

FALL 2007

LINCOLNIANA

BY

FRANK J. WILLIAMS

The Spoken Word and Group Activities

On February 11, **The Lincoln Memorial Shrine**, Redlands, CA, hosted a special Lincoln exhibit in honor of the Shrine's 75th anniversary.

On May 18, **Steven L. Carson** spoke at the conference, *Saving President Lincoln*, at the **University of Maryland Medical Center**, Baltimore. On May 19, Carson discussed "Madness, Murder, Mother Mary and Robert Todd Lincoln" at the annual **Chambersburg, PA** conference.

The Governor Duncan Association, Jacksonville, IL heard **Douglas Wilson** discuss his *Lincoln's Sword: The Presidency and the Power of Words* on June 7.

Gary Ecelbarger addressed the **Stephen A. Douglas Association** on June 9 and presented "The Roots of a Rivalry."

The **First Annual Mary Todd Society Luncheon** was held on July 16, 2007, at Tea Thyme, Springfield, IL, with **Valerie Gugala** who presented "The Woman Who Could Make a Bishop Forget His Prayers, Mary Lincoln." **Donna McCreary** presented "The Kentucky Todd's family Exodus to Springfield."

The **Lincoln Home National Historic Site** commemorated the 125th anniversary of the death of Mary Todd Lincoln, who died at the Springfield home of her sister, Elizabeth Todd Edwards, on July 16, 1882, with "MTL: The Last Years of Mary Todd Lincoln," presented by **Donna Daniels**.

The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, together with **Eastern Illinois University** and **Southern Illinois University**, conducted a symposium on August 9 that included the Abraham Lincoln lesson plans created using the **Presidential Library's Lincoln Collections**.

On August 25, 2007, **Harold Holzer** and **Sara Vaughn Gabbard** introduced at **The Lincoln Museum**, Fort Wayne, IN, the new collection they co-edited: *Lincoln and Freedom: Slavery, Emancipation, and the Thirteenth Amendment*.

On September 14, **Steven L. Carson** presented "First Children" at the annual Fall Banquet of the **Surratt Society**.

Doris Kearns Goodwin presented the 28th **R. Gerald McMurtry Lecture**, "The Public and Private Lives of Abraham Lincoln and His Team of Rivals," at **The Lincoln Museum**, Fort Wayne, IN, on September 21, 2007.

The **22nd Annual Lincoln Colloquium** of the **Indiana Historical Society** was held September 28 and 29, with presentations by **Richard Carwardine** and **Frank Williams**.

Jason Emerson spoke about his book, *The Madness of Mary Lincoln*, at the **Conference on Illinois History** on October 18 in Springfield, IL.

Gabor Boritt delivered “Lincoln at Gettysburg” at the **Civil War Round Table of Chicago** on November 9.

Hildene, The Lincoln family home, will sponsor its 6th symposium, *The Most Important Elections in American History* from May 28 – 30, 2008. Included will be papers about the elections of 1860 and 1864.

International Legacy

Pieces of contemporary art by Israeli sculptor **Hans Rawinsky**, Swedish sculptor **Andrew Bjurman**, and Spanish-born **Salvador Dali** were part of a special exhibit at the **Lincoln Shrine** in Redlands, CA, featured in the Winter/Spring 75th anniversary edition of the *Lincoln Memorial Association Newsletter*.

The **Republic of Congo** has issued a block of four stamps commemorating American presidents, including Lincoln. It also issued a special commemorative plate.

An Abraham Lincoln souvenir sheet has been issued by **Sao Tome et Principe** (\$12.95) and **Guinea Bissau** has issued a block of four stamp souvenir sheet of humanists showing images of **Nelson Mandela**, **Abraham Lincoln**, **Martin Luther King**, and **Mahatma Gandhi** (\$12.95). The stamps are available from **Marlen Stamps** (www.marlen.stamps.com).

Antigua and Barbuda issued a strip of four \$2 stamps honoring world humanitarians: the **Dalai Lama**, **Lincoln**, **Susan B. Anthony** and **Harriet Tubman**. For more information, contact the **Inter-Governmental Philatelic Corp.** (www.igpci.com).

Newspapers in **India** carried large ads by **Qatar Airways** showing an image of Lincoln reclining in one of their posh seats. See the June 20 issue of *The Hindu*, and the June 12 issue of *The Times of India*.

Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki of Iraq wrote a column, “Our Common Struggle,” for the June 13 issue of the *Wall Street Journal*, which mentions Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation.

Other references to Lincoln appeared in the June 17 issue of *Gujarat Samachar* by **Bhaven Kachhi**; and the March issue of *Prep Talk* (vol. 5, issue 9), a monthly news magazine published by the P.T. India family.

Kumarpol Desai, “Brick and Building,” appeared in the June 21 and 24 issues of *Gujarat Samachar*, dealing with Lincoln, Ann Rutledge, and Mary Todd.

The June 1 issue of the *Washington Post* showed visiting **Iraqi President Jalal Talabani** and **President Bush** in a color photo in the Oval Office with a bust of Lincoln in the background. A similar photo with **U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon** appeared in the July 18 *Washington Times*.

William A. Jones' article in the July issue of *Scott Stamp Monthly*, "Indonesia Revolutionary Issues," included a photo of the 1949 Indonesian stamp depicting Abraham Lincoln.

The August 12 issue of the *New York Times* carried an obituary of **Moe Fishman**, who fought for Lincoln Battalion during the Spanish Civil War.

Arts

Illinois Circuit Judge Ronald Spears of Taylorville, IL, conceived the idea for the DVD that explores Lincoln's twenty-five year career as a lawyer traveling the Eighth Judicial Circuit. *A. Lincoln, Attorney-At-Law* was underwritten by the **Christian County Courthouse Preservation Fund** with 5,000 DVDs produced for distribution to Illinois elementary and secondary school libraries, public libraries and college and university libraries. For more information, contact the **Illinois Judges Association** at (312) 431-1283 or the **Illinois State Bar Association** at (800) 252-8908.

The Last of Mrs. Lincoln was performed at the **Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum**, May 4-6 and May 11-13. The late Geraldine Page debuted the title role on Broadway decades ago.

Sculpting Lincoln appeared in the July/August *Illinois Heritage*. Part 5 featured the description of *Lincoln the Orator* by **Charles J. Mulligan** located in **Rosamond D. Grove Cemetery**, Rosamond, IL. Part 6 featured *Lincoln at the Crossroads of Decision* by **Avard Fairbanks** located at **New Salem State Park**, Petersburg. Both stories and photographs were by **Carl Volkmann**.

The May-June *Illinois Heritage* profiled the bronze statue of *Lincoln Entering Illinois* by **Nellie Verne Walker** located on the Lincoln Memorial bridge between Vincennes, IN, and the Illinois side of the Wabash River where Lincoln and his family migrated from Kentucky on March 5, 1830. Also featured in this issue was *Lincoln at Twenty-One* by **Fred M. Torrey**, a statue located on the **Millikin University** campus, Decatur, IL.

An effort to remove bronze statues of **Chief Justice Roger Brooke Taney** from the State House steps in Annapolis and the Frederick City Hall, Maryland, was discussed by **Rosalind S. Helderman** in "Dealing With Sins of the Forefathers: Md. Torn Over Statues of Justice in Dred Scott Case," appearing in the *Washington Post* on July 23, 2007.

In July, the **RMD Gallery**, Springfield, IL, featured the work of artist **Ted Keylon**, *The Inner Life: Portraits of Abraham Lincoln*.

Kellie Bramlet wrote “Abe on Film” for the August 2 *State-Journal Register*, describing the new video set to replace the old one at the **Lincoln Home National Historic Site**. **Fritz Klein** portrays Lincoln.

Sculptor John McClarey designed a new Lincoln sculpture to be given to recipients of the **Abraham Lincoln National Agricultural Award**. The approximately 20-inch tall *Field of Dreams* shows details of Lincoln’s six-foot, four-inch frame that emphasize the 16th president’s strength. The first award was presented on August 28, the first day of the Farm Progress Show in Decatur, IL.

A 20th-century portrait of Abraham Lincoln painted by former Illinoisan **Leroy Neiman** was purchased for \$100,000 for **The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library & Museum**.

Diane Heilenman reported in the Louisville *Courier-Journal* on the \$2 million memorial to Abraham Lincoln at **Louisville’s Waterfront Park**. Louisville sculptor **Ed Hamilton** will provide the monumental bronze of an “approachable” Lincoln – hatless and casually seated on a rock with an open book and an outreached hand.

The Associated Press reported that the **Indiana State Legislature** has appropriated \$1.6 million to revive the long-running stage performance of *Young Abe Lincoln* in **Lincoln State Park**, Lincoln City, IN.

Exhibits

The Grolier Club of New York held an exhibition of miniature books from May 16-July 28, 2007, *Miniature Books: 4000 Years of Tiny Treasures*. Notable selections included the preliminary *Emancipation Proclamation* of Abraham Lincoln, first printed in book form as a miniature, and several miniatures produced by the late **Achille St. Onge**, a member of the **Lincoln Group of Boston**. **William Grimes** wrote about the exhibition in “Catching Up on a Little Light Reading” for the May 20, 2007 *New York Times*, and **Harold Holzer** discussed it on NPR.

The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum hosted *Mary Todd Lincoln: First Lady of Controversy* through October 28.

Noting that Abraham Lincoln worked as a surveyor between 1833 and 1837, the **National Museum of Surveying** is being established in Springfield, IL.

The New-York Historical Society will host an exhibit *Lincoln in New York* in Fall 2009. **Harold Holzer** will be guest curator and historian, and **Richard Rabinowitz** exhibit organizer. Scholarly advisors include **Craig Symonds** and **Frank J. Williams**.

Collections

Don McCue wrote “New Lincoln Manuscript Offers Insight Into Baltimore Riot of 1861” for the Winter/Spring *Lincoln Memorial Association Newsletter*.

Peter J. Klarnet discussed the papers of **Frederick N. Towers**, attorney to Robert Todd Lincoln, now in the possession of **The Library of Congress** in “A Trunk Full of Treasures: The Discovery of Lincoln Family Secrets and Gossips” for the Spring *Rail Splitter*. In the same issue, **Lonnie W. Neubauer** discussed John Rogers’s sculpture, *The Council of War*.

The State Journal-Register reported on May 9 that **Ron Elliot** found a long-lost letter by Abraham Lincoln written in 1853 to his father-in-law’s Lexington law firm concerning a disputed \$472.54 debt. The three-page letter was in a vault at the **Kentucky Department of Library and Archives** in Frankfort for almost two decades.

On June 7, the **National Archives** announced the discovery of a message written in President Lincoln’s own hand to Major General Henry Halleck. After General Halleck received the note from the President, he quoted the information verbatim in a telegram to General George G. Meade on the same day. The telegram was first published in 1889 as part of the *Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*.

Lincoln’s message said:

Major Genl Halleck
We have certain information that Vicksburg surrendered to General Grant on the 4th of July. Now, if Gen. Meade can complete his work so gloriously prosecuted thus far, by the litteral(sic) or substantial destruction of Lee’s army, the rebellion will be over. Yours truly,
A. LINCOLN

James A. Percoco wrote about the **Abraham Lincoln Book Shop** in Chicago for the June 9 *Washington Times*.

Tim Landis reported in the June 15 *State Journal-Register* that **The Lincoln Home** in Springfield, IL, is getting a new coat of paint and other updates in preparation of the 2009 bicentennial celebration of Lincoln’s birth.

The Associated Press reported on June 18 that Lincoln collector **Louise Taper** was selling her 1,500-item Lincoln Collection to the **Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum**. Included is one of three stovepipe hats worn by Lincoln and one of his earliest-known writing, in which he scribbled sums and doggerel as a teenager. **Pete Sherman** in the June 18 *State Journal-Register* noted that the **Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Foundation** has reached a deal with **Louise Taper** to purchase her collection for approximately \$20 million.

The restored **Lincoln Cottage** at the **Soldiers’ Home and Visitors’ Center** in Washington, will open February 2008.

Online

In 2007 the **Meserve-Kunhardt Foundation** will begin fundraising to produce the educational companion website to its forthcoming four-hour PBS documentary, *Looking for Lincoln*, being produced by **Kunhardt Productions** in association with the MKF.

Awards and Prizes

For the third consecutive year, *Lincoln Lore* of **The Lincoln Museum**, Fort Wayne, IN, has been named one of the top 50 magazines in the United States.

Civil War historian **James M. McPherson** was named the first recipient of the **Pritzker Military Library Literature Award** for lifetime achievement in military writing. The award of \$100,000 “acknowledges the highest levels of scholarship and writing in a field that often does not gain appropriate recognition,” according to the founder and chief executive of the library, **James N. Pritzker**. The award was presented on October 6 at a dinner in Chicago.

Auctions

An 1863 ALS with initial postscript of President Abraham Lincoln to feuding **Secretary of State Seward** and **Treasury Secretary Chase** declining to accept their resignations, with a retained copy of Seward’s response to Lincoln noting his resumption of State Department functions, sold at the November 2, 2006 **Christie’s Malcolm Forbes** auction for \$180,000. The December 5 **Christie’s** auction included a June 1863 AES of President Abraham Lincoln pardoning a private sentenced to be hanged with additional endorsements by **Brigadier General R. B. Ayres**, **Major General George Meade** and **Major General Joseph Hooker** urging clemency for Private Corrigan. It sold for \$9,000.

Christie’s held the sixth auction of the **Forbes Collection of American Historical Documents** on May 22, 2007. This completed the series of sales of the collection of the late **Malcolm Forbes** that started in 2002. The sales realized \$41 million, a record total for any collection of books and manuscripts sold at auction.

Lincoln’s official transcript of the “Subscription Book of the Capital Stock of the Alton and Sangamon Rail Road Company,” incorporated on February 27, 1843, sold at **Christie’s** on May 22 for \$90,000. The initial estimated worth was placed at \$25,000-\$35,000.

Christie’s sold a 21-page **John Wilkes Booth** manuscript on June 19 on behalf of the **Players Club**, formerly the home of **Edwin Booth**. It is John Wilkes Booth’s first draft of his Secession Crisis speech on the break-up of the Union and the threat of civil war, written by the author in Philadelphia between December 22 and 27, 1860. Estimated at between \$200,000-\$300,000, it sold for \$312,000. A signed photograph of Abraham Lincoln taken by photographer C.S. German, estimated at between \$120,000-\$180,000, went for \$204,000. A description of the sale appeared in the Summer *Rail Splitter*.

Books and Pamphlets

Michael Beschloss has written *Presidential Courage: Brave Leaders and How They Changed America, 1789-1989* (**Simon & Schuster**). One section describes how Lincoln refused a peace with the Confederacy that would not have permanently split the nation in two, and reneged on the Emancipation Proclamation.

The bulletin of the 59th annual meeting of **The Lincoln Fellowship of Wisconsin**, *The Literary Lincoln – A Talk* by **Douglas L. Wilson**, has been published.

Jason Emerson's *The Madness of Mary Lincoln* has been published by **Southern Illinois University Press**.

Sara Gabbard and **Harold Holzer**, in conjunction with **The Lincoln Museum**, Fort Wayne, IN, are the editors of *Lincoln and Freedom: Slavery, Emancipation, and the Thirteenth Amendment* (**Southern Illinois University Press**) with contributions by **Holzer** (“Picturing Freedom: The Thirteenth Amendment in the Graphic Arts”); **Herman Belz** (“The Constitution, the Amendment Process, and the Abolition of Slavery”); **Joseph R. Fornieri** (“Lincoln’s Critique of ‘Dred Scott’ as a Vindication of the Founding”); **Allen C. Guelzo** (“‘Sublime in Its Magnitude’: The Emancipation Proclamation”); **James Oliver Horton** (“Slavery during Lincoln’s Lifetime”); **Ron J. Keller** (“‘That Which Congress So Nobly Began’: The Men Who Passed the Thirteenth Amendment Resolution”); **David E. Long** (“Ballots over Bullets: Freedom and the 1864 Election”); **John F. Marszalek** (“Marching to Freedom: The U.S. Colored Troops”); **Lucas E. Morel** (“Lincoln, God, and Freedom: A Promise Fulfilled”); **Matthew Pinsker** (“Lincoln’s Summer of Emancipation”); **Hans L. Trefousse** (“The Role of the Press”); **Michael Vorenberg** (“The Thirteenth Amendment Enacted”); **Ronald C. White, Jr.** (“Lincoln and the Rhetoric of Freedom”); **Frank J. Williams** (“The End of the Beginning: Abraham Lincoln and the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments”); and the late **Phillip Shaw Paludan** (“Lincoln and the Limits of Constitutional Authority”).

Janis Herbert has written *Abraham Lincoln for Kids* (**Chicago Review Press**).

Many years ago, **Harold Holzer** befriended the granddaughter of Abraham Lincoln’s third secretary – William O. Stoddard -- **Eleanor Stoddard**. This relationship led to Harold Holzer preparing an edited version of William O. Stoddard’s autobiography, *Lincoln’s White House Secretary: The Adventurous Life of William O. Stoddard* (**Southern Illinois University Press**).

Lincoln’s Legacy: Ethics and Politics has been edited by the late **Phillip Paludan** for the **University of Illinois Press**. Contributors include **William Miller**, **Mark E. Neely, Jr.**, **Phillip Paludan** and **Mark Summers**.

Gabor Boritt and **Scott Hancock** have edited *Slavery, Resistance, Freedom* for **Oxford University Press**.

H. L. Pohlman’s *Editorial Cartoons of the Supreme Court and Constitution* published by **Hill Street Press** (191 East Broad Street, Suite 209, Athens, Georgia 30601-2848) contains many cartoons relating to Abraham Lincoln, the Civil War and the Constitution.

Frank van der Linden is the author of *The Dark Intrigue*. The author tells the story about several political leaders conspiring with enemy agents during the Civil War to oust President Lincoln.

Orville Vernon Burton is the author of *The Age of Lincoln* (**Hill and Wang**).

Brian R. Dirck has edited *Lincoln Emancipated: The President and the Politics of Race* (Northern Illinois University Press) with essays by **Dirck** (“Abraham Lincoln, Emancipation, and the Supreme Court”); **Kenneth J. Winkle** (“Paradox Though It May Seem”); **Kevin R. C. Gutzman** (“Abraham Lincoln, Jeffersonian”); **James N. Leiker** (“The Difficulties of Understanding Abe”); **Michael Vorenberg** (“Slavery Reparations in Theory and Practice”); **Dennis K. Boman** (“All Politics Are Local”); and the late **Phillip S. Paludan** (“Greeley, Colonization, and a ‘Deputation of Negroes’”).

John Chandler Griffin’s *Abraham Lincoln’s Execution* (Pelican Publishing Company) argues that Lincoln was executed by fellow politicians and military leaders because he wanted to welcome the Southern states back into the Union.

Books and Pamphlets of Related Interests

John F. Marszalek is the author of *Sherman: A Soldier’s Passion for Order* (Southern Illinois University Press).

University of Illinois Press has published, in paper, volumes 5 and 6 of *Battles and Leaders of the Civil War*.

Periodicals

Erin Allen discussed **John Hope Franklin’s** speech at the **Library of Congress** on March 6 upon the occasion of his receiving one of the 2006 John W. Kluge prizes in the April *Library of Congress Information Bulletin*.

Jack Trammell’s article about Alexander H. Stephens, “Rebel Vice President a Strong-willed Leader,” appeared in the May 19 *Washington Times*.

Adam Gopnik wrote *Angels and Ages – Lincoln’s Language and its Legacy* for the May 28 *New Yorker Magazine*.

Blaine V. Houmes wrote “The Last Words of John Wilkes Booth... or Were They?” for the June *Surratt Courier*.

Robert Bray wrote “What Abraham Lincoln Read – An Evaluative and Annotated List” and **Graham Alexander Peck** wrote “Abraham Lincoln and the Triumph of an Antislavery Nationalism” for the Summer *Journal of the Abraham Lincoln Association*.

Jeanie Lowe wrote “Where is Abraham Lincoln’s First Client?” for the *Summer Quarterly* of the **Illinois State Genealogical Society**.

Frank Pucci, a recent graduate of **Mt. High School**, Carmel, Chicago, received the **2007 Verna Ross Orndoff Scholarship** for his “Rumble in the Wigwam: The Republican National Convention of 1860 and the Story of the City that Shaped it,” which appeared in the July/August *Illinois Heritage*.

Robert J. Havlik wrote “Niagara Falls, a Lincoln Dithyramb” for the Summer *Lincoln Herald*. **Gerard Foley’s** “The Prize Cases and the Lincoln Supreme Court” appeared in the same issue.

Harold Holzer’s “The Lincoln Family Album: New Insights, New Surprises From the New Edition” appeared in the Summer *Lincoln Lore*. **E. Phelps Gay’s** “Lincoln’s Letter to Colonel Elmer Ellsworth’s Parents: A Study in Literary Excellence” was also in this issue.

Reviews

Michael Beschloss, *Presidential Courage: Brave Leaders and How They Changed America, 1789-1989*, rev. by **Stephen J. Nelson**, *Sunday Providence Journal* (June 24, 2007).

Gabor Boritt and **Scott Hancock**, editors, *Slavery, Resistance, Freedom*, rev. by **Chuck Leddy**, *Civil War Times* (July 2007).

Thomas J. Craughwell, *Stealing Lincoln’s Body*, rev. by **James Srodes**, *Washington Times* (May 27, 2007).

Brian Dirck, *Lincoln the Lawyer*, rev. by **Stephen K. Shaw**, *Library Journal* (March 15, 2007).

Harold Holzer, **Edna Greene Medford**, and **Frank J. Williams**, *The Emancipation Proclamation: Three Views*, rev. by **Chuck Leddy**, *Civil War Times* (September 2007).

James M. McPherson, *This Mighty Scourge: Perspectives on the Civil War*, rev. by **Michael Riccards**, *The Washington Times* (February 18, 2007); rev. by **Charles R. Bowery, Jr.**, *Civil War News* (August 2007).

Janis Cooke Newman, *Mary: A Novel*, rev. by **Jason Emerson**, *The Lincoln Herald* (Summer 2007).

James Oakes, *The Radical and the Republican: Frederick Douglass, Abraham Lincoln, and the Triumph of Antislavery Politics*, rev. by **James A. Percoco**, *Civil War News* (June 2007).

John Y. Simon and **Harold Holzer**, editors, *Lincoln Revisited: New Insights from the Lincoln Forum*, rev. by **Randall M. Miller**, *Library Journal* (May 15, 2007).

Richard Striner, *Father Abraham*, rev. by **Julie Yarwood**, *The Lincoln Newsletter* (Spring 2007).

James L. Swanson, *Manhunt: The 12-Day Chase for Lincoln’s Killer*, rev. by **Thomas R. Turner**, *The Lincoln Herald* (Summer 2007).

Ted Widmer, Editor, *American Speeches: Political Oratory from the Revolution to the Civil War*, and *American Speeches: Political Oratory from Abraham Lincoln to Bill Clinton*, rev. by **Diana Schaub**, *Claremont Review of Books* (Summer 2007).

Douglas L. Wilson and **Rodney O. Davis**, editors, *Herndon's Lincoln*, by **William H. Herndon** and **Jesse W. Weik**, rev. by **John Hoffmann**, *Journal of the Abraham Lincoln Association* (2007).

People

Professor **James Tackach** of **Roger Williams University** has succeeded **William Hanna** as President of **The Lincoln Group of Boston**.

Christian Kersten of Hillsdale, NY, was named to lead the fundraising efforts for the **Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Foundation**.

Susan Krause, who for seventeen years served **The Lincoln Legal Papers** and **The Papers of Abraham Lincoln**, has retired. She was the author of three donor premium booklets: *From Log Cabins to Temples of Justice: Courthouses in Lincoln's Illinois*, *Judging Lincoln: The Bench in Lincoln's Illinois*, and *Now They Belong to the Ages: Abraham Lincoln and his Contemporaries in Oak Ridge Cemetery*.

Dan Weinberg has joined the **Lincoln College** Board of Trustees.

University of Illinois professor, **Orville Vernon Burton**, author of *The Age of Lincoln*, was profiled in the July 29, 2007 *News-Gazette*.

Wayne C. Temple, longest-serving employee in the Illinois Secretary of State's office, received a 40-year service award from Secretary of State and State Archivist **Jesse White**.

Lincoln in Popular Culture

Steve Benson's cartoon for **The Shreveport Times** on February 18, 2007, depicts **Senator Barack Obama** dressed as Lincoln with a tall Lincoln stove-pipe hat over the caption "All hat . . . no experience" and Obama replying "I'm throwing it into the ring anyway..."

Dr. Thomas Scalea, physician-in-chief at the **University of Maryland Shock Trauma Center**, believes Lincoln could have survived his fatal head injury using modern medicine. **Alex Dominguez** discussed this in "Could Modern Medicine Save Abe?" for the May 18 *Washington Times*. **David Brown** also discussed this in his article that he did for the *Washington Post* on May 21.

According to two medical researchers at the **University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston**, most historians have failed to recognize that when Abraham Lincoln delivered the Gettysburg Address on November 19, 1863, he was in the early stages of a serious form of smallpox, known as variola major, from which almost a third of those contracting this form of smallpox died, as did the valet Lincoln brought with him to Gettysburg, which **Gabor Boritt** noted in his 2006 book, *Gettysburg Gospel*. It is from this smallpox that the following Lincoln story comes. After contracting the disease, Lincoln reported to have said in the Executive Mansion that since the flow of favor-seeking visitors had not stopped: "For once in my life as President, I find myself in a position to give everybody something!" News release from the **University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston**, May 21.

The May *Journal of Medical Biography* also featured a report about Lincoln's case of smallpox at the time he presented the Gettysburg Address. The smallpox theory is not new; historians have long known that he had a mild form of the disease.

The May 29 editorial in *The New York Sun* compared opposition to the war in Iraq to Lincoln's opposition to the war with Mexico. Lincoln opposed the war in Mexico, believing President Polk had never justified it and waged it to acquire new slave territory, though he always voted to supply the troops there. Today, the editorial opines: "It's hard to imagine what Lincoln would have made of **Mrs. Clinton**, who started out in Illinois, when she claims to 'fully support our troops' but votes against funding for the war in which they are risking everything. . . . The more one reads about it, the more one gets the sense that Lincoln might have wondered why **Mr. Bush** has been so punctilious about the legal niceties. It's hard to imagine Lincoln would not have understood Mr. Bush on the larger issues, particularly his understanding of, and his willingness to shoulder, the responsibilities of the president in a time of war."

R. Emmett Tyrrell, Jr., wrote "In the Lincoln Library" for the June 1-3 *Weekend Edition* of *The New York Sun*, reminding readers that Lincoln is "a reminder that no matter how hard we try, he towers over all of us," apparently in an answer to another columnist who reduced his review of a recent Lincoln book to an attack on another reviewer.

Robert Dallek reviewed *Her Way: The Hopes and Ambitions of Hillary Rodham Clinton* by **Jeff Gerth** and **Don Van Natta, Jr.**, a not-so-complimentary biography of **Hillary Clinton**. Dallek compared her ambition and "hunger for the public spotlight" to Lincoln and FDR. (*New York Times*, June 5, 2007).

Two researchers performed a three-dimensional laser surface scan of the two life masks of Abraham Lincoln, one made in 1860 and the other in 1865. The study confirmed what many have already noticed: there was a difference between the right side of his face and his left. As a *New York Times* editorial said on August 15, 2007, "Every face is asymmetrical to a certain degree, and humans – all primates – are extremely good at recognizing faces." The more profound comment comes at the end of the editorial: "Perhaps the asymmetry would have been all the more visible as Lincoln looked from one person to another in the course of conversation and began to speak. But even the . . . face . . . carries the intensity of its own history, the burden of that war and that time." **Carla K. Johnson**, for the **Associated Press**, reported on the laser scans, printed in the August 14, 2007 *Providence Journal*.

Passings

New Yorker cartoonist **J. B. Handelsman**, who often depicted Abraham Lincoln as a foil for his biting commentaries, died at 85.

Civil War historian, **Phillip Shaw Paludan** died on August 1. Professor Paludan held the first distinguished professorship – the **Naomi B. Lynn Distinguished Chair in Lincoln Studies** at **The University of Illinois** – Springfield. His *The Presidency of Abraham Lincoln* won The Lincoln Prize in 1994. Paludan was 69.

Assassination

Ford's Theatre in Washington was to close for 18 months, but due to "inadequate bids" for rehabilitation has reopened for the present.

Michael W. Kauffman's *American Brutus* (**Random House**) was described as one of the five best histories of assassinations by **George Fetherling** in the July 28 *Wall Street Journal*.

Martin C. Carlino wrote "Lincoln's Chicago Funeral Procession on Silk" for the *Summer Rail Splitter*. "The Other Lincoln Rocker" by **Blaine V. Houmes** was in the same issue, as was **Donald Ackerman's** description of an anti-Lincoln parade held in New York City on October 23, 1860 ("The Counter-Offensive: A Fusion of Lincoln Opponents").

The August *Journal of the Lincoln Assassination* contained a remembrance of **James O. Hall**.

Works in Progress

Dick Etulain is organizing a book on *Lincoln and the West* which **Southern Illinois University Press** will publish.

Mark E. Neeley, Jr.'s, *Abraham Lincoln and the American Nation* will be published in February 2008.

Adam Braver is at work about the relationship between the JFK funeral and the Lincoln funeral – especially the challenge of planning the funeral so quickly.

Author's Note

My appreciation and that of the **Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission** is extended, yet again, to **The Abraham Lincoln Library and Museum of Lincoln Memorial University** for allowing the reprinting of *Lincolniana* which appears in the quarterly *Lincoln Herald*. I want to thank **Harold Holzer, Richard Sloan, Tom Lapsley, William D. Pederson, Dennis E. Stark, Jason Emerson, Joseph Fornieri, Wayne C. Temple, Steven Lee Carson, Edward Steers, Jr., Myra A. Miller, Gene Griessman, David A. Warren, Kieran McAuliffe, Norman Boas, Pam Carnahan, Burrus & Cindy Carnahan, Mike Gross, Genevieve Courbois, Herschel L. Stroud, Jacqueline L. Stroud, James A. Billings, Larry Morris, Jo Dzombak, Al and Beverly Jermon, Dan Pearson, David Gilbertson, B.F. & Dorothy McClerren, Frank Gregorsky and Virginia Williams** for providing information for this column. I welcome news concerning Abraham Lincoln. Please contact me at 300 Switch Road, Hope Valley, RI 02832; fax (401) 364-3642; e-mail: alincoln@courts.ri.gov.