooms early.

Hillary Clinton said ''America's Millennium'' will include the unveiling of a national time capsule that will ''show future generations how we lived and what we valued most in our time.'' At the Ronald Reagan International Trade Center, located near the White House, giant screens will show millennium celebrations and events from around the world.

The arrival of the new millennium will be heralded by a ''Midnight Moment'' of fireworks and a laser light display between the Lincoln Memorial and Washington Monument.

LOAD-DATE: November 17, 1999

The Washington Post

METRO

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1999

B

Obituaries
Federal Diary
Weather

Millennium Celebration For the City

Constitution Ave. Block Party To Star D.C. Food and Music

SUSAN LEVINE
Washington Post Staff Writer

Sandy McCall is looking for a few more stilts people. So, some wandering minstrels and magicians, a corps of jitterbuggers, another theater troupe or two. And definitely Thomas Paine.

They're all needed for "Main Street Millennium," the New Year's celebration the District will put on Dec. 31 and Jan. 1. The family-friendly festival, details of which were released over the weekend, will be held along Constitution Avenue NW and is intended to showcase some of the best sights and sounds of the city at the local—meaning real people—level.

The extended block party will include two major performance stages, community exhibits focusing on the past and the future, and a "town hall" wall on which pargoers will post their hopes for Washington in the 21st century.

"This is a work in progress, but we have a very definite vision for these blocks," said McCall, a special assistant to Mayor Anthony A. Williams (D) and the man charged with pulling everything together.

The 20-hour food-and-music festival is the city's counterpart to the three-day spectacle the White House and Smithsonian Institution are hosting on the Mall that weekend. Although the District is a declared partner in that event, officials in the Marion Barry administration had announced that the District would throw its own affair, too—in part to kick off a year of celebrating Washington's bicentennial as the nation's capital.

Unfortunately, no one got around to any real planning or fund-raising until summer. And in any case, it would have been hard to compete with Will Smith and Steven Spielberg and the other, still unannounced, Hollywood celebs who will play the Lincoln Memorial as the final hours of 1999 count down.

Instead, a nine-person crew of mayoral staff members and contract consultants has opted for a more modest program offering entertainment and education, introspection and prognostication, neighborhood pride and unscripted fun.

"There's so much hype around the millennium now," McCall said. "We want simplicity."

For a cost of "less than $1 million," which organizers say will be paid for mostly through private donations, the simplicity will stretch from 10th to 14th streets NW. The big stages will be at both ends and will feature rhythm and blues, swing, jazz, gospel and even a mariachi band. Already confirmed are Nap "Don't Forget the Blues" Turner and Mary Jefferson and the Orioles, names that helped put Washington on the musical map during the '50s and '60s.

Seven heated tents, ranging from 4,000 to 10,000 square feet, will house exhibits and food booths. Through photos and archival documents, four of these pavilions will highlight the communities that make up each quadrant of the city, their history and development—which could be, organizers point out, the first time some city residents get a true-to-life glimpse of other city neighborhoods. Another tent will present technology, another multimedia.

The food at the city festival may be the biggest draw for those who otherwise might only attend the Mall extravaganza, according to McCall, who talks of the "synergy" local planners are trying to achieve with White House and Smithsonian coordinators. "People are going to go back and forth to the Mall," he predicted.

At several spots along Constitution, "speakers corners" will be available for anyone wanting to step onto a platform and hold forth in public discourse à la London's Hyde Park. Wandering through the crowd will be the likes of patriot Paine, suffragist Susan B. Anthony and abolitionist Frederick Douglass, folks who will focus on reminding their audience of the rights and liberties for which other Americans have fought and died.

At least that's the idea, and organizers—who will not disclose how much has been raised in contributions—seem fairly confident that will be the case in 60 more days. They say about two-thirds of the musical acts are booked, nearly half of the historical reenactors secured and all the tents, generators and other necessary infrastructure under contract.

Still, acrobats continue to be sought, and performers who do their thing on stilts apparently are in short supply. McCall gave his business card to a saxophone player he chanced upon outside Union Station on Friday morning and asked him to call (202-727-8449). He's still waiting but hopeful.

The District's planners are not the only ones trying to book performers at this late date. Last week, a spokeswoman for the White House said additional details of the Mall celebration, including the nationally televised show that actor Will Smith will help host New Year's Eve, might not be released until late this month.

What that means for the scope of that gala is unclear. Definitely, the District's event will be a scaled-down party. Initial proposals were for a three-day festival that would have cost several times the current projected budget. In August, the city broke off negotiations with a prospective organizer. Last month, worried over possible complications because D.C. appropriations had stalled on Capitol Hill, the millennium staff decided the city would largely go it alone.

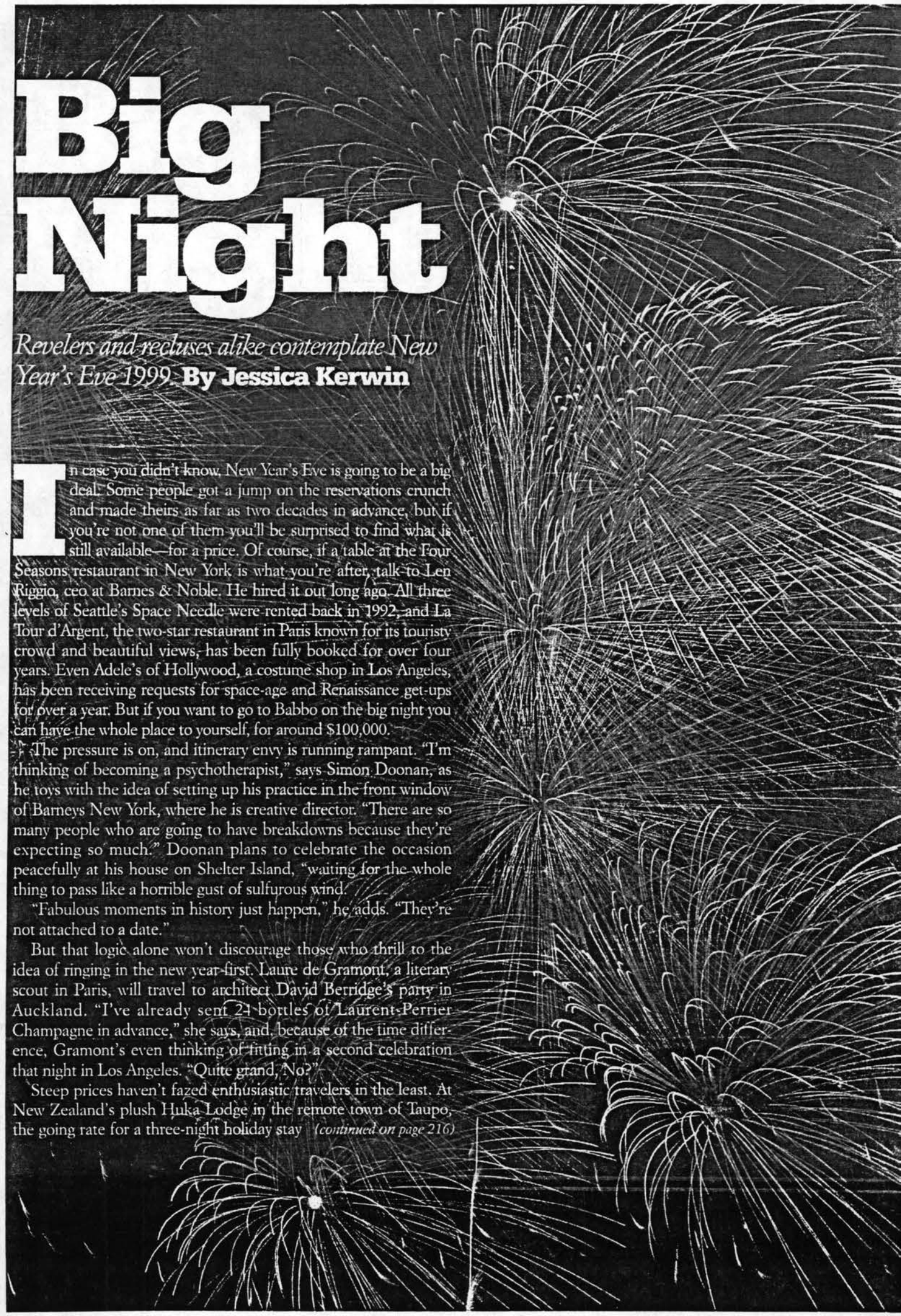
They moved forward because, as McCall put it, "This is what grown-up cities do. They celebrate incredibly rare experiences. . . . We are determined to be a grown-up city."

The first invitations have been printed. "Main Street Millennium," they read. "Friday, December 31st, 1999: 11 a.m. to 12 midnight. Saturday, January 1st, 2000: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. . . . Admission is free."

Blues singer Turner, who considers Washington his adopted home, expects the plans to work out fine and make for two fabulous days. "I'm honored to do it," he said Saturday. "It will be a good mechanism for pulling people together."

Big Night

Revelers and recluses alike contemplate New Year's Eve 1999. **By Jessica Kerwin**



In case you didn't know, New Year's Eve is going to be a big deal. Some people got a jump on the reservations crunch and made theirs as far as two decades in advance, but if you're not one of them you'll be surprised to find what is still available—for a price. Of course, if a table at the Four Seasons restaurant in New York is what you're after, talk to Len Riggio, ceo at Barnes & Noble. He hired it out long ago. All three levels of Seattle's Space Needle were rented back in 1992, and La Tour d'Argent, the two-star restaurant in Paris known for its touristy crowd and beautiful views, has been fully booked for over four years. Even Adele's of Hollywood, a costume shop in Los Angeles, has been receiving requests for space-age and Renaissance get-ups for over a year. But if you want to go to Babbo on the big night you can have the whole place to yourself, for around $100,000.

The pressure is on, and itinerary envy is running rampant. "I'm thinking of becoming a psychotherapist," says Simon Doonan, as he toys with the idea of setting up his practice in the front window of Barneys New York, where he is creative director. "There are so many people who are going to have breakdowns because they're expecting so much." Doonan plans to celebrate the occasion peacefully at his house on Shelter Island, "waiting for the whole thing to pass like a horrible gust of sulfurous wind."

"Fabulous moments in history just happen," he adds. "They're not attached to a date."

But that logic alone won't discourage those who thrill to the idea of ringing in the new year first. Laure de Gramont, a literary scout in Paris, will travel to architect David Berridge's party in Auckland. "I've already sent 24 bottles of Laurent-Perrier Champagne in advance," she says, and, because of the time difference, Gramont's even thinking of fitting in a second celebration that night in Los Angeles. "Quite grand, No?"

Steep prices haven't fazed enthusiastic travelers in the least. At New Zealand's plush Huka Lodge in the remote town of Taupo, the going rate for a three-night holiday stay *(continued on page 216)*





Above: Seattle's Space Needle. Right: Sydney-bound Nicole Kidman and Tom Cruise. Below: The celebrated cuisine at Babbo in New York.





The Mena House Oberoi



The Huka Lodge, Taupo, New Zealand

Big Night

(*continued from page 212*) climbed to $11,750 before it sold out in mid-summer.

Nearby Sydney is a popular destination for Hollywood's celebrants. Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman will be sailing its harbor with a crowd of friends. *American Beauty* director Sam Mendes is going Aussie, as is John Leguizamo. "Yeah, baby," says the actor. "I'll be the first one to see the New Year."

Of course the millennium—the perfect excuse for a trip to the tropics—has rockers and socialites alike seeking warmer climes. Mick Jagger has charted a course for Mustique and will set sail with all six of his children, while Jackie de Ravenel will spend the holiday "*en famille*," in the Bahamas at Lyford Cay. Expect Bali to be packed with those who require a little spirituality with their sun.

"Fabulous moments in history just happen," says Doonan.

Simon Doonan: Seeking shelter on Shelter Island

Egypt is also big on mystical appeal. That's where members of the Millennium Society, w ties raise money for an international scholarship program, will throw their black-tie gala, ridi to the foot of the Great Pyramid of Cheops. The event has been in the works since 1979.

But just as many have planned excursions to exotic locales that are, well, a little m Socialite Nancy Hammond will hit a party in Cuernavaca, Mexico, while Tori Spelling Hawaii with her brother. "It's such a spiritual and beautiful place," says Spelling. "It seem right place to ring in a new century."

It's a popular notion. While the Lodge at Koele and the M Hotel in Lanai—where Bill Gates staged his lavish wedding—e handful of rooms available, the bulk of their accommodati snapped up in 1994 when a couple from New Jersey decided to there with 198 guests.

Some claim, however, to be leaving their plans to fate— they're just holding out. "I just know all the things I'm *not* do CAA superagent Bryan Lourd. "I know I'm late—but these thi way of coming together."

Rupert Everett foresees a night playing bartender wherever w him in the U.S. "I'll be making myself a vim 'n' vodka," he impossible to go anywhere because everything has been booked, years—in advance."

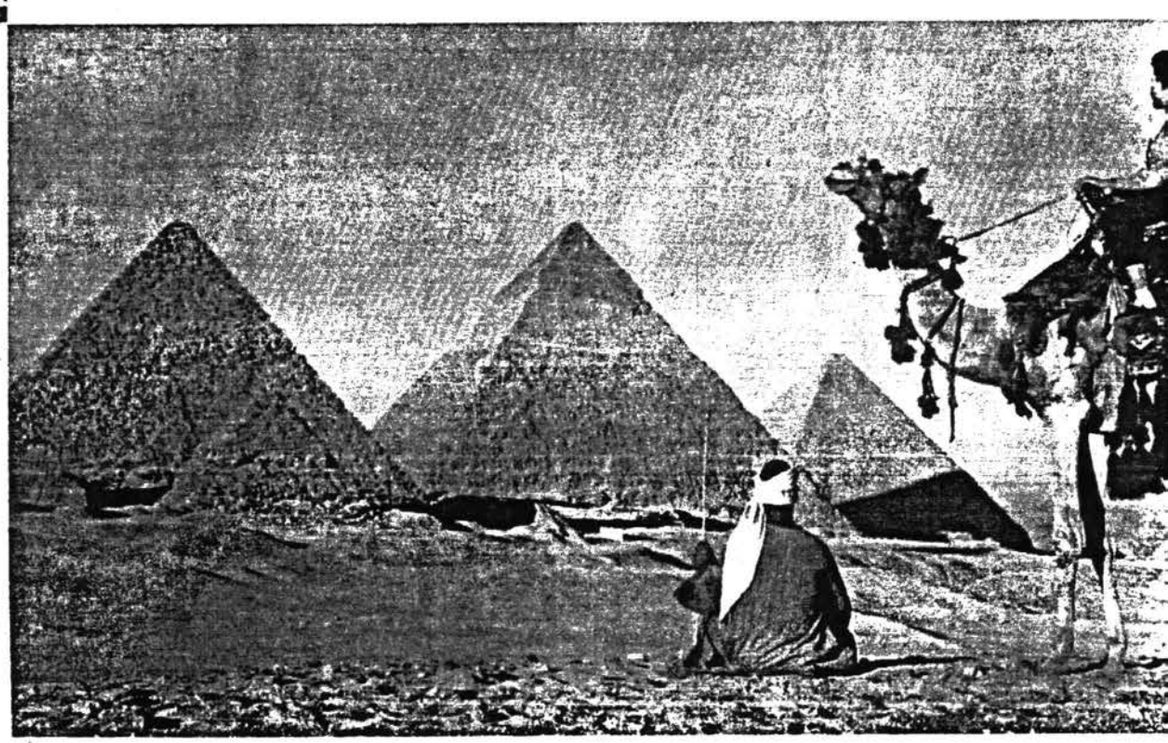
China Chow—homebound? "I don't know," sighs the v actress. "I know some people who are going to Hawaii, and s friends are going to New Zealand. But maybe I'll just end up at

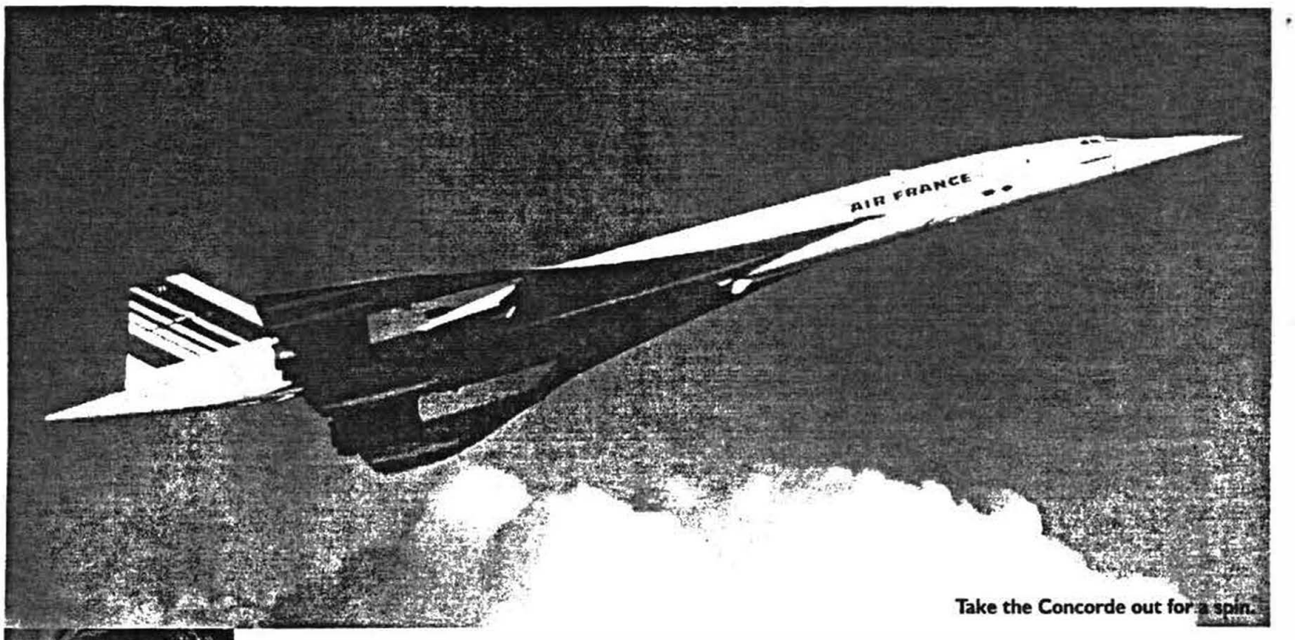
Indecision will hold back some of society's most dedicate but others hesitate to travel because of the risk that the world's

Big Tip

The best place to watch the unveiling of Cheops' restored golden peak during festivities at the base of the pyramids in Giza, Cairo, is from the terrace of the luxe Mena House Oberoi's gilded Churchill Suite. Too bad it's been booked since 1988.

Right: Revelers will ride to the pyramids on camelback for gala festivities there on New Year's Eve.





Take the Concorde out for a spin.



could suddenly go on the fritz. Beauty queen Gale Hayman, who regularly spends New Year's with her husband, Bill Haseltine, in Europe or India, has decided to stay Stateside, taking a house in Southampton instead. "We're bringing our cook from New York," Hayman reports, "and we're celebrating with friends. This year we didn't want to take a chance."

New York socialite Nina Griscom will also celebrate American style, in Palm Beach with her husband and daughter and a group of friends that includes Vera Wang and Arthur Becker. "I do have my flight reservation, which is something," she boasts.

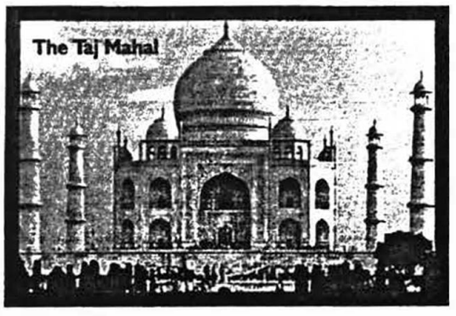
New mother Aerin Lauder Zinterhofer, of the cosmetics dynasty, has made plans to be in Palm Beach as well, but flight reservations are the least of her concerns. "I'll get excited about the New Year as long as I have a babysitter," she says.

Enticing travelers to remain in the U.S. has led its top resorts to come up with some outrageous and ingenious package deals to suit every reveler's whim. Casa Palmero in Pebble Beach is offering use of the entire 24-room estate for a three-night stay spanning the holiday and will include tee times for 24 players on the area's famous golf courses. For the $200,000 asking price, they'll throw in spa treatments and a multi-course dinner for 48. Meanwhile, the Bernardus Lodge in Carmel Valley, where rooms are running $5,000 to $6,000, will ply guests with wine from their vineyard and many, many more to taste, as well as Kiehl's products, down comforters and fireplaces in the suites.

If you're in the mood for something a little louder, another solution: Spring for concert tickets. Sean "Puffy" Combs has rented out the Miami Arena for the night, and it can seat up to 16,500, while Barbra Streisand's concert for 10,000 at the MGM Hotel in Las Vegas has nearly sold out with tickets running as high as $2,500. Patti Smith will rock New York's Bowery Ballroom.

But if you've got *really* adventurous friends, Kevin Delaney, of Delaney Snowboarding, will train the lot in the techniques that made him the International Snowboard Federation's overall world champion. Meet Delaney on one of his favorite mountains, Copper Mountain in Colorado or Mammoth in California, for a three-day course, or he'll send a staffer to a mountain near you.

"I'd like to tell you that I'm going to be in New Zealand and then I'll Concorde to London for a second millennium celebration and then on to New York for a third—what a night that would be," muses Kevin Spacey. "But I'll probably just stay in New York." He won't be alone. Over 1.5 million people are expected to pack Times Square and another billion people worldwide are expected to watch them on TV.



Big Flight

A stop at the Taj is on Intrav's route for a privately chartered Concorde tour of the world. For $75,000 participants will spend 18 days traveling at twice the speed of sound and landing in some of the season's hot spots, including Honolulu, Sydney, Hong Kong, Delhi, the pyramids of Egypt and Kenya.

Entertainment runs hot and cold: At left, the view on Hawaii's island of Lanai, or on the slope with Delaney Snowboarding Camp, below.

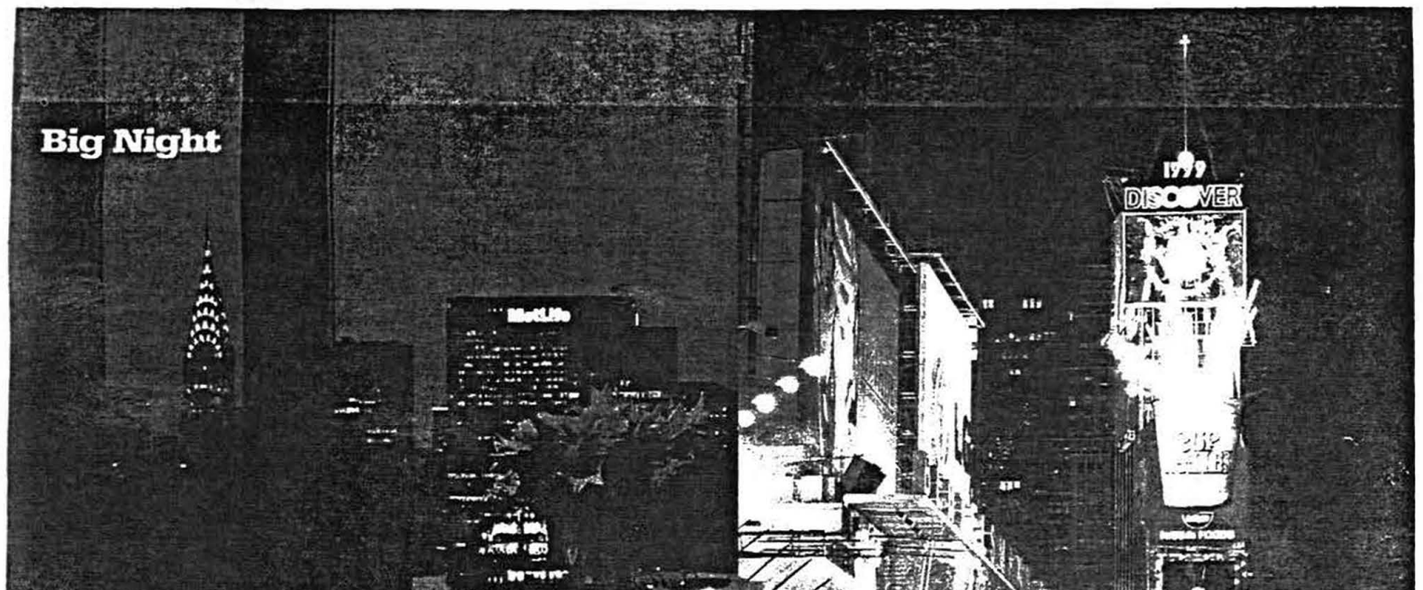


"I'll get excited about the new year as long as I have a babysitter," says Zinterhofer.



Aerin Zinterhofer: Off to Palm Beach.

Big Night



The view from the Presidential Suite at New York's Four Seasons Hotel, and Times Square, a rendezvous point for 1.5 million, at right.

FOUR SEASONS COURTESY OF FOUR SEASONS HOTEL; TIMES SQUARE JERRY DRIENDL/FPG INTL; BENING, ALEC MCEACHIN/CORBIS; CASA PALERMO COURTESY OF PEBBLE BEACH CO.; LEGUIZAMO, GREGORY

"Spending the night quietly makes the most sense," says Bening.

Annette Bening: Keeping it simple

A fantastic view of it all is the least of the amenities offered by New York's Four Seasons Hotel in its Presidential Suite package, up for auction to benefit the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. The starting bid is $75,000 for a five-night stay, which includes the use of a limo and a dinner for eight prepared by a private chef and served in the suite's dining room. Not to be outdone, the Ritz-Carlton in San Francisco is offering up use of a chauffeured Jaguar, 24-hour butler, daily massage and vineyard tours, during a three-night stay in the Presidential Suite for $100,000.

In Paris, however, you can party like the Sun King—that's what Greek billionaire Tino Goulandris will be doing. He's rented the Petit Trianon at Versailles for his party, but the doors of the main palace will also swing open for a separate party for 1,600 guests, who will pay $2,500 a head, and are encouraged to dress like French royalty for the occasion.

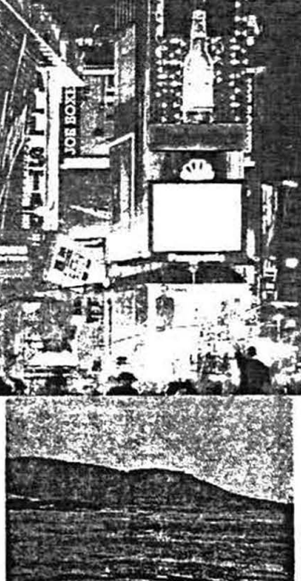
For something a little less regal, four million glittering and feather-bedecked people are expected to take to the streets of Rio de Janeiro and the beaches at Ipanema and Copacabana, swinging the city into full Carnivale mode.

The Savoy, one of London's grandest hotels, will celebrate with a different kind of decadence. The first reservation inquiries came in the 1970s for its party, which will boast free-flowing Château Mouton Rothschild and Château d'Yquem in rare vintages.

Sofia Coppola, who has just had a wine named after her by her father's Niebaum-Coppola winery in the Napa Valley, will go right to the source. "Most likely I'll be up at the winery," she says, "where there's lots of wine and pasta." The real party, in Coppola's imagination, will be wherever Prince is, she suspects.

Marcia Kilgore, creator of New York's popular Bliss Spa, is planning her own soirée at a new apartment overlooking the East River in the hip DUMBO waterfront district of Brooklyn. She's hoping that guests can watch the fireworks from there and toast each other with Dom Perignon. Kilgore, whose business was recently bought by LVMH, may have an easier time putting her hands on the the luxury giant's top-tiered champagne than others.

For those with a taste for the finest but who lack corporate connections, Christie's is hosting a series of auctions in the months leading up to the big event, not only for prime champagnes, but ports, Madeiras





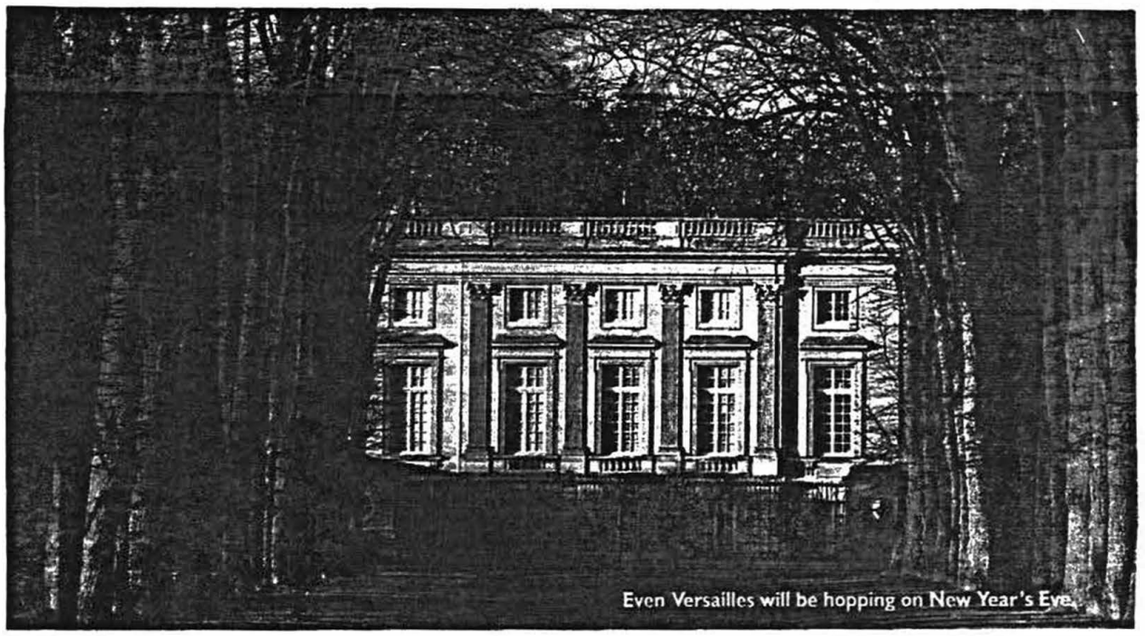
Left: Part of the package at Casa Palermo in Pebble Beach. Below left: John Leguizamo.

Big Ball

The climax of the New Year's Eve celebrations in Times Square will come when the new ball, designed by Waterford Crystal, drops down its 77-foot flagpole at midnight. Waterford describes the ball—which has already been unveiled, toasted and toured around town—as a geodesic sphere that is six feet in diameter and made of more than 500 pieces of crystal arranged into seven-point stars, to represent the seven continents.







Even Versailles will be hopping on New Year's Eve.

"I'd love to tell you that I'm going to be in New Zealand," says Spacey. "I'll probably just stay in New York."

Kevin Spacey: Hometown boy

and cigars. Some bottles of 1900 vintage Bordeaux will go for an estimated $4,000 to $6,000, according to Christie's Edward Brooks, while a rare limited-edition humidor of Opus X cigars from the Dominican Republic might pull in an estimated $20,000. With regard to his own cellar selections, "I'm going to be making some impetuous choices," Brooks says.

Not so for Jacqueline de Ribes, who has been known to dance the night away in Paris. "I've never been a New Year's Eve party girl," she insists. "I hate all the noise, and this year will be more cozy than ever—a fireplace ambience, not torrents of champagne."

That means more bubbly for the hordes of caterers and event planners scrambling for the stuff. It's almost as hard as find as a waitstaff, a valet parking company or a band.

As if those challenges weren't enough, Jeffrey Best, an event planner in Los Angeles, had to come up with five and a half tons of sand and 20 belly dancers to work a Moroccan-themed gala in Orange County as well. "Waiters who usually charge $25 an hour are charging $125 with an eight-hour minimum," he says. "Snake charmers who are usually charge $300 are $1,000, and belly dancers who are usually $250 are asking $1,000 an hour.

"All the tents are gone, all the generators are gone, all the bands are gone," he concludes, "but if you want to get ripped off, you can still have a party."

Betsy Bloomingdale will avoid the catering conundrum altogether and hit the kitchen. "I'm going to be at home for the millennium with all my family," she says. "We always have champagne, caviar and chili. It's homemade, from a family recipe."

According to Alyse Sobel, another Los Angeles event planner, creating a homey atmosphere is a priority among her clients. "No one's doing black tie," she reports. "They want to create an atmosphere that's low-key, and they want their guests to be comfortable." Another trend is to find ways to include children at parties that are traditionally for adults only. Sobel has created a separate decor and entertainment for the adults and for children at a private party for 150 in a Hollywood home.

Andre Balazs, owner of the Mercer Hotel in New York and the Chateau Marmont in Los Angeles, is also taking a low-key approach to the holiday. "My theory is that everyone wants to go home and get away from it all," he says. "We're deliberately not doing anything." Balazs plans a true getaway and will see the new millennium from a beach far away, he says.

For some, however, there's no place like home. Bill Blass for one will be tucked away at his country house with his dog Barnaby when the clock strikes midnight. "I shy away from big parties," Annette Bening concurs. "Spending that night quietly with my family makes the most sense. Simple and quiet."

In Washington, D.C., Hillary Clinton and Sally Quinn will play dueling hostess at the two biggest parties in town. Hillary is planning a major bash with a star-studded cast of performers on the Mall, to be followed by supper at the White House and more reveling in a heated tent on the South lawn where guests will be invited to party down until 6 a.m.

Quinn, who took a break from her annual New Year's Eve party

Big Deal



The spread at Marriott's Desert Springs Resort

Marriott's Desert Springs Resort and Spa has come up with the simplest way to entertain everyone. Rent out the entire 400-acre resort, its two golf courses, 25 tennis courts, five swimming pools and 13 restaurants for a two-night stay and they'll throw in unlimited spa treatments, a lobster dinner, party with three live bands and champagne brunch for all your guests. They'll even pick you up in a private jet, all for only $1,999,999.

last year, says she decided to revive the tradition after getting a slew of SOS phone calls from desperate friends. "I wasn't going to do it," she admits. "I didn't want to get into competition with everyone's grand millennium plans. But then about three months ago, everyone started calling saying, 'We don't want to rent an island, charter a yacht or lease a castle. We just want to stay home.'"

Quinn's regular guests include British Ambassador Christopher Meyer and his wife, Catherine, Andrea Mitchell, Federal Reserve Board Chairman Alan Greenspan and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright. "If people have lots of fabulous plans, that's great," says Quinn. "I don't believe in the millennium anyway."

And she won't be bothered if journalist friends like Mitchell, who has been put on standby to work New Year's Eve, have to drop out at the last minute "because of the potential of a major meltdown."

To work or not to work is the question facing many whose company and services the elite count on. "All my friends are going to Bali," says salon owner Laurent D., "but I'm booked like crazy, and I just bought a loft in New York, so I'll be working."

Besides coordinating the Metropolitan Opera's annual party for the night, Bill Tansey, one of New York's premier party planners, is setting up a private dinner in a tower overlooking Manhattan and pressing his clients to make their decisions regarding entertainment. "After June 15 the prices doubled," Tansey says, though those rates were high to begin with. "There's a prominent family who called in the spring and said they wanted to do something big for the millennium," he says, "but in the end they just couldn't afford it—and these are people you would assume could entertain in any way they chose.

"It depends on how badly they want it," Tansey concludes. "Some have a mission and a bank account; others are content to spend a quiet night with friends." Tansey counts himself in the second camp, although New Year's Eve will find him, too, working.

Master of French cuisine Alain Ducasse, who has received thousands of calls for reservations at his eponymous three-star Paris restaurant, has decided to close his doors for the night—at least in Paris. His Louis XV in Monte Carlo (also boasting three-stars) will be open, and Ducasse himself will be in the kitchen. Despite the fact that neither the menu nor the prices has been set, the dining room has been booked for nearly a year. New Year's Eve will also find Los Angeles celebrity chef Wolfgang Puck working away. "I'm going to be working as always," he says, "but hopefully I'll be drinking champagne, and then having wild sex."

Richard Branson, owner of Virgin Atlantic Airways, will kick back in the Virgin Islands, and has decided to ground all the company's flights for the night to give his employees time off as well. The doors of Chez Panisse, Alice Waters' famous Berkeley, California, restaurant, will also remain shut for the night, but Waters will fête her customers for the whole week prior with a menu re-creating the cuisine of Paris circa 1900.

Throwing millennium parties before the actual millennium, in fact, has become a huge trend. Hot London florist Stephen Woodhams said he's hardly had any requests for big bashes on New Year's Eve. Instead, many of his clients are holding their big parties as early as October. "I'm going to several myself," Woodhams reports. "No one can decide what they're going to do on New Year's Eve. I think there are just going to be all these sad people roaming the streets wondering what parties they can go to."

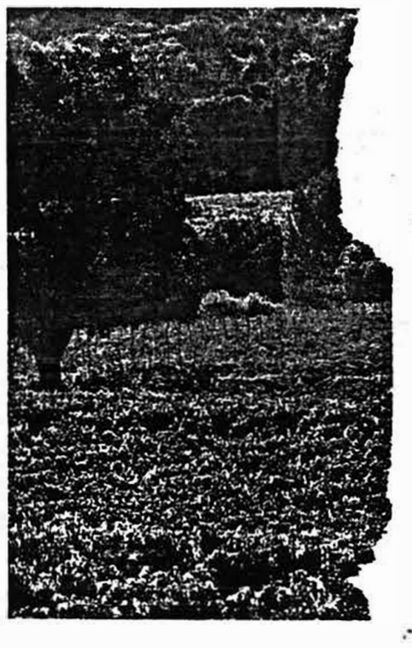
Maybe they'll get tired of wandering and check in to the Four Seasons Hotel in London. The hotel has created the ultimate millennium-free zone: a suite complete with a pre-1950s style menu, pre-Fifties black and white movies available—and total soundproofing. ●



Dom Perignon will be in demand.

Big Bubbles

For a classic look on the big night, stick to D.P. Other champagne bottles are going in for designer makeovers: Jean Paul Gaultier has laced up Piper-Heidsieck's $100 bottle in red vinyl, at right, and the house of Christian Dior has teamed up with Champagne Pommery to create a silver isothermal magnum-sized backpack for transportation of its bottle. Veuve Clicquot has gotten in on the act, giving bottles of the 1990 vintage La Grand Dame champagne a slick treatment: Each is packed in a Lucite case with Louis Vuitton leather handles.



The Bernardus Lodge's vineyard in Carmel Valley

Big Night

Mick Jagger: Setting sail for Mustique



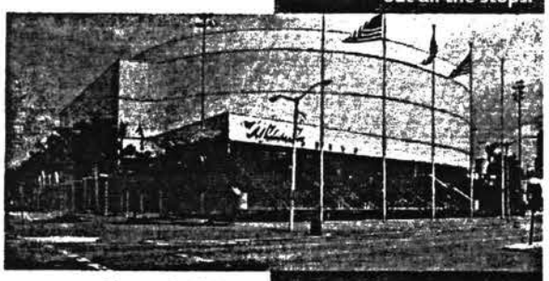




Marcia Kilgore: Putting on a party



Sydney will pull out all the stops.



Above: Puffy's party palace the Miami Arena, and the host, at right.





San Francisco's Ritz-Carlton Hotel



Sofia Coppola: Get thee to a winery.



Washington D.C.: Site of the showdown



"I'll be making myself a vim 'n' vodka," says Everett. "Everything's been booked months in advance."

Rupert Everett: Home—alone?

Woman's Day
Nov. 1999

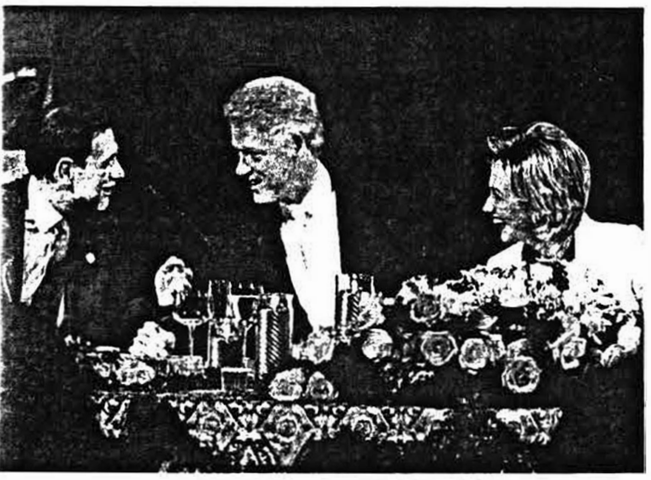


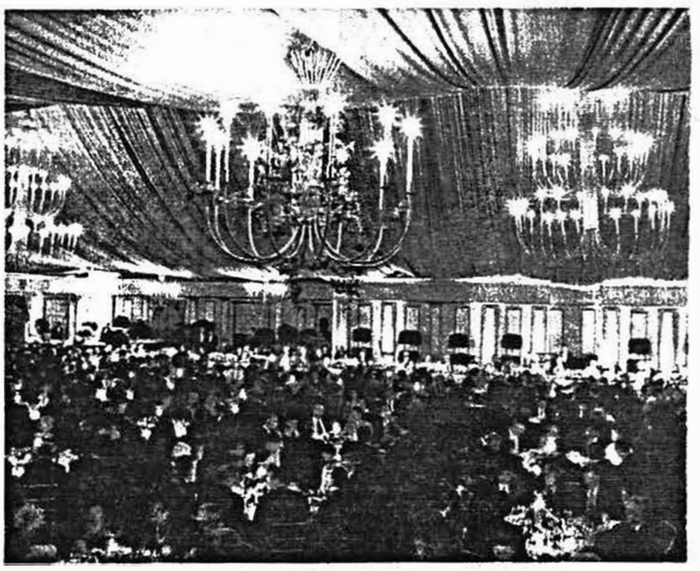
Capricia Penavic Marshall

WHITE HOUSE SOCIAL SECRETARY



Capricia Penavic Marshall has been the White House Social Secretary since the fall of 1997. She oversees every event inside the White House and on its grounds. ***Above***: Marshall and the First Lady. ***Above right***: NATO Commemorative Dinner held in April. ***Left***: Marshall with President and Mrs. Clinton. ***Below***: The First Couple and NATO Secretary General Dr. Javier Solana.





Are there any notable events that you are planning for the holidays, specifically the millennium?

Mrs. Clinton feels it is important that the nation's capital celebrate the changing of time with a national celebration. It will be a joint effort between the White House, the Smithsonian, the National Park Service and a host of other institutions. On New Year's Eve, everyone will gather on the Mall, then move into the streets of Washington, D.C., where there will be rows upon rows of food vendors. Then there will be a parade back to the Mall with an extravaganza featuring a variety of acts, as well as a film about our country. After the countdown, there will be laser lights and fireworks. The whole thing will be very grand and spectacular, but it will also be safe and friendly. Most New Year's Eve parties are about adults. This will focus on the family.

What is a typical day at work like?

There isn't a typical day of work here in the social office! I can get a call at 11 P.M. that the President will need something planned for 8 A.M. the next day. I try to get into the office by 7 or 7:15 A.M. Often, we have events occurring simultaneously. Mrs. Clinton may have an event in the East Room, while the President is in the Rose Garden. Sometimes events are within two hours of one another. Sometimes I don't leave until 12 at night.

What advice would you give someone who is planning a party of his or her own?

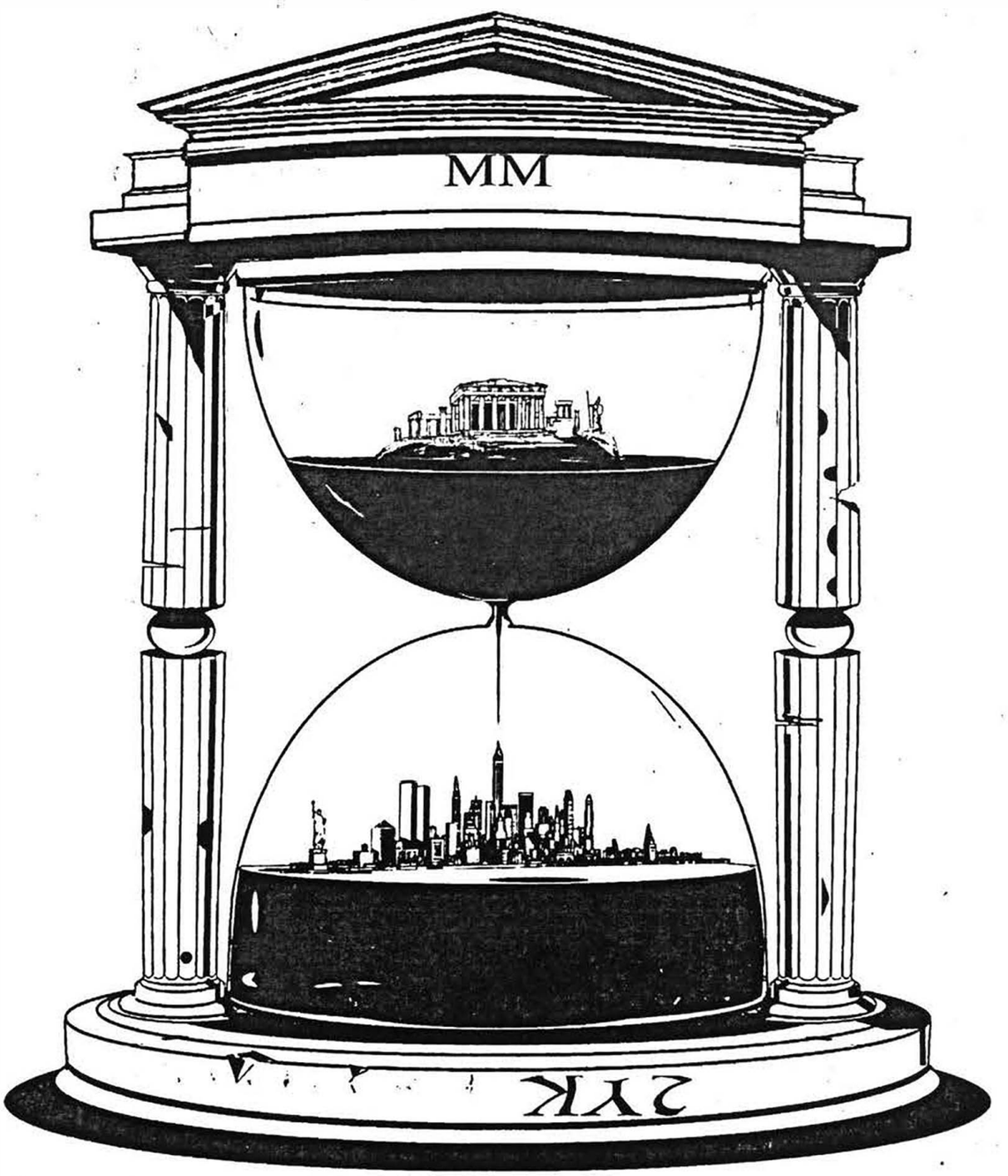
The greatest lesson I ever learned from Mrs. Clinton is to keep it simple. You want your guests to feel comfortable. If they feel relaxed, they will enjoy the event. If your party is simple yet elegant, people will enjoy it more. —*Amanda Rock*

The Washington Post

OUTLOOK

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1999

The Moment?



BY ISTVAN BANYAI FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

We've Already Missed It.

By JAMES RESTON JR.

It is abundantly clear that this country has already missed out on the glorious opportunity that was the Millennium. In the endless blather about Y2K, in the correctly or incorrectly spelled commercialization of the word, in the trivial topic of whether the new age begins in 2000 or 2001, in the worry about champagne supplies and the focus on the big bashes in Times Square and on the Mall, there will be no meaningful millennial experience for the American people. The failure of imagination is total and across the board: from the political leadership to the scholars, from the priests to the media. Look abroad if you want something for the mind or the soul or the heart. Go to England or Rome or Israel or even Canada.

The turning of a millennium should be a time of grand reckoning. Symbolic dates call for symbolic acts, and these dates and acts can acquire real, concrete meaning if they are used as an excuse—and an opportunity—for innovative thinking. What better reason than the passing of 1,000 years in the calendar will we ever have for grand dreams about the future and for a solemn reevaluation of the past? Coming to terms with the past can position a society for the future; it frees the imagination and allows us to dream.

This millennial season should have been the time for American artists and visionaries, builders and thinkers to take center stage, but there has been no effort to mobilize them. As a result, the wealthiest, most powerful nation on Earth will leave little permanent behind to mark the moment. American politicians speak as if the millennium were a decaffeinated Bicentennial, with cheap renamings of existing projects as "millennial." To official Washington this seems to be a time yet again to boast about American political institutions. Talk about Old Glory and the Declaration of Independence is safe and palatable, even if it really has nothing to do with a 1,000-year block of time.

Potentially, the millennium is the greatest teaching moment of our

The Need for Markers to Greet the Dawn

MILLENNIUM, *From B1*

philosophers, the poets and the priests who might guide and inspire us? We have a president whose personal disgrace and corruption so degraded the level of polite conversation in America that he can scarcely be expected to transport the nation through a glorious and uplifting moment of history. We have no minister of culture or influential endowments for the arts and humanities to fill Clinton's vacuum; and Hillary Clinton, who was supposed to be in charge of America's millennium and launched the White House Millennium Council to "encourage a wide variety of projects and events that celebrate our historical and cultural legacy," is now preoccupied with sewers in Schenectady, N.Y.

A steely-eyed look at the last 1,000 years of American history, as a whole, might have been part of our millennial experience. Look at what a "divine" institution is doing. The Roman Catholic Church is engaged in a process it calls historical purification as part of its solemn celebration. For its spiritual well-being at this jubilee year, and to position itself for the Third Millennium, the Church has intentionally revisited the darkest episodes of its past: the cases of Galileo, Jan Hus and Joan of Arc as well as its sorry record of acquiescence in the antisemitism during World War II.

Couldn't this country use a touch of historical purification itself? Would it be so difficult for America to confront its own dark side, slavery and the genocide of the American Indian, and to find some mechanism, at the year 2000, to absorb those scourges once and for all into our national consciousness? Perhaps a Japanese-style apology is not the American way, but, with a little will and imagination, some form of consequential recognition and acknowledgment could be found.

Several weeks ago, we had a good example of an acknowledgment that can lead to renewal and resolution: the groundbreaking for a museum on the Mall devoted to the American Indian. This may in fact be the most important single millennial act of this year, since, after all, 600 of the past 1,000 years in America belong to Native Americans. But no one thought to tie the event to the millennium, and the Clinton administration has made no effort to include Native American in its celebration activities. A museum to the American Indian on the Mall honors the victims and recognizes with admiration and respect the richness of the native culture and the diversity of the peoples who were destroyed. That is an opportunity to teach, and to lay to rest long-standing animosities.

To view our history and world history through a 1,000-year lens forces the mind toward new and original pathways. But precious little scholarship on the millennium has emerged from the American academic community. The books that have been published on the millennium are, for the most part, few and lightweight. With the exception of U.S. News's special edition in August about the year 1000, the news magazines and four major television networks have focused on the century rather than the millennium, since their craft is photo-driven.

Even the Christian clergy seems oddly unwilling to draw attention to its own holy text, since the anxieties about an apocalypse and an end time are embedded in the last book of the New Testament. Certainly, the church has its own debate about when Christ was born—and hence when to mark the 2,000th anniversary of that event. But the widespread recognition of this year offers an opportunity right now that the church is largely missing. The Book of Revelation is often seen as an embarrassment, or worse, as a provocation. The Eastern Orthodox Church does not even read Revelation from the pulpit, because the book is open to such diverse interpretation. In the Catholic Church, the book is part of the three-year liturgical cycle of Sunday readings—and that third year does not fall in the year 2000.

Revelation's hopeful passages in Chapter 21, which promise that "a New Jerusalem will come down from God . . . and God shall wipe away all tears . . . " may occasionally be evoked in the next few months. But how about the lore of Gog and Magog, the Antichrist and the False Prophet, the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse, the Seven Seals, the Mark of the Beast, 666 or the Whore of Babylon? It is as if American clergymen hesitate to address these wild allegories, because they fear more incarnations of David Koresh or Heaven's Gate. The fascinating parables of the Book of Revelation, it appears, will be left largely to the novelists.

With no guides and mentors here, we have to look elsewhere. Great Britain leads the way in preparations for the millennium. In 1992, that nation established a commission of its best minds to define what the millennium was, how Britain should mark the occasion, how its millennial activities might be paid for. Britain has treated the coming of the year 2000 as an occasion to spruce up the whole nation. By tapping the proceeds of its national lottery, it is offering every little village an opportunity to refurbish a local theater or park or historical site and make that refurbishment a millennium contribution. Prime Minister Tony Blair has already given a millennial lecture at Oxford University. The Millennium Dome, bigger than our Georgia Dome in Atlanta and devoted solely to education, is nearly complete at Greenwich. A millennium seed bank has been established to gather the seeds of the world into a single place to demonstrate the biodiversity of the world at this magical time. The Royal Mail has issued a series of millennium stamps that commemorate the inventors, the explorers, the entertainers, the workers and the scientists of British history. And Britain talks comfortably about giving its people a "millennium experience."

What is the United States doing? No buildings. No stamps. No presidential lecture at Harvard. No innovative or visionary ideas. America in the *fin de siécle* of the 1890s did far better with a century's end than we're doing with the end of the millennium. Then there was an explosion of plays, art, music and books, including Edward Bellamy's smash success, "Looking Backward." There was the monumental glory of Chicago's 1893 World's Fair and the spirit of inventiveness characterized by Thomas Edison and Alexander Graham Bell.

Perhaps it's not too late. The precious little dispute over whether the new millennium actually begins this coming January or the January of 2001 may house an opportunity. It gives us another 15 months to do something worthwhile.

Here are a few eleventh-hour suggestions.

The United States is the only major Western country without a cabinet-level minister of culture or national heritage. Only in the South of William Faulkner and Thomas Wolfe are Americans secure in talking about their literature and their regional identity. Other regions of the country have as rich a literary and artistic tradition; they just don't know how to talk about it. In the new millennium, if this country is to stand for anything more than its wealth and democratic ideal, Americans need to become comfortable with the word "culture."

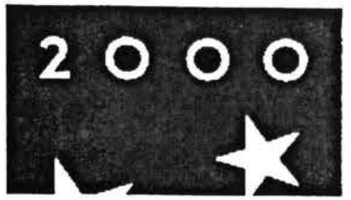
The millennium could be viewed as a kind of bar mitzvah or confirmation for a youthful nation that must blossom into a mature civilization in the next millennium. In the 1960s, France showed what could be done for the creative life of a nation when a figure of great artistic stature, Andre Malraux, became its minister of culture. An American figure with Malraux's stature and Malraux's mandate could teach all sections of the country how to do that and could teach his or her own president how better to promote American culture, without it sounding undemocratic. William Styron or Arthur Miller or Reynolds Price or Eudora Welty come to mind as candidates for the job.

We can forget about President Clinton as our coxswain for this boat ride, but Congress could play a role. In the year 2000, it might hold the occasional historical debate and thus fulfill its calling as an educational as well as a political body. This is the time to revisit America's Founding Myth, for instance. In 1892, Congress designated Oct. 12 as Columbus Day since Columbus "discovered" America, and in 1968 it decreed that Columbus Day be a federal holiday. But Columbus did not discover America; he discovered a few Caribbean islands, and then set about to enslave the native population. Consequently, Columbus Day, now freighted with embarrassment and misinformation, has become a sop to the Italian-American community, and is the least widely observed federal holiday we have.

It has been established, through carbon dating, that a far earlier European presence in North America came with the Viking explorer Leif Ericsson in the year 1000 A.D. Canada has created a national park at L'Anse aux Meadows in Newfoundland to commemorate the site of the first Viking settlement. And it is widely accepted that the third Viking voyage was led by a woman, Gudrid Thorbjarnardottir, the wife of Leif's younger brother, who for a time lived on the island of Manhattan and gave birth to the first known European-American child.

Congress has acknowledged Ericsson's claim; it should now debate a resolution to broaden and invigorate the current federal holiday as Discoverers Day. Ericsson and other explorers of the Americas, Ponce de León, Hernando de Soto, John Smith, Francisco Vasquez de Coronado, John Wesley Powell, Merriwether Lewis and William Clark, the Polynesians who settled Hawaii, Sacagawea and, perhaps, Thorbjarnardottir herself, should take their places alongside Columbus in a wider celebration of exploration and the pioneering American spirit. And the official holiday should embrace the present-day explorers, the astronauts and astronomers, who are giving us a vastly expanded concept of humankind's place in the universe and cosmos. NASA should name a space shuttle mission after Ericsson next year to draw attention to the shift.

It is time to stop the silly talk and to have a real national conversation about the meaning of the millennium for America. In this fleeting moment, the past and future are majestically and magically intertwined. It should not be allowed to slip past us in a champagne fog or in the daze of a temperamental computer screen.



What Is Going On?

The White House Millennium Council was created with the theme "Honor the Past—Imagine the Future." Highlights of its projects follow:

The president and first lady have begun hosting **Millennium Evenings** at the White House—a series of lectures and cultural events with scholars and artists that are accessible to the public via cybercast over the Internet and broadcast via satellite.

In coordination with the Department of Transportation, the council plans to recognize more than 2,000 existing and new **Millennial Trails**, supporting the development of trails through new federal and state funding, and private partnerships.

As one of its **International Millennial Events**, the council is encouraging the creation of sister-city relationships with communities overseas.

With its **Save America's Treasures** project, the council plans to stimulate private efforts to preserve our national heritage and history. The National Trust for Historic Preservation is providing leadership by inviting individuals, foundations and corporations to participate.

The council has created **Millennium for Kids** Web sites, including an "Inside the White House" newsletter, an EPA Explorers' Club and FEMA for Kids.

—compiled by Outlook

Source: The Millennium Council Web site at www.whitehouse.gov/Initiatives/Millennium/index.shtml

Millennium, Schmillennium

Demand Low for Highest-Priced New Year's Bashes

By SUSAN LEVINE
Washington Post Staff Writer

Three nights at the St. Regis Washington, with airfare and posh lodging for 12, limousine service, in-room massages, a cooking class, symphony tickets and a seven-course dinner—$110,000. Two nights in the Pentagon City Ritz-Carlton's presidential suite, with his-and-her 18-karat gold watches, a chauffeured Jaguar, daily salon service and the obligatory seven-course dinner and ballroom extravaganza—$100,000.

The run of the entire 40-room Tabard Inn near Dupont Circle, with a private party and the feast and live bands to go with it—$50,000. An "Evening of a Lifetime" at the Kennedy Center, where rooftop patrons dine and dance and receive "special commemorative gifts." Only $2,000 a person.

Looking for the bash to end all bashes this New Year's Eve? Apparently not.

With rare exceptions, the most lavish, over-the-top enticements to greet the new millennium in style are going begging across Washington and its suburbs. Only 74 days before the epochal night, the priciest promotions have few takers, and rooms and restaurants remain widely available—to the disappointment of their marketers.



BY MICHAEL ROBINSON-CHAVEZ—THE WASHINGTON POST

The oenophile's New Year's Eve dream dinner at Sam and Harry's will cost $19,999.99 for four.

The bids "just weren't as great as we thought they would be," conceded Jeremiah Cohen, co-owner of the Tabard Inn, which has opted to throw a more typical New Year's Eve dinner

See PARTIES, *A8, Col. 1*

PARTIES, *From A1*

celebration since the rental bids it received came in well below the $50,000 minimum.

Rather than folks splurging with abandon—the common prediction a few months ago—they're being more careful. "Ultimately," Cohen said, "a lot of people would rather spend that money on their kid's college education or a longer vacation."

Donna Desormeaux, spokeswoman for the D.C. Convention and Visitors Bureau, sees a more fundamental problem with such offerings as a $12,000 spa celebration for 40 in Bethesda or a $75,000 Potomac River cruise (sans food).

"The average Joe doesn't have this kind of money," she said.

The convention-size New Year's Eve events, with thousands of tickets, began serious advertising just this month. And those at the big-name hotels and restaurants insist they'll toast a full house when bubbly starts flowing. Potential revelers are merely shopping around, they explain, or just beginning to focus on what they really want to do that night.

"People are making their plans real slow," said Katherine Kerley, who helps handle publicity for the St. Regis Washington, the Westin Grand and the Westin Fairfax. As of last week, the Westin Fairfax had sold just three of its $1,299 "Y2K" packages and not one of its $1,599 "Sweet '99" packages.

Now that the White House has begun releasing details of its three-day celebration on the Mall, Kerley and others think reservations will pick up. But Kerley does worry that expectations about this New Year's—"The Last Great Party of the Millennium" reads one typical promo—are almost counterproductive.

"There's so much pressure to do something awesome, you just don't do anything at all," she said.

Strange times indeed, and sociologist Bronislaw Misztal predicts they one day will be analyzed, not at all favorably, for the extreme marketing frenzy and commercial hype. "All of this is profoundly irrational," declared the Catholic University professor, who studies social movements and the political and moral effects of rapid change.

To Misztal, it is scant consolation that no one has yet shelled out 100 grand for the Ritz-Carlton package, because some couples are paying $3,000 to spend New Year's at the Hay-Adams Hotel across from the White House, or more than $2,800 for dinner and a single night's lodging at the Inn at Little Washington near Warrenton.

Come January, he said, "there will be lots of consumer counseling."

A few soirees already are being modified. The Kennedy Center several days ago "refocused" its New Year's Eve plans. Instead of $2,000 a person, partygoers will pay $250 to $350 each to dine on the terrace and then repair to the grand foyer for dancing. Tickets to any performances are, of course, extra.

Millennium or not, survey after survey has forecast a definite public apathy. A poll this summer by Blockbuster said 45 percent of those questioned intended to be home on New Year's Eve. The Travel Industry Association took a head count and found that more than 60 percent of Americans had no plans to leave town for the holiday. A third poll, released last week by the light-bulb company in charge of that big ball that drops in Times Square, noted that 43 percent of Americans would rather stay home and watch television on Dec. 31.

"I'm not going anywhere," professor Misztal said emphatically.

Even Desormeaux, of the convention bureau, confessed: "Personally, I'm no big New Year's Eve person. . . . I plan to be home or with friends."

No one doubts, however, that intense celebrations will occur, whether it's the two women hosting 60 guests aboard the double-decked Miss Christin riverboat for $7,000, or the black-tie merrymakers assembled in three ballrooms at the Willard Inter-Continental Hotel.

"If you look at everything that's included, our price is very, very reasonable," a Willard spokeswoman said of packages that run $2,000 or more a couple, depending on such

details as whether the glass is full of Dom Perignon or Moet & Chandon.

The entire MCI Center is slated to become a "Millennial City," with more than 11,000 party-maniacs paying $199 to $349 apiece to dance, eat and drink on concourse after concourse after concourse. With enough bands to launch a new record label, indoor fireworks and a time-zone-by-time-zone countdown to midnight, organizer Mike Harrigan at Shack Events is confident all tickets will go—though only a few hundred have been purchased since sales started Oct. 1.

Several blocks south, the more high-minded and high-priced "Party With a Purpose" will take over the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center. The purpose: to raise $1 million for 10 Washington area charities, from the Capital Children's Museum to the Congressional Award Foundation. And the party: for $500 or $2,000, the majority of which is tax deductible, nearly 3,500 hoped-for guests will dine on international cuisines and watch headliner Roger Daltrey—yes, The Who's Daltrey—lead a classical orchestra, rock band and gospel choir that all perform under the name British Rock Symphony.

Giles Beeker, the trade center vice president, knows he has competition and bemoans all the "overcommercialized" hype. Yet he can't help but offer some of his own. "One of the best events in the world that night," he calls his production.

Not every bank-account-draining affair is still advertising, however. A New Year's Eve dinner for four at Sam and Harry's will set patrons back $19,999.99, yet the downtown restaurant already has credit cards holding three reservations.

It will be worth every penny, promises Bill Wernick, the restaurant's vice president, with a magnum of Pol Roger Couvé 2000 champagne and bottles of wines of such quality that superlatives do not do them justice. "The finest white burgundy ever produced," he exulted. "The most wonderful Sauterne you can find." Cognac of a 1900 vintage.

"It's all about the wines," Wernick said, but rest assured that for this equivalent of a house down payment, folks will eat well, too. For nearly four hours, they will feast on Beluga caviar, Scottish smoked salmon, Swedish sea scallops, Maine lobster.

Wernick began this ultimate oenophile's search 18 months ago and expects the dinner will be great fun. Said he of the evening's prospects, "I'm a little bit in awe."

THE RELIABLE SOURCE

By Lloyd Grove

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1999

Arm-Twisting To the Millennium

Will Smith may have clout in Hollywood, but he got a sharp lesson in power Washington-style this week when his people sent the wrong signals about his participation in "America's Millennium," the White House-sponsored New Year's celebration on the Mall. Two weeks ago, White House organizers announced that Smith would serve as an emcee during the three-day mega-party produced by **Quincy Jones** and **George Stevens Jr.** But on Wednesday, when The Post's Susan Levine phoned the movie star's L.A. office, his manager, **James Lassiter**, wasn't thrilled. "Will was never confirmed as host," Lassiter insisted, while another of Smith's Hollywood reps—who didn't want to be identified—suggested that the White House had jumped the gun. Organizers were "a little overly ambitious," the rep claimed.



FILE PHOTO/BY BILL O'LEARY—THE WASHINGTON POST

Will he or won't he? Smith, not quite confirmed for New Year's.

That's when the interesting part began. When Levine phoned around to get to the bottom of this ambivalence, the staff of event chairwoman **Hillary Rodham Clinton** was caught by surprise. "It's the first I've heard" that Smith was not nailed down, said spokeswoman **Toby Graff**. Producer Jones's publicist sounded equally flummoxed.

We shudder to think what forces were brought to bear on whom in the ensuing seven hours. All we know is that **Marsha Berry**, the first lady's communications director, phoned Levine around 8 p.m. to let her know that Lassiter would soon be calling. "Will is genuinely enthusiastic about being there," Smith's manager gushed. "I'm sure Will is going to do anything Quincy wants him to do."

Washington Afro-American

October 8, 1999

SECTION: Vol. 108; No. 8; Pg. A1

LENGTH: 529 words

HEADLINE: Will Smith and Quincy Jones stars of White House millennium party

BODY:
Will Smith and Quincy Jones stars of White House millennium party

Washington, D.C. - A family-oriented celebration of the new millennium will be the focus of three days of activities on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. "America's Millennium" is free to the public and will begin on Dec. 31, 1999 and continue through Jan. 2, 2000. The celebration, which will highlight all that is best about America, is a cooperative effort of the White House Millennium Council, the National Park Service, the Smithsonian Institute and the National Park Foundation.

On Friday, Dec. 31, the Lincoln Memorial, the Washington Monument, and the U.S. Capitol will frame the celebration that will ring out the old millennium, and ring in the new.

President Clinton and the First Lady have asked Quincy Jones and George Stevens, Jr. to produce a spectacular "America's Millennium Gala."

Concluding with a "Midnight Moment;" Steven Spielberg to produce a short film with a score by John Williams for the occasion; and the Smithsonian Institution to organize "Millennium on Mall: Traditions and Tomorrow," a three-day festival for families and children, all with the help of the National Park Service.

The White House Millennium Council charged by the President and the First Lady with leading the nation in a celebration to "Honor the Past - Imagine the Future," drives the activities of "America's Millennium." These events will typify the goals of the Council, which are to educate, inspire and reflect on the creative spirit of America.

"America's Millennium Gala" produced by Quincy Jones and George Stevens Jr. will present a stirring show that will build toward an unforgettable "Midnight Moment" to mark the time when we pass the new century and new millennium. This will be the nation's commemoration of this milestone in human history. Stars in the arts and entertainment world will perform with an orchestra, along with the combined bands, choruses and marching units of the U.S. Armed Forces who will perform outside, in front of the Lincoln Memorial, as celebrants watch from the side of the Reflecting Pool. The entertainment will center on great American music of the century, choreographed to summarize in song and memory the ennobling achievements of our country.

A twenty-minute film, "American Spirit," by Steven Spielberg, will depict the highlights of the 20th century. John Williams is composing an original score that will be conducted live with the orchestra as the film is projected on huge outdoor screens. Inspired by Aaron Copeland's "Lincoln Portrait," the Spielberg film will have its world premiere at the Lincoln Memorial.

The "Midnight Moment" will light up the sky as our nation salutes the new century. Stars of the gala, choruses and celebrants on the Mall, will raise their voices in a rousing sing-a-long in the first hour of the new millennium. Over the course of the three days, the Smithsonian Institution will present, "Millennium on the Mall: Traditions and Tomorrows," with literature, entertainment, sports, sciences and technology.

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ETHNIC-GROUP: African American/Caribbean/African

LANGUAGE: English

LOAD-DATE: January 16, 2000

A Little Too Eager on That 2000 Gig

By SUSAN LEVINE
Washington Post Staff Writer

Only Tuesday, the White House Millennium Council and first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton announced who will help Washington and the nation ring in New Year 2000: Will Smith! Aretha Franklin! Chuck Berry! B.B. King!

But yesterday, while not quite singing the blues, organizers were acknowledging an unfortunate—and they hope momentary—mistake. The King of Blues, it turns out, is not yet confirmed for the "America's Millennium" spectacular being planned for the Mall. They want him, and he may be willing, but there's no ink on a contract.

The mixup over King began at Tuesday's news conference, when for the first time in months organizers provided details on the three-day celebration weekend. The trouble was, they weren't specific enough. Because most of the discussion was about the plans for Dec. 31—a show to be hosted by Smith, a made-for-the-millennium movie by Steven Spielberg, a techno-glitzy light display at the stroke of midnight—it seemed that performers such as Berry were set to appear that day, too.

They're not. Mr. Rock-and-Roll is to be on the Mall the afternoon of Jan. 1. The Queen of Soul, who's playing the Jacob Javits Center in New York on New Year's Eve, will not show until Jan. 2. As for King, he has engagements in the Memphis area Dec. 31 and New Year's Day and could arrive in Washington, if and when the glitch is straightened out, only on Jan. 2.

"It was the worst kind of mistake," said Richard Kurin, director of the Smithsonian Institution's Center for Folklife Programs and Cultural Studies, who's heading the planning for the many exhibits, concerts, lectures and demonstrations the Smithsonian intends to put on for those three days. He missed the news conference Tuesday because he was out of town, but much of his day yesterday was spent trying to resolve problems.

Paul McCarthy, executive director of the entity that is trying to coordinate everything among the White House, Smithsonian, National Park Service and National Park Foundation, also was trying to regain lost ground. He lamented that the very thing organizers wanted to avoid—confusion over details—happened.

"We'd prefer to come out with a comprehensive list of all the entertainers and the time slots they're in," he said.



FILE PHOTO

B.B. King has not been confirmed for "America's Millennium" on the Mall.

Not surprisingly, much is up in the air because the budget for the free weekend celebration is still so uncertain. The bills will be picked up by private donations, and organizers said this week that they have raised about half of their $12.5 million target. That amount will cover only the events on the Mall, however, not a companion festival on Constitution Avenue that is a cooperative effort with the city.

"What we're trying to do is plan for different levels of programs," Kurin said. "If we don't get that kind of money, we'll scale back."

On the music stage on the Mall—the major draw—Kurin wants Franklin, Berry, former Grateful Dead drummer Mickey Hart and other unannounced performers to do more than play. What if, he mused, they talked about what has influenced them in their music, and how soul or rock might change in the 21st century?

"It would be *tres* cool," Kurin said.

But with barely 90 days to go, time is growing short for booking other acts and contracting with vendors. The Smithsonian has received less than $1 million through the White House Millennium Council, Kurin said. Despite that, he's hopeful that all three days will be strong draws. "We're negotiating. What can I say?"

The first lady's press office, which is now handling inquiries on the event, said no timetable exists for releasing more information on the celebration. Filmmaker George Stevens Jr. and musician Quincy Jones are producing the Dec. 31 show at the Lincoln Memorial.

And as Stevens said Tuesday, "It's always a great mistake to tell people what you're going to do three months in advance."

Will Smith To Ring In New Year On Mall

Multimillion-Dollar Events Announced

By Susan Levine
Washington Post Staff Writer

Actor Will Smith will host Washington's ultimate party of '99, the multimillion-dollar New Year's Eve celebration on the Mall for which a who's who of rock, soul and blues music will sing backup, organizers announced yesterday.

"Just imagine for a moment," first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton began at a news conference that provided few new specifics of the free, morning-to-midnight event but much lyrical description of its atmosphere and purpose—"the music of our century rocking and rolling, swinging and soaring."

Some of those tunes will be belted out by Chuck Berry, Aretha Franklin, and B.B. King, who will perform during festivities that will stretch down the Mall and also for several blocks along Constitution Avenue.

Come evening, the spotlight will shift to the Lincoln Memorial, where Smith will lead a show to be produced by musician Quincy Jones and filmmaker George Stevens Jr. And in the century's final hour, as composer John Williams conducts an original orchestral score, an 18-minute movie by Steven Spielberg will highlight major events of the last 100 years before a high-tech sound and light display punctuates the first minute of 2000.

"It will be in the sky and it will be inspiring," Stevens said yesterday.

"America's Millennium," as the family-friendly extravaganza is billed, is being organized by the

See NEW YEAR'S, A17, Col. 1

New Year's Lineup of Performers Announced

NEW YEAR'S, From A1

White House Millennium Council, Smithsonian Institution, National Park Service and National Park Foundation. The city of Washington, which will mark its bicentennial as the nation's capital in 2000, is a partner in the planning.

The initial projection is for a turnout of 600,000 people. Only two gatherings on the Mall have been bigger: President Lyndon B. Johnson's 1965 inauguration and the 1976 bicentennial fireworks.

Already, the price tag has grown to $12.5 million from early estimates of $10 million. The total includes the lectures, demonstrations and performances that the Smithsonian will present from Dec. 31 through Jan. 2, but does not account for the city's companion block party along Constitution Avenue—a "Main Street Millennium" expected to resemble a winter carnival of minstrels, magicians, acrobats and food tents between 10th and 14th streets NW. The city has not yet hired a contractor to run its portion.

The entire celebration will be privately funded, organizers reiterated yesterday, saying that with 95 days to go, half of the $12.5 million has been raised. Democratic Party fund-raising magnate Terry McAuliffe, who recently offered $1.3 million from his own accounts to guarantee a New York house mortgage for the first lady and President Clinton, is leading the money effort.

Despite some private concerns that the ambitious and time-pressed plans may exceed funds—the Smithsonian, for instance, has yet to receive a budget for its role—organizers were enthusiastic yesterday. One of the guests they introduced was their first million-dollar contributor, Omaha business executive Vinod Gupta. No other individual or corporate donors were identified, nor was any cost breakdown discussed.

"This is a tremendous opportunity to unite our nation, to capture an extraordinary moment in American and human history," said Hillary Clinton, who was joined at the news conference by Stevens and D.C. Mayor Anthony A. Williams (D).

With congressional representatives and local residents participating, the weekend's opening ceremony will take place near the Capitol as a time capsule is sealed with the reflections of national leaders in varied fields. Throughout the day on Dec. 31, Clinton said, the Smithsonian will offer a "digital time capsule" to which visitors can add their thoughts and wishes for future generations.

Producer Stevens, the man behind the annual Kennedy Center honors program and founder of the American Film Institute, gave no timetable for releasing a full schedule of performers. For the moment, the publicity boasts of bands, choirs and military marching units. Stevens acknowledged that many celebrities were booked long ago but said it was not too late to get commitments from others.

"It's a historic opportunity. You can perform in Las Vegas any night of the year," he laughed.

One lure would be the likely worldwide audience. Organizers said CBS will broadcast live from 10 p.m. through midnight, and arrangements to carry the show around the globe are pending. Spielberg's movie, "The Unfinished Journey," will be shown on two giant digital screens to be positioned on either side of the Lincoln Memorial.

Although the Mall will return to normal Jan. 3, the city's bicentennial commemoration will just be starting. James V. Kimsey, chairman emeritus of America Online, is leading the steering committee of city and regional leaders that will plan a year of programs and festivities and raise the private funds to pay for them.

Mayor Williams's special assistant, Sandy McCall, said the calendar of downtown and neighborhood events will not be publicized until January. Kimsey's committee members, however, will be announced by early November.

"When [others] see this new board," McCall predicted, "they'll see there's been an immense vote of confidence in this new mayor and the renaissance of this city."

USA TODAY

September 29, 1999, Wednesday, FINAL EDITION

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Pg. 7A

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HEADLINE: Washington will host a millennium bash Gala won't be the same 'Auld Lang Syne'

BYLINE: Susan Page

DATELINE: WASHINGTON

BODY:

WASHINGTON -- That glittering ball dropping from Times Square on New Year's Eve?

It's got competition.

This year, "America's Millennium" will be marked on the National Mall with a "spectacular high-tech sound and light display" between the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument, Hillary Rodham Clinton announced Tuesday. The outdoor gala will include an 18-minute film by director Steven Spielberg of the highlights of the 20th century -- that averages out to just under 11 seconds per year -- with an original score by John Williams. Plus an evening of as-yet-unspecified entertainment hosted by actor Will Smith.

And a "Midnight Moment."

"It will not be something dropping from the air," says producer George Stevens Jr. "It will be something lighting up the sky."

The entire affair will be broadcast on CBS, which bought the rights for an undisclosed amount. It's part of three days of celebration including the unveiling of a National Time Capsule and performances over the weekend by Aretha Franklin, B.B. King, Chuck Berry and scientists from Massachusetts Institute of Technology labs.

Stevens denied reports that most Hollywood headliners already are spoken for on New Year's Eve, although officials acknowledge they are still trying to line up first-tier acts.

The estimated price tag: $12.5 million, raised by fund-raiser Terry McAuliffe, who is also offering a $1.3 million guarantee for the first family's new mortgage in Chappaqua, N.Y. About half of the celebration funds are in hand or promised.

Speaking of New York, Hillary Clinton didn't seem eager to field questions about why she plans to spend New Year's Eve in Washington if she's set on becoming a New Yorker for her expected Senate run next year. After posing with a model of the Mall, she left before reporters could ask about the possible political implications. Aides said she had to hurry to New York.

Not to worry, says former New York mayor Ed Koch. "There won't be any New Yorkers in Times Square," he said. "They'll be tourists."

Where will the natives be?

"Home," he says. "Watching TV."

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: September 29, 1999

New Year's fete gets top talent

By Donna De Marco
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Will Smith, Aretha Franklin and Chuck Berry are scheduled to be among the headliners at this year's New Year's Eve party in Washington, the White House and millennium celebration officials announced yesterday.

America's Millennium, the group coordinating the party, hopes to finalize plans by mid-November, said Executive Director Paul McCarthy.

He also said the group, a cooperative effort among the White House, the Smithsonian, the National Park Service and the National Park Foundation, has secured half of the $12.5 million in private funds needed to stage the three-day extravaganza.

First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton will host the opening ceremony, where a national time capsule with artifacts representing how the nation lived will be revealed, at noon on Dec. 31.

"This is a tremendous opportunity to really unite our nation, to capture an extraordinary moment in American and human history," Mrs. Clinton said in announcing plans for the party yesterday.

Mr. Smith will be the master of ceremonies for the "America's Millennium Gala" — a three-hour New Year's Eve show produced by musician Quincy Jones and television and movie director George Stevens Jr.

The gala will take place at the Lincoln Memorial and be broadcast live on CBS beginning at 10 p.m. The producers are still lining up other performers for the event.

Director Steven Spielberg will present an 18-minute motion picture highlighting the 20th century at the Lincoln Memorial and on CBS beginning at 11:30 p.m.

The film, titled "The Unfinished Journey," with music by composer John Williams, will be shown on two digital screens on either side of the Lincoln Memorial.

Also planned is a high-tech sound and light display between the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument. Mr. Stevens declined to give details.

"I think that's going to be something that will reveal itself at midnight," Mr. Stevens said. "But it will be in the sky and it will be inspiring."

He said the Lincoln Memorial was selected as the stage for the New Year's Eve event in part because of its historical significance — it was where black opera singer Marian Anderson performed when the Daughters of the American Revolution barred her from singing in Constitution Hall in 1939 and where Martin Luther King gave his "I have a dream" speech in 1963.

The Smithsonian will present an array of exhibitions at its "Millennium on the Mall" event that will run Dec. 31 to Jan 2. Highlights are expected to include performances from Miss Franklin, Mr. Berry and former Grateful Dead drummer Mickey Hart.

"Millennium on the Mall" will also include other family oriented performances, lectures and demonstrations covering the worlds of music, art, literature, sports, science and technology. Children's book author Virginia Hamilton, song leader Ella Jenkins and other literary and scientific experts are scheduled to appear.

D.C. Mayor Anthony A. Williams also announced yesterday that the city will host a block party called Main Stream Millennium along Constitution Avenue on Dec. 31. That party will feature local and regional entertainment and food.

Officials said the number of people expected at the celebration could range from 100,000 to 1 million partyers.

■ *This article is based in part on wire service reports.*

AMERICA'S MILLENNIUM

First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton announced plans yesterday for the America's Millennium celebration to usher in 2000:

Where: The Mall, from the Lincoln Memorial to the Capitol

Headliners: Will Smith, Aretha Franklin, Chuck Berry

Cost: $12.5 million

Producers: George Stevens Jr., Quincy Jones

Highlights: "The Unfinished Journey," an 18-minute motion picture by director Steven Spielberg at 11:30 p.m.; high-tech display of sound, light and fireworks at midnight

The Washington Times

HILLARY'S AWAY FOR OUR Y2K

By BRIAN BLOMQUIST *Post Correspondent*

WASHINGTON — Hillary Rodham Clinton yesterday sparked a New Year's Eve feud, saying she'll skip the Big Apple's party to be the queen of the millennium celebration in Washington.

The wannabe New York senator urged all Americans to join her for the D.C. gala, which will feature actor-rapper Will Smith as the host, singer Aretha Franklin, and the world premiere of a new film by Steven Spielberg, "The Unfinished Journey."

She'll ring in the new century at D.C. gala

"That is what we will be doing this New Year's Eve," Mrs. Clinton said yesterday. "This will be no ordinary party."

Mrs. Clinton's campaign spokesman, Howard Wolfson, denied the Washington celebration was aiming to steal New York's thunder as the biggest party night of the year.

"I think there's more than enough room for two New Year's celebrations," Wolfson said.

But in the past, the nation's eyes — and the networks' cameras — have focused on the New York event, and now there's evidence that the star power and political-historical dimension of the D.C. party is diverting attention from the Times Square countdown.

CBS has agreed to televise the Washington party from 10 p.m. until its early-morning conclusion, planners of the D.C. gala said yesterday.

While the New York celebration will have its traditional ball drop — but this time with a Waterford Crystal ball — in Times Square, Washington's party will have a spectacular light and sound show (although planners won't give details).

Mayor Giuliani is set to push the button for the ball-drop in New York, along with a soon-to-be-named star or hero, according to planners with the Times Square Business Improvement District.

Produced by Quincy Jones and filmmaker George Stevens Jr., the millennium gala in Washington will take place in front of the Lincoln Memorial on The Mall.

Controversial Democratic fund-raiser Terry McAuliffe is helping Mrs. Clinton raise the $12 million to pay for the gala. McAuliffe accompanied Mrs. Clinton yesterday at a Washington event to promote the party.

McAuliffe recently offered to plunk down $1.35 million in collateral to help the Clintons buy their dream house in Chappaqua, although sources said the Clintons want to restructure the deal so that they can buy the house without their financial angel.

McAuliffe — the power behind the infamous White House coffees — also helped raise money for the Clintons' legal defense fund, President Clinton's 1996 re-election, the Democratic National Committee, Clinton's presidential library and Mrs. Clinton's campaign in New York.

Another key player is Spielberg, who has given big bucks to the Democratic Party and twice lent his Hamptons mansion to the Clintons — most recently when Hillary Clinton was out there raising campaign cash.

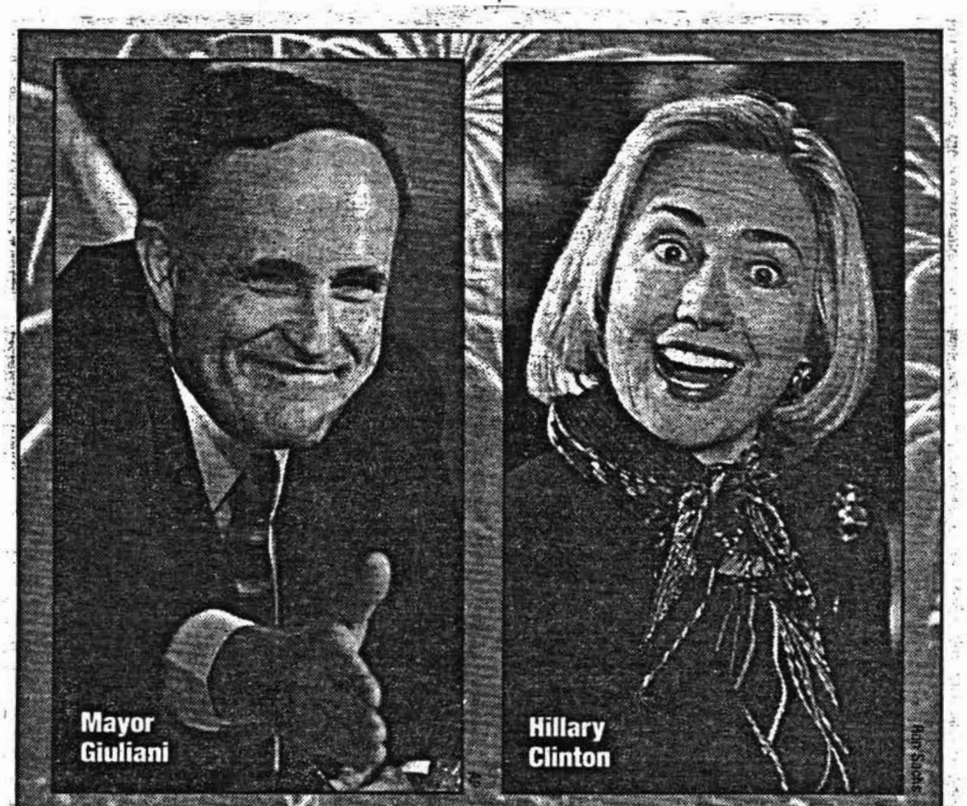
One highlight of the D.C. gala will be Spielberg's 18-minute movie, "The Unfinished Journey," which he's making with documentary filmmaker Ken Burns, historians Stephen Ambrose and Henry Louis Gates, and Oscar-winning composer John Williams.

The other is the high-tech sound and light display that will take place at midnight between the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument.

Washington usually is a low-key town on New Year's Eve compared to New York, but Berry said, "This is a special celebration."

"The music of our century rocking and rolling, swinging and soaring through the night air ... I extend an invitation to all Americans," said Mrs. Clinton, who heads the White House millennium efforts.

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Millennium rivalry

New York		Washington
Traditional ball drop, but this time with new, 6-foot wide Waterford Crystal ball, in Times Square.		Spectacular light and sound show on the National Mall from the Lincoln Memorial to the Washington Monument; the midnight marker is a mystery.
Mayor Giuliani.	**Special Political Host**	First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton.
Unclear who will be the star or hero at Giuliani's side to push the button to drop the ball.	**Star Host**	Actor and rapper Will Smith.
International. There will be celebrations each hour for people living around the world in different time zones, and each celebration will take on the theme of the place entering the new year. Expect to see a puppet of a 22-foot-long elephant in Times Square when the New Year arrives on the Indian subcontinent at 3 p.m. EST.	**Tone of the celebration**  Susan May Tai	Educational. Scientists and artists from the 20th century will be featured. A time capsule will be filled with artifacts and letters from children.
Elaborate puppets, including a Chinese dragon the size of a city bus, will perform to the changing themes.	**Visual** 	The premiere of Steven Spielberg's (left) new 18-minute film, "The Unfinished Journey," about America and the 20th century.
Indigenous music; more than 400 dancers, actors, musicians and puppeteers from New York and around the world.	**Entertainment** 	Aretha Franklin, Chuck Berry (with Clinton left), former Grateful Dead drummer Mickey Hart.