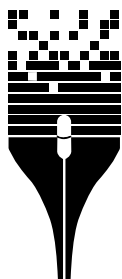


The Howey Political Report



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“QUOTE” OF THE WEEK

“It’s a smear campaign. We know who started it, but I’m, not going to get into it...”

- Brian Kerns, 7th CD Republican, on reports in The Hill and WTHR that he was behind in his child support, to the Terre Haute Tribune-Star

Poll gives O’Bannon narrow 41-37% lead

Governor does well with independents

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY** in Indianapolis

The first NUVO-TeleResearch Poll of the 2000 campaign has revealed the Indiana governor's race to be a potential barn burner. The statewide poll conducted from March 26 to April 2 (924 likely voters, +/- 3.2 margin of error) shows Gov. Frank O'Bannon leading Republican David McIntosh 41 to 37 percent, with 22 percent undecided.

The silver lining for O'Bannon is that he is doing well with the critical battleground voting group - independent women - where he leads McIntosh by a 3 to 1 margin. Among all independents, O'Bannon has a 39-27 percent lead with 34 percent undecided, running much stronger in the 219 and 812 area codes in northern and southern Indiana. In central Indiana, where McIntosh is much better known in the Indianapolis media market, the independents were evenly divided. "That will be the key voting group and right now O'Bannon has them," said pollster Jeff Lewis of Tele-Research. "That 60 percent approval rating going into a re-election campaign is pretty good.

“That's got to be very encouraging for O'Bannon in looking where the undecided vote is going to go.”

The governor also has a 60 percent "very favorable" or "somewhat favorable" rating, compared to 47 percent for McIntosh.

On issues, "quality of public education" rated 36 percent with voters, with "property tax reform" running second at 31 percent. The other three issue questions included "rising prices and the economy" (15 percent), crime (13 percent), and managing the environment (5 percent). Again, the

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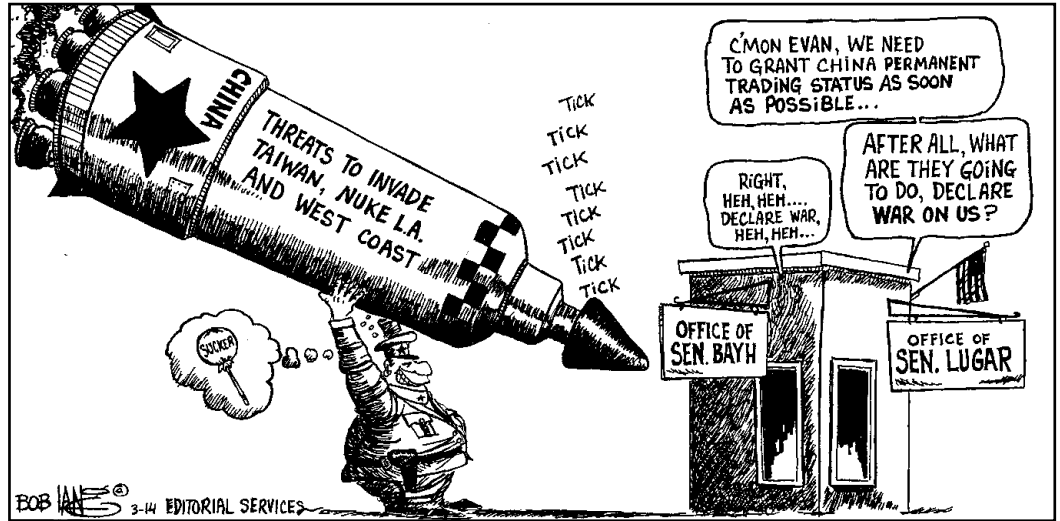
TICKER T A P E

BUSH TOPS GORE: The Indianapolis Star/WTHR poll shows that Texas Gov. George W. Bush is leading Vice President Al Gore in Indiana, 54-36 percent. In the same poll, 81.3 percent of respondents said they favored moving the Indiana presidential primary to an earlier date. Also, President Clinton's fav/unfav rating was 44.6 to 54.9 percent.

CARTER SUPPORTS CONSUMERS: Republican Attorney General candidate Steve Carter said that he would make telemarketing legislation his "top priority" if elected. Carter said he would make it "free" for consumers to join the AG's "do not call" list.

GUIDE CORP. WANTS GUIDANCE: The Indiana Department of Environmental Management last month subpoenaed records from Anderson's Guide Corp., the city of Anderson, General Motors, Ulrich Chemical and Heritage Environmental as part of its investigation of the White River winter fishkill (Ken de la Bastide, Anderson Herald). On Friday, the deadline for such action, Guide attorney Art Kalleres said the company is asking a Marion County court for guidelines as to what records needed to be turned over to IDEM, and for the court to act as a referee in the matter.

Continued on page 3



Poll, from page 1

education issue is huge with the battleground demographic - independent women. "That is a very important issue for them," Lewis said. It is territory that McIntosh has already tried to carve out in his TV ad campaign, having already spent thousands of points in all major Indiana based markets. That issue has resulted in traction for McIntosh.

There is additional good news for McIntosh. In a head-to-head with Republican primary opponent John R. Price, O'Bannon leads 52-23 percent, which will bolster the congressman's case that he will be the best nominee for the party.

McIntosh is accomplishing something that former Gov. Otis Bowen advised him to do last summer - bring home Republican voters who have broken ranks over the past 12 years to vote for Evan Bayh and O'Bannon. The Democratic governor is only drawing support from 7 percent of the Republicans, compared to the 22 percent he won in his 1996 upset victory over Stephen Goldsmith. McIntosh is attracting 9 percent of the Democrats, which is on par with what Republican Sue Anne Gilroy received in the 1999 Indianapolis mayoral race.

Star differential

The NUVO/TeleResearch numbers

offer a sharp contrast to the Indianapolis Star/WTHR poll released last week. It had O'Bannon leading 53.4 to 36.2 percent over McIntosh. But that poll conducted by the Indiana University Center for Survey Research revealed no specific demographic information on gender or age. It noted that it had an 825-person scientifically random survey, but then said the head-to-head numbers included only 650 people who said they intended to vote. Then in Saturday's edition of *The Star*, a correction was printed lowering Gov. O'Bannon's job approval rating from 61 percent to 56.2 percent. *The Star/WTHR* poll had an error margin of 4.5 percent.

The Star/WTHR Poll shows that only 9.8 percent are undecided (compared to 22 percent in the NUVO/TeleResearch), which is a very small percentage for the early stages of a campaign. It makes even less sense that the undecideds stood at a greater percentage - 14.6 percent - in the head-to-head with John R. Price, who stands little chance of winning the primary. *Star/WTHR* had O'Bannon leading Price 66.9 to 17 percent.

TeleResearch has accurately forecast within the margin of error 13 out of 15 of its pre-election races (it predicted the winners in the other two), including the 1999 Indianapolis mayoral race. TeleResearch accurately forecast that O'Bannon would carry Marion County in

1996 against Mayor Goldsmith and was right on the money in the 1998 10th CD race . For a history of Tele-Research polling, see www.howepolitics.com.

Campaign reaction

O'Bannon campaign manager Tom New said the NUVO/TeleResearch survey "is not consistent with any other poll I've seen. I don't think the race is that close. We've never had an internal poll with the governor under 50 percent."

The poll was taken after McIntosh had spent almost eight weeks in statewide TV advertising, touting his position on education issues, including an advocacy of ending the ISTEP program for an annual one-day exam. McIntosh's name identification has also risen to 75 percent in the NUVO/TeleResearch Poll, compared to 91 percent for the governor.

Late O'Bannon campaign

Part of the disparity between the two polls is that TeleResearch is finding that McIntosh's TV ad campaign is striking a theme with voters, driving his name ID to 75 percent, while O'Bannon's camp sat on the video sidelines for eight weeks. O'Bannon did not begin his 2000 TV ad campaign until Tuesday. Should he lose in November, it would be the third major election since 1996 where an opponent was allowed to go up on TV without a response from his opponent. And the time frame keeps pushing back. Goldsmith failed to respond to O'Bannon in August 1996, and Gilroy let Bart Peterson go up uncontested for about five weeks in May and June of 1999.

McIntosh spokesman Rob Collins reacted to the NUVO/TeleResearch Poll, saying, "David has done well as far as the effectiveness of his statewide ads, which until Tuesday were up all by themselves. The governor is clearly vulnerable whether you look at the NUVO survey or the Star's. Someone who has been on the ballot for 12 years and is below 50 per-

cent is a stunning indictment on his ballot strength. David McIntosh is a congressman who represents one-tenth of the entire state. To be at 37 percent in this poll is a testament to the hard work David has done."

Death penalty

NUVO/TeleResearch also asked likely voters statewide three questions on the death penalty: Would you prefer life sentences without the possibility of parole; do you favor reviewing the death penalty; or do you favor no change? The results revealed that 26 percent favored life sentences without parole; 37 percent favored reviewing the death penalty; and 37 percent favored no change.

Last month, Gov. O'Bannon appointed a commission to review Indiana's death penalty procedures. That came in the wake of Illinois Gov. George Ryan's decision to suspend all death penalties after almost a dozen death row convicts were freed when new evidence came to light. Gov. O'Bannon has not suspended the use of the death penalty and there is a scheduled execution in the near future. TeleResearch pollster Jeff Lewis observed, "Gov. O'Bannon has hit a chord here. If you put the people who want to abolish the death penalty and replace it with life with no chance of parole along with the people who favor a review (63 percent) you can tell they don't like the current procedures. They think the entire process needs to be rethought." ❖

HORSE R A C E

	NUVO	Star
O'Bannon	41	53.4
McIntosh	37	36.2
Undecided	22	9.8
Fav/Unfav		Fav Fair Poor
O'Bannon	60/31	56.2/ 36 / 3.3
McIntosh	47/28	22.5/ NA
Price	16/29	8.0 NA

TICKER T A P E

PETERSON AIMS AT VIOLENT VIDEOS: Indianapolis Mayor Bart Peterson unveiled two major initiatives. He proposed his first ordinance as mayor, which would restrict access to violent video games to children. Peterson also announced that city employees could take days off to participate in school activities.

SKILLMAN, KENLEY CHAIR GOP PLATFORM: Republican Chairman Mike McDaniel announced that State Sens. Becky Skillman and Luke Kenley will chair the state party platform committee. The platform committee will have public hearings from 4 to 7 p.m. April 6 in Evansville at the Airport Marriott; 4 to 7 p.m. April 13 at the Rural Electric Cooperative Building in Indianapolis; and 4 to 7 p.m. April 20 at the St. Joseph County Republican headquarters in South Bend.

SHARPTON A NO-SHOW - AGAIN: The Rev. Al Sharpton, a New York civil rights leader, missed a second scheduled appearance at Terre Haute's Greater Victory Temple Saturday night (Jason Hathaway, Terre Haute Tribune-Star). The Rev. Tino Smith of the temple said Sharpton's absence was due to a scheduling conflict. He earlier was scheduled to be in Terre Haute last Thursday.

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TICKER T A P E

Smith said he will go to New York this week to try to arrange a new appearance date for Sharpton.

A SURE THING? Allan J. Lichtman, dean of the history department at Washington's American University, has developed a historically based system for predicting the winners of presidential elections. He says it has worked for every election since 1984, which is only four elections ago. His system measures the strength of the incumbent party based on 13 diagnostic questions, or "keys." Four measure its strength and unity, seven register its perceived achievements and failures, and two measure the charisma and personality of the candidates. If five or fewer keys turn against the incumbent party, it wins. Lichtman says Al Gore has eight keys in his favor, so it must be all over.

BOAT NOT FOR SALE: The general manager of Trump Indiana says the floating casino is not for sale (Rich James, Gary Post-Tribune). R. Bruce McKee said the boat's revenues aren't growing as fast as some competitors but it's not a financial drain on Donald Trump's parent company. An \$11 million bond payment looms in June, but McKee said the payment will be made. The Trump boat's February revenue was stagnant, but the

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COLUMNISTS ON INDIANA

Susan Taylor, *Evansville Courier & Press* - On Wednesday, Indiana Gov. Frank O'Bannon made Evansville one of his stops on a two-day tour of the state to announce a big surprise-he's running for re-election. After he finished talking to the gaggle of television reporters, I got a chance to question him about the proposed Interstate 69. I told the governor that he was being criticized by local Democrats and Republicans for not taking more of a leadership role in naming the Interstate 69 route through Southwestern Indiana. The governor gave his assurances that he supports I-69 and has since he was a state senator. I asked O'Bannon if he had talked to his fellow Democrat, Gov. Paul Patton of Kentucky. O'Bannon responded that he had not and that the project was really Indiana's until it gets to the Ohio River. Wow! How is that for communication, cooperation and arrogance? ❖

Bob Hammel, *Bloomington Herald-Times* - Within the last year Bob Knight has been in headlines for a conversation he didn't have and one he did; for a player who left his Indiana basketball program quietly, and one who didn't; for a dinner with his wife and her sisters and a hunting trip with friends. It's amazing what a guy will do to get infamy. The day CNN's broadside against Knight made newspaper headlines was March 15 — in ancient Rome, the ides of March. As this explosion with the three-year-old fuse plays out, the coincidence of the date gets more and more company from the Shakespeare tales of Julius Caesar, the Roman ruler whose soothsayer-predicted death came on March 15, 44 B.C. Learning by rote was much more in fashion in my educational days than it is today. Always present in the deep wrinkles of my mind are lines from the Marc Antony funeral ora-

tion, as relayed by Mr. Shakespeare. The evil that men do lives after them; The good is oft interred with their bones ... Quite true. And sometimes death isn't even required. You all did love him once, not without cause ... And that, of course, is true, too. Maybe there never has been a better known nor a more popular athletic figure in Indiana than Bob Knight as Indiana moved up and up and up in national college basketball. ❖

Max Jones, *Terre Haute Tribune-Star* - There's really no way to avoid dealing with the fact the Interstate 69 route debate is a parochial battle that breaks down along geographic lines. When local leaders became engaged in the issue and began to aggressively oppose the new-terrain route through southwestern Indiana in favor of using U.S. 41 and Interstate 70, they knew the debate would not always be pleasant. To their credit, they pressed on. Terre Haute's interest in the I-69 routing issue isn't complicated. Common sense tells us the principal route between Evansville and Indianapolis is through Vigo County. It stands to reason that if an interstate highway is built from Evansville to Indianapolis through Bloomington, a significant amount of traffic would be diverted away from this area. As a regional retail magnet dependent on its transportation system as an economic lifeline, Terre Haute should be expected to defend its turf, its businesses and its people. What's more, with an industrial park blooming south of the city, an improved highway network would be helpful to any economic development effort. But there's lots of money at stake in this highway project, and it's obvious that highway contractors and Evansville officials want a direct route to Indianapolis that does not include Terre Haute. Can you blame them? Of course not. ❖

PERHAPS... W E W A N D E R

By Brian Howey

Reader reaction to Howey's 'IU Enabler' Knight column

In January when we put IU basketball coach Bobby Knight on our honorable mention list of Indiana's 50 Most Influential political people, some people thought we were crazy. I wrote a critical column about Coach Knight last week, and received more mail on it than on any other I've ever written. Here is a sampling:

■ ■ ■

Tell you what....You bring your kids up how ever you want, but life is hard as HELL and you will not prevent them from hearing your version of "BAD" words and tantrums in this world. Bobby Knight has HIS way of coaching and teaching. Deal with it. You may not like it but Indiana has one of the Best grad. classes in college. I think you and the rest of the "Lets take down who ever we can cause I was brought up that way and I want to control society to how I like it" people need to center YOUR focus on other "Issues." We don't need more "BABIES" in Indiana. Play hard or get the Hell out of the way!!!

Will Lyle, Elkhart

■ ■ ■

Brian, For some years, I have enjoyed your weekly column as it appears in The Elkhart Truth. Your background reseach has typically been very professional. You have hit an all time low in your most recent attempt at reporting. When did the IU School of Journalism teach you that responsible reporting and writing included stating that "fans could fathom" Knight choking Neil Reed. Or "informal surveys show Knight could kick Myles Brand out of Practice." How is this innuendo and hearsay become reporting? I have conducted informal surveys about you. One showed that people believe you slept with Susan Bayh. Some found it believeable you are in Frank O'Bannon's

pocket. You are correct when you say that society is sending out mixed signals of conduct. Why don't you state that Knight sends out NO mixed signals. His players go to class. They graduate. There has never been a hint of any cheating in his program. Aren't these the true signals that should be sent to society. If you are a political reporter, stick to that subject. It would be far more appropriate for you to question how so much taxpayers' money has been spent in investigating the Reed allegations. 2000 marks the third visit to the topic.

William Searcy, Elkhart

■ ■ ■

I just got done reading your article in The Evening Star Sunday Auburn/Kendallville Indiana newspaper. It was the article about Indiana U. has become Bobby Knight's enabler. THANKYOU THANKYOU !!!!! I agree 100 percent. It is about time sometime wrote that article,...and it was a well written article to boot ..it really summed up my feelings and a lot of my friends and co-workers .

Penny, Auburn

■ ■ ■

I accidentally came upon your article "Indiana University Has Become Bobby Knight's Enabler". You may be correct in many of the views you have written about and I will not take issue with most of them. However, the press - both in general and in sports - distorts facts, misrepresents them, or ignores them. Therefore, I do not trust what is said and written by the media. I would like to point out that at the end of your article you wrote, in regards to Gene Keady, "he has never embarrassed the university." So you are telling us that "cheating" is not an embarrassment? Your perspective is sadly lacking. But, with the press, that is commonplace today.

Karen Weigle, Rome City ❖

TICKER T A P E

Empress Casino in Hammond and Harrah's in East Chicago had record months.

CITY, POLICE DEPARTMENT SUED: Four East Chicago women are suing the city and its police department to keep misdemeanor cases from being transferred from the city to county courts in Crown Point (Michael Puente, Gary Post-Tribune). The four claim the transfers by Police Chief Frank Alcala are costing the city at least \$130,000. The lawsuit contends Alcala's actions are because Judge Lonnie Randolph, a former state senator and mayoral candidate, is soft on criminals. The transfers, the suit says, "punish Randolph for his indiscretions and failures to conform to the 'political machine.'"

BUYER LAUDS BILL'S REPEAL: Congressman Steve Buyer, R-5th District, lauded the repeal of a Depression-era law reducing Social Security benefits for many older workers (Kokomo Tribune). The bill passed the House 419-0 and was sent to President Clinton. The old law would have reduced benefits by \$1 for every \$3 earned above \$17,000 for Social Security recipients between the ages of 65 and 69. He said there are about 16,000 Hoosiers in that age group still work-

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ing.

RELATIVE TRANQUILLITY: Former Hoosier Congressman Lee Hamilton told a Ball State University audience that "the international environment we live in today is relatively tranquil and benign." The major powers - the U.S., China, Japan, Europe and Russia - have differences, but are generally seeking good relations with each other (Seth Slabaugh, Muncie Star Press).

IU'S FINANCIAL FUTURE QUESTIONED: An Indiana University faculty committee says it sees problems for the future of academics and research on the campus (Mike Wright, Bloomington Herald-Times). "Dangerous funding trends" are forecast by decreasing real estate appropriation, relatively flat tuition rates, increasing assessments on academic units, and rising faculty salaries. They get the blame for the forecast by the Bloomington Faculty Council's budgetary affairs committee. Part of the problem, the committee says, is that the state is providing 7.9 percent less in inflation-adjusted funding this year than it did in 1989-90 and there are 1,338 more students.

FEDS PROBING INDY HOSPITALS: Indianapolis' four major hospital systems - Clarian Health Partners,

Bayh offers marriage penalty bill

By **MARK SCHOEFF JR.**
The Howey Political Report

WASHINGTON - Sen. Evan Bayh sought to add another arrow to his quiver of moderate legislation by introducing a marriage tax penalty relief bill that he hopes will become the Democratic alternative in a Senate debate slated to begin next week.

Under Bayh's plan, married couples earning less than \$100,000 would receive a tax credit equal to the amount of marriage penalty they're paying. Bayh said his proposal would eliminate the marriage tax for couples who are hit with a penalty between \$200 and \$1500 each year. The proposal, which would cost \$120 billion over 10 years, also would expand the Earned Income Tax Credit for low-income families with two income earners.

Bayh, who introduced education legislation recently to inaugurate the Senate New Democrat coalition, wants to define the doable with his tax bill, which he touted as targeted, immediate, simple and affordable. "If we want a package that can actually get done and has bipartisan support, something like this is the way to go," Bayh said. Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle is "very excited about our approach," Bayh said.

Bayh's vice presidential capital also is rising. High-ranking Democratic sources in Indiana and Washington tell HPR that Vice President Al Gore's officially non-existent VP "short list" consists of Defense Secretary William Cohen, Florida Sen. Bob Graham, and Bayh.

Bayh's marriage tax plan is one of several floating around Capitol Hill. The Senate Finance Committee has approved a 10-year, \$248 billion marriage tax relief bill and the House passed a \$182 billion measure in February. Both of those proposals would double the upper limit of the 15 and 28 percent tax brackets for married couples and would double their standard deduction. Republican Rep. David

McIntosh was influential in writing the House version of the marriage tax bill. Bayh said his plan is the best one because it is targeted. "Ours is truly a marriage penalty relief bill," he said. "Many of the others are called marriage tax relief, but in fact many of the benefits go to those who don't pay the penalty."

CONGRESS WATCH

Although his remedy for the marriage penalty differs from McIntosh's, Bayh is not crossing swords with the congressman. "I want nothing here to be construed as critical of what David is doing," Bayh said. "Instead, it was an effort to carve out an approach that I feel has the best chance to achieve a consensus and actually get done. Some of the other approaches accomplish other things in addition to marriage penalty tax reform." But in doing those other things, the costs go up. "If you don't want to bust the budget or dip into Social Security, these things have to add up," Bayh said. Bayh and McIntosh are "staking out philosophical positions," said Bill Styring, senior fellow at the Hudson Institute. "Doing 'something' about the marriage tax penalty is more social legislation than tax legislation. If you want to increase the incentive to work, save or invest, you'd be out trying to cut marginal tax rates."

Dan Mitchell, a senior fellow at the conservative Heritage Foundation in Washington, said: "The best plan for getting rid of the marriage penalty is a flat tax." Bayh's idea "has a lot of social engineering in it. It's symbolic of government knows best."

Republicans in Congress should pass tax bills to put Democrats on the defensive, Mitchell said. "If the GOP was smart, it would make Clinton veto them and Democrats vote on them. Fortunately for the Democrats, Republicans tend to be inept." ❖

Indiana 2000 Racing Form

congressional races

Governor: Republican: U.S. Rep. David McIntosh, John R. Price. **Democrat:**

Gov. Frank O'Bannon. **Libertarian:** Andrew Horning. **1996 results:** O'Bannon 1,107,342, Goldsmith 997,505, Dillon 35,261. **2000 Forecast:** At this stage in the governor's race, two things are pretty apparent. McIntosh will decisively defeat Price in the Republican primary.

And the O'Bannon-McIntosh race will become just as competitive as the O'Bannon-Goldsmith donnybrook race in 1996. Hoosier Democrats were somewhat chagrined at the NUVO/

TeleResearch Poll, but they also know our track

record. A couple of words about the *Star* poll. The newspaper offered virtually none of the demographics to its readers or to either the O'Bannon or McIntosh campaigns. Its sampling of 825 people, while using only 650 in the head-to-head, is odd. As TeleResearch pollster Jeff Lewis said of the 175 people dropped from their head-to-head, "Why bother talking with them in the first place?" O'Bannon fav/unfavs seemed to be out of whack at each end, and the undecideds seemed awfully small at this point in the campaign. **Having said that**, there were a couple of things that surprised us in the NUVO/TeleResearch Poll. The first was O'Bannon at only 41 percent. When we saw similar numbers that far from the vital 50 percent line for Sue Anne Gilroy in the early part of 1999, we knew she was in big trouble. We were also surprised at the tightness of the race *at this point*. The first two stages of the poll occurred in the 219 and 812 area codes and O'Bannon's favorables and horse race numbers were excellent due to his home base status in Southern Indiana and Joe Kernan's influence in Northern Indiana. But when the numbers came in from 765 (McIntosh's home area) and 317, where the White River fish kill was front page news for weeks, O'Bannon suffered greatly. **We believe Gov.**

O'Bannon will be in a real fight to carry Marion County again, even with Bart Peterson as mayor. Democrats also have to wonder how great an impact John Keeler will have on the GOP organization in his first election as chairman. *The Sweezy era punching bag is gone.* In the Indianapolis doughnut counties, there is also ominous news for O'Bannon. McIntosh will likely bring most of those Republicans home. Remember, Evan Bayh carried the 6th CD (the third most Republican CD in the nation) in his last three general elections. O'Bannon ran stronger there than had Democrats Wayne Townsend, Larry Conrad and John Hillenbrand. Whether he can again in 2000 is a huge question. We doubt it. That means it will be essential for O'Bannon to turn out big pluralities in Lake, St. Joseph, Vigo, Vanderburgh, Floyd and Clark counties to offset the Bayh-era losses in the doughnut. So ... we all figured this was going to be a close race; we've just discovered it a little earlier than expected. **On the campaign front**, Jim Huston has left as McIntosh's campaign manager to return to his congressional district office. Huston has a wife and three kids and was putting in 16 to 18 hour days along with a team of single 30-somethings on the staff. Most of the McIntosh campaign moved from Muncie to Indianapolis. That's the reason for that change. Kelli Waggoner, McIntosh campaign director, will assume most of Huston's responsibilities. McIntosh castigates O'Bannon for attending a "meat out" event. Price began his 92-county "barnstorming" tour. All we ask is that Horse Race gets a neat post card from each county seat. If Price can do that, we'll turn it into a poster! Price urges O'Bannon to call a special legislative session to repeal state gas taxes.

General Status: *Leans O'Bannon.*

U.S. Senate: Republican: U.S. Sen. Richard Lugar. **Democrat:** David L. Johnson.

1988 results: Lugar (R) 1,430,525, Wickes (D) 668,778. **1994 results:** Lugar (R) 1,039,625, Jontz (D) 470,799, Bourland (L) 17,343, Barton (A) 15,801. **2000 Forecast:** *Indianapolis Star*/WTHR Poll has Lugar leading Johnson 69-24 percent. Johnson has been concentrating on fund-raising, but his lack of articulation on the issues and earned media is running the risk of completely marginalizing his campaign. **Status:** *Safe Lugar.*

HORSE RACE

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Community Hospitals Indianapolis, St. Francis Hospital and Health Centers, and St. Vincent Hospitals and Health Services - are being checked by the U.S. Department of Justice to see if they have violated antitrust laws (Greg Jefferson, *Indiana Business Journal*). The question is whether the hospitals have colluded to prevent large managed care organizations to enter the local market. Administrators of all four hospitals say they are complying with the investigation.

ELECTRIC POWER SUPPLY A WORRY: Indiana's electric utilities are concerned about a predicted hot summer that may strain their ability to supply electric power this summer (David Rohn, *Indianapolis Star*). They are negotiating rate contracts with industries to shut off energy during peak demand times. They also want to build gas-fired turbine power plants to provide emergency power as needed. That type of plant has run into problems in some areas of Indiana from neighbors who don't want them built in their areas.

IHSAA COMMISSIONER RESIGNS: Bob Gardner, the commissioner of the Indiana High School Athletic Association, is leaving his controversial position at the end of June to become CEO of the National Federation of

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State High School Associations, also based in Indianapolis (Rex W. Huppke, Associated Press). Gardner has been the center of controversy over the move to class basketball in Indiana rather than the single-class state tournament. The IHSAA also has been the target of legal challenges in recent years for what some people saw as an autocratic interpretation of athlete eligibility regulations.

CUMMINS BENEFITS PROTESTED: Columbus' Cummins Engine Co. will award benefits to unmarried partners, including gays, of its employees. The announcement generated a protest by more than 1,000 people while a smaller group of supporters met to pray and hear speakers praise the policy. Protesters listened to speeches by local ministers who said the new policy "attacks the nuclear family."

FISH KILL COSTLY: The Indiana Department of Emergency Management estimates that the White River fish kill cost more than \$280,000 to remove more than 88 tons of dead fish from the river (Ken de la Bastide, Anderson Herald Bulletin). A chemical released in the river in December affected 35 miles of river from Anderson to Indianapolis. ❖

Congressional District 2: Republican: Mike Pence, State Rep. Jeff Linder, Brad Steele, Luke Messer, Cliff Federle, David Campbell. **Democrat:** Ron Gyure, Bob Rock Jr., Troy Liggett, Angela Burks. **Independent:** Bill Fraizer. **Geography:** Muncie, Anderson, Richmond, Shelbyville, Columbus and East Central Indiana. **1994 results:** McIntosh 93,592, Hogsett 78,241. **1996 Results:** McIntosh 122,288, Carmichael (D) 83,478, Zimmerman (L) 4,662. **1998 Results:** McIntosh (R) 99,584, Boles (D) 62,426, Federle (L) 2,236. **2000 Forecast:** Two Democratic candidates don't believe former Rep. Phil Sharp's endorsement of Ron Gyure means much (*Anderson Herald Bulletin*). Rock said Sharp is merely being loyal to his former chief of staff. Troy Liggett, also a former Sharp staffer, said Sharp hasn't been in the district for six years and his clout isn't as great. Burks called it "old school politics." Linder and Pence both release legislative agendas. Pence's is called "A Guide to Renewing the American Dream." Linder is promoting his "Principles of Good Government." On the Democratic side, Rock picks up endorsements from Rolland Webber and Vance Hartke (now, wouldn't that make for a memorable TV commercial!). **Primary Status:** *Leans Pence (R); Leans Rock (D).*

Congressional District 7: Republican: Brian Kerns, Bob Griffiths, Dr. Alex Gatzimos, Doug Hess, Bryan Donaldson, Tony Duncan, Michael Graf, John Timm. **Democrat:** Jeff Clapper, Sam Hillenburg. **Geography:** Terre Haute, Lafayette and Western Indiana. **1994 results:** Myers 104,359, Harmless 55,941. **1996 Results:** Pease 130,010, Hellmann (D) 72,705, Bourland (L) 7,125. **1998 Results:** Pease (R) 109,553, Hillenburg (D) 44,749. **2000 Forecast:** *The Hill* newspaper carries an unsourced story saying that Kerns was behind in his child support between 1986 and 1990. WTHR-TV picked up the story and ran it Friday night. Neither newspaper or TV station revealed any documentation or interviewed Kerns' ex-wife, but Kerns refused to do an on-camera interview with WTHR, his staff telling reporter Kevin Rader that they didn't know where he was. That's hard to believe in the days of cell phones and pagers. Kerns released a statement to the *Terre Haute Tribune-Star*: "I am not behind in my child-support payments. Over the past 12 years, there have been two occasions where attorneys have had to settle differences. I've always supported my children both financially and emotionally. There have been disagreements over interpretation. The courts ruled and I paid." *Tribune-Star* quotes HPR's Brian A. Howey: "In my mind, if the guy's square, it's a non-issue. It would be a relevant story if he were way behind now, or if he cleaned it up right before announcing." That type of allegation these days is akin to asking a public official, "When did you stop beating your wife?" Griffiths told the *Tribune-Star* that the story "is not an issue with me." That story could be devastating to Kerns, who has yet to go on the air with radio or TV ads. Griffiths has been up and running for weeks, and so has Gatzimos, who is using the "We need a doctor in the House" theme just as Democrat Paul Perry is in the 8th CD. The lack of a Kerns response to Griffiths' TV campaign and the bad news cycles of this past week lead us to believe that Griffiths is the front-runner. Remember, however, Kerns has two aces in the hole: late TV ads with the double endorsement of Ed Pease and John Myers. **Republican Primary Status:** *LEANS GRIFFITHS.*

Congressional District 8: Republican: U.S. Rep. John Hostettler. **Democrat:** John Hamilton, Dr. Paul Perry, John W. Taylor. **Geography:** Evansville, Bloomington, Vincennes and SW Indiana. **1994 results:** Hostettler (R) 93,529, McCloskey (D) 84,857. **1996 Results:** Hostettler (R) 109,582, Weinzapfel (D) 106,134, Hager (L) 3,799. **1998 Results:** Hostettler (R) 92,227, Riecken (D) 81,381, Hager (L) 3,395. **2000 Forecast:** Hamilton picks up endorsements from former congressman Phil Hayes, State Sen. Larry Lutz and Mt. Vernon Mayor Jackson Higgins. Perry gets endorsements from Warrick and Posey county sheriffs and commissioners. **Democratic Primary Status:** *Tossup.*

Congressional District 9: Republican: Kevin Shaw Kellems, Michael Bailey. **Democrat:** U.S. Rep. Baron Hill, Lendall B. Terry, James McClure. **Geography:** Lawrenceburg, Rising Sun, Connersville, New Albany Jeffersonville, Madison, Nashville and SE Indiana. **1994 results:** Hamilton 91,459 (D), Leising (R) 84,315. **1996 Results:** Hamilton (D) 128,885, Leising (R) 97,747, Feeney (L) 2,315. **1998 Results:** Hill (D) 92,477, Leising (R) 87,278, Feeney (L) 2,397. **2000 Forecast:** Hill goes on the offensive, saying Kellems is picking up support from pharmaceutical executives like Lilly's Mitch Daniels and the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America. "If he spent more time in Indiana's 9th CD, Kevin would understand that all Hoosier seniors are having a terrible time paying for prescription drugs," said Angela Belden of Hill's staff. **Status:** *Leans D.* ❖

**The
Howey
Political
Report**



BAKER & DANIELS
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Present

The Forum on Campaign Ethics

8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday, June 19, 2000
Westin Hotel, Downtown Indianapolis

Attorneys can receive up to six CLE credits

Tentative Agenda

7:30 a.m. Registration.

8 a.m. **The Ethical Considerations for the Candidate,**
featuring U.S. Sen. Richard G. Lugar and U.S Rep. David McIntosh.
Continental breakfast served.

9 a.m. **Campaign Finance: The Root of All Evil?**
The Impact of Soft Money; Independent Expenditures; PACs and Special Interests: Who's Buying What?
Disclosure in the Internet Age

10 a.m. **On Message: The Responsibility to Tell the Truth.**
Are Your Ads Negative or Comparative? One Person's Poetry is Another's Pornography.
Killer Phone Calls/Killer e-mails. Push Polling.

11 a.m. **Cutting Through the Clutter: "I'll Reform (insert your favorite complicated issue here) in
30 Seconds or Less."**
Debates, Joint Appearances, Barely in the Same Room.
Wedge Politics: The Strange Bedfellows of Pat Robertson and Al Sharpton?

11:45 a.m. **Ethical Considerations For the Candidate,**
featuring Gov. Frank O'Bannon and Senate candidate David Johnson.
Lunch served.

1:30 p.m. **HPR/TeleResearch Polling Results and Political Analysis**
Of Election 2000 and Related Issues, with Brian A. Howey, Mark Schoeff Jr., Jeff Lewis, & Ronald Gifford.

3 p.m. **Panel Discussion on Campaign Ethics,** featuring several prominent Hoosier political figures
(Stay tuned for more details).

4 p.m. **Adjournment/Cocktail Reception Following**

Register by calling 317-254-0535 or send in the registration form
at www.howeypolitics.com