

William Henry Harrison
9th President

W H Harrison



Terms: 1841

Political Party: Whig

First Lady: Anna Tuthill Symmes Harrison

Vice President: John Tyler

Overview

Born: February 9, 1773, in Berkeley, Virginia... William Harrison, a frontier army general whose fame (and nickname) was assured at the battle of Tippecanoe, spent only 32 days in office before dying. He caught pneumonia after delivering a 90-minute inaugural address in freezing rain... Died: April 4, 1841.

The Era

- Supreme Court rules that the 39 slave mutineers of the *Amistad* are freed (1841)

Domestic Policy

Although he did not accomplish anything in his month in office, Harrison had no strong program to put in place. He promised in his inaugural address to follow the will of the people by abiding by the decisions of their representatives in Congress. This deflation of the office of the presidency was a reaction to the political strength of Andrew Jackson <www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/biography/presidents-jackson/>, and unbeknownst to Harrison, would be rejected by his successor and vice president, John Tyler.

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Foreign Affairs

It was a peaceful month.

Presidential Politics

The Whigs

<www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/timeline/lincolns-timeline/>, led by Henry Clay, fielded

Harrison as a war hero candidate in 1840. During the campaign, they downplayed Harrison's genteel origins and portrayed him as a hard cider drinking, log cabin westerner in contrast to the sophisticated Democratic nominee, President [Martin Van Buren](#)

<www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/biography/presidents-vanburen/>.

"Tippecanoe and Tyler Too" was the folksy and amiable sounding slogan devised for Harrison and his running mate.

"Sound morals, religious liberty, and a just sense of religious responsibility are essentially connected with all true and lasting happiness."

– William Henry Harrison, 1841

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