

NEWS RELEASE

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Acclaimed Author Michael Lind To Deliver 2006 University of Saint Mary Lincoln Lecture

7 p.m. President's Day, Monday, Feb. 20, 2006

(Leavenworth, Kan.)— What were some of Abraham Lincoln's greatest thoughts and fears about the fate of the United States? Why was winning the Civil War so important to democracy? Acclaimed political author and Lincoln scholar Michael Lind will discuss this and more when he delivers the 8th Annual University of Saint Mary Lincoln Lecture at 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 20. Lind's latest work, *What Lincoln Believed, The Values and Convictions of America's Greatest President*, has garnered significant praise among historians and political analysts alike.

Lind will deliver the Lincoln Lecture "in the spirit of Lincoln" in Saint Joseph Dining Hall on the University of Saint Mary campus, 4100 South 4th Street, Leavenworth, Kan. The event is free and open to the public. MidAmerican Bank & Trust Company sponsors the university's annual Lincoln Lecture. Call 913-758-6165 for more information.

The evening opens with Civil War-Era Stephen Foster songs performed by the USM Concert Chorale. MidAmerican Bank President Pete Payne will then present awards to local school children who are winners of the 2006 Honest Abe Art Contest. A dessert reception follows the lecture in the Walnut Room of Mead Hall, where guests may see select items from the university's rare Lincoln collection on display.

What Lincoln Believed is being heralded as one of the most comprehensive studies ever thought to be composed about America's most revered president. Lind provides a resource to the public philosophy that guided Lincoln as a statesman and shaped the future of the United States. In the work, Lind argues that Lincoln fought the Civil War not to free slaves or even to preserve the Constitution, but to ensure democracy survived.

In addition to Lind's political writings, Lind has worked as editor and writer for *The New Yorker*, *Harper's Magazine*, and *The New Republic*. Lind currently serves as the Whitehead Senior Fellow at the New America Foundation, in Washington, D.C. He has received critical acclaim for several major political works in the past 10 years, including *The Radical Center: The Future of American Politics* published in 2001, and 2003's *Made in Texas: George W. Bush and the Southern Takeover of American Politics*. Lind's provocative and sometimes controversial works have landed his thoughts in leading publications including the *New York Times*, *The Washington Post* and the *Los Angeles Times*, and Lind has also appeared on *Crossfire*, *C-SPAN*, *National Public Radio* (NPR), and *The News Hour* with Jim Lehrer.

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The University of Saint Mary initiated the Lincoln Lecture series in 1999 to acknowledge the university's extensive collection of unique Lincoln memorabilia. USM's De Paul Library houses the Bernard Hall Lincoln Collection, which includes a rare original copy of the 13th Amendment signed by Lincoln that will be on display following the lecture. Past speakers include U.S. Senator Emmanuel Cleaver, Kansas Governors Kathleen Sebelius and Bill Graves, Kansas filmmaker Kevin Willmott, and Kansas City baseball legend Buck O'Neil.

The University of Saint Mary is a private, co-educational applied liberal arts university founded by the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth. The University of Saint Mary is located at 4100 South 4th Street, Leavenworth, Kan., with additional locations at 11413 Pflumm in Overland Park and inside Providence Medical Center, 8929 Parallel Parkway, in Kansas City, Kan.

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