

Obama has lots to think about after taking office

President Obama will have plenty to think about after he takes office in January.

His inauguration will be a momentous and historic occasion, marking the first time a member of any "minority" group has become president.

In many ways, it marks the end of not one era, but many: slavery, segregation, civil rights, the fading of race as a major issue in American society.

But as the celebration dies down, the new president will have to turn to face his problems, and they are legion.

The world's economy is in as perilous a condition as it has been since Franklin Roosevelt took office in 1932.

After dealing with crises in credit, banking and finance, the government turned around to find the U.S. auto industry dying at its doorstep.

Should the new president save General Motors? Is it a keystone of the system, or just a dinosaur that should be allowed to perish?

If GM goes, will Ford or Chrysler or any of the thousands of parts makers who depend on Detroit make it, or will the entire industry go down the tubes, leaving us at the mercy of foreign brands?

These are not questions to ask lightly. The cost of error will be high. To let the entire auto industry collapse might threaten the very foundation of the U.S. economy. But at the same time, the government is running out of money to save any skin but its own.

Congress is debating \$25 billion for Detroit, but GM alone may need more.

Nor is it just the U.S. economy the new presi-

dent will have to worry about. Japan has slipped into recession already, somewhat ahead of the U.S. China, India and the rest of Asia may not be far behind. So might Europe.

The world is suffering. Predictions that the economy will recover in 2009 or 2010 seem wan in the light of GM's problems, and Japan's.

Then President Obama will have to reconcile his promises with the reality on the ground in Iraq and in Afghanistan.

He may well be able to start bringing more troops home from Iraq. Experts say the war there is all but over. Afghanistan is another matter. Afghanistan is a sinkhole for foreign troops. Just ask the Russians.

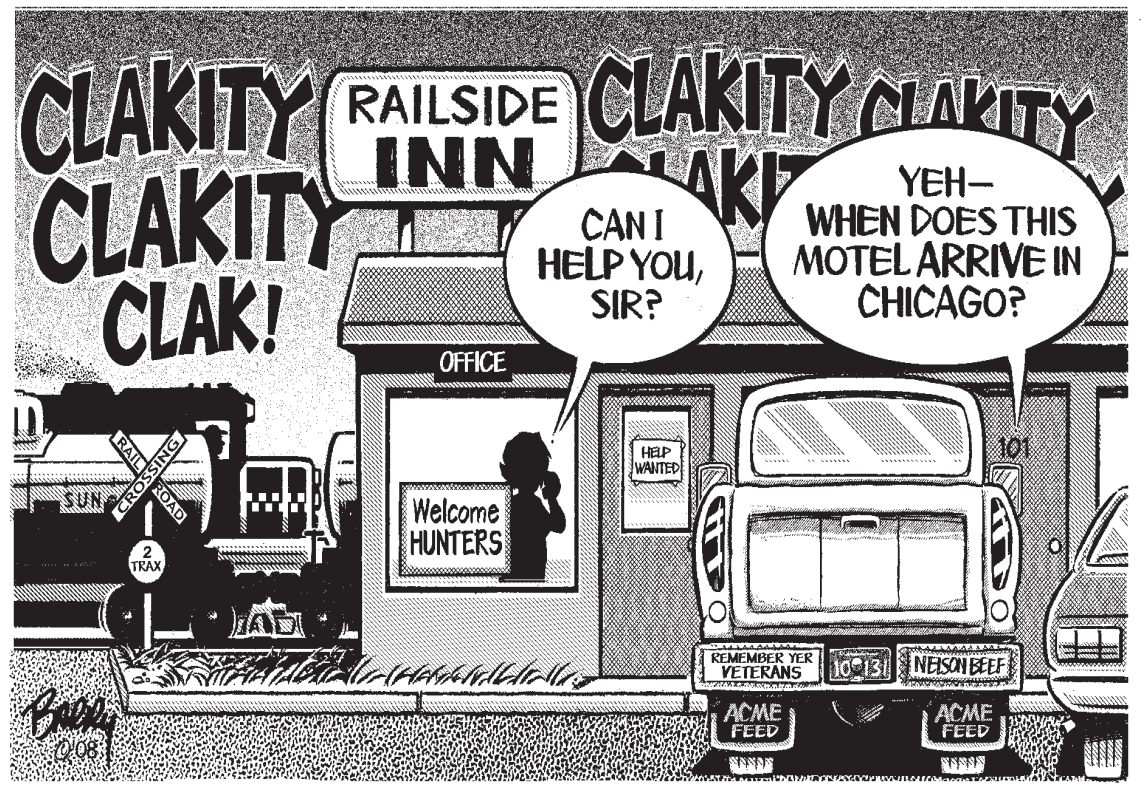
Our early success there belies the fact that we have not eliminated the Taliban or run al Qaeda to the ground. They are resurgent, resupplying and resting in Pakistan to continue their attacks on NATO forces.

Yet it may not be a simple matter of shifting forces from the Mideast to Afghanistan. As we did in Iraq, we may need to rethink the entire plan in the mountainous Asian nation. Just moving troops will take months.

There are many books to read about this war-torn land, but watch sometime — if you can find it — the screen adaptation of Kipling's "The Man Who Would Be King." Then rent "Charlie Wilson's War."

For President Obama, the celebrations will last a few days. The trials will begin soon after.

Envy not the new president. We'll soon see how well he lives up to the comparisons to Franklin Roosevelt, John Kennedy and Martin Luther King. — Steve Haynes



News From the Past

90 years ago - 1918

Henry Santrock, the young attorney who has been in J. L. Finley's office for some time past, has decided to open an office for himself and has secured a desk and space in the Benjamin building on Main Street.

Mrs. A. Paul, opened her fall stock to the public last Friday and Saturday. She showed a splendid line of hats, besides some novelties in scarfs, bags, etc.

Ten boys have left for Camp Funston, to take up training for the military service. They are E.A. Thompson, Frank Shrader, Andrew Schauer Jr., William Menge, Christian Andrikt, Frank Cook, Guy Allen, Herman Walter, Leroy Lavalle and Leon Boersma.

Six of our fine boys left to take up the Students Army Training Course. They include Floyd Crabtree, Herman Miller, Roscoe Andrews and Everett Stevens, who went to Hays and Dero Danielson and Argyle Tapp, who went to Salina. Two more boys went Monday, Alvin Johnson and Harry Neitzel. Altogether, there are 35 high school boys in the service and this last contingent, almost robs the class of '18 of its boys.

60 years ago - 1948

Construction has begun on a new theater for St. Francis and a crowd of curious residents watched as the big drag line bit large chunks of earth from the site for the footings. J.B. Roshong, is the owner.

Dr. W.W. Gist, Mrs. Gist and their 4-year-old daughter will make their future home in St. Francis. Dr. Gist will be associated with Dr. J.H.A. Peck in

general practice and at the St. Francis Hospital.

It has been announced that the management for the barber shop on Main Street, which has been operated by Art Lueschen for the past couple of years, will move to Paul Hammond from Goodland.

E.E. Kite is the new president of the St. Francis Rotary Club.

Harry Resch, manager at the St. Francis Airport and owner of the St. Francis Flying Service, has installed a new service for patrons within this three-state area, charter service to points within a several hundred mile radius.

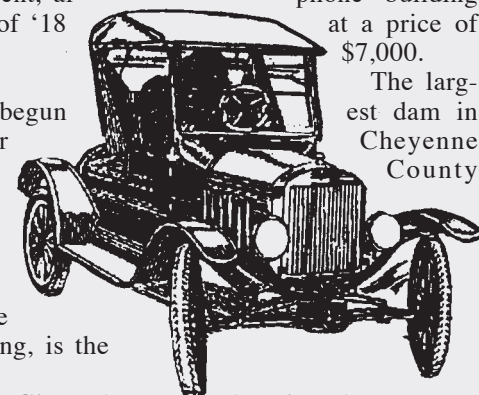
Charles Curry of Lawn Ridge and Shirley Kite of the Go-Getters club attended the third annual State 4-H Club Health Camp at Rock Springs Ranch.

45 years ago - 1963

Floyd Schneider from St. Francis was named Outstanding Scouter for the week. Schneider, Jensen and Brad Confer earned the Order of the Arrow Award.

The St. Francis City Council passed a resolution to purchase the recently vacated telephone building at a price of \$7,000.

The largest dam in Cheyenne County



has just been completed on the T. J. Walz ranch 15 miles southwest of St. Francis.

25 years ago - 1983

Bob Alsop, Cheyenne County State Bank, was presented the Friend of 4-H Award at the 4-H Achievement Banquet. Other awards include John Love received the Dale Shoemaker Memorial Award; Bobby Sharp received the Paul Gorthy Memorial Award and Jason Douthit received the Tillie Schlepp Memorial Award.

"The Beverly Hillbillies" is being presented by the junior class at the high school. Todd Neitzel is portraying Jed Clampett, Sherry McDuffee is Granny, Crystal Bracelin is Elly Mae and Ed Owens is Jethro.

As part of his Eagle Scout project, Denis Vandike and the member of FFA (for their B.O.A.C project) painted fire hydrants around town.

The St. Francis academic bowl team placed first out of eight teams at the Cheylin Academic Bowl held Tuesday. Members of the team include Bill Krueger, Dan Follett, Amy Follett, Rod Hilt, Wes Sherman and Troy Gardner. Coaches for the team are Jeff Olofson and Steve Jenkins.

Hazel Douthit was presented the County Extension Council Appreciation Award.

Bill Krueger and Shawn Warren received Northwest Kansas All-League football honors while Kelly Hilt and Mike Weber received honorable mention.

10 years ago - 1998

The newly organized Jaycees will take over the birthday calendar project which was abandoned a number of years ago.

Andy Poling, former St. Francis Indian quarterback, is beginning his third season playing defensive back for the Pittsburg State University Gorrillas.

Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick



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Just when you think you've seen it all...

Last Sunday the professional football game between the San Diego Chargers and Pittsburgh

Steelers ended with the score 10 to 11.

This is the first time in the history of the National Football League that final tally has occurred. In 12,837 games, since 1920, this has

never happened before.

It's amazing that something like this took 88 years to come about.

Players have come and gone over the years. Names such as Harold "Red" Grange, called "The Galloping Ghost," Dick "Night Train" Lane, Y.A. Tittle, Hugh "The King" McElhenney and Otto Graham have graced many fields over those years.

Some teams died in obscurity while others moved to another town. How about the Houston Oilers, Chicago Cardinals and the Canton Bulldogs. Or closer to home, the Dallas Texans who transformed into the Kansas City Chiefs.

So this score goes to prove the old adage of, "On any given Sunday," anything is possible.

Oh, and if LaDainian Tomlinson's lateral hadn't been an illegal forward pass, I wouldn't be writing this.

Former Saintry students support the new gym

Letter to the Editor:

My brother and I called out the alumni on the facebook. We want to see the gym happen, I am sorry it got voted down.

Rick and I sat here on the patio and discussed stories that happened in our old gym, and while we might not be the richest alumni (yet, we will see our careers go), we will be the first to stand up and throw \$1,000 down. It obviously

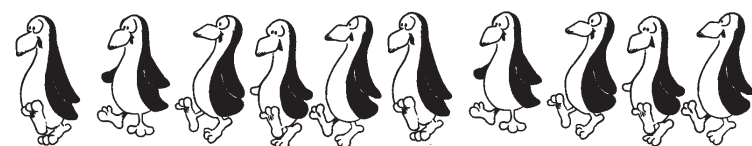
— Letter to Editor —

doesn't cover the entire price, but we are calling out everyone to show us up.

Rick and I are far removed from Saintry, but we couldn't be the men we are today without the experience we received from St. Francis. We understand how much it means, and we know in our hearts it is the best thing for the community.

Let us know where to send the check.

Mike Walker
Portland, Ore.



GOD SAYS
And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.
Romans 8:28

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Confessions Sat. 4-4:30

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Worship 10:30
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Worship 10:30 a.m.
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St. Francis
Community Church
332-3150
204 N. Quincy Street
www.sfccfamily.com
Pastor: David Butler
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Potluck & Communion -
Every 2nd Sunday
Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.

Peace Lutheran Church, AFLC
202 N. College
Pastor Ken Hart
332-2928 Pars. 332-2312
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Eve. Bible Study 7 p.m.
Communion 1st Sunday
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