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COLUMN SUMMARIES

July 23, 1995

In her first column, Mrs. Clinton talks about her role as the First Lady and her many responsibilities. Although she is able to travel around the world, meet famous people, and support various causes, she never takes for granted the everyday life that other Americans experience.

July 30, 1995

After meeting Mother Teresa at the National Prayer Breakfast, Mrs. Clinton was asked to set up a home for abandoned and neglected children in Washington, D.C. A year and a half later, the Mother Teresa Home for Children was opened. Mrs. Clinton believes that the adoption process is not only expensive, but biased against interracial adoptions and should be made easier to place children in loving families.

August 6, 1995

In this column, the First Lady discusses the difficulties of being a working mother. With the increasing number of working parents, the workplace needs to become more family-friendly. A few examples of flexibility for working parents are given.

August 13, 1995

In supporting public television, Mrs. Clinton states that children who watch public television programs are better prepared to learn by the time they begin kindergarten than children who watch only commercial television. Parents should limit the amount of television that children watch in general and monitor the shows that they do watch.

August 20, 1995

The First Lady remembers the family vacations she used to go on as a child every summer and discusses how it is more difficult now to take vacations. As the First Family, it is especially difficult because staff and security are always escorting them. However, Europeans view vacations as part of their culture.

August 27, 1995

Celebrating the 75th anniversary of women's suffrage, the First Lady recognizes the efforts of many men and women who fought for it in history. Although women in countries all over the world are still being denied this right, women in the U.S. have been taking suffrage for granted. Mrs. Clinton urges women in the U.S. to take action and vote.

September 3, 1995

The U.S. will be sending a delegation of 45 women and men to the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing. Although the delegation and the conference as a whole are made up of citizens from diverse backgrounds, each member has the same concerns: access to child care, education, jobs and credit, the chance to enjoy basic legal and human rights, and the opportunity to participate politically. It is necessary for American women to get involved in this conference because the U.S. has played a leading role in the protection of human rights and the empowering of women.

September 9, 1995

Mrs. Clinton reflects on the UN Fourth Conference on Women. Working with the theme that women's rights are human rights, she details various problems faced by women around the world.

September 16, 1995

This week, for the first time ever, Mrs. Clinton was not there when Chelsea began the school year. Instead, she was visiting Mongolia, where she saw how difficult the transition to democracy can be, particularly for the nation's children who suffer because there is not enough funding for education or health care.

September 23, 1995

Mrs. Clinton rails against Calvin Klein ads which depict children in sexually suggestive poses. She moves on to discuss the widespread depiction of children and women as victims and sexual objects in advertisements, television, and movies, suggesting that public outrage can help stem this unhealthy trend.

September 30, 1995

Mrs. Clinton recalls how attentive nurses aided her in the hospital in the days after Chelsea's birth--and then she notes how unlikely it is that this would happen today. In an attempt to save money, insurance companies are trying to rush women and their babies out of the hospital after childbirth, even though this can lead to disastrous health problems. Mrs. Clinton praises some laws at the state level which mandate that insurance companies cover women for at least 48 hours of hospitalization after childbirth, and she suggests that such legislation might be appropriate on a national level.

October 8, 1995

With her 20th wedding anniversary approaching, the First Lady remembers the time it took for her to make the decision to marry the President. Although being married to a public figure doesn't allow much privacy, Mrs. Clinton and the President manage to spend time together alone.

October 15, 1995

Visiting South America, the First Lady notes that Eleanor Roosevelt had traveled to many of the same places almost fifty years ago. Mrs. Clinton will be attending a conference of First Ladies from the Western Hemisphere in Paraguay, which will discuss ways to improve the health and education of children and families.

October 22, 1995

With October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the First Lady warns us that one out of eight American women will develop breast cancer during her lifetime. The key to living a full and healthy life is early detection, and the key to early detection is regular mammograms. Since many women are reluctant to get examined, Mrs. Clinton believes it is important for doctors to encourage their women patients.

October 29, 1995

After writing this column for a few months, the First Lady has received many letters from readers. Many letters were received about the adoption system, the United Nations Fourth World Conference in Women in Beijing, Gulf War veterans' illnesses, and breast cancer.

November 5, 1995

Although much attention is paid to the difficult and sometimes unsuccessful peacekeeping missions of the United Nations, its humanitarian efforts such as the improving literacy rates, preservation of historic and cultural treasures, immunization campaigns, and disaster relief efforts often go unnoticed. The First Lady feels that the United Nations, like many U.S. institutions, needs reform to become more efficient.

November 12, 1995

In this column, Mrs. Clinton expresses her sorrow over the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin. After signing a peace treaty with Jordan and Palestine, he was criticized for dealing with former enemies and extremists used this division to increase their own support. She is disgusted that citizens of democratic countries choose violence to bring about political change.

November 19, 1995

Children's hospitals throughout the country rely heavily on Medicaid for the services they offer and will suffer greatly due to Medicaid cuts. Poor and low-income parents depend on Medicaid to ensure health care for their children. Mrs. Clinton believes that cutting back on Medicaid will harm millions of children who are seriously ill and need health care coverage.

November 26, 1995

Celebrating Thanksgiving, the First Lady looks back on the traveling she did and is grateful for the people she met and the places she saw. In particular, she remembers her trip to South Asia and was impressed by the progress the countries were making in spite of internal political strife and great poverty. After seeing the parts of daily life that Americans take for granted such as safe drinking water, paved roads, free public schools, and 24 hour electricity, she sees how truly blessed America is.

December 3, 1995

Christmas planning at the White House begins in May, when a theme is chosen and many volunteers across the country spend months creating decorations and ornaments. This process goes on for months as every detail must be planned. The White House is open to the public for the first reception of the season.

December 9, 1995

Recounting her trip to Northern Ireland, Mrs. Clinton tells the story of Joyce McCartan. After the murder of her son, McCartan founded a neighborhood information center and began to work for peace, inspiring many other women to join her. Both Protestant and Catholic women have realized that they share the same grief, and they have become a driving force behind the peace process.

December 16, 1995

Mrs. Clinton writes admiringly of a group of women who are married to American soldiers stationed abroad, and who now support one another as their husbands head off to Bosnia. She then asks her readers to support our military men and women, and the spouses who are left alone, by writing letters and praying.

December 23, 1995

After reminiscing about some of her own Christmas experiences, Mrs. Clinton writes about the less fortunate who go needy during the holiday season. She then describes how many Americans, including the Clintons, respond to these needs with charity work.

December 30, 1995

As the New Year approaches, Mrs. Clinton shares her resolutions and hopes for 1996. Among other topics, she touches on breast cancer, voter participation, and the rights of women and children. She closes by providing the address to which cards and letters can be sent to our troops in Bosnia.

January 6, 1996

After discussing what a wonderful time she had with her young nephews and other family members over the holidays, Mrs. Clinton writes about the less-fortunate children she met at St. Ann's Infant and Maternity Home just outside of Washington. She then describes many of the problems facing parents and children today and asks her readers to strive to make a better future for our children.

January 13, 1996

When she was a teenager, Mrs. Clinton heard Martin Luther King Jr. speak in her hometown, and his message of racial tolerance and non-violence changed her. So too, his message, was heeded by the people of Billings, Montana who rallied in support of their Jewish neighbors when hate crimes rocked the community. Similarly uplifting stories, Mrs. Clinton explains, can be found in a new book which she describes.

January 20, 1996

Mrs. Clinton explains the Whitewater matter and assures the American people that she and President Clinton have done nothing wrong and will continue to cooperate with investigators. She notes, however, that though the Senate committee investigating the matter regularly accuses the Clintons of withholding documents, the committee sought to keep quiet the results of a two year independent study that absolved the Clintons of any wrongdoing in the Whitewater affair.

January 27, 1996

Divorces, Mrs. Clinton tells her readers, ought to be harder to obtain because of the devastating effects they have on children, both emotionally and economically. Adding to what she wrote in "It Takes a Village," Mrs. Clinton explains that though marriage is a difficult thing which must be worked at, it should be worked at--if for no other reason, the sake of the children.

February 3, 1996

Mrs. Clinton celebrates the efforts of Americans performing relief work in the former Yugoslavia, highlighting a joint project undertaken by the Catholic Relief Services and the International Orthodox Christian Charities. This is the first time these religious groups have worked together, and their project provides hope that people in Bosnia as well can get along.

February 11, 1996

Christopher Reeve has been fighting for medical coverage for those whose lifetime health care benefits are limited since his tragic accident left him paralyzed from the neck down. He supports the Kennedy-Kassebaum bill, which would prevent insurers from denying coverage to a person who already has a medical condition and raise the lifetime benefit limit to a minimum of \$10 million for those in situations similar to Reeve. He also believes that more money should be allocated to research for the prevention and cure of costly diseases. The First Lady asks Americans to contact their senators to pass this bill.

February 17, 1996

This column deals with the unfair provision that Congress inserted into the new defense budget, discharging service members who have been tested positive for HIV within six months. Although precautions should be taken concerning occupations where regular exposure to blood occurs, many of the military personnel work behind desks. The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Secretary of Defense, the Justice Department do not support this bill and the President believes it to be unconstitutional because it singles out the military for unfair treatment.

February 22, 1996

For the first time in American history, the White House hosted a celebration of an Islamic holiday: Ramadan. American society often mis-characterizes Islam, as was demonstrated after the Oklahoma City bombing, by focusing on extremists and terrorists. However, the majority of the 4 million Muslims in the U.S. are loyal citizens.

February 27, 1996

On the occasion of Chelsea's 16th birthday, Mrs. Clinton reflects on the challenges facing teenage girls today and the difficulties of motherhood. She focuses on the expanded career opportunities now available to women, but also on the negative messages aimed at girls regarding beauty, sex appeal, intelligence, and submissiveness.

February 29, 1996

Mrs. Clinton lauds the heads of the nation's major media outlets who, in a recent meeting at the White House, agreed to institute a television ratings system. She also discusses the future v-chip, but notes that, above all, parents must exercise responsibility over their children's viewing habits.

March 5, 1996

Mrs. Clinton explains the results of a recent independent investigation of Whitewater by Pillsbury, Madison & Sutro. The investigation concluded that there was "no hint of fraud or intentional misconduct" in the way in which the Rose Law Firm was retained by Madison

Guaranty, and, moreover, that Madison Guaranty's business was not economically significant to the Rose Law Firm, or the Clintons.

March 12, 1996

Mrs. Clinton criticizes typical societal notions of masculine and feminine, suggesting that both parents ought to play important roles in child rearing.

March 19, 1996

This column celebrates Lady Bird Johnson's love for flowers and the beautification movement she championed.

March 26, 1996

Mrs. Clinton explains the important job being performed by American troops in Bosnia which she was able to see up close on her visit. She emphasizes how the soldiers' presence is improving the life of Bosnian children.

April 2, 1996

Mrs. Clinton discusses her visits to Bosnia, ravaged by war; Turkey, which has a long history of religious tolerance; and Greece, birthplace of Western civilization and the Olympic Games. The Olympics, the First Lady explains, tie all of these nations--and, in fact, all the nations of the global family--together, and help nations build bridges of friendship.

April 9, 1996

Mrs. Clinton mourns the loss of Ron Brown and the other 32 men and women who were killed when an Air Force plane crashed en route to Croatia.

April 16, 1996

Mrs. Clinton explains the unique experience that it is to be a Cubs fan, praising Ernie Banks and extolling the virtues of what he calls positivism.

April 23, 1996

Beginning with her own experience as a professor in Arkansas, Mrs. Clinton stresses the value of legal aid and laments the fact that Congress is seeking to reduce federal funding for the program.

April 30, 1996

On the occasion of a White House celebration for individuals who have aided the victims of Chernobyl, Mrs. Clinton tells of her experience at Children's Hospital No. 4 in Minsk, and in the region in general.

May 7, 1996

For Mother's Day, the President writes this column himself, dedicating it to his mother, who died in 1994. He remembers how hardworking, courageous, and determined his mother was all her life.

May 14, 1996

With tens of thousands of children waiting to be adopted, the First Lady believes that age, disability, race, or ethnic origin should not be factors in finding a home for them. The government has taken steps such as the Family and Medical Leave Act, the Multiethnic Placement Act, and adoption subsidies to make adoption easier in the U.S.

May 21, 1996

Public funding for the arts should not be limited because the arts are invaluable to children. Painting, dance, writing, acting, singing, or playing an instrument can help instill confidence in children, give them a sense of accomplishment, and teaches inner-city children to reach for higher goals in life. The First Lady supports organizations such as the Manchester Craftsmen's Guild and the National Endowment for the Arts.

May 28, 1996

Mrs. Clinton shares some of the messages that she gave at her commencement addresses at various universities earlier in the month. With all of the concerns that recent graduates have, she believes that they should take the time to fulfill their role as American citizens. They should take an active role in politics by getting involved in their neighborhoods, communities, and government.

June 4, 1996

With the coming arrival of the President of Ireland, Mary Robinson, Mrs. Clinton talks about the many women she has met as First Lady. From the Empress of Japan to Ann Landers, Mrs. Clinton has listened to many perspectives and ideas concerning women and their role in the world.

June 11, 1996

For Father's Day, Mrs. Clinton speaks about her father and the responsibility he took during her childhood to be more involved in family life. She also highlights the wonderful job the President and Vice President have done as fathers, and as politicians who have helped so many other fathers be the best parents they can be.

June 18, 1996

Recalling her childhood summers, Mrs. Clinton reminisces about the community organized activities in which she participated, and hopes we can create similar programs for today's children. She mentions programs in Houston and New Orleans that an example for the rest of the nation.

June 25, 1996

Beginning with a touching story about a dying girl and her family who visited the White House, Mrs. Clinton explains the importance of the Family and Medical Leave Act which helps American workers avoid making an impossible choice between livelihood and parenthood. She moves on to discuss more proposals the President is making on this subject.

July 2, 1996

Mrs. Clinton notes what an appropriate place Central Europe is to spend the Fourth of July, a celebration of freedom. Discussing the new birth of democracy in the region, She mentions the important things she has already seen in Romania, Poland, and the Czech Republic, and notes that she will soon visit Slovakia, Hungary, and Estonia.

July 9, 1996

Mrs. Clinton talks about the various countries she visited in Central Europe and the Baltic Region, noting the various signs of democracy at work there. The United States, through the government, the private sector, and non-governmental organizations, is supporting many local efforts in these countries and creating an alliance of shared values.

July 16, 1996

Although most young children are repulsed by smoking, an increasing number pick up the habit during adolescence. The First Lady supports proposed legislation that would allow cigarettes to be sold only in face-to-face transactions with adults and would prohibit tobacco billboards within 1,000 feet of schools and playgrounds. In addition, products with cigarette logos and names would not be sold and an education program would be started.

July 23, 1996

This column is dedicated to William Milligan Sloane, who believed that sports was a vital part of the human experience. Helping to re-establish the modern Olympic Games, his vision will be fulfilled at the Games in Atlanta.

July 30, 1996

Despite the pipe bomb explosion in Centennial Olympic Park during the Games, many American athletes emerged victorious in Atlanta. Mrs. Clinton feels that it is unacceptable for acts of terror to occur anywhere in the world and that citizens everywhere should take a stand against it.

August 6, 1996

The passing of the legislation Title IX and the Americans With Disabilities Act ended the unfair exclusion of certain groups, enabling a greater participation in the Olympic Games and the Paralympics. As a result of these federal laws, women have the opportunity to play the same sports as men in college and people with disabilities have gained greater access to playing fields and swimming pool.

August 21, 1996

Recently, a 3 year-old boy fell more than 18 feet into a gorilla exhibit at a Chicago zoo. Yet, the small child was carried to safety by a particularly warm and friendly gorilla, reminding Mrs. Clinton that "though Chicagoans may be tough and intimidating on the outside," they are "a city and a people [and a gorilla] with hearts of gold." The First Lady then reminisces about her favorite parts of her hometown, recalling old pastimes and high school friends, among other things.

August 27, 1996

One the eve of the Democratic National Convention in her hometown, Mrs. Clinton once again alludes to Chicago's new hero, Binti, the child-saving gorilla. In addition, she discusses the challenges facing America's children and families, and explains how the President is working to overcome these challenges.

September 3, 1996

Mrs. Clinton praises the Seeds of Peace program which brings together boys and girls from Israel, the Palestinian Authority, Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, Qatar, Tunisia, and Kuwait who show potential for leadership and diplomacy. By spending time together, these children learn to overcome stereotypes and work for a brighter future.

September 10, 1996

Mrs. Clinton celebrates the remarkable stories of this year's winners of the Presidential Medal of Freedom: Joseph Cardinal Bernadin, James Brady, Millard Fuller, David Hamburg, John H. Johnson, Eugene Lang, Jan Nowak-Jezioranski, Antonia Pantoja, Rosa Parks, Ginetta Sagan, and Morris Udall.

September 17, 1996

Foreign aid, which makes up less than one percent of the federal budget, not only strengthens our democratic interests overseas, but also reaps unexpected benefits at home. For example, the effective and inexpensive Oral Rehydration Therapy used in Bangladesh could also be used to treat patients in America. The first annual Lessons Without Borders conference in Baltimore addressed various ways in which we can learn other lessons--like micro-lending--from communities around the globe.

September 24, 1996

Mrs. Clinton discusses breast cancer and congratulates members of the fashion industry like Ralph Lauren for all they have done to fight the disease. She celebrates the life of Nina Hyde who died of breast cancer and describes a White House breakfast fundraiser for breast cancer research and treatment, attended by Princess Diana, the honorary chair.

October 1, 1996

On the first anniversary of the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women, Mrs. Clinton celebrates the strides made for women's right in the last year, around the world and in the US. After providing examples from various countries, the First Lady discusses what has been done in America, mentioning a special council set up by the President, new federal laws, and various actions taken in communities across the nation.

October 8, 1996

Mrs. Clinton congratulates Dr. Shannon Lucid who just returned from the longest flight in space by any American and any woman. In addition, the First Lady explains that when she was a child she wrote a letter to NASA to find out what she needed to do to become an astronaut, only to be told that women were not being considered for job. Hence, Dr. Lucid's journey shows how far women have come--and far they can go when they never relinquish their dreams.

October 15, 1996

Mrs. Clinton speaks about Socks and the massive quantities of mail and attention he receives on a daily basis.

October 21, 1996

Mrs. Clinton discusses the unveiling of the Superman comic book in Bosnia and Herzegovina to warn children about the dangers of land mines in the region. A hospital partnership between the U.S. and Bosnia is also being sponsored by the U.S. government to provide care for those suffering from physical and emotional traumas associated with the years of violence and wars.

October 29, 1996

After it was noticed that there was no art in the White House depicting African Americans, the President took action, purchasing a landscape painting by Henry Ossawa Tanner. The column gives a little historical background on Tanner and the racial prejudice he had to overcome in his life.

November 5, 1996

Mrs. Clinton talks about the Presidential campaign from the past fall, remembering the various places she visited along the way, the food she ate, and the people she met. She noticed citizens of all ages taking responsibility by taking action in their communities.

November 12, 1996

The First Lady recalls the excitement and anticipation of Election Day, waiting for Americans to vote and hear the verdict.

November 19, 1996

Mrs. Clinton is visiting Australia, the Philippines, and Thailand to see what has been done to improve conditions for women and promote their involvement in civic life. She speaks of the leadership of Australia in this field, granting suffrage to women two decades before the U.S., having universal health care, and efforts to stop domestic violence.

November 26, 1996

Remembering her trip to Australia, the Philippines, and Thailand, Mrs. Clinton writes about the various places she visited. She spoke on the issue of women's rights in Manila and Northern Thailand, discussing plans to educate girls and protect them from child prostitution .

December 9, 1996

December 17, 1996

The President announced new steps he was taking to streamline and encourage adoption: tax credits, ending racial preferences for adoption, increasing the number of children in permanent homes, and launching an effort to educate the public about adoption.

December 25, 1996

In a column written on Christmas Eve, Mrs. Clinton describes the First Family's lovely

Christmas traditions, reminisces about Christmases past, and speaks of their plans for this year.

December 31, 1996

Mrs. Clinton describes Renaissance Weekend, a year-end retreat she has taken for the past 12 years with the President and Chelsea.

January 7, 1997

Mrs. Clinton describes what she and the President have done to investigate Gulf War Syndrome and help the veterans of the war.

January 14, 1997

At the outset of the President's second term, Mrs. Clinton tells her readers that in the next four years she plans to keep up her hard work and busy schedule, whether by advocating health care reform, speaking out for women and children, supporting the arts, working for the poor, or lobbying for education. She discusses the challenges facing the nation, along with some of the most projects she has undertaken to help meet these challenges.

January 21, 1997

Mrs. Clinton lovingly and movingly describes the President's second Inauguration Day, from morning prayers to the ceremony itself, from the traditional lunch to the evening's balls.

January 29, 1997

In discussing the complexities of the abortion issue, Mrs. Clinton asks Americans to listen to one another's positions and seek common ground, rather than lashing out with hatred. She expresses her support for the President's formulation on abortion (that they should be legal, safe, and rare), and endorses family planning as an effective to reduce the number of abortions.

February 4, 1997

Mrs. Clinton explains the power of micro credit by telling the stories of several women who used small loans to pull themselves out of welfare and start their own businesses. She then discusses ways in which the President is helping to expand micro credit and community banking in America.

February 11, 1997

Reflecting on White House luncheon that honored working women, Mrs. Clinton discusses how such women are becoming a driving force in America, politically, economically, and socially. And while some commentators have called this the "feminization of politics," Mrs. Clinton explains that she prefers the term the "humanization of politics," noting that issues like child care and health care are just as real as so-called realpolitik. She concludes by saying that society must support working women, respecting their choices and helping to empower them.

February 19, 1997

February 25, 1997

Mrs. Clinton discusses the coming Millennium, and suggests that we use it as an opportunity to

reflect on the past. She then describes the recently announced Millennium Initiative to celebrate and preserve American art and culture.

March 4, 1997

Mrs. Clinton recounts the moving story of Elizabeth Glasser, who was infected with AIDS from a blood transfusion she received while giving birth. Though Elizabeth and her daughter have already died of AIDS, the Centers for Disease Control just announced that for the first time, AIDS deaths in the US had dropped substantially. In order to continue this trend, we must make AIDS medications available to more people, particularly children and the poor, continue education programs, and support organizations like the Pediatric AIDS foundation which Elizabeth Glasser founded.

March 11, 1997

The Single Parent Scholarship Fund, a privately supported program in Arkansas, offers small grants to poor single parents who wish to attend college. To these parents, these small grants can make a huge difference, for example providing a woman like Sarah Clay with enough gas money to commute to school. Such single parents are not looking for handout; they want to get an education and a job, and all they need is a little push. The Arkansas program has produced a remarkable success rate, and there is no reason other similar programs could not be started all over the nation.

March 18, 1997

Reflecting on her visit to a former hub of the slave trade, Mrs. Clinton writes about the remarkable endurance and humanity of the Africans who suffered this fate, yet still made such great contributions to America. She then moves on to talk about the great progress that has been made in Africa recently, particularly the building of democracies and the better treatment of

April 15, 1997

The White House Conference on Early Childhood Development and Learning will discuss the scientific findings that show that time spent talking, singing, and reading to an infant not only strengthens the bond between parent and child, but helps the child develop emotionally and intellectually. Through programs like Reach Out and Read, parents will be encouraged to read to their your children, especially during their first three years of life.

April 22, 1997

In this column, the First Lady stresses the importance of volunteering and its impact on communities and the country as a whole. The Summit for America's Future is a meeting of educators, business leaders, community organizers, and volunteers to discuss volunteer activity and how the nation can meet the special needs of children and families. Every child should have an ongoing relationship with a caring adult, safe places such as libraries and after school programs should be provided for children to grow and learn, healthy lifestyles should be promoted, young people should be provided with effective education and t raining, and children of all ages should get involved in volunteerism and give back to their communities.

April 29, 1997

President Clinton supported the idea of a statue of FDR in a wheelchair because he experienced first-hand what it was like to have a disability when he tore the tendons in his right leg and was in a wheelchair himself. This column discusses the difficulties the President had recuperating from his accident and realizes the daunting task FDR faced as a President during WWII.

May 6, 1997

In celebration of Mother's Day, Mrs. Clinton devotes this column to her own mother. Although her mother went through hard times growing up, she was supported and encouraged by adults who helped her along the way such as teachers, relatives, and employers. Her sense of caring, compassion, and respect for all people was instilled in her children.

May 13, 1997

After attending summits in Central America, the First Lady discusses the micro credit loans available in these democratic countries. Because micro credit gives opportunity for economic participation, there are many examples of women who have succeeded in earning a living through various means. The President launched an initiative to expand micro credit projects in the Caribbean. To highlight the U.S. commitment to human rights in Latin America, the Secretary of State and the First Lady visited the Institute for Human Rights.

May 20, 1997

Although the U.S. has the most advanced medical facilities in the world, many children are not covered by health insurance. The number of insured poor children has been increasing due to Medicaid, but the number of insured middle-class children has been decreasing. The balanced budget will help millions of children get coverage, but Congress is urged to take action to ensure health care for all children.

May 27, 1997

In celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Marshall Plan, the First Lady is reminded of the story of Anne Frank. She reminds us that the Marshall Plan helped create a democratic, peaceful Europe. Now, European countries are working with the U.S to fulfill Marshall's vision: to support democracies all around the world.

June 3, 1997

The First Lady reminisces over Chelsea's final year of high school and looks to the future, as her daughter will attend college in the fall. Mrs. Clinton thanks all the people who have touched Chelsea throughout her life, from teachers to coaches, to family friends and staff members.

June 10, 1997

For Father's Day, Mrs. Clinton speaks of the great relationship between her husband and daughter and stresses the importance of fathers in children's lives. Men, as well as women, find it hard to balance work and family life.

June 17, 1997

Although the American public school system has been criticized in the past, Mrs. Clinton points

out that exceptions to the rule exist. Schools like Banneker High School and J. O. Wilson Elementary School should serve as a model for other public schools to follow. High standards set by teachers, administration, and parents as well as strong after-school programs contribute to the successes of these schools.

June 24, 1997

The First Lady encourages Congress to improve the foster care and adoption systems in the United States. She supports the idea of protecting children from harm and providing them with permanent, loving families, even if it means separating them from their biological parents due to torture, abandonment, or physical or sexual abuse.

July 1, 1997

With the Fourth of July, its picnics, and barbeques coming, the First Lady recognizes the need for government regulation of standards and safeguards for food production. A year ago, the President had announced new regulations for meat and poultry that would require tests for salmonella and E. Coli. Such laws help prevent food-contamination outbreaks that can occur.

July 8, 1997

During the First Lady and the President's visit to Spain, the first pictures from Mars came in. The President has always supported various space programs and continues to work with Russia to learn more about our surroundings and also create a greater understanding of the global community. Mrs. Clinton hopes that the successes of the Pathfinder and Sojourner will encourage more girls to become involved in science.

July 15, 1997

During her visit to Austria earlier in the week, the First Lady attended the conference "Vital Voices: Women and Democracy," where women from Central and Eastern Europe gathered to discuss the barriers they face and strategies for furthering democracy. Although Austria's future was uncertain after WWII, the Marshall Plan and the Salzburg Seminar helped secure peace and democracy.

July 22, 1997

In this column, the First Lady focuses on the importance of immunizing young children against diseases like measles, whooping cough, polio, mumps, rubella, diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis. Although President Carter began an initiative to improve immunization rates, the federal government stopped keeping track of such rates in the 1980's. Thanks to the President, new goals have been set for 1996 and 2000 as a part of health care reform, the Child Immunization Initiative, which ensures millions of children the immunizations they need.

July 29, 1997

After watching the movie, "My Best Friend's Wedding," the First Lady is troubled by the portrayal of the modern woman smoking, as it influences young women. With the increase in cigarette and cigar use amongst children, she asks the motion-picture industry to take responsibility for their actions.

August 5, 1997

The balanced budget agreement is to create a strong economy so as not to burden future generations with the debts of the past. With initiatives such as a child tax credit, extension of health insurance for children, and an increase in education funding, the First Lady believes that this agreement will lead America into the next century.

August 12, 1997

Although children and adults suffer from many of the same diseases, the medications prescribed for them may differ. Because thorough testing has not been done on effective dosages for children, either children are given improper doses or they are not given medication at all. In an effort to bridge the gap in the system of medical treatment, the President has announced that the FDA will require medicine manufacturers to study the effects of urgently needed drugs on children and the dosages required.

August 19, 1997

On the 125th anniversary of Yellowstone National Park, the First Lady celebrates America's commitment to preserve our lands as national treasures. She supports the President's earmarking of funds for maintaining national parks as a part of the balanced budget agreement.

August 26, 1997

In this column, Mrs. Clinton reminisces about the vacations she took with her family growing up and the many games she used to play with them. Now, with her husband and daughter, she still enjoys playing games during their vacations.

September 2, 1997

The First Lady pays tribute to the late Princess Diana, remembering their chats about the difficulties of raising their children in an environment as normal as possible, the fight against AIDS, and the challenges of public life. Mrs. Clinton admires her for her strength, courage, and persistence.

September 9, 1997

In memory of Mother Teresa, this column recalls the times Mrs. Clinton met her, from the National Prayer Breakfast in 1994 to the opening of the Mother Teresa Home for Infant Children in 1995. At the National Prayer Breakfast, she asked the First Lady to help her open a shelter in Washington D.C. for infants and young children awaiting adoption or foster families. After setting up a coalition in Washington D.C., the First Lady was able to open the shelter in a year and a half.

September 16, 1997

This column deals with Chelsea's leaving for college in a week and the excitement, anxiety, and sadness that goes along with it for the First Lady and the President. Although Mrs. Clinton has the same worries as all other mothers, she also has the added concern of privacy and security for her daughter in college.

*****September 23, 1997*****

September 30, 1997

In celebration of Arts and Humanities Month, the First Lady discusses some of the events that illustrate the diversity of expression in the U.S. such as the Heritage Awards, which honored folk artists, the new exhibition in the White House Sculpture Garden, which hosted works by Native American sculptors, the Arts and Humanities medals, and the National Award for Museum Service. Mrs. Clinton believes in supporting the arts and humanities, especially in the schools. presentation of the 1997 National Medals for the Arts and the Humanities

October 7, 1997

This column underlines the grave consequences of global warming due to the rising concentrations of carbon dioxide and other gases released when fossil fuels are burned. One example is the spread of infectious diseases such as malaria, cholera, yellow fever. While the White House has already taken steps to conserve energy, the First Lady believes that everyone can take make small changes towards safeguarding the world for future generations.

October 14, 1997

The Panama Canal, which will revert to Panama on Dec. 31, 1999, was built over a century ago in order to improve economic opportunities for people all over the Americas. At the present time, the U.S and the countries of Latin America are working together to stop hunger and disease, educate all children, and empower all women. The Seventh Annual Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and Governments of the Americas addressed issues facing women and children.

In addition, the U.S. is working with Panama to reforest the land around the Canal.

October 28, 1997

In this column, the First Lady talks about the many surprises she had during her 50th birthday. Throughout the weekend, she was showered with many parties and events.

November 4, 1997

The First Lady discusses the strength of the women in Northern Ireland, like Joyce McCatan, who worked together as Protestants and Catholics to bring peace. In spite of religious conflicts, these women and many young people have come together to demand political action to advance the important issues of health care, education, job training, and peace.

November 11, 1997

At the very start of the First Lady's trip to Central Asia, Russia, and Ukraine, the Air Force plane she was on encountered difficulties with one of the engines and returned back to Maryland. The media immediately broadcasted the flight delay as "breaking news" made it the headline in newspapers although Mrs. Clinton felt it was only a minor incident. As she is amused by this situation, she recalls the history of the plane and many of its past passengers.

November 18, 1997

Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997 will find a safe, permanent home for children in the

foster care system by focusing on the safety of the child first. In addition, foster care will be temporary in order to ensure permanent homes and the legislation will make it easier to adopt children across state and county lines.

November 20, 1997

The First Lady praises new legislation which will help reform the adoption and foster care system. Although efforts have been increased to keep families together, states will not be required to reunify families who have had a history of violence. Unlike before, the children's health and safety will be a priority in court.

November 25, 1997

In celebrating Thanksgiving, Mrs. Clinton recognizes the democratic and economic progress that the countries of the former Soviet Union have made. Young people, women, and non-governmental organizations have been working hard to implement reforms. With the help of the United States, these countries are on their way to becoming full democracies.

December 9, 1997

Although the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was signed after WWII, many women are deprived of economic, social, and political opportunities all over the world. The First Lady stresses the connection between human rights and women's rights.

December 16, 1997

In this column Mrs. Clinton explains how the First Family got Buddy and picked out a name for him. It goes on to describe his relationship with the President and his adjusting to life at the White House with Socks.

December, 23, 1997

In this column, the First Lady would like to thank all of the American servicemen and women stationed in Bosnia, especially over the holiday season. The First Family had visited Bosnia to thank the U.S. armed forces and encourage the Bosnians to implement the Dayton Peace Accords. Although Bosnia still faces much economic and political hardship, with the help of the United States, Bosnians are able to look to the future with hope.

December 30, 1997

In wishing everyone a Happy New Year, the First Lady reminisces about a New Year's Eve she spent with her family as a child.

January 6, 1998

Mrs. Clinton raises the issue of child care and its importance during the early years of a child's development. Although there are increasing numbers of children needing care during the day and after school, programs have been rated as poor. After the White House Conference on Child Care, the President took some positive steps towards providing safe, nurturing, and stimulating care, such as increasing child-care tax-credits, providing after school care, encouraging states to toughen standards, and promoting the training of child-care providers.

January, 13, 1998

In celebrating Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, the First Lady recognizes the 15 Americans awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom. With Martin Luther King Jr. Day, service has become an increasingly important, as the President has urged citizens to participate across the nation, through the Corporation for National Service, the Student Service Awards, and the Peace Corps.

January 20, 1998

The White House, as a living museum, must be maintained and preserved in order for it to be opened to the public. The First Lady has been actively involved in the renovating of various rooms in the White House thanks to the help of the White House Endowment Fund.

January 27, 1998

In the face of controversies and rumors, the President has had to stay focused on his work, mainly, the State of the Union address. He will be highlighting the Saving America's Treasures project, an initiative to preserve the various documents, books, artifacts, and sites that have shaped American history. The First Lady will lead the White House Millennium Council in the national effort and urges all citizens to learn more about American history and preserve our cultural heritage.

February 3, 1998

After speaking in Davos, Switzerland at the World Economic Forum, the First Lady discusses the Swiss commitment to democracy. For example, the Children's Parliament, made up of 8- to 14-year-olds, follows parliamentary rule and meets weekly to debate issues and allocate funds. The First Lady supports Swiss efforts to help the survivors of the Holocaust and stresses the importance of investing in women all over the world to build a strong civil society.

February 10, 1998

Beginning with her own experiences as a mother, Mrs. Clinton discusses how important it is that children receive proper attention and care in the earliest years of life. She describes effective home visitation programs in Alexandria, Virginia and Elmira, New York with provide mothers with advice and support, leading to reductions in government assistance, child abuse, unintended pregnancies, substance abuse, and child hospitalization. Mrs. Clinton points out the importance of identifying, supporting, and replicating more programs like this, and notes that the President's child care proposal would allocate funds to such projects.

February 17, 1998

This column discusses the significance of the coming millennium and the various ways the White House is celebrating it. From the Millennium Evenings to the White House Millennium Council, from the "Save America's Treasures" project to the Star-Spangled Banner restoration, American citizens have the opportunity to use the Internet to keep informed on how they can participate in this celebration.

February 24, 1998

Discusses the need for adequate medical care for children and the nation's most vulnerable citizens. Although many children are eligible for Medicaid, they are not enrolled for various

reasons. The Children's Health Insurance Program and a series of new initiatives are being created by the President to focus on this effort.

March 3, 1998

In celebrating Dr. Seuss' birthday, this column deals with the various ways in which the government is trying to improve literacy among children. The First Lady discusses the importance of reading in children's development. Programs such as "Read Across America," the America Reads Challenge, the Prescription for Reading Partnership, and the Read to your Bunny Campaign have been launched to encourage reading.

March 10, 1998

Although the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing created an agenda for improving the lives of women around the world, in many countries including the U.S., women are still being subjected to violence, unfair inheritance and property rights, and limited access to economic opportunity. In recognition of International Women's Day, the President is calling upon the Senate to ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. In addition, his Interagency Council on Women and several other measures are striving to create a safer, more equal world for women.

March 17, 1998

Describes the importance of national service and details the accomplishments of the Administration in this area, particularly the Corporation for National Service. To illustrate the importance and effectiveness of service, the column tells the uplifting stories of several individuals and groups who have performed national service.

March 24, 1998

Using the story of one mother and daughter as a centerpiece, the column describes how Ugandan children are being kidnapped by Sudanese rebels, and then used as human shields, raped, and killed. Mrs. Clinton moves on to discuss how innocent children around the world are being forced to participate in wars and how this experience damages them. She announces that the US government has pledged \$2 million to help the people of Northern Uganda, and calls for people around the world to speak out against the tragedy taking place there.

April 1, 1998

Mrs. Clinton discusses what she has seen on her Africa trip, noting the problems and accomplishments of women in South Africa, Rwanda, Uganda, Botswana, and Senegal. In these countries women have established micro enterprises, constructed homes, and fought against female genital mutilation.

April 8, 1998

Using the school shooting in Jonesboro, Arkansas as an opening, the column discusses the problems in our society that lead to child violence. Among the issues discussed are single mothers, after-school activities, guns that are not left locked up, the gun and tobacco lobbies, and violence in television, movies, music, and video games.

April 15, 1998

Celebrates the Irish peace accords and the role the President played in negotiating them. Moreover, lauds the role played by several women including Dr. Marjorie "Mo" Mowlam and Joyce McCartan.

April 22, 1998

This column deals with the government and private sectors providing affordable, quality child care. Not only are Congress and the President involved in creating legislation to increase the number of children receiving subsidies, expand child care tax credits, improve the quality of after school programs and child care centers, and provide more funds to train workers, but American businesses are playing an increasing role themselves. They are helping to create better environments for working parents.

April 29, 1998

This column recognizes the efforts of the many volunteers who put in countless hours each year to help the White House function. In celebrating National Volunteer Week, The President and the First Lady were able to thank all of the White House volunteers.

May 6, 1998

This column expresses concern over the proposed House bankruptcy-reform legislation because it would elevate certain types of credit card debt to the same high priority as child support. This bill would force single parents to compete for child support payments when bankruptcy has been filed. Families and children should be protected in the face of financial insecurity.

May 13, 1998

In celebrating the 50th anniversary of the WHO, the First Lady expresses concern over the increasing number of infectious diseases. The WHO is praised for its efforts to eradicate diseases such as diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, measles, tuberculosis, polio, malaria, and HIV/AIDS. Congress is urged to appropriate funds needed to pay the U.S. debt to the United Nations.

May 20, 1998

This column supports the President's stance to veto the voucher bill which was passed by both houses of Congress, providing money for private- and parochial-schools rather than public schools. It recognizes the need to allocate more money to public schools to improve the quality of education and supports charter schools as an effective alternative to traditional public schools.

May 27, 1998

This column supports the efforts of schools in the country's toughest neighborhoods to create a safer place for learning. Congratulates the entire Chicago school system for its major reforms in the past decade. Of special significance is Du Sable High School, where initiatives have been taken to restore order and improve the school's test scores to the national averages.

June 3, 1998

Focuses on welfare reform, telling the stories of several women who have successfully made the

transition from welfare to work. Points out the benefits of welfare reform for businesses, highlighting a few companies that participate in the Welfare to Work Partnership. Notes Administration accomplishments and suggests that more can be done, for example the President's child care initiative the creation of more private sector jobs.

June 10, 1998

Asthma is the most common chronic medical problem afflicting America's children. As many of the problems stem from the environment and air quality, the President has announced new air standards, signed an Executive Order requiring federal agencies to safeguard children from environmental risks, and helped create the Ozone Mapping Project.

June 17, 1998

Using the Monocacy Aqueduct on the C&O Canal as a springboard, the column addresses the importance of historic preservation. The National Trust for Historic Preservation's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places is discussed as is the upcoming Millennium Treasures Tour.

June 24, 1998

Blasts the Republican senators for defeating the tobacco bill and explains the importance of passing tobacco legislation that will reduce teen smoking. Stresses that the President is not giving up and outlines his agenda, including legislation that would raise prices, curb advertising, and allow the FDA to regulate tobacco. In addition the President asked HHS to collect data on teen smoking.

July 1, 1998

Describes the challenges facing Chinese women which Mrs. Clinton saw up-close on her trip. Though the Chinese economy is growing, women are often held back by illiteracy and a lack of legal rights and services. Micro credit programs and new ventures can make an enormous difference in improving the lives of these women.

July 8, 1998

Celebrates the upcoming 200th anniversary of the Marine Band, describing their rich history and proud accomplishments, and noting memorable occasions at which the band has played during the Clinton Presidency.

July 15, 1998

Describes the Save America's Treasures tour, and many of the sites to be visited. Making use of a quotation from James Madison, the column explains the important role historic preservation plays in allowing us to learn from the past and plan for the future.

July 22, 1998

This column reviews three stories President Clinton heard at a roundtable discussion on health care of families who were torn apart by bad decisions on the part of managed health care plans. It calls for support of the Patients' Bill of Rights which was under debate in Congress.

July 29, 1998

Praises the Breast Cancer stamp and discusses the administration's positive history regarding cancer. Mentions March on Washington and the ongoing efforts to cure cancer.

August 5, 1998

Describes the Family Medical and Leave Act by using examples. The Act increases employee effectiveness and respects the rights of responsibilities of Americans in their endeavor to balance work and family.

August 12, 1998

Emphasizes the hard work and many responsibilities of the Foreign Service employees and then summarizes the lives of those employees killed in the Kenya embassy bombing. Affirms that Americans will not be intimidated by terrorism and thanks all of those who helped care for the bombing victims.

August 19, 1998

Discusses natural disasters and the new role of FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) in coping with them.

August 25, 1998

Summarizes the history of the White House Fellows Program. Using examples such as Colin Powell, Doris Kearns Goodwin to show the immense benefits of a White House Fellowship.

September 2, 1998

Discusses upcoming trip to Northern Ireland and Russia. Announces partnership between KaBoom!, and American non-profit that builds playgrounds for children, and Playboard, a children's advocacy group in Northern Ireland. The two organizations will create a unique play space in Belfast to foster cooperation amongst children of Northern Ireland.

September 9, 1998

America's schools are dealing with many problems including crumbling facilities. President's budget includes plans to fix this problem, such as hiring more teachers and raising national standards. Must reach across partisan lines when it comes to children's issues.

September 17, 1998

September 23, 1998

Describes HRC's personal experiences with foster care (ie-her mother was briefly in foster care) and uses these examples to emphasize the Administration's accomplishments in this area. Mentions several foster care related programs such as Destination Future and the Federal Independent Living Program that need to be strengthened.

September 30, 1998

Previously, the House passed an "unacceptable" bankruptcy bill. However, the Senate has

passed a new bill that HRC commends. Outlines critical concerns and points of bankruptcy reform. Emphasizes that the administration only supports fair and balances bankruptcy reform

October 7, 1998

Uses project HRC conducted while working at CDF to show problems when children are incarcerated with adults. Emphasizes the importance of dealing with juvenile crime. Outlines several strategies that have been used to deal with juvenile crime.

October 14, 1998

Uses stories to demonstrate the need to raise minimum wage. Condemns Republican Senators for voting against minimum wage. Discusses previous successes from the minimum wage raise in 1993.

October 21, 1998

Discusses the new budget and how partisan bickering among Congress led to an unproductive and inactive legislature. Mentions various aspects of the budget such as Social Security Reform, the IMF, and environmental issues.

October 28, 1998

Encourages people to vote if they are tired of politics coming before important issues. Discusses low voter turnout and the importance of participation.

November 4, 1998

Describes idea behind Sculpture Garden and the exhibits that have been there, including the present Native American exhibit. Discusses Iris Cantor, who is greatly involved with the Garden. Visitors to the White House greatly enjoy the exhibits.

November 11, 1998

Discusses the tragedy of Hurricane Mitch- the transportation problems, crop losses and general infrastructure destruction. Affirms U.S. commitment to help those countries hurt by Mitch and outlines current U.S. efforts.

November 18, 1998

Discusses the importance of quality after school care. The current budget includes \$200 million to invest in after school care. This money will help establish many community based programs such as Chicago's Lighthouse Program.

November 25, 1998

Describes the stories of several children who were adopted on Adoption Day. Discusses President's efforts on adoption including the Adoption and Safe Families Act, the national goal to double the number of adoptions by 2002, and the Family Medical and Leave Act. Emphasizes the need for all children to have a family.

December 1, 1998

Socks and Buddy have received many letters from children all over the country. Mrs. Clinton

recounts many amusing “Buddy and Socks” anecdotes and shares questions from the many letters she has received.

December 8, 1998

This column discusses Eleanor Roosevelt and her legacy of contributions emphasizing the Declaration of Human Rights. Using the Declaration, Mrs. Clinton addresses children’s rights issues such as childhood prostitution, child soldier and child poverty.

December 15, 1998

This column discusses the recent Middle East Peace agreement (The Wye Agreement) and the progress made by individual Jewish and Palestinian families in the region who have chosen to work and live together as the gaps among ethnicities and religions are narrowed.

December 23, 1998

Though this is a difficult time and we thank you for your encouragement via calls, letters, faxes and emails it is important to look at this Administration’s accomplishments and in turn to commit ourselves to reconciliation, an end to partisan divisiveness in our country, and a continued focus on the best for America.

December 30, 1998

This column highlights various projects underway as the millenium approaches, including The Save America’s Treasure’s tour, the Millennium evenings, The Millennium Trails Project, and The Mars Project. These and other activities are being orchestrated by the Millenium Council, which was created one year prior to the writing of this column.

January 6, 1999

This column focuses on the issue of long term care for the elderly and the Administration’s efforts to provide more support for families “sandwiched” between carrying for aging parents and nurturing their children.

January 13, 1999

This column focuses on the health hazards of epilepsy, the lifestyle limitations it causes, and the Administration’s proposed budget which seeks to expand funding for epilepsy research.

January 20, 1999

This column focuses on the need for Social Security as not just a retirement program but a source of financial protection for those whose spouses become disabled, holding strong importance in the women’s lives. The column discusses the President’s proposal to “save Social Security” with money from the budgetary surplus.

January 27, 1999

This column takes a historic view of the turn of the millenium which is followed by how we as American’s can use this time as an opportunity to determine our hopes and desires for the

country and challenges us to commit to action in our areas of concern.

February 3, 1999

This column discusses the President's proposed budget, its allocations for "big ticket" agendas like Social Security, Medicare and Education as well as "smaller" priorities such as allocations for foster care, asthma, children's hospital, mentoring. An outline of the course of action needed to be taken to secure the budget is described along with a discussion of the Administration's continued economic success.

February 10, 1999

This column focuses on the connection between the death of Jordan's King Hussein and the United Nations Conference in the Netherlands, both of which occurred the week prior. Envisioning and working towards creating a peaceful, positive future for the world was the work of King Hussein, the duty of those in attendance at the Hague, and is especially a responsibility shared by all citizens.

February 17, 1999

This column discusses the continued need to support and preserve Social Security for those unexpected reasons that affect all ages, races and genders. The bipartisan recognition of the importance of Social Security is mentioned along with a call to action for all Americans in this "critical national debate".

February 24, 1999

The importance of insuring children via Medicaid and CHIP (Children's Health Insurance Program) is discussed. The toll-free number 1-877-KIDS-NOW is provided as big businesses, community organizations and families are encouraged to secure the well-being of America's children.

March 3, 1999

This column discusses the importance of the arts in American education. Creativity is an aspect of a child's personality that is too often underdeveloped, and therefore instruction of the arts in schools is encouraged.

March 10, 1999

America's passion for sports, in light of Joe DiMaggio's death, is discussed. Various sports figures and organizations and the non-gender specific desire to be active and competitive are highlighted.

March 17, 1999

Almost one hundred years after Susan B. Anthony provided her vision for 20th century as one of equality between men and women in all aspects of life, the role of the woman remains one of struggle and choice. The column celebrates women and Women's History Month.

March 24, 1999

This column discusses The First Lady's visits and observations in Egypt. Social and government

programs and their impact on preserving human lives and the 20th anniversary of the historic Egyptian-Israeli peace agreement are included.

March 30, 1999

The troubling events in Kosovo and NATO's efforts to protect the inhabitants of the former Yugoslavia are described. This occurred during the First Lady's travels to Morocco, where citizens understand themselves as one people, not defined or separated by religion, as "the circle of dignity" is expanded.

April 7, 1999

As problems in Kosovo persist, a focus is taken on the lives and personal trauma suffered by the refugees. American efforts to aid in this battle are discussed. The events in Kosovo continue to remind us of the violence and hatred that plagues our society.

April 15, 1999

The Seventh Millennium Evening featured Holocaust survivor and Nobel Peace Prize winner Elie Wiesel. The horrors he witnessed and memories he took from his life experiences are correlated with troubles in Kosovo as a reinforced need to never forget, to "listen to the victims of hatred and evil", and to "understand the perils of indifference".

April 21, 1999

This column focuses on America's teachers, specifically 1999's Teacher of the Year, Andy Baumgartner of Georgia. The President's Goals 2000: Educate America Act and the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act are outlined and discussed, including a three part strategy to reduce class size, encourage full certification and promotion of every teacher, and increase salaries and scholarships.

April 28, 1999

The impact of present day culture and violence is discussed in relation to the school shootings in Littleton, Colorado. Mentoring of children and the removal of guns from their access are focal points, accompanied by grave statistics on gun related violence and the steps government is taking to put a stop to this problem.

May 5, 1999

This column consists of excerpts from letters received discussing the crisis in Kosovo as well as personal refugee stories. Offers of help and hope are welcomed and necessary in light of the terror that Slobodan Milosevic and his regime have created.

May 12, 1999

Parents and victims of gun violence are highlighted and this continued problem is discussed in light of a Mother's Day pledge taken to prevent children's access to firearms. To stop this "senseless violence", the President and Mrs. Clinton announced a national campaign to inhibit youth violence citing public and private involvement in thwarting this problem.

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May 19, 1999

This column discusses the plight of the Kosovo refugees and the families suffering in this region of the world against Milosevic. It is the duty of NATO and the American people to support and protect these people and this effort.

May 26, 1999

This column highlights the need to preserve and protect our environment and "America's cultural, historical and natural treasures". A theme of the White House Millennium Council is "Honor the Past – Imagine the Future" which is carried out through the Save America's Treasure's Program, responsible for this historic preservation.

June 2, 1999

This column addresses the connection between the images America's children are shown and the violent behavior they exhibit. A focus on video games and advertising is taken, in light of the Columbine High School shooting in Littleton, Colorado.

June 9, 1999

This column addresses the recent White House conference on mental illness, highlighting the many kinds of mental disabilities and describing specific public figures who suffer from these problems.

June 16, 1999

Rosa Parks was honored with the Congressional Gold Medal this week. This column discusses the deliberate action taken by Parks on the bus that day and how strong she and all civil rights crusaders were in their fight for equality.

June 23, 1999

One month after her visit to Stenkovac I in Macedonia, Mrs. Clinton returned to this Macedonian refugee camp. This column discusses Kosovar refugees, their safe return home, and the rebuilding of their lives now that the victory in Kosovo exists and the bombing there has stopped.

June 30, 1999

This column discusses Fourth of July traditions and celebrates democracy and American history. As part of the Save America's Treasures program, plans are underway to develop new exhibits to preserve and display the Charters of Freedom (Declaration of Independence, Constitution and Bill of Rights), as their current archival encasements are deteriorating.

July 7, 1999

This column focuses on microenterprise and public/private partnerships. It specifically reviews the four day, six state tour the President took to spread the message of "new markets, new hope" to rural America.

July 13, 1999

This column addresses the very recent 1999 World Cup Victory of the U.S. Women's soccer team. It discusses the players and the talent that made the win possible, and Title IX, the historic federal law that provided equal funding and field time to create fairness for female sports.