

The Howey Political Report



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“QUOTE” OF THE WEEK

“With the nation possibly going to war, there is nothing wrong with kissing up to God. ”

- State Sen. Frank Mrvan, on Senate passage of a bill requiring “In God We Trust” signs to be posted at schools (*Lafayette Journal & Courier*)

Andrew enters, eyes Constitution revamp

Gregg to endorse Vi Simpson

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY** in Indianapolis

Fifteen months before Hoosier voters will weigh in on Democratic and Republican gubernatorial nominees, the field began taking shape with former Democratic National Chairman Joe Andrew’s entry.

It came less than a week before OMB Director Mitch Daniels begins his Lincoln Day tour, with keynotes set for today in Boone County and Friday in Hancock County.

Andrew’s entry, which probably completes the Democratic field with State Sen. Vi Simpson (though a third candidate is rumored to be mulling an entry), is significant in another way. Four of the seven candidates have expressed interest in fundamentally restructuring Indiana state government and a possible convention that would rewrite the antiquated 1851 Constitution.

Asked by HPR if he was open to a dramatic restructuring of government, Andrew said, “Absolutely. It’s a good sign that many of the people running for office are willing to shake things up; are willing to look at how we govern differently. I’ve looked at life that way; how to be entrepreneurial. As long as we stick to our traditional values about government, that it needs to be open, transparent, that it’s our government as well, that it is fiscally prudent, that it is as lean as it possibly can be, trying to do more for less, everything should be on the table.”

Simpson, Republican 2000 nominee David McIntosh and State Sen. Murray Clark have also told HPR they are open to exploring a significant revamping of state government laid out in a 19th Century era.

How would a 21st Century Indiana government look? Here’s one model: Statewide elected officials would include

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67 PERCENT BELIEVE BUSH MADE A CONVINCING CASE, CNN POLL SAYS: A USA Today-CNN-Gallup poll of 440 State of the Union Address watchers, conducted on January 28 (+/- 5%), shows: 67% said President Bush has made a convincing case for military action to disarm Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein; 30% said he has not. (Before the speech, 47% of the same group said Bush had made the case, 52% did not). An ABC News poll of 781 adults, conducted on January 28 (+/- 3.5%), shows: Bush Approval 62% approve "of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president"; 36% disapprove; 2% have no opinion.

LAKE COUNTY GOP HEARING ENDS IN TURMOIL: Lake County Republican party reformers unleashed a tirade of allegations against county chairman Roger Chiabai during a six-hour hearing before a four-member panel of state GOP officials Wednesday (Post-Tribune). The committee heard and received volumes of written evidence from both sides and will make a recommendation to the party's Central Committee on Feb. 27. The worst-case scenario for Chiabai is that he could lose his job as chairman. GOP state party officials hoped the session would lead to harmony in

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those who make policy: Governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general. A gubernatorial administration would include appointees to perform the functions of secretary of state, auditor and treasurer and public instruction. That would make the governor fully accountable for education and state finances with the ability to choose his or her own team.

The currently weak Indiana governor could be strengthened with a two-thirds majority instead of a bare majority veto override and, perhaps, a line item veto, elements many other governors and the president enjoy. (**Question:** *Why does the lieutenant governor spend 30 to 90 days a year gaveling bills through the Senate, a legislative function?*)

The Indiana Supreme Court would select what is now a clerk of courts.

Down the food chain, policy makers in counties would be up for election. A county executive could be elected in place of three commissioners (**question:** *why do we need three commissioners?*). County councils could be strengthened to perform their fiscal roles. County offices such as auditor, treasurer, recorder, surveyor and coroner could be part of the county execu-

tive's administration (**question:** *why should we elect surveyors and coroners?*).

Sheriffs and prosecutors would continue to be elected to provide local checks and balances.

Township government would cease to exist, with key functions such as assessment transferred to the county assessor, as well as poor relief to either the state or counties.

The most crucial aspect of township government -- fire protection -- could continue, but would be more uniformly financed through county governments.

Counties with a large city (of more than, say, 30,000 population) could be constitutionally encouraged and fiscally rewarded by combining county and city functions (street departments, emergency medical services, sanitary districts, libraries). Smaller counties would be encouraged to merge with others (**question:** *why should Indiana have 92 counties when many states geographically larger and more heavily populated have far fewer?*)

School corporations within a county could be encouraged to combine administrations, as opposed to a new wave of con-

solidations.

The goal that candidates such as Andrew, Simpson, Clark and McIntosh are willing to entertain is reducing the amount of overlap and duplication, with more collected tax money used to adequately provide education, security and services to an aging population.

The obstacles will be current public officials more motivated to protect their turf and fiefdoms as opposed to truly seeking efficiencies and directing vital taxpayer funds to the real and emerging needs of the 21st Century.

Democratic race takes shape

Andrew began his campaign with a thrust from labor as the AFL-CIO and the UAW took steps to endorse. AFL-CIO

chief Ken Zeller said his goal was to avoid a primary battle.

Simpson, who added influential attorney Bill Moreau as her campaign chairman, signaled she was in to stay and was to pick up an endorsement from former House Speaker John Gregg this morning.

On the GOP side, as key counties begin to size up Daniels, McIntosh was touring the state and added former Floyd County Republican Chairman Jason Beal as his campaign manager.

Eric Miller bused in 2,000 supporters to the Statehouse to protest on behalf of church non-for-profit status.

The elections are 15 and 21 months away, but things are heating up. ❖

Joe Andrew: I'll run a different campaign

By BRIAN A. HOWEY

INDIANAPOLIS - HPR Publisher Brian Howey conducted this interview with Democratic gubernatorial candidate Joe Andrew at the *Indianapolis Eye* on Monday afternoon:

HPR: Are Indiana Democrats currently where the Republicans were in 1987-88?

Andrew: I've spent the last several weeks talking to Hoosiers all over the state. Friends, family, business leaders, small business owners, organized labor, firefighters and veterans. During that process, I've learned a lot about their hopes and aspirations for their families and our state. A couple of things occurred to me. One, the vision people have inside the Statehouse, even the questions that have to be asked, let alone what the answers are, is very different from the one outside. Secondly, the pessimism inside the Statehouse is not reflected outside. There is optimism about what we've been able to accomplish so far and a real energetic

need for a can-do attitude. You know, roll up your sleeves and get things done; an impression that people have not been optimistic and creative enough down at the Statehouse collectively. I also learned in that process over and over again that people are really tired hearing about right and left. They want to hear about right and wrong. They don't want to hear about a Democratic idea or a Republican idea. They want to hear what's the best idea.

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Indiana has done a lot for me and I want to give back. That's why I'm running for governor. And now what I need to do as a candidate is first to listen a lot more than talk.

HPR: What kind of dialogue do Indiana Democrats need now?

Andrew: It's about ideas. Listening and what are the best ideas. What are the optimistic ideas? That's what I want to do. That's what I want to do over the next 21 months: Take apart the challenges and try to address them one by one. Instead of starting out with an agenda from day one,

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the GOP ranks in a county where Democrats have ruled since the 1930s. After hours of airing GOP dirty laundry, the hearing concluded with an angry exchange between committee chairman Michael Miner, 3rd District Republican chairman, and Joe Hero, St. John GOP chairman who with Peter Thayer of East Chicago brought the mismanagement charges against Chiabai. Hero accused the committee of taking a Pollyanna approach to the party divisions, which he said were caused in part by Chiabai's approval of Democrats to serve as GOP polling officials. "It's my view that this is sheer racketeering of election credentials," Hero said. Miner, a former Kosciusko county prosecutor, quickly cut Hero off. "You have not presented evidence that there was a crime here. If you have evidence, go to the FBI, but I don't see it here."

STATE BUDGET GAPS GROWING: State budget gaps have grown by 50 percent in the last two months and state policymakers will work to resolve unprecedented budget shortfalls for the next 15 months, according to a report released today by the National Conference of State Legislatures. The latest NCSL survey reports that two-thirds of the states

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must reduce their budgets by nearly \$26 billion between now and June 30, which ends the current fiscal year in most states. In November, when NCSL issued its last report, states projected a cumulative gap of \$17.5 billion. States already had addressed a \$49.1 billion shortfall as they crafted their fiscal year 2003 budgets. The news gets worse for budget planners. State legislatures face a minimum \$68.5 billion budget shortfall for FY 2004. About a third of the states could not provide estimates for the NCSL survey, so next year's cumulative budget deficit could rise significantly. "The magnitude of next year's budget gap is startling," said NCSL President Angela Monson, a state senator from Oklahoma. "Thirty-three states estimate budget gaps in excess of 5 percent, with 18 of those facing gaps above 10 percent. There is great cause for concern since the deficit numbers continue to grow at an alarming rate."

O'BANNON SEEKS TO DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT: Indiana Gov. Frank O'Bannon visited Evansville on Wednesday to promote a plan to boost Indiana's long-term economic health without using state tax dollars. "In a crisis, you have got to do something different," O'Bannon said. Speaking with the staff of

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I want to listen and come up with an agenda in due time based on this process.

HPR: Current conventional wisdom is that several Democrats didn't want to run on the O'Bannon-Kernan record.

Andrew: Over the past six years, everyone assumed that Joe Kernan would run for governor. So many prominent Democrats made decisions to do other things. When you go down the deep Democratic bench and each one of them (John Gregg, Bart Peterson, Baron Hill, Tim Roemer, Lee Hamilton) made a decision beforehand on the assumption that Joe Kernan would be our next governor and it put them in a position

where it was very awkward for them to do it. I'm lucky I'm able to do this now.

HPR: We came off of a golden age in the 1880s and '90s and we lost our edge at the turn of the last century. I believe we're at a similar crossroads today. What does this election mean for our future?

Andrew: You're so right. It's incumbent on leadership from you and others to focus on the future. The questions are different that we have to address. In both the 1980s and 1990s and now we have the same cycle. We have to break that cycle and seek ways to diversify the economy and build on the successes we've had over the past decade. We have to focus on jobs. We have to have great schools to get those great jobs. We have to have quality health care to keep those good jobs. We have to have safe streets in order to attract those good jobs. But we've got to have jobs that are good paying and have a future. I believe the ideas are going to come from across this state and maybe we can even borrow some ideas from across the country. Every year you see the best companies become more productive. They are happy to borrow ideas from other companies and if it works, they'll steal it as quickly as they can. We have to do the same thing. You can't reject them if they come from the

other party.

HPR: Last year many of us worked very hard to get tax restructuring. I believe we need to explore restructuring Indiana government as we did with the tax system. Vi Simpson, Murray Clark and David McIntosh agree. Are you willing to consider such a bold move?

Andrew: Absolutely. It's a good sign that many of the people running for office are willing to shake things up; are willing to look at how we govern differently. I've looked at life that way; how to be entrepreneurial. As long as we stick to our traditional values about government, that it

needs to be open, transparent, that it's our government as well, that it is fiscally prudent, that it is as lean as it possibly can be, trying to do more for less, everything should be on the table. There is nothing that we shouldn't consider in order to address the challenges that we have, but also to make government work better for the people who are paying for it.

HPR: We've talked about the future, but Jim Kittle will not be able to resist tying you to President Clinton's mast. How will you handle that?

Andrew: We all have challenges in our lives. This week I have a grandmother who is turning 99 and a son who turns 8. They've both got great challenges, one at the beginning of life, one at the end of life. One of my challenges is to make sure people judge me by my ideas, my programs, my policy, not my advocacy of someone else's plans, programs or policies. As we've just discussed, the very questions that have to be asked, let alone the answers, are very different than they were a decade ago. I plan on this campaign being about the future and I want to be judged about my ideas, my programs and my policies.

HPR: Indiana Democrats have always prided themselves on diversity. Since 1816, Indiana has had only one

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female on the ticket and no minorities. Tell me about running against Sen. Simpson and what diversity means in this context?

Andrew: Vi Simpson is not only a good friend, but is a great senator, a great Democrat, and is someone who is eminently qualified to be governor of Indiana. You'll never hear me say anything but good things about her. Nor from my team. I believe it is very important to have diversity. I am hopeful there will be tickets on both sides that present diversity in all its forms. I'm not running against anybody. I'm running on a set of ideas, programs and attitudes of trying to bring some bold new change to Indiana.

HPR: You're talking about a listening mode. Is that something you'd do with another candidate in 2003?

Andrew: I am always happy when people join in on my ideas. Not a listening tour or a formal town hall forum, as much as gathering people together and saying here are the problems, what are the answers? How would you address these things? There's a need for a lot of policy discussions inside campaigns. A lot of people from all over the state need to bring their ideas and what they think is important to their local community and how they think the state ought to interact with that. I'm more than happy to have anyone join me, and not just the Democrats but the Republicans as well. I'm happy to have those kinds of conversations with any and all of the Republican candidates, sitting around, listening to people and what their concerns are.

HPR: Some say there isn't a lot of distinction between Indiana Democrats and Republicans, that everyone is conservative. How will you address that?

Andrew: In a perfect world there wouldn't be such distinctions. We wouldn't have that divide. We've got people who have slightly different attitudes on how to approach a set of problems. Often those attitudes lead people to the best conclusions. Usually the best ideas aren't

Democratic or Republican ideas, they are ideas that somebody came up with that aren't affiliated with either one of the parties. More and more people call themselves independents because they reject these labels. Each one of those labels means more to people inside those parties. Those of us who are truly interested in the future of Indiana are not about labels. We're about ideas and common sense attitudes.

HPR: The repercussions of the Kernan shock seemed to throw Indiana Democrats into a mode where they wanted to coalesce around a candidate without the dialogue. Democrats have time. Bayh-O'Bannon didn't link up until early 1988.

Andrew: You're right. There's a lot of time for this process to unfold. There probably never should have been a rush. This is going to be an open governor's race without a lieutenant governor running and it's been a long time since we didn't have that situation. My job is to listen to people about what their real problems are. It's not this game; this political thing of who's in, who's out. It's irrelevant to me and the kind of campaign I want to run and I know it's irrelevant to the voters.

HPR: It sounds like you'll be breaking some of the old political molds.

Andrew: That's certainly true because of the context of change. I know I'm going to run a very different kind of campaign because I'm a different kind of candidate than we have had. It is so important to make it external. This is about the people of Indiana. There are people out there who are hurting and need help and there are ways Indiana government can help them. The goal is to figure out how to do that.

HPR: Can the Indiana Democrats retain the governor's office in 2004?

Andrew: A candidate who is a Democrat can win it. I don't think a party will win it on either side. It's reaching outside the boundaries of that party to find new ideas. ❖

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the Courier & Press, O'Bannon said Indiana must find ways to contend with a national recession and the worst state recession in 60 years. The plan, which O'Bannon and Lt. Gov. Joe Kernan have dubbed "Energize Indiana," follows the lead of other states, including Washington, California, Illinois, Wisconsin and New Jersey, to "securitize" tobacco settlement funds. O'Bannon's plan would spend a total of \$1.25 billion over 10 years on economic and education initiatives. The money would include \$692 million, or 40 percent, of the \$2.15 billion

KENTUCKY GOVERNOR SEEKS BIG TAX HIKE: In an emotional plea to the General Assembly to consider Kentucky's future, Gov. Paul Patton urged lawmakers last night to accept his plan to raise state taxes by \$573 million as the solution to the state's budget crisis (Louisville Courier-Journal). Ohio Gov. Bob Taft is seeking a similar increase in his state. Patton's voice faltered as he argued that a decade of progress in education would be reversed, and services for the needy would be gutted, if lawmakers fix an estimated \$400 million budget shortfall by cutting spending. He said he would have nothing to do with such a budget. "I've already

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experienced the trauma of releasing felons from prison before they've paid their debt to society. I've seen them go out the very next day and abuse the good people of Kentucky," Patton said of his now-canceled early release program to help balance the budget.

FRENCH LICK ON KNEES BEGGING FOR CASINO: Orange County residents told lawmakers yesterday that they were on their "knees begging" for a casino in French Lick, where profits would be used in part to save two historic hotels (Lesley Stedman, Louisville Courier-Journal). More than 80 supporters -- most wearing bright orange "Save French Lick and West Baden" shirts -- crowded the Indiana House chamber to tell the Public Policy, Ethics and Veterans Affairs Committee that gambling is needed to bring tourism back to the area. "Without tourism we're going to die," said French Lick Clerk/Treasurer Elvis Nelson. "This is our only salvation. We need your support. I've been here year in and year out, and now we're on our knees begging."

BONO, DANIELS COMMENT ON BUSH AIDS INITIATIVE: U2 lead singer Bono was buoyed by President Bush's AIDS emergency initiative announced in the State of

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's success for re-election to a second term may depend on convincing voters his administration is on the right track. The Republican made his announcement to run again Thursday in front of the city zoo's old Monkey Ship and before more than 100 supporters, many of whom paid to get inside the facility (Herb Marynell, *Evansville Courier & Press*). Although an incumbent, the 43-year-old Republican mayor may be starting out as an underdog against the expected Democratic mayoral candidate state Rep. Jonathan Weinzapfel in the fall election. "As a Republican in the (predominantly Democratic) city, you always are an underdog," Lloyd said after this announcement. Two Vanderburgh County Commissioners registered their objection Monday to a Downtown baseball stadium, calling it an unwise use of public money (John Martin, *Evansville Courier & Press*). During the commissioners' weekly meeting, Democrat Catherine Fanello presented a surprise resolution opposing the \$25.5 million stadium favored by Lloyd. The resolution passed 2-0. Democrat David Mosby sided with Fanello. Republican Suzanne Crouch abstained from voting, saying she wanted more time to study the resolution. Fanello noted that the Vanderburgh County Council, which controls the purse strings of county government, may be asked to divert about \$400,000 in annual hotel and motel tax revenue to retiring stadium debt. **General Status:** *Leans Lloyd.*

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Fort Wayne Mayoral: **Republican:** Linda Buskirk. **Democrat:** Mayor Graham Richard. **1995 Results:** Helmke 21,909, Essex (D) 11,033, Kempf (L) 1,029. **1999 Results:** Richard (D) 21,607, Buskirk (R) 21,531. **2003 Forecast:** Before a crowd of about 200 Republicans on Thursday, Buskirk kicked off her campaign and denounced Richard's first term as lacking leadership and success. "Our current mayor promised a 20 percent reduction in crime during his first year in office," Buskirk said. "Did he accomplish his goal? No. He backed away from his promise." But Buskirk portrayed Richard as unwilling to work with county officials, to whom she promised: "I will be a partner you can trust. We will get things done." Richard has tried unsuccessfully to merge several departments of city and county government during his administration. Buskirk opened up her campaign headquarters and hired James Banks, a former press aide to U.S. Rep. John Hostettler, to run her campaign. State Treasurer Tim Berry said that Buskirk's campaign will be his "No. 1 priority" in 2003 (*Journal Gazette*). Richard said Monday he will use a recent grant to start a faith-based leadership academy that would help develop community initiatives (David Griner, *Fort Wayne Journal Gazette*). The "FaithWorks Leadership Academy" would bring in speakers from across the nation to help organizations gather grants and improve their programs. **General Status:** *Tossup.*

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 appoints Deputy Mayor Suzette Raggs to be in the interim clerk after Katie Hall pled guilty to corruption charges. **General Status:** *Likely King.*

Hammond Mayoral: **Republican:** Mayor Duane Dedelow. **Democrat:** Tom McDermott. **1995 Results:** Dedelow (R) 11,099, Philpot (D) 10,578. **1999 Results:** Dedelow (R) 10,192, Philpot (D) 8,527, Robinson (L) 278. **2003 Outlook:** State Republican Party officials are working to thwart accusations that a letter denouncing Mayor Duane Dedelow Jr. came from their office. They're saying the letter, on what could be mistaken for official party letter-

head, is a hoax. "Someone faxed me a copy of (the letter), and that's not even our stationery," Luke Messer, the state party's executive director, said by phone from Washington, D.C. "Frankly, it looks more like a silly prank. We're very supportive of Mayor Dedelow in his efforts to seek re-election" (*Times of Northwest Indiana*). "I don't need to participate in negative campaigning," said McDermott, a former Republican mayor now running against Dedelow as a Democrat. "I'm very confident in my campaign. There's no need for me to stoop to that level." Dedelow was in Washington, D.C., this week hoping to convince the Federal Communications Commission to block the pending sale of local radio station WJOB-AM 1230 to a Catholic radio group (*Times of Northwest Indiana*). St. George Broadcasting had agreed to sell the assets of WJOB to Starboard Broadcasting for \$3.25 million. Starboard, based in Green Bay, Wis., offers religious programming 24 hours a day through the Eternal World Television Network. With few exceptions, almost all other broadcasting comes from Chicago, focusing on Illinois news, Dedelow said. The area has no access to IU, Purdue sports, local news or high school games. **General Status:** *TOSSUP*.

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:** Council President Phil Borst criticized Mayor Peterson for acting alone and hiring consultant Rick Horrow of Florida to a \$14,000-per-month contract to help put a Colts deal together (Matthew Tully, *Indianapolis Star*). Borst said all nine members of the city's Capital Improvement Board should have been involved. **General Status:** *Likely Peterson*.

Lafayette Mayoral: **Republican:** Councilwoman Lisa Decker. **Democrat:** Councilman Tony Roswarsk. **1999 Results:** Heath (R) 6,237, Weiss (D) 5,496. **2003 Forecast:** Decker enters the race, having led the GOP ticket in 1999. Decker wasted no time engaging the political battle against Roswarski. She took a CityBus trolley to McAllister Recreation Center, just seven blocks from the northside city councilman's home, for the first of four announcement rallies Thursday afternoon. "Look at the new Vinton Pool, a great addition to the north side," she said while standing on a soap box. "And how about the Erie Street extension, has that made lives on the north side easier?" She also cited the newly renovated McAllister Center and thanked Mayor Dave Heath "for getting things done." **General Status:** *TOSSUP*.

Mishawaka Mayoral: **Republican:** Open. **Democrat:** Open. **1999 Results:** Buetter (R) 5,391, VanBruaene (D) 2,286. **2003 Forecast:** State Rep. Craig Fry passes on this race, saying the \$59,000 salary wouldn't be enough. "While the timing is right politically, I can't afford to run for mayor," Fry said. "If I pass this time, I'll never get a chance to run again because the chances of it being open again are slim to none," he said. "Maggie Prickett had the store (supermarket) and Mayor Beutter has his business investments and law practice. I don't have outside business investments. What I earn each week, like many Mishawaka residents, is what I live on. While \$59,000 would seem like a lot for some people, it's a substantial pay cut for me and I still have one kid in college." St. Joseph County Commissioner Cynthia Bodle is rumored to be considering a run for the Democratic nomination. **General status:** *Solid Luecke*.

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:** Doug England wants to set the record straight. He will not run for mayor this year, but said he has plans to stay involved in local politics (Amany Ali, *New Albany Tribune*). The former mayor admits that he has considered running for mayor once again, but said he opted not to. Instead, he's directing his support to another candidate. England, 58, served as New Albany's mayor for eight years before falling to current Republican Mayor Regina Overton in 1999. Since then, England has been the director of business development for the Hughes Group in Jeffersonville. "I want to thank the citizens of New Albany for letting me serve as mayor for eight years," England said. "I loved the job." England said he would support councilman James Garner. **General Status:** *Tossup*. ❖

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the Union address. "The President's historic move reflects what I know to be true: Americans, once they know about the AIDS crisis in Africa, will not stand aside and ignore the pure dignity of all those who are now waiting to die. Soon many Africans will receive the life-saving medications courtesy of America," Bono said (Brian A. Howey, *Indianapolis Eye*). "This is an amazing thing for those of us who work on these issues, and for those we met in our speaking tour of the Heart of America, Indianapolis and elsewhere who called for the country to lead. Any delay in increased funding means more lives lost and an even bigger check in the future," Bono said. OMB Director Mitch Daniels told the Eye that Congressional chances for funding Bush's \$15 billion initiative are "excellent" and added, "There may be some move to push more of the money to the Global AIDS Fund versus the new American initiative, but as to the general idea I wouldn't expect any real opposition."

STEELWORKERS DESCEND ON WASHINGTON: Capping a three-day legislative conference, about 25 steelworkers from Northwest Indiana joined more than 3,000 workers from across the country Tuesday morning to discuss the problems facing the man-

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ufacturing industry and to ask for help from Capitol Hill (Times of Northwest Indiana). "There is a crisis in manufacturing," said Jim Robinson, president of United Steelworkers of American District 7, which includes Indiana and Illinois. "This is the longest downturn since the depression and it's not just in the steel industry," Robinson added. "The major cause is government policy, which is not supportive of manufacturing."

BAYH APPOINTED TO SMALL BUSINESS: U.S. Sen. Evan Bayh has been appointed a member on the Senate Small Business Committee. The Small Business Committee has jurisdiction over the Small Business Administration, which was created in 1953 to aid, counsel, assist and protect the interests of small businesses and help families and businesses recover from physical disasters. Hoosier small businesses constitute 97.5 of businesses in Indiana. Small businesses employ 1.3 million - or 49.1 percent - of the state's 2.6 million employees. Bayh said his appointment would provide Hoosier small businesses with a strong friend in the Senate. "I'm honored to be appointed to serve on the Senate Small Business Committee," Bayh said in a news release. "I will use this new post to support Hoosier entrepreneurs and workers, and work to create

COLUMNISTS ON INDIANA

Scott Jones, Indianapolis Eye -

Entrepreneurism is a great potential creator of knowledge, wealth and jobs. This has been proven time and again throughout history. As Hoosiers, we have many examples upon which to draw. My own experience is one where, fresh out of MIT's labs in 1986, I invented an innovative system for mass-user voicemail while living in a Boston condominium and working exceptionally long hours. This system revolutionized the way phone companies provided services to customers. My business partners and I took a small, entrepreneurial company (originally Boston Technology) and grew it into a thriving, multi-billion dollar enterprise known today as Comverse Technologies. It employs thousands, generates millions in tax revenues every year, and currently touches the lives of more than 500 million people around the globe. ❖

Mike Leonard, Bloomington Herald-Times -

SBC belittles the very service providers who would create competition in local service through advertisements that emphasize that SBC is the facilities-based provider that built the network. The company continually makes the point that it is being forced to let other providers use the infrastructure that SBC and predecessors built and paid for. The vast network of telephone lines that connect the country were built through a public/private partnership that gave the builders a monopoly in phone service and unfettered access to, and sometimes, dominion over, both public and private landowners. Ratepayers paid for the infrastructure in their telephone bills all along. SBC knows no shame when it comes to fairly and accurately disseminating information to either the public or the governmental agencies that try to represent consumers. ❖

Jack Colwell, South Bend Tribune -

Changes come quickly in politics. A "sure bet" winner of today can be a loser in the next election. Or, as we have seen around these parts, a political certainty isn't certain. Joe Kernan to be the next Democratic nominee for governor of Indiana? A certainty -- until he decided he didn't want to run for governor. Less than a year ago, there was much talk about a formidable challenge to South Bend Mayor Steve Luecke by a city council member. Now the would-be challenger, whose council service was cut short by criminal charges, looks ahead to a term in a place that doesn't resemble the County-City Building. Changes come quickly in politics. The best example on the national level is in what happened to President Bush, the first President Bush, who went from record to wreck. His popularity was at a record high after the military triumph of Desert Storm. Then, quickly, his popularity slipped with the economy. And his re-election prospects were wrecked. Now, it is his son, George W. Bush, who still rides high in the polls. Not as high as his own record popularity following a superb response to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. But still with pretty good support for a president at this stage of a first term. If the next presidential election were coming up Tuesday, George W. Bush would win again, easily. Much will happen before the election actually is here. War will come, it appears. The economy may go up or stay down. Or move first one direction and then the other. Changes come quickly in politics. And the president, having seen what happened to his father, knows that full well. And he tried to address the dangers facing the nation and his own political future in what really were two speeches as he delivered his State of the Union address. ❖

Powell performance greeted well in Indiana

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY**

Hoosier politicians lauded Secretary of State Colin Powell's indictment of Iraq before the United Nations Wednesday morning.

U.S. Sen. Richard Lugar, speaking on CNN this morning just prior to a meeting with Powell, left little doubt he believes Powell presented a solid case. "Secretary Powell made an irrefutable case yesterday. There is no possibility that Saddam will disarm. Secretary Powell has already answered questions about Iraq," Lugar said. "The question isn't how will American diplomacy meet that challenge, but how we will handle North Korea simultaneously and the war on terrorism. It's a very daunting task."

He called the 10 nations signing on to the coalition "very, very important." He said, "The French ought to be with us and they are moving closer."

Lugar said in a Wednesday statement, "I saw the President at a 7 a.m. breakfast this morning. He is very clearly of the mind that this day is very important for the world. The world now has seen the intelligence evidence that everyone has been demanding. The United States does see, as a compelling part of our security, the need to act in Iraq. The President has said that after Secretary Powell has exhausted the diplomatic track - and clearly the statement today was a very powerful part of that - then we will lead a coalition of the willing and we will enforce the resolution. This is in the event that the United Nations is irrelevant and is totally incapable of dealing with a clear violation of its resolutions.

U.S. Sen. Evan Bayh said in a statement, "The evidence against Saddam Hussein is persuasive and overwhelming. He has been deceiving and obstructing the international community for years, and further inspections will be of little use if Iraq continues to interfere with the work of the U.N. inspectors. The choice now

belongs to Saddam. He can disarm voluntarily or we will be forced to take his weapons from him. No one wants military action, but we must do what is necessary to protect the security of the American people."

Earlier in the week, Bayh was critical of Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle, telling the *Weekly Standard*, "I like Tom and he's in a tough position here. The base of the Democratic Party is in profound disagreement with the rest of the country on this issue. And I guess for Tom not to recognize that would be political suicide." Bayh added: "I don't understand those" - such as Mr. Daschle - "who want to wait until the threat is imminent. Do we wait until the missiles are launched, until the smallpox is in the country? The consequences of error could be catastrophic."

U.S. Rep. Mark Souder, returning from Europe, told the *Fort Wayne Journal Gazette*, "There's clearly division in European opinion, not only among nations but within nations." He said some other countries will send troops to the war, and others "will provide somewhere between mild support and silence, which is where we hope Russia is. Some may just abstain."

U.S. Rep. Mike Pence said he expects military action within weeks and said all weapons - including nuclear force - should be used. "I support the commander in chief having the full arsenal of the United States of America at his disposal to pursue America's interests and protect both our citizens and our troops" (*Fort Wayne Journal Gazette*).

Former congressman Lee Hamilton said after President Bush's State of the Union address, that his strong rhetoric "appeals to the American public," but "on the international level, the strong division of right and wrong and the heavy sense of moralism undoubtedly makes the diplomats' chores more difficult." ❖

TICKER T A P E

a better business environment for our state."

BAYH BACKS BUSH FAITH-BASED INITIATIVE: U.S. Sen. Evan Bayh has joined efforts in the Senate to make it easier for religious groups to compete for federal grants and expand tax credits for charitable contributions (Maureen Groppe, *Lafayette Journal & Courier*). "Just as tax cuts, appropriately structured, can be good for the economy, they also can be good for America's social fabric," Bayh said. The Indiana Democrat joined a bipartisan group of senators reintroducing a faith-based initiative President Bush proposed. The initiative is a centerpiece of Bush's "compassionate conservative" agenda for which former Indianapolis Mayor Stephen Goldsmith is a key adviser. As mayor, Goldsmith started the Front Porch Alliance to increase cooperation between government and faith-based groups to improve the city's neighborhoods. To get around the threat of legal challenges, the White House is now floating the idea of giving individuals vouchers to pay for religion-oriented drug rehabilitation programs rather than giving money directly to religious organizations. But Bayh and the other senators want to stick with a compromise worked out with the White House last year to open up federal social service programs to religious groups. ❖