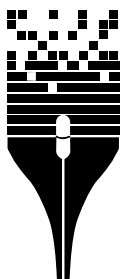


# The Howey Political Report



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## “QUOTE” OF THE WEEK

“We haven't won it. We're in it. The preparation of our nation for nation-building is very small and has to be fundamentally corrected.”

- U.S. Sen. Richard Lugar, on the war in Iraq after returning

## Gov candidates say economy is still key

### Anxious Hoosiers worried about jobs

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY** in Indianapolis

As gubernatorial candidates fan out across the state for a spate of Fourth of July parades and then county fairs, the candidates are telling us that folks are more concerned about the economy than the lingering violence in Iraq.

“The biggest things is economy and jobs,” said Republican Eric Miller. “People are still seeing jobs continue to go outside the state, like Rolls-Royce cutting back 500. The second thing is property taxes. People are gravely concerned about the potential for big property tax increases. And third, they want to know where the \$2 billion surplus went.”

How about Iraq? U.S. Sen. Richard Lugar said on Wednesday, “We haven't won it” (*See Page 9*).

“I'm not hearing much on that,” Miller said. “But it's hard to say how that will play out in 2004. I would hope the situation would stabilize. I would hope the deaths will come to a halt. People are concerned about that, and it's on their mind, but right now not as much as it is job, economy and future of their families.”

Joe Andrew's assessment is virtually the same as Miller's. “It's the economy and jobs,” Andrew said Wednesday afternoon. “It sounds like a cliché, but they become clichés because they're true. There's a lot of anxiety. Many people are affected by it. They have family and friends affected by it. But it's a different anxiety because this is a jobless economy recovery. There's been some telltale signs of a recovery, but no jobs.”

Andrew echoed similar sentiments on the question of the \$2 billion surplus evaporating. Deficit spending, Andrew said, bothers people. He noted that Ross Perot got more

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# TICKER

## T A P E

**BUSH RE-ELECTION NUMBERS HOVER AROUND 50 PERCENT:** President Bush's approval ratings are high, but his re-election support doesn't match up, a reflection of the nation's unease about the struggling economy and uncertainty about who will be the Democratic nominee in 2004 (USA Today). Since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and through the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, Bush has enjoyed approval ratings of 60% or higher in most polls, indicative of the historical trend of the nation rallying around the commander in chief when the nation's security is threatened. But now that the electorate is beginning to focus on Bush's handling of the economy and wondering who the Democrats will nominate, the president's re-elect numbers are at 50% or lower in several polls.

**FOX MIGHT RUN AGAIN:** Melina Fox, the 2000 6th CD nominee, told HPR that she is "keeping my options open" for a possible rematch against U.S. Rep. Mike Pence.

**CHAMPION HEADS LIEBERMAN CAMPAIGN:** Joe Champion of Indianapolis will chair U.S. Sen. Joe Lieberman's presidential campaign in Indiana.

**LaPLANTE FACES CAM-**

votes in Indiana except for two other states in 1992, most on the deficit issue. Andrew noted that four years ago, Republicans wanted to talk about the deficit. "Now they don't want to," he said.

As for Iraq, Andrew said Hoosiers aren't talking about it much. "People are strangely silent," he said. "There was so much agreement on it, they just don't find it as an issue. There's no anxiety. We had it; we won it."

### David McIntosh

The 2000 Republican nominee goes into the field for a baseline poll within the next 10 days. Chris Wilson Strategic Research will conduct what campaign manager Jason Beal calls "our baseline." He said the poll will also gauge the head-to-head. McIntosh's campaign announced several fundraising events. Maryland Gov. Bob Ehrlich will host an event in Washington in July. South Carolina Gov. Mark Sanford, Reagan Attorney General Edwin Meese, former Congressman Steve Largent, Judge Robert Bork and Judge Ken Starr will headline events starting in early September.

### Eric Miller

Miller had a great week when it came to earned media. He had big write-ups in the *Anderson Herald-Bulletin*, the *Muncie Star Press* and the *South Bend Tribune*. The stories centered largely on Miller's grassroots network.

"Things have grown dramatically for us," Miller told HPR on Wednesday. "The number of hits on our website are way up after Mitch got in and Murray (Clark) got out. The press coverage around Mitch's announcement brought attention to the governor's race and that was beneficial to us."

### Mitch Daniels

Several sources close to the former White House budget director tell HPR he will kick off his campaign on July 7, though the real big kickoff will come

later, possibly after the mayoral elections or even after the first of 2004.

### Joe Andrew

A Saturday story in the *Times of Northwest Indiana* had Andrew weighing in on restructuring government. In a story by William Lazarus, the lead was, "Indiana government needs some structural changes that can only be accomplished by amending the state's Constitution, Democrat gubernatorial candidate Joe Andrew said."

Specifically, Andrew said, "The governor ought to have a line item veto" to trim spending bills packed with numerous programs. That, he said, "would change pork politics and would lead to government efficiency."

Asked whether particular levels of government, such as townships, ought to be abolished, Andrew told *Times* editors Friday that any constitutional change would have to come from consensus building and not from the vision of any particular individual, including the governor. He warned that "radical, risky changes" commonly are "a bad idea."

But he also said the state should conduct a statewide audit of services at all levels of government. "In general," Andrew said, "we have seen that consolidation of governments have led to more efficient services."

As for Andrew's fundraising, he's mum. And for good reason. Asked if he'd say how much he raised, Andrew told HPR, "No. We're on target. But it's a perception question. There are those who believe the system is broken and will blame those who have the most money. So it's not time to tell people. I'll wait until Jan. 15 when I'm certain that Mitch Daniels will have the most money. I will go from the guy who's raised all this money to the guy who's the underdog."

### Vi Simpson

The senator was attending a golf fundraiser on Wednesday. ❖

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## Indiana 2004 Gubernatorial

**Governor 2004: Republican:** Mitch Daniels, David McIntosh, Sen. Luke Kenley, 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:** No status change on the Kenley campaign. Perhaps we should have sent that Christmas card to

Democratic Chairman Joe Hogsett. It was probably inevitable that rumors would begin to swirl about dissatisfaction with the two Democratic gubernatorial candidates. The remedy, according to the rumors, is that Sen. Evan Bayh is rethinking the 2004 scenario and is trying to talk Hogsett into reconsidering a run. The best way to dispel the rumor was to get that Gen. Sherman quote from Hogsett himself. Two phone calls were placed to Hogsett. Neither was returned. Now, the Horse's feelings aren't hurt. But the opportunity to tamp down a rumor was not taken, and thus the Hoosier political mind is allowed to wander further. It's interesting that Hogsett's most conspicuous decision since taking over in January is the gubernatorial straw poll to be conducted at the IDEA convention in French Lick in August. Andrew says he's comfortable with the situation "and the people who are running it." He noted that the event is in "Sen. Simpson's backyard" while his primary supporters reside in Lake and Allen counties. "It will takes an organizational effort to put it together. It's a little mini campaign," Andrew said. "As long as money going to good cause, it will generate funds for our mayors." Bill Moreau, speaking for the Simpson campaign, thinks it's a bad idea. "Our campaign enthusiastically supports the chairman's end goals," Moreau said. "We would very much like to help the chairman raise money for our mayoral candidates and generate excitement about the French Lick event. But we have to wonder whether there are more effective, less divisive ways to achieve those goals. We have real questions about the \$20 voting fee -- which some folks have called a 'poll tax' -- and several of the other eligibility requirements. Another of the requirements will force new voters to go to their county or district chairs to seek their permission to vote, which some folks say is reminiscent of the old Republican 'political clearance cards' which we Democrats finally abolished. We think a more accurate 'straw poll' would work just like the primary. There would be no fee, of course, and it would be open to all registered voters. But changing the eligibility rules won't change our concern that the process will turn out to be divisive and an unplanned drain on resources." **General Status:** *Tossup.* ❖

## HORSE RACE

## TICKER T A P E

**PAIGN SANCTIONS:** State Rep. Brooks LaPlante faces possible civil fines of \$10,280, accused of campaign finance violations, including failure to report more than \$35,000 in contributions during the final days of the 2002 election season (Associated Press). State election officials have cited LaPlante, R-Terre Haute, saying that there were reporting discrepancies and that he failed to file a pre-election report on time. The Indiana Election Commission was to consider the potential fines during a public meeting today. LaPlante said he would appear at the meeting to address the allegations. He suggested some problems may have resulted from his inexperience as a candidate. "Neither I nor my campaign chairman nor the treasurer had been in the political arena before," LaPlante said Wednesday.

## Andrew wants to change Dem approach

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

WASHINGTON -- Joe Andrew believes that Democrats have been walking the walk but have failed to talk the talk of modern politics.

"We're right on the issues but we've got to be right on the language," he said in a speech at the New Democrat Network annual meeting in Washington on June 17. The rhetoric he espouses echoes that of former Republican President Ronald Reagan. "We as Democrats often have been uncomfortable talking about values and virtues. Talking about things like

common sense and hard work and being a little tight with a buck. We've been uncomfortable making sure that people understand we're the party of frugality, we're the party of the balanced budget, we're the party of job creation as well. We've become uncomfortable with the very language in which people themselves communicate with their loved ones and their families every day of the week."

**As he received** the endorsement of the New Democrat Network, an organization in which he serves on the advisory board, Andrew emphasized that today's Democratic Party has to change its image.

**PENCE WON'T BACK BUSH'S MEDICARE PLAN:** U.S. Rep. Mike Pence was not convinced by President Bush on Wednesday that a universal prescription drug benefit under Medicare would be affordable (Rick Yencer, Muncie Star Press). "I informed our leadership that I cannot support creation of a new federal entitlement in the form of a universal drug benefit in Medicare," Pence said on

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the House floor. Pence, who represents the 6th congressional district, was among a group of conservative House members who met Wednesday with President Bush who supports overhauling Medicare to add a prescription drug benefit.

**CHOCOLA WILL BACK MEDICARE BILL:** U.S. Rep. Chris Chocola said his visit with President Bush Wednesday afternoon wasn't an arm-twisting session (Elkhart Truth). Bush asked the Bristol Republican to vote for a Medicare prescription drug benefit bill today or in the next few days. Chocola said he didn't tell Bush how he'd vote, but indicated in a phone interview later in the afternoon that he feels comfortable with the bill's form. "If it is as it is right now, I will vote for it," Chocola said. Chocola was invited to the White House for a meeting between Bush and 12 to 15 House members, which the Associated Press referred to as "undecided conservative members." The meeting included what White House spokesman Ari Fleischer called "a little cajoling, urging." Chocola said, "There's nothing like hearing things directly from the president. It's a pretty powerful message."

**INDIANA INMATES HOUSED IN KENTUCKY:** State corrections officials are preparing to sign a contract to house

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"Too many people out there believe that one party represents the wealthy and the other party represents the unemployed and the poor," he said. "And nobody represents the middle class. Everybody who is working today believes they are part of the middle class. (Democrats) are fighting not for the working poor; we're fighting for people who just work."

In an interview with the *HPR* after his speech, Andrew defined New Democrat. "A New Democrat is somebody who is out there fighting for the middle class and speaking on behalf of middle class aspirations and making sure (people have) a quality job, we can fight crime, we can build roads, and our commutes are shorter, and, most importantly, all based on quality public schools. These are things that I hope to be a voice for and that (Democratic Sen.) Evan Bayh has been a voice for," he said with the boundless enthusiasm and gale-force optimism of the proverbial student body president. Bayh is chairman of the Democratic Leadership Council, a force in the New Democrat movement. Other parts of the New Democrat credo that Andrew embraces are a belief in tax cuts coupled with a balanced budget and a belief in the "prominence and importance of the private sector."

### Simpson Claims New Mantle

His opponent in the Democratic gubernatorial primary, state Sen. Vi Simpson of Bloomington, is not going to concede the New Democrat mantle to Andrew. "Sen. Simpson is one of the best known fiscal moderates in Indiana and is a New Democrat," said Jason Kinney, her son and campaign spokesman. "She's spent her entire career pushing the edge of the envelope and making change happen in Indiana government." Kinney cites Simpson's leadership on health care, domestic violence and child support reform as well as property tax restructuring.

"Joe Andrew holds no monopoly

over New Democrat tenets," said Kinney. "Joe Andrew is not about new ideas. He's about the idea of ideas." Kinney criticized Andrew's stance on extending I-69 from Indianapolis to Evansville. "Anyone who wants to delay I-69 to do another study flies in the face of everything New Democrats stand for. A true New Democrat recognizes that economic development and environmental protection aren't mutually exclusive. They go hand-in-hand. Sen. Simpson built her career doing that."

Andrew denies that he wants to delay the I-69 project. In a letter to the *Evansville Courier and Press*, he said he supports the Indiana Department of Transportation's "total transportation plan" that calls for upgrading airports, railways, ports, and truck facilities while completing a second phase of an I-69 environmental impact study.

Not all Democrats in the state embrace the New Democrat label. "I am an Old Democrat, not a new one," Melina Fox, vice chair of the 6th CD Democrats, wrote in an e-mail interview. "The Democrats' task is to speak unashamedly and clearly for those who from need or aspiration must have the support of compassionate, intelligent, effective and affirmative government. It is time for the Democratic Party to stand up for the people, the basic principle that has made it the longest ongoing political party in the world."

### Vying for Labor

Whether a candidate is a new Democrat or an old one, he or she wants to secure labor endorsements in a primary. Andrew and Simpson are waging a battle for the labor constituency. Both have used similar messages in addressing Indiana AFL-CIO meetings.

"As far as I'm concerned, I called it Old Democrat," said Steve Henderson, political director for the state union, in evaluating the Andrew and Simpson pitches. He credited each candidate with "getting back to the basic reason of being a

Democrat, supporting the working guy.” The AFL-CIO may have to make an endorsement in the gubernatorial race as early as next month. If the Association of Federal, State and Municipal Employees pushes for a vote at the July AFL-CIO board meeting, it would mean that more than 30 percent of the organization’s member unions want to endorse a candidate and would force the board’s hand.

The decision will be tough. “We’re walking on eggshells. It’s like Bayh and Frank O’Bannon in 1987,” Henderson said, referring to the primary between then-Secretary of State Bayh and then state Sen. O’Bannon. “We’re seeing how major affiliate organizations are going to go. We’re a bottom-up organization.”

### Tussling on Trade

One of the touchstone issues in a labor endorsement is a candidate’s stance on trade. It’s also an issue that splits New Democrats. Andrew doesn’t mince words regarding the North American Free Trade Agreement. “NAFTA has been a complete failure. It’s that simple,” he said. “People cannot point to jobs that have been created in the state of Indiana by NAFTA. They can point to jobs Indiana has lost because of NAFTA.” He thought the pact, which establishes a path toward eliminating tariff and non-tariff barriers between the United States, Mexico and Canada, should have included provisions on environmental, health, safety and labor standards. Without those, he contends that high-wage U.S. jobs are jeopardized. “Workers in Indiana can compete with anybody as long as there is a level playing field,” he said.

Bayh voted in favor of two trade bills that are anathema to labor: Permanent normal trade relations with China and fast-track authority. Bayh also has promoted the “free and fair trade” approach. On June 12, he introduced a bill that would establish a panel of retired U.S. judges to review rulings by the World Trade Organization, the global trade referee. If the panel determines that

three decisions in five years were unfair to the United States, Congress would suspend fast track, which prevents Congress from amending trade agreements when it votes on them.

Henderson said Bayh’s “votes on the trade issue have been terrible with us.” But he called the senator’s WTO legislation “a positive thing.”

Simpson has not yet announced a trade position.

### Andrew Runs Against DC

Labor and just about every other political constituency can relate to another of Andrew’s tacks: Running against Washington. Although he’s a former national party chairman, he is quick to assert that he is the “most outsider chairman that we had in a lifetime.” He notes that he was brought in from a state party outpost and wasn’t a Washington insider.

Andrew criticizes both parties for acquiescing to huge budget deficits and unfunded mandates. “Democrats did it and they were wrong. Republicans are doing it and they’re wrong,” he said. This argument gives him an opening to attack likely GOP gubernatorial contender and former White House Budget Director Mitch Daniels. “Mitch Daniels has done it and he is wrong as well. Not because he’s a Republican but because of the fact that he has fallen into a type of Washington think and Washington speak that I think is problematic.” In his NDN speech, he said: “President Bush and his budget director Mitch Daniels just gave you another mortgage on your house in the last two years,” pointing to a nearly \$2 trillion rise in the national debt.

But the Simpson campaign is eager to portray Andrew as a creature of the nation’s capital. Kinney called Andrew’s New Democrat Network backing a “Washington, D.C., organization endorsing a Washington, D.C., candidate. We can only hope that he continues to impress the inside-the-Beltway crowd. Maybe he should think about running for D.C. shadow senator.” ❖

## TICKER T A P E

hundreds of inmates in a private Kentucky prison — even as more than 1,800 new beds sit unused in Indiana prisons (Lesley Stedman, Louisville Courier-Journal). Some members of the General Assembly are questioning those out-of-state placements and the contract, saying the prisoners should be kept in Indiana since beds are available. But the budget that lawmakers passed in April discourages it, and Indiana corrections officials say their hands are tied. “It’s incomprehensible,” said Rep. Dennis Avery, D-Evansville. “To open up those prisons so the prisoners can stay in the state of Indiana, to me it makes sense. Otherwise, it was a waste of tax dollars for construction.” Indiana currently houses 650 medium-security prisoners at the Otter Creek Correctional Facility in Wheelwright, Ky., under the terms of a contract that expired in January. The state pays the prison, owned by the Tennessee-based Corrections Corp. of America, \$45 a day per inmate, compared to the nearly \$50 average cost for Indiana’s own prisons. Indiana Department of Correction officials told the State Budget Committee last week that they intend to sign a new four-year deal soon for the same per-day rate. That contract calls for

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# TICKER

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as many as 1,000 placements at Otter Creek and other Corrections Corp. facilities.

**JUDGE RACE FACES ABSENTEE BALLOT QUESTION IN LAKE COUNTY:** The tentacles of East Chicago politics and absentee ballot strategy have apparently worked their way into an unlikely place -- a small-town judge's race. An investigation into the votes cast in the squeakily close Schererville town judge race has generated a swirl of questions about absentee ballots (Post-Tribune). Specifically, a batch of absentee ballots cast by voters with Eastern European surnames from the same Schererville neighborhood are the target of a recount requested by Kenneth Anderson, who lost the Democratic nomination to incumbent Deborah Riga by 11 votes. Anderson contends there are signatures on absentee ballots that clearly do not match signatures on the applications for those ballots. And, he said, there are voters who cast absentee ballots though they no longer live in Indiana. All told, questions about 26 absentee ballots were raised during a recount hearing Wednesday at the Lake County Government Complex. Riga had lost to Anderson by 80 votes at the polls, only to win by 11 after absentee

# 2003 Racing Form

**TRENDLINE:** Republican sources are telling HPR that recent polling in municipal races is detecting a significant anti-incumbency wave developing "in all jurisdictions." This is due to the reassessment fiascos, rising property taxes despite the 2002 tax restructuring, and the continued loss of jobs such as the 500 at Rolls-Royce in Indianapolis and the 800 at Thomson in Marion. That is ominous news for incumbents in Fort Wayne, Elkhart, Evansville and New Albany where tight races are expected.

\* \* \*

**East Chicago Mayoral: Republican:** None. **Democrat:** Mayor Robert Pastrick. **1999 Primary Results:** Pastrick 5,772, Stephen Stiglich 3,790. **1999 General Results:** Pastrick (D) 3,027, Acost (R) 629. **2003 Forecast:** Pabey is trying to raise money to pay for his recount costs, the Post-Tribune reported. **General Status:** *Solid Pastrick.*

**Elkhart Mayoral: Republican:** Mayor Dave Miller. **Democrat:** James Perron. **1995 Results:** Perron (D) 5,017, McDowell (R) 4,869. **1999 Results:** Miller (R) 4,959, Perron (D) 3,902. **2003 Forecast:** A deal on Accra Pac that will keep the company from leaving the city has been struck, which should help Miller. **General Status:** *Leans Miller*

# HORSE R A C E

**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 joined GOP Chairman Jim Kittle, Auditor Connie Nass, Sen. Greg Server and Rep. Vaneta Becker on an "listening tour" in Evansville. Lloyd, joined by Vanderburgh County Auditor Bill Fluty and City Controller Glen Barnes, stated the following regarding the local Homestead Tax Credit: "On April 25, 2003, I held a news conference to announce that my lobbying efforts on behalf of the city paid off, that the Homestead Credit had been restored. I sent letters to all our area legislators and the state leadership and asked them to stop raising property taxes. They got my message loud and clear." Lloyd added, "The bill was passed by the General Assembly as Public Law 224, which states there is '...a one-time opportunity in Section 248 to allow additional local credit...' I am urging City Council to approve ... an ordinance of the Vanderburgh County Income Tax Council establishing the percentage credit allowed for homesteads for 2003, before the July 1, 2003, deadline. Let's give money back to property taxpayers." **General Status:** *TOSSUP.*

**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:** Buskirk received the first FOP endorsement in 30 years. The group "felt it was necessary to take a stand for what it believes in and for the good of the community we work for," FOP Lodge President Phil Geller said (*Fort Wayne Journal Gazette*). **General Status:** *TOSSUP.*

**Indianapolis Mayoral: Republican:** Treasurer Greg Jordan. **Democrat:** Mayor Bart Peterson. **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 Republicans launched an investigation into the Indianapolis Water Company purchase by the Peterson administration. Peterson announced he personally has entered police contract negotiations and promised an additional \$1.5 million in wage increases if the city can work out new public security taxing districts. Peterson will decline the opportunity to seek the FOP endorsement. Jordan told the *Indianapolis Eye* that on city negotiations with the Colts, "I believe a deal has been made. I have to believe a deal has been made that will be announced after the election." Mayor Bart Peterson emphatically swatted the allegation down like an

angered cornerback. "That's absolutely not true," Peterson told *The Eye* Monday morning. Peterson said of the talks, "It continues to go well. We have a good spirit of cooperation. Part of it is educating the public." Peterson sounded about as enthusiastic as a president inheriting a war is when it comes to the Colts. "I have no choice but to enter into these discussions because of the terms," he said. "We have no choice but to be talking about the Colts because the deal in 1998 between the Colts and city states that if the city didn't make payments to get the Colts within medium league revenue, they could leave." If elected, Jordan said, "I will be at the forefront in taking the steps necessary to get an agreement with the Colts." **General Status:** *Likely Peterson.*

**Kokomo Mayoral:** **Republican:** Matthew McKillip. **Democrat:** Councilman Andrew Castner or Trustee Jean Lushin. **1999 Results:** Trobaugh (R) 5,606, Kennedy (D) 3,581. **2003 Forecast:** Because Judge Dennis Parry ruled the May 6 Kokomo Democratic mayoral primary a tie between Andy Castner and Jean Lushin, he left the county party to decide the winner (Scott Smith, *Kokomo Tribune*). But according to Dale Simmons, general co-counsel of the Indiana Election Division, Parry's ruling gave Kennedy just enough time to call a caucus of the city's Democratic precinct committeemen before a key deadline. If the caucus meets prior to June 30, it can elect a Democratic nominee by a simple majority vote, Simmons said. After that deadline, however, Kennedy would have been forced to ask every Democratic precinct committeeman in the entire county to give him -- or the party's central committee -- sole discretion to choose the nominee, Simmons explained. As things stand now, notices were mailed out Thursday to all 23 committeemen representing a city precinct, calling them to a nominating caucus at 3 p.m. June 29 at Democratic Party Headquarters in Kokomo. State law considers a tie vote in a primary election the same as if the party's nomination was left vacant, Simmons explained. And by state law, a party caucus must be called to fill that vacancy by the June 30 deadline, and the party must give those voting in the caucus 10 days notice. Castner and Lushin aren't the only candidates eligible for the caucus vote, Simmons said. Others could sign up for the caucus election, including Susan Alexander, the Democrat who came in third, behind Castner and Lushin, on May 6. **General Status:** *TOSSUP.*

**Jeffersonville Mayoral:** **Republican:** Monty Snelling. **Democrat:** Councilman Rob Waiz. **1999 Results:** Galligan (D) 3,194, Cook (I) 640, Cooper (R) 619. **2003 Outlook:** Republican candidate for Jeffersonville Mayor R. Monty Snelling, by his own admission, gets "worked up" when he has the opportunity to talk about the city's future in front of a group of people (Jon Reiter, *Jeffersonville Evening News*). In front of 175 supporters at his campaign's official kickoff celebration, Snelling was "very excited." "People without vision are trapped in total darkness," Snelling said at the gathering at the 300 Spring building in downtown Jeffersonville. "I'm telling you we have a vision and we're going to see that vision through." Included among Snelling's supporters Thursday night were heavy hitters within the Clark County GOP party, including a full slate of contenders for the seven seats on the Jeffersonville City Council; Charlestown Mayor Bob Hall; County Councilman Jim Smith and Clark County GOP Chairman Glenn Murphy Jr. But other prominent figures, such as 2002 Ninth District Congressional candidate Mike Sodrel and Indiana Secretary of State Todd Rokita, showed up to endorse Snelling. **General Status:** *LIKELY WAIZ.*

**Lafayette Mayoral:** **Republican:** Clerk Lisa Decker. **Democrat:** Councilman Tony Roswarski. **1999 Results:** Heath (R) 6,237, Weiss (D) 5,496. **2003 Forecast:** Saying "Jobs are an important business. There is no task more important for city government than to be the catalyst for job creation and retention in our community," Decker released a five-point jobs plan. "Jobs are the roots that anchor our community. Jobs keep people in our community and it is quality jobs that will keep our children and grandchildren right here in our community." Decker's plan includes a jobs hotline, expanding tax incentives for existing city businesses, developing a new long-range plan for telecommunications, road improvements, and for water and sewer extensions." **General Status:** *TOSSUP.*



## TICKER T A P E

ballots were counted. The final tally was 1,151 to 1,140, in favor of Riga. Earlier this year, three members of the Drljaca family — Lazar, Dena and Dusanka — registered to vote from a house in the 1700 block of Selo Drive. But according to sworn affidavits signed by neighbors and the people who now live at that Selo Drive address, the Drljaca family hasn't lived there since 2001. Utility records show and neighbors confirmed the Drljaca family moved to a suburb northwest of Chicago. According to their applications for absentee ballots, each Drljaca family member asked that their ballot be mailed to a Crown Point mailing address in St. John Township. A Post-Tribune investigation has found that address is the home of East Chicago political player Gus Flores. Flores is a longtime business partner with Lake County Democratic Party chairman Stephen Stiglich, also the Lake County auditor. Flores' wife, Roberta, is Stiglich's personal secretary.

**CARSON TAKING ROUTINE MEDICAL LEAVE:** Rep. Julia Carson, D-Ind., took a leave of absence from Congress this week to have what she described as routine medical tests. Carson said the tests were part of a regular check-up she had postponed for months. "I'm not sick," she said (*Indianapolis Star*).

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# TICKER T A P E

"There's nothing wrong with me whatsoever." The 64-year-old Indianapolis resident underwent double-bypass heart surgery in 1997, soon after being elected to Congress. She was sworn into office from her hospital room. Carson missed 21 votes this week.

**CHOCOLA RICHEST REP:** With assets worth at least \$15 million when he ran for Congress last year, Rep. Chris Chocola, R-Ind., was one of the wealthiest incoming lawmakers (Maureen Groppe, Gannett News Service). Next-closest in the House is Rep. Dan Burton, with assets from \$1.5 million to \$3.3 million. Burton's largest assets include a 20-acre farm in Kentucky valued at \$500,000 to \$1 million, land in Johnson County and rental property in Franklin, Ind. Indiana Sen. Richard Lugar, however, listed his and his wife's exact net worth: \$1.547 million. Indiana Sen. Evan Bayh reported his family's assets are worth from \$789,000 to \$2 million. Democratic Rep. Julia Carson, reported the fewest assets, which ranged between \$2,000 and \$30,000. Carson, however, reported no debt greater than \$10,000, the threshold for disclosure. Republican Rep. Mike Pence reported \$45,000 to \$150,000 in debt on three credit cards. Fellow GOP Rep. John Hostettler had credit card debts of \$40,000 to \$115,000.

# COLUMNISTS ON INDIANA

**Leroy Robinson, *Indianapolis Eye* -**

Race again was a hot topic during the recent hiring of the 17th president of Indiana University. Dr. Adam W. Herbert, the former chancellor of Florida's public university school system and its 10 affiliate schools, is the first African-American president in IU's history and the only African-American president of a Big Ten school. However, it seems that during times of triumph, success, and victory, many African-Americans who are the "first" in their category, often tend to downplay the significance of their race. Whether it was Tyrone Willingham of Notre Dame, Isiah Thomas of the Indiana Pacers, or Mike Davis of the Indiana Hoosiers, them being the "first" African-American, was an issue that they often had to address. Dr. Herbert has come under the same type of microscope during his many public outings with the media. Each of these people, along with those responsible for hiring them, state that race was not a factor in their hiring. During their public appearances and the initial media blitz, the responses about them being the "first" were all about the same. They were in the position of leadership because they were qualified, not because they were black. This same scenario is played out on a larger scale with Tiger Woods, Colin Powell, and even U.S. Secretary of Education Dr. Rod Paige. The significance of their race, being African-American, is a nonissue. This is where I disagree, specifically in the field of education, and generally in any leadership position held by an African-American man. Remember — triumph, success, and victory? Well, the majority of African-American males in today's society do not enjoy many of these experiences. Excluding sports and entertainment, where are the valuable moments of triumph, success, and victory for the African-American male? When education reports, standard-

ized test scores, and disciplinary records are tabulated, race then becomes an issue. When reports are made on crime statistics, prison populations, and absentee fathers, race is important then. Everyone seems more interested in the racial breakdown of information when the race that performs the worst is the African-American male. ❖

**Brian Howey, *HPR* -** Clerk of the Courts Brian Bishop resigned less than a year after re-election to go to Washington, shuffle paper and make more money. Good for him! But there was a reason the *HPR Daily Wire* played Bishop's resignation at the very bottom. Clerk of the Courts shouldn't even be an elective office. Bishop nor any of his predecessors ever make public policy. The position should be selected not by Hoosier voters who don't know a whit about the functions and duties of the office, but by the Supreme Court or the chief justice. The clerk of court is a perfect example of how the 1851 Indiana Constitution is an antiquated relic that should be overhauled to reflect the realities of life and governance in 21st Century Indiana. Hoosiers don't need to elect clerks of courts, nor do they need to elect county coroners, surveyors, recorders or auditors, which are bureaucratic positions that make no public policy. Hoosiers don't even need townships, an issue that's begun to come up in Northwest Indiana and Indianapolis. Townships are simply a layer of government fat that draw taxes but provide duplicative functions that could be served by existing county governments. Republicans like to talk about leaner, more efficient government, yet there isn't a Republican in the bunch who has the guts to match their tired, old rhetoric with the realities that face the poor, over-burdened Hoosier taxpayer. To Republicans, it's time to talk the talk. In the meantime ... Doug Leatherbury for clerk! ❖



## Lugar returns from Iraq: 'We haven't won it'

By BRIAN A. HOWEY

When President Bush landed his jet on the USS Abraham Lincoln this spring, emerged as the first president in more than a century to wear military garb, and proclaimed in a nationally televised address that the war was over, Hoosiers did not crowd the streets, strike up the bands and celebrate victory.

We knew better.

Since then, Indiana has lost three sons to Iraqi snipers and bombs. Almost 60 U.S. servicemen have been killed since the hot war ended.

On Wednesday, U.S. Sen. Richard Lugar spoke the words that some had suspected: "We haven't won it; we're in it."

Yes, we're in it.

"We must reorganize our military to be there a long time," Lugar said in the U.S. Senate TV gallery with U.S. Sens. Joe Biden and Chuck Hagel at his side, the trio having just returned from Baghdad and talks with L. Paul Bremer, the civilian commander.

"The preparation of our nation for nation-building is very small and has to be fundamentally corrected," Lugar said. "Life goes on and money is required."

**Lugar gave examples.** He toured the Iraq Police Academy and saw a pathetic scene, a gutted, looted building with out-of-shape officers in training. Iraq had 70,000 police, many of whom wouldn't think twice about using torture as a means to instill control. U.S. reservists are now doing the policing in Iraq. They thought they would be there for a short period of time.

"We're going to be there a long time. We need to reorganize the military so we can be there a long time," Lugar said.

His edgy, troubling report on Wednesday was a continuum of warnings the Indiana Republican has been sounding since late last year. He worried that the

Bush administration hadn't put nearly as much thought into the peace as it did in war. If we blow nation-building, the impact could be profound in an unstable part of the world, with civil war and terrorism as potential byproducts.

**Even more troubling** was a Bob Novak column in the *Chicago Sun-Times* earlier this week that suggested things most of us never dreamed we'd be hearing. "Two trenchant quotations were repeated through Army corridors of the Pentagon last week, one by an enlisted infantryman enduring hardships of occupation duty in Iraq and the other by a four-star general leaving the service after 38 years," Novak wrote. "Each was clearly unhappy with Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld. Taken together, their comments signaled hard times ahead for the U.S. Army. Last Sunday, a front-page story in the *New York Times* aroused attention throughout the Pentagon. Pfc. Matthew C. O'Dell, 1st Brigade of the 3rd Infantry Division, told a reporter: 'You call Donald Rumsfeld and tell him our sorry asses are ready to go home. Tell him to come spend a night in our building.'

"Four days earlier, in a speech that marked his retirement as the Army's chief of staff, Gen. Eric Shinseki said it's 'just not helpful and it isn't true' for 'some [to] suggest that we in the Army don't understand the importance of civilian control of the military.'"

**Whoa. It was** unfathomable just months ago to even contemplate such a fundamental issue as civilian control

No, the war is not over, nor is the political impact in 2004. There is no Marshall Plan. We don't control Afghanistan, but only Kabul. Lugar says we need far more than the \$2.4 billion and oil reserves to rebuild Iraq.

Said Lugar, "Whatever the reason, we are still in a situation where we are at war, not at peace. It is a grim business." ❖

## TICKER T A P E

**CONGRESSMAN'S BROTHER EYES WEINZAPFEL SEAT:** Two potential candidates have popped up should State Rep. Jonathan Weinzapfel win the Evansville mayoral race and vacate the seat. Jim Tomes of Wadesville has already formed a campaign committee. "I don't want to jump out of the starting gate too early," Tomes said (*Evansville Courier & Press*). "But I do want to get my name in the pipeline." Tomes, who leads a local gun rights group, said he would run regardless of which Democrat he faces. But another Posey County Republican considering a bid, Dan Hostettler, said he would be most interested in the 2004 race if he would be running against Weinzapfel. "A lot of it has got to do with if Mr. Weinzapfel wins the mayoral race," said Hostettler, the brother of U.S. Rep. John Hostettler. "I don't just run against someone because they're a Democrat." John Hostettler defeated Jonathan Weinzapfel in 1996, when Weinzapfel challenged the incumbent Republican for Indiana's 8th Congressional District. Three Democrats who are considering whether they would want the job include: West Side Evansville resident John Paul Josey, Posey County Prosecutor and Democratic Party Chairman Trent Van Haften, and Former Posey County Commissioner Randy Thornburg. ❖