

Lincoln Lore

The Bulletin of THE LINCOLN MUSEUM



Number 1875 / Winter 2004

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Lincoln Lore

is the quarterly bulletin of

THE LINCOLN MUSEUM

The mission of The Lincoln Museum is to interpret and preserve the history and legacy of Abraham Lincoln through research, conservation, exhibitry, and education.

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THE
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MUSEUM

The Life and Legacy of Abraham Lincoln

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ISSN 0162-8615

Author's Corner

by William Lee Miller

[Editor's note: From time to time we plan to publish the ruminations of Lincoln authors and scholars. Subjects will range from "When/why did you decide to write about Abraham Lincoln" to "What are the plans for your next book." In this initial effort, William Lee Miller, Scholar in Ethics and Institutions at the Miller Center of Public Affairs at the University of Virginia, was asked to articulate his experiences in producing two books which have been published (*Arguing about Slavery: John Quincy Adams and the Great Battle in the United States Congress* and *Lincoln's Virtues: An Ethical Biography*). In addition, he was asked comment on his work in progress, a further examination of Lincoln's ethical decisions after his election as our 16th President. This current book will be published in 2005.]

In recent books I have been trying to extract moral meaning from American historical episodes and figures, telling stories out of the past, with a point. I happened onto the gag rule fight in Congress, and I was told that even professional historians did not know much about it. I jumped on it. It meant telling the story of a long fight on the floor of Congress, than which, many would say, nothing could be duller; I said that I am going to try to make it interesting, a drama. I wrote *Arguing About Slavery: John Quincy Adams and the Great Battle in the United States Congress*. After having been the sixth President of the United States, Adams came to the House as a crotchety, sarcastic, but inescapably prestigious old man representing a congressional district in Massachusetts. When the new abolitionists inundated the House with anti-slavery petitions, Adams poured them in increasing torrents onto the House floor, on every petition day. When the exasperated defenders of slavery foolishly tried to stem the tide with a gag resolution rejecting, out of hand, petitions on this one subject, Adams mocked, defied, and attacked the gag. When they foolishly reenacted the gag in successive Congresses, Adams turned their ill-advised persistence to rhetorical advantage, dramatizing their violation of the ancient bedrock civil liberty, the "sacred" right of

petition. Adams's victory, finally, over the gag rule really was the first great victory in the mainstream of American government over the power of slavery.

When that book ends, and Adams collapses on the House floor, there is seated in a back row of the House, in a not-very-good seat, a Whig Congressman from Illinois named Abraham Lincoln.

And that led to my next effort. I had been expecting for many years to write a book about Lincoln — since 1976 at least. In that year I joined in a bicentennial discussion of great American documents ("scriptures") at an Aspen humanities conference at which, as I protested, Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address was not included. They said, why should it be? I explained why, and they said write it out. I went to the library and discovered that there were not (back then) any books or serious articles treating that great short speech. Biographies and histories characteristically would just quote the whole Inaugural and then pass on, as though it were some kind of benediction — no analysis, interpretation, or commentary. So I wrote an essay on the moral and political and religious significance of Lincoln's Second Inaugural, and it was well received, and I had the earnest of the work on Lincoln I would one day do.

On the Cover: Since this issue contains the annual survey of *Lincolniana* prepared by Frank J. Williams, it seems only appropriate that the cover images should reflect artifacts from *The Lincoln Museum* that focus on the legal career of Abraham Lincoln. The long and distinguished legal career of Rhode Island Chief Justice Williams gives him a special relationship to the prairie politician-lawyer who became our 16th President. Items pictured from the Lincoln-Herndon Law Office are: a wooden inkwell; a sander/blotter; an ink jar; and a porcelain penholder. Also pictured is Lincoln's legal wallet.

And now I began to do it. I devised the category of “ethical biography” — a telling of a life story, selectively, with attention to choices, virtues, moral ideas. With Lincoln such an approach fell right into place, not only because he was or became a good man as well as a great man, but also because he dealt continually in moral categories. I produced the book called *Lincoln’s Virtues*. Douglas Wilson, introducing me at a symposium, remarked of the “ethical biography” of Lincoln, that, as with Poe’s “Purloined Letter,” this theme had been right there in plain sight all the time.

Although it has some glimpses into the presidency, that book ends with Lincoln just coming into office. Amiable reviewers said, now the author should go on and write about Lincoln as president. Less amiable reviewers said this book has a great defect: how can you write about Lincoln’s virtues without dealing with Lincoln as president?

Now I am writing, as I had intended to do, that second Lincoln ethical biography, altogether concentrated on the distinct moral quandaries of Lincoln once he becomes president. The title will surely contain the phrase “President Lincoln,” and also the phrase, “an ethical biography.” Maybe that is all it needs. Or it might include a central moral term: “President Lincoln’s Duty” or “President Lincoln’s Character,” either of which would work.

His presidential duty was undeniably a deep ground of conduct for Lincoln, repeatedly appearing in his speech.

If I use the word “character” it will be in an old fashioned moral sense, which is not quite the same as the use of the word in political science books about “presidential character.” The subtitle might be extended to: “an Ethical Biography of a War Leader.”

I might begin with a foreword that dramatizes Lincoln’s new moral location.

What Kind of a President would this Man Be?

At noon on March 4, 1861, the moral situation of Abraham Lincoln of Illinois was abruptly transformed. That morning, arising in the Willard Hotel at 14th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue in downtown Washington, he had been a private citizen. That afternoon, standing on the steps of the East Portico of the Capitol before 30,000 fellow citizens, with riflemen watching from the rooftops, he had become an oath-bound head of state.

Before that moment, for fifty-two years, he had made choices of right and wrong, better and worse, good and evil, as human beings do — in his own right, for himself, by his own lights, as an individual moral agent. At noon on that Inauguration Day he was transformed by the Constitutional alchemy into something else — the “executive” of the federal government of the United States, the position that the framers in Philadelphia seventy-four years before had decided to call by the word “President.” There abruptly settled upon his elongated frame a profound new battery of powers and an immense new layer of responsibility, obligating, constraining, and empowering him.

Making the transition from the one book to the next, I will try in this forward to indicate the radical distinction of his new moral situation:

The choices that he made now (ethics is about choice) would be decisions of the executive of a huge, growing continental government engaged in the terrible scourge of war, with effects upon “vast” numbers of human beings in the present and in “the vast future also.” (“Vast” was a word Lincoln himself would often use, and his doing so reflected his awareness of the enormous reach of his decisions. One of his more remarkable statements, in a letter to a Louisiana Unionist was “I shall do nothing in malice. What I deal with is too vast for malicious dealing.”)

One of the many ways that radically new situation could be symbolized would be, with reference to the signing of his name:

The signature that he had practiced and practiced as a boy (“Abraham Lincoln/ his hand and pen/ He will be good/ but God knows when”) and that had been then an indication of his developing individual self-assurance, would now suddenly acquire an enormous collective significance. It could now summon the militia of the states; call Congress into session; appoint ambassadors, judges, generals, and postmasters; declare a blockade of Southern ports; pardon felons; proclaim Thanksgiving; veto laws that congress had passed, or complete their enactment — even, as he would learn, free slaves. As president he would learn what his signature could do not only on the highest matters of state, but also in the lowliest individual cases; he would scribble on the back of an envelope in which there was some plaintive parental appeal, “let this boy be discharged” — and the boy would be discharged.

I will suggest the sharp limitation of Lincoln’s formal governmental experience, compared to every other major participant in the Inauguration Day, and almost every previous president.

He was a provincial politician who had never been the executive of anything larger than a two-man law firm; he was now to be the “executive” of the federal government of this rapidly growing, continent-sized nation of 30 million people. He had never in his life fired anybody; now suddenly he was appointing — and before long dismissing — generals of giant armies, ambassadors to great and ancient nations, heads of rapidly expanding government departments. This good-natured civilian whose only public reference to his own military service had been to make fun of his youthful charges on the wild onions and bloody battles with mosquitoes, now found himself the “Commander-in-Chief” of the Army and Navy of the United States in “the greatest civil war in history.”

I may contrast Lincoln’s limited formal experience in national affairs with the career of the predecessor, with whom on that day he rode down Pennsylvania Avenue. I may say something like this:

When on this day the executive authority in the United States government would pass from James Buchanan to Abraham Lincoln it passed from one of the more experienced hands in American political history to one of the least experienced hands.

I may even quote this striking statement:

Charles Francis Adams, the grandson of one well-prepared President and the son of an even more well-prepared president,

Continued on next page >

would say looking back at this moment many years later that "I must...affirm, without hesitation that, in the history of our government down to this hour, no experiment so rash has ever been made as that of elevating to the head of affairs a man with so little previous preparation for his task as Mr. Lincoln."

But then I will ask — what really constitutes "preparation" for this role, after all?

When he took office the political world had not known his capability, and perhaps he had not quite known himself. The world beyond Illinois had come to know, especially since 1858, that he could write a good speech. But the eloquence he had achieved in his last paragraph on March 4 was not what he would need on March 5.

Could he make decisions? Could he discern the meaning of events, and develop clarity of purpose? Could he maintain that clarity of purpose under the buffeting of events — did he have resolution, strength of resolve? Could he bring others to follow where he led? Did he have the prudence to discern the intersection between the great moral principles to which he had given voice and the severely limiting realities of the actual complicated world he faced?

I will summarize *Lincoln's Virtues*, especially his rapid upward learning curve, his continual self-formation, and in particular his being a moral self-educator. But I don't want in the foreword to indulge the readers' (and my own) knowledge of his eventual stature; at the moment of the beginning his friends did not know, and Lincoln himself did not know, how he would do.

In *Lincoln's Virtues*, I wrote that "Abraham Lincoln was not born on Mount Rushmore;" an editor with a sharp sense of exactitude changed it in one place to "Abraham Lincoln was not born with his face on Mount Rushmore." Well, fine, both are true. And now in this book we will want to insist that Lincoln did not immediately ascend to Mount Rushmore the moment he became president.

I want the foreword not to anticipate the answer we all know, but to pretend to leave open the question, What Kind of a President would this Man Be? I want to put the reader and writer, as much as I can, back into a moral drama that will be played out in the pages that will follow.

Author William L. Miller



Abraham Lincoln's Political Faith

By Joseph R. Fornieri

Northern Illinois University Press, Price \$38.00, (cloth)

Publication Date May 2003

Review by Frank J. Williams

[Ed. Note: Dr. Fornieri, Assistant Professor of Political Science at Rochester Institute of Technology, will speak at The Lincoln Colloquium at The Lincoln Museum on September 18, 2004.]

Lincoln remains a subject of mystery and controversy. Historians, both professional and amateur, debate nearly every aspect of him. Was he for slavery or against it? Did he press for war or was it pressed upon him? Was he a Machiavellian or a visionary? And what about Lincoln's spirituality? The author of this excellent new study, Joseph R. Fornieri, an assistant professor of political science at the Rochester Institute of Technology, explores Lincoln's ultimate value.

At Gettysburg Lincoln resolved that "this nation, under God," would not perish, and in his Second Inaugural he called for "firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right." Fornieri helps us understand these and other invocations of divine authority in the speeches and writings of Abraham Lincoln. Exploring Lincoln's unique blending of religion and politics (something that is not normally a part of analyzing America's most admired President), Fornieri unveils a Lincoln who presented a comprehensive interpretation of political order based on American democratic and religious traditions.

Religion and particularly God have been bound up with the Republic since its founding. Joseph Story in his *Commentaries on the Constitution of the United States* wrote, "At the time of the adoption of the Constitution and of the amendments to it, ... the general, if not the universal, sentiment in America was, that Christianity ought to receive encouragement from the state, so far as was not incompatible with the private rights of conscience, and the freedom of religious worship. An attempt to level all religions, and to make it a matter of state policy to hold all in utter indifference, would have created universal disapprobation, if not universal indignation." The object, then, of the religious clauses of the 1st Amendment was not to prevent general governmental encouragement of religion, of Christianity, but to prevent religious persecution and to prevent the establishment of a national religion.

A common assumption about America's sixteenth President is that he was a deist or an atheist. Fornieri disagrees. He casts Lincoln's unique combination of politics and piety as "biblical republicanism" — emerging from Judeo-Christian beliefs and the Founders' tradition of self-government. In a time of unprecedented crisis and upheaval caused by civil war, biblical republicanism provided Lincoln with a moral justification for difficult political choices and acts. It helped him to persuade a skeptical nation to fight for the end of slavery.



Author Joseph R. Fornieri

Although Lincoln did not belong to a church, he often mentioned God in his speeches and writings, and frequently referred to “the Savior.” But he never, as far as anyone has been able to uncover, mentioned Jesus Christ by name. For that reason alone, his appeal continues to broaden into the 21st century.

Still, Fornieri brings together persuasive examples that Lincoln must have been a religious man. To take one of many examples, Fornieri quotes the first of many proclamations establishing “national days of religious thanksgiving and fasting as Chief Executive during the Civil War,” as a “day of public humiliation, prayer, and fasting, to be observed by the people of the United States with religious solemnities, and the offering of fervent supplications to Almighty God for the safety and welfare of these states, his blessings on their arms, and a speedy restoration of peace.” Hardly the language of an atheist.

Fornieri also sees Lincoln, in an important way, as the founder of one version of what has become known as America’s civil religion. He calls it “civil theology.”

According to Lincoln, preserving the Union meant preserving the moral principles and ideas that the Union stood for. It meant upholding the aspiration of civil and religious freedom in the Declaration and perpetuating the established rule of law and legal process in the Constitution.

For Lincoln, civil religion or “biblical republicanism” is “summarized by Daniel Webster’s motto of the inseparability of ‘Liberty & Union: Now and For Ever, One and Inseparable.’”

Civil religion — the public quasi-official religion of the nation — was Lincoln’s conception of liberty and Union that, according to Fornieri, “combined a moral obligation to the Declaration with a legal obligation to the Constitution. Under the established rule of law, the moral ends promulgated by the Declaration must be legally determined within the institutional framework provided by the Constitution.”

In Lincoln’s rhetoric, the Founders became “apostles of the justice of the Creator to his creatures.” The Declaration, for Lincoln, restated the Golden Rule. The nation that forgot the Declaration and insisted on the Constitution was turning its back, not only on the Founders, but on the Creator. Fornieri reminds us that Lincoln always insisted on reading both documents together. He answered his detractors with the Declaration’s firm statement that all were entitled to the rights of “life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness.” The source of these divine commands were, for Lincoln, an integral part in the Declaration of Independence, and thus, reflective of the ideals of the Founding generation — ideals not only political but religious. He did not trust what we might nowadays describe as “legalism” or “pragmatism” — if one relied on the words of the Constitution alone. The pro-slavery side had at least as good a claim to truth as did the abolitionists — probably better. In an argument over right and wrong, Lincoln thought that a resort to first principles was more productive than reliance on the words of a legal text. On the other hand, as Fornieri points out, “Though the Declaration articulated the ends of a legitimate government, it did not establish a concrete, institutional framework whereby those goals could be realized ... Lincoln believed that a weak government that could not control domestic faction jeopardized the people’s safety and happiness.” The ends of government promulgated by the Declaration were best secured under the Constitution.

One may conclude that we should view Lincoln through the eyes of his era rather than our own. Lincoln’s morality says Fornieri was that “...preserving the Union meant preserving the moral principles and ideas that the Union stood for.” His morality, was “moral allegiance to the American regime ... qualified by his commitment to higher standards of natural right... . Lincoln was a friendly critic who prudently sought to bring his nation into conformity with universal standards of justice found in the Declaration. He sought to build a noble American democracy by challenging the nation to live up to its highest moral aspirations.” Like Lincoln himself, Fornieri plainly believes in prudence, moderation and caution and perhaps we should, too — not because there are no great moral absolutes, but because moral crusades not governed by moderation lead to excess and destruction, as seen most recently in the state of Alabama.

LINCOLNIANA IN 2003

By Frank J. Williams

Introduction

In recent decades, some critics have offered us a Lincoln who is vague, passive, even pusillanimous, more shaped by the tumultuous events of his era than a shaper of them. As suggested by the continued outpouring of events, books, and other tributes to the 16th president — Lincoln is enduring. His views evolved, but he knew quite early what had to be done, then set about doing it with the tools at hand. Regardless of what comes forth about Lincoln, we must continue to view him through the eyes of his era rather than our own. This is especially true when we consider his actions as chief magistrate and commander-in-chief during the Civil War. His struggle for domestic tranquility, balancing constitutional rights against security, are as relevant today as in the 1860s.

As a recent Gallup poll indicates, Lincoln remains first among presidents. The continuing interest in Abraham Lincoln as seen in this annual survey demonstrates why Lincoln remains so respected, and so relevant.

Both at home and abroad, Lincoln's reputation continues to soar. The U.S. Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission will report to Congress on its preliminary work in 2004. New books describing the last few years of Lincoln's life and his summer White House have appeared, with another describing his male friendships. Lincoln statuary continues to be created and unveiled.

Forthcoming conferences include one on the sesquicentennial of the Kansas-Nebraska Act at Roger Williams University, Bristol, Rhode Island, in 2004 and the assassination will be the theme of the 9th Annual Lincoln Forum in 2005.

It all goes to demonstrate that historian John Patrick Diggins is correct when he describes Lincoln as "... the most profound president in American history..."

Lincoln's International Legacy

William Sylvester's "Topical Timeline" in the February 10 *Stamp Collector* featured Abraham Lincoln on stamps from the **Republic of Haiti**, **Ghana**, the **Seychelles**, the **Republic of Rwanda**, and the **Republic of Togo**.

Sculptor **John McClarey** presented a

lecture on "East Meets West: Russian, Cuban and Japanese Projects" at **Lincoln Land Community College** in Springfield, IL, on October 24.

Yu-Tang Lew's article on "Abraham Lincoln: Godfather of World Democracy," appeared in *Sino-American Relations: An International Quarterly* (Winter 2002).

Dennis J. Kubicki in "Immigrant Engineers a Career in Rebel Army," (*Washington Times*, April 12) discusses the military career of Polish immigrant Valery Sylakowski who settled in New Orleans after the failed Hungarian Revolution in 1848. He first became the chief engineer to Major General John Magruder and then, near the end of the Civil War, was recruited to bring Polish expatriates from Europe to help the Confederates.

Sarah P. Rath and **William D. Pederson**, of the **International Lincoln Center at LSU in Shreveport**, have written "Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Abraham Lincoln" for elementary and secondary schools in India. It has been translated in Hindi and Urdu.

Rick Appleton, the **U.S. Consul General** to the **Czech Republic**, mentions in a *Prague Post* interview (February 12) the new "Lincoln Visa" that went into use at the first of the year. It depicts the **Lincoln Memorial** and is considered the most secure Visa ever issued. The U.S. Mint designed the Visa which may be viewed at the **Czech Embassy** Web page www.usembassy.cz

John M. Taylor's article on "Marx Applies Class Struggle to Conflict in States" was published in the February 1 issue of the *Washington Times*.

The **International Lincoln Center at LSU in Shreveport** has made a donation to repair **All Saints' Church** in **Dereham, England**, which Abraham Lincoln's ancestors used.

The statue of Abraham Lincoln located in Manchester, England, appeared in a photo in the Spring issue of *For the People*.

"Roh Compares Self to Lincoln," appeared in the May 13 *Washington Times*. The new **South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun** is mentioned as a "serious Lincoln fan" who published a biography of the sixteenth president in 2001.

The photograph of newly elected **Luiz Inacio Lula DaSilva** of **Brazil** with **President Bush** sitting in chairs with a bust of Lincoln in the background appeared in the *Washington Post* (Dec. 11) and the *Economist* (Dec. 14). The bust is prominently in the background of an Oval Office photo of **Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon** meeting with President Bush in the June 9 issue of *U.S. News and World Report*. A similar photo of the Lincoln bust was released when Slovakian President **Rudolf Schuster** met with the President. It appeared in the April 21 issue of the *Slovak Spectator* and the April 10 issue of the *Washington Post*. A photo of the late **Sergio Vieira de Mello** from Brazil, then **UN High Commissioner for Human Rights**, appeared in the August 20 *Washington Post*. The photo was from March when he met with President Bush in the Oval Office. The Lincoln bust appears behind Mr. de Mello, who was killed in Baghdad in the explosion of U.N. headquarters. Politics makes surreal photo ops as shown in a photo (*Prague Post*, July 23) from the Oval Office: left-wing **Czech Prime Minister Vladimir Spidla** is shaking **President Bush's** hand with the Lincoln bust in the background. Spidla's social democratic party branded the Iraqi war a violation of international law. The White House visit was the first for a **Czech Republic Prime Minister** to meet with a sitting American president. The Czech Republic sent a chemical-warfare unit to Kuwait which gained the Prime Minister almost an hour in the Oval Office.

Rene Anillo's, "Truth on a Hummingbird's Wing," mentions Jose Marti's admiration for Lincoln in the April 6 issue of *Granma International*. 2003 was the sesquicentennial of Marti's birth. Cuba's foremost independence leader and one of Latin America's major poets, spent fourteen years in exile in New York City (1881–1895).

Robert D. Hormats, "Abraham Lincoln and the Global Economy" appeared in the August *Harvard Business Review*.

Larry Rohter, "A Street Battle Rages in Argentina's 150 Years War" (*New York Times*, August 14), discusses the rivalry between **Juan de Rosas** and **Domingo Sarmiento** and equates the former to Robert E. Lee and the latter to Abraham Lincoln.

Darl L. Stephenson, "Flawed

Research" (*Washington Times*, August 9) recounts the flawed research on a marker in Franklin Park, Columbus, OH, which claims 17 Union soldiers were Chinese.

A 2000 stamp from **San Marino** marking its 1,700 anniversary as the world's oldest Republic features a painting of Lincoln on it (**Denise McCarty**, "World of New Issues," *Linn's Stamp News*, January 8).

The Summer 2003 *Mystic Stamp* showcase mailer featured **Civil War Train** stamps from St. Kitts with a portrait of Abraham Lincoln on them (M6732.Z which sells for \$7.95 each).

Somini Sengupta, "If only the G.I.'s" (*New York Times*, July 30) mentioned the frayed oil painting at the **National Museum in Monrovia, Liberia** with Lincoln in it.

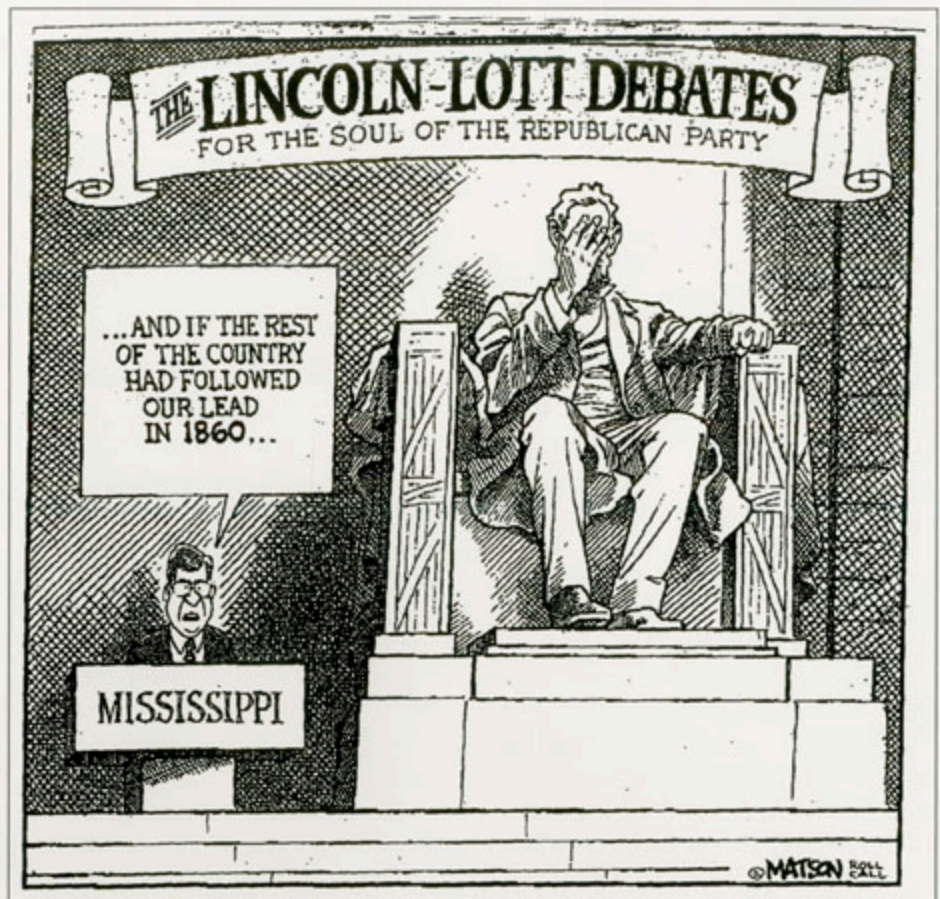
John Lockwood, "Society's Colonized Goals for Liberia" (*Washington Times*, July 19) discussed Liberia's founding and Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation.

John Hoffman, "Lincoln Essay Contests, Lincoln Medals, and the Commercialization of Lincoln" (*Journal of the Abraham Lincoln Association*, Summer 2003), discusses Japan's veneration of Lincoln between World War I and II.

Arts

John McClarey, the well-known sculptor from Decatur, IL, presented a series of six lectures discussing his various depictions of Abraham Lincoln at **Lincoln Land Community College**, Springfield, IL. On September 12, 2002 he discussed "The Journey Begins: *Young Lincoln on a Log Bench and The Surveyor*." On September 26 he presented "Copernicus, Martin Luther and Lincoln: *Lincoln Draws The Line*." On October 10 he presented "Conflict Resolution American Style: *A House Divided*." The program for October 24 was "East Meets West: *Russian, Cuban and Japanese Projects*." The November 7th program was "Lincoln for the Ages: *United the Waters and Continuum*." The final presentations on November 21 featured "For Us the Living: *Last Full Measure, Touchstones, Freedom River, and Unfinished Work*." Many of his works have been given as gifts to national and international dignitaries, and annually, to the recipient of the **Richard Nelson Current Lincoln Forum Award of Achievement**.

Carolyn Texley, Director of Collections & Archivist at The



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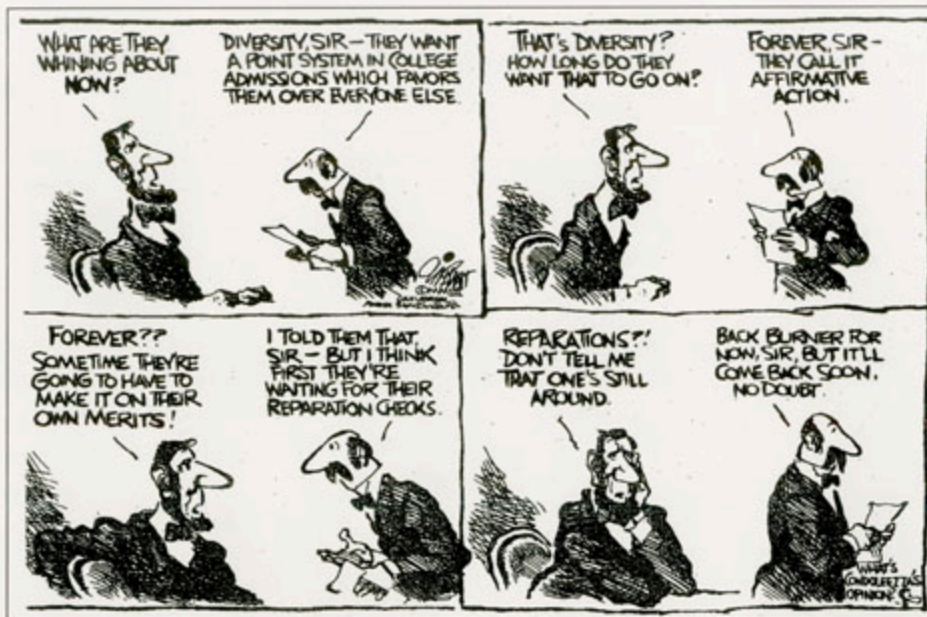
Lincoln Museum, Fort Wayne, IN, authored "The Making of Lincoln: Sculptor Avarad Fairbanks & The Lincoln Museum" for the Fall 2002 *Lincoln Lore: The Bulletin of The Lincoln Museum*.

Avarad Fairbanks's monument of *Abraham Lincoln at The New Salem Village* was selected as the design of the **Illinois Commemorative Quarter**. Issued in 2003, it has been called by one author *The Resolute Lincoln* and by another *Lincoln at the Crossroads of Decision*. The statue portrays him holding a law book and axe. In related news, **Eugene F. Fairbanks** has compiled *Abraham Lincoln Sculpture, Created by Avarad T. Fairbanks* (Fairbanks Art and Books, 2607 Vining Street, Bellingham, WA 98226-4230.)

A 13 ft. sculpture of **Black Hawk** and **Abraham Lincoln** by sculptor **Jeff Adams** was unveiled at **Mix Park**, Oregon, IL, on October 13. Entitled *Paths of Conviction, Footsteps of Fate*, the monument overlooks Illinois Route 2. The program for the dedication ceremony explained the

piece. "The Spirit of Black Hawk, a lover of this land and protector of his people, is clinging to an incline while reaching up in defiance clutching a buffalo robe — symbolic of his last attempt to hold onto their homeland. The Spirit of Abraham Lincoln, an emerging giant who came from the same lands Black Hawk clings to, went on to become a savior of the Union, binder of the wounds. A man dedicated to the conviction that all men are created equal."

General Electric sponsored a **Kunhardt Production/Thirteen-WNET** television series, *Freedom: A History of US* that was hosted by **Katie Couric** and aired on **PBS** stations over eight weeks beginning in January. The series included interpretations of great figures of compelling American heroes of our past. **Anthony Hopkins** portrayed George Washington; **Tom Hanks** was Abraham Lincoln and Paul Revere; and **Morgan Freeman** interpreted Frederick Douglass. **Michele Hatty** wrote in the January 10–12 *USA WEEKEND* that **Tom**



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Hanks was a perfect choice to “relay the eloquence of an ordinary man trying to hold a divided nation together during a turning point, the Civil War.”

The Lincoln College Museum, Lincoln, IL, and **Looking for Lincoln in Lincoln** hosted a premiere showing of the video *From Surveyor to President: A Lincoln in Logan County* on January 11 at **Lincoln College**.

On January 20, **MTV** premiered a bizarre new animated series, *Clone High*, featuring five historic characters that have been cloned — Lincoln, Gandhi, Cleopatra, John F. Kennedy, and Joan of Arc. Their classmates included two Elvis Presleys, Vincent van Gogh and Genghis Khan. The setting is high school where J.F.K. announces that there are 150 girls he plans to conquer during the academic year and Lincoln, who is awkward, no matter what he says, is dazzled by Cleopatra. **Anita Gates** reviewed *Clone High* for the January 20 *New York Times*, noting: “The characters are intriguing in a light way but could lose their appeal fast.”

The U.S. Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission presented a performance and dinner on the occasion of the inaugural meeting of the **Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission Advisory Committee** on January 27. This included a special performance of *Lincoln Seen and Heard* featuring **Sam Waterston** and **Harold Holzer**, who together presented a portrait of the 16th president in words and slides, featuring

Lincoln’s speeches and writings.

The United We Stand Collection, 18200 Minnetonka, Blvd. Deephaven, MN 55391-9974, has produced 12,500 sets of 25 replicas of official **U.S. Postage Stamps** minted as solid silver ingots and layered with pure 24-carat gold. The set includes a 3-cent Lincoln stamp with his “That government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth,” and the 3-cent 75th anniversary of the 13th Amendment to the Constitution with the Freedman statue by **Thomas Ball**.

Amid considerable, local controversy, **David Frech’s** statue of Abraham Lincoln sitting on a bench with his arm around his son, Tad, was dedicated at **The Civil War Visitor’s Center, Tredegar Iron Works** in Richmond, VA on April 5, the anniversary of Lincoln and his son’s visit five days before the end of the war. **The Sons of Confederate Veterans** voiced displeasure about placing the statue in the former capital of the Confederacy, but the **Richmond City Council** voted unanimously to support the statue and to donate \$45,000 to the project, saying the Lincoln statue would provide balance to the granite army of Confederate generals who occupy the city on Monument Avenue. The life-size bronze statue was donated by the **United States Historical Society**, a non-profit organization headquartered in Richmond. **The Virginia Chapter of the Sons of Confederate Veterans** asked the **Virginia Attorney General** whether any state laws prohibited placing the

statue at Tredegar. There were none, as the ironworks building is on privately owned land leased to the Federal Government. The *Washington Post*, on March 8, reported that a **National Park Service** investigation found nothing to support allegations of fraud. The society has available two versions of the statue — \$875.00 for a bronze and \$125.00 for a bronze resin miniature. The 90-minute ceremony on April 5 included speeches by **Harold Holzer**, **Ronald C. White, Jr.**, former Virginia Governor **Douglas Wilder**, and **Joseph E. Garrera**. **Scott E. Sallee** wrote about “A Lincoln Memorial in the Confederate Capital” for the *Winter Blue & Grey* magazine; **Jon Ward** discussed “Lincoln Web Site Shut Amid Fraud-Charge Flap” for the January 20 *Washington Times*, and **Christina Nuckols** discussed the controversy in the March 4 *Virginian-Pilot*. **Phillip C. Stone**, **President of Bridgewater College** in Bridgewater, VA, wrote an essay in support of the Lincoln statue in Richmond, VA, that appeared in the summer *For the People: A Newsletter of the Abraham Lincoln Association*. Stone argues that Lincoln should be in Richmond as he was entitled to enter the city after its evacuation in 1865 because he was President of the United States. Additionally, Lincoln had strong family connections to Virginia as his grandfather, a resident of Rockingham County in the Shenandoah is buried in the Lincoln Cemetery outside of Harrisonburg. Stone says, “Those of us from the old Confederacy (I have lived my entire life in Virginia; my family had been here over two hundred years) need to put an end to the nonsense that we were victims of Lincoln.”

A statue by **Mark Lundeen** has not caused controversy. His bronze *Lincoln* is 57 inches by 54 inches by 42 inches. The sculptor has produced an edition of 32 and also portrays Lincoln, coatless this time, sitting on a bench. (mark@lundeen sculpture.com).

Kathleen Cantwell discussed Oak Brook, Illinois sculptor **Rebecca Childers Caleel’s** 11-foot bronze of President Lincoln in the February 12 *Liberty Newspapers*, Downers Grove, IL. The sculpture was commissioned by the city of Ottawa, IL, which dedicated the statue on September 14, 2002.

Mary Todd ... A Woman Apart, a new one-person play that ran at the **Samuel Beckett Theatre** in New York April 24–May 17 was reviewed by **Harold Holzer** in the April 24–April 30 *City Week* and *Our Town*.

A. Lincoln, **Stephen Holgate’s** one-person, two-act play, in which he portrays

the 16th president, opened on April 12 at the **Jack Oakes Theater**, Portland, OR. Holgate was profiled by **Paul Duchene** in "An Honest Look at 'Honest Abe'" in *The Oregonian* on April 4.

Texas artist **David Adickes's** Abraham Lincoln and 42 other concrete busts of U.S. Presidents, each as tall as a one-story house, will be placed at the **Presidents' Park**, a 10-acre outdoor museum in **York County, VA**. The park broke ground in August to begin work on these controversial giant busts.

Young Abraham Lincoln is presented at the multi-million dollar **Lincoln Amphitheatre** at the **French Lick Springs Resort** in Indiana.

Linn's Stamp News on May 5, depicted the four-cent American Credo stamp, one of six issued in 1960–61, that contained a Lincoln quote, "Those who deny freedom to others deserve it not for themselves." Over the illustration is a balloon for readers to submit a similar line, real or imagined, to win prizes in this cartoon caption contest.

The Papers of Abraham Lincoln, a project of the **Illinois Historic Preservation Agency** and the **Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum**, has published a chart and timeline of *Abraham Lincoln's Cabinet*.

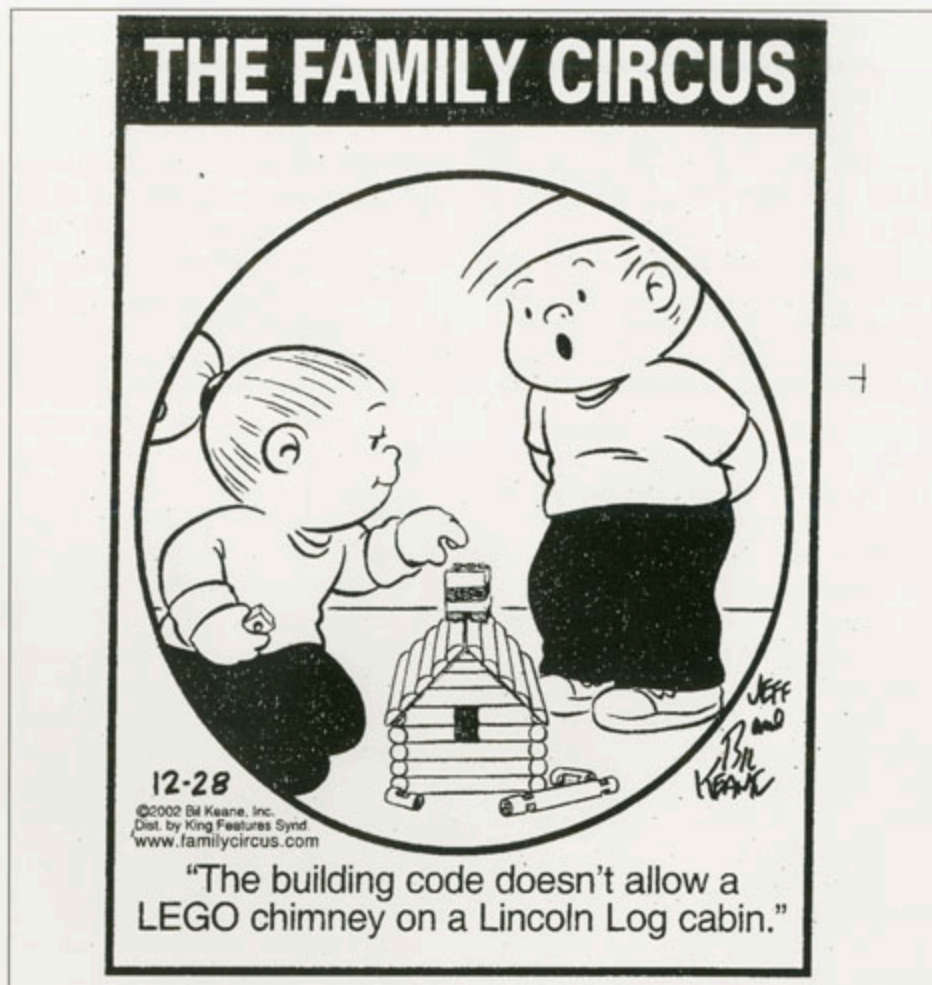
Photographer **Kieran McAuliffe** designed the map used by **HistoryAmerica Tours** for the 2003 *Mississippi Queen* and *Delta Queen* historic cruises on the Ohio, Cumberland, Tennessee, and Mississippi Rivers. Tours@historyamerica.com.

The unveiling of the *Lincoln Surveyor Statue* was held on October 4 at **Lincoln's New Salem State Historic Site**.

The *Washington Times* reported on July 23 that **Disney**, partnering with **Walden Media**, will turn **James L. Swanson's** non-fiction thriller, *Manhunt: The 12 Day Chase for Lincoln's Killers* into a high-profile motion picture. The book attracted Hollywood's attention after **William Morrow** beat out **Miramax Books** in a bidding war. The story focuses on John Wilkes Booth's terrorist conspiracy to topple the government at the close of the Civil War by assassinating Abraham Lincoln, Vice President Andrew Johnson, Secretary of State William Seward and General Ulysses S. Grant.

Exhibits

The exhibition *Freedom: A History of US*, developed by **The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History** and the



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Meserve-Kunhardt Collection, ran in conjunction with the **General Electric-sponsored Kunhardt Production/Thirteen-WNET** television series, *Freedom: A History of US*. The exhibition was on display at **The New York Historical Society** and then at the **Decatur House**, Washington, DC. GE is also sponsoring six traveling exhibitions that will tour America. The "Freedom" exhibition drew on materials from **The Gilder Lehrman Collection** and photographs from **The Meserve-Kunhardt Collection**. The photographs can be accessed on www.picturehistory.com. **The Gilder Lehrman Collection**, an archive of some 40,000 manuscripts, documents, letters, diaries, maps, books, photographs, engravings, lithographs, and newspapers tracing four centuries of American history, moved to the **New York Historical Society** from the **Morgan Library**, which recently closed for an expansion program. Philanthropists **Richard Gilder** and **Lewis E. Lehrman** have spent 13 years amassing the private collection. Of interest to Lincoln

and Civil War scholars are signed copies of the Emancipation Proclamation and the 13th Amendment, personal letters from Lincoln, handwritten notes for the Lincoln-Douglas debates, rare soldier diaries and sketch books, prints, pamphlets, broadsides, and thousands of photographs by **Mathew Brady**, **Alexander Gardner** and **George Barnard**. The Historical Society plans a continuous rotating public installation to highlight documents from the collection, which is managed by the **Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History**. The collection lends items to institutions and publications and has its own publication program. It is currently mounting a touring show of reproductions from its slavery and Civil War collections. Students, scholars, and teachers may access programs relating to the collection of documents at www.gilderlehrman.org.

The Indiana Historical Society celebrated its acquisition of *Indiana's Lincoln: A National Treasure* on February 15. The acquisition consists of three components: the original collodion wet-plate negative of the

definitive "Portrait of Abraham Lincoln" made by Alexander Gardner on November 8, 1863, which the society obtained from **Daniel R. Weinberg of The Abraham Lincoln Book Shop**, Chicago; **The Jack Smith Collection of Images** documenting the life and times of Abraham Lincoln in pictures; and materials relating to the Lincoln assassination. The society published a handsome brochure, *Indiana's Lincoln: A National Treasure*, to celebrate the acquisitions. **David Mannweiler** wrote about the acquisitions in "Lincoln Artifacts Boost State Legacy" for the January 23 *Indianapolis Star*.

"Lincoln and the Soldiers" an exhibit at **The Lincoln Shrine**, Redlands, CA, continued through March 16, 2003.

Lincoln's Legacy: The Lincoln Museum 75th Anniversary Exhibition, 1928-2003 is the theme of the exhibition celebrating the **75th Anniversary of The Lincoln Museum**, Fort Wayne, IN. It will run to February 12, 2004. **Carolyn Texley**, Director of Collections and Archivist at the museum offered a 75 year history, "Lincoln's Legacy: The Lincoln Museum 1928-2003" in the Spring *Lincoln Lore: The Bulletin of The Lincoln Museum*.

More than 300 visitors were present at the **Lincoln Shrine**, Redlands, CA, on February 9 for the Shrine's 31st Annual Open House. The Shrine's staff delivered brief historical presentations about five new displays that were unveiled. One included a note penned by President Lincoln asking for action on a patronage request involving Secretary of War Simon Cameron.

The **National Archives Building** reopened to the public on September 18. A new book, *Our Documents*, discusses 100 milestone documents drawn primarily from the public laws, Supreme Court decisions, inaugural speeches, treaties, constitutional amendments, and other records held by the National Archives and Records Administration. Included are the Declaration of Independence and Emancipation Proclamation. The public was able to cast ballots in a "national vote" to decide which 10 of the 100 documents have most changed or shaped the course of American history.

An exhibition of sculpture by **Rebecca Childers Caleel** opened at the **Amsterdam Whitney International Fine Art Gallery**, New York City on May 8. Caleel was the sculptor who created the Lincoln and Douglas Group commemorating the Lincoln-Douglas debate in Ottawa, IL.

Collections

Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning problems continue to plague the new **Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum** in Springfield. **Doug Pokorski** reported on a meeting of state officials to discuss the problems in "Preservation Options for Library Reviewed" for *The State Journal-Register* on June 24. The dedication of the library and museum was held in November 2002 and in April 2003, the **Illinois Historic Preservation Agency** signed a statement indicating that work "was substantially complete." However, the HVAC is not running properly. The IHPA expected to move into the new library July 1st but this move has been delayed. **The Civil War Interactive Site** reported on July 22 that it will be another nine months before the building is ready to receive the contents of the **Illinois State Historical Library** and open to visitors. It is intended that the state's 47,000-item Abraham Lincoln collection will be stored but the new library and museum needs \$1.5 million in repairs to its HVAC system.

A 10-foot tall likeness of Abraham Lincoln, a project commissioned by former **Governor George Ryan**, fell short of **Illinois Historic Preservation Agency's** expectations and was rejected. The sculptor had completed the clay phase, but casting had not begun. The IHPA expressed total surprise by the image and indicated that it had no input as to how the statue would depict Lincoln. Spokesman **David Blanchette** said that, "it didn't fit our vision of what would be easily identifiable to the public." IHPA envisions a recognizable figure that will provide a photo opportunity for library/museum visitors. "It was no fault of the sculptor," Blanchette said, adding that the artist is redoing his original design at no extra cost to the state and he retains rights to his earlier work. \$250,000 is earmarked for the library and museum artwork, according to the **Illinois Capital Development Board**.

Chicago Sun-Times columnist **Steve Neal**, a longtime critic of former **Illinois Governor George H. Ryan** and the politicization of the \$115 million **Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum**, wrote on June 23 that the **University of Illinois** at Springfield has launched a fund-raising campaign for a governmental studies center in direct conflict with the library and museum. Neal noted

that The Lincoln Library has an endowment of about \$8 million and is hoping to increase this to \$50 million by 2010. On the other hand, the university is seeking to collect more than \$45 million for its "Presidential Center" and related programs. Many donors are understandably confused and are holding back from giving to either the library or "Presidential Center."

As if this were not enough, **Harold Holzer**, the top choice for **Director of the Library and Museum**, withdrew his name from consideration for Director of the Library and Museum, stating that the director's post appeared "to be evolving into something considerably less than what I imagined." **Doug Pokorski** discussed this in the February 6 *State Journal-Register*, "Top Candidate for Director no Longer Wants the Position." The *Illinois State Journal*, after praising Holzer as "a candidate who is the furthest thing from a political appointment" and indicating that "we are sold on Holzer" (*Illinois State Journal Register*, December 30, 2002) wasted no time in reacting negatively to Holzer's decision to drop out of contention in "Nothing is Ever Perfect" (*Illinois State Journal Register*, February 7) opining that "Unfortunately for Holzer, and thus for the Library and Museum, nothing is ever perfect. In this case, Holzer may not have been a perfect fit either, as whoever serves as the Executive Director of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum must also embrace the community." Yet, former **U.S. Senator Paul Simon** said on February 27 that he believed "It is possible" that Holzer would reconsider if changes were made to the governing structure of the library/museum. **Doug Pokorski** in his "Holzer May Yet Become Director" discussed how **Illinois Governor Rod Blagojevich** is "trying to find Mr. Holzer and talk to see what happened and why he changed his mind." (*Illinois State Register*, February 28). Blagojevich, failing to get Holzer to reconsider, on October 9, appointed **Richard Norton Smith** as **Director**. Smith is currently Director of the **Robert J. Dole Institute for Public Service and Public Policy** at the University of Kansas. Smith previously has served as Director of the **Herbert Hoover, Dwight D. Eisenhower, Gerald R. Ford** and **Ronald Reagan** libraries and museums.

The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Center for Governmental Studies of the University of Illinois at Springfield described its outreach activities including the Lincoln Legacy Lecture Series, fellow-

ships, scholarships, and internships for work at the library, a Lincoln leadership academy, public policy conferences, publication of Lincoln's writings, lectures, and summer high school institutes in a brochure *The Legacy of Lincoln: Now More Than Ever*.

The Illinois Historic Preservation Agency has produced a CD disk, *Gettysburg Address Tribute* for the November 18, 2002, dedication of the **Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum** in Springfield, IL.

The Washington Post reported on February 19 that the **National Trust for Historic Preservation** received \$2.3 million for its **Lincoln Summer White House** restoration project at the **U.S. Soldiers' and Sailors' Home in Washington**. Known officially as the **President Lincoln and Soldiers' Home National Monument**, the building known as **Anderson Cottage** in Northwest Washington was where Lincoln and his family spent the summer months during his presidency.

Stacy Pratt McDermott, Assistant Editor of *The Lincoln Legal Papers*, wrote about "Lincoln and the Fraternity of the Bar" in the October-December *Lincoln Legal Brief: A Quarterly Newsletter of the Lincoln Legal Papers* — a documentary history of the law practice of Abraham Lincoln, 1836–1861. **Pete Sherman** in "The Lincoln Files," written for the April 3–9 *Illinois Times*, described the 20-year project of *The Papers of Abraham Lincoln* to assemble every document relating to Lincoln estimated to number 500,000. The October-December 2002 issue of *Lincoln Editor: The Quarterly Newsletter of the Papers of Abraham Lincoln* reported that in January, the staff at **The Papers of Abraham Lincoln** would mail a survey to thousands of repositories that have documents written by or to Abraham Lincoln. The project seeks information on any document written by Abraham Lincoln, written to him, or reviewed by him during the course of his lifetime (1809–1865). This information will aid **The Papers of Abraham Lincoln** to make their project as comprehensive as possible. All private collectors are invited to send information on the project's Web site at www.papersofabrahamlincoln.org. **Daniel W. Stowell**, Director/Editor of *The Lincoln Legal Papers: A Documentary History of the Law Practice of Abraham Lincoln, 1836–1861*, has announced that the indispensable three volume set, *Lincoln Day by Day*, first published for the **Abraham Lincoln Sesquicentennial** is

now available on line. <http://www.lincolnlegalpapers.org>.

The Winter issue of *The Rail Splitter* included **Ron Guth's** "Mark Hofmann: Lincoln Coin Counterfeiter?," **Joe Grove's** "Lincoln's Stepmother: The Discovery of a Sarah Lincoln Photograph," **Wayne C. Temple's** "'Sally' (Bush) Johnston Lincoln's Photographs," and **Timothy H. Bakken's** article about the never-before published copies of Secretary of War Stanton's original drafts for the suppression of the New York papers which printed the bogus proclamation by Lincoln calling for 400,000 volunteers. ("The Bogus Proclamation") The Spring *Rail Splitter* contained "Abraham Lincoln and John Quincy Adams" by **Norman F. Boas**, "Building Lincoln's Library: Collecting the Books that Lincoln Read" by **William D. Mulliken**, "The Written Word: Books that Made a President" by **Daniel Pearson**, and "Safeguarding a Lincoln Collection" by **Blaine V. Houmes**. Publisher **Jonathan H. Mann** in his "From the Publisher: The Persistence of Misinformation" discussed some controversial and unauthenticated items in the collection of the late **Lloyd Ostendorf**.

Dick Ahles in his "A Chance to Read History in the Original," published in the May 18 *New York Times*, discussed some of the nation's treasures including the Constitution and Emancipation Proclamation, going on display at the **University of Hartford** beginning January 30, 2004. *American Originals* is expected to increase attendance at the **University of Hartford's Museum of American Political Life**. Opened in 1989, the museum houses the collection of **J. Doyle DeWitt**, who left more than 60,000 campaign buttons, banners, medals, ribbons, snuff boxes, and other political artifacts to the university.

Barbara Hughett wrote about the 300-pound, three-part section of steel from the **World Trade Center** that is now in the **Lincoln College Museum**, Lincoln, IL, in "Piece of World Trade Center Comes to Lincoln College Museum," which appeared in the Summer *Lincoln Newsletter: A Publication of the Lincoln College Museum*.

John Adler has won the \$50,000 **E-Lincoln Prize** (announced on February 12 and awarded April 16) for his *HarpWeek* Web site, which features much information about Lincoln.

Cumberland House has released 100

Essential Books by Mike Burkheimer, www.100essentialbooks.com.

Awards and Prizes

William Lee Miller received the 2002 **Lincoln Group of New York Award of Achievement** for his book *Lincoln's Virtues*. Miller also received the **Civil War Round Table of New York Barondess Award for Lincoln Studies** on February 12.

The Civil War Round Table of Chicago honored **Edwin C. Bearss** with its second annual **Ed Bearss Preservation Award**.

Don E. Fehrenbacher's *The Slave Holding Republic* received the **Organization of American Historians Avery O. Craven** award.

The Lincoln Forum announced plans for the 2003 **Platt Family Essay Contest of The Lincoln Forum** with prizes of \$1,000 for first place, \$500.00 for second place, and \$250 for third place. The contest is designed to stimulate interest in Lincoln among young people and is open to anyone who is enrolled as a full-time undergraduate student. The 2003 essay topic was: *Lincoln's Image in Popular Culture*. The winning essay will be published in *The Lincoln Forum Bulletin*. More information can be found at www.thelincolnforum.org.

Steve Carson, former President of the **Lincoln Group of the District of Columbia**, received the Group's 2003 Lincoln Award.

Philip Shaw Paludan and former Illinois First Lady **Lura Lynn Ryan** received honorary degrees from **Lincoln College**, Lincoln, IL.

Actor Sam Waterston received the 2003 **Richard Nelson Current Lincoln Forum Award of Achievement** for his acclaimed work on television and on stage portraying Abraham Lincoln.

Ronald D. Rietveld (California State University, Fullerton), **Archie P. McDonald** (Stephen F. Austin State University), **Harold Holzer** (Metropolitan Museum of Art), and I were recipients of the 2003 **International Lincoln Center Award** from the **International Lincoln Center at LSU in Shreveport**. This was only the second time in its triennial presidential series, which was launched in 1992, that the center issued awards. Each recipient received a framed map of the world highlighted with Lincoln stamps from abroad.

Auctions

Sotheby's auction of American manuscripts and other items from **The Collection of Mr. & Mrs. Frederick R. Nederlander**, on December 13, 2002, included a set of bronze copies cast by **Augustus Saint-Gaudens** in 1886 from the original plaster mask of Lincoln's face and plaster cast of his hands made by **Leonard Wells Volk**. These were sold for \$31,070. The sale also included a legal pleading by Lincoln, on behalf of the **Illinois Central Railroad Company** that sold for \$4,780. A printed letter signed by Abraham Lincoln in which the president transmitted to New Hampshire a proposed amendment to the Constitution on March 16, 1861, was not sold because it did not meet the reserve. The proposed amendment would have forbidden the Federal government from interfering with slavery in those states where it already existed. While not adopted, it would have been the Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution. Ironically, the ultimate Thirteenth Amendment abolished slavery. The estimate was \$100,000 – \$150,000. Neither the manuscript document of the proposed final Thirteenth Amendment dated February 1, 1865, with an estimated worth of between \$100,000 – \$150,000, nor a carte-de-visite albumen print of Abraham Lincoln signed by him, estimated to be worth between \$45,000–\$65,000 sold.

On December 19, 2002, **Christie's** book and manuscript sale included one of the "Boker" copies of the Emancipation Proclamation signed by President Lincoln, which sold for \$600,000. A letter of introduction written by Lincoln for Edward Everett sold for \$75,000. A signed carte-de-visite of Lincoln (Ostendorf 72), in which the seated president holds his spectacles in one hand and a newspaper in the other, estimated to fetch between \$30,000 – \$40,000, set a world-record price at \$85,000.

Virginia Bohlin wrote how "Lincolniana Reflects Luster" for the February 9 *Boston Sunday Globe*. She discussed how a growing number of collectors compete for a single Lincoln manuscript or memento which causes prices to keep escalating. She indicated that the record for a Lincoln artifact was realized in March 2002 when a pair of opera glasses used by President Lincoln at Ford's Theatre on April 14, 1865, sold for \$424,000. **Malcolm Forbes** paid \$26,400 for them in 1979 — an

increase of more than sixteen times the original price. Two tickets for the English comedy, *Our American Cousin*, sold last Fall at **Christie's** for \$83,650, Bohlin pointed out.

Edward N. Bomsey in his "Auction Trends" in the Spring *Manuscripts* reported that an 1837 one-and-a-half page manuscript to Lincoln's "Other Mary," one-time lady friend Mary Owens, sold at **Christie's** on October 9 for \$779,500 — a world auction record for a Lincoln letter. At the same sale an 1864 three-and-a-half page letter to Lincoln's friend Andrew Johnston containing a poem Lincoln wrote after a visit to his childhood home in Spencer County, IN, was auctioned for \$504,500.

Delayed by concerns that the **U.S. Postal Service** would not have delivered the catalogue in time, **Jonathan Mann** and the staff of the *Rail Splitter* deferred the **8th Annual Lincolniana and Civil War Auction** to September 16. The total amount received at the auction was approximately \$500,000.

Historical Collectibles auction held on January 23 featured a carte-de-visite photograph from *Life* by **Mathew Brady** of Lincoln assassination conspirator John Surratt with a signed card. They sold for \$4,888.

Books and Pamphlets

Jennifer Fleischner's *Mrs. Lincoln and Mrs. Keckley* has been published by **Broadway Books**.

Adam Braver's *Mr. Lincoln's Wars: A Novel in Thirteen Stories* has been published by **Morrow**.

Matthew Pinsker's *Abraham Lincoln* has been published by **CQ Press** and contains biographical, analytical and primary source historical material.

Charles M. Hubbard has edited *Lincoln Reshapes the Presidency for Mercer University Press*.

The 41st Annual Fortenbaugh Memorial Lecture at Gettysburg College, Retaliation: The Problem of Atrocity in the American Civil War by **Mark E. Neely, Jr.** has been published by the college.

The *Bulletin* of the **56th Annual Meeting of the Lincoln Fellowship of Wisconsin, my A Comparison in Leadership: Franklin D. Roosevelt, Abraham Lincoln and Winston Churchill — The Warrior, Communitarian, and Echo Men**, has been published by the Fellowship.

James A. Rawley's *The President*

Shall Have Power: Lincoln, His Cabinet, Congress, and the Supreme Court is the *Bulletin* of the **57th Annual Meeting of the Lincoln Fellowship of Wisconsin**.

Jim Cullen's *The American Dream (Oxford)* contains a section on Abraham Lincoln.

Stewart Winger's *Lincoln, Religion, and Romantic Cultural Politics* has been published by **Northern Illinois University Press**.

Steven R. Koppelman is the editor of *The Lincoln Group of New York 25th Anniversary Commemorative Publication 1978–2003*. (P.O. Box 220, Newton, NJ 07860).

Mark Reinhart's *A Century of Abraham Lincoln on Screen* has been published by the **Lincoln Memorial Shrine, Redlands, CA**.

For young people, **Troll Communications** has published a new edition of *Young Abraham Lincoln: Log-Cabin President*.

Joseph R. Fornieri's *Abraham Lincoln's Political Faith* has been published by **Northern Illinois University Press**. The author describes how to understand Lincoln's invocations of divine authority that appeared in his speeches and writings. [See review on Page 4.]

M. Kay duPont (2137 Mt. Vernon Road, Atlanta, GA 30338) is the author of *Loving Mr. Lincoln: The Personal Diaries of Mary Todd Lincoln*. Winner of the **2003 Georgia Writers Association Fiction Award**, the author has Mary Lincoln chronicle her life, love, and daily struggles with Abraham Lincoln in her "own words."

Sarah Vowell's *The Partly Cloudy Patriot (Simon & Schuster)* contains a chapter, "What He Said There" at Gettysburg. Prompted by her pilgrimage to Gettysburg, Vowell pays tribute to Lincoln, "the American Jesus," as a truly great writer and a savvy politician.

Cumberland House Publishing has produced *Lincoln and Booth: More Light on the Conspiracy* by **H. Donald Winkler**. The author describes the events that led to the shooting of the President, including Booth's activities from July 1864 through April 1865, raising questions about the involvement of the Confederacy. He discusses the likely guilt of Dr. Samuel A. Mudd and Mary Surratt. Also discussed are Edwin M. Stanton's motives and decisions relating to the denial of protection to Lincoln on April 14 and the concealment of Booth's diary and

the hanging of Mary Surratt while failing to pursue John Surratt.

And for children, **We Write Corporation** published *Mr. Lincoln and the Time Train*, written by fourteen children for the **Abraham Lincoln Presidential Center for Governmental Studies**. In this story, President Lincoln falls asleep on the train heading to Gettysburg and wakes up in modern-day Springfield, IL. Three children realize the importance of Lincoln's role in history and try to help him go back in time. *Abe Lincoln: The Boy who Loved Books* by **Kay Winters** with illustrations by **Nancy Carpenter** has been published by **Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers**.

Michael Kent Curtis is the author of *Free Speech, "The People's Darling Privilege": Struggles for Freedom of Expression in American History* (**Duke University Press**).

John R. Vile is the editor of the two volume *Great American Lawyers: An Encyclopedia* (**ABC-CLIO**). It includes a section on Abraham Lincoln by **Norman B. Ferris** and his Attorney General, Edward Bates, by **me**.

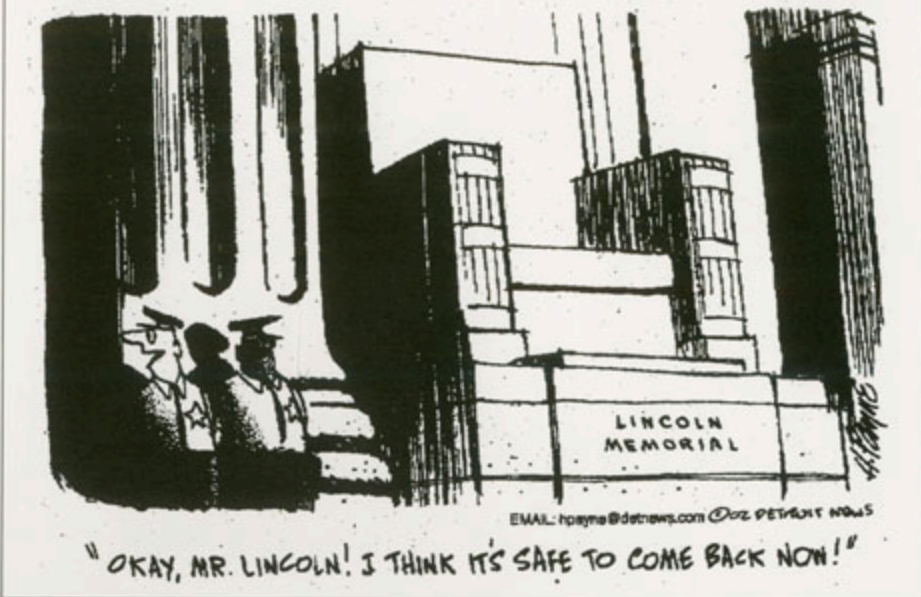
Thomas Keneally's *Abraham Lincoln* is now available from **Books on Tape**. 1-800-623-3333.

The **University Press of Kentucky** has published a new edition of the Lincoln assassination trial as reported by **Benn Pitman**. **Edward Steers, Jr.** is the editor of the trial transcripts, *The Trial: The Assassination of President Lincoln and the Trial of the Conspirators*. Steers believes that there was a trail of conspiracy and deception behind the president's murder that extended far beyond John Wilkes Booth and his band. Booth was part of a ring of conspirators that had its roots with Jefferson Davis who used Canada as a sanctuary to disrupt the war effort in the North and demoralize its citizens. Benn Pitman, whose brother invented court stenography shorthand, was commissioned to record the proceedings of the trial verbatim. Pitman skillfully compiled a 421-page record. Seven other commentators, **Terry Alford, Burrus Carnahan, Joan L. Chaconas, Percy Martin, Betty Ownsbey, Thomas R. Turner** and **Laurie Verge**, help explain the details and context of the testimonies.

William C. Harris is the author of *Lincoln's Last Months* (**Harvard University Press**).

Daniel Farber is the author of *Lincoln's Constitution* (**University of**

Who let Lee Malvo loose?



H. Payne, Detroit News ©2002. Reprinted with permission.

Chicago Press). Farber discusses the constitutionality of Lincoln's actions as president, especially now that some historians are drawing parallels between some of President Bush's recent actions in the war on terror to Lincoln's acts during the Civil War. Farber delves deeply into Lincoln's motivations and into the complex history of the period to offer an examination of the constitutional quagmire in which Lincoln found himself. While Lincoln went far beyond the Constitution, Farber argues, most, if not all, of Lincoln's decisions were constitutionally sound and justified by the extreme circumstances of Civil War.

Barry Schwartz's *Abraham Lincoln and the Forge of National Memory* is now available in paper from the **University of Chicago Press**.

James A. Rawley has provided an introduction for a new printing of his *Abraham Lincoln and a Nation Worth Fighting For* (**University of Nebraska Press**).

Matthew Pinsker is the author of *Lincoln's Sanctuary: Abraham Lincoln and the Soldiers' Home* (**Oxford University Press**). In this book, the author tells, for the first time, the story of Lincoln's summer White House, where the President made so many major decisions.

Jesse L. Jackson, Jr. with **Frankie Watkins** is the author of *A More Perfect Union: Advancing New American*

Rights (**Welcome Rain Publishers**). There is much about Abraham Lincoln that permeates this book — on emancipation, on the 13th Amendment and on Lincoln's view of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.

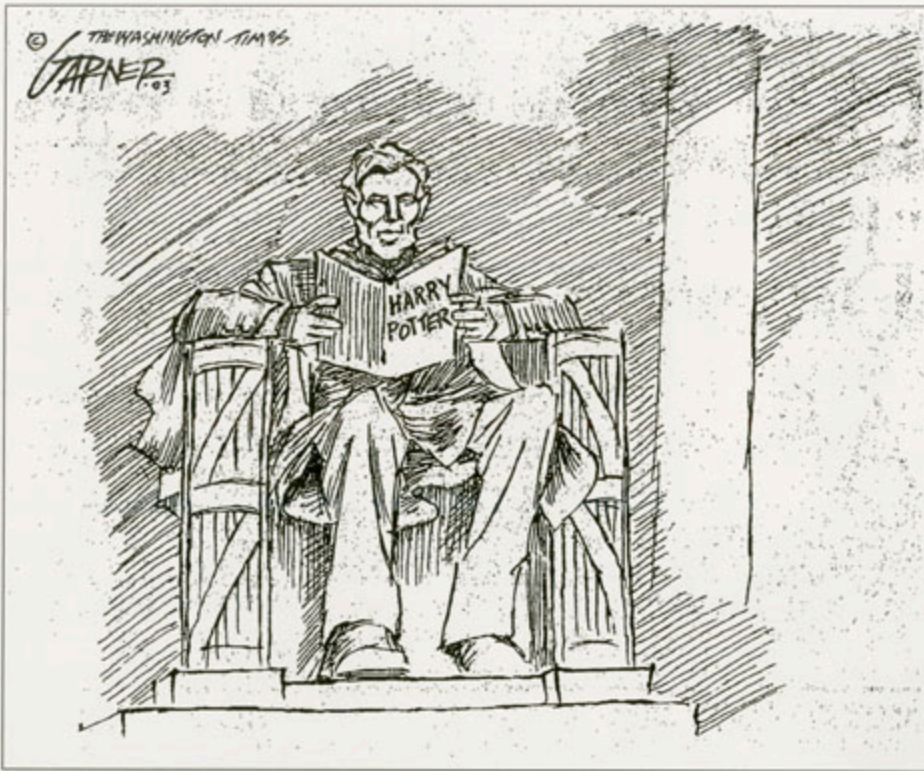
Leaders of the Pack: Polls and Case Studies of Great Supreme Court Justices includes a chapter on "Roger B. Taney: A Jacksonian Chief Justice who favored 'Dixie' on the Bench" by **William D. Pederson** and **me** (**Peter Lang Publishing**).

David Donald's *We Are Lincoln Men: Abraham Lincoln and His Friends* was published in 2003 by **Simon & Schuster**.

Periodicals

The "Special Edition 2003" of *Lincoln Lore* the *Bulletin* of **The Lincoln Museum** contained my "Lincolniana in 2002."

The Winter 2003 *Journal of the Abraham Lincoln Association* contained "Lincoln at the Millennium" by **Barry Schwartz**, "Lincoln the Dwarf: Lyon Gardner Tyler's War on the Mythical Lincoln" by **Dan Monroe** and "An Illinois Iconoclast: Edgar Lee Masters and the Anti-Lincoln Tradition" by **Matthew D. Norman**. The Summer issue included "Who Stole the Gettysburg Address?" by **Martin P. Johnson**; "Dr. Charles Leib: Lincoln's Mole" by **Rodney O. Davis**; "Lincoln Essay Contests, Lincoln



Bill Garner: The Washington Times; Reprinted with permission.

Medals, and the Commercialization of Lincoln" by **John Hoffmann**; and "The Lincoln Landscape, Interpreting the Lincoln Memorial Landscape at Hodgenville, Kentucky: The Howell Family Heritage" by **Keith A. Sculle**.

Dick Manning, President of the **Washington State Bar Association**, wrote "Unflinching Resolve" for the January *Washington State Bar News*, discussing Abraham Lincoln as the lawyer in the Almanac Trial, in which Lincoln penned the following note to himself, "Skin the Defendant. Close."

Paul Berman discussed "What Lincoln Knew About The War" for the March 3 *New Republic*.

John M. Taylor discussed Assistant Secretary Charles A. Dana in "Stanton Sent Ex-Journalist to 'spy' on Grant" in the November 23, 2002 *Washington Times*.

Margaret M. Storey wrote "Civil War Unionist and the Political Culture of Loyalty in Alabama, 1860-1861" for the February *Journal of Southern History*.

Allen C. Guelzo's "Defending Emancipation: Abraham Lincoln and the Conkling Letter, 1863," appeared in the December 2002 *Civil War History*.

The Jacksonville, IL *Journal-Courier* on February 10 featured **Greg Olson's** article on Lincoln's friend William G. Greene, who was a student at **Illinois**

College in the 1830s. ("Lincoln Link: Illinois College may have indirectly helped shape the 16th president when he lived in a Sangamon County Village.")

"Emancipation Act Transforms Conflict, Nation: Abraham Lincoln's Legacy Includes Homestead Law and Colleges, as Well" by **Edward Steers, Jr.** was published in the February 8 *Washington Times*.

"Abe Lincoln and the Pacific Northwest" by State of Washington **Chief Justice Gerry L. Alexander** appeared in the Winter issue of *Columbia: The Magazine of Northwest History*.

"Love and Justice: Marital Disillusion in Antebellum, Illinois, from the Casebook of A. Lincoln, Divorce Lawyer" by **Stacy Pratt McDermott** was published in the January-February *Illinois Heritage*.

Barbara Hughett's "An Autograph from Varina Jefferson Davis, 'First Lady of the South'" was in the Spring issue of *Lincoln Newsletter: A Publication of The Lincoln College Museum*.

Dinesh D'Souza wrote "The Real Abraham Lincoln" for the February *American Legion Magazine*.

Ron Keller is the author of "From Surveyor to President: A. Lincoln in Logan County": Local Group Produces New Tourism Video" for the Winter 2002 *Lincoln Newsletter*. **Barbara Hughett** discussed "A Letter From Lincoln Biographer Ida M.

Tarbell" from the archives at the **Lincoln College Museum** in the same issue.

David Rapaport discussed "The Distribution of Schools Named After Abraham Lincoln" in the Autumn *For the People: A Newsletter of the Abraham Lincoln Association*. The Winter issue contained **Ronald S. Vasile's** "Another Look at Abraham Lincoln as a Lobbyist."

Newsletter 3 of the *Lincoln Highway News* for Winter 2002 discussed the Lincoln Highway study update.

The Winter 2002 *News From Historic Hildene* described the history of **Robert Todd Lincoln's Hildene's** first 24 years in anticipation of its 25th anniversary.

"Clara Barton: Political Angel of the Battlefield" by **Richard A. Hanks** is in the Winter 2002 *Lincoln Memorial Association Newsletter*.

Michael E. Hill described *April 1865, History Channel's* two hour account of the closing days of the Civil War in "The Month that Shaped a Nation" for the April 13-19 *Washington Post TV Week*.

The May *Lincoln Forum Bulletin* included a description of the **8th Annual Lincoln Forum** to be held November 16-18 in Gettysburg, **Donald Pieper's** "Boritt Urges New Emphasis on U.S. History," and **Harold Holzer's** "Lincoln 'Returns' to Richmond in First Public Monument in the Old Confederacy."

The June 1 *Washington Post Magazine* included "The Fiend in Gray" by **Jane Singer**. The author describes confederate attempts at terrorism.

Matthew Baraket wrote "Alexandria Spotlights Dim Civil War Memories" for the June 1 *Washington Times*.

Warren Getler's "Civil War Rules for the Terror War" appeared in the May 25 *Washington Post*. The author describes Lincoln and civil liberties and argues that President Bush's actions to date are far more dangerous than Lincoln's. Yet historian James G. Randall insisted that "No president has carried the power of presidential edict and executive order (independently of Congress) so far as he [Lincoln] ... It would not be easy to state what Lincoln conceived to be the limit of his powers."

"North, South Find Support Among Jews" by **Peter Brownfeld** appeared in the March 8 *Washington Times*.

Doug Pokorski's "Standing Against War: Abe Lincoln Opposed Military Action in 1846 War Between U.S. and Mexico" appeared in the April 4 *Heartland Magazine*.

Tom Walter discussed the documentary *April 1865* which reveals how statesmen helped America avoid more strife in "Saviors of 'April 1865'" in the April 14 *Washington Times*.

Ira Bernstein discussed "The New York City Draft Riots" and **Brooks D. Simpson** described "The Emergence of U.S. Grant" in the August *Civil War Times*.

The *Capital City Visitor 2003* for Springfield, IL, published by *Illinois Times* contained many references to Abraham Lincoln.

"Lincoln and Lorimer: How Illinois Politics Helped to Change the Way of Choosing Senators" by **David W. Scott** appeared in the May-June *Illinois Heritage*. Former Governor and Lincoln student **Jim Edgar** was interviewed in the same issue and **John A. Lupton** described how a proposed Lincoln County was to be sandwiched between Champaign and Vermilion Counties but was never created in "The County that Never Was."

"The Lincoln Trail" by **Christopher Wills** was in the November 2002 *Illinois Magazine*.

Edward Steers, Jr. discussed the Baltimore plot to assassinate the President-elect in "Mac Lincoln's Highland Fling" for the April *North and South*.

"Abraham Lincoln's First Amendment" by **Geoffrey R. Stone** appeared in the April *New York University Law Review*.

"Mr. Lincoln's Washington" by **Christopher Buckley** appeared in the April *Smithsonian*.

Geoffrey Perret's "What Anaconda Plan?" and **Gerald J. Prokopowicz's** "Word of Honor" were in the May *North and South*. Perret believes that there is no evidence that Winfield Scott offered the Lincoln administration a three-year "Anaconda" plan to defeat the rebellion and Prokopowicz discussed how the Civil War parole system rested upon mutually accepted notions of honor but by mid-1863 the system was not working.

The Fall 2002 *Lincoln Herald* included "Lincoln's Connections with Middletown and its Stagecoach Inn" by **Wayne C. Temple**; "Lincoln as a Transformational Leader" by **Gordon Leidner**. Publication/Playback Review edited by **Steven K. Rogstad**; and my *Lincolniana*. The Winter *Herald* included "The Revenge of Old Glory: History vs. Myth in the Lincoln Assassination" by **Michael W. Kauffman**; "On the Ann

Rutledge Merry-Go-round" by **Michael Burkheimer**; "Publication/Playback Review" edited by **Steven K. Rogstad**; and my *Lincolniana*. The Spring *Lincoln Herald* contained "John Wilkes Booth: The Money Trail" by **James O. Hall** with **Michael Maione**, "Michael Maione 'On Duty at Ford's Theatre'" by **Joseph E. Garrera**, "The Man Who Was Wasn't Vice President" by **James E. T. Lange** and **Katherine DeWitt, Jr., Steven K. Rogstad's** Publication/Playback Review and my *Lincolniana*.

"Southern History in Periodicals, 2002: A Selected Bibliography" was in the May *Journal of Southern History*.

Gerry J. Gilmore wrote about Abraham Lincoln instituting the modern law of war when he asked **Professor Frances Lieber** of **Columbia University**, through his **Chief-of-Staff Henry W. Halleck**, to codify the law of war. The forerunner of the 1949 Geneva Conventions, The Lieber Code was published as U.S. Army General Orders No. 100 in 1863. Author Gilmore wrote this for the **American Forces Press Service** on April 7.

The June-July *American Heritage* contained **Cynthia Owen Philip's** "Lincoln's Doctor's Dog." The author discovered the story of a dog that supplied comfort to President Lincoln.

The Annual Association of Lincoln Presenters Convention was profiled by **Andrew Ferguson** in "History Repeats Itself" for the fall *Forbes* fyi.

Volume 28, No. 2 of the *Journal of Supreme Court History* in **Allen Sharp's** "Presidents as Supreme Court Advocates: Before and After the White House" included Abraham Lincoln.

State Journal Register columnist **Doug Pokorski** discussed the inaccuracies of *Lincoln's Unknown Private Life: An Oral History By His Black Housekeeper Mariah Vance 1850-1860* in "Stretching the Truth: Book Written on Lincoln's Private Life Riddled with Inaccuracies" for the June 20 *Heartland Magazine*.

The July 3 *Washington Post* contained **Bob Levey's** "A Look Inside Mr. Lincoln's Camp David" in which he described **Anderson Cottage** where Lincoln traveled the three and a half miles from the White House to relax.

Matthew Pinsker's "The Lincoln's Summer Place" was in the September *Preservation: The Magazine of the National*

Trust for Historic Preservation.

People

Jack D. Nutt has retired as **President of Lincoln College** after 21 years. His successor is **Ronald L. Schilling** who becomes the 18th President.

Stacy Pratt McDermott has been appointed Assistant Editor of *The Papers of Abraham Lincoln*.

Former U.S. Senator Paul Simon and I were profiled in the Fall 2002 **Lincoln Group of New York's** *The Wide Awake*. Member **Bob Langford** was also profiled.

Richard A. Lusardi, former Superintendent of **Wilson's Creek National Battlefield**, has been named Superintendent of the **Lincoln Home National Historic Site**, Springfield, IL succeeding **Norm Helmers** who retired after 13 years.

Steven L. Carson has retired after 15 years as Editor of *The Manuscript Society News*. **Evelyn S. Cooper** has been named his successor.

Dennis K. Bowman has joined *The Papers of Abraham Lincoln* as an **Assistant Editor** and **Jim Weeks** and **Scott Stabler** have been appointed the First Fellows of *The Papers of Abraham Lincoln* research and editing.

Gordon Leidner is now **President of the Lincoln Group of the District of Columbia** succeeding **Myles Taylor**.

Harold Holzer delivered the **Commencement Address** at the **University of Illinois in Springfield** on May 10. **Ginny Skalski** wrote about it in the May 11 *Illinois State Journal-Register*.

Nancy Lathrop is **President of The Surratt Society** succeeding **Susan Proctor**.

Philip Shaw Paludan delivered the **Commencement Address** at **Lincoln College's** 136th graduation on May 10.

Richard Sloan, former **President of The Lincoln Group of New York**, appeared in the August 25 episode of the new **PBS TV Series, History's Detectives**, on which he described the home in Greenwich Village where Sam Chester, an actor friend of John Wilkes Booth, once lived.

William D. Pederson, **Director of the International Lincoln Center** at **LSU** in Shreveport, was voted by **LSUS** students as one of the top 20 professors of the year.

Lincoln in Popular Culture

An editorial in the February 17 *New York Times*, "Lincoln Returns to the Old South" praised the statue of Abraham Lincoln and Tad that was unveiled on April 5 in Richmond, VA:

On this President's Day we can't help but imagine that open bench space is an ideal photo opportunity waiting for all of us, Lincoln's current successor included and Senator Lott, too, in his promise round of expiation. Lincoln departed Richmond just days before his assassination. As he left, a Union general asked for advice on handling the proud city's conquered people. Lincoln replied that he did not wish to give any such orders. 'If I were in your place, I'd let 'em easy,' Lincoln is recorded as saying. 'Let 'em up easy.'

Virginia Arbery in her "The Original George W. set the Highest Standard" in the February 22 *Dallas Morning News*, pointed out that on the 110th birthday of George Washington, Abraham Lincoln delivered a speech to the "Washingtonians" ending with: "Washington is the mightiest name on earth ... On that name an eulogy is expected. It cannot be. To add brightness to the sun, or glory to the name of Washington, is impossible. Let none attempt it. In solemn awe pronounce the name, and in its naked deathless splendor, leave it shining on." To Arbery, Lincoln often referred to Washington as the standard for personal and political excellence. George Washington's example gave him courage when he guided us through the greatest crisis of our national history. By giving prominence to Washington's name, she argues, "We might begin to fathom what Lincoln meant. As by remembering his character, we might have a deeper source of guidance in the days and years to come."

Stephen Wilbers's "Lincoln Worth Studying," for the *Ft. Worth Star Telegram* on November 4, 2002, discussed Abraham Lincoln and Lou Gehrig. Wilbers's thoughts turned to the New York Yankee first baseman's farewell speech in 1939. Wilbers connects it to Lincoln's Gettysburg Address as one of the great speeches in American history. Both men relied on repetition for effect and Wilbers compares their closing. Abraham Lincoln: "It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us

— that ... we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain; that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom; and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth." Lou Gehrig: "Sure I'm lucky ... when everybody down to the grounds keepers ... remember(s) you with trophies — that's something. When you have a wonderful mother-in-law who takes sides with you and squabbles with her own daughter that's something ... when you have a wife who has been a tower of strength and shown more courage than you dreamed existed — that's the finest I know." Wilbers believes that the success of "that" clauses are presented in climatic order and seem too similar for mere coincidence. "And, [Gehrig] like his predecessor, ... addressed his audience in a distinctly American style — plain talk combined with carefully crafted structure."

Paul Greenberg's annual Lincoln editorial for the February 12 *Washington Times*, "A Man for this Season, too," reminded readers that Lincoln was not an impressive figure, as he was awkward, ungainly and even grotesque. Unlike the more "resplendent politician" who attracted a larger audience, he would not be suited today to fill the job description for U.S. Senator or TV anchorman. As Greenberg puts it: "Stephen A. Douglas was the resplendent one. But it would be the plain Illinois lawyer that would go down in history as the one who saved the Union. To Greenberg, Stephen A. Douglas would have fit right in at the United Nations if only he had spoken French. He, too, could be quite superior, knowing, dismissive of facts. He, too, could shrug off the mounting evidence, and explain away the unexplainable. All he would require was one more moveable deadline, one more resolution without resolve, one more decision not to decide ... and the crisis would be over. If not for long." But, as Greenberg opines, Lincoln knew better: "The dogmas of the quiet past are inadequate to the stormy present. The occasion is piled high with difficulty, and we must rise with the occasion. As our case is new, so we must think and act anew. We must disenthral ourselves and then we shall save our country."

My op-ed piece, "Victory — The Abraham Lincoln Way" appeared in the February 12 *Providence Journal*. I pointed out that today our nation is engaged in another conflict that is as difficult as it is different from the Civil War. While some urge us to

proclaim the war over with a single victory in Afghanistan, it is important that we continue the war against terrorists by going after them rather than being reactive. "Abraham Lincoln's birthday is a good day to think about our country's perseverance. In Abraham Lincoln's words, the United States was 'The last best hope of earth' and it still is for the survival of democracy in the world."

Doris Kearns Goodwin wrote "The Man in our Memory" for the February 16 *New York Times*. In her op-ed piece she describes Lincoln's quest to find greatness on earth. To her, the inscription over his statue in The Lincoln Memorial — "In this Temple, as in the hearts of the people for whom he saved the Union, the memory of Abraham Lincoln is enshrined forever" — represents his life-long dream that he thought would never be realized — the desire to achieve lasting remembrance from his fellow citizens. "It was Lincoln's ambition to accomplish something that would leave the world 'a little better for my having lived in it' that carried him forward." Goodwin points out that what Lincoln yearned for was not power or popularity, it was for something more profound — "The yearning to establish an admirable reputation on earth."

Allen C. Guelzo's "Seven-Score Years Ago ..." appeared in the January 1 *Washington Post*. Published on the 140th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation, it called the proclamation the "single most revolutionary document in our history after the Declaration of Independence." He believes that President Lincoln wrote the proclamation in flat, precise legal jargon because he expected that there would be a challenge in Federal courts and that Chief Justice Roger Taney of the Supreme Court of the United States would set the cause of black freedom back. Guelzo opines that Lincoln preempted post-war litigation against emancipation "by pushing through Congress a 13th Amendment to the Constitution abolishing slavery throughout the nation." The Emancipation Proclamation took political courage.

The February 12 *Morgan Messenger* contained **Ed Steers's** op-ed "Time for 'getting right with Lincoln.'" The author believes that not everyone wishes to get right with Lincoln and he points to two groups — the neo-Confederates who still believe Lincoln tried to destroy the South and black academicians who continue to describe Lincoln as a racist who wished to perpetuate slavery. "In attack-

ing Lincoln, these critics selectively quote from his writings and speeches to support their positions. While they often quote him accurately, they do so out of context, carefully twisting his words into phrases and short clips that suit their false claims." Lincoln had a way of describing such machinations when he referred to his opponent Stephen A. Douglas as one who could "turn a chestnut horse into a horse chestnut." Lincoln's birthday is a good time, according to Steers, for all Americans to really "Get right with Lincoln" and appreciate what he did for our country.

Michael F. Bishop, Executive Director of the U.S. Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission wrote "Divided We Fall: Would we Still be a 'United' States without Lincoln's Legacy?" for the MSNBC Web site. Bishop points out that had Lincoln failed in his task as world leader, the United States would have been forever split asunder, and the nascent Confederate republic would have likely disintegrated under the weight of its own internal contradictions. www.msnbc.com/news/869084.asp February 18.

In his March 2 column "On Language" in the Sunday *New York Times*, **William Safire** asks, "What was the genesis of Abraham Lincoln's use of the phrase 'Fourscore and seven years ago'?" Safire points out that in the King James Version of the Bible, published in England in 1611, *fourscore* appears 35 times. Lincoln read and knew much of the King James Version of the Bible. He also read and knew Shakespeare, especially his favorite play, *Macbeth*, in which an old man speaks of murder: "Threescore and ten I can remember well." Similarly, in the Gettysburg Address, according to Safire's correspondent, **Donald Morano** of Chicago, "President Lincoln was to speak about what he must have regarded as one of the most dreadful battles in the history of our nation" and wanted to show the length of time that had elapsed since the Declaration of Independence.

In the February 18 *Investor's Business Daily*, **Michael Mink** wrote "Abe Lincoln: Freedom's Torch Bearer," in which he argues that lawyer Lincoln came to the conclusion that the Federal government was powerless to end slavery where it already existed. To Mink, the 16th president's tough stance helped to preserve the nation. "His writings have continued to resonate in the almost 138 years since his assassination."

The January 3-5 *USA WEEKEND* asks whether the following questions from **Kenneth C. Davis's** *Don't Know Much About History* are true or false:

1. *The Emancipation Proclamation of 1863 didn't really free any slaves;*
2. *Lincoln had tried to abolish slavery as soon as he was inaugurated in 1861;*
3. *Slavery did not end until the 15th Amendment was ratified;*
4. *The Proclamation also officially opened the military ranks to blacks.*

To Davis, the answer to number 1 is true, as the Proclamation did not actually free a single slave, since it applied only to areas under Confederate control and excluded slaves in the border states. (Actually, it eventually freed thousands of slaves). No. 2 is false. Although Lincoln agreed slavery was immoral, he believed it was still guaranteed by the Constitution. No. 3 is false; it was the 13th Amendment that ended slavery in December 1865. No. 4 is true; the Proclamation provided for the enlistment of African Americans in the Union army and navy.

John Lockwood indicates in his op-ed piece "We had Terrorists even in the Time of Lincoln," appearing in the February 16 *Washington Post*, that Southern agents had devised a plan to use arson to spread panic throughout Northern cities. "Like the present [Bush] administration, the Lincoln administration knew that these terrorists were planning attacks but didn't have specifics." While the *New York Times* printed a warning from Secretary of State William H. Seward, the Washington papers did not. Ironically, the expected attacks occurred in New York, not elsewhere, when on November 25, 1864, Southern arsonists tried to burn down several hotels as well as Barnum's Museum. Damage was minor and the fires petered out. Security in Washington was tightened in ways similar to today. Soldiers patrolled Washington streets and more guards were added at government offices. The author asks, "With such an example of attempted terrorism, it seems incredible that President Lincoln settled for only one police guard on the night of April 14, 1865, at Ford's Theatre — a guard who left his post."

On February 17 *The Washington Post* published **Gertrude Himmelfarb's** "Proclaiming our Principles" in which she indicated that the word "patriotism" has not

been in good repute in recent years. "If we have forgotten to teach and preach the virtues of patriotism, as Lincoln would have had us do, it is because we have lost that "reverence for the laws" which he set forth in his speech "The Perpetuation of our Political Institutions" that he delivered in 1838 to the Young Men's Lyceum of Springfield, IL. The author points out that a recent survey conducted by the National Assessment of Educational Progress finds that more than four-fifths of the students tested in the fourth, eighth, and 12th grades are below the proficiency level in the knowledge of American history. Other studies indicate that 65 percent of American high school seniors do not know the primary subject of the Bill of Rights and almost half the people between 15 and 25 believe that voting is unimportant. "At this time, Himmelfarb says, more than ever, when our institutions and traditions are threatened by terrorists and terror-inspired regimes, we have all the more need to recall the message of Lincoln. Let us teach, and preach, and proclaim, and enforce those principles of liberty and law that are our honorable heritage."

Paul L. Brookman of Annapolis, MD writes in the February 8 *Washington Post* that on a lamppost at 13th and 8th Streets NW in front of the **New York Avenue Presbyterian Church** in Washington, DC, John Wilkes Booth's picture welcomes visitors to "walk in the footsteps of history," placed there by the **D.C. Heritage Tourism Coalition**. Lincoln regularly attended services at the **New York Avenue Presbyterian Church**. In 1862, the church's pastor, Phineas Gurley, permitted the church to be used as a Union hospital. Brookman points out that "Booth's contribution to humanity is as an assassin who, after being hunted down and shot, looked at his hands and said, "Useless, useless." To Brookman, Booth's banner should be removed to honor the man who asked us to walk in the footsteps of "The better angels of our nature."

The service of the aircraft carrier **U.S.S. Abraham Lincoln** in the Persian Gulf was bound to generate stories about its namesake, President Lincoln. **M. L. Lyke's** "Mission's end in sight at last" in the May 3 *Seattle Post Intelligencer* tells of the return of the U.S.S. Abraham Lincoln to San Diego and that **Ryan Runge**, a 25-year-old Naval Academy graduate had no trouble recognizing his father who stood on 18 inch stilts por-

traying Abraham Lincoln.

Tom Shales in the May 3 *Washington Post*, reported "Aboard the Lincoln, A White House Spectacular" about how President George W. Bush evoked memories of Ronald Reagan's great speeches in great settings by his skillfully calculated 1-2 parlay of landing aboard the *U.S.S. Abraham Lincoln* and later making a speech on board. This "allowed him to dominate television for an entire day." The spectacle began in the afternoon when cable's news networks carried, live, Bush's landing on the deck of the *Abraham Lincoln* in a Navy jet. On deck, 3,000 men and women were assembled and cheered and cheered when he alighted. They continued the cheering three hours later when the president began his victory speech.

Linda Wheeler in "Lincoln, Lee, Douglass: Linked by Baseball," for the May 15 *Washington Post*, reports that a new book, *Baseball in Blue and Grey* by **George B. Kirsch** loosely ties the three to the game. Lincoln was portrayed in an 1860 *Currier and Ives* political cartoon as the favorite in the four-way race for president. The cartoon was titled "The National Game. Three 'outs' and one 'run' Abraham Winning the Ball." Lee's name was used to promote baseball in the South after the war when a Lynchburg, VA, publisher urged baseball clubs to organize, claiming that the General had approved of baseball. Douglass attended a game at the Ellipse in 1867 when his son, Charles, played third base for a team known as the Alerts.

Douglas E. Spicer, Chairman of the Southern Caucus wrote "The Lincoln and Bush Myths: One Down & One Still to Go" on April 17. Spicer contends that Lincoln's rise to American martyr is "a direct affront to all our legitimate heroes from our founding...to the soldiers fighting...in Iraq." He states that America was founded as an opponent to empire, "a policy which Lincoln then turned on its head less than 100 years later by conquering the south." To Spicer, Bush is promoting a world police for the American military with the right of pre-emptive attacks.

On the other hand, **Sean Moran**, in "Where Have All the Heroes Gone?" in the Winter 2002 *Claremont Political Journal*, bemoans the absence of modern political heroes, leaving us to draw inspiration from famous musicians, athletes and movie stars. To him, Bill Clinton and Tony Blair are not the contemporary versions of Abraham Lincoln or Winston Churchill, and he doubts that the leadership of George W. Bush, Dick

Cheney, and Alan Greenspan can be compared to that of James Madison, Thomas Jefferson, and Alexander Hamilton. Moran argues that the essence of leadership is to "use the bully pulpit to educate and persuade, even when public opinion is not in favor of a particular idea." When Adolf Hitler came to power in Germany, Churchill did not wait for Britain's approval before denouncing the Nazis. Moran believes that Bill Clinton represents today's "brand of un-heroic politicians." Clinton's consensus-driven, poll-watching form of governing was successful in his time and remains widely popular with many current politicians. Yet, he contends, his only lasting legacy was a popular split evenly between Republicans and Democrats.

Ken Ringle's essay, "George Bush and the Words of War" in the March 9 *Washington Post*, is an oration primer. The author points out how Abraham Lincoln used language that was both stately and familiar to his audience. When he said, "'Four score and seven years ago,' he was echoing the 'three score and 10' that the Old Testament portrays as man's allotted span of life." To Ringle, President Bush does not seem to grasp how much might be accomplished by carrying himself as a man of stature. Ringle believes that Bush did rise to the challenge of a leader when he captured the needs and mood of his country with his speech from Ground Zero of the World Trade Center and his speech to Congress nine days later. Bush, he says, should make his more important speeches less conversational with injections of "tight but elegant" language to inspire the American people.

Garry Wills wrote "God and War in the White House" for the March 30 *New York Times Magazine*. Wills explains how, throughout American history, there has been one ally, God, that presidents have invoked above all others. "It was in the Civil War that 'The Battle Hymn of the Republic' was composed with its echoes of Isaiah 63:3 and Revelation 14:20: 'He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored.'" To Wills, "The Jeremiad was a sturdy plant, with a long life ahead of it. It is the form of Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address. The nation as a whole was complicit in the sin of slavery, so God is just exacting the penalty of that sin, proportioning blood spilt by soldiers' bayonets to that shared by slave masters' whips. A Solidarity in sin made the punishment communal, uniting the nation in the sufferings it had brought upon itself. Lincoln sealed the argument by quoting Psalm:19 'the judg-

ments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.'"

Janet Maslin, in her review of **Al Franken's** *Lies (And the Lying Liars Who Tell Them): A Fair and Balanced Look at the Right*, demonstrates the author's special fondness for statistics and the ways in which they can be readily distorted. A chart on military expenditures shows how Abraham Lincoln spent far more than Ronald Reagan, especially if the comparison is based solely on the cost of horses. Maslin points out that there is very little annotating in the book and no closing index. The book has a weakness for over simplifications. For example, on patriotism in the Civil War: "You know who were the worse traitors in the history of our country? The Confederates."

Manny Fernandez wrote about the 40th anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech in the July 25 *Washington Post* and reports on the new inscription, 24 inches wide by 10 inches tall,

I Have a Dream
Martin Luther King, Jr.
The March on Washington
For Jobs and Freedom
August 28, 1963

which has been placed on a wide granite landing 18 steps from the top of the marble chamber where Dr. King delivered his address.

Richard A. Kaye, in his "Outing Abe" for the June 25-July 1 *Village Voice*, attempts to demonstrate that Lincoln had a homosexual relationship with Joshua Speed when they roomed together above Speed's store in Springfield, IL. The author cites a forthcoming book by **C. A. Tripp** and another by **Larry Kramer** entitled *The American People*, which contains alleged unpublished writings by Speed — none of which any historian has ever seen.

The Washington Times published on May 25 a recently-released Gallup Poll, showing Abraham Lincoln still America's favorite President with fifteen percent of the vote. The others were all 20th and 21st century chief executives. Thirteen percent chose John F. Kennedy and eleven percent chose Bill Clinton, who is in a tie with George W. Bush. Franklin D. Roosevelt is at nine percent and George Washington at seven percent.

David Brooks' essay "A Nation of Grinders" in the June 29 Sunday *New York Times Magazine* describes the

"Organization Man." Brooks defines Abraham Lincoln as the "capitalist figure for our age." He discusses Lincoln, not as president but rather the "middle-aged corporate-lawyer who represented railroads and banks" who believed in social mobility. But even Lincoln as capitalist believed in, "an open field and a fair chance so that everyone can compete in the race of life." It represents an admirable ethic and "sensible" too. "But, of course," the author states, "in our own lives few of us are entirely sensible. And neither was Lincoln. While he was prodding upward, he still harbored dreams of greatness, and suddenly in the late 1850s fate plucked him up and sent him suddenly to the pinnacle. In the meantime, he was building a spiritual and moral resource that enabled him to face the greatest crisis any American has ever faced." The author believes that, "Success is surprisingly loosely correlated with happiness. The most delicious moments in life are often not the ones experienced in the big houses or at the vacation resorts. They are experienced in the modern-day equivalent of Lincoln's boyhood boat on the Ohio River with the two silver-half dollars floating towards you, opening up visions of a future life that is limitless and fair."

On June 28, **Arthur Schlesinger, Jr.** wrote "The Imperial Presidency Redux" for the *Washington Post*. He believes that President Bush's doctrine of preventive-war is destructive because it gives excessive power to the president. To this author, Abraham Lincoln foresaw the constitutional problems of such a preventive-war policy. On February 15, 1848, he denounced the proposition, "that if it shall become necessary to repel invasion, the president may, without violation of the Constitution, cross the line and invade the territory of another country; and that whether such necessity exists in a given case, the president is to be the sole judge." Lincoln continued, "Allow the president to invade a neighboring nation whenever he shall deem it necessary to repel an invasion ... and you allow him to make war at pleasure ... If to-day, he should choose to say he thinks it necessary to invade Canada, to prevent the British from invading us, how could you stop him?" To Lincoln "... no one man should hold the power of bringing this oppression upon us."

Necrology

The Lincoln field has been stunned by the passing of several irreplaceable friends.

On February 21, **Michael R. Maione**, Site Historian at **Ford's Theatre**, died. A native of New York City, he held a Bachelor's degree in American History. He worked as a staff photographer for the *Putnam County Courier* and also served as News Director for WPUT-AM and WRVH-FM in Patterson, NY. Mike served as Historian at **Ford's Theatre National Historic Site** from 1990 until his death and was responsible for creating, organizing and presenting annual symposia at Ford's. A memorial service was held at Ford's Theatre on March 6 and speakers included: **Claudia Anderson, Acting Site Manager at Ford's Theatre; Arnold Goldstein, Superintendent of the National Capital Park Central; Dwight Pitcaithley, Chief Historian, National Park Service; Gary Scott, Regional Historian, National Park Service; Ricca Sarson, Park Ranger, Ford's Theatre; Harold Holzer, Co-chair, Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission; Paul Pascal, Past President, Lincoln Group of DC; Laurie Verge, Director, Surratt House Museum; and me as Chair of The Lincoln Forum.** Remembrances continued in the March-April and May-June issues of *The Lincolnian*. **Linda Wheeler**, in the March 20 *Washington Post*, wrote a glowing commentary about Mike, noting that his death came only a week before that of **Ford's Theatre Society Director, Frankie Hewitt**, who helped the National Park Service re-introduce live theater at the historic site in the 1960s. Wheeler noted that in 2002, when a renovation of Ford's was taking place, Mike was concerned that he would be forced out of his office and away from his precious library. But somehow he managed to stay in his cubicle during all of the construction.

George Craig, the oldest and best-loved member of the **Civil War Round Table of New York** and past president of **The Lincoln Group of New York** passed away on February 9. He was known for his long time study of Abraham Lincoln and General George H. Thomas. He was the first and only **Chairman of the Civil War Round Table of New York's Benjamin Barondess Lincoln Award Committee** which has, for 40 years, offered a prize for the best Lincoln book of the year. He was also

the driving force in the refurbishment of Thomas's gravesite in Troy, NY. He, himself, was the recipient of the **Barondess/Lincoln Award** in 2001.

Reverend Lee Moorhead died on February 28. During the turbulent 1960s and early 1970s, he served as **Pastor of the First United Methodist Church of Carbondale, IL**, and was well-known for his annual Lincoln tours and conferences to Lincoln sites throughout Illinois.

World War II cartoonist **Bill Mauldin** died on January 22. He was 81. Mauldin was best known for creating the cartoon characters **Willie & Joe**, representing the G.I.s who served during World War II. One of his later and best-known cartoons was a November 1963 work showing Lincoln's reaction to President John F. Kennedy's assassination. Lincoln of the **Lincoln Memorial** is shown covering his face grieving for the loss of the President.

Oscar V. Johnson, Jr. died on September 3, 2003. More than any other person, he was responsible for the saving and restoration of **Robert Todd Lincoln's Hildene** in Manchester, VT, and served as its prior chairman.

Sister M. Samuella Mudd, a granddaughter of Dr. Samuel A. Mudd who treated presidential assassin John Wilkes Booth, died on March 5. She grew up in what is now the Doctor Samuel A. Mudd House.

William E. Gienapp, history professor and Civil War expert, died from complications of Cancer on October 29th. He was 59.

Works in Progress

Richard Striner has finished his manuscript *Father Abraham: Lincoln the Moral Strategist*.

James A. Percoco is at work on *My Summer with Lincoln* in which the author presents a chronicle of his travels to uncover Lincoln and his legacy as revealed in public monuments nationwide.

Attorney **R. Blain Andrus** is writing a book on the history of lawyers — from Mesopotamia to modern-day societies. There is a section on Abraham Lincoln.

Richard Sokup is writing a script about David Davis and Abraham Lincoln to be presented in Bloomington, IL, where Davis lived.

Cyrus M. Copeland has authored a book containing about 80 tributes to cultural heroes spanning the arts, science, sports,

politics and business. He is including Bishop Simpson's eulogy of Abraham Lincoln.

John C. Watkins, Jr., Professor and Founding Chair of the **Department of Criminal Justice** at the **University of Alabama** and **John Paul Webber** have authored *War Crimes and War Crime Trials: From Leipzig to the ICC and Beyond — Cases, Materials, and Comments*.

Artist **Thomas J. Trimborn**, who holds a Ph.D. in music, has authored and illustrated *Picturing Lincoln*.

James L. Swanson is the author of *Manhunt: The 12 Day Chase for Lincoln's Killers* which will be published by **William Morrow** in 2004. The book will combine a narrative of the hunt with some meditations on its role in American culture.

Harold Holzer has just completed a book about the Lincoln assassination for young readers. *The President Has Been Shot! The Assassination of Abraham Lincoln* will be published in February 2004.

Harold Holzer's *Lincoln at Cooper Union: The Speech that Made Abraham Lincoln President* will be published by **Simon & Schuster** in May 2004.

John Marszaleck's biography of Henry Wager Halleck, *Lincoln's Hope for Victory: A Life of Commanding General Henry W. Halleck*, will be published by **Harvard University Press** in Spring 2004.

Warren Getler and **Bob Brewer** have authored a book about the Knights of the Golden Circle, *Shadow of the Sentinel*, to be published in 2003 by **Simon and Schuster**.

Lincoln's War by **Geoffrey Perret** will be published by **Random House** in March 2004.

The Emancipation Proclamation by **Allen C. Guelzo** will be published by **Simon & Schuster** in January 2004.

Author's Note

I want to thank **Dennis E. Stark, Robert F. Henderson, Jr., Harold Holzer, Joseph E. Garrera, Jim and Alyce Mooradian, Edward Steers, Jr., William D. Pederson, John Y. Simon, Tom Lapsley, Phil Kendall** and **Wayne C. Temple** for providing information for this column. **Harold Holzer, William D. Pederson**, and **Sara Gabbard** rendered editorial assistance. I am



grateful to them. I welcome news concerning Abraham Lincoln. Please contact me at 300 Switch Road, Hope Valley, RI 02823; fax (401) 539-7272; e-mail: alincoln@courts.state.ri.us.

About the Author

Frank J. Williams is Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Rhode Island and founding Chair of The Lincoln Forum. His annual *Lincolniana*, a survey of Lincoln books, exhibits, periodicals and ephemera, appears in the pages of *Lincoln Lore*. His latest book, *Judging Lincoln*, is available from Southern Illinois University Press.

At The Lincoln Museum

Nineteenth Annual Lincoln Colloquium

September 18, 2004

The Lincoln Museum, Fort Wayne, Indiana

Abraham Lincoln: Politics as the National Pastime, the Pre-Presidential Years

Scheduled speakers: Darrel Bigham; Joseph Fornieri; Harold Holzer; Kenneth Winkle; and Michael Bishop. Frank J. Williams will monitor a Question and Answer Session.

That evening Allen Guelzo will give the 25th Annual R. Gerald McMurtry Lecture.

In Celebration

1929 – 2004

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