

Silent Summers

Popular critters are disappearing

Health & Science / E1



Cream of the crop

All-Metro baseball and softball teams

Sports / C1



THURSDAY

Sunny with a few clouds today; high 89, low 68. Risk of showers tomorrow; high 91, low 67, /B14

50¢

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CITY EDITION



Richmond Times-Dispatch

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VIRGINIA'S NEWS LEADER
A MEDIA GENERAL NEWSPAPER

THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 1998

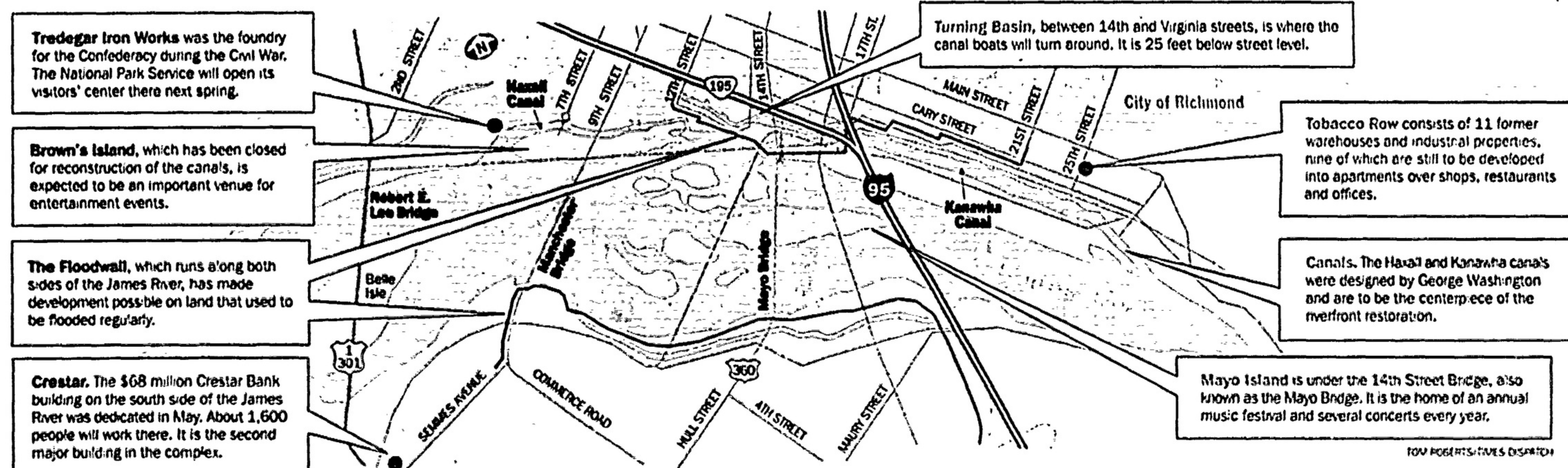
OUR RIVER, OUR FUTURE

The James River is a large part of Richmond's past, the reason the city was founded. Can it be the city's future salvation as well?

For almost four centuries, Richmond and the James have coexisted, the former sometimes profiting from its proximity to the latter, sometimes suffering.

Now, public and private factors are coalescing in an effort to make the river a commercial, residential and cultural force heading into the 21st century.

On Pages A12 and A13, staff writers Gordon Hickey and Bob Rayner and staff photographer Mark Gormus will show what's being planned along the James in Richmond, and why those plans have some Richmonders excited about the future.



River timeline

The James River and Richmond have been linked intrinsically for almost four centuries.

1607 — Less than 10 days after landing at Jamestown, English explorers sail up the James River until the river's falls prevent them from navigating farther west. The town of Richmond later develops here by the river.

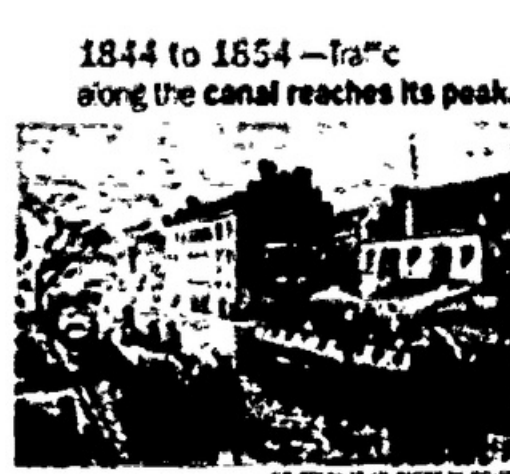


1774 — The General Assembly rejects George Washington's proposal for canals to open commerce and trade to the western part of Virginia.

1784 — After George Washington personally appears to lobby for the canal project, the General Assembly incorporates the James River Company and authorizes it to cut a canal, erect locks and condemn land for the project.



1836 — Tredegar Iron Works opens on the James River's north bank. It becomes an important iron foundry and manufacturer of heavy armaments in the South.

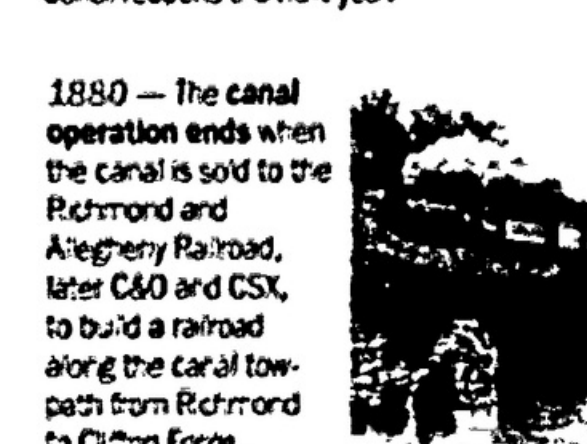


1844 to 1854 — Traffic along the canal reaches its peak.

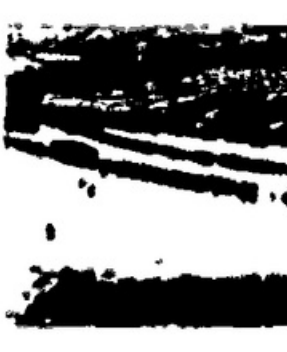
1830 — The packet boat Constitution completes the first passenger trip from Lynchburg to Richmond on the canal.

1862 — Belle Isle is used as a prisoner of war camp for captured Union troops.

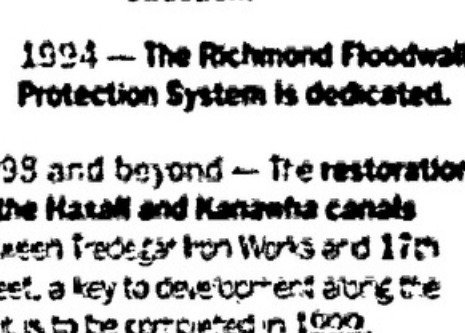
1865 — Canal system and offices are badly damaged by Union troops and by fire during the evacuation of Richmond. Canal reopens the next year.



1969 — Hurricane Camille causes the biggest flood in Richmond since 1877. The James River reaches 28.6 feet at City Locks.



1985 — Hurricane Juan sends the James River to 30.76 feet at the City Locks, the second highest flood in the city on record. Six months later, the city and the Army Corps of Engineers sign the agreement for floodwall construction.



1994 — The Richmond Floodwall Protection System is dedicated.

1998 and beyond — The restoration of the Haxall and Kanawha canals between Tredegar Iron Works and 17th Street, a key to development along the river, is to be completed in 1999.

Gun-wielder not suspect, wounded teacher says

But police confident arrested youth was shooter

BY JIM MASON

TIMES-DISPATCH STAFF WRITER

A teacher shot in the hallway of Armstrong High School Monday morning said a student he saw wielding a gun outside the school minutes earlier was not the 14-year-old charged in the **school violence** case.

"It was someone else I saw with the gun," not Quintavious Booker, an Armstrong freshman accused of shooting teacher Gregory Carter and a Head Start volunteer, Carter said.

Law enforcement officials, told of Carter's comments, stressed they are confident that

Booker fired the shots.

Carter, a history teacher and the head coach of Armstrong's boys basketball team, said from a wheelchair at Virginia Commonwealth University's Medical College of Virginia Hospitals yesterday that he was in his second-floor classroom Monday about 10 a.m. when he heard a commotion outside.

He went to a classroom window and looked out on the school grounds near the gym to see what was going on. "I saw this guy with a gun in his hand, and it looked like he was arguing with somebody else . . . and they started wrestling over the gun," Carter said.

Carter said he recognized the person with

PLEASE SEE TEACHER PAGE A16 ▶

House passes bill to scrap tax code

Responding to taxpayers' frustration with the complex federal tax system, the House yesterday approved a bill that would abolish the Internal Revenue Code in 2002 — and call on Congress to replace it with a new, simpler code.

President Clinton has threatened to veto the bill, which he has described as a "reckless and irresponsible" measure that would throw business and household financial planning into chaos by abolishing the current system of tax incentives with no indication of what will replace it.

Virginia's delegation voted eight against the bill and three for it.

Details, Page A18

Tobacco bill, 3 votes shy, is dead in current form

President vows to keep fighting for some step

BY GIL KLEIN AND MARSHA MERCER
MEDIA GENERAL NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — By a three-vote margin, the Senate killed the anti-tobacco legislation yesterday, ending nearly four weeks of debate on a historic bill that was supposed to prevent teen-age smoking and settle hundreds of billions of dollars in tobacco liability lawsuits.

President Clinton vowed to keep the fight going.

"I want the tobacco lobby and its allies on Capitol Hill to know that from my point of view, this battle is far from over," he said. "If

more members of the Senate would vote like parents rather than politicians, we could solve this problem and go on to the other business of the country."

This was a bill that the Republican majority in the Senate would not support. And Democrats predicted a major public backlash in the November elections.

"If this bill goes down today, Joe Camel wins and our kids lose," Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, said just

before the vote.

A total of 67 of the 100 senators voted to end debate and bring the bill to a final vote.

PLEASE SEE TOBACCO PAGE A22 ▶



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