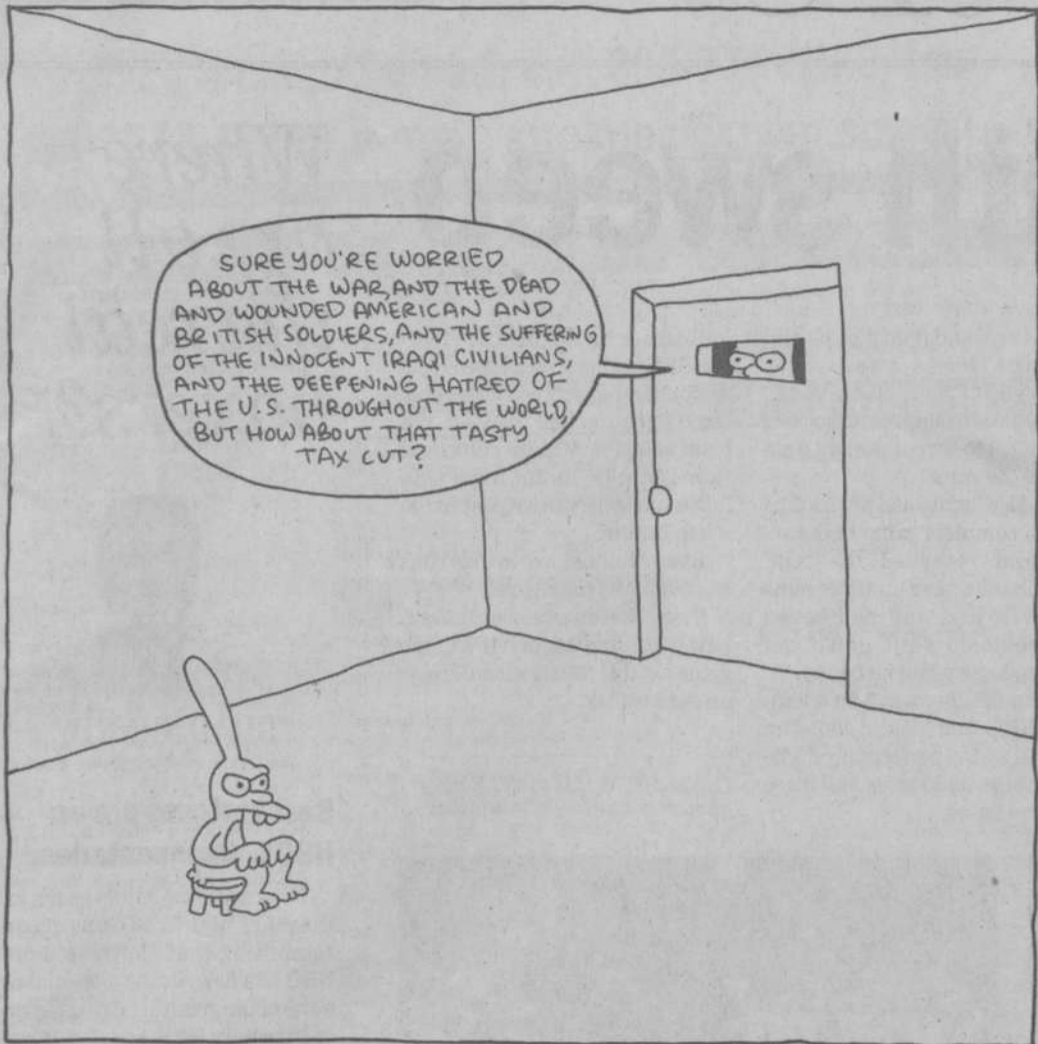


LIFE IN HELL

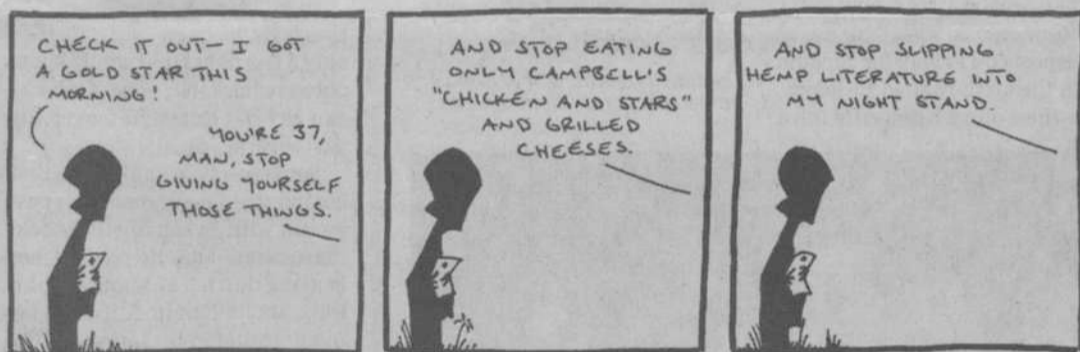
©2003 BY MATT GROENING



Bob the Angry Flower BY STEPHEN NOTLEY



Buttercup Festival BY ELLIOTT G. GARBAUSKAS



Dawes

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

doesn't know much else. Regardless of the Faulkner-esque complexity here, you can't turn your nose up at descriptions such as: "This room is lined with newspapers. They make the place



Dawes is a USC professor, poet and fiction writer.

look like a gift cheaply and hastily wrapped on the inside."

In other spots, the prose becomes almost primeval, resorting to lines such as "Joseph is hungry" or "Joseph is angry." Dawes does a great job of mimicking the mental state of his characters.

Dawes demonstrates tremendous strength in his decision to plunge into the eroticism and the gruesome, gritty nature of Jamaican culture. He doesn't mind telling us about the stretch marks on Sarah's body when she showers or how good it feels to lie in bed with someone.

When murder occurs in his fiction, Dawes doesn't shy away from detailed descriptions of the corpse. In fact, many of the stories aim at demonstrating the hypocrisy and cruelty inherent in human nature.

Dawes manages to cover the ailments of Jamaican society in 300 pages, not sparing the misogyny, prejudice, violence and instability of individuals.

which Felix rapes and murders a young girl and gets away with it because his father knows how to bully Felix's schoolmate — the only witness.

But the book also celebrates Jamaican culture, especially reggae, with the Vershan chapters that are spaced evenly throughout — evocative of the black and white jungle and cabaret paintings by Aaron Douglas. These sections are festivals of light and sound.

Dawes is also the author of nearly a dozen collections of poetry and three nonfiction books, including a book on the lyrics of Bob Marley.

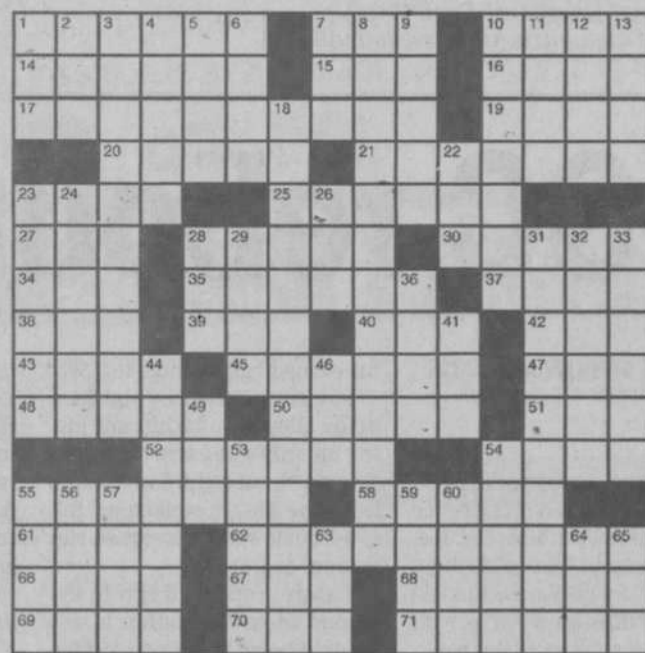
While Dawes is primarily a poet, his fiction gives us a taste of what this talent could do if he ever decided to produce a longer work of fiction.

Considering the nature of his life's work, it will most likely involve reggae, marijuana and great language.

Comments on this story? E-mail gamecockmixeditor@hotmail.com

CROSSWORD

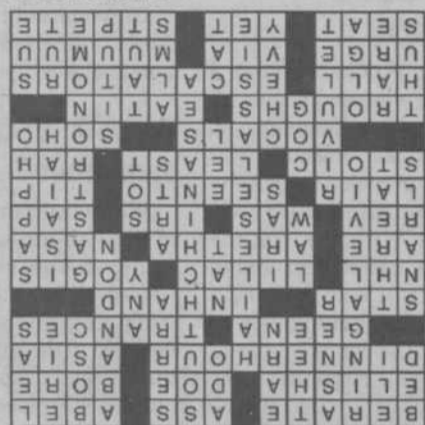
- ACROSS
 1 Reprimand
 7 Pompous fool
 10 Son of Adam
 14 Inventor Gray
 15 Deer mama
 16 Tiresome one
 17 Time to eat
 19 Gobi's continent
 20 Davis of "Thelma & Louise"
 21 Dazed states
 23 Hollywood figure
 25 Under control
 27 Org. of Flyers and Jets
 28 Fragrant bloom
 30 Bear and Berra
 34 100 square meters
 35 "Respect" singer Franklin
 37 Astronauts' grp.
 38 N.T. book
 39 Once existed
 40 Tax letters
 42 Gullible dupe
 43 Den
 45 Handled
 47 Inside info
 48 Cicero, e.g.
 50 Smallest possible
 51 Cheering word
 52 Singing parts
 54 London district
 55 Feed receptacles
 58 Dine at home
 61 Passageway
 62 Mall stairways
 66 Prod
 67 By way of
 68 Hawaiian dress
 69 Resting spot
 70 So far
 71 Beach south of Clearwater
- DOWN
 1 Plot for roses
 2 Actor Wallace
 3 Playground game
 4 Actor Ed
 5 Old pronoun
 6 Merit
 7 Brouhaha



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03/31/03

Solutions



- 8 Waters off Vietnam
 9 Spanish missionary Junipero
 10 Desert
 11 Anjou's cousin
 12 Keystone State port
 13 Idyllic meadows
 18 Former Ethiopian ruler
 22 Even one
 23 Entanglements
 24 Menace
 26 Journalist Hentoff
 28 Jurisprudence
 29 Gershwin and Levin
 31 Gourmet
 32 O.T. prophet
 33 Greek lyric poet
 36 Part of B.A.
 41 Bar fly
 44 Small brook
 46 Moray

- 49 Mechanical tooth
 53 Malibu or Vette
 54 Prepare to take notice
 55 Like so
 56 Uncommon
 57 Gymnast Korbut
 59 Charity
 60 Tightly stretched
 63 Hep dude
 64 Cart track
 65 Bring to court

HOROSCOPES

ARIES You're gathering strength. Don't worry about whether you'll use it wisely. Get a clear picture in your mind of what you want to make happen. Then, just do it.
TAURUS It's getting to be time to prepare for your next big project. You may not even know what it is. Just finish up whatever you already have going. That's a great start.
GEMINI You'll need to hit the ground running tomorrow, so give it a little thought. What do you want to accomplish? You and your team will have about 48 hours.
CANCER Don't share your opinions now unless specifically asked. You'll achieve the greatest rewards by doing as you're told and following the directions.

LEO This is the moment of hesitation before you take the plunge. Tomorrow and the next day, it's full speed ahead. Better repack your parachute in preparation.
VIRGO The old routine has been somewhat modified. It's good to update, but it does take an adjustment. Allow extra time.
LIBRA You may be in that awkward phase where your idea hasn't quite come together. Ignore criticism. Accept coaching from one you respect.
SCORPIO You should be rejuvenated by now and ready to get back to work. That's good, because there won't be time for much else tomorrow and the next day. Get ready.
SAGITTARIUS Maybe it's time

to stop putting up with an ongoing irritant. If it doesn't work, fix it. The annoyance is slowing you down.
CAPRICORN Everything's always changing, yet everything stays the same. Things may be stirred up right now, but more truths will be revealed.
AQUARIUS There's certainly enough confusion to make things very interesting. You're getting smarter, and new revelations will help you achieve your goals.
PISCES You're about to come up with a profitable idea. Trouble is, you don't know which one will bring in the big bucks. Better write them all down!

CALENDAR



'Bowling for Columbine'

The film, directed by Michael Moore, will be shown at the Nickelodeon Theatre Monday, 7 and 9:30 p.m.

Monday, March 31

"TWO CAN PLAY THAT GAME" 7 p.m., Russell House Theater.
CAROLINA HOMEGROWN SERIES FEATURING BLEAK, LEA, PAIN IN LIFE AND DRILLING BONNIE 8 p.m., New Brookland Tavern, 122 State St., free.

Tuesday, April 1

THE USED WITH COHEED AND CAMBRIA, VAUX, AND STUN Doors open at 5 p.m., show starts at 6 p.m. Russell House Ballroom, free with USC ID.
"THE EXORCIST" 9 p.m., Russell House Theater
"EVELYN" 7 and 9 p.m.,

Nickelodeon Theatre.
NERFHERDER WIT THE REUNION SHOW, MEAN WIENER AND ELOY 9 p.m., New Brookland Tavern, \$8.
WILL HOGUE WITH VOICES OF DISSIDENT 9:30 p.m., Senate Park, 931-B Senate St., \$15.