



### Daniels' riveting 8 day whirlwind

#### Media presses governor on presidential run

By **MARK SCHOEFF JR.**

WASHINGTON - If Gov. Mitch Daniels is about to launch a campaign for president, he had an unusual way of inching closer to the race in Washington on Wednesday.

While touting his record on education reform – punctuated by several bills approved last week in the waning days of the Indiana legislative session – he praised President Barack Obama on the issue.

Before an audience of a more than a hundred policy experts, political operatives and media at the conservative American Enterprise Institute, Daniels outlined measures he championed that would establish annual teacher evaluations based on "student learning and growth," hold schools accountable for student progress, establish public and private school choice throughout the state and bolster charter schools.

"Most of what I've talked about so far and much of what I will, has been supported by the Obama administration," Daniels said. "I salute the president, (Education) Secretary (Arne) Duncan. They are right about these things. They've had the courage to irritate some of their allies."

Daniels said almost nothing during his speech that



Gov. Mitch Daniels talked at the American Enterprise Institute in Washington for an hour on Wednesday, drawing a phalanx of media. (HPI Photo)

would irritate Obama – other than chiding him for his reliance on Teleprompters. He didn't make any assertions or draw any bright lines between himself and the man who might be his opponent in the near future.

As is his habit when he visits the capital, Daniels downplayed his appearance - even though speculation

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### Bin Laden changes calculus

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY**

INDIANAPOLIS - The Navy Seals killing of Osama bin Laden comes at a fascinating seam in American politics and governance, as well as a particularly sensitive one here in Indiana.

It comes just as Gov. Mitch Daniels is about to make a decision on whether to jump into the presidential race. It comes as U.S. Sen. Richard Lugar is attempting to fend off a Tea Party challenge from Indiana Treasurer Richard Mourdock in the 2012



**“Even though my duties require me to be in the nation’s capital today and this has been the worst kept secret in Indiana politics, we thought we might as well move forward.”**

**- U.S. Rep. Mike Pence**



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Republican primary. The announcement of bin Laden's demise comes just five days before President Obama comes to Indianapolis to talk about renewable energy in the auto industry. It comes just after former Indiana congressman Tim Roemer abruptly resigned as U.S. ambassador to India.

The fallout from the "Obama gets Osama" saga is incalculable at this early point. But most political observers wouldn't be hesitant to use the phrase "game changer" when it comes to the events that played out between Friday morning just before the President alighted on Air Force One to buck up tornado ravaged Alabama to the point where "Breaking News" alerts late Sunday night found him telling the world that "justice has been done."

In between, we saw the audacious power of an incumbent president. Just days earlier Obama had embarrassed billionaire Donald Trump by releasing his official Hawaiian birth certificate after The Donald had rallied to the birther cause.

On Saturday night, at the annual correspondents dinner, Obama took on Trump with only one man in the room knowing what was about to transpire in Abbottabad, Pakistan. "I know that he's taken some flack lately," Obama said of Trump. "But no one is happier, no one is prouder to put this birth certificate matter to rest than The Donald. And that's because he can finally get back to focusing on the issues that matter, like, did we fake the moon landing? What really happened in Roswell? And where are Biggie and Tupac?"

**"All kidding aside.** Obviously we all know about your credentials and breadth of experience," Obama said as Trump squirmed. He then referenced Trump and his NBC show "The Apprentice" when he fired actor Gary Busey over singer Meatloaf. "And these are the kind of decisions that would keep me up at night," Obama said. "Well handled, sir. Well handled."

Twenty-four hours later,

Obama appeared on millions of TV screens, saying, "Tonight, I can report to the American people and to the world that the United States has conducted an operation that killed Osama bin Laden, the leader of al-Qaeda, and a terrorist who's responsible for the murder of thousands of innocent men, women, and children." Obama explained, "Shortly after taking office, I directed Leon Panetta, the director of the CIA, to make the killing or capture of bin Laden the top priority of our war against al-Qaeda, even as we continued our broader efforts to disrupt, dismantle, and defeat his network. Last week, I determined that we had enough intelligence to take action, and authorized an operation to get Osama bin Laden and bring him to justice. Today, at my direction, the United States launched a targeted operation against that compound in Abbottabad, Pakistan. A small team of Americans carried out the operation with extraordinary courage and capability. No Americans were harmed. They took care to avoid civilian casualties. After a firefight, they killed Osama bin Laden and took custody of his body."

**It was a stunning** and adroit turn of events that brought celebrations to New York City's Ground Zero, in front of the White House and in dozens of places across the country. The Sept. 11 attacks have seared a huge scar on the American psyche as polls show most people think the country is on the wrong track and the United States is on the wane.

Nothing demonstrates the power of Sept. 11 more than what occurred here in Indiana last month when two steel beams of the World Trade Center - destined to be a new monument on the canal in downtown Indianapolis - entered Hoosier soil with the escort of 10,000 Indiana bikers.

The political sensitivity of it all is revealed in polls. A McClatchy/Marist poll from April 10-14 had Obamas approval/disapproval at 44/49 percent.



Fox News had it 47/47 percent on April 25-27, Rasmussen 50/49 percent on April 28-30 and Gallup at 46/46 percent on the same days. A New York Times/CBS Poll released today put Obama's approval at 57 percent (up from 46 percent in April), disapproval at 37 percent. Despite the weak GOP field, there was more than a whiff of Obama's vulnerability. The NYT/CBS Poll gives Obama a 34/55 percent on the economy.

Into this steps Gov. Daniels, who appears to have between Monday and May 12 - when First Lady Cheri Daniels addresses the Indiana Republican Spring Dinner - to make a decision on whether to enter the weak GOP presidential field. On Saturday, Daniels was asked about the presidential race and whether he had anything to announce. "I can't announce a decision that hasn't been made," he said.

But the calculus he was dealing with on Saturday morning after the Indiana General Assembly went home and mid-May has changed dramatically. It is almost certain that Obama will take a major jump in the polls after being congratulated by President George W. Bush, Vice President Cheney, Speaker Boehner and U.S. Rep. Peter King. If Daniels had doubts about whether the President is politically vulnerable between now and November 2012, the political landscape just changed seismically. And this comes as the U.S. nears a final draw down in Iraq and the beginning of one in Afghanistan.

**On Wednesday during** his American Enterprise speech, Daniels characterized the bin Laden killing as a "moment" in the war on terror and noted that the mission was "well done, well handled."

With his education reform victories in the Indiana General Assembly, Obama's poor polling of yesterday, the weak GOP field, and the laudatory awards tour he embarks on over the next three days, everything seemed to be lining up for a Daniels presidential bid. But if Daniels was having trouble making the decision in the world we knew last Friday, how much more arduous is it today?

We may get one of the first glimpses on Friday when Air Force One lands in Indianapolis and we watch the Obama motorcade go to Allison Transmission where he will

talk about energy and the changing U.S. auto fleet. It will travel through the lower and middle class neighborhoods of Speedway. Will Hoosiers line the streets to view the motorcade with flags in hand?

**There are other** implications. Sen. Lugar has been attacked by the Tea Party movement and Mourdock for spending too much time as a world statesman and not enough time at county Lincoln Day dinners. When you talk to many

Hoosier Republicans about Lugar's work limiting weapons of mass destruction and the fact that Lugar's unnerving prediction of 1995 ("We are likely to see the destruction of an American city in our lifetime"), their eyes glaze over. When you talk about the new START treaty and thousands of Russian nukes, they talk about the handful of missiles in North Korea and Iran's wobbly centrifuges. When you talk about ebola and anthrax under padlocks in Kampala labs, they want to talk about the Supreme Court Justices Kagan and Sotomayor and Lugar's affirmative votes.

For many Republicans preparing to abandon Lugar in the Senate race, foreign policy is an abstract flicker. The death of bin Laden could change that. Lugar himself warned, "The reported death of Osama bin Laden is welcome news, but it in no way eliminates the threat from the terrorism he espoused. This is another reminder that Americans cannot hide from global affairs. Americans must continue to be vigilant to ensure that terrorist groups and rouge states do not obtain weapons of mass destruction, a goal that I and many other Americans have sought for 20 years."

**Perhaps the most fascinating** story to emerge is that of Ambassador Roemer. He advised Obama on Pakistan during the presidential campaign after serving on the 911 Commission. He landed the job as ambassador to India, then resigned last week just hours after U.S. companies lost a major Indian defense contract bidding war. From Roemer's perch in New Delhi, he had an incredible view of the meltdown in relations between the U.S. and Pakistan, as well as the troubled Afghan theater. His shared perspectives in the coming months and years will be riveting.

That bin Laden was ensconced in luxury in a villa 35 miles outside of the Pakistani capital is testament to the volatile nature of affairs there. With Arab revolts unseating despots and autocrats, the military rule in nuclear Pakistan is shaky at best.

The world has just changed - abruptly - and key chapters are about to be played out back home again in Indiana. ❖



## Daniels, from page 1

about a presidential campaign reached a fever pitch on Wednesday.

And back in Indianapolis on Tuesday, Karl Rove, a former top political aide to President George W. Bush and now head of an organization that raised tens of millions of dollars for GOP candidates in 2010, was seen walking down the street with Bob Grand, a key Daniels' fundraiser.

In Washington, it was another aw-shucks performance by Indiana's chief executive. He said that he was following through on a standing offer to speak at AEI and that the timing made it appropriate to talk about education. He poked fun at the voracious interest about his undeclared presidential ambitions.

"Some pajamas-clad blogger turns it into a major policy address," Daniels said. "Maybe that's what you'll get. I don't come to town that often."

Actually, he's been here at least four times since the beginning of the year. This excursion was highlighted by a crush of media interest.

A scrum of about 20 reporters followed him out of the AEI conference room, blocking attendees from the elevators as they tried to depart.

Daniels briefly held court as journalists from the New York Times, Washington Post and other major outlets tried to pry out of him some hint about his presidential intentions. As he extricated himself from the phalanx, he reiterated that "family considerations" were the most important factor in his deliberation.

After he left, reporters conferred with each other to confirm that he had said that he would make a decision in "weeks."

Unlike previous forays to the capital, though, this time Daniels traveled with his top political aide, Indiana GOP Chairman Eric Holcomb. Daniels' former deputy chief of staff, Holcomb likely would manage a presidential run or be near the top of Daniels' White House bid.

**Following his boss' lead,** Holcomb modestly described why he accompanied Daniels on a swing that included visits to the Columbia University School of Business in New York and to the Harbour League in Baltimore where the governor received awards. Daniels also was honored at Arab American Institute dinner in Washington on Wednesday night.

"I thought I could be helpful," Holcomb said in an HPI interview. "I know people at different stops. I decided to make the trip. I wouldn't read anything into it. I'll wait like everyone else for him to make a decision."

But Holcomb did note that Daniels was "inundated daily with well wishers and potential supporters" who are offering help if he launches a presidential campaign. The excitement that Daniels is generating "has been

validated again and again and again on this trip," Holcomb said.

But when Daniels had a chance to discuss his own thinking about a presidential campaign, he was circumspect. During the Q&A portion of his presentation, NPR reporter Mara Liasson asked him why it's not too late for anyone other than "a celebrity or billionaire" to get in the race at this point. Daniels vowed not to turn his attention to national ambitions, if he has them, until the Indiana legislative session concluded.

"For whatever reason, it's not (too late)," Daniels said. "I consider that from the standpoint of the public a blessing. I really thought that it might become too late somewhere along the line. It's a happy surprise."

**Daniels displayed the policy** wonk side of his personality in his education presentation, which included Power Point slides (see pages 6 and 7). "We believe we have done something that really makes a profound difference in the lives of the children of our state ... and will make a significant difference in the economy of our state," Daniels said. "We believe in investment in education. We believe that reform has to go right along with it."

He also touted fiscal and economic achievements in Indiana, telling the audience that the state budget is "in the black" and structurally balanced for two years while the reserve fund has been replenished. He also said that business taxes in Indiana are the third lowest in the nation.

It certainly sounded like his was burnishing his resume to run for a higher office. But Daniels was more reserved when a foreign policy question was raised – specifically, his reaction to the demise of al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden. He called the killing of the world's most wanted terrorist "a very significant achievement, symbolically and operationally" and praised the effort as "well done and well handled."

Although Daniels tried to tamp down the impact of the AEI event, one of his well wishers wasn't as restrained. "I considered it a major opportunity (for Daniels) to talk to others in the policymaking structure of the country," said John Hammond III, an attorney at Ice Miller in Indianapolis who has been involved in state GOP politics. "It was a major opportunity to hear his views."

**It was an audience Daniels** will have to reach out to again if he decides he wants to return to Washington as president.

As he headed for the elevators, Daniels told the media scrum, "We won't take long. I said we were going to do our duty, finish this session, and we'd turn our attention to it. And now we are."

The next chapter in this flirtatious saga comes on May 12 when First Lady Cheri Daniels addresses the Indiana GOP Spring Dinner, with an introduction from the governor. ❖



## Daniels and Bennett raced for structural education changes

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY**

INDIANAPOLIS - Mitch Daniels and Tony Bennett first came face to face at New Albany in 2006. They were thrown together - Bennett as an unknown school superintendent and Daniels as Indiana governor - to welcome President George W. Bush, who came to Indiana to discuss the progress of his No Child Left Behind federal education reforms.

"It was pretty ironic," Bennett said. "I would submit to you that Gov. Daniels couldn't have picked Tony Bennett out of a lineup in October 2007" when he decided to run for superintendent of public instruction. "The only time I had met him was in April 2006 when President Bush attended an elementary school in New Albany. Gov. Daniels did the introduction and because I was part of the operation, I had the opportunity to meet him, we shook hands for about 10 seconds and I don't think I made that big of an impression."

Fast forward to last Saturday when Bennett joined an emotional Daniels to herald the signing of SEA1 - the teacher evaluation bill - that Daniels and legislative leaders described as "landmark" and even "revolutionary."

"The Governor made the comment that this is no ordinary moment, this is no ordinary General Assembly," Bennett said as Daniels, Speaker Brian Bosma and Senate President David Long looked on. "I think when we think about comprehensive reform we always come back to the fact that when we open a school house door at 7:30 or 8 o'clock in the morning, there is nothing more important in that child's life than an inspired and inspiring teacher. This General Assembly and this governor have opened the door to honor Indiana's truly inspired and inspiring teachers in no way like we've ever done before. This particular measure has the most direct impact on student performance in our schools, has the most direct impact on economic development for our state's future and it has the most direct impact on making sure that we have a human capital system that carries forward a legacy of great instruction for this state."

Daniels put it into perspective like this: "Nothing comes close to a better teacher," he said of all the elements that go into public education. "As we make this bill law, I am just filled with so much hope and excitement that we've embarked on a brand new era. David (Long) spoke of fairness. I just want you to think about fairness to these teachers behind me. Idealistic, committed, many of them would be discriminated against severely by the old system. They would be judged not on the quality of their work, not on the hours (they spend), not on the performance of their students, but simply how old they were and how long they were in the system. Nothing could be less fair than that."

The story of how the Daniels-Bennett team came together is a fascinating one. Even more interesting is that the catalyst may have been President Obama and Education Secretary Arne Duncan, whom Daniels might try to



Supt. Tony Bennett (left) applauds as Lt. Gov. Becky Skillman congratulates Gov. Daniels on the education reforms at a Saturday morning signing ceremony in the Governor's Office. (HPI Photo by Brian A. Howey)

limit to one term in office should he get into the presidential race later this month and become president.

Bennett decided in late 2007 at the urging of colleagues to challenge Republican Supt. Suellen Reed. "I actually declared in January 2008," Bennett said. "Dr. Reed didn't officially get out until May." He said that after declaring his candidacy, Daniels and he talked and the governor "liked what he heard and saw. That's how it happened. Maybe it was divine providence."

At the Whitley County Republican Lincoln Day dinner in February 2008, Daniels indicated he would back Bennett. In September 2008 - as the Obama campaign crisscrossed Indiana on the way to a historic victory - Daniels was coming back from a U.S. 31 groundbreaking



in Kokomo. As his SUV pulled into Indianapolis, the governor observed that if Obama won the presidency, he would be in, perhaps, the best position to usher in a new era of education reforms. Daniels likened it to a "Nixon in China" moment - that only a Democrat would be in a position to galvanize truly revolutionary reforms.

Daniels was part of the Reagan administration in 1987 and Bennett was a biology teacher at Providence High School when Gov. Robert D. Orr pushed through the last major thrust of education reforms with the A Plus program. "I remember as a very young teacher sitting in a science lab reading A Plus, reading the literature Gov. Orr and Supt. Evans sent to us and I remember thinking, 'Boy, this is neat. This is neat stuff.'"

Bennett found an 11x17 paper called "The Future Is Now" from the A Plus movement. "Second page, it always shocked me," Bennett said. It listed Orr's goals: Increasing student achievement, requiring accountability, promoting quality teaching and administration, improving education comprehensively, funding and managing schools effectively. "It's everything we've been trying to do," Bennett said.

Universal public education is only about a century old in Indiana. The first high school basketball tournament took place in 1911 (won by Crawfordsville). At my alma mater - Peru High School - the cornerstone on the old school read 1912. Indiana is still in a primitive era when it comes to public education. Think of how we viewed practices in education a century ago and think how the era up to 2010 will be judged by people a century from now. On April 26, 1983, in a White House ceremony, President Reagan took possession of "A Nation at Risk," a report produced after a two-year blue ribbon commission found poor academic performance in a system "being eroded by a rising tide of mediocrity."

It was "A Nation at Risk" that prompted Orr to pursue A Plus and culminated in President George W. Bush's 2002 No Child Left Behind. Still, Indiana saw its graduation rates stuck firmly in the 70th percentile, and much lower in urban areas such as Indianapolis, Gary and South Bend.

Bennett insists that earlier efforts tended to focus on one aspect, such as the 2001 charter school legislation in Indiana. "What ended up happening was we ended up

## Teacher Quality

- Require locally developed, meaningful annual teacher evaluation.
- Require "significant" portion of evaluation to be based on improvement in student learning.
- Base hiring, promotion, salary, and firing decisions on performance vs. seniority.
- No student will be taught by ineffective teacher two years in a row without parent approval.
- Publish teacher evaluations by school.
- State Assessment test – Fall to Spring

## Options for Families

- Full Public School Choice
- End Discrimination Against Charters
  - Provide start up funds and access to unused school facilities (\$1 lease)
  - Remove remaining caps on Mayor sponsored charters and virtual charter schools
- Expand authorizers to nonprofit colleges and a new statewide charter authorizing board
- Increase flexibility for hiring non traditional educators and part time teachers.

losing effectiveness," Bennett said. "Every one of those items took on the image of a silver bullet. In 2001, we passed charter school legislation. I was an assistant superintendent. I'm sure people thought that was going to change public education in the state. Did it?"

Marginally.

"No," Bennett insisted. "It didn't change it. It had some effects marginally. My point was we've been doing that type of reform for a number of years because it's comfortable. I think what happened was doing reform in that approach, where you're taking that single shot, in times those initiatives have had marginal effects on overall school performance, student performance. It has really allowed the naysayers to say, 'Look, it doesn't work.'"

"One of the things that is different today is we said, 'Let's change the structures. Let's change the structures of education. Let's not just institute something new. Let's

change the structures that we have built the education system upon.' That is a very different approach than the past. I would also say, I think we haven't said this enough, we did two things: we set up a system that provides options for children and adds an element of competition to the system. But on the other hand, we've also provided the traditional system reforms so they can effectively compete. It was transformative measures that affected the current traditional system and provided for options outside the system at the same time."

So the Daniels-Bennett team came together in 2009 and there were wide-ranging discussions about how to reform Indiana education. It came after a succession of self-proclaimed education governors saw some successes, such as Gov. Evan Bayh's 21st Century Scholars, and Gov. Frank O'Bannon's creation of the community college system. Daniels' priority coming into office was getting the state's fiscal house in order. He lost control of the Indiana House in 2006 and for the next four years any education reforms were Dead On Arrival at the House Education Committee. He and Bennett began working administratively to change licensing procedures.

But Bennett said "an interesting phenomenon occurred" and it was the Obama/Duncan "Race to the Top" program in 2009. "We were actually visualizing what a plan might look like. The critical piece in Race to the Top was



that it was the first effort since A Plus where we tried to take fiscal policy and education policy and put them together."

Bennett said that Indiana did not fare well in the original Race to the Top competition between the states. "We didn't have a buy-in from the teachers unions. So we decided to implement this plan without federal money. We then went right to work to get House majorities and the legislative ability to implement. After that we had many discussions on what a legislative framework would look like."

While Daniels has been a vociferous critic of the Obama administration on the Affordable Care Act, he aligns with the Democrat on education reforms. He and Duncan appeared at the Charles A. Tindley Accelerated School in Indianapolis last month. "We are on the same page on education. They've done some very courageous things. Partisanship should stop at the school door," Daniels said as Duncan looked on. "Change is very hard in education. The challenges are huge. The habits are old and deeply ingrained. The vested interests are very powerful." They both support an expansion of charter schools and great accountability for teachers.

Indiana House Democrats were critical of the session, with House Minority Leader B. Patrick Bauer calling the session a "complete disaster." State Rep. Win Moses said of the session, "This is emptying the entire garbage bag of Republican ideas." Many House Democrats backed Hillary Clinton over Obama in the 2008 Indiana primary. During the walkout, Daniels repeatedly noted that House Democrats had parted ways with their own president.

But State Rep. Mary Ann Sullivan, D-Indianapolis, begged to differ. "For too long, Democrats in Indiana have been protecting the status quo," Sullivan told CHNI's Maureen Hayden. The five-week walk out "set us back in the discussion of education reform." She was taken aback when Bauer included the education package as part of his list of demands to strike offending



Gov. Daniels and Sec. Duncan at Tindley Accelerated School last month.

legislation. Sullivan, who was emotionally cited by Daniels at the Saturday press conference for her courage, called the SEA1 "absolutely critical" to improving underperforming schools.

Daniels and Duncan parted when it came to legislation limiting collective bargaining for teachers. "What I cannot support is where you are limiting or cutting back on collective bargaining. Collective bargaining has to be part of the solution," Duncan said. And Duncan said he cannot support "public dollars" going to

private schools," something that will happen in Indiana with 7,500 students set to receive vouchers that can be used at any private school.

"We need to make every single public school a great public school. What we can't be content with is saving a handful of children and leaving the other couple hundred to drown. We need to give every single child a chance to go to a great public school. The vast majority of our children will always go to public schools," Duncan said.

Legislative leaders last Saturday were quick to point out that the 2011 session eclipsed the Orr A Plus reforms. Speaker Bosma, noting his extended family has 10 teachers (and his daughter is studying elementary education at Purdue) said, "It's not just a theme in our family that every student's success depends on a great teacher. We believe it. It's my hope that with this landmark legislation being enacted today, we can take the next step in recognizing those great teachers. 2011 will be the session where people say our leaders got it right. We are willing to do it with a unique alignment with reform-minded leaders in both houses, in the governor's office and the superintendent's office. It's the only way this could happen. Thank you, Governor, for your leadership."

President Long called SEA1 "the linchpin" of all measures.

Daniels summed it up by saying at the beginning of Saturday's proceedings, "This is not some ordinary moment. This is not some ordinary General Assembly. It was really a landmark."

Daniels may very well use that landmark to spring into a national trajectory. ❖

### Collective Bargaining Reform

- Contracts negotiated between teachers' unions and school corporations on salaries and wage-related benefits only.
- Status quo or evergreen clauses are eliminated.
- Work rules, teacher evaluations, class size, and general school related issues must be discussed but are not in the contract.
- Cannot deficit spend – no contract beyond dollars received over the two year budget cycle.



## Pence makes his bid for governor official

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY**

INDIANAPOLIS - Mike Pence ended the worst kept secret in Indiana politics today: He's running for governor of Indiana.

In a conference call this morning in what his aides described as a "soft launch" to a gubernatorial bid he said he would explore late last January, Pence spoke to thousands of Republicans across the state after speaking to more than a dozen Lincoln Day Dinners this winter and spring.

"Hello this is Mike Pence and my wife Karen is by my side," Pence began the call that lasted just 10 minutes.

"Hello everybody," Karen Pence could be heard saying.

Pence said that joining the call were top Republican officials, activists, family and friends. "As most of you know over the past several months we've traveled across the state meeting with people from every walk of life and listening," Pence intoned. "We've learned what Hoosiers think about the coming years ahead and quite frankly as a family, we've been humbled. We've been humbled by the outpouring of encouragement we've received from you and it's for that reason today I'm announcing my candidacy for the Republican nomination for governor in 2012."

Pence reported, "Just a few minutes ago my team filed papers with the Secretary of State's Elections Division at the Indiana Statehouse and our new campaign committee: We call it Mike Pence for Indiana."

**The campaign launched** a new website at [www.mikepence.com](http://www.mikepence.com) and released a YouTube video with shots of Pence at various Washington press conferences along with footage of President Obama in front of a Planned Parenthood banner, and Vice President Biden talking about tax hikes for people making more than \$250,000.

Pence talked about the delay from Monday due to the death of Osama bin Laden.

"I wanted you to be the first to know I'm in this race," Pence said. "Now as most of you are aware I had hoped to deliver this message from home. (Given) the momentous news of this past Sunday, we thought it would be appropriate to delay the announcement until later this week. Even though my duties require me to be in the nation's capital today, and this has become the worst kept secret in Indiana politics, we thought we'd might as well

move forward. Besides, as any real Hoosier knows the most important race begins in the month of May, anyway."

Pence said a formal campaign kickoff is scheduled for Saturday, June 11 in Columbus at the historic Breeding Farm.

**Pence listed two reasons** for entering the race:

"First, as lifelong Hoosiers we love this state.

The small towns, the courthouse squares, the big cities, the fields. Strong people of Indiana we believe make up the heart of the heartland. The opportunity to lead the good and great people of this state would be the greatest privilege of our lives. Second, we believe our state is on an era of growth and opportunity like no other in our lifetime. Under the capable leadership of Gov. Mitch Daniels, Indiana

has set pace in fiscal responsibility, job creation and reform. But the work isn't over. To keep Indiana growing, Hoosiers know we must have principled leadership at every level to make the right choices. We need to live within our means, embrace policy that will create good jobs, great schools, safe streets and strong families. It won't be easy, but we can never stop fighting to preserve our future and the blessing of liberty because freedom's work is never done.

"Now those who know me know I fight for what I believe in and I believe in

Indiana," Pence concluded. "So on this call I ask you to join our team. If you have time, talent or resources, we need your help."

His remarks came after a number of rumors floated around in recent weeks that he might jump into the U.S. Senate race against Dick Lugar after Richard Mourdock's anemic first quarter FEC report and that he was negotiating with Fox News to replace Glenn Beck. Chief of Staff Bill Smith, who returned to duty recently after suffering a stroke, tamped down those rumors in a conversation with HPI last week.

**The only options Pence** was considering was a reelection in the new 6th CD and the gubernatorial bid. But after resigning as chair of the House Republican Conference just hours after last November's election, virtually no one expected him to return to Congress. With presidential aspirations put aside with his January announcement, friends and supporters had urged Pence to run for governor to gain the executive experience his resume lacked for a potential White House bid in 2016 or 2020.

"I am pleased to hear Congressman Pence has chosen to seek the Governor's office," said Luke Messer, who said he would be seeking the 6th CD seat. "We'll make a formal announcement in the coming weeks." ❖



Image from Mike Pence's new campaign YouTube video.



## Davis, Buttigieg and Freeman-Wilson emerge in mayoral races while only a few primary upsets

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY**

INDIANAPOLIS - New faces emerged on the Democratic bench as Peter Buttigieg decisively won the South Bend Democratic nomination, Karen Freeman-Wilson did the same in Gary and Vanderburgh County Treasurer Rick Davis won in a landslide in Evansville, though he faces a tough party unity process there.

Other primary victors that essentially are tantamount to winning in November include two-term Bloomington Mayor Mark Krusan; East Chicago's Mayor Anthony Copeland as the first African-American to win a primary there; Jeffersonville Mayor Tom Galligan; and Republican Carmel Mayor Jim Brainard easily fended off a Tea Party challenge. All won by big pluralities. Galligan defeated former mayor Rob Waiz, who defeated him in 2003 before Galligan returned the favor in 2007. Faced with three opponents, Galligan polled a strong 46 percent of the vote.

There were some upsets as incumbent mayors Charles Henderson lost to Mark Myers in Greenwood, Huntington Mayor Steve Updike to Brooks Fetters, and Tipton's Dan Delph lost to Democrat Marty Bond. Of that set, Myers will almost certainly prevail in the November general in heavily Republican Greenwood. In New Albany, Democrat Irv Stumler, running with the endorsement of out-going Mayor Doug England, lost to Council President Jeff Gahan. Stumler originally was recruited to run as a Republican before opting for the Democratic primary at the last minute.



Vanderburgh Treasurer Rick Davis won a resounding victory in Evansville Tuesday night.

It was hard to find a common theme in the upsets. Updike was rejected along with former Huntington Mayor Terry Abbett. It appeared voters in Huntington were looking for a new face. Henderson had a police controversy in the final month of the campaign, advocated moving the 1,100 member First Baptist Church of Greenwood from its longtime downtown home, and tried to annex White River Township. He might have survived any singular issue, but combined he was doomed, even against a three-man challenger field.

But the handful of upsets was small compared to the bloodletting in the 2003 and 2007 mayoral primaries, underscoring the lack of an anti-incumbency dynamic that swept the state in those election cycles. In 2007, about 40 percent of Hoosier incumbent mayors lost.

That's not to say the defeated incumbent ranks won't grow come November.

In Indianapolis, Republican Mayor Greg Ballard is expected to face an intense challenge from Democrat Melina Kennedy in a county that has demographically become much more Democratic. The party was able to win the Marion County prosecutor's office on the strength of a 22,000 straight ballot edge last November.

Republican Muncie Mayor Sharon McShurley,



Former attorney general Karen Freeman-Wilson celebrates her win in Gary Tuesday. (NWI Times Photo)





who won office in 2007 with only a handful of votes, will face a challenge from State Rep. Dennis Tyler, who easily won his party's nomination. McShurley has feuded with her city council, her fire department, and the Delaware County commissioners. Tyler will enter the fall campaign with an HPI Horse Race designation of "Leans Tyler."

In Terre Haute, Republican Mayor Duke Bennett is expected to face an intense challenge from Democrat Fred Nation in a city that has tossed out its last four incumbent mayors. Asked if he would support his former opponent in the fall, Harrison Township Assessor Mick Love, who sent out campaign fliers trying to link Nation to Gov. Mitch Daniels, said he would. "I'm a Democrat," Love said. Nation told the Terre Haute Tribune-Star Love called to congratulate him on his victory. "He was very gracious," Nation said. "He and I will be meeting in the near future." Bennett said he is looking forward to the campaign. "I love this time of year," Bennett said. Nation said he believes the big themes in the mayoral election will include finding ways to bring new jobs to the city. As a former press secretary for Gov. Evan Bayh and through professional contacts he has made through the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, Nation said he believes this is an area in which he has much to offer to voters.

But the real test for Democrats may come in Evansville, where Davis won a 59-41 percent victory over Troy Tornatta, an ally of Evansville Mayor Jonathan Weinzaepfel and Vanderburgh County Democratic Chairman Mark Owen. Tornatta told the Evansville Courier & Press that he would not encourage his supporters or discourage them from supporting Davis. "I told them from the beginning, you need to figure out which candidate you believe in and which candidate you support. I can't make that decision for anyone," Tornatta said. "If there are those who didn't get to vote and feel disenfranchised because



**Terre Haute Democratic nominee Fred Nation after his big primary win Tuesday night. (Terre Haute Tribune-Star photo)**

their candidate didn't win, maybe next time they will get out to vote."

Democratic Chairman Mark Owen, a Tornatta supporter, attributed the loss in part to the flooding and various national issues that might have discouraged voters from participating. Owen also said he is seeing a continuing trend of voters not voting in primary elections because they don't want to be identified with a party. "Voters want to be more independent," he said. Owen expressed optimism that there is enough time to heal any wounds caused by the fractious Tornatta-Davis race. "Democrats are very good at putting primary elections behind them," Owen said. "We've got to be able to pull it together."

The campaign of Republican nominee Lloyd Winnecke was already planning to contact Tornatta supporters to make an appeal.

Buttigieg, fresh off a defeat by Indiana Treasurer Richard Mourdock, defeated State Rep. Ryan Dvorak and St. Joseph Councilman Mike Hamann, who finished second after the tragic death of his wife in Paraguay. Dvorak had attacked Buttigieg with mailers, but many saw that as a desperation tactic. Buttigieg will almost certainly win in the fall and as a 29-year-old Harvard graduate and Rhodes Scholar is poised to become a Democratic power center in north central Indiana.

The biggest shocker came in Fort Wayne, where polls had showed a tight race between Republicans Paula Hughes and City Councilwoman Liz Brown, who failed to wage a TV ad campaign while Hughes conducted a media blitz in the final week. Hughes won with 56 percent of the vote and defeated Brown by more than 3,000 votes.

Hughes was able to gather support from 2007 Republican nominee Matt Kelty, including Kenny Neumeister and Russ Jehl.

Hughes will challenge first-term Democratic Mayor Tom Henry, who, sources say, showed strong approval ratings in polls earlier this year.

There will also be some interesting rematches between Anderson Mayor Kris Ockomon and former mayor Kevin Smith, and Hammond Mayor Tom McDermott and Republican George Janiec.



**Bloomington Mayor Mark Kruzan celebrates his big victory over John Hamilton Tuesday. (Indiana Daily Student Photo)**



Here is a roundup of city mayoral primary results:

**EASY VICTORY FOR KENNEDY:** Melina Kennedy notched an easy win in Tuesday's low-turnout Democratic primary for Indianapolis mayor, but the path to victory in November won't be so simple (Indianapolis Star). The contest pits Republican Mayor Greg Ballard - no longer the underfunded long shot he was in 2007 - against Kennedy, a politically seasoned challenger and former deputy mayor. Kennedy won about 77 percent of the vote against two other Democrats. She has disputed Ballard's handling of public safety, economic development and unemployment, and she stands to benefit in November from an increasing Democratic advantage in Marion County. But political experts caution that incumbency may be a powerful bulwark on Ballard's side. Voters' perception of public safety and the local economy are key drivers in any mayoral race.

**BIG VICTORY FOR REP. TYLER IN MUNCIE:** Dennis Tyler developed an early lead in Tuesday's Democratic Party mayoral primary and didn't look back (Muncie Star Press). But shortly after the last ballots were counted, he was looking forward to the fall election. "We will be successful the first Tuesday in November," Tyler said. "This is just the first step to move Muncie forward." Tyler, like other Democrats, emphasized that the party wanted to take back Muncie City Hall after nearly two decades of Republican mayors. "We are all winners, and we have the opportunity to make history," he said. Tyler defeated two opponents, Ralph "Jigger" Smith Jr. and Kenneth Davenport, to win the right to challenge GOP incumbent Mayor Sharon McShurley in November. McShurley, who had no opponent Tuesday, mustered 1,519 votes. Tyler won his primary with 3,852 votes - or more than 59 percent of ballots cast in that race - to Smith's 2,392 votes and Davenport's 271. Smith, who gathered with other dissident candidates and supporters at the Shrine Club, gave an emotional address to supporters. "It's been a great journey," he said. "We focused on the journey. We didn't focus on the destination. ... I think we took the term 'Team Democrat' to new levels. The people of our city spoke today, and we have to honor that. I ask you to never stop believing in this process." "I always get nervous," said Tyler, who unsuccessfully tried to unseat Republican Mayor Dan Canan in 2003. "With voters, you never know once they get behind that cloth how they're going to vote."

**SMITH, OCKOMON REMATCH IN ANDERSON:** Democrat Kris Ockomon acknowledged before the votes were counted Tuesday how close he felt. "It's one of those where I don't have a clue," the mayor said after polls closed but before the first votes had been counted. "Turnout's been so light, I really don't know. We felt pretty good going around the city and spreading the positive word all day long." The first vote tallies read at Madison County Democratic headquarters uncorked an eruption of jubilation

among Ockomon supporters that built through the evening, as did Ockomon's lead over challenger Fred Reese, Jr. "I'm happy with it," Ockomon said of his final victory margin. Ockomon collected almost 55 percent of the vote in the Democratic primary compared with 38.5 percent for Reese. Rick Alkove received 6.6 percent of the vote. He will face the man he defeated to become mayor, Republican Kevin Smith, in the November general election. Smith won almost four out of every five votes in the Republican primary, even though he was one of five candidates on the ballot (Anderson Herald-Bulletin). "I'm humbled," Smith said of the 79 percent of votes he collected. "I hold to the theory that if you do good work, that will be recognized." Recognizing it after the final votes were counted was Smith's closest challenger, former City Councilman Jay Stapleton, who received about 14 percent of the vote. "I want everyone to know I support you completely," Stapleton said as he appeared at the Polish Club, where Smith supporters had gathered. Stapleton acknowledged Smith's margin of victory surprised him. "I thought it was going to be close," he said. "But there's nothing I can say bad" about Smith. Smith said he was looking forward to a rematch against Ockomon, who defeated him four years ago. "He has four years and I have four years, and I welcome the comparison," Smith said. "We had a good record of four years and I was proud of it." The former mayor said he intends to run on his record that included expanding the local job base and improving the city's image and the performance of city government. He said the city also needs to be more proactive in budgeting with limited resources.

**EASY WIN FOR COPELAND IN EAST CHICAGO:** A nearly 3-to-1 margin of victory over his closest primary election competitor was something Mayor Anthony Copeland said he never saw coming (NWI Times). But just six months after city Democratic precinct committeemen chose him to fill out the remaining term of ousted former Mayor George Pabey, residents likely have given him another four years. The veteran firefighter and former councilman polled decisively against City Councilman Richard Medina and retired railroad worker Clemmie T. Jones, and is headed toward an historically solid general election win in November. Since replacing Pabey, who was convicted on federal corruption charges last fall, Copeland said he has "tentatively" assumed the duties of mayor, keeping the city running without major changes, all the while looking ahead toward what he knew would be a tough battle to keep the job. "Running a city and an election campaign is a lot of pressure," Copeland said above the roar of a celebration at his campaign headquarters. "The people have relieved that pressure, and now we can start looking at a long-term strategy."

**SNEDECOR WINS 2 TO 1 OVER BUZINEC IN HOBART:** Cheers rang out Tuesday after leader board



numbers made it clear Mayor Brian Snedecor had easily defeated a challenge from former Mayor Linda Buzinec (NWI Times). "It sounds like we're doing something right. The voters with a strong voice are saying they believe in what we're doing," Snedecor said. Snedecor, 52, received a big hug and kiss from his wife, Janet, as well as well-wishes from a large crowd of supporters gathered at the American Legion. "We're stuck with you for another four years," City Councilman Jerry Herzog, D-1st, joked. This is the second time in four years Snedecor has faced, and defeated, a challenge from Buzinec in the Democratic primary. Snedecor, who has been serving as mayor since 2008, defeated Buzinec in the May 2007 primary by approximately 700 votes. The margin on Tuesday was nearly 2-1 with votes from most precincts in by 7:30 p.m.

#### **JANIAC REMATCH WITH McDERMOTT IN**

**HAMMOND:** Unofficial voting totals in Tuesday's primary election gave George Janiec another narrow victory over Matt Saliga, who lost to Janiec by fewer than 30 votes in 2007 (NWI Times). The results set up a rematch of the 2007 general election between Janiec and Mayor Thomas McDermott Jr., who won in the Democratic primary race Tuesday. "We've just been flooded and inundated with calls from regular people. They're gearing up to provide their assistance for this forthcoming election," Janiec said. "Money won't solve the problems in the campaign. I don't think you're going to be able to buy your way into the mayor's position." Four people ran in the 2007 Republican primary, but that election was a two-man show between Saliga and Janiec, who combined with 88 percent of the vote. With 28 more votes out of the 980 cast in 2007, Saliga would have won. Early totals on Tuesday put him about 50 votes behind with about 1,300 votes cast.

#### **RIEGSECKER TO CHALLENGE GOSHEN'S**

**KAUFMANN:** Don Riegsecker won his bid for the Republican nomination to face Democrat Allan Kauffman in the race for mayor in the Maple City in November (Elkhart Truth). Riegsecker, relatively new to politics, handily defeated his colleague on the Goshen City Council, longtime Councilman Harlan "Chic" Lantz. "We were hoping it would be clear-cut," Riegsecker said Tuesday evening at the Republican gathering. Indeed, it was. Riegsecker won the race with 1,334 votes to Lantz's 349, a 79-to-21 percent split. In the Democratic contest between Kauffman, the longtime mayor, and newcomer Mike Hanes, the choice was equally clear-cut. Kauffman drew 1,019 votes, while Hanes got 58 votes. "I'm presuming I'll have to work a little harder in the fall. A lot harder," Kaufmann said.

#### **ASHE WINS GOP PRIMARY IN ELKHART:**

From the time the first precinct reported, it wasn't even close (Elkhart Truth). David Ashe rode a strong wave of support to a big win in Tuesday's Republican mayoral primary, capturing more than 85 percent of the vote and the

right to challenge first-term Democrat Mayor Dick Moore. Ashe, 50, served one term on the Elkhart City Council from 2000 to 2003, and has been on the Elkhart County Council since 2009. A retired 16-year veteran of the U.S. Army, he's worked as a truck driver for Allied Waste since 1996. He defeated Harry Housour on Tuesday. Being a mayoral candidate didn't make him any more nervous waiting for results, Ashe said, he was just as worried as he was in previous elections. "You do the best you can and hope for the best," he said. "There's always some butterflies -- at least for me."

#### **HUTTON SEEKS 3RD TERM IN RICHMOND:**

Two-term Richmond Mayor Sally Hutton rolled to an easy victory Tuesday over challenger Jim Hair in the Democratic primary (Richmond Palladium-Item). Hutton received 1,296 votes, or almost 75 percent of ballots cast, to Hair's 433 in final, unofficial results. Hutton will face Republican challenger Bob Goodwin in the Nov. 8 general election. "I'll start tomorrow," Hutton said after receiving congratulations from Hair. "The more you are out and talk to people the more you learn about the community and the people here." Hutton said jobs and economic development will be the big issues in the fall race along with the task of operating city government within a shrinking budget. "There will be more cuts. There will have to be," she said.

#### **COOK, DITSLER WIN IN WESTFIELD,**

**NOBLESVILLE:** Following the lead of Carmel's Jim Brainard, Hamilton County's other two mayors pulled out primary wins Tuesday night -- Westfield's Andy Cook by a little, Noblesville's John Ditslear by a lot (Indianapolis Star). Promoting a vision to build a youth sports park and to redevelop his city's downtown, Cook narrowly won the Republican nomination for a second term as Westfield's mayor. In Hamilton County's closest race, he defeated local businessman and longtime critic Russell Cameron by 72 votes. Cook will face Democrat Kurtis Maddox in the Nov. 8 election. The town became a city in 2008, and Cook is its first mayor. Fueled by development and annexations, Westfield was one of the fastest-growing communities in the state the past decade, exploding 224 percent from 2000 to 2010. Now, 30,068 call the city home, compared with just 9,292 a decade ago.

#### **PHILLIPS TO CHALLENGE LAFAYETTE'S ROSWASKI:**

**SWARSKI:** With the book closed on this year's municipal primaries, mayoral candidates are looking to open a new chapter in their campaigns (Lafayette Journal & Courier). A runoff Tuesday between two Republican candidates for Lafayette mayor -- former steelworker William Reed and freelance theater lighting designer Andrew Phillips -- put Phillips on the general election ballot. There, he'll take on two-term Democratic incumbent Mayor Tony Roswarski in what some political experts have said will be a tough, uphill battle. Four years ago, Roswarski took more than 80



percent of the vote to win reelection. "It is a big task, no doubt about it," said Bob Hicks, chairman of the Tippecanoe County GOP, of Phillips' efforts to oust Roswarski.

#### **RICKETTS WINS LAWRENCE GOP PRIMARY:**

Two incumbent mayors in Marion County's outlying communities gained their party's nominations Tuesday (Indianapolis Star). Lawrence Mayor Paul Ricketts won the Republican nomination over John Solenberg, a former firefighter in the Northeastside city. Ricketts will seek a second term against Dean Jessup, a private investigator who was unopposed in the Democratic primary.

#### **GRAHAM WINS IN SCOTTSBURG:**

Scottsburg Mayor Bill Graham defeated newcomer Christopher Albertson on Tuesday to win the Republican nomination to seek a seventh term (Louisville Courier-Journal). Graham credited longtime supporters for helping him survive an aggressive challenge by Albertson. "I feel like I've done a good job and people see that," said Graham, 69, who advances to the fall race against Democrat Chuck Sebastian, a retired postal carrier who was unopposed for his party's nomination.

#### **WELCH TO CHALLENGE ARMSTRONG IN**

**MADISON:** In Madison, at-large city councilman Damon Welch defeated businesswoman Mindy McGee in another GOP mayoral primary. Welch, 57, will challenge one-term incumbent Mayor Tim Armstrong in the Nov. 8 general election. Armstrong, a Democrat, was unopposed for nomination (Louisville Courier-Journal).

#### **FORMER VINCENNES MAYOR WINS PRIMA-**

**RY:** Former Vincennes mayor Terry Mooney will face the man he named as his fire chief, Republican Joe Yochum, in the November general election (Vincennes Sun-Commercial).

#### **HALL WINS IN CHARLESTOWN:**

Voters in Charlestown gave incumbent Bob Hall a convincing victory Tuesday in the city's Republican mayoral primary, while two well-known Democratic incumbents won their party contests (Louisville Courier-Journal). Hall handily defeated City Councilman Mark Goodlett for the nomination to a second consecutive term and a third overall. Hall, who faces Democrat Donna Ennis in November, said he believes a closing burst of negative campaigning played in his favor. "There was a lot of dirty politics. I think it (the results) says the voters are tired of that," he said.

#### **STRONG TO TAKE ON CROWN POINT'S**

**URAN:** Veteran officeholder Eldon Strong squeaked by political newcomer Paul Keller to win the Republican nomination for mayor (NWI Times). Strong, in his third term as Center Township trustee, declared victory with a lead of fewer than 150 votes over Keller, according to unofficial results with all votes counted. Strong, 58, vowed a united Republican Party would take on incumbent Mayor David Uran, a Democrat, in November. "The party is going to

come together," Strong said, adding that Keller had promised to support him in the general election.

#### **CHROBACK TO FACE MILO IN LAPORTE:**

Mayor Kathy Chroback soundly gained the Democratic nomination in her bid for reelection (South Bend Tribune). More impressive, perhaps, was the margin of victory by 28-year-old Blair Milo over her Republican opponent in the primary election. Chroback had 582 votes in defeating Ron Zimmer, who earned 195 votes. Milo collected 662 votes to 264 for 35-year-old Spencer England. "It's a win for the city and how we are going to be moving the city forward," said Milo, a U.S. Navy officer now in the reserves.

#### **MEER WINS MICHIGAN CITY DEM PRIMARY:**

Since there hasn't been a Republican mayor in Michigan City in about four decades, Democratic nominee Ron Meer is the odds-on favorite to become that city's next mayor (South Bend Tribune). Meer, with 1,445 votes, defeated Robert McKee by 413 votes while John Jones garnered 949 votes to finish third in the race for the Democratic nomination. Joie Winski collected 844 votes while James LaRocco earned 208 votes. Keith Harris, the lone Republican candidate, said that if there is ever going to be another Republican mayor in Michigan City, this is the year because of major changes already happening at the local political level. "A lot of changes are going to take place whether people want them to or not," Harris said.

#### **SCALF DEFEATS FORMER COLUMBUS MAY-**

**OR:** As the vote totals steadily grew in favor of Kristen Brown, so did the congratulatory hugs and handshakes while she awaited final results at a crowded Bartholomew County Republican Party headquarters (Columbus Republic). Brown won the Republican nomination for mayor of Columbus Tuesday by tripling the vote total of her closest competitor. Brown garnered 3,109 votes in the primary, while Greg Renner had 1,011, Joe Richardson 1,004 and Mark White 52. "I've accomplished many things in my life but I'm proudest of this," said Brown, 47. She will face Democrat Priscilla Scalf in the November general election. Scalf won the Democratic primary with about twice the votes of opponent Nancy Ann Brown. "We worked hard," Scalf said of her campaign. "I had a great campaign committee and great volunteers." She said she is confident she can win her general election contest against Brown.

#### **BUTLER STUDENT POISED TO BE MAYOR OF**

**FRANKFORT:** A Butler University student is one step away from being the next mayor of Frankfort (Lafayette Journal & Courier). Chris McBarnes on Tuesday defeated John R. O'Brien in the Republican race for mayor. With all precincts reporting, McBarnes had 1,168 votes to O'Brien's 782. Independent Mayor Chris Pippenger announced last week that he would not seek a second term, endorsing McBarnes in the process. ❖



## The legislative jam session

By **DAVE KITCHELL**

LOGANSPORT - It's been said that 50 percent of the people who make things happen in life are the folks who simply show up.

That could be said for the Indiana General Assembly this year. It's not that the Democrats didn't care. It's that they weren't there for much of the 2011 session after controversial measures came out on the table in the House.



As the dust is settling from the end of this tumultuous four months, it has the feel of a jam session. Not the kind of jam session you might hear at The Slippery Noodle on Saturday night, but the kind that jammed bill after bill through the House without bipartisan support.

No more state funding for Planned Parenthood? If that issue were all about abortion all by itself, that might have been a good issue for Republicans. But they swept the companion issues of family planning, health screenings and educational components about things such as sexually transmitted diseases under the rug of "Reform" with a capital "R" as in Republican.

More charter schools and less collective bargaining for teachers? This would have been a great issue for Republicans had anyone actively been campaigning for it, but they didn't. Now, their feet is to the fire.

New legislative maps that introduce somebody like David McIntosh back into the House of Representatives? This might have been a good issue if McIntosh were still in Congress, but he's been gone a long time, as was the case with Dan Coats. What next, a draft Wendell Willkie movement for the Indiana Republicans?

This could have been a terrific session for the Indiana General Assembly if House Speaker Brian Bosma, Minority Leader Pat Bauer or any number of legislators had assembled before hand to come up with an agenda of some pressing issues facing the state - among them local government funding. As cities such as Logansport cut fund after fund to afford personal services, there was no discussion in sight.

As schools laid off teachers - Lafayette gave notices to over 40 alone - there was no relief in sight from Indianapolis.

With higher education poised as not only a major employer in the state but a potential spark for economic

development and entrepreneurship, there was only a hard line against increases that would have made higher education a higher priority in a state where administrators know a trained workforce is an issue that's a handicap for the state, and not a strong point.

There's another phrase often heard in this country and that's "Be careful what you pray for because you might get it". That applies to this session because the legislature did nothing to address local revenues and infrastructure, and in some sense, it may have done more harm than good.

Which reminds us that 50 percent of the people who make things happen in elections have something similar with the first line of this column—they show up.

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Where were you when you found out Osama bin Laden had been killed by American forces?

I know where I was. Like countless Americans, I'll probably never forget it.

Where were you on Sept. 11, 2001? Like countless Americans, I wish I could forget that day. I can't. I shouldn't.

When a country's civilians are brutally murdered by the thousands in their workplaces, their homes and their seats on jets, we all should remember how evil that is - and never allow it to happen again if at all possible. Maybe we were just too cocky to think that one man could affect the United States so much - but he did.

Bin Laden leaves us with a legacy of an entire cabinet-level post, the Department of Homeland Security. He leaves a legacy of orphaned children, widowed spouses and scarred buildings. He leaves a legacy of an abcess in a neighborhood of skyscrapers in New York City.

But he's left us, once and for all and that's the most important legacy to take forward.

When word came late Sunday night that bin Laden had been shot by American forces invading his Pakistani compound, I wish I had been at the twin towers or at the Mall in Washington, or in that field near Shanksville, Pa., or outside the Pentagon. There had to have been some wonderful American moments in those places, or for that matter, the ballparks where games were interrupted for the announcement.

It was the great British poet John Donne who wrote that death should not be proud, but even Donne would agree that Americans had reason to be proud as soon as bin Laden's death was confirmed.

For a short while, we can collectively appreciate a measure of justice exacted upon the worst tyrant since Adolph Hitler. ❖



## The times, they are a-changin'

By **RUSS STILWELL**

BOONVILLE - A lot has happened since the opening gavel of the 2011 Indiana General Assembly session. As Dylan sang decades ago, "The times, they are a-changin'."

There were winners and losers, as well as a myriad of time bombs for campaigns to come and political junkies to ponder. From the beginning, this session was going to be about change and how that change was defined.



The Hoosier political landscape has changed. New legislative maps entrench the Republicans for years to come. Congressional maps had winners and losers and a host of new candidates are off to the races, even though announcements are in the distant future.

Congressman Joe Donnelly gets screwed in the congressional maps and is positioned to be a formidable U.S. Senate nominee. Senator Lugar is challenged by the tea baggers and the half-cocked state treasurer. And former Speaker John Gregg is on the Democrat circuit. Sure looks like 2012 is going to be a fun year.

Governor Daniels will be making a decision in the next few weeks about his presidential ambitions. Will he or won't he? You would have to be living under a rock if you did not think a Daniels presidential run is imminent.

When House Dem leader B. Patrick Bauer told me back in 2008 that Daniels was running for president, I thought he was nuts. As I have often said, never underestimate Pat Bauer. The former Speaker got it right long before anyone even thought about a Daniels presidential run. Anyone, that is, except maybe Daniels.

My guess is that the average Hoosier did not pay a lot of attention to whom they were voting for in 2010 and what the consequences might be. My crystal ball also informs me that most aren't fully informed about the massive change conducted in Indianapolis over the past few months.

But just wait. I am certain they will be fully informed of the mischief, the walkout and the attacks on public education, labor, Planned Parenthood and more. Every conceivable political angle from every potential advantage point will be hand-fed to every constituency group for political advantage by the Ds and Rs. After all, the election

is only 18 months away.

As with any session, there are winners and losers. Here's my list.

### The Winners:

**1. Governor Daniels.** He laid out an aggressive agenda and he prevailed. And now he is poised to make his run for the White House.

**2. Senate and House Republicans.** They passed a budget, enacted the Daniels agenda and drew legislative maps that protect them for years and elections to come.

**3. Hoosier Business and Corporate Interests.** They got what they wanted in UI reform, got an early Christmas present in the form of a 25% tax cut and every conceivable gift the Republican majority could get wrapped.

**4. Private and Charter Schools.** They received an unprecedented expansion of charter schools and vouchers from taxpayers.

**5. Twenty Newly Elected House Republicans.** They stood up and were counted rather than standing down and heeding advice from wiser and more veteran lawmakers. They were on a mission to move the state to the right or far-right and got the job done.

**6. NRA and Gun Lobby.** Every conceivable gun law that could be imagined was passed. We may even change the name of a few of our smaller communities to Dodge City.

**7. Right to Life.** They passed the most stringent bill on reproductive rights for women in the nation. Did I say court challenge? Hoosier women now can know for certain that breast cancer and abortion have a direct cause/effect, even though not one reputable health care expert believes this to be true

**8. Associated Building Contractors.** This non-union segment of the Indiana construction industry stuck it to the union construction industry. Now they can underbid, pay Hoosier hard hats less money and keep the difference for increased profit. Nice work.

**9. Folks Who Hate Unions.** This group, whoever they are, were the really big winners as the legislature took a meat cleaver (a non-union cleaver for sure) to unions without mercy. Statutory elimination of state collective bargaining; restraints on local bargaining; a complete gutting (again by a non-union cleaver wielding meat cutter) of teacher collective bargain; and an all-out assault on Hoosier construction workers.

**10. Folks Who Hate Public Education.** They got what they wanted: The most expansive taxpayer-funded voucher system in the nation. Money will flow like a gushing fire hydrant from our public schools to private schools.

Now for the Losers.



**1. Governor Daniels.** He now has to put up with a national media cadre that will examine every aspect of his personal life, his political life and policies. Bet his political temperament improves when the press questions his policies from a national pulpit.

**2. House Democrats.** They walked out in protest of a massive anti-worker agenda for a record five weeks. And when they returned, the Rs continued their assault without a ceasefire. They did take Right to Work off the table and modify some of the more radical anti-school and labor initiatives. But the House Ds did make sure that it's OK to stand up for things you believe in. They get an A+ for this.

**3. Hoosier Workers and Unions.** They not only took it on the chin but took a hot poker in the eye for good measure. It was an unprecedented massacre: Cutting UI benefits for Hoosier workers by 25 percent while cutting corporate taxes by the same amount. Eliminating unions at the state level and curtailing them at the local level. Outlawing project labor agreements without referendums. This list is just too long to list.

**4. Local Government, Local Control and Local Ordinances.** Just like Brian Howey reported a couple of weeks ago, the legislature has anointed itself the City and County Council for the state. Whether it's the elected school board, the city or county council, or the myriad of other local bodies, the legislature has decided that "Father Knows Best" when the legislature is in session. Now we can have guns in the city council, our libraries and courthouse. Everywhere but the premises where the law was conceived – the statehouse.

**5. Twenty New House Republicans.** What? How can they be in both the winners and losers? Simple. They were elected by an unprecedented political tsunami and didn't know it. Now they have a voting record that the House Ds will blister them with. Wanna bet that voters in many of these districts just might not like taxpayer-funded vouchers for private schools? Wanna bet that labor and teachers will be motivated with political steroids in 2012?

**6. Planned Parenthood.** Again, Hoosier women have been denied reproductive rights by a majority of middle-aged white men in suits. And I'm not talking about

abortion. Women will no longer have the resources of Planned Parenthood for things like breast cancer screenings and birth control.

**7. Public School Teachers and Public Education.** There was an all-out assault on our public teachers with the elimination of collective bargaining, merit pay and a freight train of tax dollars delivered to private and charter schools. If any group got a hot poker stuck in their eye it was our public educators.

**8. Hoosier Middle Class Workers and Public Servants.** Indianapolis took a full frontal assault on those who teach our kids, build our highways and pick up our garbage. Seems our public servants were the scapegoats. Indiana is better than this, or at least it should be. Reward the corporate community and tell the unemployed to do more with less.

**9. Right to Work Advocates.** Just when they thought they were on the verge of victory, the House Democrats sent them a crushing message. Enough is enough. RTW was taken off the table almost as quickly as it was served.

**10. Middle Class Hoosiers.** House Democrat Leader B. Patrick Bauer said that voters will fill in "the real scorecard" within the next year as education reforms begin taking effect and priorities in the new state budget become apparent. "This session proved the difference between the two parties," Bauer

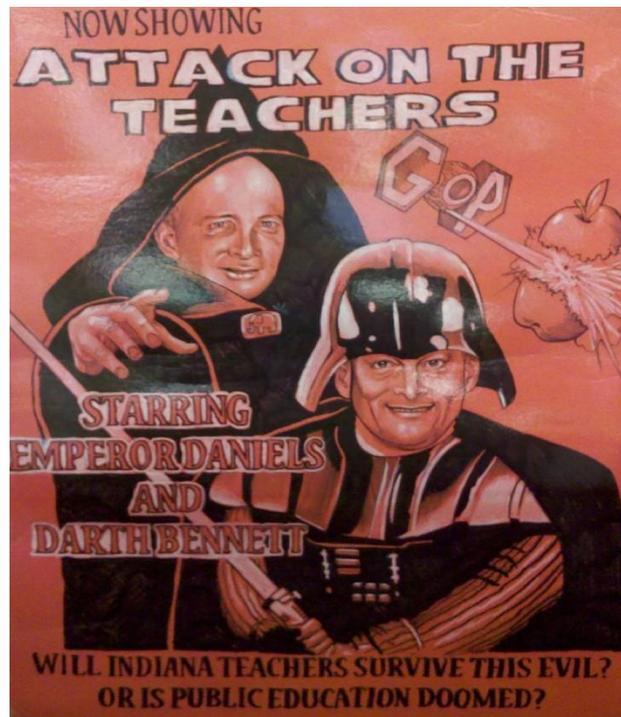
said. "We stood for the working people, the teachers, students, the elderly and disabled, and they didn't." Time will tell.

Maybe it really is a little early to list the winners and losers. But as Bob Dylan sang almost 50 years ago, "The Times, They Are A-Changin'"; the loser now will be later to win."

Only time and Hoosier voters will reveal the outcome. But for now, the Hoosier times are "a-changin'."

"Come writers and critics. who prophesize with your pen, and keep your eyes wide, the chance won't come again. Don't speak too soon, for the wheel's still in spin, and there's no tellin' who that it's namin', for the loser now will be later to win, for the times they are a-changin'." ❖

**Stilwell is former House Democratic majority leader.**





## Buttigieg wins an impressive primary

By JACK COLWELL

SOUTH BEND - Pete Buttigieg, 29-year-old Harvard grad and Rhodes Scholar at Oxford, won a decisive victory in the Democratic mayoral primary Tuesday and is virtually certain to go on in November to be the new mayor of South Bend.



What appeared just a few weeks ago to be a close race between Buttigieg and State Rep. Ryan Dvorak turned into a landslide victory for Buttigieg, thanks in part to a campaign-close switch to negative TV ads and mailings by Dvorak, who attacked Buttigieg as "funded by the same old power brokers."

The tactic backfired.

While negative often works in campaigns, Dvorak failed to build any negatives against his opponent throughout most of the campaign. When he suddenly swatted his chief opponent, the general reaction was: "Why did he do that to that nice young man?"

Dvorak actually slipped to third in the primary totals.

With four serious contenders in the Democratic mayoral nomination race, most projections of political insiders here were that the winner would be the one capturing a third of the vote.

Buttigieg captured 53 percent.

Second place went to County Councilman Mike Hamann, with 19 percent. Tragedy struck when Hamann's wife, Mary, died April 22 in Paraguay, where she went to attend their daughter's wedding.

**Hamann, while of** course not participating in usual campaign activities since then, won respect for his bravery in the face of tragedy, including delivering a moving eulogy at his wife's funeral. Hamann didn't receive "sympathy" votes, really, but more votes from those who took a second look at him and decided he was a fine man who could be a fine mayor.

Hamann, regarded as the campaign began as the candidate of the county Democratic organization, seemed earlier to drop out of top contention after repeated organization defections to Buttigieg.

Those defections, a huge campaign finance lead and key endorsements from the Chamber of Commerce, South Bend Firefighters and the South Bend Tribune gave

Buttigieg momentum that grew and grew and grew into a landslide.

Dvorak, who began as acknowledged front-runner, in large measure because of name recognition from his past election victories and those of his father, Prosecutor Mike Dvorak, finished a disappointing third, with 14 percent, just in front of the fourth candidate, African-American minister Barrett Berry, with 13 percent.

**Wayne Curry, a building** contractor and the choice of the Republican organization, won the GOP nomination in a three-candidate contest in which his two opponents came across as "unusual," to put it politely.

Curry's chances for the fall?

Well, there were just over 1,000 votes in the Republican mayoral primary on Tuesday and over 14,500 in the Democratic primary.

Buttigieg should have no problem winning in the fall to become the new mayor, replacing Mayor Steve Luecke, longest serving mayor (15 years) in city history. Luecke did not seek re-election.

Buttigieg began the campaign as a candidate whose name few voters could pronounce and as a loser, defeated as the sacrificial lamb offered by Democrats last fall for state treasurer amid a Republican tsunami.

His name (pronounced Butta-judge) is one that will



loom large in statewide Democratic politics in the future in view of his impressive win here.

Also a name that could be heard in statewide politics is that of Mike Schmuhl, Buttigieg's campaign manager. He also was campaign manager for Congressman Joe Donnelly in Donnelly's win against that Republican tsunami last November. Schmuhl could go on to work on the expected Donnelly campaign for the U.S. Senate or to be a key member of the Buttigieg administration and in future Buttigieg election efforts. ❖

**Colwell has covered Indiana politics over five decades for the South Bend Tribune.**



## Manufacturing the blessing and bane of our economy

By **MORTON J. MARCUS**

INDIANAPOLIS - In late April, the nation's Bureau of Economic Analysis released its income and employment estimates for the 2009 economies of all 3,000+ counties. Now analysts take their turns to make the shower of numbers blossom as May flowers.



2009 stands as an important year for it was the low point of the recent recession. While personal income nationwide dropped by 1.7 percent, without adjustment for inflation, Indiana's decline equaled 2.3 percent. In rough numbers, Hoosiers had \$5.2 billion fewer dollars to spend or save in 2009 than in 2008. Our earnings (what we made by working for ourselves or someone else) fell by \$8.8 billion. Dividends, interest and rents were \$2.4 bil-

lion lower than a year earlier. Offsetting these shortfalls in income from the private sector was the increase of \$5.3 billion from the federal government, made up primarily in unemployment compensation and other forms of public assistance.

In short, without the federal government stepping up to help, the Hoosier recession in 2009 could have been twice as bad.

The federal stimulus added \$800 million to the Hoosier economy through local, state, and federal jobs. Teachers, firefighters and police officers kept their jobs because the feds did what the state would not do - protect its citizens in times of trouble.

At the local level, the results were mixed. In a time of deep recession, private sector earnings rose in 4 Indiana counties (Greene, Owen, Pike and Dearborn) while private sector earnings dropped by 15 percent or more in Jay, Howard, Elkhart and three other counties.

**Manufacturing alone** accounted for 53 percent of the decline in what people earned at their private sector jobs. While statewide earnings from manufacturing fell by \$5.1 billion (-14 percent), Sullivan County led the state with a 14 percent increase. At the same time, manufacturing earnings dropped by more than 40 percent in Fayette County. Among the 21 counties with 20 percent or greater declines in earning from manufacturing were Jefferson, St.

Joseph, Porter and Henry.

These data also demonstrate the realities of our local economies. Students and Chamber of Commerce board members are taught that manufacturing is the base of the Indiana economy. County extension agents and the Farm Bureau advertise agriculture as the base of our economy. In selected quarters, mining is added into the base.

**In truth, any economic** activity can be part of a community's economic base if it brings money in from other places. Education is a vital part of the economic base in Monroe and Vigo counties because of Indiana University and Indiana State University. Hospitals add to the economic base in Allen and Marion counties while residential services are the chief export of Hamilton and Johnson counties.

Statewide manufacturing accounted for 25 percent of total private sector earnings in 2009, with farming a mere 2 percent and mining a negligible half of one percent.

However, at the county level the story is different. Mining in Knox, Daviess and Gibson counties exceeded 6 percent of total private sector earnings or 10 times the state average.

Farming provided approximately 40 percent of the earnings generated in Warren and Benton counties. Fifteen of our 92 counties derived at least 10 percent of their private sector earnings from farming. Additionally, farming exceeds 5 percent in another 30 counties. Important, but not as dominant as one might believe after attending the State Fair.

**Manufacturing, admittedly** down in 2009, still provided more than 50 percent of the earnings for workers in Kosciusko, Noble, Gibson, Howard and Owen counties. In another 14 counties (including Bartholomew, Elkhart and Jackson), manufacturing paid the bills with over 40 percent of total private earnings. One quarter of all earnings came from manufacturing in another 30 counties (including Cass, Huntington, Jefferson, Floyd and Shelby counties).

Despite the bad year in 2009, manufacturing supplied at least one-fifth of private earnings in 62 counties. Repeated reports of its demise notwithstanding, manufacturing continues to dominate the Hoosier economy. ❖

**Mr. Marcus is an independent economist, speaker, and writer formerly with IU's Kelley School of Business.**



**Doug Ross, Times of Northwest Indiana:** Last Thursday's vote to approve the controversial school voucher legislation, along with other education reforms and the decision to fully fund full-day kindergarten, means the Republican experiment officially has begun. This is a new era in education in Indiana. The state has a long history of education reforms, too, dating back to even before it was a state. The Northwest Ordinance, which created the Northwest Territories, required those territories to provide a free public education. I think about that every year when we Hoosier parents pay the book rental fees -- something few states require. Of particular irony is the implementation of New Tech curriculum at Calumet High School to prepare students for the work force. In Gary, don't forget, William Wirt developed the work-study-play philosophy a century ago. Part of this plan was to prepare children for the work force. Sound familiar? The voucher system is groundbreaking but not necessarily earth-shattering. It is limited to 7,500 students, at least for now. Gov. Mitch Daniels addressed this issue Thursday at a Valparaiso Economic Development Corp. luncheon. Students will have to try a public school for at least a year, he said, and if no charter school -- which is also a public school -- is available, then a voucher would pay for the child's education at a private school. There are income caps, too. Wealthy parents already have school choice. They can afford to send their kids to a private school. The voucher program will help parents who otherwise wouldn't have that option. It's sensible, I think, to limit the program to 7,500 vouchers to see what impact it might have. It's likewise sensible to devote \$150 million to full-day kindergarten now that state revenues have improved. "We know that everywhere it's available, almost 100 percent of the families opt for it," Daniels said. No wonder. Kids today will have to compete on a global scale in tomorrow's work force. They need this boost. "We are in the middle of what I believe will be a transformational year in public education," Daniels said. It's the year in which a key philosophical question has been answered. The state's mission is to educate the child, not to support the public school system. The latter is a means of meeting the objective, not the objective itself. In future years, schools and educators will be held accountable for their performance. So, too, must the education reforms enacted this year be held accountable. I hope these reforms succeed, but that's not guaranteed, at least not for the long term.



**Dan Thomasson, Evansville Courier & Press:** Here's a bit of startling news. This nation is in sad need of experienced leadership not a cheerleader who participates very little in the action. What the country needs is someone

who will put the public's interests ahead of his own political agenda. What we have is a former community organizer who makes policy pronouncements without filling in the details that will be left to someone else -- say another commission. Sadly, voters usually get what they deserve and what they got two years ago was historic proof of that. If it sounds as though I'm fed up with President Barack Obama, that's how I want it to sound. I thought that perhaps the country would benefit from a bright young man who despite inexperience would tackle our severe national problems with new energy. The alternative was a former war hero whose image was frayed around the edges, and whose choice for a running mate was indefensible. Even when one knew through years of observation that all the things being promised by the two-year senator from Chicago probably weren't achievable, he would be in there slugging it out. Obviously he would briskly move to close us out of Iraq and Afghanistan. Obviously, he would bang heads to bring about compromise on fiscal issues including runaway entitlements, to fight it out on immigration. If soaring gas prices threatened economic recovery, he would use his bully pulpit to force them down. None of these things did he do. Instead he spent all his energy promoting an initiative that a majority of us didn't want. His actions on health care reform should have forewarned us that his mode of operation was to let someone else provide the details while he filled the air with platitudes and promises.

**Lesley Stedman Weidenbener, Louisville Courier-Journal:** On Friday morning, as lawmakers prepared for the last day of what had been a cantankerous session, House Speaker Brian Bosma, R-Indianapolis, asked something unusual of his 99 colleagues. He urged them to walk across the aisle that generally divides the Republican and Democratic desks in the chamber, to find folks they hadn't spoken to recently and to shake their hands. Lawmakers looked up at Bosma awkwardly. After all, isn't that the kind of cheesy break-the-ice stuff typically reserved for kids' camps and bad office seminars? But after just a minute, lawmakers from both sides had crossed the aisle and were laughing, talking and hugging. People who'd spent weeks fighting about education issues, tax policy and labor bills suddenly seemed jovial in small group conversations. It was such an odd moment for a session that had featured a 34-day walkout by Democrats, a move that led Republicans to use House rules to fine them more than \$3,000 each for their absences. Bosma and House Minority Leader Pat Bauer, D-South Bend, had been doing an admirable job keeping the tensions that resulted from that walkout - and the aggressive GOP agenda that prompted it - at bay. But just underneath a fairly cordial surface, frustration had been boiling for weeks. ❖



## Commission to rule on Charlie

INDIANAPOLIS - The Indiana Recount Commission will reach a decision on Secretary of State Charlie White's eligibility to hold office by June 30. The commission met this morning to set a schedule for resolving Democrats' challenge to White's candidacy. The Democrats allege that White was reg-

istered to vote at the wrong address when he declared his candidacy, so he wasn't eligible to run.



The commission initially dismissed the complaint last December, but Marion Circuit Court Judge Louis Rosenberg ruled April 7 that the complaint is valid. In an order issued Monday, he told the commission to resolve the complaint by July 6. A hearing on the facts of the case has been scheduled for June 21, and the commission will issue its findings by June 30. At its meeting this morning, the commission also told White's office to turn over to the attorney general's office a report former Secretary of State Todd Rokita compiled about White's voter registration. The Democrats have wanted to see the report for months, and could finally get their hands on it after the commission reviews it and determines whether it's relevant to their complaint. The Democrats and the commission have been at odds over the process to resolve the complaint for a month.

## 93 bills head to Gov. Daniels

INDIANAPOLIS - Bill Watch on Governor Daniels' website has

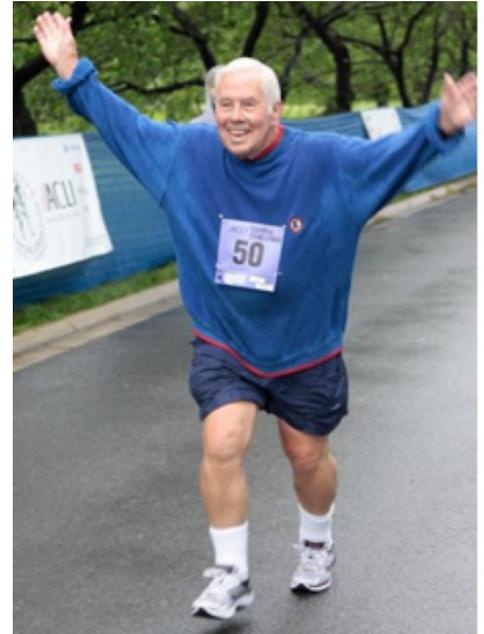
been updated. The governor received 93 bills Wednesday. Bill Watch can be found in the "Newsroom" section of the website or by visiting the link below. This is updated as bills are received and/or action is taken by the governor. 2011 Bill Watch: <http://www.in.gov/gov/billwatch.htm>

## Inspector general clears Charlie

INDIANAPOLIS - The Indiana Inspector General has issued a report clearing Indiana Secretary of State Charlie White of any wrongdoing regarding access to a report prepared by his predecessor – Todd Rokita. Prosecutors had alleged Secretary White had wrongfully accessed the report, yet the report indicates nothing improper. Furthermore, the Inspector General clears the way to release the Rokita report per the request of Secretary White almost two months ago. Rokita had previously made the report inaccessible by public records request. In pushing transparency within the office, White's administration had promised to release the report pending approval from the Indiana Attorney General, the Indiana Public Access Counselor and the Indiana Inspector General. With the Inspector General being the last to sign off as of this morning, the report is being prepared for public access. The complete report by the Inspector General can be found at [http://www.in.gov/sos/files/Inspector\\_Generals\\_Report.pdf](http://www.in.gov/sos/files/Inspector_Generals_Report.pdf)

## Lugar finishes Capitol Challenge

WASHINGTON - Dick Lugar is no longer the fastest man in the U.S. Senate — but he used to be. "That was 25 years ago," he told us Wednesday, as he caught his breath at the end of the ACLI Capital Chal-



enge, a three-mile footrace at Hains Point. "It was usually Max Baucus in second, and Don Nickles third." We have a trade association to thank for our ability to compare the physical mettle of the nation's top lawmakers: the American Council of Life Insurers, which has sponsored the annual race — which pits teams from Hill offices, federal agencies and media organizations against one another — for 30 years now. And the Indiana Republican has competed in each one of those 30 years. At 79, Lugar is more likely to bring up the rear of the 500 or so runners these days, finishing in 44:40 this week after walking part of the way. It was, quite frankly, a miserable day for a footrace. Another senior senator, Harry Reid, slipped and fell in the rain that same morning while out for his own run (he did not compete in the ACLI), dislocating his shoulder. We wondered why Lugar has returned every year — and finished every time, including the year he pulled a muscle and virtually crawled to the line. Well, obviously — because he can. "I'm fortunate to have good health," he said, "and the constituents of Indiana have been kind enough to send me back here, so I'm still eligible."