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October 21 at 8 PM • Rudder Auditorium • For tickets, call the MSC Box Office at 845-1234.

The long goodbye

Democrats liking look of prolonged Congress adjournment

WASHINGTON (AP) — After a year of sputtering, the Republican-controlled Congress is stumbling toward adjournment under pressure from a resilient President Clinton and congressional Democrats eager to turn election-year talk to education and other popular issues.



CLINTON

Since muscling an open-ended impeachment inquiry through the House last week on a largely party-line vote, Republicans have been forced into a prolonged series of closed-door negotiations with the White House on other matters.

A year's work hangs in the balance — from legislation on national issues such as education and contraceptives to the individual projects that many lawmakers crave — and the daily script has

been predictable. Chief of staff Erskine Bowles spends hours in private talks with GOP leaders inside the Capitol, and the president roughs up Republicans in brief, once-a-day public appearances before the television cameras.

"I wish I had time to win the philosophical debate with our friends on the other side, who somehow see helping more teachers teach and providing more school buildings as an intrusion into local affairs. It is not," Clinton said this week at a campaign-style appearance at an overcrowded Maryland school a few miles from the White House.

Republicans counter that the Democrats are merely defenders of a large bureaucracy. "The president has disagreed with us all year," House Majority Leader Dick Armey of Texas said. "He vetoed our education agenda to put the dollars in the hands of teachers and parents instead of the Washington bureaucracy."

The polls say that education remains an issue that works to the advantage of Democrats, and gains Republicans have in the past two years in an attempt to reposition themselves.

Whatever their momentary timidity, Democrats privately concede there is time for Republicans to exert control over the election calendar. The GOP will have more time to spend on advertising, and the polls and the Republican appear well-positioned to rally for a number of seats as Democrats are retiring.

Still, the polls indicate Democrats have been able to organize their own core voters, and are pressing for election philosophies on issues that appeal to voting blocs, as well as

Nuclear secrets nearly released along with Cold-War material

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Energy Department and Pentagon discovered sensitive nuclear weapons information in boxes of Cold War-era materials that were about to be publicly released at President Clinton's orders.

The discoveries sparked a hasty scramble by Congress to block the release of information that energy officials warned would advance the capabilities of emerging nuclear states such as Pakistan and India. The congressional solution, which critics contend will slow the release of Cold War documents to a crawl, is part of the 1999 defense authorization bill awaiting Clinton's signature.

White House officials were alerted to the problem this summer in a letter from Kenneth Baker, a senior official in the Energy Department's Office of Nonproliferation and National Security. The letter concerned the discovery of pages marked "Restricted Data" or "Formerly Restricted Data," in boxes of 25-year-old classified documents slated for release without review.

Clinton's executive order, which requires automatic declassification by the year 2000 of documents more than 25 years old, includes an exception for restricted data. But the order contains no provision to search every document in every box — a task involving bil-

ions of pages and as many as 100 different agencies — looking for the sensitive material.

"This problem poses a national security risk" because "the nation's most sensitive secrets," Baker wrote. "Some of the compromised information in these file series involves sign information of special interest to proliferants seeking to weaponize their nuclear capabilities, such as India and Pakistan. Those two countries tested nuclear weapons earlier than we and are developing ways to employ nuclear weapons on land and missiles."

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UNITY RALLY '98

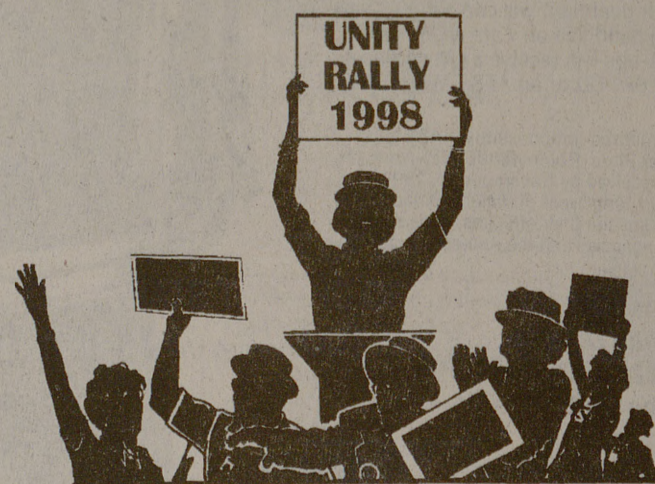
Presented by the Hispanic Presidents' Council

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR THURS., OCT. 15TH

- 4:30 p.m. Ta Mère kicks off performance in the Rudder Fountain Area
- 4:45 p.m. Unity Rally March begins from the corner of Houston St. & George Bush Drive to Rudder Fountain Area (site of rally)
- 5:30 p.m. Maria Antoinetta Berriozabal, founding member of the National Hispana Leadership Institute in Washington D.C., will speak on "Culture: The Soul of Leadership"
- 5:50 p.m. Performance by Ballet Folklorico Celestial
- 6:10 p.m. Ta Mère kicks off another performance
- 7:45 p.m. Wrap-up

*Rain site: MSC Flagroom

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