

# The Howey Political Report



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## “QUOTE” OF THE WEEK

“Bush all but declares war.”

- A press release issues by U.S. Rep. Mark Souder following President Bush’s State of the Union Address Tuesday night

## President Bush carries the world’s big stick

### President sets Feb. 5 as dramatic day

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY** in Indianapolis

During the past few weeks, President George W. Bush has drawn comparisons to several two-term Republican giants. Bill Keller in the *New York Times Magazine* wrote of “*The Radical Presidency of George W. Bush*,” with a sub-head noting, “Not a centrist. Not a Puppet. Not a Fool.” Morphed from photos of President Reagan, Keller notes that Bush “is what no one predicted, a powerful president with a pure conservative agenda and a gambler’s instinct. By comparison, Ronald Reagan may look like a moderate.”

Gannett columnist Chuck Raasch compares Bush to President Eisenhower. “It is no coincidence that George W. Bush has a bust of Dwight D. Eisenhower near his desk in the Oval Office and a portrait of the former president prominently displayed in the Cabinet room,” Raasch wrote. “At the halfway point of his first term, Bush has more in common with the president nicknamed Ike than with any other of his predecessors.” He points to the tensions on the Korean peninsula, the slight GOP majorities in Congress, and the attempt to “soften” the hard edges of the Republican agenda.

**Lost on Raasch is that** Eisenhower promised to end a war and did, and avoided opportunities to get into several others (Hungary, Suez, Vietnam) as a wise old general who became leery of the military-industrial complex and boys coming home in boxes.

Then there was the History Channel’s two-part special on President Theodore Roosevelt, “*The American Lion*.” Bush actually supplied the opening introduction for the show. Here is where I see the most vivid parallels of what Democrats might echo: Mark Hanna’s alarm over “that damn cowboy,” though there are similarities to the other two, par-

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# TICKER T A P E

DEMOCRATIC LEADERSHIP COUNCIL COMMENTS ON BUSH SPEECH: President Bush's 2003 State of the Union Address was a forceful presentation of just about everything good and bad about the Bush Administration. It showed a President willing to concede his entire economic policy to the bad economics, the anti-government extremism, and the greedy, sticky fingers of his conservative base. And it also showed a President confident enough of his conservative support to build a rhetorical Potemkin village of insincere, unworkable or underfunded domestic initiatives on health care, energy, education and social services, designed to neutralize Democratic proposals and offer "compassion" on the cheap. Typically, one of the best sections of the speech, a moving citation of the toll of AIDS in Africa and a new commitment to spend \$10 billion on the problem over the next five years, represented an abrupt reversal of the earlier Administration position, probably at the behest of new Senate Republican Leader Bill Frist. And in the most immediately significant part of the speech, on Iraq, the President combined a very effective indictment of Saddam Hussein's incorrigible record of contempt for international law and the

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ticularly Reagan.

Some of these manifested themselves in Bush's mid-term State of the Union address Tuesday night, a work with key assistance from Michael Gerson that lends credence to his shared Reagan legacy as a "Great Communicator."

Bush has become a "big stick" president and has clear resolve. In Bob Woodward's book, *"Bush at War,"* the analysis is this: "Bush's leadership style bordered on hurried. He wanted action, solutions. Once on a course, he directed his energy at forging on, rarely looking back, scoffing at -- even ridiculing -- doubt and anything less than a 100-percent commitment. He seemed to harbor few, if any regrets. His short declarations could seem impulsive."

**Woodward quoted** Bush on Afghanistan: "I have not doubted .... There is no doubt in my mind we're doing the right thing. Not one doubt."

Bush's State of the Union address was an artful weave. Many anticipated bellicosity aimed at Iraq as probable headline fodder. But for the first half of the speech, the President addressed his greatest vulnerability, the economy and health

care: More tax cuts, a reworking of Medicare. He addressed the national Achilles heel -- our dependence on oil -- by pledging \$1.2 billion in research on hydrogen-powered automobiles, "So that the first car driven by a child born today could be powered by hydrogen, and pollution-free." That is an initiative heartening to American environmentalists and heartburning to Middle Eastern shieks.

Bush called for \$600 million for the treatment of 300,000 chemical addicts.

**Then, turning toward** the world, he began not with Iraq or North Korea, but with the AIDS pandemic in Africa. It seemed to be a heeded plea that U2 singer Bono brought to the American Midwest last month. President Bush asked for a \$15 billion commitment in AIDS relief in Africa. "This nation can lead the world in sparing innocent people from the plague of nature," he said, before adding, "And this nation is leading the world in confronting and defeating the man-made evil of international terrorism" against a "scattered network of killers."

His resolve came in several memorable phrases. "All free nations have a stake in preventing sudden and catastroph-

ic attack. We are asking them to join us, and many are doing so. Yet the course of this nation does not depend on the decisions of others."

Bush addressed Iraq and this is where the address turned from rhetoric to a compilation to disturbing fact, followed by compelling questions. The United Nations concluded in 1999 that Iraq had enough material to produce 25,000 liters of anthrax; 38,000 liters of botulinum toxin; 500 tons of sarin, mustard and VX nerve agent, and 30,000 munitions capable of delivering chemical agents.

**Saddam, Bush said**, "has given no evidence that he has destroyed them. Imagine those 19 hijackers with other weapons, and other plans -- this time armed by Saddam Hussein. It would take just one vial, one cannister, one crate slipped into this country to bring a day of horror like none we have ever known."

He established Feb. 5 as perhaps the most significant day in world history since Adlai Stevenson brought evidence to the United Nations Security Council in 1962 of Russian missiles in Cuba. The Bush war council's dove, Secretary of State Colin Powell, is to present "information and intelligence about Iraq's illegal weapons programs."

**Bush's address**, accompanied by his frequent knowing glances and smiles to those assembled in the House chambers, may have worked. By Wednesday, Russian President Putin was signalling a change in his reluctance to invade Iraq.

Before the speech, an ABC News poll pegged Bush's approval at 59 percent. In a CBS Poll after the speech, 81 percent of Americans said they "believed that President Bush had the same priorities for America that they had." In contrast, before the speech, only 54 percent of those same people said Bush shared their priorities in that CBS poll.

Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle noted, "Tonight, the President used all the right rhetoric, but he still has all the wrong policies."

The *New York Times* editorialized Wednesday morning, "Bush sought to revive a sense of national resolve last night with a State of the Union address that readied the country for a showdown with Iraq and demanded another huge tax cut for wealthier Americans. No one watching the somber Mr. Bush's delivery could doubt his determination."

The *Wall Street Journal* editorialized, "Clearly sensing political danger on the horizon, the President sought to capitalize on the success he enjoyed in the November elections by laying out an aggressive domestic agenda that likely will dominate political debate through the 2004 election. The question hanging over Mr. Bush is whether his ambitious agenda reaches too far, as Democratic lawmakers grow more combative and concerns about a war grow both at home and abroad."

**Presidential historian** Michael Beschloss observed on ABC, "One thing is it shows us a lot about George Bush and presidential power. Two years ago... many speculated this might be someone who was contented to be a president of not great ambition. That was not on display tonight. This is someone who wants a commanding presence."

ABC's George Will said, "It was emotional whiplash in this speech. Half of it's compassion, turns on a dime, and three paragraphs after the crescendo on AIDS, he said to date, 'We have arrested or otherwise dealt with various terrorists. All told, more than 3,000 suspected terrorists have been arrested in different countries and many others have met a different fate.' An astonishing thing. The President of the United States, in calculated, icy language, saying we're tracking them down one at a time, and killing them."

Bush was on oratorical par with Reagan Tuesday night with the whole world watching. Feb. 5 is the promised date when Powell might produce evidence and await answers "until hell freezes over." And Bush is a President who carries the big stick. ❖

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United Nations with his own barely contained contempt for multilateral institutions.

### BAYH WATCHED SPEECH FROM SECURE LOCATION:

At the request of the Senate leadership, Sen. Evan Bayh and a small group of Members of Congress agreed to remain off-site during last evening's State of the Union address. The action was not taken in relation to any specific threat, but rather was a step to ensure the continuity of elected government in the event of a significant attack. Attorney General John Ashcroft was the designated Cabinet member not present. Sen. Bayh watched the President's address from the off-site location.

Following is a statement from Bayh: "The President tonight outlined some good proposals and some that we need to improve upon. I hope we can work in a bipartisan way to get the economy moving forward again, cut taxes for working families, create jobs and spur investment. It is also long overdue that we modernize Medicare by adding a prescription drug benefit that maintains the integrity and long-term solvency of the program. "We must also continue to protect the national security interests of the United States. When it comes to defending America there is no room

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for partisanship. We simply must defend the physical well-being of our citizens. Hopefully this can be done through peaceful means, but we must be prepared to use force if necessary."

**PENCE SAYS RESOLVE IS CLEARER:** U.S. Rep. Mike Pence, R-Ind., praised Bush's leadership. "The President has made our nation's challenges clear and has made our nation's resolve to overcome them still clearer," Pence said (Associated Press).

**BUSH TALKED IN GENERALITIES, HILL SAYS:** Rep. Baron Hill, D-Ind., said Bush's speech was "long on generalities and short on details." He said he wished for more specifics on reviving the economy (Jessica Wehrman, Evansville Courier & Press). "In fairness to him, I'm sure he will unfold what the details are in the coming weeks," he said. Hill also said Bush has yet to make a detailed argument on the need for war with Iraq. He said he was curious in particular about a statement by Bush that he would lead a coalition against Iraq. Hill said it was unclear who might be involved in that coalition. "President Bush set the framework for what he wants to accomplish," he said. "I support him in what he wants to accomplish, but now the details need to be filled in."

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## The politics of Roe v. Wade in Indiana

By BRIAN A. HOWEY

A couple of months ago, Jean Ann Harcourt was an announced candidate for lieutenant governor in 2004. She vowed to aggressively pursue the Republican nomination and met with emissaries from OMB Director Mitch Daniels.

Last week, she became vice chair of the Indiana Republican Party, replacing Shirley Baker. "My expertise is on party building and that is where my passion really is," Harcourt told HPR. "Therefore, it's a win, win, win!"

Republican Executive Director Luke Messer noted that Baker was vice chair of the party for more than a dozen years and that the opening was perfect for the hard-charging Harcourt. "She's been a lifelong worker in the Republican Party and this is an excellent position for her and Indiana Republicans," Messer said.

But there is an underlying reason why Harcourt is now vice chair and not a candidate for LG. She's a pro-choice Republican on the abortion issue.

Floating her name to the expansive Right to Life wing of the GOP prompted only furrowed brows, and shakes back and forth, not nods. As sharp, enthusiastic, effervescent and whip-smart as Harcourt is, she was not going to be on the ticket in 2004.

Harcourt candidly told HPR, "For reasons you mentioned, I was not going to be selected as anyone's lieutenant governor candidate."

**This development** is another signal that a political war looms over the fate of *Roe v. Wade*. The speculation is that with a couple of likely retirements from the U.S. Supreme Court, President Bush will nominate associate justices who will seek to return the abortion rights authority to the states, igniting fierce debates in the 50 state capitols.

In early January, the *New York Times* seemed to establish the potential in a Sunday editorial under the headline

*"The War Against Women."*

The editorial said, "Running for the White House in the fall of 2000, George W. Bush did not talk about ending the right to abortion. To avoid scaring off moderate voters, he promoted a larger reverence for life agenda that also included adoption and tougher drunken driving laws. Voters were encouraged to believe that while Bush was anti-choice, he was not out to reverse *Roe v. Wade*. Yet two years into the Bush presidency, it is apparent that reversing or otherwise eviscerating the Supreme Court's momentous 1973 ruling that recognized a woman's fundamental right to make her own childbearing decisions is Bush's mission. The lengthening string of anti-choice executive orders, regulations, legal briefs, legislative maneuvers and key appointments emanating from his administration suggests that undermining the reproductive freedom essential to women's health, privacy and equality is a major preoccupation of his administration -- second only, perhaps, to the war on terrorism."

**Messer scoffs at the *Times*** and similar notions. "It's very clear that the Democrats are trying to politicize the issue," he said. "They are making it more political than the President has. The one campaign promise he made is to end partial birth abortion and 80 percent of the country agrees with him."

And Messer points to a Jan. 26 *New York Times Magazine* article by Bill Keller, "*The Radical Presidency of George W. Bush*," as compared to that of President Reagan. Keller wrote that when researcher Martin Anderson studied 1,044 radio scripts that Reagan wrote, he found only one on the subject: The need for abortion to protect the life of a mother in cases of rape and incest. "As governor (Reagan) signed one of the most liberal state abortion laws, and as president, he did little directly to challenge the essentially permissive state of American law,"

Keller wrote. "Friends say that on abortion, gay rights, school prayer and other culture-war issues, Reagan's sympathy for the religious right was bumped up against his hands-off view of government, and against his reading of the public mood. Bush, like Reagan, understands that Americans like a good example, but they won't abide a scold."

Bush, he said, tends to "tip-toe" around cultural landmines, staking middle ground on stem cells, and while endorsing "diversity" while denouncing "quotas," ducks the hard question of whether racial preference is ever allowed."

**Former Bush speechwriter** David Frum, Keller notes, gave the pro-life wing its greatest victory on restricting stem cell technologies "without riling Americans

who favor abortion rights."

Back in Indiana, the dilemma for placing a gubernatorial ticket litmus test above the pro-life cut is that the party in the Bayh-O'Bannon era has lagged significantly behind the Democrats with females, and particularly independents, who tend to decide elections.

**Harcourt had the ability** to help the GOP bridge that gap.

A solidly pro-life ticket in 2004 could decide a primary election and drum up significant excitement at the Republican convention. But if there's a cultural war in place over *Roe v. Wade*, the party's efforts to bring in independents, women and Democrats will remain a problem it has to figure out how the solve. ❖

## Bush to Lugar: Call Me Anytime

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY**

*Newsday* reporter Anne Q. Hoy wrote of a recent White House dinner where just about anyone would have loved to have been a fly on the wall:

"Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Richard Lugar Wednesday joined President George W. Bush and a small group of powerful foreign policy leaders for an intimate dinner in the White House's imposing Red Room. With the situation in Iraq reaching a critical phase, the leisurely and elegant meal of seared sea scallops with apples and nuts followed by tenderloin bathed in a wine sauce belied the urgency of the moment. United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan flew in from New York, as did U.S. ambassador to the UN John Negroponte. Secretary of State Colin Powell, National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice, Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist (R-Tenn.) and spouses were among the dozen guests joining the Bushes."

And the conversation around the circular table? The challenges of Iraq, North Korea, and the AIDS pandemic and famine in Africa."

**Hoy reported that as guests were leaving**, Bush turned to Lugar and pressed him to call whenever he sees something the President needs to know. "That's an invitation that's unusual, but I think sincere," said the Indiana Republican who voted with Bush 100 percent of the time and yet maintained the independence to press him to seek multilateral approach to Iraq through the United Nations.

Bush's invitation to Lugar is reciprocal and the senator will aggressively pick up the President's agenda. On Feb. 5, Lugar will chair a business meeting to consider the Global HIV/AIDS bill. The bill would increase U.S. funding and commitment to fighting the global AIDS pandemic. Also at the Feb. 5 meeting, the Foreign Relations Committee will consider the Moscow Treaty, which will continue the reduction of Russian and American nuclear forces. On Thursday Lugar will chair a hearing on the report to the UN on the weapons inspections in Iraq with Deputy Secretary of State Richard L. Armitage and U.S. permanent representative to the UN John D. Negroponte testifying. ❖

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**SOUDER SAYS 'BUSH ALL BUT DECLARED WAR': U.S.** Rep. Mark Souder said President Bush's State of the Union message "all but declared war" on Iraq. In the second of two statements his office released, Souder, R-Fort Wayne, said, "The President covered many issues of importance to northeast Indiana tonight: Job growth, health care, crime, AIDS, but clearly the driving issue was protecting the safety of American citizens. He made it clear: 'The world has waited 12 years for Iraq to disarm. America will not accept a serious and mounting threat to our country, our friends, and our allies. The United States will ask the UN Security Council to convene on Feb. 5 to consider the facts of Iraq's ongoing defiance. We will consult, but let there be no misunderstanding: If Saddam Hussein does not fully disarm, for the safety of our people, and for the peace of the world, we will lead a coalition to disarm him.' He laid out the specific case why we cannot let Saddam remain in power. How he has terrorized his people, the people of the region, and his intent to terrorize America. The president significantly added 'if this is not evil, than evil has no meaning.' He also made it

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clear that this is not about polls or politics. His job is to protect the safety of the citizens of the United States. As a nation, we represent the forces of good in the world. The President made it absolutely clear: 'Whatever the duration of this struggle, and whatever the difficulties, we will not permit the triumph of violence in the affairs of men. Free people will set the course of history.'

**LLOYD SEEKS RIVERBOAT MONEY FOR EVANSVILLE SCHOOLS:** Republican Mayor Russ Lloyd Jr. is exploring whether the city can turn over city riverboat tax money to cover some of the costs of extracurricular activities in the school system (Herb Marynell, *Evansville Courier & Press*). The Evansville-Vanderburgh School Board voted Monday to approve \$11 million in cuts over two years, including eliminating \$1.1 million in stipends for athletic coaches, music directors and others involved in extracurricular activities. Republican City Council members on Monday said Lloyd is discussing the possibility of diverting city riverboat income to the school system on a one-time basis. Councilman Joe Kiefer, R-at large, said city attorneys were checking on the legality of that step.

**HALLS PLEAD IN CORRUP-**

# Indiana 2003 Racing Form

## Indiana 2003 Mayoral Races

**Evansville Mayoral:** **Republican:** Mayor Russell Lloyd Jr. **Democrat:** State Rep. Jonathon Weinzapfel. **1995 Results:** McDonald (D) 19,162, Frary (R) 9,565. **1999 Results:** Lloyd (R) 15,980, Borries (D) 15,461. **2003 Forecast:** Lloyd is exploring whether the city can turn over city riverboat tax money to cover some of the costs of extracurricular activities in the school system (Herb Marynell, *Evansville Courier & Press*). The Evansville-Vanderburgh School Board voted Monday to approve \$11 million in cuts over two years, including eliminating \$1.1 million in stipends for athletic coaches, music directors and others involved in extracurricular activities. Republican City Council members on Monday said Lloyd is discussing the possibility of diverting city riverboat income to the school system on a one-time basis. Councilman Joe Kiefer, R-at large, said city attorneys were checking on the legality of that step. **General Status:** *Leans Lloyd.*

**East Chicago Mayoral:** **Republican:** None. **Democrat:** Mayor Robert Pastrick, Councilman George Pabey, Judge Lonnie Randolph. **1999 Primary Results:** Pastrick 5,772, Stephen Stiglich 3,790. **1999 General Results:** Pastrick (D) 3,027, Acost (R) 629. **2003 Forecast:** Judge Randolph decides to challenge Pastrick than run for re-election. The two have been feuding over cuts to the East Chicago court. Pastrick officially files for a ninth term. **General Status:** *Solid Pastrick.*

**Gary Mayoral:** **Republican:** Open. **Democrat:** Mayor Scott King, Karen Freeman-Wilson, Dozier Allen, Lake County Commissioner Rudy Clay, Roosevelt Allen, Douglas Grimes. **1995 Results:** King (D) 23,588, Williams (I) 5,482, Boswell (R) 1,108, McCraney (I) 96. **1999 Results:** King (D) 11,467. **2003 Forecast:** Mayor King officially files for re-election and then joined a rally at his campaign headquarters. City Clerk Katie Hall and her deputy, daughter Junifer, plead guilty to corruption charges and will resign. This could give King a political opening to appoint an interim clerk, or it might be a minefield since he has feuded in the past with former deputy clerk Shirley Byrum. **General Status:** *Likely King.*

**Indianapolis Mayoral:** **Republican:** Treasurer Greg Jordan, State Rep. Phil Hinkle, Bob Parker. **Democrat:** Mayor Bart Peterson. **Libertarian:** Open. **1995 Results:** Goldsmith (R) 64,209, Jimison (D) 39,539, Dillon (L) 7,175. **1999 Results:** Peterson (D) 102,870, Gilroy (R) 83,044, Horning (L) 7,772, Gibson (OP) 2,145. **2003 Forecast:** Parker agrees to abide by the GOP slating convention decision on Feb. 12. He had pledged \$600,000 of his money to his campaign, far more than either Hinkle or Jordan have raised. Parker believes he can win. "I'm probably the odd guy outside the box, but I'm a guy who's trying to improve the party," he told HPR. Can he win? Parker answered, "Yes sir." **General Status:** *Likely Peterson.*

**New Albany Mayoral:** **Republican:** Mayor Regina Overton. **Democrat:** Councilman James E. Garner, Betty Lou Tuttle, Yvonne Kersey. **1995 Results:** England 6,845, Real (R) 5,886. **1999 Results:** Overton (R) 5,512, England (D) 4,205. **2003 Forecast:** Two more candidates have announced plans to seek the Democratic nomination for New Albany mayor in the May 6 primary, bringing the field to six (*Louisville Courier-Journal*). The latest entries are Yvonne Kersey, who ran in the 1999 Democratic mayoral primary, and Betty Lou Tuttle, who hasn't sought office before, according to her campaign material. **General Status:** *Tossup.*

**South Bend Mayoral:** **Republican:** Open. **Democrat:** Mayor Steve Luecke. **1995 Results:** Kernan (D) 14,309, Waite (R) 3,106. **1999 Results:** Luecke (D) 13,678, Bradley (R) 6,321. **2003 Forecast:** Despite tough economic times, businesses have continued to expand in

# HORSE R A C E

South Bend during the past year, placing the city on a solid foundation for the future, Mayor Stephen J. Luecke said Monday during his State of the City address (Terence Bland, *South Bend Tribune*). "What we've done really points the direction to where we're going," Luecke said. Highlighting projects such as the expansion of Crowe, Chizek and Co., Federal Mogul and the construction of an 800,000-square-foot A.J. Wright warehouse at Olive and Sample streets on the near west side, Luecke proclaimed business is booming in South Bend. Luecke described the warehouse project as a "real coup" that will bring life to a formerly underutilized brownfield site. "This was an impossible dream: to assemble and clear the site, clean up environmental issues and meet a fast-track timetable," Luecke said. "The TJX (Wright parent company) team was skeptical that we could get it done, and there were days when the obstacles loomed so large it seemed they were right." "But our team wouldn't quit," said Luecke, who credited the city's economic development department, along with the state and Project Future with assisting to bring the project here. Luecke credited good planning for bringing about the TJX project and vowed to continue such planning in the future. **General status:** *Solid Luecke.*

**Terre Haute Mayoral:** **Republican:** Duke Bennett, Bill Dunbar. **Democrat:** Mayor Judy Anderson, Jim Jenkins. **1999 Results:** Anderson (D) 6,791, Hooper (R) 2,608, Cronk (I) 1,178 Brouer (I) 174. **2003 Forecast:** Anderson files for re-election. **General Status:** *Leans Anderson*

## Indiana 2004 State, Federal Races

**Governor 2004:** **Republican:** Ambassador Dan Coats, David McIntosh, Sen.

Murray Clark, Sen. Luke Kenley, OMB Director Mitch Daniels, Eric Miller, Petersburg Mayor Randy Harris. **Democrat:** Joe Andrew, State Sen. Vi Simpson. **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:** Andrew is getting his ducks lined up and will send a letter out to key Democrats over the weekend announcing his intention to run. He'd like to get a big splash on his candidacy in Sunday's *Indianapolis Star* (but remember, you read it here first). This is astute politics on Andrew's part as the timing of an announcement this week might have been drowned out by Bush's State of the Union and the beat of war drums. Several Democratic sources tell *Horse Race* that Andrew is making plans to conduct a listening tour over the next several months in order to establish a dialogue with Hoosier Democrats. They say that Andrew is keenly aware so-called "diversity" perceptions that began when IUPUI pollster Brian Vargus said that a woman couldn't become governor, followed by Gov. O'Bannon and Chairman Peter Manous's conspicuous attempts to recruit a white, middle-aged male, and the rise of the Simpson candidacy. Andrew will be exploring female LG partnerships should be prevail. Some of the names popping up in this context include Simpson, former State Rep. Susan Crosby, former U.S. Rep. Jill Long Thompson (who turned down the 1996 LG nomination) and former USDA official and 6th CD nominee Melina Ann Fox. The anticipation of the Andrew candidacy is he will enthusiastically charge from the blocks with some key labor endorsements and will begin utilizing his national fund-raising network. Challenges for the Andrew candidacy is that Simpson will enjoy the spotlight on the legislature over the next three to six months. Democrats from various points across the state tell HPR that her candidacy is jelling. On the GOP side, Daniels enjoyed several tight TV network shots during Bush's State of the Union address. He returns home on a couple of Lincoln Day speeches next week in Boone and Hamilton counties. Harris has set up a gubernatorial campaign web site ([www.harrisforindiana.com](http://www.harrisforindiana.com)) and basketball great Oscar Robertson is an honorary chairman of Harris' campaign (*Evansville Courier & Press*). Miller interpreted a recent Indiana Department of Revenue as saying 21,000 Indiana not-for-profits might lose tax status because they have not updated their NFP-20A form (Lori Henson, *Terre Haute Tribune-Star*). The Department of Revenue sent out a third letter last Friday assuring not-for-profits that there "has been no revocation of any organization's not-for-profit status." Miller said he is unsatisfied with that answer. "I'm still waiting and looking for somebody to say 'We were wrong and we're going to make it right,'" Miller said. **Status:** *TOSSUP.* ❖

## TICKER T A P E

**OLSON TO SEEK RE-ELECTION CASE; BOTH TO RESIGN:** Guilty. That's how Gary city Clerk Katie Hall and her daughter, chief deputy clerk Junifer Hall, pleaded Monday night to felony mail fraud charges (Steve Patterson, *Post-Tribune*). The pleas were accepted by U.S. District Court Judge Rudy Lozano after a weekend of negotiations between prosecutors and defense attorneys in the public corruption trial. The deal calls for Katie Hall to receive probation, with Junifer Hall to be sentenced to 10 to 16 months in federal prison. Prosecutors called for 18 other felony charges against the Halls to be dropped. In exchange, the Halls agreed to immediately resign their positions. Although the Halls pleaded guilty to only one of 20 counts, their agreement contains a confession in which they admit to almost all the core facts of the government's case (Times of Northwest Indiana). Both of the Halls admitted, "During the period Katie Hall was the clerk, employees of the Gary city clerk's office were required to pay money to and participate in fund-raising activities for The Friends of Katie Hall (Hall's political organization), in return for and as a condition of their employment in the Gary city clerk's office."

**OLSON TO SEEK RE-ELEC-**

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**TION IN PORTAGE:** Doug Olson's biggest challenge through the initial three years of his first term has been dealing with the declining economy that hit Northwest Indiana, the state and nation (Times of Northwest Indiana). Olson, who filed paperwork Thursday to seek the Democratic nod in the May 6 primary election for a second term as mayor of Porter County's largest city, said his administration has coped, moved ahead on promises made four years ago, and will continue to serve residents. "The economy's been the biggest challenge. We had to rethink a lot of things. We had to slow down a lot of things. Sometimes, I'm not real patient, especially coming off the prosperity of the 1990s," Olson said from his office this past week.

**SURVEY SHOWS SUPPORT FOR DST:** In a recent survey conducted by the Marion-Grant County Chamber of Commerce of its members, 48 percent of people supported moving to Eastern daylight-saving time, while 25 percent of people were against the move (Sean Driscoll, Marion Chronicle-Tribune). "It's an issue whose time has come," said State Rep. Dean Young, R-Hartford City.



# COLUMNISTS ON INDIANA

**Cameron Carter, *Indianapolis Eye* -**

As Vi Simpson and Joe Andrew explain their personal and political records in a contest to take on Mitch Daniels or another well-positioned Republican, Indiana's junior senator will remain in Washington's corridors of power. Bayh will cross the aisle to work with Republicans such as John McCain, Kay Bailey Hutchison, and Indiana's own Dick Lugar on issues as wide-ranging as the elimination of the marriage tax to the elimination of dictators such as Saddam Hussein and Kim Jong Il. He will bide his time, remain a beloved former governor, and stand ready to accept a call for the second spot on the 2004 ticket. As long as state Republicans take nothing for granted, the future for the Indiana Democrats' standard-bearer in 2004 is not very bright. Evan Bayh surprised very few (exception: the exceptionally gullible) with his decision not to run for governor. He's surprising more with his muscular approach to issues of vital concern to the United States. The future of one potential national Democrat standard-bearer for 2008 remains very bright, indeed. ❖

**Morton Marcus,** I regret that I must be the bearer of good news. Today, it is fashionable for Hoosier politicians and commentators to decry our disturbing economic state. Yet it is necessary to acknowledge what is going right when it does. The latest data from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reveal that Indiana has out-performed the nation during the second and third quarters of 2002. Personal income growth in Indiana ranked 8th in the nation in the second quarter last year and 12th in the third quarter. For the year (third quarter 2001 to the same quarter in 2002), real personal income in Indiana (adjusted for inflation) grew by 2% while the U.S. advanced by 1.7%. This allows us to nestle in the 22nd place

between California and North Carolina. Not bad company. Behind us is Kentucky (24th), Ohio (42nd), Michigan (43rd), and Illinois (46th) among the 50 states. So why are the new-era critics so upset, so alarmed? Perhaps they have discovered that our problems in the recent recession started before those of the nation. Indiana's real personal income peaked in the third quarter of 2000 while the nation went on for another two quarters of progress before experiencing any problems. Thus, from the third quarter of 2000 to the same quarter in 2001, Indiana's personal income declined by 0.1% while the nation had a 0.7% increase. That loss for Indiana left us with a growth in the past two years of 1.9%, behind the nation's 2.4% increase. Why did this happen? The Johnny-come-lately hand-wringers of both parties blame our manufacturing base. Yet, earnings from manufacturing in Indiana over the past two years have weathered the economic turmoil better than the rest of the nation; we saw a 6.8% drop compared with the nation's 10.1% decline. ❖

**Jack Colwell, *South Bend Tribune* -**

Coming to terms with term limits, House Republicans have removed the limit of eight years for the office of speaker, thus permitting Speaker Dennis Hastert to go on serving in that important post for much longer, if he wants to and if Republicans retain control of the chamber. Good for them. Term limits, whether on a speaker or on service by individual legislators, were a bad idea, an idea whose time has passed. As *Washington Post* columnist David S. Broder wrote, the switch by the GOP also can be viewed in a positive light, "as an acknowledgment on the part of Republicans that running government is a serious business where experience counts." ❖