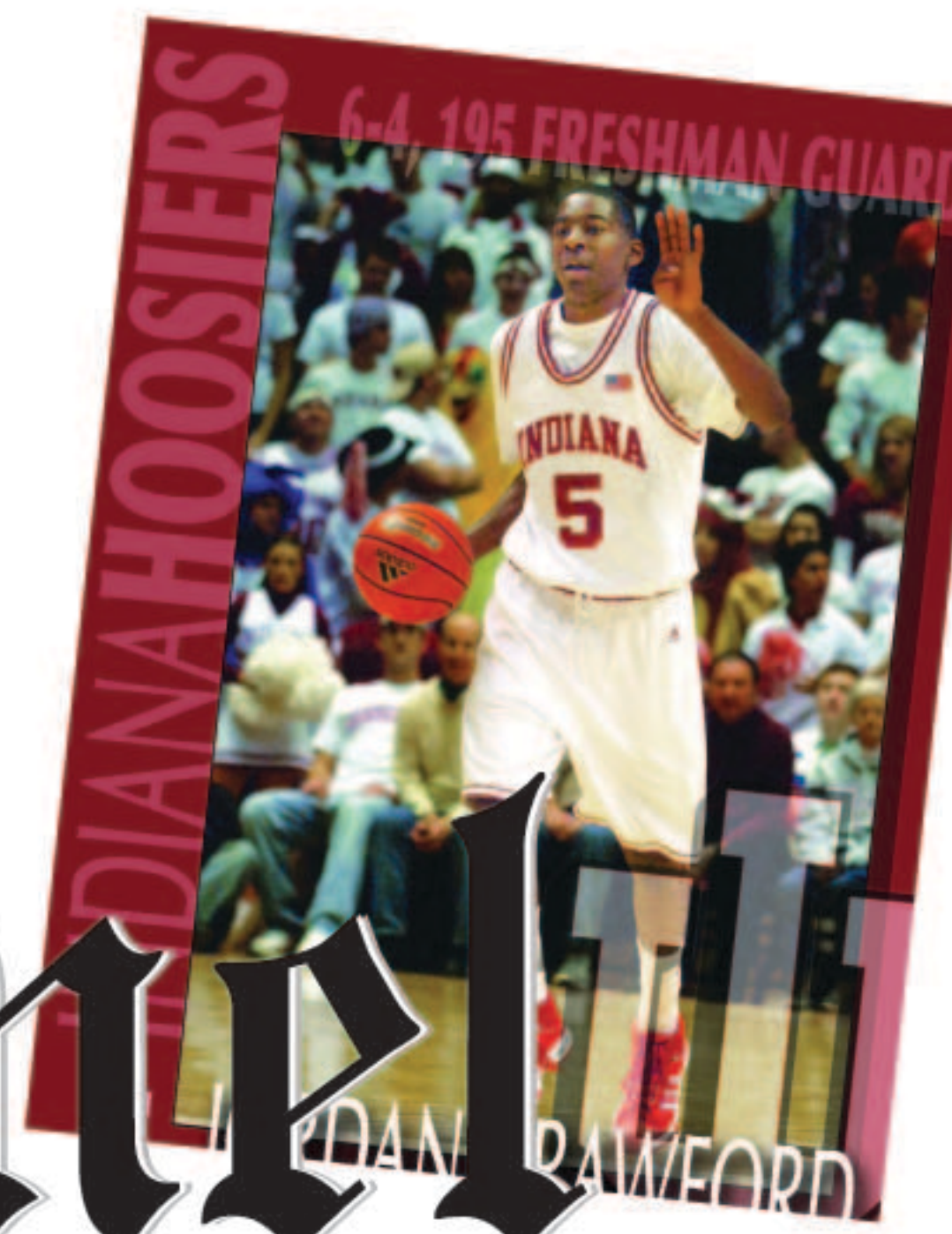


This is a reproduction of a historic page to commemorate The News-Sentinel's 175th anniversary.

Purdue vs. Ohio State preview
Coach doesn't want league-leading team to look too far ahead. SPORTS, 1S



IU POSTER PAGE
Today's player: Freshman guard Jordan Crawford. SPORTS, 8S



The News-Sentinel

Our 175th Year · 1833-2008

175th year
Number 55

Newsstand: 50¢
Delivered: 29¢

www.news-sentinel.com

TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2008

Fort Wayne, Indiana

CITY ICON FOR NEARLY 80 YEARS

Lincoln Museum to close June 30



By Michelle Linn of The News-Sentinel

The Lincoln Museum, 200 E. Berry St., announced Monday that it's closing. The Lincoln Financial Foundation, plans to work with other museums "to gain greater visibility for the collection."

Foundation plans to move key artifacts to other museums

By JENNIFER L. BOEN
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Abraham Lincoln said, "Be sure you put your feet in the right place, then stand firm."

He was referring to politics, not museums. But the announcement Monday that the Lincoln Museum is closing has supporters of the nearly 80-year-old Fort Wayne icon asking why the \$20 million collection cannot remain in Fort Wayne.

"We will not be in the business of managing a museum," said Priscilla Brown, vice president of Lincoln Financial Group. Lincoln's charitable arm, the Lincoln Financial Foundation, owns and operates the private

Inside

Marilyn Moran Townsend, former Friends of the Lincoln Museum board member, writes Guest Column. Editorial, Page 4A.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Comment on this story at www.news-sentinel.com.

museum in Renaissance Square, 200 E. Berry St. The museum is touted as the world's largest private collection of Lincoln memorabilia.

The foundation board voted to close the museum by June 30, citing as reasons too few visitors

See LINCOLN, Page 5A



Henry

"I am terribly disappointed this community asset will be leaving Fort Wayne at the end of June. The Lincoln Museum has

been a wonderful part of our community for decades, providing a national collection of Lincoln history here in Fort Wayne. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the Lincoln Foundation and the museum's staff and volunteers for the hard work and dedication they have given over the years."

— Mayor Tom Henry

MORE QUOTES ON PAGE 3A

Museum's closing 'a tragedy' for city

Former Lincoln Scholar here says it's "cultural vandalism."

By CINDY LARSON
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An author and expert on Abraham Lincoln who spent nine years as the Lincoln Scholar at the Lincoln Museum expressed "shock and extreme disappointment" when notified Monday that the museum will close.

"I think this is a tragedy for Fort Wayne and a tragedy for the Lincoln community nationwide and worldwide," said Gerald J. Prokopowicz, author of "Did Lincoln Own Slaves?" published in 2008. Prokopowicz was the Lincoln Scholar at the museum from 1993 until 2002. Currently he is chair of the history department at East Carolina University in Greenville, N.C.

Although the foundation stated in a news

See SCHOLAR, Page 3A



Prokopowicz: A blow to city and to Lincoln scholars

ELECTION '08

Clinton, Obama chase two big prizes

Ohio, Texas primaries could hasten race's end — or prolong the process.

By TOM RAUM
of The Associated Press

HOUSTON — Barack Obama approached today's voting in Texas, Ohio, Rhode Island and Vermont as a chance to drive rival Hillary Clinton out of the Democratic presidential contest for good. Clinton looked at the same contests as a way to end Obama's streak of 11 straight victories and keep her candidacy alive.

Spending the night in the same Texas city, both expressed confidence in their chances. But both teams acknowledged that split decisions and close votes could prolong the battle for at least another month — or more.

"We know this has been an extraordinary election. It continues to be. We're working hard to do as well as we can," said Obama, who planned to await Texas returns in San Antonio.

"I'm just getting warmed up," Clinton told reporters, a clear sign that she expects to press the campaign on beyond today no matter the outcome.

She was opening Election Day in Houston, but then heading back to

See PRIZES, Page 6A

INVESTIGATION

Death on Calhoun 'suspicious'

By EVAN GOODENOW
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The man could often be seen leaning on his cane, smoking cigarettes and socializing outside his apartment house at 2427 S. Calhoun St., neighbors said.

But fear of crime kept him inside at night.

Now police are investigating the death of the man, whom neighbors identified as Rick Garcia, in his home. It's being labeled as "suspicious."

"Whoever got in there had to really know him," Garcia's neighbor Sharon Hood said. "Rick don't open his door for nobody. You have to know him like we know him."

Paramedics were called to the home at 9:53 p.m. Monday, where they pronounced the man dead and notified police, said police spokesman Officer Roy Sutphin. "They notified us immediately because of the circumstances

See DEATH, Page 6A

LINCOLN MUSEUM TIMELINE

The collection of the Lincoln Museum grew very large under the leadership of three directors: Louis Austin Warren (1928-1956), Robert Gerald McMurtry (1956-1972) and Mark E. Neely Jr. (1972-1992).

In 1993, Joan Flinspach became the museum's director.



1905: The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company is founded in Fort Wayne. The company receives approval from Lincoln's surviving son, Robert Todd Lincoln, to use an image of Abraham Lincoln on company letterhead.

1928: Lincoln National Life establishes the Lincoln Historical Research Foundation.

1928: Louis A. Warren is named foundation director and begins to collect Lincoln-related documents and items.

1931: The Lincoln Library and Museum opens to the public in the basement of Lincoln Life's headquarters building on Harrison Street.

1956: Gerald R. McMurtry is named Library and Museum director after retirement of Louis A. Warren. He serves until 1972.

1972: Mark E. Neely Jr. is named museum director and serves until 1992.

1976: The Lincoln Library and Museum moves into the Lincoln National Life building at 1300 S. Clinton St.

1993: Joan Flinspach, current museum president and CEO, is named museum director.

1995: The Lincoln Museum closes in February at the Clinton Street location and reopens in October in its present location, 200 E. Berry St., in the Renaissance Square building. Lincoln National Corp., through its Lincoln National Foundation, spends about \$6 million on remodeling and exhibits. Former President Gerald R. Ford attends the dedication.

Today: The Lincoln Museum, now part of Lincoln Financial Group, houses the world's largest private collection of items commemorating the life and legacy of Abraham Lincoln. The collection includes nearly 18,000 published volumes and thousands of manuscripts, including more than 300 documents signed by Abraham Lincoln.

Sources: The Lincoln Museum Web site, The News-Sentinel archives

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Online

Vote for your favorite Players of the Week online! Go to www.news-sentinel.com and go to our Sports section.

Weather

Get the complete forecast on 5A
TONIGHT: Periods of freezing rain to sleet, low of 21.
Sunset 6:36 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Mostly cloudy
HIGH 36 | LOW 24
THURSDAY
Chance of snow
HIGH 34 | LOW 19

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Coming Wednesday: We recognize local students in our Honor Roll section · Big Ten hoops coverage