

NEWS RELEASE

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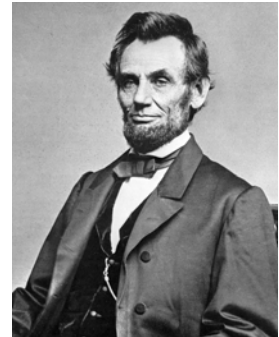


Point-Counter Point: USM Students Set To Argue Eminent Domain At 2006 Lincoln-Douglas Debate

11:30 a.m., Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2006

(Leavenworth, Kan.)— Just days before the 8th Annual University of Saint Mary Lincoln Lecture, four USM students will square-off in a debate in the spirit of the great “Honest Abe” himself.

The four students will debate the topic of eminent domain, specifically “The use of the state's power of eminent domain to promote private enterprise is unjust.” The University of Saint Mary presents the annual Lincoln-Douglas Debate at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 15 in the Social Room of Saint Mary Hall. The honorable Judge Robert Bednar, Leavenworth County 5th District, will preside over the debate. Admission is free and open to the public. Call 913-682-5151 extension 4367 for details.



The theme of the 2006 Lincoln-Douglas debate, presented in the style of the 1858 debates, is the unjust role of a government’s right to acquire private property for public (government) use at any time. Arguing that eminent domain is unjust and should be limited are senior Mike Marden and senior Sarah Winders. Junior Brad Thomas and freshman Christina Hansen will argue that it is beneficial, possibly even essential for society.

The Lincoln-Douglas debates of 1858 pitted a young Abraham Lincoln against Stephen A. Douglas in a series of formal political debates in a campaign for one of Illinois’ two state Senate seats. Although Lincoln lost that election, the debates launched him into national prominence, and led to his election as the 16th President of the United States in 1861.

The Lincoln-Douglas debate is a prelude to the University of Saint Mary 8th Annual Lincoln Lecture with acclaimed political author Michael Lind. Lind’s latest work, *What Lincoln Believed, The Values and Convictions of America’s Greatest President* expresses what he believes were Lincoln’s most deep concerns saving the union, repairing it, and the fate of democracy. The work has been heralded as one of the most complete works ever written about “Honest Abe.”

Lind will deliver the 8th Annual Lincoln Lecture at 7 p.m., Presidents’ Day, Monday, Feb. 20 in Saint Joseph Dining Hall. The Lincoln Lecture was established to honor USM’s 10,000 piece collection of Lincoln artifacts housed in De Paul Library. The Lincoln Lecture is free and open to the public. A dessert reception immediately follows the lecture in the Walnut Room of Mead Hall, where select items from the Saint Mary Lincoln Collection will be on display including an original copy of the 13th Amendment, the Amendment that abolished slavery. Call 913-758-6165 for more information.

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 at 8929 Parallel Parkway in Kansas City, Kansas.

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