

Monday digest

October 31, 2011

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New today from the *Century*:

- Benjamin J. Dueholm on [post-Wobegon politics](#): "Michele Bachmann's frontrunner moment may be past. But she has shown how the Republicans can win in the restless small towns of the swing-state Midwest."
- James F. McGrath on Jefferson and the difference between [atheism and skepticism](#): "Whether you are religious or atheist, Deist, Unitarian, or traditional theist, it is a mistake to assume that you are above the need for caution, skepticism and critical thinking."
- Mark Labberton [blogs the lectionary](#): "Every pastor needs to address the issue of freedom and accountability. It's part of the pastor's role in nurturing a church community: neither a laissez-faire atmosphere nor a judicial one helps people grow as disciples."
- Steve Vineberg [reviews Moneyball](#). It "has a slick, entertaining script by two pros, Aaron Sorkin and Steve Zaillian, and it's briskly directed by Bennett Miller." (subscription required)

In the news:

- [St. Paul's dean resigns, cites protest controversy](#)
- [Supreme Court won't wade into roadside crosses fight](#)
- [D.C. cardinal, nun mired in rare public dispute](#)

- [Baptist school expels transgender student](#)
- [UK churches seek action on tax avoidance](#)
- [Girl's death prompts moral soul-searching in China](#)
- [U.S. seminaries consider radical changes](#)