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Lincoln and Douglas Visit Cubs-Cards Battleground

On Sunday, July 6th, the ballpark in St. Louis, known as Busch Stadium, will serve as the intersection for 2 great Border Battles. The first dates back to 1858 the other to 1885. One changed the course of American history; the other has a long history of its own. One of them was decided in the 1860's, the other wages on again this weekend. On Sunday, Abraham Lincoln and Stephen Douglas will stop by Busch to see how things have been going in the never-ending North –South "I-55 Baseball Battle", a fierce rivalry in its own right, that continues between the Cubs and the Cardinals.

Lincoln and Douglas portrayers will be on hand Sunday to throw out the first pitch, courtesy of the Looking for Lincoln Heritage Coalition, as they commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the Lincoln Douglas Debates that took place across Illinois in 1858 and the Lincoln Bicentennial next year. The debates served as the launching pad for Lincoln's ascent to the Presidency in 1860, on his way to becoming the most revered President in American history.

This weekend the Cubs find themselves in a familiar Central Division battle with the Cardinals and in their century-old quest for a World's championship, and have to battle their nemesis Cardinals to see it happen. The North-South Baseball Border Battle for Illinois and Missouri baseball fans may never end.

The appearance by Lincoln and Douglas was planned to promote the Lincoln Douglas Reunion Tour '08, the celebration across Illinois this year, commemorating some of the most famous debates in American history. Each of the 7 original debate communities will have weekend celebrations this summer and fall, featuring performances by Lincoln and Douglas portrayers who will reminisce about the debates and then hold modern-day press conferences, taking questions about the debates from the media and the public, similar to today's Town Hall Meeting.

For details on how to plan a weekend getaway to one of the debate celebration communities, visit: www.lincolndouglasreunion.com and to visit Illinois' historic Lincoln Legacy sites, go to: www.lookingforlincoln.com.

Fans of history and President Lincoln will be celebrating famous debates this fall and the Lincoln Bicentennial all next year. The discussion will be about how Lincoln helped heal the wounds and bring the Country together. For this weekend, however, it's fair to say, in the Baseball Border Battle, that House remains divided.

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