

GORE VICE PRESIDENTIAL RECORDS
AUTOMATED RECORDS MANAGEMET SYSTEM [EMAIL]

This is not a Vice Presidential record. This is used as an administrative marker by the processing staff of the Presidential Materials Division.

Hex Dump file is not in a recognizable format, has been incorrectly decoded or is damaged.

File Name: p_e5668915_vpo_html_1.txt

Attachment Number: ATTACHMENT 1

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Jennifer R. Muller (CN=Jennifer R. Muller/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 8-DEC-1999 18:36:49.00

SUBJECT: 25 days to go

TO: Morley A. Winograd (CN=Morley A. Winograd/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

What should I do with this?

----- Forwarded by Jennifer R. Muller/OVP on 12/08/99
06:36 PM -----

Janet B. Abrams@EOP

12/06/99 10:32:13 AM

Record Type: Record

To: Morley A. Winograd/OVP@OVP, Jennifer R. Muller/OVP@OVP

cc: John A. Koskinen/WHO/EOP@EOP, John A. Gribben/WHO/EOP@EOP

Subject:25 days to go

Good morning, Morley and Jen.

Attached is a collection of articles on Y2K which reference Vice President Gore.

For the Millennium Roll-Over, we would recommend that John Koskinen brief the VP by phone as often as the VP's schedule permits. This could mean a call on all four days, Friday, 12/31, through Monday, 1/3. Or we could be in touch with your office each day and limit calls to the VP to Saturday and Monday (New Year's Day and the first US business day).

Please buzz if I can help further. Thanks.

===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

{\rtf1\mac\ansicpg10000\uc1 \deff6\deflang1033\deflangfe1033{\upr{\fonttbl{\f0\fnil\fcharset256\fprq2{*\panose 02020603050405020304}Times New Roman;}{\f1\fnil\fcharset256\fprq2{*\panose 020b06040202020204}Arial;}{\f2\fnil\fcharset256\fprq2{*\panose 02070309020205020404}Courier New;}{\f3\fnil\fcharset256\fprq2{*\panose 02000500000000000000}Symbol;}{\f4\fnil\fcharset256\fprq2{*\panose 02000500000000000000}Times;}{\f5\fnil\fcharset256\fprq2{*\panose 02000500000000000000}Helvetica;}{\f6\fnil\fcharset256\fprq2{*\panose 02000500000000000000}Courier;}{\f7\fwiss\fcharset77\fprq2{*\panose 020b0503030404040204}Geneva;}{\f8\froman\fcharset77\fprq2{*\panose 00000000000000000000}Tms Rmn;}{\f9\fwiss\fcharset77\fprq2{*\panose 00000000000000000000}Helv;}{\f10\froman\fcharset77\fprq2{*\panose 00000000000000000000}Tms Rmn;}}

```

q2{\*\panose 00000000000000000000}MS Serif;
{\f11\fswiss\fcharset77\fprq2{\*\panose 00000000000000000000}MS Sans Serif;}{\f12\froman\fcharset77\fprq2{\*\panose 02020502060305060204}New York;}{\f13\fswiss\fcharset77\fprq2{\*\panose 00000000000000000000}System;}{\f14\fnil\fcharset2\fprq2{\*\panose 05020102010804080708}Wingdings;}{\f15\froman\fcharset256\fprq1{\*\panose 00000000000000000000}FE Roman font face;}{\f16\modern\fcharset256\fprq1{\*\panose 00000000000000000000}FE Modern font face;}{\f17\froman\fcharset256\fprq1{\*\panose 00000000000000000000}FE Truetype Roman font face;}{\f18\modern\fcharset256\fprq1{\*\panose 00000000000000000000}FE Truetype Modern font face;}{\f19\froman\fcharset77\fprq2{\*\panose 00000000000000000000}Century;}{\f20\fnil\fcharset256\fprq2{\*\panose 020b0509030404040204}Monaco;}}{\*\ud{\fonttbl{\f0\fnil\fcharset256\fprq2{\*\panose 02020603050405020304}Times New Roman;}{\f1\fnil\fcharset256\fprq2{\*\panose 020b0604020202020204}Arial;}{\f2\fnil\fcharset256\fprq2{\*\panose 02070309020205020404}Courier New;}{\f3\fnil\fcharset2\fprq2{\*\panose 02000500000000000000}Symbol;}{\f4\fnil\fcharset256\fprq2{\*\panose 02000500000000000000}Times;}{\f5\fnil\fcharset256\fprq2{\*\panose 02000500000000000000}Helvetica;}{\f6\fnil\fcharset256\fprq2{\*\panose 02000500000000000000}Courier;}{\f7\fswiss\fcharset77\fprq2{\*\panose 020b0503030404040204}Geneva;}{\f8\froman\fcharset77\fprq2{\*\panose 00000000000000000000}Tms Rmn;}{\f9\fswiss\fcharset77\fprq2{\*\panose 00000000000000000000}Helv;}{\f10\froman\fcharset77\fprq2{\*\panose 00000000000000000000}MS Serif;}{\f11\fswiss\fcharset77\fprq2{\*\panose 00000000000000000000}MS Sans Serif;}{\f12\froman\fcharset77\fprq2{\*\panose 02020502060305060204}New York;}{\f13\fswiss\fcharset77\fprq2{\*\panose 00000000000000000000}System;}{\f14\fnil\fcharset2\fprq2{\*\panose 05020102010804080708}Wingdings;}{\f15\froman\fcharset256\fprq1{\*\panose 00000000000000000000}FE Roman font face;}{\f16\modern\fcharset256\fprq1{\*\panose 00000000000000000000}FE Modern font face;}{\f17\froman\fcharset256\fprq1{\*\panose 00000000000000000000}FE Truetype Roman font face;}{\f18\modern\fcharset256\fprq1{\*\panose 00000000000000000000}FE Truetype Modern font face;}{\f19\froman\fcharset77\fprq2{\*\panose 00000000000000000000}Century;}{\f20\fnil\fcharset256\fprq2{\*\panose 020b0509030404040204}Monaco;}}{\*\colortbl;\red0\green0\blue0;\red0\green0\blue255;\red0\green255\blue255;\red0\green255\blue0;\red255\green0\blue255;\red255\green0\blue0;\red255\green255\blue0;\red255\green255\blue255;\red0\green0\blue128;\red0\green128\blue128;\red0\green128\blue0;\red128\green0\blue128;\red128\green0\blue0;\red128\green128\blue0;\red128\green128\blue128;\red192\green192\blue192;}{\stylesheet{\widctlpar\adjustright\f6\fs20\cgrid\snext0 Normal;}}{\*\cs10\additive Default Paragraph Font;}{\s15\qc\widctlpar\adjustright\b\f6\fs28\cgrid\sbasedon0\snext15 Title;}{\s16\nowidctlpar\adjustright\cgrid\sbasedon0\snext16 Body Text;}}{\*\revtbl{Unknown;}}{\info{\author imac9}{\operator imac9}{\creatim\yr1999\mo12\dy3\hr11\min5}{\revtim\yr1999\mo12\dy3\hr11\min37}{\version4}{\edmins31}{\nofpages72}{\nofwords23904}{\nofchars136256}{\*\company TRG}{\nofcharsws167331}{\vern99}}{\widowctrl\ftnbj\aeenddoc\hyphcaps0\viewkind4\viewscale100\fet0\sectd\linex0\sectdefaultcl}{\*\pnseclvl1\pnucrm\pnstart1\pnindent720\pnhang{\pntxta.}}{\*\pnseclvl2\pnucltr\pnstart1\pnindent720\pnhang{\pntxta.}}{\*\pnseclvl3

```

\pndec\pnstart1\pnindent720\pnhang{\pntxta .}}{*\pnseclvl4\pnlcltr\pnstart1\pnindent720\pnhang{\pntxta)}}{*\pnseclvl5\pndec\pnstart1\pnindent720\pnhang{\pntxtb ({\pntxta)}}{*\pnseclvl6\pnlcltr\pnstart1\pnindent720\pnhang{\pntxtb ({\pntxta)}}{*\pnseclvl7\pnlcrm\pnstart1\pnindent720\pnhang{\pntxtb ({\pntxta)}}{*\pnseclvl8\pnlcltr\pnstart1\pnindent720\pnhang{\pntxtb ({\pntxta)}}{*\pnseclvl9\pnlcrm\pnstart1\pnindent720\pnhang{\pntxtb ({\pntxta)}}\pard\plain
\fi720\li3600\nowidctlpar\adjustright \f6\fs20\cgrid {\b\f0\fs24 Gore and Y
2K}{\f0\fs24
\par }\pard \nowidctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24
\par 1. T
he Associated Press State & Local Wire
\par November 13, 1999, Saturday, PM cy
cle
\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\f0\fs24 Full-time rescue tug to be
stationed at Strait of Juan de Fuca
\par
\par 2. The Washington Post
\par Nov
ember 11, 1999, Thursday, Final Edition
\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\f
0\fs24 No Major National Y2K Breakdowns Expected, Clinton Reports
\par
\par
3. The Hill
\par October 20, 1999
\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\f0\fs2
4 E-lobby has had a triumphant year in 1999
\par
\par 4. The Washington Post

\par October 5, 1999, Tuesday, Final Edition
\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLI
NE:}{\f0\fs24 Gore Campaign, Clinton Policy: An Uneasy Search for Balance
\pa
r
\par 5. Sacramento Bee
\par October 1, 1999, METRO FINAL
\par }{\b\f0\fs24
\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\f0\fs24 BUSH TOUTS HIGH-TECH LEANINGS IN SAN JOSE
\par
\par
par 6. THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS
\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\f0\fs24
New Federal Center to Use Key 9-9-99 Date to Test for Y2K Problems
\par
\par 7
. United Press International
\par July 27, 1999, Tuesday, BC cycle
\par }{\b\
f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\f0\fs24 UPI Focus: US, Russia moving on arms talks

\par
\par 8. The Times (London)
\par July 7, 1999, Wednesday
\par }{\b\
s24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\f0\fs24 Microsoft makes monkey of itself
\par
\par 9

. U.S. News & World Report

\par July 5, 1999

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLIN

E:}{\f0\fs24 Bald eagles will soar on July 4; An asbestos reversal opens courts' doors; A new drug promises simpler allergy relief; As the clock ticks, pols wrangle over Y2K

\par

\par 10. CNNFN

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 SHOW:}{\f0\fs2

4 BUSINESS UNUSUAL 20:30:00 pm ET

\par July 2, 1999; Friday 8:50 pm Eastern

Time

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\f0\fs24 Wall Street & Washington

Update, CNNfn

\par

\par 11. The Dallas Morning News

\par July 2, 1999, Friday

THIRD EDITION

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\f0\fs24 }{\b\f0\fs24\cgr

id0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24 crash could throw glitch in }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore}{\f0\fs24 campaign;

\par GOP making plans to capitalize on possibility; top technopolitician says he's not concerned

\par

\par 12. The San Francisco Examiner

\

par July 2, 1999, Friday; Second Edition

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\f0\fs24

f0\fs24 Bush's policies set Silicon Valley abuzz ;

\par He tells donors he'll

1 push R&D tax cuts, lawsuit protection;

\par ELECTION 2000

\par

\par 13. The

Associated Press State & Local Wire

\par July 1, 1999, Thursday, AM cycle

\p

ar }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\f0\fs24 Bush offers high-tech proposals and praise for Silicon Valley

\par

\par 14. THE ORLANDO SENTINEL

\par June 30,

1999 Wednesday, METRO

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\f0\fs24 CONGRESS

FIXES GLITCH IN AGREEMENT;

\par REPUBLICANS AND THE WHITE HOUSE AGREED TO A DEL

AY IN FILING Y2K LAWSUITS AND TOUGH STANDARDS FOR CLASS ACTIONS.

\par

\par 15.

The San Francisco Chronicle

\par JUNE 28, 1999, MONDAY, FINAL EDITION

\par }

{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\f0\fs24 Firms Prepare a Plan B, Gird for Y2K's Worst

\par

\par 16. The Washington Post

\par June 24, 1999, Thursday, Saturd

ay, Final Edition

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\f0\fs24 Hill Republic

ans Try to Dunk }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore}{\f0\fs24 in Some }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid

0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24 Hot Water
\par
\par 17. The San Francisco Chronicle
\par JU
NE 19, 1999, SATURDAY, FINAL EDITION
\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\f0\fs24
s24 }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore}{\f0\fs24 Under Fire for Opposing Bill on }{\b
\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24 Suits; McCain, GOP hoping to win industry support
\par
\par 18. National Journal's Daily Energy Briefing
\par June 17, 1999
, Thursday
\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\f0\fs24 YEAR 2000: Daschle Releases
releases Y2K "Principles\rdblquote
\par
\par 19. The San Francisco Chronicle
\par JUNE 11, 1999, FRIDAY, FINAL EDITION
\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\f0\fs24
One Y2K Problem Is Enough
\par
\par 20. The Washington Post
\par J
une 11, 1999, Friday, Final Edition
\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\f0\fs24
24 Republicans Postpone Vote on Y2K Measure; Visit of High-Tech Executives Awaited,
Aides Say
\par
\par 21. The San Francisco Chronicle
\par JUNE 10, 1999
, THURSDAY, FINAL EDITION
\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\f0\fs24 Silic
on Valley's Y2K Lawsuit Limit Gaining in Senate; Backers say once-stalled bill
has become nearly veto-proof
\par
\par 22. The Bulletin's Frontrunner
\par Ma
y 21, 1999
\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\f0\fs24 Gore To Focus On Faith-Based
Organizations In Atlanta Speech.
\par
\par 23. Star Tribune (Minneapolis, MN)
\par May 16, 1999, Sunday, Metro Edition
\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\f0\fs24 Y2K liability issue creates volatile political
climate;
\par
r And some claims of readiness may overstate actual progress
\par
\par 24. The
Washington Post
\par May 07, 1999, Friday, Final Edition
\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\f0\fs24 Battle Lines on }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24
Liability Catch }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore}{\f0\fs24 in Cross-Fire
\par
\par
25. The Hill
\par April 7, 1999 Wednesday
\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}

{\f0\fs24 WHY 2K?; The Gore2K computer bug
\par
\par 26. National Public Radio (NPR)
\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 SHOW:}{\f0\fs24 ALL THINGS CONSIDERED (8:00 PM ET)
\par March 30, 1999, Tuesday
\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\f0\fs24 GARY BEACH SAYS SMALL-TOWN AMERICA NEEDS TO BE BETTER INFORMED OF POTENTIAL Y2K CRISIS
\par
\par 27. AP Online
\par March 23, 1999; Tuesday 01:52 Eastern Time
\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\f0\fs24 Greatest Y2K Danger May Be Panic
\par
\par 28. Newsbytes
\par March 22, 1999, Monday
\par }{\b
\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\f0\fs24 }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore}{\f0\fs24 Must Make }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24 A Premiere Subject With Russians
\par
\par 29. Knoxville News-Sentinel (Knoxville, TN)
\par March 19, 1999, Friday
\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\f0\fs24 Can Gore survive all the fallout from Clinton's term?
\par
\par 30. U.S. Newswire
\par March 02, 1999 11:19 Eastern Time
\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\f0\fs24 }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore,}{\f0\fs24 Herman Announce Second Round of Unemployment Insurance System }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24 Grants
\par
\par 31. SEATTLE POST-INTELLIGENCER
\par March 01, 1999, Monday , FINAL
\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\f0\fs24 NE:}{\f0\fs24 }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 GORE}{\f0\fs24 UPBEAT IN SEATTLE VISIT;
\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K,}{\f0\fs24 NORTHWEST ISSUES ON THE AGENDA
\par
\par 32. TheStreet.com
\par December 18, 1998 Friday
\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\f0\fs24 Two Trials, No Errors
\par }{\f0\fs24
\par 33. Nation's Cities Weekly
\par December 14, 1998
\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\f0\fs24 Gore Shares 21st Century Vision for Cities, Calls for Partnerships; VP Al Gore; National League of Cities' Congress of Cities meeting}{\f0\fs24
\par }{\f0\fs24
\par 34. Legal Times

\par November 2, 1998, Monday
 \par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\f0\fs24 PREDICTING DOOM IN THE YEAR 2000 WON'T HELP THE
 GOP}{\f0\fs24
 \par }{\f0\fs24
 \par 35. Government Executive
 \par November 1
 998
 \par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\f0\fs24 HALFWAY TO Y2K}{\f0\fs24
 \par }{\f0\fs24
 \par 36. U.S. Newswire
 \par October 23, 1998 15:06 Eastern Tim
 e
 \par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\f0\fs24 }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore}{\f0
 \fs24 Statement on National }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24 Action Week}{
 \f0\fs24
 \par
 \par }{\b\f0\fs24 >>FULL TEXT<<
 \par
 \par 1. The Associated Pr
 ess State & Local Wire
 \par November 13, 1999, Saturday, PM cycle
 \par }{\b\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\b\f0\fs24 Full-time rescue tug to be stationed at S
 trait of Juan de Fuca}{\f0\fs24
 \par
 \par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 DATELINE:}{\f0
 \fs24 SEATTLE
 \par
 \par A full-time rescue tug will be stationed at the
 mouth of the Strait of Juan de Fuca, beginning next month, to respond to marit
 ime emergencies, especially those related to the }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24
 bug, Vice President Al }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore}{\f0\fs24 says.
 \par
 \par "I am pleased to announce that this vessel will continue our efforts to u
 nderstand how best to protect these pristine waters and will be available shoul
 d a maritime emergency arise, especially during the uncertain days surrounding
 the new millennium," }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore}{\f0\fs24 said Friday in a rel
 ease.
 \par
 \par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24 refers to a "year 2000" b
 ug in some computers that may cause them to read the year 2000 as 1900 and malf
 unction.
 \par
 \par Besides being ready to respond to vessels in distress, th
 e tug will provide "real world data" to be used in an ongoing marine safety rev
 iew by the North Puget Sound Long-Term Risk Ma
 nagement Panel. The panel, with
 the Coast Guard and state Department of Ecology, is looking at ways to prevent
 collisions and oil spills in the strait and Puget Sound.
 \par
 \par Rep. Norm
 Dicks, D-Wash., who was part of an effort to station a Navy contract tug in the
 area for two months last winter, said he was pleased a tug would be there agai
 n this winter.
 \par

\par "The vice president clearly understands how important this issue is for our state, and I am delighted he has taken a personal interest in arranging for this more prolonged demonstration of maritime response capability," Dicks said in a release.

\par

\par Environmental groups have been pressing for a full-time response tug. The maritime industry has preferred to rely on the International Tug of Opportunity System, which tracks more than 100 tugs and dispatches the one closest to a vessel in distress.

\par

\par The full-time tug is expected to cost about \$ 1 million this winter. The ITOS system covers more area and costs about \$ 500,000 per year, said Harry Hutchins, director of the Puget Sound Steamship Operators Association.

\par } \par \qc \nowid
ctlpar \adjustright {\f0\fs24

\par } \par \nowidctlpar \adjustright {\f0\fs24
\par
\par
\par
\par

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par } {\b \f0\fs24

\par 2. The Washington Post

\par No

vember 11, 1999, Thursday, Final Edition

\par } {\b \f0\fs24 \cgrid0 HEADLINE:} {\b \f0\fs24

No Major National Y2K Breakdowns Expected, Clinton Reports} {\f0\fs24
4

\par

\par } {\b \f0\fs24 \cgrid0 BYLINE:} {\f0\fs24 Stephen Barr, Washington
Post Staff Writer

\par

\par President Clinton, releasing the White House's final report on the year 2000 computer problem, said yesterday he expects "no major national breakdowns" because of the Y2K glitch.

\par

\par "The American

people can have full faith that everything from air traffic control systems to Social Security payment systems will continue to work exactly as they should," Clinton told reporters on the South Lawn.

\par

\par But with 51 days to go until the New Year, Clinton also warned against complacency, pointing out that several survey

s show a number of small businesses, local governments and foreign nations got off to a slow start in making Y2K fixes and need to redouble their efforts.

\par

\par "If we work together and use this time well, we can ensure that this Y2K computer problem will be remembered as the last headache of the 20th century, not the first crisis of the 21st," Clinton said.

\par

\par Co

gressional Republicans have grumbled that Clinton and Vice President } {\b \f0\fs24 \cgrid0 Gore} {\f0\fs24 have not done enough to make } {\b \f0\fs24 \cgrid0 Y2K} {\f0\fs24 one of the nation's top priorities. White House officials said Clinton and }

\b \f0\fs24 \cgrid0 Gore} {\f0\fs24 have received regular briefings

on the computer problem, pressured the Cabinet to ensure fixes were made at fe

deral agencies and created a White House task force to coordinate Y2K efforts with industry groups.

\par

\par The

year 2000 problem, popularly known as Y2K, stems from the use in many computer systems of a two-digit dating system that assumes the first two digits of the year are 1 and 9, a convention adopted years ago when coding space was at a premium. Without specialized reprogramming, the systems and some embedded chips will recognize "00" not as 2000 but as 1900. That misinterpretation could cause the computers either to shut down or malfunction.

\par

\par For the most part, the 83-page report released yesterday provided little new information on the nation's progress in squashing the Y2K bug.

.

\par

\par In keeping with past White House assessments, the report from the President's Council on Year 2000 Conversion expressed "a high degree of confidence" that banks, electric power, telephones and air and rail transportation systems will not face major electronic disruptions.

\par

\par Potential Y2K trouble

spots also continued to be the same ones identified in past reports. Some local governments, smaller health care facilities, numerous schools and colleges, public housing authorities and small businesses appear to lag on Y2K repairs or have failed to provide information about their progress, the report said.

\par

\par In the Washington area, most local governments have already reported completing work on their systems related to 911 emergency call centers.

\par

r

\par The District is still in the process of installing a new computer-assisted dispatch system that is scheduled to be operating by early December. But even if it is not ready--which is considered unlikely--the city has made repairs to its old system to ensure that it is Y2K-compliant, said Steve Gaffigan, the police department's interim chief information officer.

\par

\par John A. Kos

kinen, the presidential council's chair, said 911 systems have emerged as "clearly an area where people need to be testing" for potential Y2K failures.

\par

\par The council's report said a survey of 2,700 call centers found only half were Y2K-compliant as of Oct. 1. But the National Emergency Number Association, which conducted the survey, expects computer fixes to be made to virtually all 911 centers before year's end.

\par

\par Seven call sites, which officials would not identify, have reported they will not be Y2K-ready on New Year's Day.

\par

\par Koskinen said any 911 computer breakdowns would not prevent police and fire departments from taking calls but would likely force the use of manu-

al dispatch procedures, which could slow emergency response times. As a precaution, he urged individuals to learn the direct phone numbers that could be used to reach firefighters, police and hospitals during emergencies.

\par

\par Al

though the White House expects the nation's infrastructure to hold, given the billions of dollars and countless hours spent by major corporations and the federal government fixing computer hardware and software, Koskinen reaffirmed that

"everyone ought to understand there are no 100 percent guarantees in Y2K."

\p

ar

\par

\par } \par \qc \nowidctlpar \adjustright {\f0\fs24

\par } \par \now

idctlpar \adjustright {\f0\fs24

\par

\par

\par

\par } {\b \f0\fs24

\par 3. The

e Hill

\par October 20, 1999

\par } {\b \f0\fs24 \cgrid0 HEADLINE:} {\b \f0\fs24

E-lobby has had a triumphant year in 1999} {\f0\fs24

\par

\par } {\b \f0\fs24 \

\cgrid0 BYLINE:} {\f0\fs24 By David Silverberg

\par

\par It has been a stellar

year for the information technology community - yet again.

\par

\par Sur

e, the tech lobbyists may point out that the R&D (research and development) tax credit is not yet permanent and not much progress was made in achieving broadband and access. But these

are mere quibbles. On the big stuff the e-lobby of hardware

and software makers, their associations and the independent lobbyists representing them had another year of unbroken triumphs.

\par

\par One triumph was

legislative: In June, the community succeeded in getting Y2K liability limit

ations passed over the strenuous opposition of a powerful political constituency - the trial lawyers. Key players in passing S. 96 were Sens. John McCain (R-Ariz.), who first introduced the legislation, Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) and Chris Dodd

(D-Conn.), who helped fashion the compromise that made it passable. The legislation limited the ability of people and businesses to sue for damages caused by the year 2000 bug.

\par

\par Notwithstanding their ultimate success, "I think

they weren't terribly

sophisticated," recalled a lobbyist on the opposing side

who provided The Hill with a cold, professional assessment of Silicon Valley's efforts. The high-tech lobbying effort was especially hampered by a troublesome alliance with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce,

which has long pursued liability

limits in other commercial areas.

\par

\par Requesting anonymity, this lobby

ist attributed the high- tech community's victory to being "big in the economy, growing, and many of (the high-tech companies) are located in key states and districts." Growing political contributions were also certainly a factor.

\par

\par This was not the first time the high-tech community had tangled with the trial lawyers and emerged victorious. It was a 1997 battle over shareholder law suit legislation, California's Proposition 211, that first galvanized Silicon Valley to become politically active. After spending \$40 million in the effort, the trial lawyers were crushed and the technogeeks had discovered the aphrodisiac properties of politics.

\par

\par The battle created a pointed dilemma for Vice President Al Gore, who wanted to embrace both constituencies. He couldn't, and ultimately he threw his weight toward the moguls of the Valley.

\par

\par Forcing the vice president to make that choice in their favor, forging and keeping together their coalition, and ultimately winning the Senate vote marked a significant coming of age for this emerging interest group.

\par

\par A coming of age of

a different kind occurred in September, when the administration changed its policy on the export of encryption software, a relaxation of controls that had been strenuously opposed by the national security agencies.

\par

\par Prior to the

administration policy change, the high-tech community had banged its head against the wall of an obdurate defense, intelligence and law enforcement establishment that insisted on maintaining its ability to read other people's e-mail.

The e-community, on its part, maintained that strong, exportable encryption was necessary for the health of the American high-tech industry and the growth of e-commerce.

\par

\par The chief engine of the e-community's encryption liberalization efforts was the Security and Freedom through Encryption (SAFE) Act, H.R. 850, sponsored by Rep. Bob Goodlatte (R-Va.). Killed by a last minute rules maneuver in the

previous Congress, Goodlatte had gained 256 signatures on his

legislation by the time the White House made its policy announcement, essentially heading it off.

\par

\par From a political standpoint, the encryption victory was an extremely significant milestone in

the community's political maturation. For the first time it had won a significant victory in the field of national security, the toughest, most inherently conservative arena of government, where the stakes are highest and the politics most serious.

\par

\par At the White

House press conference announcing the new policy, administration officials were at pains to stress that the new policy was not a case of the e-community o

verturning national security imperatives.

\par

\par "I was just handed a wire clipping that basically says that the White House threw national security and law enforcement overboard in order to give a concession to the high-tech industry. I've got to tell you, that's just completely wrong," said John Hamre, deputy secretary of defense. Rather, he stated, the impetus for the policy change had come from the Pentagon itself, with its sister agencies cooperating fully.

\

\par

\par While no doubt true, the fact is that the e-community successfully brought great congressional pressure to bear and got what it wanted - despite the

fact that Goodlatte says he has not abandoned passage of the SAFE Act and new legislation will be required to implement the new policy. It was not the only technology control victory: Despite the technology control concerns raised in the Cox Report on

Chinese spying, the president made more sophisticated computers available for export.

\par

\par Nor was the impression of political triumphalism dispelled by Gore's trip to a Silicon Valley fundraiser the very night the new encryption policy was announced - notwithstanding White House denials to the contrary.

\par

\par Two other factors made the e-community loom large in national politics.

\par

\par In addition to the legislation that actually passed, there was a flood of proposals to ease or improve the legislative environment for

electronic commerce. There were proposals to ban Internet commerce taxation, to make digital signatures legally binding, to limit "cybersquatting," the practice of buying up trademarks as Internet domain names, to limit "spamming" e-mails, and a variety of

educational initiatives. Even if these were not enacted,

together they made up a tidal wave of measures in the e-community's favor.

.

\par

\par But 1999 will also mark another high-tech political milestone: the involvement of the e-community in presidential politics. Well before the first

primary in New Hampshire, Silicon Valley had become a significant player in the fundraising game. According to current figures from the Center for Responsive Politics, the computer equipment and services industries contributed \$403,5

49 to the campaign of Gov. George W. Bush (R-Texas) and \$207,360 to Gore. McCain came in a distant third with \$59,600.

\par

\par These are not vast sums but they are sure to get larger. More important, they mark high-tech as a key political player to watch in the political year ahead.

\par }\pard \qc\nowidctlpar

r\adjustright {\f0\fs24

\par }\pard \nowidctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24

\par 4. The Washington Post

\par O

ctober 5, 1999, Tuesday, Final Edition

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\b\

f0\fs24 Gore Campaign, Clinton Policy: An Uneasy Search for Balance}{\f0\fs24

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 BYLINE:}{\f0\fs24 John F. Harris, Washingto

n Post Staff Writer

\par

\par In New Hampshire and Iowa, nursing home groups

lately have been running ads chiding Vice President Gore to commit to increasin
g reimbursements under Medicare. Yesterday, Gore made clear he has heard the me
ssage.

\par

\par Staking out a position out in front of President Clinton's,
Gore said he favors immediately rewriting the 1997 balanced-budget accord to en
sure that rural hospitals, teaching hospitals and nursing homes get the money t
hey have been clamoring for.

\par

\par Gore's new stance, a carefully orchest

rated move that he unveiled in Boston-

-not coincidentally, the home of many te

aching hospitals--was the latest instance of him trying to make plain to voters
that Clinton's policy priorities are not necessarily his own.

\par

\par It w

as also the latest illustration that even relatively obscure policy issues this
year have become freighted with heavy political consequences--confronting both
Gore and Clinton with awkward challenges in coordinating their policy messages

\par

\par Over recent months, the West Wing and the vice president's offic
e team have maneuv

ered--sometimes at cross-purposes with one another--to stake

out politically acceptable positions for Gore on such issues as agricultural r
elief, veterans spending and encryption technology. None of these are issues th
at remained long on the front pages o

r the network news; all are issues of acu

te concern to key Gore constituencies.

\par

\par Gore has won some of the inc

reasingly frequent internal policy tussles. His staff persuaded White House Chi
ef of Staff John D. Podesta to intervene with budget director Jacob

J. Lew to

ensure more money for the Veterans Affairs Department after Gore complained tha
t veterans groups were hammering him on the issue, according to sources familia
r with the debate.

\par

\par But the vice president has lost plenty of times

as well. Gore last

month personally boasted to environmental groups that the a

dministration would stand firm against attempts by congressional Republicans to
weaken environmental laws through amendments to annual spending bills. Despite
that pledge, White House sources said

Clinton is prepared to ignore Gore's ve

to recommendation on a pending transportation bill that would strip the federal government's authority to dictate fuel-efficiency standards for light trucks, including sport-utility vehicles.

\par

\par Even when their positions are at

odds, it has become clear in recent weeks that Gore's operation and Clinton's are working in concert more effectively to accommodate the vice president's ambitions--either by shifting policy to his purposes, or letting Gore stake positions different than Clinton's. As recently as a few months ago, stubbed toes were commonplace as Gore focused on 2000, to the resentment of some Clinton aides.

.

\par

\par Gore's effort to position himself on Medicare is a good example of the more accommodating approach. The Clinton position is that teaching hospitals and nursing homes need help, but that any fixes should come as part of a broader overhaul of the entitlement program. As a practical matter, White House aides said, officials at the Health and Human Services Department are skeptical that nursing homes deserve a more generous reimbursement rate, and officials at the Office of Management and Budget warn that there is little money for this, in any event.

\par

\par Meanwhile, Gore was feeling the heat. Exploiting the political

calendar, the American Health Care Association and other groups ran ads last month saying, "Al Gore should use his influence to make the Clinton administration restore vital Medicare funding for nursing home patients."

\par

\par In recent days, White House officials said, Gore's team let Clinton's know that he needed protection on the issue. Clinton aides learned in advance that Gore was going to use an appearance yesterday morning at the Boston Globe to get out in front of Clinton. Gore's new stance, according to aides, is that reimbursement rates for hospitals and nursing homes must be fixed this fall--even if Clinton and Republicans cannot agree on a comprehensive Medicare overhaul.

\par

\par At times recently, Clinton aides have even helped Gore come up with policy proposals that are at odds in places with Clinton's. White House national economic adviser Gene Sperling, sources said, helped Gore fashion a tax-cut package last July that ignores some of the provisions that Sperling helped Clinton draft several months earlier.

\par

\par The assistance underlines a paradox of Gore's campaign. Even as he is increasingly trying to establish his own identity--distancing himself from some policies and expressly criticizing Clinton's personal behavior--Gore is also hoping to take full benefit of Clinton's willingness to tilt policy his way at well-timed moments.

\par

\par Recent weeks have offered a flurry of examples. Gore aides sighed with relief when Clinton approved a change in rules regarding the export of sophisticated encryption

n technology, which can cloak electronic communications in ways that cannot be broken.

\par

\par The old policy had put Gore at odds with the high-technology industry--a constituency whose support the vice president has been devoutly seeking. Although Gore backed the change in export rules, senior White House officials said that it was the softening of opposition by national security officials, rather than a wish to help Gore, that proved decisive.

\par

\par Simil

arly, the administration last month resolved a longstanding trade dispute over

the manufacture and sale of more affordable AIDS drugs in South Africa. Gay activists as well as South Africa supporters had roasted Gore over the issue. U.S. trade officials resolved the issue, with a compromise that allows South Africa to make che

aper versions of U.S.-developed drugs, just days before Gore was to meet with South African President Thabo Mbeki.

\par

\par White House offic

ials said Podesta has been critical in ensuring that administration officials take Gore's interests into account--on such issues as emergency relief for farmers and limiting high-tech companies' liability for }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{

\f

0\fs24 problems.

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore}{\f0\fs24 advisers ar

e appreciative--to a degree. The \$ 7.4 billion farm relief bill Clinton signed helped the vice president in Iowa but it was still \$ 3 billion less than what Gore had publicly called for. And some }{\b

\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore}{\f0\fs24 adv

isers fretted that a Podesta-brokered deal over }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24 liability gave too much to computer companies at the expense of another constituency he is courting: trial lawyers.

\par

\par Podesta said con

sultatio

n is what he seeks, rather than perfect consensus between Clinton and Gore. Interestingly, Gore domestic policy adviser David Beier is a presence at West Wing debates. "We're in a phase when we're determined to have good coordination," Podesta said

. "We've tried to ensure that the vice president is represented in all the critical meetings."

\par

\par Not always eye to eye: Vice President G

ore tries to change some Clinton policies and distance himself from others.

\

par }{\p \qc\nowidctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24

\par }{\p \qc\nowidctlpar\adj

ustright {\f0\fs24

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24

\par 5. Sa

cramento Bee

\par October 1, 1999, METRO FINAL

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADL

INE:}{\b\f0\fs24 BUSH TOUTS HIGH-TECH LEANINGS IN SAN JOSE}{\f0\fs24

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 BYLINE:}{\f0\fs24 Dennis Love, Bee Capitol Bureau

\par

\par George W. Bush doesn't claim to have invented the Internet.

\par

\

par Yet here in the high-tech heartland of e-commerce, the Texas governor is making his case -- despite arduous and long-standing efforts by Vice President Al Gore to cultivate the region.

\par

\par Bush, the front-runner for the GOP n

omination, visited San Jose on Thursday, the same day his campaign announced that he has raised a record \$ 56 mi

llion-plus for his candidacy, and has an impr

essive \$ 37 million in cash on hand. Those figures dwarf the amount of money raised by Gore or any other Democrat or Republican in the presidential contest.

\par

\par Don Evans, Bush's national campaign chairman, said

that about 10 p

ercent of those contributions came from California donors, and a significant chunk of that from Silicon Valley. According to the Center for Responsive Politics, a non-partisan monitoring group, Bush has raised about twice as much money from

the computer industry as Gore has during a year in which donations from the high-tech camp have tripled 1996 levels.

\par

\par With a media gang in tow

, Bush toured the futuristic Museum of Tech Innovation with a group of San Jose schoolchildren and then outlined

why he believes he is "putting on the heat"

in an area in which President Clinton and running mate Gore fared quite well in elections in 1992 and 1996. Bush argued that his pro-technology stances have forced Clinton and }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore}{\f0\fs24

to be more responsive to the region's needs.

\par

\par "Like }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24

le

gislation," he said. "Last time I came down here I had signed a bill for Y2K reform in Texas. Interestingly enough, right before I was to deliver my speech (in San Jose), voila! Y2K reform became a priority with the administration."

\pa

r

\par Bush emphasized he "can't claim credit" for Clinton's recent decision to

reverse a long-held position and ease restrictions on the export of encryption technology. The president also has been reluctant to protect the computer industry from lawsuit

s stemming from Y2K failures, something Bush has done in Texas.

\par

\par But Bush made it clear that he believes Clinton and Gore have adjusted to his agenda.

\par

\par "For seven years, the administration had been

coming to Silicon Valley and saying, "I am your friend," (but was) resis

tant toward reform, encryption and permanency of tax credits. I have been highlighting these issues and there seems to have been a certain change of heart."

\par

\par Bush, of course, is hardly the only politician to beseech the region for votes and cash.

\par

\par Gore attended a fund-raiser Sept. 17 at the home of real-estate developer George Marcus, attended by a number of software executives and featuring a performance by former members of the Grateful Dead rock group.

\par

\par Former U.S. Sen. Bill Bradley was the focus of a San Jose fund-raiser Thursday evening, and President Clinton is set to attend two events in Atherton today to raise money for Democratic candidates.

\par

\par Gore himself historically has had a close relationship with Silicon Valley players. But Bradley recently spent a year teaching at Stanford University and has said that he used that opportunity to make his own inroads in the community. Bush has been helped in Silicon Valley by his connections with computer industry officials in Texas.

\par

\par Observers say the success of varying candidates here point to the evolving industry's fragmenting interests and its increasing importance to the political process.

\par

\par "It takes a lot of money to run a campaign," said Richard Brody, a political science professor at Stanford. "And this is a place where there is a lot of it."

\par }\pard \qc\nowidctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24

\par }\pard \nowidctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24

\par

\par

\par

\pa

r

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24

\par 6. THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\

cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\b\f0\fs24 New Federal Center to Use Key 9-9-99 Date to Test for Y2K Problems}{\f0\fs24

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 BYLINE:}{\f0\fs24

By Jim Landers

\par

\par WASHINGTON--White House officials are preparing a millennium war room to monitor possible disasters from around the country and the world stemming from the year 2000 computer glitch.

\par

\par The \$ 4

0 million Information Coordination Center will get started this week with limited tests built around possible computer malfunctions associated with the date 9-9-99 -- Thursday, Sept. 9, 1999.

\par

\par Few computer problems are expected, but officials at the center and at ancillary emergency data centers elsewhere in Washington plan to use the date for a millennium trial run.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Jennifer R. Muller (CN=Jennifer R. Muller/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 8-DEC-1999 18:36:49.00

SUBJECT: 25 days to go

TO: Morley A. Winograd (CN=Morley A. Winograd/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

What should I do with this?

----- Forwarded by Jennifer R. Muller/OVP on 12/08/99
06:36 PM -----

Janet B. Abrams@EOP
12/06/99 10:32:13 AM
Record Type: Record

To: Morley A. Winograd/OVP@OVP, Jennifer R. Muller/OVP@OVP
cc: John A. Koskinen/WHO/EOP@EOP, John A. Gribben/WHO/EOP@EOP
Subject:25 days to go

Good morning, Morley and Jen.

Attached is a collection of articles on Y2K which reference Vice President Gore.

For the Millennium Roll-Over, we would recommend that John Koskinen brief the VP by phone as often as the VP's schedule permits. This could mean a call on all four days, Friday, 12/31, through Monday, 1/3. Or we could be in touch with your office each day and limit calls to the VP to Saturday and Monday (New Year's Day and the first US business day).

Please buzz if I can help further. Thanks.

===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====
ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

{\rtf1\mac\ansicpg10000\uc1 \deff6\deflang1033\deflangfe1033{\upr{\fonttbl{\f0\fnil\fcharset256\fprq2{*\panose 02020603050405020304}Times New Roman;}{\f1\fnil\fcharset256\fprq2{*\panose 020b06040202020204}Arial;}{\f2\fnil\fcharset256\fprq2{*\panose 02070309020205020404}Courier New;}{\f3\fnil\fcharset256\fprq2{*\panose 02000500000000000000}Symbol;}{\f4\fnil\fcharset256\fprq2{*\panose 02000500000000000000}Times;}{\f5\fnil\fcharset256\fprq2{*\panose 02000500000000000000}Helvetica;}{\f6\fnil\fcharset256\fprq2{*\panose 02000500000000000000}Courier;}{\f7\fwiss\fcharset77\fprq2{*\panose 020b0503030404040204}Geneva;}{\f8\froman\fcharset77\fprq2{*\panose 00000000000000000000}Tms Rmn;}{\f9\fwiss\fcharset77\fprq2{*\panose 00000000000000000000}Helv;}{\f10\froman\fcharset77\fprq2{*\panose 00000000000000000000}Tms Rmn;}}

\par

\par The

federal government is mobilizing what could be the largest peacetime emergency response effort in U.S. history to deal with the main event Jan. 1, 2000.

\par

\par From the moment the New Year begins at midnight in New Zealand (6 a.m. Friday, Dec. 31 in Dallas

), a rolling wave of information will head toward the Information Coordination Center, on two floors of an old Secret Service office 1 blocks from the White House.

\par

\par John Koskinen, President Clinton's Y

2K czar, says the center will feed information to the president and two senior multiple agency working groups one for domestic crises, one for international problems.

\par

\par "The critical infrastructure industries and the federal agencies have readied themselves for the Y2K problem," Mr. Koskinen said. "It's not a

t this point an emergency response mobilization, because we're not out dealing with emergencies. It will be the largest event-monitoring effort in the history of the federal government."

\par

\par The Information Coordination Center

will have a staff of about 40 crisis management specialists, led by retired Lt. Gen. Peter Kind, former director of the Army's information systems network.

\par

\par

\par The Y2K information center has its own electric generator and will be stocked with provisions for the New Year's weekend. If the center loses its c

ommunications links or otherwise goes down, responsibility will be transferred to the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

\par

\par After further tests in O

ctober and November, the center will become fully operational Dec. 30. It will remain in bus

iness until March, after the leap year date of Feb. 29, 2000, to ensure federal readiness if other computer problems occur, Mr. Koskinen said.

\par

\par

\par FEMA normally handles the government's response to disasters such as hurricanes, tornadoes and floods.

\par

\par But FEMA is subordinate in the Y2K

response plan. Its responsibility will be to get status reports from state, municipal and tribal governments across the country to feed into the Y2K war room.

\par

\par

\par Industry emergency centers for electric power, oil and gas are being established in Washington, and more than a dozen other industry associations will set up emergency centers.

\par

\par Federal emergency centers with the d

epartments of Energy, Health and Human Services, Justice and Transportation will take reports about critical parts of the nation's infrastructure and feed them to the Y2K war room.

\par

\par The FBI's National Infrastructure Protection

Center and the federally sponsored Computer Emergency Response Team at Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh will file reports on any cyber attacks mounted by hackers or terrorists.

\par

\par The Y2K war room will be at the apex of a pyramid of hundreds of crisis managers from every state, city and town in the country. Rather than having every mayor or emergency coordinator phoning the Y2K war room

to learn what's going on, information will move to ever-smaller groups of managers until it reaches the Information Coordination Center.

\par

\pa

r The State Department will collect reports from U.S. embassies across the globe, and the Defense Department will gather data from all its military posts overseas and at home.

\par

\par "When you think about this, you're thinking about status reports from around the world and around the country arriving more or less all at once, so the art form from the start is to make sure you don't get swamped with information," Mr. Koskinen said.

\par

\par Because the international dateline runs through the Pacific Ocean, the coordination center will be able to sift information about the impact of computers rolling over to the year 2000 for 17 hours before it reaches Washington.

\par

\par Countries such as New Zealand and Britain plan to provide direct reports to the U.S. center.

\par

\p

ar Meanwhile, year 2000 coordinators in 195 countries expect to file reports of any computer failures with the U.N. International Y2K Cooperation Center in Washington, just two blocks from the U.S. Y2K war room.

\par

\par The international center also will test its systems this week to see how well the format chosen for national responses works. Since 9-9-99 will reach New Zealand first, the center will begin its tests in Washington on Wednesday morning.

\par

\par "It

's just a trial run to try to see if the connections work and whatnot," said Bruce McConnell, director of the international center. "Hopefully about 20 countries will enter data and tell us how things are going....I don't expect much of anything to happen."

\par

\par The 9-9-99 problem involves some older software programs written so that a string of 9s triggers a "collate data" or "start over" command. Federal and private computer specialists minimize the likelihood

of computer failures due to the 9-9-99 date; in most applications, the date will be entered as 090999 rather than 9999.

\par

\par But the date presents both government and industry with a chance to test contingency plans for the calendar change to the year 2000 itself.

\par

\par Nearly all computer applications written before the mid-1990s used just two digits to represent the year. Unless

they are repaired or replaced, those applications will base their calculations of the new year -- 00 -- as though it were 1900 rather than 2000.

\par

\par

All sorts of computer errors could flow from such miscalculations, including system failures. Governments and companies have spent billions of dollars correcting the problem, and many now say the biggest risk may be public fear rather than

an computer meltdown.

\par

\par Mr. Koskinen said he intends to show his confidence

in Y2K repairs by flying to New York on New Year's Eve. The Federal Aviation Administration's air traffic control system operates on Universal or Greenwich Mean Time. That will enable

Mr. Koskinen to catch a 6:30 p.m. flight in Washington,

be in the air when the air traffic control date rollover occurs at 7 p.m. and still have time to fly back from New York before midnight to be on hand in the Y2K war room.

\par

\par He may have some high-ranking company.

\par

\par "I am confident we will be in very close contact with the president and the vice president, particularly the vice president, during this period," he said.

\par

\par Vice President Al Gore has closely followed the efforts to prepare for Y2K, Mr. Kos

kinen said. "I would not be surprised if he was with us at the center and the White House as this goes on." Cabinet secretaries and their deputies will also be close at hand to stay in touch with their department emergency centers, Mr. Koskinen said.

\par

\par With

the information it collects, the Y2K war room staff will be able to alert others of problems as they occur in other parts of the world. It will be able to initiate emergency response efforts, if needed "blankets, traffic control, evacuating people from an area," Mr. Koskinen said.

\par

\par But federal officials will not be charged with fixing computer failures or restoring power, water or other vital services if any fail.

\par

\pa

Pentagon officials have said they would need legislation granting them liability protection before they could tackle such jobs.

\par

\par In addition to providing

warning and response, the center's other major function will be public information.

\par

\par Leon Kappelman, a Y2K specialist who is an associate professor of business computer information systems at the University of North Texas, said the government is going overboard on the fear factor.

\par

\par "Thei

r bias is to make preventing panic the most important thing," he said. "I sure hope the media's not going to take the day off and rely only on that information ce nter, because that information is going to be severely filtered. Every stop it makes, the story changes a little bit, and the bias of the system will be to report happy things."

\par
\par Mr. Koskinen disputed that judgment, saying crisis management specialists are trained to get critical information to the top as soon as possible.

\par
\par "I love Leon, but I think he's dead wrong about this," Mr. Koskinen said. "People who need assistance will be very clear about it. If it's a functional problem, first, it's going to be very visible. And

to the extent people need help, they're not going to be hiding it."

\par

\p

ar

\par

\par }\pard \qc\nowidctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24

\par }\pard \nowi

dctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24

\par

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24

\par 7. United Press

International

\par July 27, 1999, Tuesday, BC cycle

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgr

id0 HEADLINE:}{\b\f0\fs24 UPI Focus: US, Russia moving on arms talks }{\f0\fs24

\par

\par Russian Prime Minister Sergei Stepashin pronounced relation

s with the United States back on track following the crisis over NATO's war against the former Yugoslavia, but his talks with the Clinton administration showed important differences remain in many key areas. In their most concrete

p

ro

nouncement following Stepashin's meetings with President Clinton and Vice President Al Gore, the two sides announced that the United States and Russia will resume talks next month in Moscow on both the Start III treaty and the Anti-Ballistic Missile treaty.

a

ty. Clinton and Russian President Boris Yeltsin had announced last month at the G-8 summit in Germany that they would resume the talks this summer. Despite facing reluctance in both the U.S. and Russian legislatures to cooperate on such matters, Gore said

i

d, "We will continue, full-steam ahead

, without regard for election cycles." "I am hopeful we will soon see the ratification of START II," Gore said. More extensive arms reductions under the proposed Start III talks have been delayed by the Russian

u

ma's refusal to ratify

Start II. The two sides face new talks on the ABM treaty, meanwhile, prompted by U.S. moves to develop a space-based missile defense system. Stepashin's visit also highlighted major differences over matters that include aid to Belg

r
ade, trade with Iran, human rights and the dangers of any single nation pres
uming to serve as the world's policeman. Stepashin recalled how his predecesso
r, Yevgeny Primakov, abruptly turned his plane around from a scheduled visit in
Washington once NATO

launched the bombing campaign against the Serbian-domin
ated Yugoslav union. But the prime minister, who also met with congressional l
eaders, said the bilateral tensions that flared over the operation to reverse B
elgrade's attempts to purge Kosovo of all

e
thnic Albanians have now ''cooled
down.'' ''We are entering the 21st century, and we have to enter it as friends,
'' Stepashin said during a luncheon at the National Press Club. ''We have to un
derstand each other and respect each other.'' Later, at a joint

White House n
ews conference with Gore, the vice president spoke of sharing mutual congratula
tions for ''the tensions we have so recently survived.'' Despite the improvemen
t in relations, Stepashin said the two nations have not ''turned the page'' on
all d

i
fficulties, and he cautioned against any nation appointing itself as th
e guarantor of freedom or human rights. He said ''it's very dangerous'' for th
e United States, which has deep domestic problems of its own with which to deal
, to assume such a role.

A
lthough Russia blames Yugoslav President Slobodan
Milosevic for forcing NATO's hand over the conflict in Kosovo, the prime minist
er said Moscow and the United States differ on whether to provide assistance to
help Belgrade dig out of the rubble. The Unit

e
d States, which provides only
humanitarian assistance to Serbia, announced Monday a \$500 million aid program
for Kosovo. Stepashin said Russia, however, favors a full assistance program f
or all regions of the former Yugoslavia. ''When winter sets in ther

e
will be
a humanitarian catastrophe in the heart of Europe,'' the prime minister said.
''We have to work out common rules of the game for providing assistance along t
he entire geographic space of the former Yugoslavia.'' Gore said the matter wil
l be hamme

r
ed out this week in the Bosnian capital Sarajevo, when internation
al leaders including Clinton meet to discuss a multibillion-dollar aid package
for the countries of southeastern Europe. Clinton and Yeltsin also will attemp
t to iron out disagreements ove

r
aid to Belgrade when they meet in September
at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum in New Zealand, Stepashin said.
The two leaders also will discuss their different approaches in dealing with I
ran, which the United States continues to isolate fo

r
both its alleged suppor
t of terrorism and its program to develop nuclear weapons. Securing Clinton ad
ministration support for \$6 billion in financing from the World Bank and Intern
ational Monetary Fund also was a major objective of Stepashin's trip to W

a
shi
ngton. The loans will provide Moscow with hard currency to repay international

obligations. Officials with the two international lenders, who met with the prime minister today, said they are prepared to recommend the loan provided Russia maintains strict

financial controls and avoids inflationary measures to falsely stimulate its moribund economy. The board of the World Bank, which, like the IMF, suspended most of its Russian lending after Moscow defaulted on some debt and devalued its currency, approved

a blueprint last week for resumption of the loans. Stepashin's meeting with Gore was described as a continuation of the commission-type consultation Gore held from 1994 to 1998 with Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin. Gore also held one such meeting last year with the

then-Prime Minister Sergei Kiriyenko. In a written statement, Gore said he took the opportunity to express to Stepashin "his deep concern over recent acts of anti-Semitism in Russia." }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore}{\f0\fs24

said they also

discussed cooperation on the }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24 computer problem,

investment and economic growth in Russia, law enforcement and the rule of law in Russia, and efforts to tighten Russian export controls "to halt nuclear and missile proliferation to rogue states." In response to a question during the

news conference with Gore, Stepashin agreed that Russia continues to spy on the United States, saying, "As long as states exist, there will always be special services." "We found complete understanding on this, that special services should not be all

owed to hinder" diplomatic relations between government

s, Stepashin said. Gore, appearing uncomfortable with the response, said: "Some questions really are best dealt with through private channels." ---

\par }\p

ard \qc\nowidctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24

\par }\pard \nowidctlpar\adjustright

t {\f0\fs24

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24

\par 8. The Times

(London)

\par July 7, 1999, Wednesday

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\b

\f0\fs24 Microsoft makes monkey of itself}{\f0\fs24

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24

4\cgrid0 BYLINE:}{\f0\fs24 Kenny MacIver

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 GO

RE}{\f0\fs24 BUSHED OVER }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24

\par

\par }\pa

rd \qc\nowidctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24 Republican presidential hopeful George W. Bush breezed into Silicon Valley last week to rub salt in the wounds of the Democrats' front-runner for next

year's race, Al Gore. Bush now claims to be

high-tech America's candidate after }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore}{\f0\fs24 tried to block a bill that limited corporate liability in }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24

f0\fs24

-hit software. The law, passed last week, gives firms 90 days to the end of March 2000 to fix problems and limits damage that small companies can claim to a mere \$ 250,000. Bush is all for granting absolution to companies that may send many businesses to the wall

\par }\pard \nowidctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24

\par 9. U.S. News & Wo

rld Report

\par July 5, 1999

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\b\f0\fs24

Bald eagles will soar on July 4; An asbestos reversal opens courts' doors; A new drug promises simpler allergy relief; As the clock ticks, pols wrangle over Y2K}{\f0\fs24

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 BYLINE:}{\f0\fs24 By Kathleen

Wong; Marianne Lavelle; Josh Fischman; Major Garrett

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\c

grid0 HIGHLIGHT:}{\f0\fs24

\par Victory for lawsuit filers, hope for allergy sufferers, Y2K deadline looms

\par

\par As the clock ticks, pols wrangle over

Y2K

\par

\par With the year 2000 only six months away, this is a crucial wee

k for Congress and the Clinton administration to strike a deal aimed at limiting the liability of businesses over p

otential Y2K glitches. As the congressiona

l July 4 recess looms, if there is no agreement, Republican point man Sen. John McCain of Arizona vows to push through legislation that the president has promised to veto.

\par

\par The White House is trying to broaden consumer rights

to recoup losses that arise from}{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24 computer problems. Clinton and Vice President }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore}{\f0\fs24 want

to satisfy their trial lawyer supporters, while Republicans hope to curry favor with the high-tech industry. A prolonged veto fight would increase the likelihood of the Y2K problems that the bill is designed to minimize.

\par

\par }\pa

rd \qc\nowidctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24

\par }\pard \nowidctlpar\adjustright

{\f0\fs24

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24

\par 10. CNNFN

\par }{\f0\fs24

b\fs24\cgrid0 SHOW:}{\b\fs24 BUSINESS UNUSUAL 20:30:00 pm ET

\par July

2, 1999; Friday 8:50 pm Eastern Time

\par }{\b\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\b\fs24

Wall Street & Washington Update, CNNfn}{\fs24

\par

\par }{\b\fs24\cgrid0 GUESTS:}{\fs24

Matthew Saul

\par

\par }{\b\fs24\cgrid0

BYLINE:}{\fs24 Beverly Schuch

\par

\par BEVERLY SCHUCH, CNNfn ANCHOR,

BUSINESS UNUSUAL: A number of business issues are burning up Washington. They're busy down there and this being the 4th of July weekend we thought now would be a good time to check in on where things stand between Wall Street and Washi

ngton. And with us today is Matthew Saul. He is senior editor at "George Magazine" and he's up from Washington. Thanks for joining us today.

\par

\par MA

THEW SAUL, SENIOR EDITOR, "GEORGE MAGAZINE" Glad to be here.

\par

\par SCH

UCH: What's the hottest issue going on down in Washington right now?

\par

\pa

r SAUL: Well the biggest thing right now is last night the House passed the biggest bank modernization bill ever, basically.

\par

\par SCHUCH: This is a financial services reform bill? SAUL: That's right. It's a bank modernization bill.

ill.

\par

\par SCHUCH: Isn't the Senate one holding this up now?

\par

\par

SAUL: Well the Senate has passed it. Their two versions will be hashed out now. But that's by far the hottest thing. Lots of lobbyist involved, lots of your

financial services. You have commercial banks, you have insurance companies, everyone's trying to get in on this. There's also this turf battle with this is between the Federal Reserve and the Treasury Department, with Larry Summers now as the head of T

reasury. Do you see this having more of a, you know, it'll

push it through faster or hold it up?

\par

\par SAUL: I don't think push it

t. Well what's interesting there is Secretary Ruben and Chairman Greenspan were having kind of a battle about control. The Fed was

anting a little more contro

l taking some control from the Treasury Department. That's a reason the President has been kind of against the version the Senate has passed. Treasury retained the control in the house version. So will see how those get mixed up. But

its really going to be the White House calling the shots not Larry Summers.

\

\par

\par SCHUCH: Give us your forecast on when and if this gets passed?

\par

\par SAUL: Well the Senate will the conference versions will be taken out before the August recess so that's in two weeks. It's tough to say its gone farther, this bill has gone farther than any similar kind of bill has been passed as I say by both houses. It's hard to say though in the end whether it will get done. Certainly not by the end of by the August recess.

\par

\par

SCHUCH: We have a President whose had a lot of false starts in his two term Presidency. He wants to leave a legacy. How best will he be able to do that practically speaking now?

\par

\par SAUL: Well on the business side its tough.

\par

\par SCHUCH: We won't go the other side but on the business side how will he?

\par

\par SAUL: Well its tough. I mean I think he like to get this banking reform done. Y2K was a big issue it may not be big for the legacy but certainly the President has made big inroads for the Democratic Party with the high tech companies in California. White House this week removed its opposition to a Y2K bill. That's now going to sail to passing, its been passed and its going to be signed by the President. I think its part of a general notion of the President trying to make the Democratic Party seem more friendly to businesses.

\par

\par SCHUCH: All right taxes the Republicans want \$750 million in cuts. The Democrats don't.

\par

\par SAUL: That's true. The President says he's for tax cuts but targeted tax cuts to the middle and low income Americans.

The Republicans are going you know whole hog here. There looking for across the board cuts, capitol gains cuts. Not just personal but a corporate capitol gains. Repeal of the state tax. A whole slew of other

things. What will be interesting to watch Beverly are the politics. Do the Republicans want to pass a tax bill that the President won't sign forcing him to veto it. Giving perhaps George W. Bush or the Republican nominee for President a good issue to run on

as well as Republican House members. At the same time the Democrats want to put things in a tax bill the Republicans won't go for. Will see.

\par

\par S

SCHUCH: And therefore, were just going to end up stalemated again. Let's talk about what as Maureen Doud(ph)

calls him and how raising this staggering amount of campaign funds at this early stage could have any impact on campaign reform down the road? SAUL: Well the most interesting really surprising aspect is that George W. is the first major non-self financed

candidate. That is a major candidate but not like Steve Forbes who is going to fund his own way. Who's hinting that he will forego federal matching funds. Now there's a limit on how much

you can bring in. In exchange you get federal matching funds. B

u

t Bush and

his people it seems to believe that they can raise much more on their own and just forget about the federal funds. And that will really upend the federal campaign system that we have now. It's not a law but it's kind of morra(ph) its kind of

excepted practice. Many would say that President and Vice President Gore broke that practice in the 96 campaign. But in terms of Bush it looks like he can raise as much as he wants and he may just say forget it I don't need that federal money.

\par

\par SCHUCH: Well let's talk about the campaign and what

from as an insiders advantage point. What you can tell us about the two leading candidates right now for each party. Of course Gore and George W. Or do you think they'll go all the way?

\par

\par SAUL: It sure looks now

like the

you will. As we were talking about before. Bill Bradley has come on very strong he's raised a lot of money. I think he surprised a lot of even a lot of insiders on how well he's done on Wall Street and from the Hollywood community. But I think

Gore is still very tough to beat. On the Republicans side no one's even close to George Bush a recent poll had shown Elizabeth Dole at 20 percent and she'd dropped down to 8 percent while Bush kept going towards the sky. So at this point it's his to lose

but it's early and there's still a lot to learn about him. Remember most people know the name of the famous family the Bush family. But they don't know his position.

\par

\par SCHUCH: Traditionally, republicans

have been considered better for Wall Street, better for business however

we've seen under this Democratic President very good things for Wall Street and the U.S. economy. Whose the best candidate now in terms of Wall Street's advantage point and business?

\par

\par SAUL: Well I think you still have to give

the edge

to the Republicans. Although something really fascinating happened this week. This Y2K bill which I mentioned before would do things like put a cap on liabilities for lawsuits this sort of thing. The White House was very quite about it and the President has

done

sent out signals that he would veto it on four

or five occasions. Now it Vice President Gore in a very tough position. On one hand you had the trial lawyers. Big Democratic supporters. They don't want any kind of caps on lawsuits. On the other hand

you have the high tech industry

very worried about potential fallout from }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K.}{\f0\fs2

4 And it put }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore}{\f0\fs24

in a really tough position

now. Where did he go? He went with the business side. He went for the bill. He said to the trial lawyers look you have to take some caps

and so in that case you

can see that you know Gore being smart in terms of trying to keep that some of the business community with him.

\par

\par SCHUCH: All right Matthew Saul
thanks so much for joining us. George Magazines, Senior Editor out of Washing
ton. Have a good holiday weekend.

\par
\par }\pard \qc\nowidctlpar\adjustright
t {\f0\fs24
\par }\pard \nowidctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24
\par
\par
\par

\par
\par }{\b\f0\fs24
\par 11. The Dallas Morning News
\par July 2, 1999,
Friday THIRD EDITION
\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\b\f0\fs24 }{\b\f0\
fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\b\f0\fs24 crash could throw glitch in }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 G
ore}{\b\f0\fs24 campaign;
\par GOP making plans to capitalize on possibility;
top techno-politician says he's not concerned}{\f0\fs24
\par
\par }{\b\f0\fs24
s24\cgrid0 SOURCE:}{\f0\fs24 Washington Bureau of the Dallas Morning News
\p
ar
\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 BYLINE:}{\f0\fs24 Susan Feeney, Jim Landers
\pa
r

\par But if the millennium computer glitch strikes hard on January 1, i
t could trip-up his political standing. Republicans, in fact, are planning for
it.

\par
\par The l
eaders of nearly every government and company in the coun
try insist they'll be ready for the year 2000 computer bug, commonly known as Y
2K. But information technology experts agree there will be some failures when c
omputers try to calculate the new date a
nd come up with 1900 instead of 2000.

\par
\par Say for instance, the gas pumps don't work. Or the natural gas bi
ll is for \$ 100,000 instead of \$100. Or Medicare payments and Social Security
checks go haywire.

\par
\par The GOP hopes you'll take it out on the Democrat
s, namely Al Gore.

\par
\par "The White House identifies him as techie-in-chi
ef. They sort of set him up as the guy who invented the Internet and is going t
o safeguard it in your life forever," said House Majority Leader Dick Armey, R-
Irving.

\par
\par "If the government doesn't get itself in compliance, this c
omes down on Gore more than anyone else in the administration," he said.

\par
\par The vice president says he's not worried about the impact on his presiden
tial bid.

\par
\par "I think we're going to manage it fairly well," Mr. Gore

said. "I think there will be some problems, but I don't think they'll be the cataclysm that some of the doomsayers are predicting."

\par

\par In any event,

Gore campaign chairman Tony Coelho said, there's no use worrying because "you can't control it."

\par

\par The matter is not as remote as it seems. The presidential nominating contests may get under way less than five weeks after the calendar changes and Americans experience some level of computer-related difficulties.

\par

\par

\par The issue already is high on the political agendas for both

major parties, though for now it's more to court favor with the high-tech industry than to woo voters.

\par

\par Congress and the White House, after marathon

negotiations, agreed on legislation to give the high-tech industry limited liability from lawsuits

stemming from Y2K computer failures. It was passed by both

houses Thursday, and Mr. Clinton has pledged to sign it.

\par

\par The high

tech community is a growing source of campaign cash. In the 1997-98 election cycle, the computer and electronics industries gave \$ 8.8 million, with Republicans getting almost 60 percent.

\par

\par All the major presidential con

tenders have gone seeking funds in the Silicon Valley. Gov. George W. Bush headlined a fund-raiser Thursday in Palo Alto, Calif., using the occasion to zing Mr. Clinton and Mr. }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore}{\f0\fs24

on high-tech matters.

\par

\par And }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24 readiness has become something of a new political yardstick.

\par

\par Mr. }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore's}{\f0\fs24

supporters note that 92 percent of the federal government's critical systems are ready, while Texas - Mr. Bush's home state - only recently reached 86 percent compliance.

\par

\par Bush backers, by contrast, point out that Texas

passed its Y2K liability legislation earlier.

\par

\par The matter is not

helping Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., a GOP presidential hopeful, however. He is a co-sponsor of the liability legislation but hasn't gotten much credit.

\par

\par Mr. Gore has the most on the line, analysts and industry experts agreed.

\par

\par "I have always said Y2K was never an issue that would elect or defeat a political figure," said Marc Pearl, general counsel with the Information

Technology Association of America and a participant in the liability legislative

negotiations. "But I think there is one exception, and that's the vice president of the United States."

\par

\par Passage of the liability bill will protect

Mr. Gore's industry support, though it may hurt him with trial lawyers and

consumer groups. There's no legislation that will give him limited political liability, Mr. Pearl said. The administration's Y2K work is the vice president's best protection, he said.

\par

\par The White House Year 2000 Conversion Council was created in February 1998 to coordinate the federal government's response to the problem. It also goads business, state and local governments and the public to work toward heading off the possible dangers ahead.

\par

\par The Clinton administration already takes credit for updating systems in key government agencies such as the Social Security Administration.

\par

\par But no fix is certain until it faces the ultimate test of the next New Year.

\par

\par

"If, on the first Tuesday in November 2000, the vice president can point to these things and say to the best of his ability he was able to see these problems minimized, then that will be taken into account," Mr. Pearl predicted. "If he can't, then the American people may say that there was a breach of contract."

\par

\par But Jim Wootton, executive director of the Chamber of Commerce Institute for Legal Reform, said, "It would not be fair to anybody to suggest it's his fault because of decisions taken by various programmers years ago."

\par

\par Mr. Gore is confident, to an extent.

\par

\par "The federal government, certainly, is going to be in pretty good shape," the vice president said. "We've worked with states and local government, and with each sector of the business community to try to make sure they're all ready as well."

\par

\par But he added, "The most serious problems are likely to be in other countries. We have tried our best to get them to pay enough attention to what's going on and how to address it. But some of them, frankly, feel so overwhelmed by the ongoing challenge they have that it's hard for them to look that far in the future."

\par

\par }\pard \qc\nowidctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24
\par }\pard \nowidctlpar\adjust
right {\f0\fs24

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24

\par 12. The

San Francisco Examiner

\par July 2, 1999, Friday; Second Edition

\par }{\b\f0

\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\b\f0\fs24 Bush's policies set Silicon Valley abuzz ;

\par He tells donors he'll push R&D tax cuts, lawsuit protection;

\par ELECT

ION 2000}{\f0\fs24

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 BYLINE:}{\f0\fs24 ZACHAR

Y COILE

\par

\par If Silicon Valley leaders want to know how George W. Bush would handle technology issues as president, they should look no farther than Texas.

\par

\par "It's entrepreneurial heaven," Bush told 500 supporters Thursday morning at a fund-raiser in Palo Alto.

\par

\par In fact, Bush's record on technology issues as governor of Texas has been so pro-business, particularly on the thorny issue of tort reform, that critics have questioned whether he has consumers' best interests in mind.

\par

\par But his drive to cut regulation and taxes on the industry has won him the support of the growing ranks of tech entrepreneurs in Texas, and is fast gaining him friends and allies in the Bay Area.

\par

\par In his speech to 500 donors in Palo Alto, Bush preached to the choir, supporting the high-tech industry's long-standing wishes to get a permanent federal research and development tax credit, and to raise the limit on H-1B visas, to allow more foreign workers into the country.

Y.

\par

\pa

r On the issue of the export of encryption technology, he said he would allow companies to sell products overseas as long as products could be just as easily bought from suppliers abroad.

\par

\par Bush's record in Texas could be his strongest weapon as he tries to contest for money and votes in Silicon Valley, which has already become a key battleground among candidates, Democratic and Republican, in the 2000 presidential race.

\par

\par President Clinton captured the support of many Silicon Valley executives in 1992 and again in 1996. Many Democrats have been hoping Vice President Al Gore's work on technology issues will gain him the favor of the region's donors and opinion leaders.

\par

\p

ar But the early buzz in the valley, as elsewhere, is about Bush. In April, 55 high-tech executives from the area took out a full-page newspaper ad urging him to run.

\par

\par This week, technology leaders packed into his Bay Area fund-raisers. Bush aides estimated that half the \$ 1.7 million raised at two major events in San Francisco and Palo Alto had come from Silicon Valley.

\par

\

par "If you have this on the first (campaign) trip, I think it's a very good sign," Gerald Parsky, chairman of Bush's California campaign, said of the fund-raising totals.

\par

\par Before Bush was elected governor in 1994, he had little exposure to the tech industry. He began his career in the oil and gas business in west Texas and made his fortune selling his interest in the Texas Rangers baseball team.

\par

\par He came to power just as the technology sector in the Lone Star State was hitting full bloom. Between 1990 and 1996, more tech jobs were created in Texas than in any other state. The state is home to such corporate heavyweights as Dell Computer, Texas Instruments and Compaq.

\par

\par Steve Papermaster, an Austin software executive and Bush supporter, recalls that the governor struggled at the start to understand the needs of the complex industry, from the telecommunications companies concentrated north of Dallas to the software start-ups of Austin.

\par

\par "He definitely had a learning curve regarding technology," Papermaster said. "But he did not have a learning curve regarding being an entrepreneur, and understanding how to grow companies quick."

\par

\par In 1996, he tapped high-tech executives for his Science and Technology Council, which he used to develop initiatives to help the industry keep growing. Several of the group's recommendations were approved by the Democrat-controlled Legislature, including a research and development tax credit, expanded advanced placement classes at high schools, and a beefed-up technology curriculum for the state's community colleges.

\par

\par "The results are still coming in" from the council's efforts, said Al Wargo, president and CEO of the Microelectronics and Computer Technology Corp., a consortium that includes two dozen tech companies. "Clearly, as far as education goes, I think Bush does have a fairly nice track record."

\par

\par This spring, he signed legislation to reduce a state tax on Internet access. The bill will keep residents from paying tax on the first \$25 of monthly Internet access costs.

\par

\p The flourishing economy allowed Bush and the Legislature to make more significant cuts in the state's sales tax and in property taxes, as well as an estimated \$464 million in business tax cuts, according to the governor's office. But in 1997 Bush was forced to abandon a more ambitious tax reform effort that was strongly backed by the tech industry.

\par

\par Texas has no state personal income tax, and its state franchise tax, or business tax, does not apply to companies designed as partnerships, including law firms, doctors' groups and consulting firms. As a result, high-tech and other companies feel they bear an unfair share of the business tax burden.

\par

\par Bush tried to address th

e issue by proposing cuts in property taxes, while requiring the "partnerships" to start paying the business tax.

\par

\par "It opened up a can of worms," said Jon Roberts, an economist at Angelou Economic Advisors in Austin, which is now working for Bush's economic development commission. Trial lawyers and doc

tors' groups lobbied hard against the proposal, and the Democratic Legislature blocked the reforms. But the effort signaled to the high-tech industry a desire by Bush to meet its policy goals, Roberts said.

\par

\par No single issue has endeared Bush more to the technology sector than the governor's work on tort reform. Tech companies, in Texas and in Silicon Valley, have long argued that they are at higher risk from frivolous lawsuits, especially from shareholders angered when a firm's stock price drops. Bush has successfully pushed legislation making it easier for courts to toss out frivolous suits, and limiting damage awards.

\par

\par In May, Bush signed a Y2K bill, one of the first in the nation, to limit liability to companies if their products or computer systems go haywire starting Jan. 1, 2000. The bill requires firms to alert customers about possible problems, and requires a 60-day "cooling off" period before any lawsuits can be filed.

\par

\par At the Palo Alto fund-raiser, Bush criticized the Clinton administration for its handling of the federal Y2K bill, which passed Thursday in the House and Senate. Clinton said this week he would sign the compromise version of the bill, which many tech leaders see as too weak. Gore had opposed the bill altogether, saying it lacked sufficient protections for consumers.

\par

\par Bush told the crowd of 500 Silicon Valley supporters, "I will take the side of innovation over litigation every single time."

\par

\p ar But some consumer advocates in Texas say Bush has gone too far in his push for tort reform.

\par

\par "He's been more responsive to the needs of business than to the needs of private individuals and consumers," said Reggie James, director of the Southwest regional office of Consumers Union in Austin.

\par

\par "A few of those things had to happen, especially (the restrictions) on frivolous lawsuits," James said. "But most of their stuff was business interests that said, we're losing too much money in these cases, so we need to do something to change the playing field. That's not good public policy."

\par

\par Floyd Kvamme, a Menlo Park venture capitalist and early Bush supporter, said tech leaders were impressed that Bush had been willing to buck the trial attorneys and labor unions to get his reforms passed.

\par

\par Ray Lane, president of Oracle, the Redwood City database software maker, said he and other tech leaders had been driven to Bush by the failures of Clinton and }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore}{\f0\fs24 to back the industry's concerns, for example, on the }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24 bill and the research-and-development tax credit.

\par But Lane, who attended Thursday's fund-raiser, was hesitant to pledge his full support to Bush before hearing more details on his high-tech proposals. He wants to see Bush commit to spending more time in the valley, listening to the industry's concerns.

\par "We're looking to him for leadership," Lane said. "Let's look to see if he comes out on the right side of these issues."

\par }{\b\f0\fs24
0\fs24
\par }{\b\f0\fs24
0\fs24

\par }{\b\f0\fs24
0\fs24

\par }{\b\f0\fs24
0\fs24

\par }{\b\f0\fs24
0\fs24

\par }{\b\f0\fs24
0\fs24

\par }{\b\f0\fs24
0\fs24

\par }{\b\f0\fs24
0\fs24

\par 13. The Associated Press State & Local Wire

\par July 1, 1999, Thursday, AM cycle

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\b\f0\fs24 Bush offers

high-tech proposals and praise for Silicon Valley}{\f0\fs24

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 BYLINE:}{\b\f0\fs24 SCOTT LINDLAW, Associated Press Writer

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 BYLINE:}{\b\f0\fs24 SCOTT LINDLAW, Associated Press Writer

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 BYLINE:}{\b\f0\fs24 SCOTT LINDLAW, Associated Press Writer

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 BYLINE:}{\b\f0\fs24 SCOTT LINDLAW, Associated Press Writer

\par George W. Bush unveiled his high-tech agenda for Silicon Valley donors Thursday, proposing lower taxes on the industry and relaxed immigration regulations to allow additional highly skilled workers into the country.

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 BYLINE:}{\b\f0\fs24 SCOTT LINDLAW, Associated Press Writer

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 BYLINE:}{\b\f0\fs24 SCOTT LINDLAW, Associated Press Writer

\par The Republican presidential candidate lavished praise on an industry that is enjoying increasing political clout and fund-raising power. The GOP front-runner collected about \$ 1.7 million at fund-raisers heavily attended by high-tech workers in San Francisco and here.

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 BYLINE:}{\b\f0\fs24 SCOTT LINDLAW, Associated Press Writer

\par The industry "speaks to the spirit

of America," Bush told about 500 supporters. "It not only talks about new technologies that shape our lives, but it speaks about daring and enterprise and the ultimate American dream."

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 BYLINE:}{\b\f0\fs24 SCOTT LINDLAW, Associated Press Writer

\par The Texas governor embraced federal legislation that would stem a flood of lawsuits from Y2K-related computer breakdowns - "the biggest potential ambulance chase in the millennium," he said.

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 BYLINE:}{\b\f0\fs24 SCOTT LINDLAW, Associated Press Writer

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 BYLINE:}{\b\f0\fs24 SCOTT LINDLAW, Associated Press Writer

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 BYLINE:}{\b\f0\fs24 SCOTT LINDLAW, Associated Press Writer

\par Bush praised President Clinton for signaling that he will sign the bill.

But he took a swipe at Clinton and Vice President Al Gore, the Democratic presi

dential front-runner, by suggesting that Clinton had dragged his feet before supporting the bill.

\par

\par "With this administration, wisdom comes so rarely that we should not complain even if it comes too late," he said.

\par

\par Tw

o weeks ago, Intel Corp. Chairman Andrew Grove complained about the protracted negotiations with the White House over the }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24 liability protections, describing }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore's}{\f0\fs24 suppo

rt for the high-tech industry as superficial.

\par

\par "}{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 G

ore's}{\f0\fs24 reputation is already somewhat tarnished by the }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24 issue," he said. "}{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore's}{\f0\fs24 counting on Silicon Valley very strongly, and that matters to people."

\par

\par Even as Bush visited Silicon Valley, the Clinton administration announced Thursday it will relax overseas exports of some of the most powerful computers - an important issue for the high-tech industry and one that its billionaire executives have been actively lobbying in Washington.

\par

\par In recent years

, computer and high-tech industry political action committees have favored Republicans by a 2-1 margin. In the 1996 presidential election, Republicans received \$ 2.1 million from the PACs, compared to \$ 1.1 million for the Democrats.

\pa

r

\par In the first quarter of 1999, Bush had taken in \$ 86,450 from the computer industry as compared to \$ 76,250 for Gore. A second-quarter breakdown was not yet available.

\par

\par Bush stayed Wednesday night at the home of Thomas

F. Stephenson, a partner in Sequoia Capital, a venture capital firm that helped fund Yahoo! in its infancy.

\par

\par In a position paper Thursday, he called for freeing the Internet from duties and tariffs.

\par

\par Spokeswoman Karen

Hughes said after the speech that Bush is still considering whether commerce on the Internet should be taxed.

\par

\par Bush called for a permanent federal research and development tax credit, something many in this valley have long sought, and a reduction in marginal tax rates. He has previously pledged not to raise federal personal or corporate taxes.

\par

\par He proposed escalating efforts to combat intellectual property piracy, and called for lifting the cap on the number of high-skilled workers allowed into the country under so-called H-1B visas.

\par

\par He promised he would reduce unspecified regulations "that strangle enterprise," and he offered a crowd-pleasing position on encryption, one of the thorniest issues facing this region.

\par

\par Bush said U.S. firms s

ould be allowed to sell products overseas when those products are available from foreign competitors.

\par

\par The Clinton administration relaxed export controls on the software last year, but some in the industry seek even less regulation.

\par

\par Some of Bush's backers here wore "W2K" pins and cowboy boots.

\par

\par "I'm here to learn as much as you are," said Ryan Payton, an executive at C.B. Richard Ellis, a commercial real estate firm that specializes in technology firms.

\par

\par "My general impression is that he has a platform of strong values with compassion underlined with character," Payton said. "And he's obviously a pro-business guy, which gives people in business hope that he's going to do the right thing for Silicon Valley," he said.

\par }\pard \qc\now

idctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24

\par }\pard \nowidctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24

\par 14. THE ORLANDO SENTINE

L

\par June 30, 1999 Wednesday, METRO

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\b\fs24 CONGRESS FIXES GLITCH IN AGREEMENT;

\par REPUBLICANS AND THE WHITE HO

USE AGREED TO A DELAY IN FILING Y2K LAWSUITS AND TOUGH STANDARDS FOR CLASS ACTIONS.}{\f0\fs24

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 BYLINE:}{\f0\fs24 Reuters

\

\par

\par WASHINGTON - Congressional Republicans and the White House on Tuesday reached a compromise on legislation to protect companies against Y2K lawsuits, settling a dispute that threatened Vice President Al Gore's

\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore's}{\f0\fs24 ties with the high-tech community ahead of the 2000 presidential race.

\par

\par Negotiators for the Republican-led House and Senate said the legislation would delay the filing of Y2K lawsuits for up to 90 days, giving companies time to fix

any problems. It would

also make it harder for consumers to bring and win suits stemming from the year 2000 computer glitch and would cap punitive damages in certain cases.

\par

\par To satisfy the White House, which had threatened to veto earlier versions of the bill, lawmakers agreed to changes aimed at boosting consumer protection and divvying up liability if computers crash Jan.1.

\par

\par Republicans in Congress and the White House were eager to settle their differences. Republican s count on big business for support. Gore, the Democratic front-runner in the 2 000 presidential race, can ill afford a backlash from the high-tech industry.

\par

\par "There was a realization on both sides that this is so critical to A merican business," John McCain of Arizona, Senate Commerce Committee chairman a nd Republican presidential hopeful, told a news conference announcing the compr omise.

\par

\par The House and Senate are expected to vote on the legislation later this week. In a letter to lawmakers, John Podesta, White House chief of s taff, said he would "advise that the president sign this bill."

\par

\par The millennium bug, often referred to as Y2K for year 2000, arises because many old er computers use only the last two digits of a year to record dates. Unless cor rected, such systems could treat 2000 as 1900, generating errors or system cras hes Jan.1.

\par

\par Congress approved legislation earlier this year to curb Y2K lawsuits at the urging of politically powerful business groups representing IBM, Microsoft Corp., AT&T Corp. and other high-tech firms.

\par

\par Busines s groups said legislation was needed to rein in lawyers plotting a millennium-b ug offensive against technology companies. According to some experts, Y2K-relat ed litigation costs could add up to \$1 trillion.

\par

\par But the White House said the legislation provided too much protection for big business at the expe nse of consumers. It threatened to veto the bill unless McCain and other Republ icans agreed to an overhaul.

\par

\par Under the compromise announced Tuesday, the filing of Y2K lawsuits would be delayed during a 30- to 90 -day cooling-of f period. It would make it harder for lawyers to bring class-action lawsuits an d limit punitive damages for small businesses with fewer than 50 full-time empl oyees.

\par

\par Business groups hailed the agreement.

\par

\par "Millions of small businesses, commu nities, hospitals and high-tech entrepreneurs can now focus on fixing any remaining Y2K problems, instead of worrying about a group o f trial lawyers looking to get rich off Y2K," said Thomas Donohue, U.S. Chamber of Commerce president.

\par

\par

\par }\pard \qc\nowidctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24

\par }\pard \nowidctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24

\par

\par

\par

\pa

r }{\b\f0\fs24

\par 15. The San Francisco Chronicle

\par JUNE 28, 1999, MONDA

Y, FINAL EDITION

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\b\f0\fs24 Firms Prepar
e a Plan B, Gird for Y2K's Worst}{\f0\fs24

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 BYL

INE:){\f0\fs24 Benny Evangelista

\par

\par With just six months to go befo

re D-Day, companies dealing with the Year 2000 computer problem are shifting th
eir focus from fixing glitches to preparing for the worst.

\par

\par It's not

that corporate America believes that the worst will happen, but a fair amount
of contingency planning is needed to keep businesses going no matter what kind
of Y2K foul-ups appear.

\par

\par In other words, make sure that if Plan A fa

ils, there is a Plan B. Or for that matter, Plans C through Z.

\par

\par "Eve

rybody has to come up with a backup plan for what they do," said Y2K consultant
William Ulrich, co-chairman of a three-day Year 2000 National Symposium that s
tarts today at the Fairmont Hotel in San Francisco.

\par

\par Contingency pla

nnings and "business continuity strategy" are major themes of the symposium, whi
ch is expected to draw more than 200 corporate Y2K project leaders and computer
system managers from around the country.

\par

\par These are the same peop

le who have, to varying degrees, been trying to make sure software programs tha
t recognize years by only the last two digits don't confuse 2000 with 1900.

\pa

r

\par Because literally billions of lines of computer code and embedded micr
ochips could be affected, nobody knows for sure if all the work done so far to
tackle Y2K won't leave some stones unturned.

\par

\par Representatives for co

mpanies like Intel Corp., Visa International and Chronicle Publishing Co. will
detail alternatives they are working on to weather disruptions in power, transp
ortation, telecommunications or the supply chain.

\par

\par Ulrich, president

of Tactical Strategy Group Inc. of Soquel, is a consultant to corporations wit
h manufacturing plants abroad, where experts believe that computers will be mor
e prone to Y2K disruptions.

\par

\par "Contingency planning is when there is

no power for an hour, you don't send anybody home," Ulrich said. "If there is n
o power for a day, you send people home. If it's more than thr
ee days, you mig

ht have to lay people off. If power's not coming up for a month, you might shut
the operation down permanently."

\par

\par Ulrich said he has clients who ar

e stockpiling supplies and installing emergency generators -- the same steps be

ing taken by individual Y2K survivalists and community preparedness groups.

\pa

r

\par Delta Air Lines has about 85 percent of its Y2K testing done and expects to be ready by midsummer. However, it also depends on outside companies for jet fuel and other essential supplies.

\par

\par So Delta also is lining up different sources of jet fuel in case one supplier shuts down, said Walter Taylor, vice president for Delta Air Lines' computer technology division.

\par

\par

"We want to make sure we're not dependent on one because there's only so much capacity to store fuel at an airport," said Taylor, who will speak at the symposium.

\par

\par Delta also is training a team of employees to staff a Y2K crisis management center, which starting in mid-December will monitor potential trouble spots around the world 24 hours a day.

\par

\par If a foreign country is hit by power outages that affect its airports, the crisis center may decide to suspend flights to that country.

\par

\par Then again, maybe nothing will happen and the world will go on with business as usual. In that case, Taylor said, contingency planning is still helpful because it's like cleaning a messy closet.

\par

\par "One of the lessons of Y2K is that you normally really don't get to know your business or understand the processes that drive your business," Taylor said. Contingency planning "makes you scrutinize your systems more. We've found some systems that we could retire."

\par

\par DO THE MILLENNIUM BREAKDOWN

AKDOWN

\par

\par "Look at my screen all gone to black.

\par

\par "Why 2Y 2Y

K.

\par

\par "Power gone and it won't come back.

\par

\par "Why 2Y 2YK."

\p

ar

\par Those are the opening lyrics of a new Y2K song performed by The Digitones and written by Don Lattin, the Chronicle's religion writer.

\par

\par La

ttin said he wanted to give people some lighthearted humor to counter the doom and gloom of the most-dire Y2K prognosticators.

\par

\par "It would be a shame if Y2K ruined people's New Year's Eve parties," Lattin said. "At least let's have fun until the lights go out at midnight."

\par

\par The irony is Lattin

has employed the best that high tech has to offer to sell the song. The CD and a digitally downloadable Liquid Audio version of "Why 2YK" are both available on his Web site, www.y2ksong.net.

\par

\par MORE Y2K CHUCKLES

\par

\par If th

at song isn't enough, check out more Y2K humor from the state of Connecticut's Department of Information Technology, at www.doit.state.ct.us/y2k/humor.htm, f

or lyrics to "The Y2K Blues" and "The Digital Hillbillies." Or try www.duh-2000.com, which collects the dumbest things said about Y2K, some of them by Vice President Al Gore.

\f0\fs24

\par }\pard \qc\nowidctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24

\par }\pard \nowidctlpar

\adjustright {\f0\fs24

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24

\par 1

6. The Washington Post

\par June 24, 1999, Thursday, Saturday, Final Edition

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\b\f0\fs24 Hill Republicans Try to Dunk }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore}{\b\f0\fs24 in Some }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\b\f0\fs24 Hot Water}{\f0\fs24

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 BYLINE:}{\f0\fs24 M

ichael Grunwald; Juliet Eilperin, Washington Post Staff Writers

\par

\par Con

gressional Republicans moved yesterday to force a showdown with President Clinton over the Year 2000 computer bug, hoping to present Vice President }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore}{\f0\fs24 with his own }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24 problem.

\par

\par House GOP leaders agreed to accept the Senate's version of a bill to limit liability for damages resulting from Y2K computer failures, clearing t

he way for its final passage. But Clinton repeated his intention to veto the bill, a move Republicans believe will hurt Gore's credibility with the high-tech community in the 2000 presidential campaign.

\par

\par Congress quickly

erupted in partisan bickering over

the digital deadlock, which could stall ti

me-sensitive efforts to help firms fix Y2K problems without fear of frivolous lawsuits. Republicans accused Democrats of scuttling reform to appease trial lawyers. Democrats accused Republicans of refusing to com

promise in order to play

political games.

\par

\par On Tuesday, the Year 2000 Coalition of more than

100 business groups had implored House leaders to work with Clinton to pass legislation he could sign, warning that "a legislative process that terminates in a vet

o would be viewed as a complete failure, and would pose substantial risk to the American economy."

\par

\par But John Feehery, spokesman for House Speaker J. Dennis Hastert (R-Ill.), said Clinton will bear responsibility if nothing passes: "The president needs to make a choice, whether he's going to support the trial lawyers or support the engine that produces the jobs in this country."

\par

\par Programmers around the world are scrambling to debug computers with two-digit date fields, warning that they may interpret "00" as 1900 instead of 2000 and wreak financial havoc. High-tech groups and other business organizations have lobbied to limit Y2K lawsuits, arguing that without assurances firms may be reluctant to help fix the problem.

\par

\par The House passed strong restrictions on Y2K lawsuits on May 12, and the Senate followed with a less sweeping version on June 15. But Clinton has said that while he wants to protect companies from frivolous Year 2000 suits, he believes both versions of the bill extend beyond the Y2K problem into broader tort reform issues, capping punitive damages in too many cases and forcing too many class action suits into federal court.

\par

\par Yesterday, House leaders indicated that they would agree to the slightly weaker Senate bill, but that they would not commit to promise any further to prevent a Clinton veto. A spokeswoman for House Majority Leader Richard K. Armey (R-Tex.) said the House is likely to vote on the Y2K legislation early next week after the House and Senate correct one amendment Republicans believe could void financial services contracts. An aide to Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott (R-Miss.) said the Senate probably will pass the amended bill early next week.

\par

\par "We realize we're only six months away from January 1," said Michelle Davis, the Armey spokeswoman. "You would think that urgency would get the president's attention."

\par

\par But Clinton spokesman Jake Siewert said the legislative maneuvering soon will be moot, because Clinton will make good on his promise to veto the Senate bill. "We will veto any bill that attempts to accomplish broader tort reform issues by wrapping them in Y2K legislation," he said. "The Republicans have to make a choice: Do they want a bill that we can sign into law, or do they want a political issue?"

\par

\par Silicon Valley is a mother lode for political fund-raising; in the 1997-98 election cycle, the computer and electronics industries gave \$ 4.3 million to Democrats and \$ 5.5 million to Republicans. Just last night, Gore held a fund-raiser in San Francisco, pulling in \$ 600,000 from a mostly high-tech crowd, but GOP leaders hope the Y2K issue will whittle away Gore's support among digital-world CEOs. Gore spokesman

an Chris Lehane said the vice president agrees with Clinton on this issue, calling the Senate bill "overreaching and anti-consumer."

\par

\par In recent months,

congressional Republicans have tried to embarrass Gore on a variety of issues, from his support for a space satellite designed to film the Earth to his claim to have invented the Internet. Yesterday, Lehane noted that their decision

to pass a Y2K bill they know Clinton will veto came just one day after they met with GOP presidential front-runner George W. Bush. "It's pretty obvious that the Republicans are playing partisan politics these days," he said.

\par

\par

But House Republican

emphasized that they are making a number of concessions

by accepting the more modest Senate Y2K bill, such as limiting a \$ 250,000 cap on punitive damages to small businesses. They said the real cause of the impasse is the trial lawyers, who gave \$ 41.7

million to Democrats in the last cycle,

and only \$ 16.1 million to Republicans.

\par

\par "The final product that

will be sent to the president represents a strong compromise by this Congress," said Trey Hardin, spokesman for Rep. Thomas M. Davis III (R-Va.). "He ought to sign it."

\par } \par \qc \nowidctlpar \adjustright {\f0\fs24

\par } \par \n

owidctlpar \adjustright {\f0\fs24

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par } {\b \f0\fs

24

\par 17. The San Francisco Chronicle

\par JUNE 19, 1999, SATURDAY, FINAL E

DITION

\par } {\b \f0\fs24 \cgrid0 HEADLINE:} {\b \f0\fs24 } {\b \f0\fs24 \cgrid0 Gore
re} {\b \f0\fs24 Under Fire for Opposing Bill on } {\b \f0\fs24 \cgrid0 Y2K} {\b \f0
\fs24 Suits; McCain, GOP hoping to win industry support} {\f0\fs24

\par

\p

ar } {\b \f0\fs24 \cgrid0 BYLINE:} {\f0\fs24 Robert B. Gunnison, Carla Marinucci,
Chronicle Political Writers

\par

\par Despite portraying himself as the can

didate who best understands the high-tech industry, Vice President Al Gore stirred up a hornets' nest in the electronics industry yesterday with his opposition to legislation that would limit

lit lawsuits for damages caused by Y2K problems.

\par

\par On the third day of his nationwide tour to launch his candidacy for

the Democratic presidential nomination, Gore appeared at a high school in Los Angeles to denounce congressional Republicans for opposing gun-control legislation.

\par

\par But it was a small story in the Wall Street Journal that provoked

the campaign fireworks. The item said } {\b \f0\fs24 \cgrid0 Gore} {\f0\fs24

would ask President Clinton to veto the }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24
1
egislation, which passed the Senate this week by a wide bipartisan margin.
\p
ar
\par Gore spokesman Chris Lahane said the bill is "over-reaching and not p
rotecting American consumers."
\par
\par The bill's author, Republican Senato
r John McCain of Arizona, himself a candidate for president, seized on the stor
y to denounce Gore during a tour of Silicon Valley.
\par
\par High-tech firms
, hoping to head off a flood of lawsuits that could exceed \$ 1 trillion in dama
ges if computers run amok next year, support McCain's legislation. His measure
must be reconciled with a House-passed version.
\par
\par The White House has
suggested that McCain's bill would erode the legal rights of consumers and red
uce pressure on computer companies to solve Y2K problems.
\par
\par The Journ
al story said the GOP -- seeking to cast Democrats in the worst possible light
among potential Silicon Valley political donors -- was mulling over the idea of
sending the bill to Clinton to ensure a veto.
\par
\par McCain's bill would
delay the filing of Y2K lawsuits during a 30-to 90-day cooling-off period, make
it harder for consumers to file suits if their computers crash and limit punit
ive damages in certain cases.
\par
\par "The Democrats delayed it on several
occasions, for a period of months," said McCain, during a roundtable discussion
with reporters. "There is not a doubt in my mind that this is one of the most
vi
tal pieces of legislation -- to prevent as much as a trillion dollars being
taken out of the economy in frivolous lawsuits."
\par
\par "If the president
decides to veto," he said. "I will do everything in my power to get 67 votes to
override his veto."
\par
\par McCain al
so said he is not prepared to compro
mise much more. He noted that "significant changes" were made in negotiations w
ith Democrats, including Senator Dianne Feinstein of California. "I don't know
what other changes we could make without emasculating the leg
islation," he sai
d.
\par
\par Gore supports a bill by Senator John Kerry, D-Mass., considered
by the electronics industry to be a weaker alternative to McCain's. Kerry has
the backing of the White House and trial lawyers, usually generous contributors
to Democrats.
\par
\par The U.S. Chamber of Commerce was quick to jump on th
e }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24 flap, charging that }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 G
ore}{\f0\fs24 is turning his back on the high-tech industry and siding with t
rial lawyers.
\par

\par SIDING WITH TRIAL LAWYERS

\par

\par "Vice President

} {\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore} {\f0\fs24 says he supports high tech, but on } {\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K} {\f0\fs24

he's sided with trial lawyers," Bruce Josten, executive vice president of the Chamber, said in a statement. "It is a mystery that he could now side with trial lawyers who are intent on foraging through Silicon Valley for contingency fees."

\par

\par McCain also

tried to make the case

that Gore -- who has made 55 trips to California and numerous fund-raising and political stops in Silicon Valley -- doesn't have a lock on the hearts of high-tech leaders. "Although I didn't invent the Internet," he said, in a dig at

a remark Gore made during a recent interview, "I have a keen appreciation for the incredible impact that this is having on America and the world."

\par

\par

While McCain took aim at Gore, the vice president fired a few shots at George W. Bush, the front-runner for the Republican presidential nomination, who as governor of Texas signed a bill limiting cities' ability to sue firearms manufacturers and dealers.

\par

"The stakes are too high for any presidential candidate to stand on the sidelines," Gore said in a speech at Fairfax High School, where a pupil was accidentally shot to death in 1993.

\par

\par Gore did

not mention Bush by name, but Assembly Speaker Antonio Villaraigosa of Los Angeles left no doubt yesterday that Democrats were targeting Bush for his gun-control stance.

\par

\par IT WON'T FLY IN CALIFORNIA

\par

\par "That might fly

in Texas, but it's not going to fly in California," Villaraigosa told an enthusiastic crowd of several hundred students, labor union members and Democratic activists.

\par

\par For his part, McCain called for the Republican Party to address the public's deepening concerns about violence in the wake of the high school shooting rampage in Colorado two months ago.

\par

\par "Republicans have

to be aware that the American people expect us to take every measure we can to reduce

the avalanche of guns to children," McCain said, "But it's also wrong for Democrats to suggest to the American people that guns alone are the problem."

\par

\par During the town hall style meeting in Los Angeles, Gore interrupted a question-and-answer session to hug a lesbian pupil who tearfully told of being harassed by classmates at another school.

\par

\par The crowd broke in

to sustained applause as Gore walked into the audience to embrace Jessie Funez, who began crying as she told Gore her belief that "retaliation against

inst gay yo
 uth is sanctioned" in California. "How can anyone not be moved by such a sincere opening of her heart?" Gore asked moments later.

"I believe that
 in the history of our nation, we have grown in our understanding to what it is to be human," he said. "Now we have to expand the human circle of dignity to include lesbians and gays."

18. National Journal's Daily Energy Briefing
 June 1
 7, 1999, Thursday
 YEAR 2000:
 Daschle Releases Y2K "Principles"

Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle (D-SD) released his "principles" for Y2K litigation reform, saying they would "ensure Pres. Clinton's signature" on Y2K legislation already approved by the Senate (Daily Energy Briefing, June 16).

Daschle's principles include calls for proportionate liability "only for those who act responsibly;" an additional duty to mitigate on plaintiffs only when the defendant acted responsibly; no enforcement of illegal contract terms; no unnecessary burdens on federal courts; no special protection for consumers and other service providers and no cap on punitive damages (Juliana Gruenwald and Pamela Barnett, CongressDailyAM, June 17).

Meanwhile, a Wall Street Journal editorial accuses the president of threatening vetoes to "pry concessions" out of the House and Senate over Y2K legislation so he could sign a "watered-down" bill and VP Al Gore could claim he "kept everyone happy." The paper: "We hope the high-tech community is smart enough to keep the pressure on. [Gore] will need to separate himself from the Clinton way of lying, and [Y2K] is a good place to start" (June 17).

And Sen. Slade Gorton (R-WA) writes in a Seattle Post-Intelligencer op-ed, "The Y2K liability legislation ... will protect many software and high-tech companies from going under. The legislation will provide our economy with protection from a potentially disastrous situation" (June 17).

\par
\par
\par
\par
\par
\par }{\b\f0\fs24
\par 19. The San Franc
isco Chronicle
\par JUNE 11, 1999, FRIDAY, FINAL EDITION
\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0
HEADLINE:}{\b\f0\fs24 One Y2K Problem Is Enough}{\f0\fs24
\par
\par
IF THERE is anything worse than a wave of computer crashes on Jan. 1, 2000, it
is the prospect of a subsequent glut of frivolous lawsuits overwhelming the cou
rts for the first few years of the new millennium.
\par
\par Businesses and i
ndividuals should have reasonable recourse against any f
raudulent or negligent
actions that caused or contributed to a Y2K failure. However, the Y2K problem
should not be allowed to become a springboard for lawsuits intended to extort
fast settlements out of computer companies.
\par
\par The industry has seen t
his tac
tic before, with trial lawyers using the volatility of technology stock
s to file lawsuits on behalf of shareholders. Many of these lawsuits amounted t
o a wild stretch, but the companies were left with a Hobson's choice: Settle th
em or face long, costly li
tigation.
\par
\par A group of U.S. senators, incl
uding Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., has been working out a plan to put reasonable
restraints on Y2K lawsuits. The plan would cap punitive damages at \$ 250,000 a
gainst businesses with 50 or fewer employees and give tec
h companies 90 days t
o remedy a Y2K failure.
\par
\par Perhaps most importantly, the proposal woul
d hold a company liable only for damages it caused, thus preventing lawyers fro
m unfairly fishing for the "deepest pockets."
\par
\par The White House, whic
h purports to be attuned to the interests of technology industries, has been op
posed to the concept. Vice President Al }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore}{\f0\fs24
w
ould be wise to start pressing for such a measure, if he wants to avert his own
}{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24 problem in Silicon Valley.
\par
\par
\pa
r
\par
\par }{\b\f0\fs24
\par }{\b\f0\fs24
dctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24
\par
\par }{\b\f0\fs24
\par 20. The Washington

Post

\par June 11, 1999, Friday, Final Edition

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEAD

LINE:}{\b\f0\fs24 Republicans Postpone Vote on Y2K Measure; Visit of High-Tech Executives Awaited, Aides Say}{\f0\fs24

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 BYLI

NE:}{\f0\fs24 Stephen Barr, Washington Post Staff Writer

\par

\par Senate R

epublicans put off yesterday the vote on a bill addressing Year 2000 computer liability issues in order to take advantage of a gathering of high-tech executives here next week, GOP aides said.

\par

\par Even though the Senate appeared

ready to end debate on the bill last night, with three amendments to go, Republicans said in mid-afternoon that the final vote would be held on Tuesday.

\par

\par Holding the vote that day, when Microsoft Corp. Chairman Bill Gates and other CEOs are scheduled to testify before Congress, will make it harder for President Clinton and Vice President

Clinton Gore to continue their opposition to the bill,

according to the GOP aides, who asked not to be identified.

\par

\par But

John Czwartacki, a spokesman for Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott (R-Miss.), denied that the postponement was aimed at putting pressure on Clinton and Gore

. He said Senate Democrats had delayed the bill's consideration earlier this year and that a further, brief delay would not matter.

\par

\par The bill, which

has been pushed for the past six months by a powerful coalition of business and high-tech groups, would limit class action lawsuits and punitive damages in the event of Year 2000 computer breakdowns, popularly known as Y2K.

\par

\pa

r Bill supporters contend that high-tech companies need legislative protections to avert a financial catastrophe early next year, when computers using two-digit date fields might interpret "00" as 1900, not 2000, and malfunction or crash

.

\par

\par But the White House said yesterday that the president's senior advisers would recommend a veto. Opponents have argued that the bill would thwart

consumers and small businesses from recovering economic losses in court and would upset state procedural laws.

\par

\par Over the past year, some congressional

Republicans and business lobbyists have hoped to use the }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24 issue to force }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore,}{\f0\fs24 who is running

for president, to choose between two important Democratic constituencies--trial lawyers, who oppose liability limits, and Silicon Valley companies, which want to avoid costly class action suits.

\par

\par Trial lawyers have been

staunch Democratic supporters, but as Sen. Ernest F. Hollings (D-S.C.) said Wednesday, "Everyone wants Silicon Valley contributions."

\par
\par Republic
ans also want to counter what they perceive as a Democratic edge in the promotion of the "new economy," and next week's "high-tech summit" sponsored by the Joint Economic Committee will provide the GOP with an opportunity to show their support for the industry.

\par
\par In addition to Gates, IBM Chairman Louis V. Gerstner Jr., Intel Corp. President Craig R. Barrett, TechNet President Robert Katz, Adobe Systems Inc. Chairman John E. Warnock, Novell Inc. Chairman Eric Schmidt, Business Software Alliance President Robert Holleyman and other software executives are scheduled to testify.

\par
\par The Business Software Alliance, an industry trade group, plans to set aside time for the computer executives to meet with senators, Cabinet secretaries and other administration officials on Wednesday.

\par
\par But some lobbying began yesterday. John Doerr, a high-tech venture capitalist and Gore supporter, met privately with Democratic senators, including Christopher J. Dodd (Conn.) and John F. Kerry (Mass.). Intel founder Andy Grove also met and called lawmakers, congressional aides said.

\par
\par The GOP leadership's decision to delay the Y2K vote put Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.), the bill's chief sponsor, in an uncomfortable spot yesterday. On Wednesday, he had exhorted Senate colleagues to move swiftly on the bill: "Time is of the essence here. We cannot dally."

\par
\par The delay came on a day when McCain, a GOP presidential contender, was already scheduled to leave in late afternoon for a New York fund-raiser sponsored by a communications company and for appearances on two television programs there.

\par
\par Senate Minority Leader Thomas A. Daschle (D-S.D.) and Hollings, who have opposed the McCain bill, said they were ready to wrap up the legislation. "There's no reason why this bill could not be completed today," Daschle said.

\par
\par Sen. Ernest F. Hollings wants bill wrapped up. Sen. John McCain had said: "We cannot dally."

\par
\par }\pard \qc\nowidctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24
\par }\pard \nowidctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24

\par
\par
\par
\par }{\b\f0\fs24

\par
21. The San Francisco Chronicle
\par JUNE 10, 1999, THURSDAY, FINAL EDITION
\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\b\f0\fs24 Silicon Valley's Y2K Lawsuit Limit Gaining in Senate; Backers say once-stalled bill has become nearly veto-pr

oof}{\f0\fs24

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 BYLINE:}{\f0\fs24 Carolyn Loch
head, Chronicle Washington Bureau

\par

\par Silicon Valley scored a sweet political victory yesterday, knocking back a Senate filibuster on a bill to protect companies from lawsuits over the Y2K computer glitch and closing in on enough votes to defeat a promised White House veto.

\par

\par "We're pretty close to a veto-proof bill," declared Gary Karr, spokesman for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, which is leading a powerful business coalition against trial attorneys, who fiercely oppose limits on }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24 lawsuits. "

This ratchets up the pressure on Al }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore}{\f0\fs24 and the White House."

\par

\par Yesterday's events were a convincing demonstration of high-tech's growing political muscle. A large group of moderate Democrats, including California's Dianne Feinstein, joined Republicans behind a compromise that supporters contend is close to securing a veto-proof 67 votes.

\par

\par Feinstein declared that without the legislation, "I believe we could see the destruction or dismemberment of America's cutting-edge lead in technology."

\par

\par South Carolina Democrat Ernest Hollings, a former trial lawyer, dropped his filibuster, blaming campaign contributions from high-tech for swaying vote counts.

\par

\par "Everybody wants Silicon Valley contributions," Hollings said. "I do, too. But I can't see changing 200 years of tort law in order to get it."

\par

\par The Senate compromise would cap punitive damages at \$ 250,000 against businesses with 50 or fewer employees and require a 90-day cooling off period in which companies would be given the chance to remedy a Y2K failure. Of keen interest to Silicon Valley is a provision that would hold a company liable only for the losses it caused, not for damages caused by suppliers or others.

\par

\par Under current law, companies responsible for a fraction of damages can still be held 100 percent liable, exposing large, "deep pocket" companies, like Intel and Microsoft, to huge liabilities.

\par

\par The Senate is expected to vote on final passage late today.

\par

\par The House passed a much stronger version of the bill last month, although without enough support to override a veto. Senate Commerce Committee chairman John McCain, R-Ariz., said yesterday he hopes the two chambers can reach agreement on a final version for passage by the end of the month. The White House opposes both versions.

\par

\par Hollings charged that Silicon Valley is demanding an unprecedented legal shield, comparing it to General Motors making a car that turns left when the driver steers it right, and then asking Congress to prevent anyone from suing.

\par

\par But a powerful alliance of Democrats from states with strong technology sectors, including Feinstein, Oregon's Ron Wyden and Connecticut's Chris Dodd, accused Hollings and Massachusetts Democrat John Kerry -- who has drafted a weaker alternative that has White House backing -- of catering to trial lawyers.

\par

\par "The Kerry amendment is a lightning rod for additional frivolous lawsuits," Wyden charged. "Some of the language is so vague it's going to ignite a litigation derby."

\par

\par Kerry's amendment went down to defeat yesterday on a 57-to-41 vote.

\par

\par Businesses contend that they stand to get hit by a wave of lawsuits if there are any computer disruptions resulting from the Y2K glitch, which causes computers to misread the year 2000 date.

\par

\par No one knows how severe Y2K disruptions may be -- computers operate everything from cash registers to financial markets. By some estimates, Y2K litigation could be the biggest mass tort ever, with damages reaching as high as \$ 1 trillion. Trial attorneys typically collect a third of any award.

\par

\par McCain cited as a "classic example of opportunistic litigation" a Y2K class-action suit already filed in which a California man accuses six large retailers, including Circuit City, Office Depot and CompUSA, of failing to warn consumers about products that are not Y2K compliant.

\par

\par McCain said the suit "has not alleged any injury or economic damage" to the plaintiff but requests damages amounting to all six retailers' combined profits since 1995 on behalf of "all members of the California general public."

\par

\par } \par \plain \s16 \nowidctlpar \adjustright \cgrid Hollings retorted with the case of Dr. Robert Courtney, a New Jersey physician who bought a \$ 13,000 computer system from Medical Manager in 1997 to handle his billing and scheduling. He said the salesman told him it would last at least 10 years. A year later, he said, the company told him the system was not Y2K compliant and it would cost \$ 25,000 to fix it. Courtney said the company refused to remedy the problem until he sued.

\par \par \plain

in \nowidctlpar \adjustright \f6 \fs20 \cgrid { \f0 \fs24

\par

\par } \par \qc \now

idctlpar \adjustright { \f0 \fs24

\par } \par \nowidctlpar \adjustright { \f0 \fs24

\par

\par

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24

\par 22. The Bulletin's Frontrunner

\pa

r May 21, 1999

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\b\f0\fs24 Gore To Focus

On Faith-Based Organizations In Atlanta Speech.}{\f0\fs24

\par

\par Th

e AP (5/20) reported Vice Preside

nt Gore, "who made education the focus of his

first major campaign speech, has picked topic No. 2: Faith-based organization s." Gore plans to "use the address Monday in Atlanta to discuss how he believes churches and other religious organizations can play

a larger role in solving

problems that government is currently trying to tackle, such as moving people from welfare to work." Republicans, " including potential GOP presidential rival Texas Gov. George Bush," have " fought to make it easier for faith-based or

ganizations to be involved in the delivery of social services." Bush spokeswoman Mindy Tucker said, "If he needs any information on the topic, there are many success stories in Texas for him to look to." Gore And Gun Control.

\par

\pa

r For complete coverage of Gore's gun control vote, see the "Leading The News" section above. Gore And Clinton Clear The Air.

\par

\par The Wall Street Jou

rnal (5/21, A1, Shafer) reported Clinton and Gore "in a phone call last Friday cleared the air on the President's New York Times interview expressing concern

s about the Gore campaign. But some Gore aides still burn over Clinton's remarks, given the Clinton scandal-damage to their man." Clinton has "agree(d) to introduce Gore on Tuesday when the Vice President addresses Latinos at the Texas

- Mexico border." Meanwhile, "some White House aides think the Gore team is overreacting to negative press stories and is accelerating campaign activities too quickly." On }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K,}{\f0\fs24

Doerr Gets No Return For Hi

s Investment In }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore.}{\f0\fs24

\par

\par The Wall Stre

et Journa

l's Paul Gigot (5/21) writes, "Few people have done more than John Doerr to make Al Gore the next president. So why won't the veep speak up now that his Silicon Valley patron really needs him?" That's what "high-tech business chiefs are asking privately

a

s they watch Mr. Doerr get the bum's rush from

a White House where he was supposed to have clout." On a bill to protect businesses from "frivolous Y2K lawsuits, Mr. Doerr is getting clobbered by a mortal enemy that also happens to be a major Gore benefactor -- the plaintiff's bar." Go

re To Join Clinton In Texas For Empowerment Zone Event.

\par

\par The AP (5/

20) reported Vice President Gore "will be in Texas next week, though don't look for him to seek any advice from Texas Gov. George Bush." Gore will "join Pres

i

dent Clinton for an event promoting economic incentives in poor communities."

After the "empowerment zone event Tuesday," Gore will "head to Houston and Dallas for to discuss education and raise money." Gore aides are "debating whether he should take advantage of his proximity to Austin by alluding to Bush during the trip. At best, look for something subtle; he is not expected to go on the attack."

\par
\par Dropped debate
\par

\par While debate on the Senate's Y2K liability-limitation bill was dropped in late April because of political maneuvering, lobbyists for industry groups favoring the bill hope to revive it later this month.

\par
\par Last week, the House passed legislation unacceptable to the trial lawyers and the Clinton administration because of the liability limits.

\par
\par The House bill would make potential plaintiffs wait 90 days before suing, giving computer makers and servicers time to fix problems. It also would encourage mediation, put some limits on class-action lawsuits and cap punitive damages at around \$ 250,000.

\par
\par Republicans said that despite changes in the legislation, a major area of dispute continues to be how to restrain trial lawyers from suing as many corporations as possible, including those on the periphery of damage claims and especially those with "deep pockets," the Post said.

\par "Republicans and key business lobbyists are using the glitch to force Vice President Gore to choose between two important constituencies: trial lawyers and Silicon Valley," the Post reported. "High-tech CEOs, many of whom have been courted by Gore, want the vice president to take an aggressive stand for legislation to limit liability for damages resulting from Y2K computer failures. Trial lawyers, in contrast, want to retain as much leeway as they can to sue for damages, and are pressing Gore and the Clinton administration to remain in their corner."

\par
\par The administration said last week that it wants to see the bill limited to commercial claims, exempting consumers. But it expressed some flexibility on the issue of "proportionate ability." Supporters want defendants to be liable only for their share of any damage, reducing the tendency of plaintiffs to go after companies with deep pockets, but consumer groups argue that this would work to the disadvantage of lower-income plaintiffs.

\par
\par Chris Lehane, a spokesman for Gore, said Republicans are "trying to create a wedge issue with the explicit desire to inflict . . . political damage on the vice president."

\par
\par "The measure poses a conflict for Democrats," the Post reported. "Many have strong ties to the trial lawyers, a major source of contributions, and to consumer groups allied with the lawyers. At the same time, high-tech firms are a significant economic presence in many congressional districts and more investors are putting their money in high-tech stocks."

\par "Gore is scared to death," said Rep. Thomas Davis III (R-Va.), chairman of the Republican Congressional Campaign Committee and a sponsor of the bill. "You have to choose between friends. . . . This one wedges them."
\par

\par .

\par

\par Too optimistic

\par

\par One study of SEC filings

from January through March by 647 of the Fortune 1000 suggested that corporations are too optimistic about their ability to cope with Y2K computer errors or failures, the Times reported.

\par

\par "A significant number of companies

in every industry sector started late and too much work remains for them to finish in 1999," said Steven Hock, president of Triaxsys Research, which issued a report

on its SEC research. "Some are just not going to make it in time and

will be forced to rely heavily on contingency plans and crisis management to avoid serious business disruptions."

\par

\par The second study was by Edward

Yardeni, the chief economist at Deutsche

Bank Securities in New York, who

is well-known for his views that Y2K could have a significant negative impact on society. His analysis of SEC disclosure statements by 372 of the 500 companies making up the Standard & Poor's stock index showed that only 44 of the firms

, or less than 12 percent, had spent as much as 75 percent of their projected Y2K correction budgets by the end of 1998.

\par

\par "This doesn't mean that

the others are not going to get the job done," Yardeni said. "It does mean that they aren't leaving themselves much time."

\par

\par Yardeni and other

Y2K project managers said that companies rushing to catch up are more likely to make mistakes, cut corners on testing and prepare inadequate contingency plans, the Times reported.

\par

\par .

\par

\par Too much weight?

\par

\par

But year 2000 experts cautioned against giving too much weight to the Y2K budget information filed with the SEC. The government doesn't audit the numbers for accuracy, and the figures can change dramatically for individual companies from

quarter to quarter, the Times said.

\par

\par For example, Sun

Microsystems, which spent just 14 percent of its Y2K budget through the end of 1998, reported that it had spent 48 percent of that budget by the end of the first quarter of this year. In addition

, the Times said a conservative firm such

as Sun, which budgeted money to do Y2K audits of its suppliers in the months ahead, might take longer to spend its Y2K budget than a company that took fewer precautions.

\par
\par "Moreover, because the world has never experienced anything like the year 2000 computer problem, no one can be certain whether a company leaving much of its spending for this year is running major risks," the Times said.

\par
\par _ The Washington Post and New York Times contributed to this report.

\par
\par
\par }\pard \qc\nowidctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24

\par }\pard \nowidctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24

\par

\par

\par

\par }{\

b\f0\fs24

\par 24. The Washington Post

\par May 07, 1999, Friday, Final Editi

on

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\b\f0\fs24 Battle Lines on }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\b\f0\fs24 Liability Catch }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore}{\b\f0\fs24 in Cross-Fire }{\f0\fs24

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 BYLINE:}{\f0\fs24

Thomas B. Edsall; Stephen Barr, Washington Post Staff Writers

\par

\par Rep

ublicans and key business lobbyists are using the }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24 glitch to force Vice President }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore}{\f0\fs24 to choose between two important Democratic constituencies: trial lawyers and Silicon Valley.

\par

\par High-tech CEOs, many of whom have been courted by Gore, want the vice president to take an aggressive stand for legislation to limit l

iability for damages resulting from Y2K computer failures. Trial lawyers, in contrast, want to retain as much leeway as they can to sue for damages, and are pressing Gore and the Clinton administration to remain in their corner.

\par

\par Republicans, who view the trial lawyers as a political enemy and support the legislation, are openly pointing out the political liabilities of opposing it to the vice president and Democratic Party.

\par

\par "Gore is scared to d

eath," said Rep. Thomas M. Davis III (R-Va.), chairman of the Republican Congressional Campaign Committee and a sponsor of the bill. "You have to choose between friends. . . . This one wedges them."

\par

\par Chris Lehane, a spokesman

for Gore, said Republicans are "trying to create a wedge issue with the explicit desire to inflict . . . political damage on the vice president."

\par

\par

The House is on the verge of passing legislation unacceptable to the trial lawyers and the Clinton administration because of the liability limits. The legislation also includes a "loser pays" provision and other hurdles to pursuing liabi

lity claims.

\par

\par A number of these provisions have been eliminated or modified in the Senate version, pushed by Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.). But a major area of dispute remains, according to Republicans: how to restrain lawyers from suing as many corporations as possible, including those on the periphery of damage claims and especially those with "deep pockets."

\par

\par The

measure poses a conflict for Democrats. Many have strong ties to the trial lawyers, a major source of contributions, and to consumer groups allied with the lawyers. At the same time, high-tech firms are a significant economic presence in many congressional districts and more investors are putting their money in high-tech stocks.

\par

\par During the 1997-98 election cycle, lawyers, many of them trial or plaintiff's lawyers, gave a total of \$ 41.7 million to Democratic candidates and the Democratic Party, while contributing \$ 16.1 million to GOP candidates and committees, according to the Committee for Responsive Politics. The computer and electronics industry was far more evenly divided, giving \$ 4.3 million to Democrats and \$ 5.5 million to Republicans.

\par

\par For Gore

e, the dilemma is particularly acute. Not only is he trying to balance competing interests as he puts together his bid for the presidency, but the conflict between trial lawyers and technology firms is perhaps most intense in California, a must-win state for Gore if he is the Democratic nominee.

\par

\par Gore's

office has been under pressure from both sides, including calls from John Doerr, Silicon Valley's premier venture capitalist and a major Gore fund-raiser.

\

\par

\par Republicans, who have been on the ropes through the elections of 1996 and 1998 and the presidential impeachment process, are gleeful to have an issue that threatens to divide their adversaries and damage Gore's presidential prospects.

\par

\par "Al Gore has to choose between his trial lawyer friends and his high-tech friends," said John Feehery, spokesman for House Speaker J. Dennis

Hastert (R-Ill.). "It's a huge problem for them. Do they want to support one of the engines that had kept our economy growing at an exceptional rate or their buddies in the trial bar who haven't done anything to make the economy grow?"

\par

\par "This is not just

about Al Gore, it's really about the future of the parties," another Republican strategist said. "Right now, the political parties are out of date, aligned along issues and an approach to the economy that is 30 years old. Soon, the political alignment is going to be expressed in a division between old and new. This [high-tech] is a group that is up for grabs."

\par

\par While Gore has taken a hands-off stance toward the legislation, his position amounts to supporting the trial lawyers because the Justice Department and Clinton have both warned that the bill is likely to be vetoed without major changes.

\par

\par A key high-tech lobbyist angry over Gore's unwillingness to get involved in the battle in the Senate said, "The vice president's problem is that he is engaged to two women." Noting that the election will take place in 2000, "just when these suits will be clogging the courts," the lobbyist added: "Does he want this industry to be on its knees, or does he want this industry to continue to drive growth?"

\par

\par Most high-tech lobbyists so far are unwilling to criticize Gore publicly. "I'm not interested in embarrassing the vice president, but neither am I going to support him when my industry thinks this is an important bill," said Harris Miller, president of the Informati

on Technology Association of America. "We need some help here and the vice president is the most logical person to offer that help."

\par

\par Meanwhile, sources among the trial lawyers complimented Gore. "The vice president would like to have a bill that is fair to consumers, fair to small business, fair to high-tech companies, and fair to all would-be defendants and to all would-be plaintiffs," said a lobbyist for the trial lawyers, who asked not to be named. "He has been letting Clinton be the leader."

\par

\par A Gore aide defended the vice president's role, saying, "It is appropriate to let the Senate work its will."

\par

\par Since the beginning of the Clinton administration, Republicans have voiced frustration that the Democratic Party has been able to come close to matching the GOP in high-tech contributions. The GOP sees the Y2K liability legislation as a way to end that trend.

\par

\par "The Democrats have used abortion, guns, gay rights and all the cultural issues to hammer us in Silicon Valley with great effect. Now, we've got a shot at protecting high-tech's bottom line," a key GOP operative said.

\par

\par Rep. David E. Dreier (R-Calif.), chairman of the Rules Committee and a sponsor of the House Y2K bill, said the administration has "been getting away with" claiming to be high-tech ally, despite only reluctant support for allowing foreign technology workers to get visas and overt opposition to high-tech securities legislation.

\par

\par Rep. Calvin M. Dooley (D-Calif.), a leader of the pro-high-tech New Democratic Coalition, is aware of the challenge and the risk facing Democrats. "It's important for Democrats to demonstrate to one of the most rapidly growing sectors of the economy that we understand the problems they are facing," he said.

\par }\pard

\qc\nowidctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24
 \par }\pard \nowidctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24
 \par
 \par
 \par
 \par
 \par }{\b\f0\fs24
 \par 25. The Hill
 \p
 ar April 7, 1999 Wednesday
 \par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\b\f0\fs24 WH
 Y 2K?; The Gore2K computer bug}{\f0\fs24
 \par
 \par Could the infamous }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24 bug crash Vice President Al }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore's}{\f0\fs24 presidential ambitions in 2000?
 \par
 \par When the clock strikes mid-night on Dec. 31, some computers will start crashing when it appears to become the year 1900. That's because they only read years in two digits.
 \par
 \par The great mystery is how big a disruption this will cause. If anything close to the disasters of some of the more extreme predictions happens, voters will be extremely unhappy and looking for someone to blame.
 \par
 \par "The technological guru of the Democratic administration is Al }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore,}{\f0\fs24 " observed Rep. Thomas Davis (R-Va.) last week. The }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24 problem is one of Davis' legislative projects. And, as chairman of the National Republican Congressional Committee, he also understands the politics.
 \par
 \par That's not to say he doesn't have a sense of humor about it.
 \par
 \par "We'll just say he invented the Internet wrong when he only used two digits," Davis joked.
 \par }\pard \qc\nowidctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24
 \par }\pard \nowidctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24
 \par
 \par
 \par
 \par }{\b\f0\fs24
 \par 26. National Public Radio (NPR)
 \par }{\b\fs24\cgrid0 SHOW:}{\b\f0\fs24 ALL THINGS CONSIDERED (8:00 PM ET)
 \par March 30, 1999, Tuesday
 \par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\b\f0\fs24 GARY BEACH SAYS SMALL-TOWN AMERICA NEEDS TO BE BETTER INFORMED OF POTENTIAL Y2K CRISIS}{\f0\fs24
 \par
 \par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 ANCHORS:}{\f0\fs24 LINDA WERTHEIM

ER

\par

\par LINDA WERTHEIMER, host:

\par

\par Tomorrow is the deadline

for all essential federal g

overnment services to show they will function corr

ectly after January 1st, 2000. The government is expected to announce that nea

rly 90 percent of its critical systems, those dealing with security, health or

safety, have met the deadline and are Y2K compl

iant. Commentator Gary Beach s

ays whether Washington has got its computer problems fixed is largely unimporta

nt to most Americans.

\par

\par Mr. GARY BEACH (CIO Magazine):

\par

\par

What is important is where we all may feel some Y2K pain: at home. Why is that

, you ask

? Well, check out the Web site of the General Services Administratio

n. Want Y2K advice about your local telephone service? The GSA says call your

local telephone company. What about electricity and power? The GSA says cont

act your local utility compa

ny. Concerned about your food supply? Well, you

know the answer: Contact your local grocery story.

\par

\par Y2K preparation

in America is not about how well Washington prepares. Rather, it's all about ho

w well over 40,000 small towns and communities prepare for

the coming digital

storm; small towns without the guidance of a Y2K czar; small towns without a \$

6.8 billion Y2K budget; small towns largely served by small power and small tel

ephone companies; small towns, the last stop on our nation's telecommunication

s and electrical power grids.

\par

\par Yes, it's a small world we live in an

d it's in small towns where Y2K is going to be a big problem. I happen to live

in one of these towns. Recently, I visited my town hall and asked if I could s

peak with the Y2K coordinator.

A perplexed glance, followed by the single wor

d response, 'Who?' told me all I needed to know. What strain of the Y2K bug is

likely to hit your town? Surprisingly, the experts claim Y2K problems in compu

tters will not cause most of the havoc. Instead,

it will be a pesky Y2K villai

n hidden deep inside all sorts of electronic devices. It is the Y2K-embedded c

hip in emergency services, power and communication devices that will give small

towns millennium headaches.

\par

\par Back at the White House, Mr. Koskinen

is mounting digital horses to lead the charge into rural America with a progra

m he calls National Y2K Community Conversations. He is headed in the right dir

ection, because }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24

ignorance could soon becom

e public enemy number one. If Vice President }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore}{\f0\fs2

4

is smart, he, too, will join Mr. Koskinen in leading a national conversat

ion about local Y2K concerns. And we would all be smart to join in that conver

sation now.

\par

\par WERTHEIMER: Gary Beach is the publisher of CIO Magazine

.

\par

\par NOAH ADAMS (Host): This is NPR, National Public Radio.

\par }\p

ard \qc\nowidctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24

\par }\pard \nowidctlpar\adjustrigh

t {\f0\fs24

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24

\par 27. AP Online

\pa

r March 23, 1999; Tuesday 01:52 Eastern Time

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE

:}{\b\f0\fs24 Greatest Y2K Danger May Be Panic}{\f0\fs24

\par

\par }{\b\fs24\cgrid0 BYLINE:}{\f0\fs24 JIM ABRAMS

\par

\par Preparation, not p

anic, is the way to respond to the Year 2000 computer problems and the relative

ly minor inconveniences they will cause, emergency experts say.

\par

\par ''T

here's so much disinformation and hype about Y2K,'' Mike Walker of the Federal

Emergency Management Agency said at a House hearing Monday. ''But there's no ne

ed to head for the hills. The national structures are in good shape.''

\par

\

par Walker and other emergency planning experts said that while many local emer

gency networks, such as 911 telephone emergency services and fire departments,

need some upgrading, the more serious threat on Ja

n. 1, 2000, is that people w

ill overreact to fears of social chaos.

\par

\par ''There is a vast publicity

machine out there, including the Internet, being fed by alarmists,'' said Phyl

lis Mann, president-elect of the International Association of Emergency Manager

s.

\par

\par Her group is recommending that people prepare just as they would

for a storm, with food and water for about seven days. It said people should h

ave a 30-day supply of medication, make copies of car, rent and credit card sta

tements, have alternate lighti

ng and keep a full tank of gas.

\par

\par ''Th

ere are those who will panic,'' said Rep. Jim Turner of Texas, the top Democrat

on the Government Reform subcommittee on government management. He said his ow

n father was talking about spending more than \$2,000 for an electric generator.

\par

\par The subcommittee, chaired by Rep. Stephen Horn, R-Calif., has been

monitoring efforts by federal agencies and others to fix computers that, becau

se they only read two digits for dates, might mistake the year 2000, or ''00,''

for 1900.

That could cause serious breakdowns in computer systems if not repa

ired.

\par

\par The federal government and large industries are spending billions of dollars on the problem, and there is general confidence that on a national level, communication and power systems will be intact, air travel will be safe and food supplies will not be interrupted.

\par

\par There are more concerns about disruptions at the local level where communities may not have the money or expertise to deal with the problem.

\par

\par FEMA has published a manual

to

help local emergency managers avoid Y2K problems and handle any problems that do occur. Among the many areas of concern cited: 911 services could go down, street lights and railroad crossing signals might fail, and jails or prisons might have problems that lead to escapes.

\par

\par Separately, the heads

of the Senate's special panel on the Y2K problem, Sens. Bob Bennett, R-Utah, and Christopher Dodd, D-Conn., wrote to Vice President Al Gore asking him to take up Russia's serious Y2K

issues when he meets this week with Russian Prime Minister Yevgeny Primakov.

\par

'Russian failure to address Y2K will only worsen its economic woes, further degrade its aging defense systems and possibly lead to humanitarian and environmental problems for its citizens and neighbors,' they wrote.

\par }\pard \qc\nowidctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24

\par }\pard \nowidctlp

ar\adjustright {\f0\fs24

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24

\par

28. Newsbytes

\par March 22, 1999, Monday

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:

}{\b\f0\fs24 }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore}{\b\f0\fs24 Must Make }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\b\f0\fs24 A Premiere Subject With Russians}{\f0\fs24

\par

\par

}{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 BYLINE:}{\f0\fs24 Robert MacMillan;Newsbytes

\par

\par

There was a bit of a resurgence of pan-Year 2000 spirit today on Capitol

Hill

1, as two influential senators asked Vice President Al Gore to address Russian Year 2000 concerns in his upcoming meeting with Prime Minister Yevgeny Primakov. A House subcommittee, meantime, investigated emergency management plans for the impending date change.

\par

\par Sen. Christopher Dodd, D-Conn., th

e chairman and ranking Democrat of the Senate Special Committee on the Year 2000 Technology Problem, along with Sen. Robert Bennett, R-Utah, told }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore}{\f0\fs24

in a letter sent last week that "stabilizing Russia's }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24 problems will help ameliorate a significant number of potential catastrophes."

\par

\par "Your meeting next week with.

.. Primakov is extremely timely, providing a unique opportunity to address Y2K and international stability," Bennett and Dodd wrote. "Russian failure to ad

dress Y2K will only worsen its economic woes, further degrade its aging defense systems and possibly lead to humanitarian and environmental problems for its citizens and neighbors."

\par

\par Both senators said Gore should address Pr

imakov on Russian nuclear power plants, nuclear early warning systems, weapons issues and the Gazprom natural gas pipeline.

\par

\par The Senate Year 2000

Committee has a hearing planned on this very subject this Thursday.

\par

\par

According to a committee statement, there are 14 "Chernobyl-style" reactors in the former Soviet Union, which provide Russia and other former satellite states with between 40 percent to 80 percent of their electricity.

\par

\par Bennet

t and Dodd also pointed out that Primakov did not receive his first briefing on the Year 2000 problem until this Feb. 26.

\par

\par Meanwhile, the House Gove

rnment Reform Subcommittee on Government Management, Information and Technology heard testimony from federal emergency preparedness experts and government emergency specialists on quick response

issues involving the Year 2000 problem.

\

par

\par In particular, Mike Walker, deputy director of the Federal Emergency

Management Agency, said the nation's 911 systems and fire services need to be up on their efforts to be ready for the date change.

\par

\par "History

is

replete with examples of ill-equipped regiments, cities, businesses and governments experiencing natural and man-made disasters," said Subcommittee Chairman Stephen Horn, R-Calif. "Such lessons should promote preparedness. But distressingly, fear of un

known consequences places citizens at risk of either over-reacting or not reacting at all."

\par

\par FEMA's Walker said that only 17 percent

t of the country's 911 systems are Year 2000-compliant, while 40 percent have contingency plans in place. He added that 35 percent of US fire services are compliant, and that 50 percent have contingency plans.

\par

\par Phyllis A. Mann,

president-elect of the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM), told the subcommittee that the Year 2000 problems that may occur should be treated as any other natural disaster.

\par
\par "There are many unknowns, and probably will be up to the last minute," Mann said. "The effects are likely to be spread across many communities, even if they are not of massive proportions in any one place; and there

is so much advance warning that those first two factors mean the public has plenty of time to let the concern about the unknown grow into worry, if not panic."

\par }\pard \qc\nowidctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24

\par }\pard \nowidctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24

\par 29. Knoxville News-Sentinel (Knoxville, TN)

\par March

19, 1999, Friday

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\b\f0\fs24 Can Gore survive all the fallout from Clinton's term? }\f0\fs24

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs2

4\cgrid0 BYLINE:}{\f0\fs24 Don Williams

\par

\par Time has not been kind to that sometime-Tennessean Al Gore.

\par

\par The bald spot grows apace, as does his girth and that scowl on his face, while Gore's reputation and command of his own destiny dwindle.

\par

\par Some say his command of reality is slipping, too.

\par

\par In a recent TV interview, Gore took credit for creating the Internet while he was in Congress.

\par

\par Republican Sen. Trent Lott spoke up to say he (Lott) had invented the paper clip.

\par

\par Another critic

boasted that, if Gore invented the information superhighway, then he had created the interstate system.

\par

\par Ironies are thick because Gore's dad, the late Sen. Albert Gore Sr., did play a part in creating the interstate system. In fact, Gore Sr.

stands in relation to interstates much as Gore Jr. stands in

relation to the Internet. Both helped pass enabling resolutions through Congress.

\par

\par For the record, let me assert that I, indeed, invented the Twinkie. Oh sure, it's not like Velcro, which NASA invented, but then, give me \$ 50 billion and who knows what I might come up with. Maybe Teflon.

\par

\par Ju

st because it's been invented already doesn't mean it can't be invented again.

After all, Gore also claims to have reinvented government, so why not Teflon? (Note my sly transition here.)

\par

\par If Clinton is the Teflon president, it appears all the slime that slides downhill is landing squarely on Gore. Polls suggest the country, while still supporting Clinton, will have had enough of the Clinton-Gore administration by next year. Which is bad news for the mostly innocent }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore}{\f0\fs24 rather than Clinton.

\par

\par

As I say, time has not been kind.

\par

\par The }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24 bug could hardly arrive at a worse time. Here we're humming along with the stock market performing aerial acrobatics, with the economy spreading its tail feathers in a performance that's seen Clinton through unspeakable scandal, political turmoil and ever-freakier revelations.

\par

\par And the whole show

threatens to come crashing down on }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore. If the Y2K}{\f0\fs24 bug turns out to be the bombshell some alarmists predict -- or even mildly disruptive -- many will blame Gore.

\par

\par I mean, if the man is a high-tech policy wonk, shouldn't he have seen this coming? And what about allegations that China has been stealing missile technology from us? Shouldn't Gore have been on top of the China problem?

\par

\par Both issues are coming to a head

at a promising and dicey time for }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore.}{\f0\fs24 No wonder he appears slightly shell-shocked.

\par

\par Even if }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24 strikes with only a mild impact, it could be devastating to }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore's}{\f0\fs24 run for the presidency. Many stock market analysts predict major corrections (read major losses) in coming months. Even a minor stall in the economy could spell doom for Gore's chances at the presidency.

\par

\par Just a slight slowdown in an otherwise robust economy in '92 cost George Bush a second term. Now his son -- George Bush Jr. -- is waiting in the wings should the same thing happen to Gore.

\par

\par Despite such variables,

Gore has held firmly to a strategy that could pay off. Come what may, he has stood behind his popular president.

\par

\par But such extravagant devotion could call into question Gore's command of what's real. It underscores his wooden -- some would say -- demeanor.

\par

\par You have to ask yourself, is this man for real?

\par

\par Isn't this the same Al Gore who claimed to have been the model for Oliver in "Love Story"? A claim the author felt obligated to answer?

\par
\par Does Gore realize how such frivolous controversies
undermine his credibility when he makes serious pronouncements about the peril
ous state of the environment and arms control? Pronouncements many of us long a
go took to heart?

\par Does he care?

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24

\par 30. U.S. Newswire

\par March 02, 1999 11:19 Eastern

Time

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\b\f0\fs24 }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore
,}{\b\f0\fs24 Herman Announce Second Round of Unemployment Insurance System }
{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\b\f0\fs24 Grants}{\f0\fs24

\par

\par Vice Pres

ident Al Gore and Labor Secretary Alexis M. Herman today announced that the U.S
. Department of Labor is awarding nearly \$40 million in grants to 37 states and
the Virgin Islands to continue their efforts to secure unemployment insurance
benefits

through the Year 2000 and beyond. Last year all 50 states and the Vir
gin Islands, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia shared \$205 million to ad
dress Y2K issues.

\par

\par "The unemployment insurance system cleared it
s first Y2K hurdle with flying colors
in January when state agencies began pro
cessing new claims that will extend into 2000," Vice President Gore said. "All
states were able to handle Year 2000 dates successfully and without any delay i
n benefit payments. "

\par

\par Secretary Herman added, "These grants wi
ll give states the technology and support necessary to guarantee on-time paymen
ts when the date changes in January."

\par

\par Given the federal-state p
artnership in operating the Employment Service and Unemployment Insurance progr
ams, the federal funds will supplement state monies to be spent on addressing Y
ear 2000 problems on computer systems.

\par

\par All Y2K funds will be us
ed to acquire new hardware, assist with code renovations and address other syst
em problems. The grants are particularly intend
ed to assist states in ensuring
that systems associated with the payment of unemployment insurance benefits ar
e Year 2000 compliant.

\par

\par -----

\par NOTE: A table outlining
the Y2K funding awards for fiscal years 1998 and 1999 follows. News releases fr
om the U.S. Department of Labor are accessible on the Internet at: <http://www.dol.gov>.

\par

\par -----			
\par Year 2000 Grant Awards			
\par SESA			
	FY98 Y2K Funds	FY99 Y2K Funds	
\par	-----	-----	--

\par	Alabama	\$2,355,537	\$951,400
\par	Alaska		
	\$1,180,000		
\par	Arizona	\$5,095,501	
\par	Arkansas	\$5,444	
,567	\$1,528,021		
\par	California	\$9,969,737	\$1,081,694
\par	Colorado	\$1,300,645	
\par	Connecticut	\$1,498,036	
\par	Delaware		
	\$2,577,433	\$769,303	
\par	D.C.	\$1,965,000	\$388,32
4			
\par	Florida	\$8,681,558	\$895,100
\par	Georgia	\$5,8	
76,424	\$335,000		
\par	Hawaii	\$3,465,275	\$1,375,127
\par	Idaho	\$1,180,000	\$567,578
\par	Illinois	\$2,053,399	
\			
\par	Indiana	\$2,162,200	\$1,374,151
\par	Iowa	\$4,597,	
332	\$2,305,102		
\par	Kansas	\$3,550,745	
\par	Kentucky	\$1	
,180,000			
\par	Louisiana	\$3,900,925	\$1,558,000
\par	Maine		
	\$3,221,570	\$330,342	
\par	Maryland	\$2,922,700	\$1,113,052
\par	Massachusetts	\$4,651,966	\$2,253,000
\par	Michigan	\$11,12	
2,501	\$1,163,500		
\par	Minnesota	\$3,891,599	
\par	Mississippi		
\$2,045,864	\$518,645		
\par	Missouri	\$5,310,967	\$522,695
\p			
ar	Montana	\$2,669,813	\$2,319,334
\par	Nebraska	\$2,743,0	
76			
\par	Nevada	\$6,290,767	\$1,437,400
\par	New Hampshire	\$2,	
396,000	\$215,751		
\par	New Jersey	\$9,420,659	\$1,598,591
\par	New Mexico	\$5,114,958	\$769,873
\par	New York	\$13,119,193	
	\$1,631,313		
\par	N. Carolina	\$1,180,000	\$1,911,686
\par	Nort		

h Dakota	\$2,533,720	\$704,250	
\par	Ohio	\$7,383,786	\$2,
683,305			
\par	Oklahoma	\$1,843,816	
\par	Oregon	\$3,522,275	
	\$414,305		
\par	Pennsylvania	\$10,786,862	\$1,000,000
\par	Puerto Rico	\$3,966,798	
\par	Rhode Island	\$1,180,000	\$420,000
\par	S. Carolina	\$4,371,521	\$862,211
\par	South Dakota	\$1,180,000	
\par	Tennessee	\$1,180,000	\$275,000
\par	Texas	\$1,180,000	
	\$350,000		
\par	Utah	\$1,180,000	
\par	Vermont	\$1,370,	
400			
\par	Virgin Isl.	\$2,958,399	\$180,591
\par	Virginia	\$2	
,885,260	\$752,179		
\par	Washington	\$5,002,037	\$1,584,700
\par	West Virginia	\$2,270,300	\$107,681
\par	Wisconsin	\$4,888,879	
	\$1,011,468		
\par	Wyoming	\$1,180,000	
\par	-----	-----	

\par	Total Awards:	\$205,000,000	\$39,259,672
\pa			

r
 \par }\pard \qc\nowidctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24
 \par }\pard \nowidctlpa
 r\adjustright {\f0\fs24
 \par
 \par
 \par
 \par
 \par }{\b\f0\fs24
 \par 31. SE
 ATTLE POST-INTELLIGENCER
 \par March 01, 1999, Monday , FINAL
 \par }{\b\f0\fs24
 4\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\b\f0\fs24 }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 GORE}{\b\f0\fs24 UPBEAT
 IN SEATTLE VISIT;
 \par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K,}{\b\f0\fs24 NORTHWEST ISSUES
 ON THE AGENDA}{\f0\fs24
 \par
 \par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 BYLINE:}{\f0\fs24 JO
 EL CONNELLY P-I NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT
 \par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0
 \par }{\f0\fs
 24 Vice President Al Gore yesterday predicted the government will deal successf
 ully with any Year 2000 computer glitches before the new millennium, and t
 hat
 the United States won't allow problems with Russian and Chinese missile compute
 rs to endanger American security.

\par

\par "The U.S. government is going to be ready for Y2K, and we hope to have a full-up test of our readiness early this year," Gore said in Seattle.

\par

\par In a wide-ranging interview, Gore also indicated the Clinton administration will work to keep a rescue tug stationed at Neah Bay at the mouth of the Strait of Juan de Fuca.

\par

\par He said the White House soon will appoint a special envoy in a renewed effort to resolve the long-running U.S.-Canada salmon dispute - a key component in saving and restoring Northwest salmon runs.

\par

\par Gore, who has the inside track on the 2000 Democratic presidential nomination, also campaigned for the White House's proposed budget yesterday, saying it includes \$ 156 million in mass-transit grants for Washington state.

\par

\par In recent months, international observers have voiced concern about what would happen to mainframe computers of the Russian and Chinese missile systems. The threatened Y2K glitch is the computers' inability to differentiate between 1900 and 2000. If not fixed, computers could malfunction.

\par

\par Gore, who has dealt with the republics of the former Soviet Union on nuclear weapons issues, said: "We feel, and the Defense Department feels, that problem is not going to be a problem. Of course, it can't be a problem. We won't allow it to be a problem."

\par

\par "We're confident that it is going to be solved, but we're going to be doubly, triply and quadruply confident that it's going to be solved before September of this year."

\par

\par The continuing saga of the grounded, broken hulk of the cargo ship New Carissa off Coos Bay, Ore., has focused renewed attention on marine safety in the Strait of Juan de Fuca. Oil-laden tankers pass unescorted through the outer 70 miles of the strait.

\

\par

\par Rep. Norm Dicks, D-Wash., has succeeded in getting a rescue tug stationed at Neah Bay for 60 days as an experiment in rapid response to potential marine accidents.

\par

\par "While it is intended as a trial, I don't know of any

reason to expect it will not be successful," Gore said. "We will evaluate the results of this trial, and we will move forward. Especially after what happened down in Coos Bay, everyone has freshly in mind the need for extra precautions with some of these tankers."

\par

\par The United States and Canada have argued for more than five years over terms for renewing the Pacific Salmon Treaty. The two countries have been unable to agree on how many salmon their fishermen will be allowed to catch in the north Pacific

. The salmon spawn in rivers of both countries.

\par

\par Last summer, a conservation initiative by the Canadian government allowed increased numbers of coho and chinook salmon to escape into rivers of northern Puget Sound.

\par

\par But an agreement on conservation-based management of the catch at sea is seen as vital if efforts to preserve and restore salmon spawning streams are to have any long-term success.

\par

\pa

r "Of course we're deeply involved in it. We're making progress," Gore said of the long impasse with Canada.

\par

\par "There is a window of opportunity in which to bring together the four states involved, along with British Columbia and the government of Canada," he added.

\par

\par "We are now accelerating the progress and intend to name a special representative from the White House to personally oversee the negotiating progress."

\par

\par He did not say when the envoy would be named.

\par

\par Gore was in Seattle for a meeting on the Clinton administration's "Livability Agenda," a program to help local governments cope with urban growth. In its budget for the fiscal year 2000, the administration has proposed spending more than

\par

\par \$ 8 billion for public transit and transportation planning.

\par

\par Gore was campaigning for the budget yesterday, saying it will include \$ 156 million worth of mass transit grants for Washington - money that would be spent along lines determined by local government.

\par

\par A "listening session" with Puget Sound governmental leaders and citizens turned into an effusive exchange of praise between Gore and his hosts.

\pa

r

\par "What your initiative is, is exactly what this region is about," said Snohomish County Executive Bob Drewel, who is struggling with the conflicting issues of growth and open space in a county whose population has soared to more than a half-million residents.

\par

\par Gore praised local leaders for such pioneering initiatives as King County's farmland preservation initiative, and the Mountains-to-Sound Greenway that has sought to head off sprawl along the Interstate 90 corridor.

\par

\par "I am glad your livability strategy goes beyond exaggerating the rainfall here," the vice president joked.

\par

\par Gore stressed local control as a key aspect of the Clinton administration's initiatives on transportation and open space.

\par

\par "What I'm proposing is not that the federal government do this," he argued. "The federal government shouldn't be a beauty commissar. The federal government is here to help you with local initiatives."

\par

\par The White House, in its proposed budget, has asked Congress to approve creation of so-called Better American Bonds, \$ 9.5 billion worth of interest-free, locally approved bonds designed to save open space, improve water quality and create parks.

\par

\par Daniel O'Neal, of the Freight Roundtable, told Gore that cargo-laden trucks often spend as much time negotiating Puget Sound urban traffic as it takes them to drive across the Cascades from Eastern Washington.

\par

\par One man, Jason Capps, explained that on summer mornings, he leaves his home in Puyallup at 4:30 a.m. to commute to construction jobs in Issaquah. Otherwise, Capps explained, he would be stuck in endless traffic.

\

par

\par Gore yesterday effused over local officials in language that only a politician could love.

\par

\par Gary Locke was a "great governor," Lt. Gov. Brad Owen was characterized as "a great public servant," and Drewel was described as a "great friend."

\par

\par Noting the presence of Helen Jackson, widow of Democratic Sen. Henry "Scoop" Jackson, Gore described his "great pleasure" at being with "a great friend of my mother."

\par

\par The vice president was upbeat on another front.

\par

\par At age 50, Gore is about to become a grandfather. His eldest daughter, Karenna Gore Schiff, and her husband, Drew Schiff, are expecting their first child in June.

\par

\par "I'm lovin' it. I'm very excited, really lookin' forward to it," he said.

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24

\par 32. TheStreet.com

\par December 18, 1998

Friday

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\b\f0\fs24 Two Trials, No Errors}{\f0\fs24

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 BYLINE:}{\f0\fs24 By James J. Cramer

\par

\par James J. Cramer is manager of a hedge fund and co-chairman of Th

eStreet.com. At the time of publication, his firm was long Microsoft and America Online, though positions may change at any time.

Under no circumstances does

the information in this column represent a recommendation to buy or sell stocks. Cramer's writings provide insights into the dynamics of money management and are not a solicitation for transactions. While he cannot provide investment

advice or recommendations, he invites you to comment on his column by sending a letter to TheStreet.com at letters@thestreet.com.

\par

\par With all of

the horror and pain and gloom coming out of Washington, we have to be thankful for two things: the Microsoft (MSFT:Nasdaq) trial and the pending presidency of Al Gore, both for perverse reasons.

\par

\par First, Microsoft. There is no

doubt in anybody's mind, except maybe Bill Gates', that freedom is breaking out in the browser world. The trial has accomplished everything it set out to do.

America Online (AOL:NYSE) would never have bought Netscape (NSCP:Nasdaq) if it weren't for the trial. Which PC company would risk Steve Ballmer's wrath -- and we all know what that can be like -- by using Netscape's browser? That

has

at computer

any was history. But now AOL is so powerful on the Net -- as opposed to the billions of failed dollars worth of Net ventures from Softee -- that PCs will have to offer another browser option or risk pissing off Steve Case and Bob Pittman, two guys

that are actually well liked in the biz!

\par

\par Don't forget

that America likes an underdog. In fact, the longer the trial drags out, the more likely that other deals get cut and other competitive ventures get funded.

(I know I always regarded the perceived dominance of Microsoft as a blessing in

disguise for TheStreet.com, because who else would invest in this segment, other than someone as driven as I am, if Microsoft wants complete dominance in the online world, which is what all of the VCs and the press believed when we started this thing?)

started this thing?)

\par

\par Now all of that has been changed by this trial.

People can get funding for anything anti-Microsoft without any fear. I say Washington got this one right. Thanks Justice!

\par

\par Washington may have this

impeachment schedule right,

too, but for the wrong reasons. I say the faster

we get rid of Bill Clinton, the better, because, think about it, could there be a better president for the year 2000 crisis than Al Gore? I mean this guy has

spent his whole life waiting for a knotty,

nerdy problem like }{\b\fs24\cgr

id0 Y2K.} {\f0\fs24 We will be so far ahead of our allies and our enemies with }{\b\fs24\cgrid0 Gore as the Y2K} {\f0\fs24

president that we will get through

the jump on the world on Jan. 1, 2000. Talk about a blessing in disguise. I bet we will discover that this year 2000 problem probably was born the same day that Gore was!

\par

\par So, I say to Washington: Go full speed ahead with the two

o trials of the century. Both are great wins for the technologist in all of us.

\par }\pard \qc\nowidctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24

\par }\pard \nowidctlpar

\adjustright {\f0\fs24

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24

\par 3

3. Nation's Cities Weekly

\par December 14, 1998

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEA

DLINE:}{\b\f0\fs24 Gore Shares 21st Century Vision for Cities, Calls for Part
nerships; VP Al Gore; National League of Cities' Congress of Cities meeting}{\f
0\fs24

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 BYLINE:}{\f0\fs24 Harris, Elaine

\pa

r

\par "There is a role for the federal government" in suppor
ting commun

ities, Vice President Al Gore told delegates at the Congress of Cities in Kansa
s City last week. "The more we come together to solve the problems we face, the
more we move beyond the false choices and failed dichotomies of the past, the
stronge

r our cities and our nation will be."

\par

\par The Vice President g

ave a positive look at America's cities today, citing the low 4.4 percent unemp
loyment rate, a decrease in crime rates, the lowest poverty rates in history am
ong Hispanics and African Americans, a
nd an increased sense of hope and optimi
sm.

\par

\par Gore offered a vision of the future of America's cities and to
wns that included cities as centers of opportunity and growth, with "world clas
s" public schools, thriving suburbs, affordable housing and convenient governme
nt services.

\par

\par He called for more local control and partnerships to
turn his vision into reality. "It's not about the federal government telling c
ommunities what to do," Gore said. "It is instead about working with you to sup
port what communities are trying to do."

\par

\par Urban Sprawl

\par

\par

The Vice President blamed urban sprawl for turning downtowns into havens of c
rime and drug trafficking and stealing character and culture from communities.
Unplanned growth, he said, forces American families to spe
nd more money on tra
nsportation and time in traffic, and cuts down on time working parents can spen
d with their children.

\par

\par "Let's face it," Gore maintained, "no Ameri
can should have to use up a quart of gas just to buy a quart of milk."

\par

\

par Again advocating partnerships as a solution, Gore urged delegates to "cast aside the old animosities and divisions between cities and suburbs and rural communities and decide that we are going to work together for more livable, walkable, playable cities and suburbs."

\par

\par First Class Education

\par

\par The Vice President emphasized the Clinton administration's efforts around education and called for education as a higher national priority. "We're working to ensure that our children are given the best education in the best system

of public schooling in the entire world," Gore said, "so that even the children in middle class families that can't afford private school have a first class education in a first class school where excellence is the standard."

\par

\p

ar Gore discouraged local officials from funneling public school funding into private schools. He pointed to legislation recently passed calling for 100,000 new teachers in schools nationwide and legislation being proposed in the 106th Congress for the construction of new classrooms.

\par

\par Hassle-Free Communities

\par

\par Gore announced a nationwide expansion of his Hassle-Free Communities program and urged local officials to partner with the federal government to bring services back to the places where people live.

\par

\par "Imagine a nation where people get the services they need, where and when they need them," Gore said.

\par

\par He described such partnerships as one-stop service centers for small businesses that help with federal, state and local tax issues and social security requirements, mobile vans outside senior citizen centers that answer Medicare questions and help with tax forms, and local motor vehicle offices where citizens can also apply for a passport.

\par

\par For more information about Hassle-Free Communities, send an e-mail to hassle.free@npr.gov.

\par

\par Technology as a Tool

\par

\par Gore pointed to technology as a tool to increase connectedness and partnerships, and urged local officials to use technology to create better access to government.

\par

\par With millions of web sites and dramatic increases in electronic commerce, technology is changing the way we live, Gore said.

\par

\par The Vice President concluded the session with a warning to local officials about the Year 2000 (Y2K) computer problem.

\par

\par Though he was confident that {\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24 compliancy goals would be reached at the federal level, {\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore}{\f0\fs24 cautioned, "in our view, we've got a lot to do in America at the state and local level."

\par

\par He pledged federal assistance to help local governments set up contingency plans and work toward Y2K compliance.

\par }\pard \qc\nowidctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24

\par }\pard \nowidctlp

ar\adjustright {\f0\fs24

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24

\par

34. Legal Times

\par November 2, 1998, Monday

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADL

INE:}{\b\f0\fs24 PREDICTING DOOM IN THE YEAR 2000 WON'T HELP THE GOP}{\f0\fs24

\par

\par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 BYLINE:}{\f0\fs24 LAWRENCE J. SISKIND

\pa

r

\par By now, the list of those with most to lose from the looming Year 2000 crisis is well-known: software vendors, computer hardware manufacturers, insurance companies, corporate directors, Al {\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore}{\f0\fs24

. . .

\par

\par Al }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore?}{\f0\fs24

\par

\par

Lawyers aren't the only ones contemplating the effects of {\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K.}{\f0\fs24 Among political pundits and consultants, sentiment is growing that the Year 2000 crisis

is will boost the prospects of the Republican Party in the

next year's presidential election. Some strategists see Vice President Gore as particularly vulnerable because he has been the administration's point man for high-tech issues. When the crisis hits, they

say, voters will hold him and his

party responsible.

\par

\par Ironically, the Republican Party itself could

be the victim if it pins its electoral hopes on predicting disaster and casting blame. In the 1980s, Ronald Reagan rescued the party from its post-Watergate

low by associating it in the public mind with optimism, hope, and faith in the future. To win in 2000, the Republicans need to recapture Reagan's positive spirit. The last thing the GOP needs is reinforcement of its current image as the party of negativity and despair.

\par

\par The Year 2000 crisis has cap

tured the imagination of the political right: The Conservative Book Club has taken out full-page ads headlined "Chaos Looms!" to promote its title The Millennium Bug: How to Survive the Coming Chaos. T

he book cover warns: "The illusion

of social stability is about to be shattered . . . and nothing can stop it." The American Spectator, the monthly journal that broke the Paula Jones story, devoted its August cover story to "The Crash of 2000: Why Government Isn't Ready

." Television's most famous conservative personality, John McLaughlin, recently made the Y2K crisis " Issue One" on "The McLaughlin Group." That followed a Y2K special on McLaughlin's other television program, "One-on-One."

\par

\par

Everyone con

cedes that the millennium bug will sting. But while expert opini

on varies widely on the dimensions of the problem, many conservatives are banking on Y2K to be an unparalleled catastrophe. Some have even bought into the hysterical fear that airplanes will

c

rash. Tony Blankley, formerly Newt Gingrich

's press secretary and now a media commentator, recently said: " I think you should be alarmist. Things may fall out of the sky." Most focus on the economic consequences. McLaughlin has predicted "a global slowdown" and warned his viewe

rs to "go liquid." The American Spectator's cover story, only slightly less pessimistic, predicted that Y2K will generate financial instability comparable to the savings-and-loan debacle.

\par

\par Dreaming of a White House

\par

\par Lawyers look at the Year 2000 crisis and see the prospect of large fees for litigation and audit work. A growing number of conservatives also see a silver lining: the prospect of regaining the White House.

\par

\par The Clinton

administration has unwittingly encouraged these hopes. It was late coming t

o grips with the problem. Although various federal departments and agencies had been working on conversion and testing programs for years, the White House did not establish a high-level agency to coordinate the effort until last February

y, when Executive Order No. 13, 073 set up the President's Year 2000 Conversion Council. The chairman of the council, John Koskinen, reports regularly to the vice president.

\par

\par Al Gore's connection to Koskinen's work is not surprising. For p

olitical reasons, Gore has tried to project himself as the administration's Man of the Future, aggressively seeking to spearhead high-tech issues. The White House has obliged. Thus, Gore has been in the forefront of the "reinventing government" effort and

the campaign to wire U.S. classrooms to the Internet. He revels in the nickname "Mr. Information Superhighway."

\par

\par Now conservatives see }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore}{\f0\fs24 as poised to take the fall if }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24 fulfills its disaster hype.

McLaughlin summarized the views of his "One-on-One" panel of experts this way: "}{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0

Gore}{\f0\fs24 is kaput. He's dead. . . . You can kiss

his candidacy goodbye." The American Spectator predicted that }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24 will do to }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore}{\f0\fs24 what the S&L bailout did to George Bush.

\par

\par Jan. 1, 2000, arrives about five weeks before t

he Iowa primary. Depressed over its last two presidential defeat s, the Republican Party might be forgiven for looking to the millennium bug for salvation. But there is danger in running on a platform of fear and blame. It may cause the GOP more trouble th an the Y2K crisis ever causes the Democrats.

\par

\par Answers, Not Complaints

\par

\par Conservative pundits tend

to compare the expected Year 2000 financial instability with 1929. But when th ey do, they forget a key lesson of the Great Depression. Franklin Roosevelt t di

d not win the White House in 1932 by playing to people's fears. He won by playi ng to their hopes. His famous remark, "The only thing we have to fear is fear i tself, " was designed to instill optimism, not gloom. Previously, Roosevelt had served as gov

ernor of New York, where he adopted programs to counter the Depr ession. Historians differ as to whether those programs did any good (they proba bly did not), but at least they showed him to be a positive force--a man with a nswers, not just complaints.

\par

\par In the years since Roosevelt held

his grip on the presidency, the Republican Party has showed itself to be a Janu s creature, with faces of hope and despair. Ronald Reagan personified the hope.

\par

\par In the 1950s, when Reagan, the former New Deal liberal and lab

or leader, became a conservative, the best and the brightest in the conservativ e movement shared the view of their counterparts on the left that the West woul d lose the Cold War. Intellectuals like Whittaker Chambers and William F. Buckl ey believed tha

t

the forces of history favored communism. Their main differen ce with their liberal counterparts was over tactics. While the wise men of the left argued for some kind of accommodation, the wise men of the right wanted to go down swinging. "Better dead than red, " they said, expecting to die.

\pa

r

\par Reagan predicted that communism would end up in the dustbin of histor y. Intellectuals on both ends of the spectrum viewed his good cheer with amused condescension. But history proved Reagan smarter. More significant ly for poli

tical purposes, history proved Reagan the most popular Republican president sin ce Theodore Roosevelt.

\par

\par Now the Y2K issue brings to a head the ba

ttle of the Republican Party's two faces. In the past, optimism has proved not only more attracti

ve politically, but also more accurate historically. Pessimi

sts taught that we could not win the Cold War--until communism collapsed. Prote

ctionists preached that we could not compete economically with Japan--until the Japanese economy faltered. Isolationists argued that American labor could not compete with cheap foreign labor--until the American economy emerged as the only safe bet in the temperamental global economy.

\par

\par Accentuate the Positive

\par

\par The ideological impetus behind exploitation of the Y2K crisis is cousin to the forces that goaded the GOP to endorse isolationism, high tariffs, and anti-immigration legislation. Those forces did not succeed. Neither should the Y2K alarmists.

\par

\par If Republicans seek political mileage from the millennium bug

(and why shouldn't they?), a better approach would

be to accentuate the positive. Here is a technological problem that the high-tech world, unguided by government, is well on its way to controlling.

\par

\par A recent industry survey shows that 87 percent of the nation's federally

chartered banks have satisfactory conversion plans in place. Every major American software and hardware company has implemented programs to ensure that their products are Year 2000-compliant. Even lawyers--with their expensive seminars

, scary newsletters, and business development promotions-- have contributed by conveying this message: Fix your Y2K problems now, or hire us to defend you later.

\par

\par A winning Republican message would contrast the private sector's energetic progress with

the government's procrastination. Most federal agencies

are behind their schedules for preliminary testing. Here, as in so many other areas, the Clinton administration has failed to show leadership. Republicans could rightly proclaim that the country is solving the problem in spite of

, not because of, the politicians.

\par

\par Such a message would not only

be more salable but also probably prove more accurate. The Y2K crisis will bring troubles and dislocations in its wake, but they will not be on the scale pre-

dicted by the alarmists. Airplanes will not plunge out of the sky. Library-book borrowers will not be assessed 100-year fines--and if they are, they simply won't pay them. The fallout by itself will not sink Gore's campaign and will not elect a Republican president.

\par

\par But despair springs eternal. As

more and more Republicans learn of the Y2K issue, the excitement over its political value grows. In 1996, Bob Dole went around the country trying to convince voters that they were in a recession when they weren't. He lost big. In 2000,

the Republicans may look foolish trying to convince voters that the sky is falling when it isn't.

\par

\par Lawrence J. Siskind is a partner in San Francisco's

Cooper, White & Cooper specializing in intellectual property law.

\pa

r }\pard \qc\nowidctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24
 \par }\pard \nowidctlpar\adjus
 tright {\f0\fs24
 \par
 \par
 \par
 \par
 \par }{\b\f0\fs24
 \par 35. Gov
 ernment Executive
 \par November 1998
 \par }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\b\fs24
 HALFWAY TO Y2K}{\f0\fs24
 \par
 \par The Clinton administration'
 s Y2K deadline is March 1999, but officials concede that not all agencies will
 meet that mark. In September, Vice President Al }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore}{\f0\fs24
 met with executives from the seven agencies whose }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24
 efforts are the furthest behind--the departments of Defense, Education, Energy, Health and Human Services, State, and Transportation, and the Agency for International Development. }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore}{\f0\fs24
 aske
 d executives to make }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24 fixes their top priority and closely questioned the HHS representative about Medicare systems. The Health Care Financing Administration, which administers Medicare, must work with more than 60 contractors to fix 50 million lines of code before the century change. Meanwhile, the top year 2000 watchdog in the House of Representatives continued barking at the executive branch to speed up its computer fixes, issuing the Clinton administration a "D" on its Y2K efforts. But Rep. Stephen Horn, R-Calif., chairman of the House Government Reform and Oversight Subcommittee on Government Management, Information and Technology, also gave the Social Security Administration, the National Science Foundation and the Small Business Administration "A" grades, calling Social Security a role model for other agencies.

\par
 \par "Many people in the federal government are working hard on the year 2000 problem," Horn said. "Progress is being made, but it is not being made fast enough."
 \par }\pard \qc\nowidctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24
 \par }\pard \n
 owidctlpar\adjustright {\f0\fs24
 \par
 \par
 \par
 \par
 \par }{\b\f0\fs24
 24
 \par 36. U.S. Newswire
 \par October 23, 1998 15:06 Eastern Time
 \par }{\b
 \f0\fs24\cgrid0 HEADLINE:}{\b\f0\fs24 }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Gore}{\b\f0\fs24
 Statement on National }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\b\f0\fs24 Action Week}{\f0\fs24
 24

\par
\par The following was released today by the White House:
\par

STATEMENT OF VICE PRESIDENT }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 GORE}{\f0\fs24

\par ON NATIONAL }{\b\f0\fs24\cgrid0 Y2K}{\f0\fs24 A
CTION WEEK

\par I am calling on America's businesses today to take what the
y learned during this week's "National Y2K Action Week" and mount aggressive ef
forts to prepare their computers and embedded systems for the Year 2000 date ch
ange.

\par
\par This week, Federal agencies have given businesses informa
tion to help them overcome the year 2000 (Y2K) computer pro
blem. Working with

the President's Council on Year 2000 Conversion, the Small Business Administra
tion, the Commerce Department, and other agencies have held hundreds of educati
onal and outreach events to help managers of small and medium-sized businesses
meet this enormous challenge. Ads about National Y2K Action Week ran in over
250 major newspapers and, with help from the United States Postal Service, prom
otional materials appeared in post offices across the country.

\par

\par

Progress on the Y2K problem am
ong businesses is not uniform. For those gettin
g a late start, access to technical information on experiences and solutions wi
ll be critical. The legislation that President Clinton signed Monday, which pr
ovides legal protections for information sharing,

will help many smaller orga
nizations that are just beginning their Y2K work. The President and I urge tra
de associations and umbrella organizations to collect such information from the
ir members and provide it to others through websites and other means d
evoted t
o discussing Y2K experiences and solutions.

\par

\par I congratulate the
President's Council, the Small Business Administration, the Commerce Department
, and the other agencies that have played pivotal roles in this week's events,
as well as the more th
an 160 national organizations representing industries, p
rofessions, government, and non-profits that worked this week to promote Y2K ac
tion.

\par

\par While substantial public- and private-sector efforts are
underway to address the Y2K problem, much work remains. I urge businesses and
governments to carry forward the spirit of National Y2K Action Week so that the
y will be ready for the year 2000.

\par

\par }{

\par }}===== END ATTACHMENT 1 =====