

Waltrip's 2nd-best speed earns front-row start

DAYTONA 500 QUALIFYING IN SPORTS — D1

In cold season, you might just want a neti pot

BUSINESS MONDAY — C1

FEBRUARY 11, 2008 | MONDAY | METRO FINAL EDITION 1

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IMMIGRANT GREEN CARDS

U.S. to expedite applicant backlog

Homeland Security, FBI set new process

By Marisa Taylor

McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON — In a major policy shift aimed at reducing a ballooning immigration backlog, the Department of Homeland Security is preparing to grant permanent residency to tens of thousands of applicants before the FBI completes a required background check.

Those eligible are immigrants whose fingerprints have cleared the FBI database of criminal convictions and arrests, but whose names have not yet cleared the FBI's criminal or intelligence files after six months of waiting.

The immigrants who are granted permanent status, more commonly known as getting their green cards, will be expected eventually to clear the FBI's name check. If they don't, their legal status will be revoked and they'll be deported.

The decision to issue green cards demonstrates how federal agencies are struggling to keep up with surging immigration applications while applying stringent post-Sept. 11th background checks.

See **GREEN CARDS, A12**

INSIDE TODAY
HERALD-LEADER

Samaritan purchase a good buy for UK

Officials say the hospital deal has worked out better than expected, and revenues are up. — **Business Monday, Page C1**

New generation of UK quarterback: With Woodson gone, those competing to replace him may alter the landscape on the playing field. — **Sports, Page D1**

Clinton makes change: After a rough weekend, Hillary Clinton's campaign manager steps down and a former chief of staff takes her place. — **Page A3**

Star of 'Jaws' dies: Two-time Oscar nominee Roy Scheider dies at 75. — **Page A3**

ONLINE TODAY
KENTUCKY.COM

Week in pictures: See the latest from Herald-Leader photographers and free-lancers.

Celebration of Lincoln



JOSEPH REY AU

President Lincoln, left, was portrayed by Jim Sayre, and the young Lincoln by Nicolas Provenzale during the *Our Lincoln* performance at UK's Singletary Center.

HIS STORY BEING TOLD IN MUSIC, THEATER, DANCE

By Beth Musgrave

bmusgrave@herald-leader.com

Some came because they loved history. Others came because they loved the arts.

Regardless, Kentucky's first celebration to kick off the 200th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln drew a sold-out and rapt audience Sunday to the University of Kentucky Singletary Center for the Arts.

Our Lincoln, the first of many celebrations over the next two years celebrating the 16th president's Kentucky ties, drew about 1,500 people and featured more than 300 performers.

U.S. Rep Ben Chandler, D-Versailles, reminded the crowd that Lincoln was a renowned storyteller. And now his story is being told — through theater, music and even dance.

Master of ceremonies Nick Clooney, a Northern Kentucky journalist and father of Hollywood star George Clooney, reminded the crowd that Lincoln was born here and spent seven years in Kentucky. Lincoln remembered picking blackberries, going fishing here, and walking up to 6 miles to a one-room schoolhouse with his sister.

The audience was treated to several new works featuring Lincoln, including *Kentucky is My Land*, performed by the Lexington Singers, the Lexington Singers' Children's Choir and the Lexington Philharmonic Orchestra.

Actor Terry Snead of the Kentucky Repertory Theatre
See **LINCOLN, A6**

Kentucky.com

Multimedia: See videos of Lincoln impersonators and of spots significant in Lincoln's life.

Previous coverage: Read more about Lincoln's legacy and the bicentennial.



COMING UP | TUESDAY

Health | Family: A fun-filled FAQ for kids, including gems like the mail he carried in his black hat.

Hodgenville dolled up, but Lincoln's not talk of town

By Andy Mead

amead@herald-leader.com

HODGENVILLE — At Ruthie's Lincoln Freeze on South Lincoln Boulevard, where a "Lincoln Special" is a cheeseburger with everything, a group of men are sitting around the largest table, under a cardboard likeness of Abraham Lincoln that dangles from the ceiling.

A lot of attention is about to be focused on their town because of events

leading up to the bicentennial of the 16th president's birth.

There has been a \$3.5 million reconstruction of the town square, to better set off the bronze statue of Lincoln that has sat there since the centennial in 1909. (It will be joined this year by a statue of Abe as a boy, with a fishing pole and his dog, Honey.)

See **CELEBRATION, A6**



DAVID PERRY | dperry@herald-leader.com

Lincoln gazed down on Frank Buchanan, left, Steve McCubbin, Alton Creason and Terry Taylor in Ruthie's Lincoln Freeze.