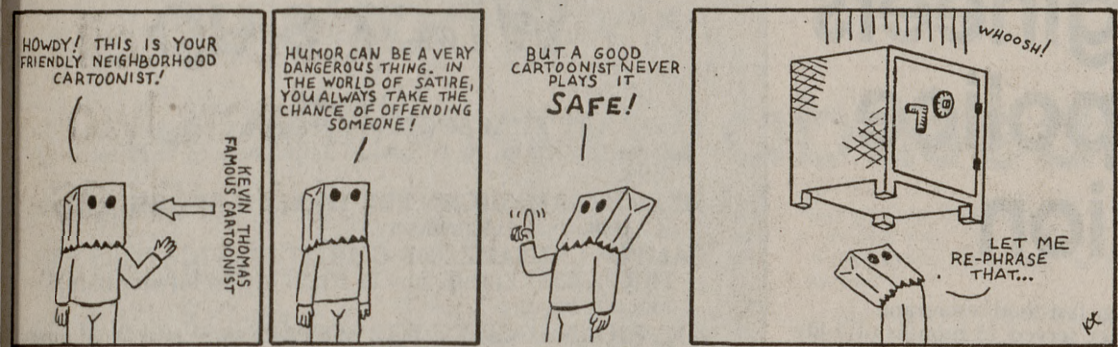


Waldo



by Kevin Thomas

Civil War

Historian says violence dominated South

By MARK RUDOLPH
Reporter

The Confederate defeat in the Civil War resulted from a culture of violence and aggression that dominated the South during that period, said a specialist on Southern history Wednesday night.

"The Confederate's bled themselves to death in the first three years of the Civil War by attacking," said Dr. Grady McWhiney, a Lyndon Baines Johnson Professor of American History at Texas Christian University and the author of "Attack and Die: Civil War Military Tactics and the Southern Heritage."

McWhiney spoke during the second annual Military Studies Lecture sponsored by the Military Studies Institute at Texas A&M.

McWhiney explained his theory of the Confederate defeat. The culture of the South made

people impatient, McWhiney said. "They didn't like waiting," he added.

McWhiney said the Confederates didn't have the manpower to sustain their losses during the first three years, and this led to their defeat.

The loss of 30,000 men at Gettysburg and the surrender of another 30,000 men at Vicksburg in the fall of 1863 forced the Confederate army to remain on the defensive, McWhiney said. By that time, Gen. Robert E. Lee had lost 120,000 men and Gen. Ulysses S. Grant merely had to fight a war of attrition.

"Confederate morale went down steadily after that period," McWhiney said.

McWhiney said the Southern culture can be traced back to their Celtic ancestry. He supported this theory with evidence from James

Michael Hill's, "Celtic Warfare: 1595-1763."

McWhiney compared the aggressiveness of the Confederate army to the aggressiveness and barbarism of the Celts during the 17th and 18th centuries.

McWhiney said he wrote his book because he was interested in the behavior of Southerners. He said his interests in the history of the South are because he is a Southerner.

Hubert Van Tuyl, acting interim director of the Military Studies Institute, said McWhiney was chosen for the lecture because he is a distinguished historian of the South.

The Military Studies Institute, formed early in 1984 under a charter by the Texas A&M Board of Regents, concentrates on contemporary defense issues and on military history, especially that of Texas and the Southwest.

Tyler man to lead Baptist convention

Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — Paul Powell, a fundamentalist Tyler minister described as "a moderate without a liberal drop of blood in his body and a fundamentalist without a Messiah complex," was elected Tuesday as president of the 2.3 million-member Baptist General Convention of Texas.

Powell, pastor of the 6,300-member church in Tyler since 1972 and on the board of trustees at Baylor University, said he believes scripture "is inspired, it is infallible, it is inerrant."

"A lot of people get hung up on words — playing silly word games," he said of a controversy in the Southern Baptist Convention over biblical inerrancy.

The dispute, which has divided the nation's largest Protestant congregation for years, "has created a lot of suspicion so that we have a tendency to label one another," Powell said. "People wonder whose side are they on? We ought to all be on the Lord's side."

Worker error may be cause of refinery explosion, fire

Associated Press

MONT BELVIEU — Two workers may have been killed in fiery explosions at an underground gas storage vault because they cut the wrong pipe or failed to drain the line, officials said Wednesday.

James Hoffmann, 30, of Cove and Richard Duncan, 25, of Baytown were doing maintenance work Tuesday on a 5-foot underground pipeline at the Warren Petroleum Co. refinery and storage plant, according to Cul Ingram, spokesman for Chevron Inc. Chevron owns the 300-acre complex which is about 30 miles east of Houston.

The pipeline ruptured, spewing ethane, propane, isobutane and gasoline and triggering a series of explosions and fires that took firefighters almost six hours to control, Ingram said.

"The pipeline that was being worked on apparently had some material in it, and whether this was human error, whether the pipeline was inadvertently cut is something we're still investigating," he said.

Mont Belvieu Mayor Fred Miller ordered the evacuation of the entire town of 1,200, fearing the fire would spread through a network of gas lines beneath the city.

Miller lifted the order Tuesday

night for all but about 300 residents living in the area surrounding the plant.

Although company officials say the area is safe, the mayor said the remaining 300 residents probably would not be allowed to return home.

"The plant officials are trying to find out what caused this, and it would just be easier to keep everybody away from there until they're finished," Miller said.

But after touring the plant with Chevron officials Wednesday, the mayor said the remaining evacuees would be allowed to return.

"Everybody can go home that wants to," Miller said.

Small flares were used Wednesday to burn off hydrocarbons left in pipelines and prevent further explosions.

Ingram said damages from the fires and explosions will run "into the millions." He said about 10 percent of the plant will be closed for several weeks.

"An investigation will go on for a week, at least," he said. "This is a substantial fire and a lot of damage. It will take time."

Explosions are nothing new for this community, perched atop one of the world's largest salt domes used by at least 35 companies to store hy-

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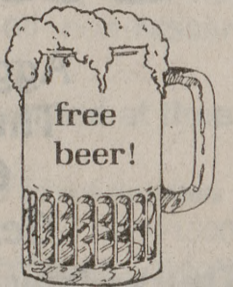
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