



① Cartoon: These seats in the Wisconsin state imply that the Democrats are lame for having fled the state.

■ The Pentagon has developed the prototype of a robotic hummingbird that can conduct surveillance with a tiny camera as it flies in and out of windows, or perches on power lines and tree branches. The drone, which weighs less than an AA battery and can fit into a pocket, actually flaps its wings as it flies. *Los Angeles Times*

Detroit
Sweeping school closures: The state of Michigan has ordered Detroit to close almost half of its 142 public schools by 2014, lay off hundreds of teachers, and increase class sizes to accommodate as many as 60 students in order to reduce costs. The Detroit system is running a \$327 million budget deficit and has been unable to borrow funds to cover the shortfall. Robert Bobb, the Detroit school district's emergency financial manager, said he is preparing a financial restructuring plan, but it depends on receiving financial guarantees from a reluctant state legislature. "I don't feel the taxpayers of Michigan are willing to become liable for that money with all the structural and institutional problems that exist," said Republican state Rep. Paul Scott.

Getting crowded

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② Headquarters of U.S. military = Pentagon
③ The robotic hummingbird will be able to spy on the enemy. ④ Michigan has ordered Detroit to close almost half of its 142 public schools and increase class sizes to as many as 60 students. ⑤ In 1840, Abe Lincoln, a member of the Whig Party (later it will "become" the Republican Party), tried to save the state Bank of Illinois. ⑥ Trying to prevent a quorum and because the doors were locked, Lincoln ended up jumping out of a second story window and fleeing. ⑦ Pennsylvania legislators tried to prevent a U.S. Constitution but ended up being dragged out of a tavern to vote, which eventually allowed the Constitution to get passed.

FLASHBACK: Abraham Lincoln Wrote Playbook For Wisconsin Dems Who Fled State

By Alex Seitz-Wald on Feb 20th, 2011 at 11:09 am

170 years before the Wisconsin Democrats fled Madison to deny a quorum, then-state Rep. Abraham Lincoln was fleeing the capitol in Springfield, IL — via a window, no less — to do the same in an attempt to save the State Bank of Illinois:

December 5, 1840. On that date, the Democrats proposed an early adjournment, knowing this would bring a speedy end to the State Bank. The Whigs tried to counter by leaving the capitol building before the vote, but the doors were locked. That's when Lincoln made his move. He headed for the second story, opened a window and jumped to the ground!

Lincoln's efforts failed, sadly, and "the bank was killed." But as the Wall Street Journal pointed out yesterday, "The tactic of quorum avoidance by simply leaving dates back at least to the days when the U.S. Constitution was being debated":

Legislators tried to stymie passage [of the Constitution] in Pennsylvania and Massachusetts that way, and some in Pennsylvania had to be dragged out of a tavern to vote. The Constitution passed.

⑧ U.S. Constitution / Supreme law of U.S. / gov't of the U.S.
⑨ The Lemba are black Jews in South Africa. ⑩ Republicans have tried to keep young people and minorities from voting, and are trying to weaken the union. ⑪ Walter Boardman a former G.I. Bush could be arrested for

⑫ millionaires, who could pay more in taxes and not suffer but are paying less, are hurting taxes and public schools.