

The Howey Political Report



The Howey Political Report is published by NewsLink Inc. Founded in 1994, The Howey Political Report is an independent, non-partisan newsletter analyzing the political process in Indiana.

Brian A. Howey, publisher

Mark Schoeff Jr., Washington writer

Jack E. Howey, editor

The Howey Political Report Office: 317-968-0486
PO Box 40265 Fax: 317-968-0487
Indianapolis, IN 46240-0265 Mobile: 317-506-0883

brianhowey@howeypolitics.com
www.howeypolitics.com

Washington office: 202-775-3242;
Business Office: 317-254-0535.

Subscriptions: \$250 annually via e-mail or fax; \$450 annually including the HPR Daily Wire. Call 317-254-1533 or 254-0535.

© 2002, The Howey Political Report. All rights reserved. Photocopying, Internet forwarding, faxing or reproducing in any form, in whole or in part, is a violation of federal law and is **strictly prohibited** without consent of the publisher.

“QUOTE” OF THE WEEK

“I don’t think it’s a question of whether we’re going to have to deal with Saddam Hussein, I think it’s a question of when. And we need to get on with the planning, using military, economic, diplomatic, every arrow in our quiver to deal with this man....” - U.S. Sen. Evan Bayh

How Rokita defeated Mourdock on floor

Stage is set for secretary of state

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY** in Indianapolis

Rex Early was lying in the recovery room at the hospital just after his hip replacement surgery last winter. He peered up from his morphine-altered state and saw ... Mike Delph, Republican candidate for secretary of state.

Awhile later, the former Republican chairman asked his wife, “Was Mike Delph in here? Or was I hallucinating?” No, Mrs. Early said, Mike Delph had been there, seeking Early’s signature for filing documents.

* * *

Last Friday was Todd Rokita’s day at Jim Kittle’s Republican Convention. But the story about the vanquished Delph hovering over a convalescing party elder is a good one worthy of commencing this coverage of a three-ballot marathon that determined which Republican would face Bloomington Mayor John Fernandez next fall. The GOP field for secretary of state featured something every party needs -- a new wave of talent, seeking to break through to the next level, giving the party new life, new blood, stating an appetite, outlining goals and dreams, demonstrating how to make it happen, and going to great lengths to do it.

That Mike Delph wouldn’t hesitate to show up in Rex Early’s recovery room was indicative of the Republican thirst to reclaim the glory they began losing in 1986 when Evan Bayh sized up the secretary of state’s office, seized the day and began dismantling a powerful machine.

“You need new leaders managing the process,” Kittle’s husky voiced boomed over the convention Friday, his own stand-in for OMB Director Mitch Daniels.

Rokita drove 70,000 miles, attended 130 Lincoln Day

continued on page 2

INSIDE FEATURES

- Ticker: Delegate Jim Sharp honored** p. 2
- Perhaps: McIntosh’s gambit** p. 7
- Horse Race: Rokita-Fernandez** p. 8

Watch for the Most Comprehensive Special Session Coverage In Next Week’s HPR

TICKER T A P E

TAX RESTRUCTURING: With the Indiana Senate due to convene today at 2 p.m., tax restructuring in the special session comes to a head. There's a lot going on that HPR is reluctant to write about at this point. Watch for an HPR Special Report early next week for the most comprehensive coverage of this historic chapter in the Indiana General Assembly.

GOP TICKET: The Indiana Republican convention nominated three incumbent statewide officeholders to seek re-election in November -- Auditor Connie Nass, Treasurer Tim Berry and Clerk of the Courts Brian Bishop.

REPUBLICANS HONOR DELEGATE: Sullivan County delegate Jim Sharp was honored by Indiana Republicans at the convention on Friday. He has been a delegate to every state GOP convention since 1946 and has been a Republican since 1928.

KITTLE SAYS IT'S TIME FOR DEMOCRATS TO GO: State Republican Chairman Jim Kittle, presiding over his first convention, called the GOP slate the embodiment of the "new Republican Party," which already appears to be positioning itself for the 2004 gubernatorial campaign (Terry



dinners, had 1,500 meetings with delegates, shook probably half a million hands and uttered more syllables than can be counted to win the nomination on the third ballot last Friday. The repercussions of Rokita's victory can't be judged, perhaps, for years. Did a future governor step up? Or will he just be the "Rob Bowen" on Fernandez's ascension to prominence? No telling. But this story is important not only for the new names -- Rokita, Delph, Mourdock, McGoff -- that crossed the political thresholds; but because it tells a greater story of a venerable institution, the Indiana Republican Party, trying to find its way through a twisting, thorny path with no indelibly clear map to its Paradise.

Todd Rokita

He stood at the gates to the convention hall throughout the day Friday, pressing the flesh, pleasant expression on his face, polished, upbeat, the smile betraying the turmoil deep in his gut. At this moment, would he break through from obscurity to take a stab at the next level? Or was he too young; another footnote in a series of personalities that have left little new legacy for the Grand Old Party?

The night before, Rokita would be

described by one septuagenarian female delegate with puffy hair as a "nice young man." He had gone from caucus to caucus, with a breezy, yet forceful speech. "We cannot have one more Democrat in the Statehouse," Rokita said. "I'm ready for your inspection. I'm ready to run a positive campaign. I know how to lead with integrity. I know how to listen. I will not let them forget 14 years of Democratic rule. You put me on the ticket and they will not get the high ground."

Party activist Cameron Carter compared Rokita to a young version of his former boss, Dan Quayle. "He had that cadence; carried himself like a young Dan Quayle," Carter said.

Going into the convention, the pro steering the Rokita campaign were saying that victory had been all but assured. But Friday morning, the hard count of delegates emanating from the two perceived frontrunners, Rokita and Vanderburgh County Commissioner Richard Mourdock, revealed an intense battle about to commence. Mourdock floor leader Matt Klein felt they had 700 votes, with about 500 for Rokita.

Greg Zoeller, who had lost a convention floor fight for attorney general

Continued on page 3

with a third-place finish on the first ballot in 1996, reaffirmed Klein's assessment, but with different numbers. "We're down to Mourdock by about 25 votes," Zoeller, Rotkita's floor whip, said. History was troubling Zoeller. Never in modern times had someone who didn't finish first on the initial ballot win the nod. George Wither's stunning first place finish for LG over Sue Anne Gilroy translated into a torrent of cascading support and victory on the second.

"We've got a Plan A. I'm just not sure how the Plan B is going to work," Zoeller said.

After a tormented first ballot vote that took almost 90 minutes on the 20 electronic voting machines ("There's always something that goes wrong," lamented communications director Larry MacIntyre), the hard counts had roughly borne out what Klein and Zoeller had been saying:

Mourdock: 720

Rokita: 670

Delph: 341

McGoff: 197

Richard Mourdock

This was a guy who had been there; done that. He had run at the Congressional level against U.S. Rep. Frank McCloskey. At age 50, he had been twice elected in heavily Democratic Vanderburgh County. With his jet black hair, Mourdock seemed seasoned, but not a retread. His base had been geopolitical southwest, but in the homestretch before the convention Mourdock had begun picking up support from Northern Indiana in places such as Allen and Whitley counties.

Murdock stressed his political life lessons. He had won and served. Armed with an endorsement from former Gov. Robert D. Orr and 23 party chairs, Mourdock had delivered his argument on the grounds of electability. "Every time a Republican has won in Evansville he wins statewide," Mourdock said. "I can guaran-

tee I'll carry that part of the state and we'll win statewide." Mourdock brought up the name Evan Bayh. "This office is the key to the future. Beginning with Evan Bayh, it's been 16 years of Democratic rule. This office is the key to *our* future. Let's go get 'em!"

When Gordon Durnil announced the first ballot results, Mourdock conferred with one of his floor leaders, Rich Bramer. "Within any delegation, we've defined who might come over," Mourdock said, as Bramer shouted, "Let's go! Let's go! Get the signs up!"

Outside the convention hall, two fliers began showing up. A yellow flier read: "Delph Supporters Urged to Vote Mourdock: Conservatives must unite on the second ballot to guarantee strong candidate support in November. The Mourdock campaign congratulates Mike Delph on a hard-fought campaign and invites Delph supporters to join with Mourdock supporters to nominate a conservative on the second ballot!" Tiny letters at the bottom of the flier read: "Paid for by Hoosiers for Richard Mourdock."

A red flier made a pitch for McGoff supporters, but without reference to "conservatives."

The fliers, while probably not sealing Mourdock's fate, certainly stole his first ballot momentum. Asked about the flier, Mourdock made it clear that a campaign cowboy had gotten out in front of the herd. "I am sick and disappointed down to my gut," he told HPR a few minutes after Durnil had made an announcement from the dais, saying the fliers had been inadvertently released.

Had Mourdock authorized the fliers? "I did not," he said, his disgust relayed with each short, staccato syllable.

Mike Delph

Going into the convention, Delph seemed like the lone long-shot, with each of the other three campaigns trotting out numerous gubernatorial and county chair

TICKER

T A P E

Burns, Times of Northwest Indiana). Hoosiers "are sick and tired of a state administration that can't even manage a 4 percent drop in revenue without declaring a crisis," Kittle said, referring to Democratic Gov. Frank O'Bannon and Lt. Gov. Joe Kernan. The administration's "record of mismanagement," he told delegates, will help turn the political tide toward Republicans. "It's turning our way from the courthouse to the Statehouse," he said. "The people of Indiana are ready for change. (The O'Bannon administration's) time has come, and now it's time for them to go."

GOV. CASSIDY AND SUNDANCE JOE: Republicans used a video portraying Gov. Frank O'Bannon and Lt. Gov. Joe Kernan as Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid, characterizing the administration as likable outlaws (Steve Walsh, Gary Post-Tribune). "(It is) an administration that took us from a \$2 billion surplus to nearly a \$2 billion deficit almost overnight," said state Republican chairman Jim Kittle. Kittle, the newly elected party chairman, stepped in as keynote speaker when Office of Management and Budget Director Mitch Daniels backed out. Republicans are

continued on page 4

TICKER

T A P E

courting Daniels to run for governor in 2004.

TWO LAKE COUNTY DELEGATES BOOTED: Despite a relatively smooth, but lengthy proceeding, the GOP convention was not without a bit of controversy involving the Lake County delegation (Burns, Times of Northwest Indiana). Six of the county's 78 delegates were disqualified by the party's credentials committee, which cited registration irregularities and, in the case of two delegates, their alleged ties to the Democratic Party. The two delegates were identified as Darlene Burfield and Phyllis Samano, both of Hammond. Lake County GOP Chairman Roger Chiabai called the decision "a comedy of errors -- and a mistake." "Those two (delegates) voted Republican in the last primary, but there's some guys on that credentials committee that apparently couldn't take the heat. My people have been disenfranchised," he said. Chiabai vowed to take his concerns to top party officials.

ASSETS OF HOOSIER CONGRESSIONAL MEMBERS RELEASED: The estimated net worth (major assets minus major debts but excluding personal residences) of the Indiana delegation are: Republican Sen. Richard Lugar: \$1.4 million; Democrat Sen. Evan Bayh: between \$1.1 million and

continued on page 5

endorsements. Delph's ace in the hole was U.S. Rep. Dan Burton, who gave a rare, emphatic and resounding endorsement to each of the nine caucuses. Burton stressed Delph's ability to fluently court Hispanic voters. Burton said that President George W. Bush and Florida Gov. Jeb Bush can speak to Hispanic voters. "We need to do the same thing here," Burton said. "If we do that this year, Mike Delph will help us win the governor's office in 2004."

Delph described his 1996 election monitoring role in Nicaragua elections, entering the Mosquito coast in a canoe and watching brave voters ignore threats of violence and intimidation to vote at 80 percent. He noted that in the recent primary, only 8 percent had voted in Vanderburgh County, Mourdock's turf. "I'm prepared for a new day for Indiana Republicans," Delph said. "Hispanic voters can help us win. We've got to do that." He stressed his plan for the office, the only such outline of official intent, as his role as "chief election officer."

But Delph might have made the convention's first strategic mistake on Thursday night. With his three cute little daughters in tow, he had appeared before Burton's 5th CD caucus and impressed a wide number of delegates. Leaving there, he and Burton wandered down the hall, turned the corner, and disappeared into the netherworld leading into the nearby Funeral Directors Association convention.

Marion County Chairman John Keeler soon thereafter peered out into the hallway. Where was Delph? he wondered, exasperatingly telling HPR, "Delph is missing in action."

The 7th CD delegates had waited nearly 45 minutes for the first candidates to appear before them, and then waited fitfully for the last of the home sons to appear. By the time Delph and Burton got there, nearly a third of the delegates had left. It probably cost him critical support.

Had he made the 7th CD caucus on time, his 341 on the first ballot might have topped 400, further relegating McGoff as

irrelevant and pulling Delph closer to the frontrunners.

John Keeler

"Does anyone know what Delph is doing?" Keeler asked as a post-first ballot clot of Grand Old Humanity enveloped him on the floor. He was surrounded by Councilor Phil Borst, Sen. Pat Miller, Reps. Mike Murphy, Phil Hinkle, sheriff nominee Tom Schneider, and Sheriff Jack Cottey. Prior to the convention, Keeler had asked the delegates to support McGoff en bloc. Cottey and Schneider balked, honoring their long relationship with Burton and wanting to support Delph. The first ballot was Keeler's nightmare. McGoff, possessing endorsements from Doc Bowen and former Gov. Edgar Whitcomb, tanked at 197, far fewer than the Marion County delegation. Like 1996, discipline was in arrears.

Bob Grand, Secretary of State Sue Anne Gilroy, Dan Evans, Bill Salin, and Zoeller were seeking the delegation's support for Rokita, but Cottey and Schneider were still backing Delph. No one knew what Delph was doing, and those little red and yellow fliers were becoming evident on the floor, creating a buzz.

Delph was in his convention center headquarters down the hall, having expressed his shock and anger at Mourdock to his face. Delph refused to bail on the second ballot, but was fuming at Mourdock. "If he were to win the nomination, it would assure victory to John Fernandez," he said. "I would have hoped the top election officer wouldn't resort to such tactics. I would hope that people would act appropriately. I'm committed to see what happens on this ballot."

Keeler's problem was he didn't know what Delph was doing. And his mini-floor caucus quickly unraveled from a second ballot power play to a shouting match with Cottey. As Cottey stalked off, he told Keeler, "Let Sweezy get the votes. He's the district chairman."

As Cottey was heading toward the

hallway, Gilroy quickly began to mine votes for Rokita, her protege. "Does anybody know where Hamilton County is?" she asked, before plunging into the crowd. Gilroy made her pitch for Rokita there, with Marion County delegates, and then worked her way across the floor toward Allen County, which had voted to allow each delegate to decide.

If anyone had struck a militant theme before the convention, it was Gilroy, who called the O'Bannon-Kernan administratin a "Team of Malaise" and described Democratic operatives as "henchmen." While Rokita promised a "positive campaign," Gilroy appealed to the Republican delegate tired of losing.

Dr. John McGoff

McGoff had entered the convention as a potential front-runner. He possessed the most prized endorsement, that of Doc Bowen. But he began losing steam the night before at the caucus just as he seemed to be peaking.

McGoff had borrowed a page from old-school convention politics. He had a band in tow, playing "*Happy Days Are Here Again*." There was a throng to whip up enthusiasm. As they entered each caucus, the supporters surrounded the room and with each sentence McGoff uttered, they would hoot and holler, "Waaa-hooo!"

"Democrats and the liberal media say the Republican Party is dead. As coroner, I know that subject well," McGoff said.

Waaaa-hooo!

"I've raised the most money and have the most earned media."

Waaaa-hoooo!

"You ask why a doctor would want to be secretary of state? Doc Bowen says there is no finer role than being a public servant. That is my mission."

Waaaa-hoooo!"

"Are you better off than you were when Frank O'Bannon and Joe Kernan came to office six years ago?"

Waaaa-hoooo!

The problem with the Wa-Hoo Strategy was not the attempt at stoking up excitement, but a lack of room infiltration. All the wa-hooing was occurring along the walls, directed at the delegates. After about the third or fourth waaa-hoo, delegates began glancing at each other. The support seemed to be coming from without, not from within, and directed at them like verbal arrows.

"Don't be stiffed," a McGoff sign read. But in the end, his momentum seemed to erode at the caucus with each waaa-hooo, and at the instigation of hometown Sheriff Cottey. With only 197 votes on the first ballot, St. Joseph County Chairman Matt Lentsch, who had endorsed McGoff, threw his support to Rokita (Jack Colwell, *South Bend Tribune*). Colwell reported, "A switch there was. In the 2nd CD, McGoff's total went from 26 to zero and Rokita climbed from 61 votes to 92. That helped Rokita trim Mourdock's second-ballot lead to just 14 votes, 827 to 813."

Richard Mourdock

Maintaining a slim lead at 14 votes on the second ballot, The Yellow Flier Incident seemed survivable.

At least briefly.

Then Delph withdrew, telling his supporters to vote for anyone they wanted on the second ballot. Left unsaid but understood was that most of the Delph supporters were headed toward Rokita. McGoff was now dropped from the ballot, but he had only 25 votes. Influential resterauteur Jonathon Byrd told his Delph backers to turn to Rokita. It was a wave.

Susan Taylor of the *Evansville Courier & Press* described the Rokita tsunami like this: "Some of Delph's and McGoff's delegates took offense that any of the candidates would start jockeying for delegates after only the first ballot."

Murdock said one of his staffers admitted sending out the flier without permission. He said it was the only major misstep of his 15-month campaign, but it

TICKER T A P E

\$2.7 million; Rep. Pete Visclosky, D-Merrillville: between \$113,000 and \$470,000; Rep. Mike Pence, R-Columbus: between \$53,000 and \$368,000; Rep. Tim Roemer, D-South Bend: between \$115,000 and \$378,000; Rep. Mark Souder, R-Fort Wayne: between \$96,000 and \$166,000; Rep. Steve Buyer, R-Monticello: between \$355,000 and \$1 million; Rep. Dan Burton, R-Indianapolis: between \$768,000 and \$3 million; Rep. Brian Kerns, R-Danville: between \$154,000 and \$898,000; Rep. John Hostettler, R-Wadesville: between \$92,000 in debt and \$8,000 in assets; Rep. Baron Hill, D-Seymour: between \$34,000 and \$160,000; Rep. Julia Carson, D-Indianapolis: listed no assets and no debts (law-makers must report assets worth more than \$1,000 and debts of more than \$10,000)

FORT WAYNE DUI ARRESTS UP: Fort Wayne police arrested 66 percent more people for drunken driving in the first five months of this year compared to the same period last year, while the number of arrests by sheriff's departments in most rural areas has remained about the same. Grant money, made available after the state legislature lowered the legal limit from 0.10 percent to 0.08 percent in July 2001, has allowed Fort Wayne

continued on page 6

TICKER

T A P E

police to increase patrols targeting drunken drivers (Fort Wayne Journal Gazette). It is not known whether a direct link can be made between the increase in arrests and decrease of the legal limit. There has not yet been a statewide study conducted on the issue, said Charlotte Ashburn-Meischke of the Criminal Justice Institute - the state agency that administers the grant money. State Sen. Tom Wyss, R-Fort Wayne, believes the increased numbers are the result of the new legislation, public education and law Enforcement. "No one bill solves the drunk-driving problem," said Wyss, an advocate of 0.08 legislation for more than a decade. "We passed the right legislation and have excellent programs, and the police agencies are now recognizing what needs to be done." Outside of Fort Wayne in Allen County and surrounding counties, drunken-driving arrests have shown few dramatic increases, except in Kosciusko and Wabash counties. In Kosciusko County, drunken-driving arrests from January through May rose 16 percent over last year's figures, according to county jail records. Most of that increase is linked to the Warsaw Police Department.

FOX TRAVELS TO CANADA
WITH SENIORS: 6th CD

was the one that counted. Rokita's floor manager, Bob Grand took advantage of the Mourdock team's misstep, said Vanderburgh County Republican Chairman Bettye Lou Jerrel. "Bob Grand did a real number on Richard Mourdock," Jerrel said. She said Grand encouraged ill will with delegates and stressed how it was in poor taste for Mourdock's team to expect the two low candidates to drop out after only the first ballot. "Politically, he did a very bright thing, and it defeated our candidate," Jerrel said (Taylor, *Evansville Courier & Press*). But it wasn't just the Rokita team that doomed Mourdock.

Delegate erosion

Also coming into play was delegate erosion. It had happened before. Incredibly, in 1996 after the first ballot in the lieutenant governor race, HPR watched dozens of delegates get up and walk out, the nomination still unresolved.

Was it a desire to get back to Rising Sun? Poseyville? Fremont? Or Dinwiddie? To let the dog out? Milk the cows? Go shoppin'? Be home for dinner?

Probably those reasons and more. About 250 delegates left after each of the first two ballots. On the third, three entire counties that had strongly been in Mourdock's column -- Whitley, Ripley and Jennings -- were virtually gone. Jennings Vice Chair Jeannie Hahn, a Rokita supporter, was asked by a Mourdock delegate how much longer it would take after the second ballot. "Hours," Hahn responded. Gilroy would find Hahn and her husband sitting alone in three or four empty rows of the Jennings County delegation.

As Rokita stood out in the hallway, he was wondering about the loyalty of his own supporters. "How much did they believe?" asked Rokita, who at 32 is the same age as Bayh was in 1986.

A few minutes before Durnil announced the final tally - 847 to 753 for Rokita - Gilroy walked by with a broad smile on her face: "I think we did it!" Rokita said he didn't lose a single dele-

gate; there had been discipline. For Gilroy, it was a bit of vindication after her 1996 floor loss to Witwer for lieutenant governor, and her disastrous 1999 mayoral bid. She had paved the way for her annointed successor to win the nomination. Chairman Kittle had the candidate he wanted to work with, having staked his early reputation as chairman to reinvigorating the party, raising money and winning the secretary of state's office in 2002.

Murdock was thoroughly classy at the conclusion of his 16-month odyssey. "I saw these candidates and knew they would get better, Mourdock said. "We are disappointed, but not by the process."

The Mourdock fliers may have doomed his candidacy, but they weren't really that bad. It was a recognition of bleeding support with each ballot. The trigger was pulled too early. The Rokita team saw an opportunity, pounced and fanned it, all while their candidate stood outside the doorway, bidding friendly farewell to the fatigued delegates who unknowingly sealed his illustrious fate.

"The Rokita campaign will never be boring," the victor said to the emptying hall. "We've got to remain united. Only a unified Republican Party can win in November." Rokita noted that the GOP "planets are aligned" and told the Democrats, "We're coming at you."

Epilogue

A Republican renaissance is inextricably linked to Todd Rokita, who with tenacity, skill, strategy, and luck, won a campaign over three other candidates who still possess the credibility to seek a political career, be it in the legislature, city or county government. Minus Kent Benson, it was an excellent field of candidates. Republicans face a tough opponent in Mayor Fernandez, who must stem the insurgency by figuring out how to defend his legacy, and nip a rising star in the bud, something the GOP failed to do in 1986, with vast and enduring implications.

❖

PERHAPS... WE WANDER

By Brian Howey

McIntosh's gambit

It was sort of a reunion between two of the five "conservative crusaders" in Nina J. Easton's book "*Gang of Five.*"

David McIntosh and anti-tax advocate Grover Norquist came together at the Indiana Convention Center last Thursday, pushing for a platform the next day that would define the Indiana Republican Party as against tax increases.

But down the hall, the Indiana Republican Central Committee was engaged in an animated discussion about McIntosh's initiative. It would reject his plank by an 18-0 vote. The problem was that 30 minutes before, the Indiana Senate Finance Committee at the behest of Sen. Larry Borst, R-Indianapolis, had voted out a tax structuring plan that included a 15-percent income tax hike, a 1 cent sales tax hike, in a plan that was not "revenue neutral" in recognition of Indiana's \$1 billion budget deficit.

To be fair to David McIntosh, his initiative in resolution form was passed by a voice vote on the Republican Convention floor Friday after he struck a deal with Chairman Jim Kittle. "It was a great victory," McIntosh would say quickly after the resolution passed. "It sets a record that the Republican Party is against higher taxes. It keeps spending down and taxes down. We did manage to do it in a way that kept the party united. Also, it commended our legislators who are going to have to make some tough choices. That will hearten them as they do battle every day."

While McIntosh can claim victory with the resolution, the "unity" numerous Republicans expressed Friday was that the 2000 gubernatorial nominee went about the initiative in absolutely the wrong way.

"A thinking legislator should not sign something like that because that

would eliminate any chance of tax restructuring, even if it was a zero sum, to attract industry to the state of Indiana or to try to lower property taxes. It would be too restrictive," Borst said (Shannon Dininny, *Associated Press*). When HPR asked Borst about the McIntosh initiative, Borst replied, "Oh dear."

Luke Messer, Republican executive director, said that while party leaders believe taxes should not be raised, McIntosh could have brought his idea forward before the start of the convention. "I think Republicans agree that the O'Bannon-Kernan administration has not managed our money well," Messer said. "But we've historically never amended our platform from the floor of the convention, and some people feel that's not a process we should start now."

"People are not happy," said John Hammond, who chaired the platform committee, of McIntosh. "It really puts members of the legislature in a bad spot. He's really marginalized himself."

If that wasn't bad enough for McIntosh, it opened him up to attacks from the opposition. Democratic Chairman Peter Manous called McIntosh "a one-man recession" who could not be trusted and said the pledge was a gimmick. "Seemingly unable to fade gracefully into the political woodwork, McIntosh is again practicing the politics of desperation," Manous said in a statement. "If there is one area where he has a credibility problem, it's on the subject of state taxes."

Whether McIntosh's tax gambit was a visionary and ideological triumph, many Republicans might use the term Pyrrhic.

By Friday morning, the "Mitch!" buttons could be seen multiplying across the convention floor. ❖

TICKER T A P E

Democratic nominee Melina Fox traveled with Indiana senior citizens on Friday and Saturday so they could buy their prescription drugs. "Our feelings were of great sadness and outrage because 38 people saved \$63,258 for the year. One individual saved \$6,741," Fox said. "Shame on us as a nation when the citizens who built our nation have to go to this length to buy medication....most of it manufactured here. This long bus trip was a physical challenge for many of them."

BAYH SUPPORTS BUSH ON BLITZER: During a lengthy appearance on CNN's Late Edition yesterday, U.S. Sen. Evan Bayh voiced his continued support of the president's views on Saddam Hussein, called for a complete reorganization of the nation's intelligence services, and expressed pessimism about the creation of a Palestinian state. Bayh joined the vice-chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, Republican Richard Shelby, and host Wolf Blitzer in the show's opening segment. "I don't think it's a question of whether we're going to have to deal with Saddam Hussein," Bayh said. "I think it's a question of when." Bayh also said he believes Kuwait and Turkey would be willing to go along with a military strike to depose the

continued on page 8

TICKER

T A P E

dictator. "I think that what you would have would be a lot of verbal grousing, but, behind the scenes, a lot of tacit support, if we are determined to see it through to the end this time." He indicated the U.S. would "eventually have to take matters into our own hands." Concerning Al Qaeda, Bayh said "They still have an unfortunate amount of capability. . . . When we listen to what they say, there's a lot of consternation. They're having trouble getting their money and communicating, but there's still a lot of animosity towards the United States and a real determination to attack us whenever they can." As for the nation's intelligence community, Bayh said, "I really do think we need a thorough top-to-bottom reorganization improvement of our ability to collect information, both internationally and domestically. If we don't do that, then we're really not going to be in as good a position to protect America, regardless of whoever is heading these agencies."



Indiana 2002, 2004 Racing Form

Secretary of State 2002: Republican: Deputy Secretary of State Todd Rokita.

Democrat: Bloomington Mayor John Fernandez. **Libertarian:** Rebecca Sink-Burris. **1994 Results:** Gilroy (R) 902,100, Jeffers (D) 542,539, Dillon (L) 32,483, Knight (A) 13,948. **1998 Results:** Gilroy 828,557, Little (D) 652,565, Dillon (L) 51,775. **2002 Forecast:** At this point, this race is a pure tossup. We don't expect it to come down to "personality" votes for Rokita or Fernandez. Let's face it, most Hoosier regular folks don't really put a lot of energy or worry into who's running for secretary of state. Who wins this office is likely to be a referendum on which party, Republicans or Democrats, can be trusted to lead the state in tough times. It may have more to do with President Bush and Gov.

O'Bannon than the two candidates. It will be a party war campaign. Republicans hope to ride Bush's popularity and turn the "who do you trust?" argument that O'Bannon so successfully

used. Republicans will try to portray themselves as the wave of the future. Democrats see Fernandez as not only one of their bright rising stars, but this race as a way to blunt the ascension of Jim Kittle as Republican chair and to keep a lock on the top Statehouse offices. A Fernandez loss will help establish the "they've been in too long" scenario for 2004. This race is very much a Peter Manous vs. Jim Kittle campaign. They've both got a lot riding on it, including credibility. Both Kittle and Manous will be faced with "going negative" (Republicans are seeking Bloomington records at a prolific clip). All of these elements make the top race on the Hoosier ballot this fall fascinating. We think that either Rokita or Fernandez would make a fine keeper of the state seal and records. This will be a good choice for Hoosier voters. But there's so much more riding on this campaign than just these two fine, young men. **Status:** *Tossup.*

Governor 2004: Republican: David McIntosh, Sen. Murray Clark, Sen. Luke

Kenley, OMB Director Mitch Daniels, Eric Miller, Petersburg Mayor Randy Harris. **Democrat:** Lt. Gov. Joe Kernan. **1996 Results:** O'Bannon (D) 1,075,342, Goldsmith (R) 997,505, Dillon (L) 35,261. **2000 Results:** O'Bannon (D) 1,230,345, McIntosh (R) 906,492, Horning (L) 38,686. **2004 Forecast:** McIntosh emerged from the GOP convention bruised with key molders of opinion from within. Had he worked with the platform committee during that process, it could have been a heroic re-emergence. Instead, it conjured images of the 2000 campaign that still haunt McIntosh: A lack of proper planning, research and strategic execution. This coming week, Hoosier voters will know a lot more about Sens. Kenley and Clark, and LG Joe Kernan. All have a lot riding on the tax restructuring end game. Which one will step up to help forge a vital compromise? Which one will just play politics? Many eyes are going to be on Daniels. There is growing sentiment in the state GOP that Daniels is going to have to make a decision soon, otherwise it will deprive the field of its fundraising ability. McIntosh disagrees, saying that gubernatorial candidates shouldn't be siphoning away money from legislative and congressional campaigns this year. Plus, Daniels can't signal a return to Indiana in 2002 lest it severely compromise his position on Capitol Hill while he rummages for that extra \$37 billion to fund the new Department of Homeland Security. Yes, Capitol Hill, a place where a lot of people are going to be saying, "Mitch!" this year, in different tones of voice. **Status:** *Leans D.*

Indiana Congressional Races

Congressional District 2: Republican: Chris Chocola. **Democrat:** Jill Long

Thompson. **Geography:** South Bend, Michigan City, Mishawaka, Elkhart, Kokomo, Plymouth, Logansport; LaPorte, St. Joseph, Starke, Marshall, Pulaski, Fulton, Cass, Carroll and parts of Howard, Porter, Elkhart and White counties. **Media Market:** South Bend-Elkhart, Indianapolis, Lafayette, Chicago. **Websites:** www.jilllongthompson.com; www.chocolaforcongress.com **2000 Result:** Roemer (D) 107,076, Chocola (R) 98,367. **2002 Forecast:** Democratic pollster Anna Greenburg, defended the mere 6 percent undecided in the poll released last week, saying it accurately reflected a heavy Chocola TV ad rotation in May. **Status:** *Tossup.* ❖

HORSE RACE