



Mourdock's tack draws skepticism

Bellwether Media
Barometer picking up
precursors to next week's
Howey/DePauw Poll

By **CHRISTINE MATTHEWS**
Bellwether Research

WASHINGTON - Republican U.S. Senate nominee Richard Mourdock's tack to the center is not getting the kind of buzz he might hope, as the phrase "Mourdock's bipartisanship makeover" emerged this past week as a key theme.

These were the key findings in the latest Indiana Bellwether Media Barometer, a weekly social media research project conducted by Bellwether Research, Howey Politics Indiana and Eli Lilly & Company's LillyPad.

Rather than its intended effect, which is to assure voters that Mourdock is a reasonable guy willing to work with others if elected, it appears to be spawning skepticism in the online conversation, as the graphics on pages 4-6



show).

The role of the Super PACs (Club for Growth and Americans for Prosperity), the new Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee ad, and the increase in ad spending made news last week. With the addition of this week's NRSC ad connecting Joe Donnelly with liberal Obama-Pelosi policies, we will see how this impacts perceptions about

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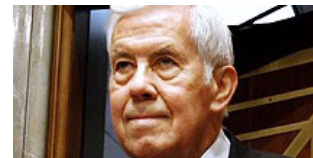
Romney/Ryan debacle

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY**

INDIANAPOLIS – The late Jim Morrison, in a band named after Aldus Huxley's "Doors of Perception," once sang about "weird scenes inside the goldmine."



On Monday in Indianapolis, the goldmine was located in the blue, glistening tower of the billionaire Dean White's J.W. Marriott Hotel, where protesters and TV crews were kept at arms length so Republican vice presidential nominee Paul Ryan could swoop in and make a money haul out of Indiana, which has returned to its former station as political "flyover"



**"I only pick up Brian Howey's polls.
No one else seems to take them."**

- U.S. Sen. Dick Lugar, on being asked by Abdul-Hakim Shabazz whether he's surprised Richard Mourdock is in a tight race with Joe Donnelly



Howey Politics Indiana

is a non-partisan newsletter based in Indianapolis. It was founded in 1994 in Fort Wayne.

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Subscriptions

\$350 annually HPI Weekly
\$550 annually HPI Weekly and
HPI Daily Wire.

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country.

The perception is that Indiana is firmly in the Mitt Romney Electoral College column and, thus, no retail politics was required, though Indiana Democratic Chairman Dan Parker was telling HPI that the latest Global Strategies Poll for Joe Donnelly showed Romney with only a 6% lead in Indiana. The Ryan barrier left political reporters - unable to get anything other than motorcade video - to their own devices. And in what will become an enduring image of this campaign, WTHR-TV's Kevin Rader resorted to the empty front porch of the President Benjamin Harrison home a couple miles away.

Rader reported: Republicans paid anywhere from \$1,000 to \$75,000 to hear, get a picture or talk with the Wisconsin congressman. Things are back to normal in Indiana presidential politics. Most voters who happened to be outside caught a quick glimpse of a motorcade carrying GOP VP nominee Paul Ryan Monday. If you don't pay \$1,000 or more, you are outside looking in. It was quite a different story for Indiana's only president. Benjamin Harrison made all of his campaign speeches in 1888 from his front porch of his Indianapolis home on Delaware Street.

Nine years after Mitch Daniels launched an iconic campaign for governor using a recreational vehicle that cruised into the smallest of burgs, villes and towns across the state, the art of reaching out to the common man is being lost. In 2008, Hoosiers were treated to almost 150 political rallies and press conferences involving Bill and Hillary Clinton, and Barack and Michelle Obama (along with three from John McCain and Sarah Palin). It

was a burst of high-level, retail politics from all the key players.

But in Indiana this year, the state returns to GOP "flyover country."

The Indianapolis TV stations Monday evening lead off with the weather, local homicides and Andrew Luck's first win with the Colts. There's something tawdry about rushing Ryan in for a bigwig fundraiser in the home-stretch of a challenging campaign, bar most of the press, ignore the masses, and then whisk him out of town with the loot that will be spent elsewhere. A quick campaign stop at Shapiro's Deli a few blocks away where Ryan could have met with the little people would have been the top story on the local news.

Hours later, an explosive video



from a Romney fundraiser showed that even the pressphobia of the Romney/Ryan campaign cannot keep a candid moment from view. "There

are 47 percent of the people who will vote for the president no matter what," Romney is shown saying. "All right, there are 47 percent who are with him, who are dependent upon government, who believe that they are victims, who believe the government has a responsibility to care for them, who believe that they are entitled to healthcare, to food, to housing, to you name it." Romney goes on to say his "job is not to worry about those people. I'll never convince them they should take personal responsibility and care for their lives."

So the GOP storyline perception is that those support President Obama are laggardly "takers" while they are the "makers."

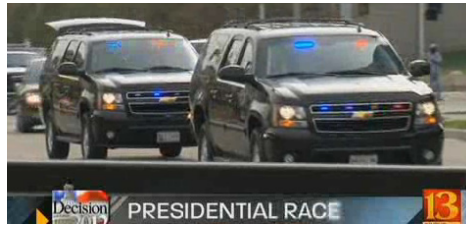
Romney responded to the video by holding an impromptu press



conference Monday night in California, admitting that it was “not elegantly stated,” but he also didn’t distance himself from the remarks, NBC’s First Read reported. “Of course individuals are going to take responsibility for their life, and my campaign is about helping people take more responsibility and becoming employed again.”

By Wednesday, Romney actually allowed the press into a fundraising event where the cameras rolled.

As for the explosiveness of the clandestine Romney remarks, The Washington Post’s Ezra Klein’s reported Tuesday: For what it’s worth, this division of “makers” and “takers” isn’t true. Among the Americans who paid no federal income taxes in 2011, 61 percent paid payroll taxes — which means they have jobs and, when you account for both sides of the payroll tax, they paid 15.3 percent of their income in taxes, which is higher than the 13.9 percent that Romney paid. Another 22 percent were elderly. So 83 percent of those not paying federal income taxes are either working and paying payroll taxes or they’re elderly and Romney is promising to protect their benefits because they’ve earned them. The remainder, by and large, aren’t paying federal income or payroll taxes because they’re unemployed. But that’s a small fraction of the country.



Conservative New York Times columnist David Brooks observed: “Personally, I think (Romney is) a kind, decent man who says stupid things because he is pretending to be something he is not — some sort of cartoonish government-hater. But it scarcely matters. He’s running a depressingly inept presidential campaign.”

By Wednesday, Ryan was acknowledging, “He was obviously inarticulate in making this point.”

Bill Kristol, writing in the Weekly Standard, said, “So Romney seems to have contempt not just for the Democrats who oppose him, but for tens of millions who intend to vote for him. It remains important for the country that Romney wins in November (unless he chooses to step down and we get the Ryan-Rubio ticket we deserve!). But that shouldn’t blind us to the fact that Romney’s comments, like those of Obama four years ago, are arrogant and stupid.”

And Reagan speechwriter Peggy Noonan wrote in the Wall Street Journal, “It’s time to admit the Romney campaign is an incompetent one. It’s not big, it’s not brave, it’s not thoughtfully tackling great issues. It’s always been too small for the moment. All the activists, party supporters and big donors should be pushing for change. People want to focus on who at the top is least constructive and most responsible. Fine, but Mitt Romney is no puppet: He

chooses who to listen to. An intervention is in order.”

Like Ryan, Romney is prepping for his critical debates with Obama and raising money. He hasn’t appeared in a battleground state in four days until Wednesday. He made no public appearances in three days during the past week.

The other “news” kept from view during the stealth Ryan visit came when he “endorsed” Richard Mourdock’s troubled U.S. Senate campaign. “Please, please send us Richard Mourdock,” we were told Ryan said to the rich Republicans. The leak of this quote was meant to offset a current Joe Donnelly campaign add that features a PBS interviewer asking Ryan about Mourdock’s unwillingness to compromise with Democrats, and the House Budget Committee Chairman responds, “I obviously don’t agree with that.”

In an era where the door has slammed shut, a Paul Ryan and Richard Mourdock might have appeared before reporters where an endorsement would have been issued, and questions taken. This time, no photos, no audio. Just a quote from a pool reporter and a small posting on Mourdock’s website.

The Romney/Ryan campaign is in danger of being reduced to little more than a dash for cash, shooting from the hip, and a fear of the gotcha moment, which are happening anyway. The Clint Eastwood convention ramblings, Romney’s Libyan criticism of Obama before the bodies of diplomats had even been secured (Pew Research shows 26% favored Romney’s actions on that, 48% did not), reports of campaign infighting and now the “47%ers” shows a troubled candidacy against an incumbent president in harrowing economic times.

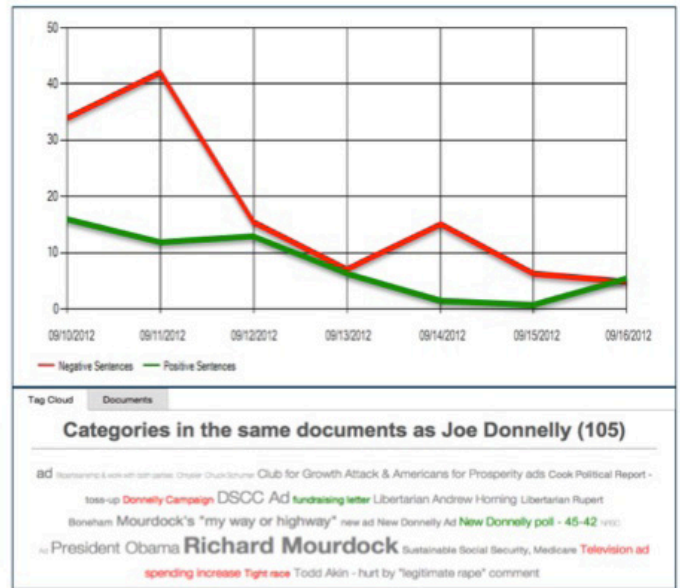
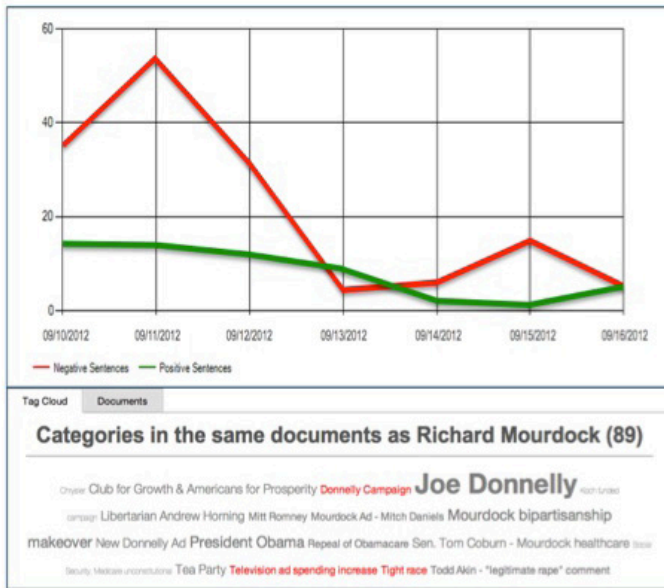
If you’re a Hoosier Republican, you can only wonder what the master strategist, tactician and wordsmith Mitch Daniels might have done with a similar historic opportunity. ❖

Fox News: Obama up in OH, FLA, VA

President Barack Obama has the edge over Republican Mitt Romney in three potentially decisive states in the presidential election in a Fox News Poll released this morning. Obama tops Romney by 7% among likely voters in both Ohio (49-42 percent) and Virginia (50-43 percent). In Florida, the president holds a 5-point edge (49-44 percent). The good news for Romney is that among voters who are “extremely” interested in this year’s election, the races are much tighter. Obama is up by just two points with this group in Virginia (49-47 percent), Florida is tied (48-48 percent), and Romney is up by one point in Ohio (48-47 percent). Independents are nearly evenly divided in each of the states, as well. ❖



Richard Mourdock / Joe Donnelly September 10 – September 16, 2012



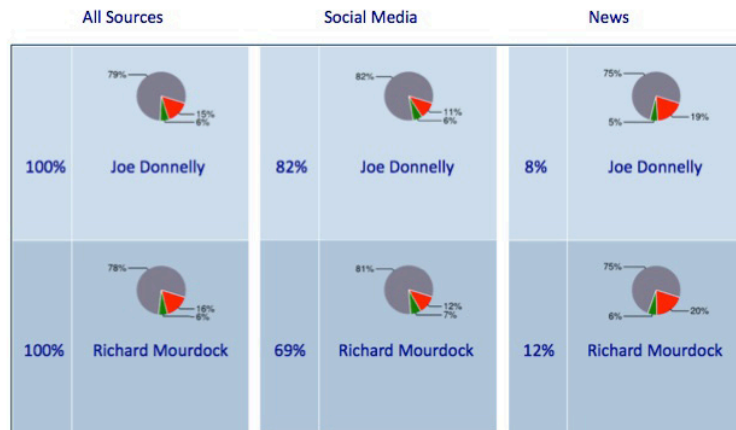
Mourdock, from page 1

Donnelly.

President Obama continues to be mentioned, in a negative way, in association with Joe Donnelly at about the same level as last week, but no emergence of "Obama Joe." And, for Mourdock, his opposition to Obamacare was highlighted by a joint appearance with Senator Tom Coburn in which they focused on the issue.

The Howey-DePauw poll in the field now is testing the impact of the candidates' positions on

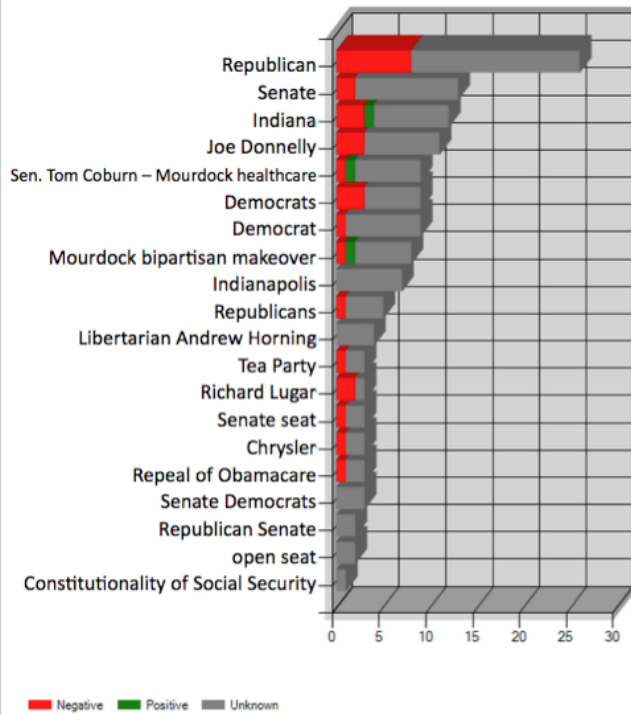
Richard Mourdock / Joe Donnelly September 10 – September 16, 2012



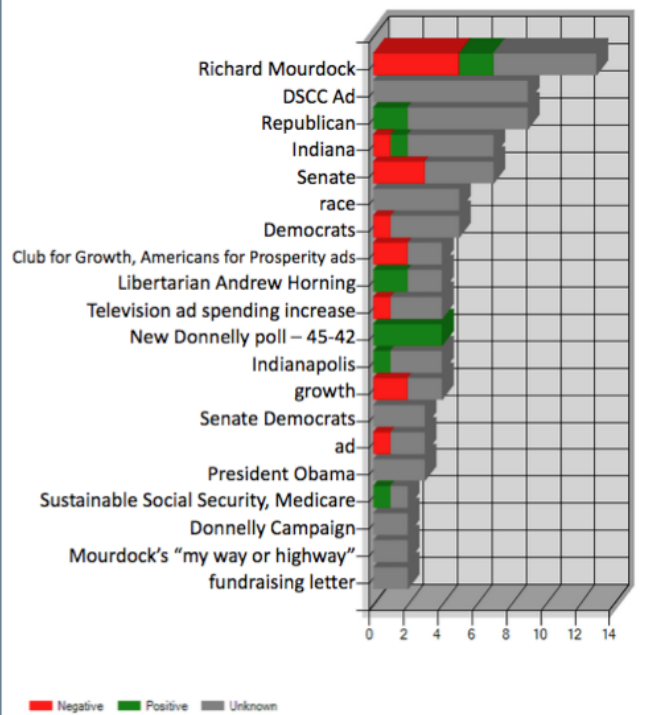


Richard Mourdock / Joe Donnelly September 10 – September 16, 2012

Categories in the same sentences as Richard Mourdock (20)



Categories in the same sentences as Joe Donnelly (20)



Obamacare.

The good news for Joe Donnelly was the release of his campaign's poll which showed him up 45%-43% over Mourdock, and the Cook Report changing the race's status to "toss up." Another theme that emerges is that, as a result of nominating a "Tea Party candidate," the race in Indiana is closer than it could be expected to be. It also appears the Donnelly campaign's attempt to inject the phrase "my way or the highway" into every conversation about Richard Mourdock is having an effect.

Chrysler is another word that shows up in relation to both candidates and the Howey-DePauw poll that comes out next week will provide information on how the issue breaks for the candidates.

Pence/Gregg

The big news day in the governor's race was September 12th. While both candidates took the day off out of respect for September 11th, they both came out strong

the next day focused on economic issues. Mike Pence's ad, A Roadmap for Indiana, made news for him. It also seems to be referred to as the Chevy truck ad. At the same time, there was some criticism that he would focus more on social issues than on jobs.

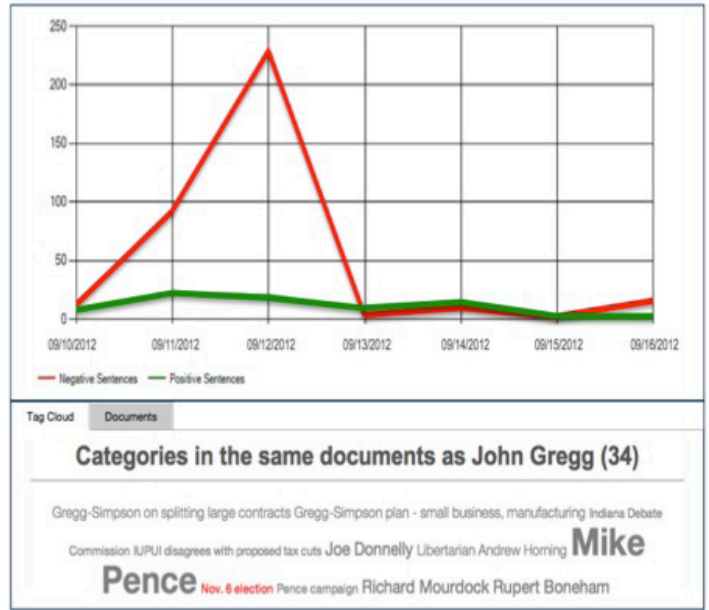
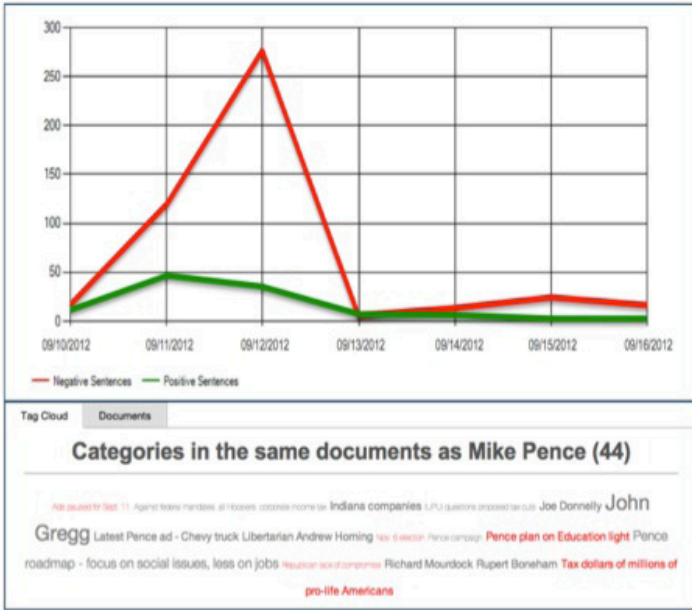
The Pence quote about "tax dollars of millions of pro-life Americans" made it into this week's conversation online. It was not generated as part of the gubernatorial campaign coverage, but rather a resurgence on social media sites – Facebook and blogs – reviewing state efforts to defund Planned Parenthood that mention Mike Pence as one of the conservatives who favors this action.

The Gregg-Simpson small business and manufacturing plan, released on September 12th, made a big splash and generated some positive buzz on the important issue of jobs and the economy for the Democrat.

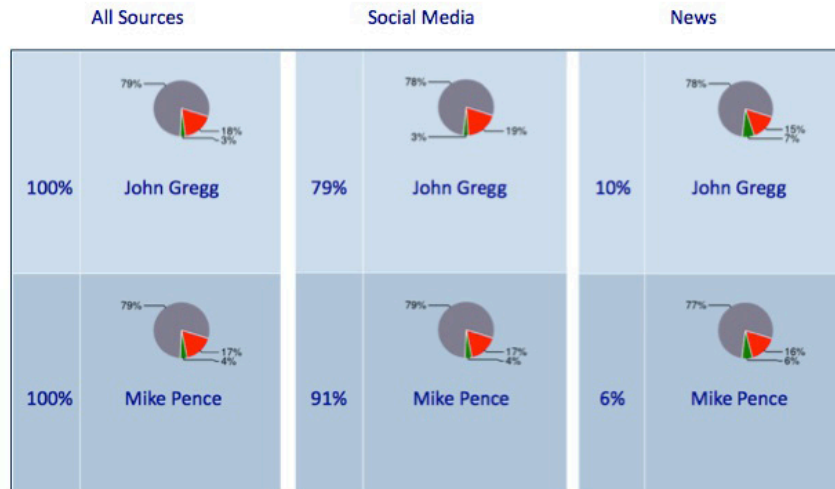
An IUPUI study released last week that called into question the need for corporate income tax cuts was part of the buzz. ❖



Mike Pence / John Gregg September 10 – September 16, 2012

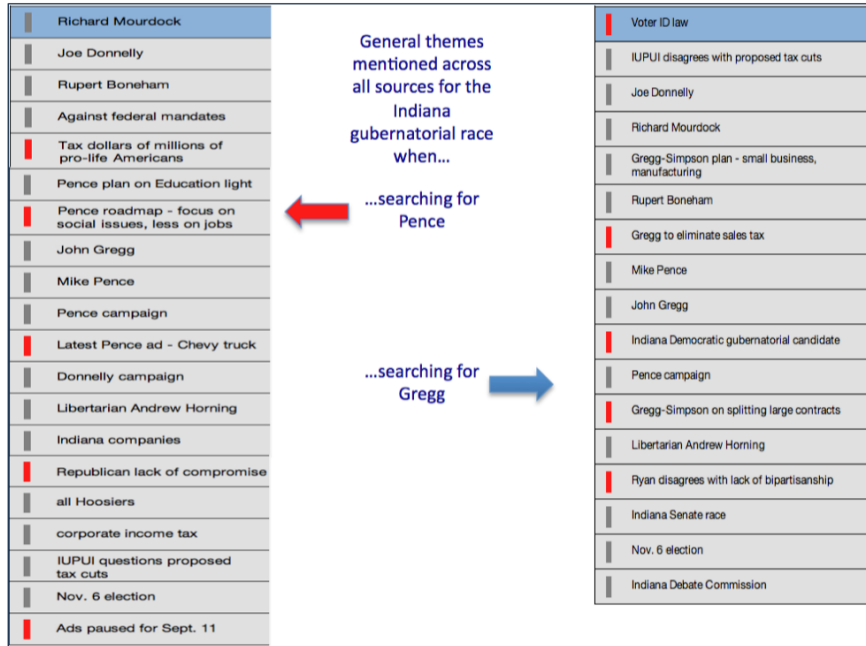


Mike Pence/ John Gregg September 10 – September 16, 2012

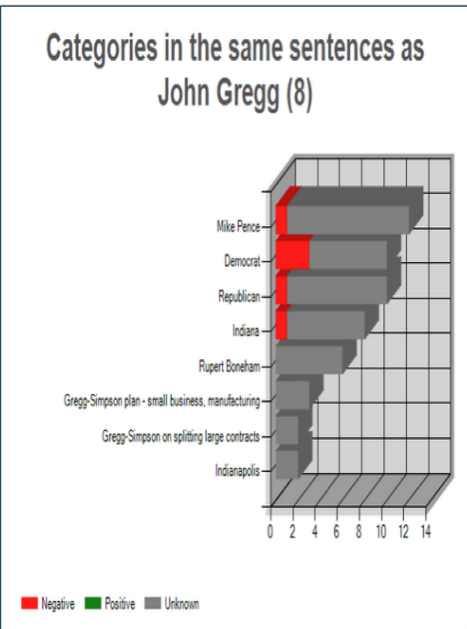
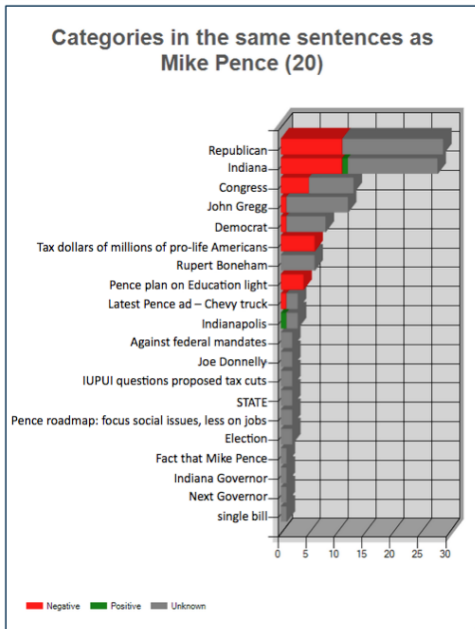




Mike Pence / John Gregg September 10 – September 16, 2012



Mike Pence/ John Gregg September 10 – September 16, 2012





It's cat and mouse with Pence on moral agenda

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY**

INDIANAPOLIS – The cat and mouse game of Mike Pence and the “moral” issues that have been a virtual trademark of his meteoric political career are now beginning to come forward in his gubernatorial campaign against Democrat John Gregg.

Pence has been nothing if not disciplined in maintaining a steady focus on jobs and education in his campaign until this point.

But what is fueling partisan and press interest in his relative silence on moral and cultural issues are several speeches before and during his gubernatorial run suggesting that when the Indiana General Assembly is gavelled into session in January, there will be a vivid agenda up for debate.

At the Values Voter Summit in 2011, Pence said, “We must not remain silent while great moral battles are being waged.” He later told MSNBC, “We’re going to dig in and we’re going to fight for the principle that taxpayers should not have to subsidize the largest abortion provider in the country.”

In his 2011 campaign kickoff speech in Columbus, Pence said, “To restore our economy we must reaffirm our respect for the institutions and traditions that nurture the character of our people. As your governor, I will stand for the sanctity of life, traditional marriage and the importance of organized religion in everyday life. To build an even better Indiana, we must recognize every day that our present crisis is not just economic, but moral.”

Then at the Indiana Republican Convention last June, Pence said, “Our present crisis is not just economic and political, but moral.”

When pressed by the Times of Northwest Indiana’s Dan Carden on this agenda, Pence would only say, “I am who I am and I hold the views I hold, but if I have the

privilege of being governor of the state of Indiana, we’re going to make job creation job one. We’re going to focus on getting this economy moving again.”

Howey Politics Indiana has attempted since June to arrange an interview with Pence to discuss his campaign and these issues, but for four months the campaign has been unable to make him available. But in snippets of information that are growing into a crescendo before the three gubernatorial debates in October, Pence is gradually giving clues on where moral issues might take him.

But when asked about specific issues or legislation, the Pence campaign goes into rote explanations, all leading back to the “Roadmap for Indiana.” The candidate and campaign clearly are not ready or willing to engage in a meaningful conversation about social issues.

Pence was asked about potential pro-life legislation. “I’m pro-life. If the legislature sends me pro-life legislation, I’ll sign it,” he told WISH-TV on Aug. 24.

There were also the controversial comments of U.S. Rep. Todd Akin on “legitimate rape” that brought at-



tention to a bill in Congress that Pence and U.S. Rep. Joe Donnelly cosponsored that would have cut off federal aid for abortion-related services for statutory rape and incest. The bill established a separate category for “forcible rape” and allowed the services to continue for those. Following a massive outcry, lawmakers backtracked and restored the original language that did not differentiate among the types of rape. Pence spokeswoman Christy Denault said Pence “strongly disagrees” with Akin’s remarks in August.

Then Pence unveiled his “Roadmap for Indiana” – a set of policy proposals. It included this: “Promote marriage by requiring a family impact statement for state regulations.”

Evansville Courier & Press reporter Eric Bradner observed in his weekend column: It’s not yet clear exactly



what Pence has in mind. His campaign said it is planning a policy announcement related to that line in the near future. Historically, such family impact statements have been used to indicate whether government policies, especially those involving welfare programs, hand out benefits that inadvertently favor single-parent households (and) discourage marriage.

In conversations HPI has had with a number of prominent conservatives in the Indiana General Assembly over the summer, the emerging "moral/cultural" agenda appears to be centered on these issues:

1. Chemical abortion: Mike Fichter, Indiana Right to Life President and CEO, noted that while abortion rates continue to decline in Indiana, "We are shocked by the rapid increase in the use of chemical abortifacients that are largely unregulated. This is an alarming trend that the Indiana legislature must address." The issue gets murky when the "morning after pill" enters the conversation.

"Biologically, physically, genetically, embryologically, pregnancy begins at conception," said Calgary pharmacist Maria Bizecki, who belongs to Concerned Pharmacists for Conscience, an Alberta group that is lobbying for pharmacists' right to refuse to dispense abortifacients. "The public is being lied to about the way this works. Preven terminates a pregnancy in its very early stages," she said.

2. Personhood: This is the cultural and legal recognition of the equal and unalienable rights of human beings. Proponents of "personhood" link it to Thomas Jefferson, who wrote, "Nothing is unchangeable but the inherent and unalienable rights of man." Proponents explain: "When the term 'person' is applied to a particular class of human beings, it is an affirmation of their individual rights. In other words, to be a person is to be protected by a series of God-given rights and constitutional guarantees such as life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

Mississippi voters in November 2011 defeated a ballot initiative that would have declared that life begins at fertilization, a proposal that supporters sought in the Bible Belt state as a way to prompt a legal challenge to abortion rights nationwide (Huffington Post). The so-called "personhood" initiative was rejected by more than 55 percent of voters, falling far short of the threshold needed for it to be enacted. If it had passed, it was virtually assured of draw-

ing legal challenges because it conflicts with the Supreme Court's 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision that established a legal right to abortion. Supporters of the initiative wanted to provoke a lawsuit to challenge the landmark ruling. The measure divided the medical and religious communities and caused some of the most ardent abortion opponents, including Republican Gov. Haley Barbour, to waver with their support. Opponents said the measure would have made birth control, such as the morning-after pill or the intra-uterine device, illegal. More specifically, the ballot measure called for abortion to be prohibited "from the moment of fertilization" – wording that opponents suggested would have deterred physicians from performing in vitro fertilization because they would fear criminal charges if an embryo didn't survive.

3. Creationism: The Indiana Senate approved a bill that would allow creationism to be taught beside evolution in the state's public school science classes, despite Purdue University chemistry professor John Staver's testimony in front of the panel, saying that creationism is "unquestionably a statement of a specific religion." Education Committee Chairman Dennis Kruse (R-Auburn) said that the bill would not mandate the teaching of creationism, and that it would be up to individual schools on whether to add the theory to its curriculum. "I believe in creationism and it's worthy of being taught equally with evolution theory," Kruse told the Indianapolis Star. "Just because there are constitutional concerns doesn't mean you don't try to get something done you believe in." As the bill was debated, the Associated Press reported Sen. Scott Schneider (R-Indianapolis) said, "What are we afraid of? Allowing an option for students including creation science as opposed to limiting their exposure?" Schneider also said that there are "legitimate questions about the theory of evolution" and that "many scientists agree with the concept of 'intelligent design.'" The bill

died without a vote in the Indiana House.

On these three issues, the Pence campaign released this statement from Denault on Wednesday: "(Answer to 1, 2, and 3.) As governor, Pence would carefully review all legislation before making a decision. His focus is on the 'Roadmap for Indiana' (www.RoadmapforIndiana.com) goals, which he developed after listening to Hoosiers all around the state share their biggest concerns."

When HPI asked: What might the administration propose on life positions? Denault responded, "Mike is proud of his pro-life record and generally supports efforts



U.S. Rep. Mike Pence leaves the Indiana Senate after addressing the body in 2011.
(HPI Photo by Brian A. Howey)



to reduce abortions and protect innocent human life. However, his focus is on bringing new jobs to Indiana, putting Hoosiers back to work, and getting our schools working for all our kids.”

HPI asked the Pence campaign about former U.S. Rep. Tim Roemer calling for a 90 percent reduction in abortions in the state. Does Pence have similar goals? If so, what is the path to achieve them in a policy sense?

The Pence campaign reverted to the “roadmap” once again, with Denault explaining, “Mike has a vision of Indiana as the state that works for all Hoosiers, and has shared a detailed roadmap for Indiana to accomplish that vision. Mike’s ‘Roadmap for Indiana’ outlines specific ways we will accomplish six key goals: Increase private sector employment, attract new investment, improve math and reading skills, increase graduation rates, improve the

Denault responded, “The proposed family impact statements will give state government an important tool to ensure that its actions are encouraging strong, healthy families in Indiana. Mike also proposes to hold an annual summit that brings together leading researchers and practitioners to help us better understand the social and economic impact of family formation, and to assess our progress as a state. The summit would help us understand the implications of new research and practices for both public policy and civil society initiatives. Finally, Mike wants to promote adoption and foster care by lifting the means testing for the school vouchers for parents who adopt children or provide foster care. This will ensure high quality educational options for all of our most vulnerable children.”

The Pence campaign, to this point, has successfully dealt with the issues strictly on its terms via TV ads and policy announcements that include press availabilities. The three debates in October will change this dynamic to an extent, perhaps shedding more light on what policy headlines will be next winter in the Indiana General Assembly.

The Gregg campaign

was asked to respond to HPI’s questions on all these issues, and spokesman Daniel Altman replied: “John believes that the last few years have shown that we need a state government and a governor that will focus like a laser on creating jobs and strengthening the economy. John has been campaigning across the state, talking with voters about ways the strengthen Indiana manufacturing, encourage Hoosiers to start a small business, increase Indiana exports

and expand industries where Indiana is positioned to lead our country, industries like agriculture, advanced manufacturing, energy, logistics and life sciences. As governor, John will focus on these issues that create jobs here, in Indiana, not divisive social issues and he will encourage the Legislature to do the same.”

The Pence campaign has scheduled a rally for the “Roadmap” where it will formally announce the plan. It is scheduled from 3 to 5 p.m. Monday, Sept. 24, at Union Station.

Perhaps, at that point, Hoosiers will hear in Pence’s voice what policy issues will emerge on an agenda that in the past he says should not be met with silence.

HPI Horse Race: Likely Pence.



Republican gubernatorial nominee Mike Pence at his campaign kickoff in Columbus in June 2011 as his family looks on. He is now calling for “family impact statements” on legislation. (HPI Photo by Brian A. Howey)

quality of the Hoosier workforce, and improve the health, safety and well-being of Hoosier families – especially children. Mike agrees with pro-life Democrats that we should work together to reduce the number of abortions in our state and will reach out in a bipartisan manner to protect innocent human life whenever possible. As outlined in the ‘Roadmap for Indiana,’ Mike is focused on bringing new jobs, putting Hoosiers back to work, and getting our schools working for all our kids. If we make progress in these areas, Indiana will move from good to great and become the state that works.”

In a final question to the Pence campaign, HPI asked that since Indiana has a 40 percent rate of children born out of wedlock, how does Mike plan to address this via public policy?



Prelude to Howey/Depauw Poll finds speculation on a tight Indiana Senate race

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY**

INDIANAPOLIS – A week from now, you will be reading the third Howey/DePauw Indiana Battleground Poll of the 2012 campaign cycle, which will be the most credible data shed on the Indiana U.S. Senate race since we were last in the field on April 30 and May 1.

For the intervening week, you can be part of conventional wisdom that has what was once a secure Republican Senate seat now firmly wedged into the tossup zone. A Global Strategies Poll conducted on behalf of Democrat Joe Donnelly (800 likely, Sept. 10-12, +/- 3.5%), showed him with a 45-42% lead over Republican Richard Mourdock. The

Mourdock campaign was also in the field, according to a Politico report last week, and, tellingly, that embattled campaign released no internal numbers.

Key findings from Global pollsters include: Despite a significant Republican advantage in the state, Donnelly remains in a strong position in the race for U.S. Senate. Even with an 8-point party identification advantage for Republicans – and a presidential contest that favors Mitt Romney (47%) over Barack Obama (41%) – Donnelly leads Mourdock by 3-point margin, 45% to 42%, with just 14% of voters still undecided at this time. Undecided voters are friendly targets for Donnelly: Undecided voters in the Senate race break for Obama in the race for President by a 6-point margin and Mourdock's unfavorable ratings (30%) are twice as high as Donnelly's (15%) among undecided voters. While voters remain divided on Mourdock, Donnelly is viewed favorably by voters across the state. While voters give Donnelly a net positive favorability rating (+8 points), they are more mixed when it comes to Mourdock. Just one-third of voters (34%) give Mourdock a warm, favorable rating, while an equal percentage (34%) give him a cool, unfavorable rating. The bottom line is this: Despite a challenging partisan environment and heavy attacks from out-

side groups and conservative PACs, Joe Donnelly has been able to not only hold – but grow – his lead over Mourdock. Hoosiers are simply unwilling to accept the kind of divisive politics that Mourdock has to offer and instead are looking to Donnelly to stand up for Hoosier values and fight for the middle class. "The poll shows that despite Mourdock's Wall Street allies spending nearly \$1 million against Joe since the beginning of September, Hoosier voters are responding to his message of common sense and bipartisanship," said Donnelly campaign manager Paul Tencher. "Richard Mour-

U.S. Senate Upsets 1972-2010

Year	State	Winner	Loser	Margin
1972	Colorado	Floyd Haskell	Gordon Allott	49.4%-48.4%
	Delaware	Joe Biden	J. Caleb Boggs	50.5%-49.1%
	Iowa	Dick Clark	Jack Miller	55.1%-44.1%
	Maine	William Hathaway	Margaret C. Smith	53.2%-46.8%
	North Carolina	Jesse Helms	Nick Galifianakis	54.0%-46.0%
	Virginia	William Scott	William Spong	51.5%-46.1%
1974	Colorado	Gary Hart	Peter Dominick	57.2%-39.5%
1975	New Hampshire	John Durkin*^	Louis Wyman	53.6%-43.1%
1976	California	S.I. Hayakawa	John Tunney	50.2%-46.9%
	Utah	Orrin Hatch	Frank Moss	53.7%-44.8%
	Wyoming	Malcolm Wallop	Gale McGee	54.6%-45.4%
1978	Minnesota	Rudy Boschwitz	Wendell Anderson	56.6%-40.4%
1980	Alabama	Jeremiah Denton	James E. Folsom Jr.	50.2%-47.1%
	Florida	Paula Hawkins	Bill Gunter	51.7%-48.3%
	Georgia	Mack Mattingly	Herman Talmadge	50.9%-49.1%
	Idaho	Steven Symms	Frank Church	49.7%-48.8%
	Indiana	Dan Quayle	Birch Bayh	53.8%-46.2%
	New York	Al D'Amato	Elizabeth Holtzman	44.9%-43.5%
	North Carolina	John P. East	Robert Morgan	50.0%-49.4%
	South Dakota	James Abdnor	George McGovern	58.2%-39.4%
	Washington	Slade Gorton	Warren Magnuson	54.2%-45.8%
	Wisconsin	Bob Kasten	Gaylord Nelson	50.2%-48.3%
1982	Nevada	Chic Hecht	Howard Cannon	50.1%-47.7%
1984	Illinois	Paul Simon	Charles Percy	50.1%-48.2%
	Kentucky	Mitch McConnell	Walter Huddleston	49.9%-49.5%
1988	Florida	Connie Mack III	Buddy MacKay	50.4%-49.6%
1990	Minnesota	Paul Wellstone	Rudy Boschwitz	50.4%-47.8%
1991	Pennsylvania	Harris Wofford*	Dick Thornburgh	55.0%-45.0%
1992	North Carolina	Lauch Faircloth	Terry Sanford	50.3%-46.3%
1998	North Carolina	John Edwards	Lauch Faircloth	51.2%-47.0%
2000	Missouri	Mel Carnahan**	John Ashcroft	50.5%-48.4%
2002	Minnesota	Norm Coleman	Walter Mondale	49.5%-47.3%
2006	Virginia	Jim Webb	George Allen	49.6%-49.2%
2008	Alaska	Mark Begich	Ted Stevens	47.8%-46.5%
	North Carolina	Kay Hagan	Elizabeth Dole	52.7%-44.2%
2010	Alaska	Lisa Murkowski	Joe Miller	39.3%-35.5%
	Massachusetts	Scott Brown*	Martha Coakley	51.9%-47.1%
	Wisconsin	Ron Johnson	Russ Feingold	51.8%-47.0%





dock is trying to whitewash his 'my way or the highway' record and the extreme cuts he wants to make to Medicare and Social Security, but Indiana voters aren't being fooled."

The DSCC has bought \$516,000 in broadcast and cable time in the Indiana Senate race, a source tracking the air wars tells us (Politico). The flight is from Sept. 18 through Sept. 24. The group also added \$242,000 to its flight in Nevada, totaling \$750,000, the source said. It is its first independent expenditure ad in Indiana explaining how Mourdock would "inflict" his radical ideas on Hoosiers: Mourdock thinks Social Security is unconstitutional, wants to raise the retirement age to 69, and immediately cut benefits over \$2,000 a year. He even bragged that his plan is "painful," the DSCC noted. The RSCC is pumping in more than \$700,000 on behalf of Mourdock.

Donnelly's campaign responded to the National Republican Senatorial Campaign Committee's ad, which distorts Donnelly's record as an independent voice for Hoosier families (Howey Politics Indiana). "This is yet another desperate attempt to distract from the fact that Hoosiers are rejecting Mourdock's 'my way or the highway' approach that will do nothing to create jobs, lower the debt, or move our country forward," said Elizabeth Shappell, communications director. "In truth, Joe Donnelly is an independent voice for Indiana families and fought against Richard Mourdock to save over 100,000 jobs in our state. Richard Mourdock said he didn't take a pledge to protect every job in Indiana. Joe will fight to protect and create every single job possible in Indiana."

The poll hits as U.S. Sen. Dick Lugar told Abdul Hakim-Shabazz that he's not planning to campaign for Mourdock. Asked if he was surprised that Mourdock is in a tough race against Joe Donnelly, Lugar replied, "I only pick up Brian Howey's polls. No one else seems to take them. Before the primary was over, I was reported leading Joe Donnelly 50-29. Mr. Mourdock was tied 35-35%. That appears to still be the case. So that campaign is still to be fought." Lugar noted that in his primary loss to Mourdock, "A very low turnout occurred. The most vigorous turnout were people who were against my candidacy. I recognize that. In Boone County —with the largest turnout at 37%, probably because of a school referendum — I won."

Asked if the Mourdock campaign had reached out to him about campaigning for the nominee, Lugar said, "I made no commitments with regard to the campaign except to say the night of the primary election I will vote for Mourdock so that Mitch McConnell and the Republicans will have a majority." Lugar noted that he introduced Mourdock to his Senate colleagues in July, but added, "I

have not been a factor in the campaign and do not intend to do so."

The National Journal released its Senate rankings, and the Indiana race moved up from 13th to 10th on its list: National Democrats have long been bullish on Rep. Joe Donnelly's odds. National Republicans poo-pooed their chances, but now the NRSC is buying air time on Mourdock's behalf. Mourdock still has the advantage because of the state's Republican lean, but Donnelly is competitive enough that Republicans are nervous.

Prof. Larry Sabato's Crystal Ball today notes: So where can we look for this year's shocker? For Democrats, such a victory could come in Indiana, where Sen. Richard Lugar (R) is being forced into retirement after losing a primary to state Treasurer Richard Mourdock. So far, Mourdock has not proven to be an especially strong general election candidate. Polling shows Mourdock and his Democratic opponent, Rep. Joe Donnelly, mired in the low 40s. Mourdock is still the favorite in the Crystal Ball ratings because President Obama has effectively conceded the Hoosier State to Mitt Romney. The resulting GOP coattails should give Mourdock the easier path to victory.

HPI Horse Race Status: Tossup

Governor: Gregg urges rejection of party labels

For Democratic gubernatorial hopeful John Gregg, political ideas should be judged on whether they're sound, not by their seeming place on the political spectrum (Vandenack, Elkhart Truth). Some gauge ideas on whether they fit the Democratic or GOP mold "but I'm not that way," he said during a campaign stop Tuesday in Goshen. "So if you



Republican gubernatorial nominee Mike Pence with vice presidential nominee Paul Ryan Monday at the J.W. Marriott.



think everything's left or right, I'm not your candidate. I challenge each and every one of you to look beyond the party label." Given unemployment, continuing economic jitters and other fiscal concerns, he also doesn't think it's the time to focus on hot-button social issues. "They're important issues, but nobody's ever going to change their mind on them." Rather, the time is ripe for someone who can work equally with Democrats and Republicans, and Gregg said he fits the bill. The lawyer and former speaker of the Indiana House spoke twice here, at the regular meeting of the Goshen Noon Kiwanis Club and then to a crowd at the Goshen Public Library. "That's what Hoosiers want. They want people who will reach across the aisle," said Gregg.

Gregg earned the endorsement of the Indiana Fraternal Order of Police on Monday. The endorsement was announced by Indiana FOP President Tim Downs. "On behalf of the over 14,000 members of the Indiana Fraternal Order of Police, we are pleased to report that we have endorsed John Gregg for governor," said Downs. "Seldom do we find a candidate of his caliber that has demonstrated the leadership and integrity needed to carry out his duties as governor for the great state of Indiana. His support and commitment to Indiana law enforcement has not gone unnoticed." "I am honored to have earned the endorsement of the FOP," Gregg said. "Our policemen and women put their lives on the line every day to make our communities safe for us. As governor, I look forward to working with the FOP and all Hoosiers to create jobs, strengthen our economy and keep Indiana a safe place to live and work."

John Gregg told an occasionally raucous crowd of about 200 Bartholomew County Democrats that, with the right leader, Hoosiers can take advantage of many opportunities, in agriculture, energy and manufacturing, to strengthen the middle class (Columbus Republic). Meanwhile his running mate, Vi Simpson, blasted their opponent, Republican Mike Pence, for what she called anti-women and anti-health care votes and for public comments including comparing the Supreme Court's decision to uphold Obamacare to the terrorist attacks of 9/11. "We're going to win this election," said Gregg, garnering applause from the capacity crowd at Donner Center at the Jefferson-Jackson dinner, which included white cupcakes with blue "mustaches," a whimsical reference to Gregg's facial hair.

State Sen. Simpson called on Pence to oppose adjourning Congress until key farm legislation has been passed. House Republicans announced that they would adjourn a week early so that they can spend more time campaigning, despite the fact that important legislation such as the Farm Bill is set to expire on Sept. 30, affecting Hoosiers by increasing food costs and leaving farmers without a permanent solution to their problems (National Journal, 9/14/12). "Congressman Pence and his colleagues have 12 days until the current Farm Bill expires, and they need to

do their jobs," Simpson said. "If the Farm Bill expires, food prices will go up, and farmers will have no protection in case of drought or disaster like we have seen this summer."

Horse Race Status: Likely Pence

2nd CD: New Walorski ad

Republican Jackie Walorski released a new ad conveying her commitment to protect Social Security and Medicare from cuts. The ad says Walorski understands how important it is to seniors that these programs are maintained and protected, especially after recently helping her mother file for Social Security. The commercial will air over the next few weeks on South Bend broadcast stations in the district. Walorski announced her participation in two upcoming debates; she has accepted invitations from the Wabash Chamber of Commerce and WSBT Radio in South Bend. "I look forward to participating in these two debates in the coming months," said Walorski. "I believe both debates will provide an opportunity for greatest number of voters throughout the district to hear from the candidates in dynamic formats." The WSBT radio debate proposal is set to include a live stream online broadcast, WSBT radio broadcast, and simulcast on WSBT-2. The Wabash Chamber of Commerce will host the other debate in the newly drawn part of the 2nd District, allowing voters newly included in the district to hear from their candidates. **Horse Race Status:** Leans Walorski

7th CD: May on national security

Republican nominee Carlos May outlined the first of his national security positions in light of the recent tragedy in Libya and the multitude of attacks and riotous protests against the U.S. throughout the Middle East and other parts of the world (Howey Politics Indiana). He also asked Congressman Andre Carson to seek answers from the Obama administration on details they may know and be able to share even before an FBI investigation is complete. "The failure of the administration and those that support and defend their positions are numerous. To protect Americans and American interests in the future, we must understand our mistakes and learn from them," said May. This is the first in a series of announcements from candidate May as he begins his Seven Weeks of Solutions for the 7th District and America campaign leading up to the Nov. 6 election. At least one issue per week and his solutions will be discussed by May. **Horse Race Status:** Likely Carson

Statewides: More big donors for Bennett

Tony Bennett reported another large campaign contribution Monday, the latest in a string of gifts that have netted the Republican state superintendent's re-election campaign at least \$175,000 since August 31 (Indiana Public



Media). **Horse Race Status:** Safe Bennett

Indiana General Assembly

HOUSE CANDIDATE ARRESTED ON COCAINE

CHARGE: A candidate for state representative and former Logansport city councilman is in jail on multiple drug charges (WIBC). Cass County sheriff's deputies and members of the Cass County Drug Task Force arrested 52-year-old Kerry Worthington Thursday afternoon on a warrant for dealing cocaine. The sheriff's office says Worthington allegedly sold cocaine to a confidential police informant at his bar, Worley's Inn, in Logansport. **Horse Race Status:** Safe Friend

DELANEY UP ON THE AIR IN SENATE RACE: Democratic State Senate candidate Tim DeLaney takes to the airwaves in his first television ad. DeLaney is running in District 30 against Republican Scott Schneider, who has been running ads since August (IndyPolitics). This race is considered to be a tossup.

AFL-CIO MAKES LEGISLATIVE ENDORSEMENTS: The Indiana AFL-CIO, a statewide federation of labor unions representing more than 300,000 active workers, issued additional endorsements of candidates for the general election. They include Indiana State Senate: SD 40 Mark Stoops (D); Indiana House of Representatives: HD 39 John Strinka (I); HD 42 Mark Spelbring (D), HD 44 Rick Thompson (D), HD 51 Lon Keyes (D), HD 48 Dan Morrison (D), HD 69 Jim McCormick (D). "We are pleased to endorse these candidates, knowing that once elected they will stand

up for the rights and dignity of all working people and help to restore balance in the halls of government," said Nancy Guyott, Indiana AFL-CIO President. "Working men and women have been under attack at the Statehouse and in the halls of Congress for far too long – that's why it's critical we elect these candidates to stop those attacks and begin to rebuild an economy that works for all of us."

FIREFIGHTER GROUP ENDORSES MOED: Justin Moed, candidate for state representative in House District 97, released a statement thanking the Indiana Professional Firefighters Union for its endorsement (Howey Politics Indiana). "It's an honor to be recognized by these great public servants who put their lives at risk every day for other people's safety," Moed said.

U.S. Senate: Dems lead in key races

New Fox News polls released late Wednesday show Democrats ahead in Senate races in Florida, Ohio and Virginia, the latest sign that Republicans face an increasingly uphill path on their quest to regain control of the Senate in the November elections. The polls, conducted for Fox News, show Sen. Bill Nelson, D-Fla., with a comfortable, double-digit lead, while Sen. Sherrod Brown, D-Ohio, and former Virginia Gov. Tim Kaine hold narrower advantages.

Nelson leads Rep. Connie Mack, R-Fla., 49 percent to 35 percent, with 12 percent undecided. In Ohio, Brown leads Republican state Treasurer Josh Mandel, 47 percent to 40 percent, with 9 percent undecided. The Virginia race is closer, with Kaine leading former Sen. George Allen, 47 percent to 43 percent, within the poll's margin of error. ❖

General Election: Romney vs. Obama

RCP Electoral Map | Changes in Electoral Count | Map With No Toss Ups | No Toss Up Changes

Polling Data						
Poll	Date	Sample	MoE	Obama (D)	Romney (R)	Spread
RCP Average	9/12 - 9/18	--	--	48.2	45.3	Obama +2.9
Rasmussen Tracking	9/16 - 9/18	1500 LV	3.0	46	47	Romney +1
Associated Press/GfK	9/13 - 9/17	807 LV	4.3	47	46	Obama +1
Gallup Tracking	9/12 - 9/18	3050 RV	2.0	47	46	Obama +1
Pew Research	9/12 - 9/16	2268 LV	2.4	51	43	Obama +8
NBC News/Wall St. Jnl	9/12 - 9/16	736 LV	3.6	50	45	Obama +5
Monmouth/SurveyUSA/Braun	9/13 - 9/16	1344 LV	2.7	48	45	Obama +3



Sen. Steele calls for pot decriminalization

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY**

NASHVILLE, Ind. - Senate Corrections, Criminal & Civil Matters Committee Chairman Brent Steele has come out favoring the decriminalization of possession of small amounts of marijuana, telling CHNI reporter Maureen Hayden that the state's current laws are like "smashing an ant with a sledgehammer."

His call for the reform comes just months after the city of Chicago took similar steps. At least 14 states have rolled back criminal penalties for possession of small amounts of marijuana, and 17 states and the District of Columbia allow the use of "medical marijuana" as pain treatment. Steele says he believes the state's marijuana possession laws are too harsh. "We have to ask ourselves as a society, do we really want to be locking people up for having a couple of joints in their pocket," Steele said. "Is that how we want to be spending our criminal justice resources?"

The conservative Republican from Bedford is hardly alone among the ranks on the right moving away from harsh marijuana laws that jail more than 16,000 Hoosiers annually. U.S. Rep. Ron Paul told Fox News that enforcing marijuana restrictions is a "useless battle." Half-term Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin called it a "minimal problem" adding, "If somebody's gonna smoke a joint in their house and not do anybody any harm, then perhaps there are other things our cops should be looking at."

On the Dec. 16, 2011 edition of his "700 Club" show on the Christian Broadcasting Network, Rev. Pat Robertson said, "We're locking up people that take a couple of puffs of marijuana and the next thing they know they've got 10 years. I just believe that criminalizing marijuana, criminalizing the possession of a few ounces of pot and that kind of thing, it's costing us a fortune and it's ruining (the future of) young people."

Former U.S. House Speaker Newt Gingrich and Pat Nolan recently wrote, "There is an urgent need to address the astronomical growth in the prison population, with its

huge costs in dollars and lost human potential. We spent \$68 billion in 2010 on corrections - 300 percent more than 25 years ago. The prison population is growing 13 times faster than the general population. We can no longer afford business as usual with prisons. The criminal justice system is broken, and conservatives must lead the way in fixing it."

Steele says he does not favor legalization or medical marijuana. Hayden reported: He doesn't want to do away with laws, for example, that carry tough penalties for people who drive under the influence of marijuana. And he's convinced there are other laws that will catch people who are drug abusers. "We're talking about simple possession. Some kid caught with a couple of joints in his pocket," Steele said. "Mere possession has nothing to do with use or abuse."



State Sen. Brent Steele becomes the most prominent legislator to call for marijuana decriminalization.

In an Oct. 19, 2010 report by Jon Gettman, Ph.D. for The Bulletin of Cannabis Reform, there were 16,397 arrests for marijuana offenses in Indiana in 2007 (88 percent for possession) and 15,597 in 2003. Pot busts accounted for 6.22 percent of arrests, costing Indiana's legal system \$148.81 million in 2006. Marijuana usage in Indiana is down from 521,000 in 2003 to 512,000 in 2007.

The criminal justice system in Indiana cost \$2.39 billion for 2006, according to Dr. Gettman. This includes state, county, and local costs. Here is the breakdown for those costs: police protection \$1.04 billion; judicial and legal

services \$419.53 million; and corrections \$934.10 million. Harvard senior lecturer Jeffrey A. Miron estimated that decriminalized marijuana possession in Massachusetts (similar to Indiana in population) would save \$29.5 million annually.

Gettman ranks Indiana as the seventh largest indoor marijuana producing state producing 66,577 pounds valued at \$106.3 million and 17th in total production at \$205 million. The top four states are Hawaii, Tennessee, Kentucky and California.

Of the top cash crops in the U.S. in 2006, marijuana led at \$35 billion, followed by corn at \$23 billion, soybeans at \$17 billion, hay at \$12 billion, vegetables at \$11 billion and wheat at \$7.45 billion. In Indiana, marijuana is the third ranked cash crop at \$312 million in revenue, following corn at \$1.8 billion and soybeans at \$1.5 billion. It is the top ranking cash crop in Kentucky, third in Illinois, Michigan and Ohio. ❖



To win, Mordock must change his image

By JACK COLWELL

SOUTH BEND - Changing images. That's what it's all about in Indiana's surprisingly close race for the U.S. Senate.

To win, despite himself, Republican nominee Richard Mourdock must change his image from that of uncompromising right-winger who proclaimed frequently that Washington needs less bipartisanship, not more.



To win, despite mounting TV attacks, Democratic nominee Joe Donnelly must keep his former congressional opponent, Chris Chocola, from changing Donnelly's moderate image to that of left-wing partisan.

TV ads that blanket the state provide the tools for image change.

As Indianapolis Star columnist Matthew Tully wrote about a Mourdock TV ad aimed at changing Mourdock's image from "king of no-compromises" to "bipartisan problem-solver," that is "an utterly fictional commercial."

But it could work.

Maybe not so well, however, with Mourdock, stumbling again as he risked speaking for himself at a rare news conference rather than relying on the slick TV ads.

Since the King of No-Compromises poses now as Mr. Bipartisan, Mourdock was asked if he could name some Democrat in the Senate with whom he could work. Mourdock couldn't name one.

This gave another opening for Donnelly, who often has reached across the aisle to work with Republicans, especially with Congressman Fred Upton, who represents a neighboring district in Michigan.

While Donnelly is a moderate, often irritating liberals by breaking with House Democratic leaders and the Obama administration on key fiscal votes and issues such as Cap and Trade, conservative super PACs seek to change his moderate image with ads citing other votes, such as for the affordable care act.

In a way, it's the third Donnelly vs. Chocola contest.

Chocola, president of the Club for Growth, which seeks in Republican primaries to purge Republicans not rated true, uncompromising conservative, twice faced Donnelly in 2nd Congressional District races. Chocola won in 2004, retaining his congressional seat. Donnelly beat him in 2006, replacing Chocola in Congress.

Now the Club for Growth has hit Donnelly with an \$800,000 TV blitz, seeking to change that moderate image.

It's nothing personal, Chocola has said. And, indeed, the Club for Growth makes pragmatic decisions on where to throw its support, its millions of dollars, allocating resources for the best chances to win, not for liking or disliking candidates personally. Chocola wouldn't toss in bundles of money against Donnelly just because Donnelly once defeated him. But his organization will spend whatever it takes against Donnelly because of heavy investment already in money and prestige in the Mourdock cause.

Club for Growth was instrumental in Mourdock's defeat of Sen. Dick Lugar in the Republican primary. Chocola said then that defeat of Lugar would not endanger Republican chances of retaining the Senate seat this fall.

Chocola predicted a Republican tide in Indiana, with Mitt Romney easily carrying the state and Mike Pence winning big in the race for governor. His prediction appears accurate.

But he didn't count on Mourdock stumbling so early, so often.

After the nasty primary battle with Lugar, when Mourdock needed to persuade Lugar supporters to unite with him, Mourdock sent out a fund-raising letter denouncing Lugar for betrayal. Mourdock blustered: "Against all odds and with the establishment working day and night to defeat me, we retired a 36-year entrenched incumbent senator, who routinely betrayed conservative voters to push through some of the most radical aspects of President Obama's agenda."

He gloats about beating a Republican "establishment" that now he needs.

And Lugar supporting radical aspects?

Well, Lugar, like Donnelly, did support saving the American auto industry and all those Chrysler jobs in Indiana. To Mourdock, who opposed it, the auto rescue was radical.

The Indiana Senate seat once was in the "sure Republican" category. Most national gurus who evaluate all the races, now have it "leans Republican," still in play. Jennifer Duffy of the Cook Political Report, explaining why it has become "fairly even," said she had "never seen a candidate have a worse first 48 hours" than the way Mourdock stumbled out.

Changing images nationally are important.

If it appears that Donnelly really could win, money from Democratic sources nationally will flow to defend him, to counter spending by the Club for Growth and others seeking to save the investment in Mourdock. It's all about changing images - one way or the other. ❖

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



An honor for Hatcher

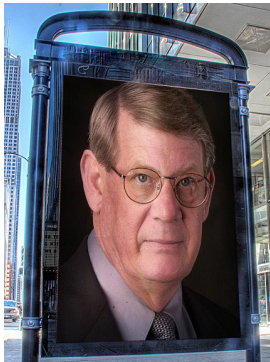
By **RICH JAMES**

MERRILLVILLE – You know how it is when you hear something and say, “Geez, I wish I had thought of that.”

This is one of those times. And not only do I wish I had thought of that, but I’m wondering why it took so long for someone to come up with the idea.

It is all about Gary, and perhaps its most noted resident – former Mayor Richard Gordon Hatcher.

Hatcher, who continues to reside in Gary and teaches at Valparaiso University, was the city’s first black mayor and one of the two first black mayors of a major U.S. city. Both Hatcher and Cleveland’s Carl Stokes were elected in 1967.



Especially for Hatcher, that was quite a feat. Until the Gary City Council passed an Open Housing Ordinance in 1966, blacks lived in Midtown. That’s just how it was. The blacks knew it and so did the whites. By day, blacks were free to roam anywhere they chose in the city. At sundown, they returned to Midtown.

Blacks, like state Rep. Charlie Brown and state Sen. Earline Rogers, told me a couple years ago that the segregation wasn’t really a problem because jobs were plentiful and the Midtown housing stock was solid. And, besides, no one really thought about it, that’s just how it was.

So Gary went from being one of the most segregated cities in the country to one of the first to elect a black mayor. Gary had about 180,000 residents back then. There are just 80,000 left. Some blame Hatcher for the white flight from the city. That’s not totally fair.

The majority of the white leaders refused to work with Hatcher and headed for the suburbs. And as the individual wealth left the city, so too did the businesses. And when steel began its massive decline some 10 years after Hatcher’s election, unemployment mounted and eventually gave way to crime.

Despite the criticism, Hatcher did many good things for the city. He lured a hotel to downtown that eventually became the Sheraton. It was meant to house the out-of-towners who came to U.S. Steel, just a couple blocks away. But mostly, the hotel was built to house the multitudes that the Genesis Convention Center –across the street from the hotel – was expected to draw.

The Genesis Center was perhaps Hatcher’s crowning achievement. Besides conventions and restaurants, it

has a basketball court and once housed the professional Gary Steelheads team.

I remember the pride exhibited by some when the Genesis Center was dedicated some 30 years ago. The Rev. Jesse Jackson, who is close to Hatcher, was the keynote speaker at the dedication. “Now, the Merrillville rip-off is over,” Jackson said. Jackson’s reference was to the Star Plaza Hotel and Theater, which had become a major convention site just a few years before in Merrillville.

The Genesis Center never reached its full potential but remains an important downtown facility for the city. The Sheraton closed years ago and is a candidate for demolition. Hatcher, of course, did other things for the city, such as bringing in millions in federal dollars for housing, particularly for senior citizens.

But after 20 years as mayor, economic problems – most of which were beyond his control – took their toll and Hatcher was defeated.

So, who had the perception that no one else has had?

Give the credit to Lake County Prosecutor Bernard Carter. Carter said the city should back the construction of a tribute to Hatcher somewhere in the downtown area. Carter suggested a monument, including a statue, to the man who gave the city’s segregated minorities a lot of hope. Perhaps a downtown park or band shell or something else to attract the public would be appropriate. It could serve as a source of pride for longtime Gary residents and those who weren’t yet born when Hatcher took over as mayor. Sadly, many of those likely don’t know the importance of Hatcher’s election.

Carter ran his idea by Charlie Brown, who came to Gary from Philadelphia in 1960 to become a school teacher. Brown then played a major role in Hatcher’s first election. And who is to pay for all this tribulation? Perhaps current and former Gary residents who still take pride in their city should foot the bill. Yeah, those who made it big either directly or indirectly because of their relationship to the city, ought to get involved.

It is a project that Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson should pursue.

And who should take the lead? Dennis Rittenmeyer, the former president of Calumet College of St. Joseph and now the head of the newly reconstituted Quality of Life Council and One Region/One Vision initiative, would be a good one.

So, too, would Calvin Bellamy, the former president of Bank Calumet, who remains the area’s top advocate for regionalism.

Hatcher wasn’t perfect. Far from it. But he was a groundbreaker for the black community and deserves to be remembered for it. ❖



Allysia Finley, Wall Street Journal: As if Republicans needed more bad news. Senate race polls in Florida, Ohio, Wisconsin and Massachusetts over the past week have shown GOP candidates slipping, and now it looks like Indiana, which was once thought to be a safe seat for Republicans, could be hanging in the balance. An internal poll from Democratic Rep. Joe Donnelly's campaign shows him leading Republican state Treasurer Richard Mourdock by three points, which may not be too far off the mark. In early August, Rasmussen had Mr. Mourdock ahead by two. A couple of weeks later the Donnelly campaign released an internal poll that showed their candidate up by one. This, despite the fact that the Republican incumbent Dick Lugar hasn't won with less than 65% of the vote since 1988. Recall that Mr. Mourdock toppled the iconic 35-year incumbent in a contentious party primary this spring by attacking Mr. Lugar as too moderate and compromising. Even so, Republicans were favored to hold onto the seat. In 2010 Republicans had picked up every state-wide office as well as two congressional seats and a U.S. Senate seat; flipped the state House; and racked up a super-majority in the state Senate. Meanwhile, Rep. Joe Donnelly nearly lost his seat after Republicans clubbed him for voting for ObamaCare and the stimulus. This race shouldn't be close, and the fact that it is should be disconcerting to Republicans. The National Republican Senatorial Committee is planning a \$650,000 ad buy to prop up Mr. Mourdock and buffer a \$500,000 ad campaign that Democrats are rolling out this week. Republicans also sent vice presidential candidate Paul Ryan to Indianapolis on Monday to raise money and campaign for Mr. Mourdock. But the person who could help the GOP candidate most on the trail—Mr. Lugar—has been conspicuously absent. The incumbent announced this week that he won't be campaigning for Mr. Mourdock, and his anti-endorsement undermines Mr. Mourdock's efforts to model himself after the Great Compromiser. Mr. Mourdock needs to improve his image among independents, and Mr. Lugar's decision to stay on the sidelines isn't helping. ❖



Andrea Neal, Indiana Policy Review: At 3.4 percent, Indiana's personal income tax is one of the nation's lowest. A half dozen states, including Texas and Florida, don't charge income tax at all; 41 states impose a rate higher than Indiana's. At 7 percent, the Indiana sales tax ties for second highest with four other states. The only higher one is California's at 7.25 percent. Indiana is one of just a few states that charge a sales tax for gasoline on top of an excise tax. Our excise tax is 18 cents a gallon -- relatively low -- and doesn't change as gas prices fluctuate. Its revenues are used to pay for highways, roads and other infrastructure maintenance. In contrast, the 7 percent sales

tax goes to the general fund. It brings in more revenues to the state as gas prices go up. The data are important to remember as Hoosiers consider the campaign tax proposals of our governor candidates, Democrat John Gregg and Republican Mike Pence. Gregg wants to permanently eliminate the state sales tax on gas at a savings to taxpayers of \$540 million a year. He figures that rising gas prices are pinching family budgets, and they could use the break. Pence suggests cutting the state individual income tax by 10 percent, to 3.06 percent, which would save Indiana taxpayers \$530 million a year. He says that's a good way to give their money back to taxpayers when the state is collecting more than it needs. Both proposals seem off the mark if the goal is to deliver across-the-board relief. An impact study by the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy in Washington, D.C., concluded that 12 percent of Hoosiers would "see no benefit" from the Pence plan. Those are lower-income families who don't pay income taxes at all, but do pay sales taxes on most things they buy, groceries and medicine excluded. Also, an income tax cut at the state level results, somewhat ironically, in Hoosiers sending more money to Washington. That's because taxpayers who itemize on their federal returns can deduct state and local income taxes. According to the institute, Pence's plan would erase \$50 million in itemized deductions. Gregg's plan suffers from a similar flaw. It would give immediate relief to motorists; yet many of the lowest-income Hoosiers don't own cars and would get no benefit. Plus it gives unwarranted benefit to all those tourists passing through Indiana on their way to elsewhere. ❖

Eric Bradner, Evansville Courier & Press: Especially in front of conservative audiences, Republican U.S. Rep. Mike Pence has used a familiar line. "Our present crisis," he has said to groups ranging from the Indiana GOP convention to an Americans for Prosperity conference to a tea party gathering in Las Vegas, "is not just economic and political, but moral." He used a similar phrase at the Values Voters Summit in 2010: "We must not remain silent while great moral battles are being waged." His rhetoric underscores what those who have followed Pence's career already know: Much of his political rise, and his popularity among certain groups of voters, has been built on his stances on cultural issues. That philosophy has yet to show up on the campaign trail in the Indiana governor's race, but Pence's campaign last week gave a clear indication that it will soon. If Pence does intend to use state government to promote marriage, it would mark a significant departure from his campaign-trail stance so far this year. He has called education and economic prosperity social issues, as well, and indicated he is more interested in those. ❖



Medicaid cost impact discussed

INDIANAPOLIS - Indiana could fully implement the Affordable Care Act and provide Medicaid health coverage to a half million uninsured Hoosiers for at least four years without requiring any new revenue (Carden, NWI Times). Seema Verma, the state's health reform consultant, told a panel of lawmakers Wednesday that revenue from a 2007 cigarette tax hike used to fund the Healthy Indiana Plan for the working poor and state money currently spent on a high-risk health insurance pool could be repurposed to pay the state's share of an expanded Medicaid program, as called for in the Affordable Care Act. Federal law requires states to expand Medicaid eligibility starting in 2014 to Americans earning up to 133 percent of the federal poverty level, which is \$14,856 for an individual or \$30,657 for a family of four. However, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled earlier this year that states can't be penalized for not following the law. Expanding Medicaid eligibility to comply with the law would cost Indiana an average of \$200 million a year from 2014 to 2017, according to state actuary Rob Damler, of Milliman Inc. Verma said that four-year cost of Medicaid expansion could be paid using \$278.3 million in HIP cigarette tax reserves and \$334.8 million in projected 2014-17 collections, along with annual savings of \$48.5 million from eliminating the state's high-risk insurance pool no longer needed because the Affordable Care Act guarantees coverage for pre-existing conditions. After four years, the state's Medicaid expenses would increase as the federal government reduces the share of health costs it pays for new Medicaid participants.



The federal share is scheduled to gradually drop to 90 percent by 2020 from 100 percent in 2014-16.

Book on Mourdock, Chrysler suit

INDIANAPOLIS - State Treasurer Richard Mourdock's attempt to force Chrysler into liquidation remains one of the least-understood parts of his record in office, a problem Indiana Democrats say they're going to solve with the release of "My Way or the Highway: The True Story or Richard Mourdock's Job Killing Quest Against the American Automotive Industry and How it Launched a TEA Party Hero." My Way or the Highway is an e-book, and available for free download or for e-readers including the Amazon Kindle, with release pending on Amazon.com. Democrats say that it highlights several under-reported aspects of Mourdock's lawsuit against Chrysler, including his agreement to an earlier deal that contradicts his explanations for suing, the strange timing of his decision to hire a Manhattan law firm, and the guaranteed financial loss he was exposing Indiana to by filing suit. "Murdock has serious questions to answer, and had refused to do so," said Indiana Democratic Chairman Dan Parker. "His 'my way or the highway' politics cost Hoosiers millions of taxpayer dollars and nearly killed 100,000 Indiana jobs. Indiana deserves a Senator focused on job creation, not one who says he 'didn't take a pledge to protect every job in Indiana.'"

Espich suggests budget panel split

UNIONDALE - The Indiana House panel tasked with writing a state budget every other year is facing a potential split. Literally. Departing House Ways and Means Chairman Jeff

Espich tells The Journal Gazette of Fort Wayne that splitting its taxing and budgeting duties into separate House committees might work. The idea stems from an overhaul of the state Senate in 2004. Then-Senate President Pro Tem Robert Garton divided Senate budget duties after then-Finance Chairman Larry Borst lost re-election. Espich is retiring after 40 years in the General Assembly. The House's new budget leaders will likely be picked by House Republicans after November's elections. Republicans hold a hefty 60-40 seat edge in the House.

Obamacare tax could hit 6 million

WASHINGTON — Nearly 6 million Americans — significantly more than first estimated— will face a tax penalty under President Barack Obama's health overhaul for not getting insurance, congressional analysts said Wednesday. Most would be in the middle class. The new estimate amounts to an inconvenient fact for the administration, a reminder of what critics see as broken promises. The numbers from the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office are 50 percent higher than a previous projection by the same office in 2010, shortly after the law passed.

Drones to be tested in Indiana skies

CRANE - Indiana is bringing unmanned drones to the state for testing, as a part of a plan to market the state's defense operations more aggressively throughout the U.S (Indiana Public Media). Indiana's National Center for Complex Operation, which was established at the beginning of this year, uses the state's military bases to test military equipment and technology that before it is put into practice.