

# The Howey Political Report



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

**Brian A. Howey, publisher**

**Mark Schoeff Jr., Washington writer**

**Jack E. Howey, editor**

The Howey Political Report      Office: 317-254-1533  
PO Box 40265                      Fax: 317-968-0487  
Indianapolis, IN 46240-0265      Mobile: 317-506-0883

**brianhowey@howeypolitics.com**  
**www.howeypolitics.com**

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

**Subscriptions: \$350 annually via e-mail;  
\$550 annually including the HPR Daily  
Wire. Call 317-254-1533 or 254-0535.**

© 2004, *The Howey Political Report*. All rights reserved. Photocopying, Internet forwarding, faxing or reproducing in any form, in whole or in part, is a violation of federal law and is **strictly prohibited** without consent of the publisher.

## “QUOTE” OF THE WEEK

“We’ve lost.”

- House Minority Leader Brian Bosma, to the *Indianapolis Star*, after giving up on the gay marriage issue that shut down the House

## With sine die, end to Jurassic Age

Are we finally leaving 20th Century?

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY** in Indianapolis

It was a tired, vapid, vacuous process that ground to a halt early today, directed by mostly cowering and niggling old men and a potentially lame duck rookie governor who left the Statehouse pointing fingers and calling names.

Gov. Joe Kernan delivered a parting shot when the circus ended shortly after midnight that likely will be echoed next fall: “It is unfortunate that neither the House nor Senate Republicans were willing to participate in the effort to make full-day kindergarten available for Indiana children. Partisan politics was the winner and our kids were the losers.”

That effort went from a \$150 million program to a compromise that would have funded 5,000 kids. It was scuttled by Senate Republicans who said there was no money, but refused to explore revenue options.

It was the Indiana General Assembly that finished business on a script that could have been written last January save for the most ridiculous notion of all -- that gay marriage was the “most important issue” facing Hoosiers today.

**In a state where more than** 100,000 manufacturing jobs have disappeared, a state that leads the nation in home foreclosures and personal bankruptcies, has little venture capital, has at least a \$1 billion budget deficit (some say \$2 billion), has seen a flight of corporate headquarters, and whose entrepreneurs are being devoured by skyrocketing health insurance costs, that “most important” statement by State Rep. Dennis Kruse was the most farcical of a political generation.

“It may be the most disappointing short session I’ve been a part of,” Rep. Robert Kuzman told the *Post-Tribune*.

## INSIDE F E A T U R E S

<b>Ticker: Bush leads Kerry 46-45%</b>	<b>p. 2</b>
<b>Horse Race: Daniels weighs ethics</b>	<b>p. 2</b>
<b>Daniels on reality TV</b>	<b>p. 3</b>
<b>Horse Race: CD Roundup</b>	<b>p. 4</b>
<b>DC Watch: Hill and DeLay team up</b>	<b>p. 8</b>
<b>Mike Backlund: Gay marriage</b>	<b>p. 9</b>

# TICKER

## T A P E

**ASHCROFT RUSHED TO HOSPITAL:** Attorney General John Ashcroft was rushed to a Washington hospital this morning and the diagnoses appears to be gallstones (CNN).

**BUSH LEADS KERRY 46-45:** In the first poll since John Kerry locked up the Democratic nomination, Kerry and President Bush are tied while independent Ralph Nader has captured enough support to affect the outcome, validating Democrats' fears. The Republican incumbent had the backing of 46 percent, Kerry 45 percent and Nader, the 2000 Green Party candidate who entered the race last month, was at 6 percent in the survey conducted for The Associated Press by Ipsos-Public Affairs.

**CARVILLE PUTS BAYH'S VEEP CHANCES AT 7:1:** Al Hunt has James Carville's odds on Sen. John Kerry's running mate:

John Edwards -- 6 to 5: "What Kerry needs is someone to defend him and help make his case. If you had to hire a lawyer to defend you, name a better one."

Dick Gephardt -- 5 to 1: "He is generally regarded as the most prepared to be president, suggests Mr. Carville, and as a man of enormous personal and public pro-

"The headline should be -- what we didn't do," said State Sen. Frank Mrvan to the *Times of Northwest Indiana*. "This is a terrible process at this point. They're stuffing four or five bills in every bill that's left and it's hard to know what you're voting for anymore. You just have to trust the committee."

*Trust the committee ...*

State Rep. Winfield Moses Jr. explained to the *Fort Wayne Journal Gazette*, "We started out talking about economic development and ended up arguing over gay marriage. It was a completely zig-zag path. A number of little good things got done, but basically we did no damage."

The "no damage" assessment implies that treading water as the hole in the dike turns into a geyser and then a tsunami is preferable to action.

The hope is that March 5, 2004,

will be the red letter date drawing to a close the 20th Century era of legislative politics along with weak, ineffectual gubernatorial rule.

**Republican Mitch Daniels** promises to put every reform notion "on the table" while bringing in a "new crew" if he wins in November. Gov. Kernan, given a chance to fully establish his own legacy without carrying the damaged mantle of the late Gov. Frank O'Bannon, could be expected to forge a new path with an unfettered style.

What is in question is whether either man can wrest policy and political control from Jurassic legislative leadership that has led Indiana toward disaster without even realizing what issues concern most Hoosiers. Why, the old Jurassic crew can't even figure out what time it should be. Regular Hoosiers will figure that one out. ❖

## Indiana 2004 Gubernatorial

**Governor 2004: Republican:** Mitch Daniels, Eric Miller. **Democrat:** Gov. Joe Kernan. **1996 Results:** O'Bannon (D) 1,075,342, Goldsmith (R) 997,505, Dillon (L) 35,261. **2000 Results:** O'Bannon (D) 1,230,345, McIntosh (R) 906,492, Horning (L) 38,686. **2004 Forecast:** Kernan campaign's reaction to the RV1 TV show: "Daniels wants to define himself in a certain way. We'll correct that later." said Scott Downes, spokesman for Gov. Joe Kernan's campaign (WISH-TV). Daniels says he wants to bring integrity back to state government by instituting some basic ethics reforms if he is elected governor this year (Niki Kelly, *Fort Wayne Journal Gazette*). "A culture of quid pro quo and influence has grown up around state government." he said. For instance, he said people in executive positions of power are leaving their job one day and becoming influence-peddling lobbyists the next day. That is why he proposes a revolving-door statute in which state employees who leave the executive branch would have a one-year cooling off-period before being able to lobby state agencies. His new law would not apply to the legislature. Daniels also proposes that anyone seeking to influence the executive branch be required to comply with the same registration and disclosure requirements as those who lobby the General Assembly. In addition, no state employee would be allowed to receive any gifts, meals or trips from those who do business with the state or seek to influence the decision-making process; and state officials would not be allowed to solicit money for political candidates. "All these steps and more are common elsewhere." said Daniels. "This is nothing radical. We've just been left behind." Downes said there was nothing significant in Daniels' latest proposal. "Clearly this is an attempt to inoculate himself from his own record." Downes said. He said anyone who looks at Daniels' resume can see a pattern of "influence peddling" by moving back and forth between partisan political jobs and corporate executive positions. **Republican Primary Status:** *Likely Daniels*; **General Status:** *Tossup.* ❖

## HORSE R A C E

Continued on page 3

## Realty TV comes to Hoosier politics

By BRIAN A. HOWEY

A farmer in Cross Plains, Ind., sits in a dilapidated old mill when Mitch Daniels ambles up out of nowhere.

"Running for the governor?" the big man in overalls asks after telling Daniels he was a township Democratic precinct officia.

"I just worked for George Bush," Daniels volunteered.

The farmer responded, "Poor guy. See my sign over there?" *It read "Bush lied, troops died and the rich got richer."*

Daniels replied, "Would you like Gore over there better?"

And the farmer said, "Well, that's hypothetical. I'll shake your hand. If you get to be governor, I want you to remember this place."

That was one of the spicier moments in the reality TV show about to hit the Indiana political scene this weekend and for the following five weeks thereafter, called, "*RV-1: On the Road with Mitch Daniels.*"

This was the brainchild of long-time political pro Mark Lubbers, who recruited TV documentary producer Rick Thompson (*60 Minutes*, *Bill Moyers*, *48 Hours*) to shoot the highs and lows of the Daniels campaign with a small, inauspicious hand-held camera.

"Thompson wanted to use a high-definition shoulder camera," Lubbers said. "I told him you'll change people's behavior if a TV camera shows up. But after almost two decades, just about every home has a hand-held camera and that won't affect the way people act."

**Lubbers called it** "Halfway between C-SPAN's "*Road to the White House*" and MTV's "*Osbornes*," though Mitch doesn't get drunk or argue with his children.

Daniels is seen talking with farmers on combines at harvest, in a doctor's office talking about how unhealthy Hoosiers generally are, talking with cabi-

### Airing Times for RV1

**Indianapolis:** 10:30 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. Sunday on WTTV; 10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Sunday on WXIN in Indianapolis.

**Fort Wayne:** 7 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. Sunday on WISE; 7 p.m. Saturday on WANE.

**South Bend:** 11:30 a.m. Sunday on WSBT and 12:30 p.m. on WSJV.

**Evansville:** 6:30 p.m. Saturday and 10:30 a.m. Sunday on WEHT; and 12:30 p.m. Saturday on WFIE

net makers and chasis builders, and directing the Newton-Jasper Community Band.

There are some embedded gems, such as Daniels telling folks, "My first dog was named Duke."

There's a school child who asked Daniels, "Why did people hate black people?" To which Daniels responded, "That's a good question. It took a long time and great people and we're much better than we were."

**While it might** be trendy, if not edgy, Lubbers said the goal is to bring the campaign out of the 30-second soundbite mode. "Those of us who have been involved for 25 years are partly responsible for the ugliness and nastiness in politics," said Lubbers, who managed Sen. Dick Lugar's 1996 presidential run.

"My pitch to Mitch was, in order for people to get to know you, you need more than 30-second soundbites."

Daniels response to Lubbers was, "OK, you go ahead and do it."

There will be 16 showings on 10 stations, many during daytime hours on network affiliate stations.

The Daniels infomercials have a bit of "*Across Indiana*" feel to them. It won't hurt. Probably help. And it allows the candidate to comprehensively define himself in 30 minute doses

That's the essence of politics. ❖

## TICKER T A P E

bity."

**Bill Richardson -- 5 to 1:** "Not as articulate as Edwards or as qualified as Gephardt but gives some of both." But Carville has some advice: to Gov. Richardson: "Go on a diet."

**Evan Bayh -- 7 to 1:** "A fresh face, an Edwards of the Midwest, where the 2004 election may be settled. The Indiana Democrat was governor before he was senator, and would bring some executive experience to a Kerry ticket."

**Bob Graham -- 7 to 1:** "He's the most popular figure in the most controversial state in the country."

**Hillary Clinton -- 15 to 1:** "She she would bring instant money ... to both parties and probably bring a lot more women in."

**ROKITA HAILS ELECTION REFORM:** Late this evening the Indiana General Assembly passed Senate Enrolled Act 72, a signature piece of Secretary of State Todd Rokita's 2004 legislative agenda. Senate Enrolled Act 72 addresses public confidence in the integrity of voting systems and makes possible the further implementation of the Help America Vote Act of 2002. Also included in SEA 72 are much needed mea-

*continued on page 4*

# TICKER

## T A P E

ures that will allow counties, through a series of controlled actions, to purge county voting rolls of voters who are deceased or no longer residents of the county. "This is another significant election reform victory. For the second year in a row we've passed important legislation that will drastically improve the way we conduct elections in Indiana," Rokita said.

### GUN SHIELD BILL PASSES:

Gun owners in Indiana will be shielded from civil lawsuits if their guns are stolen and then used in a crime, according to an act the House approved in the waning hours of the 2004 short session ((Evansville Courier & Press). The act now goes to Gov. Joe Kernan for review. The bill stems from a court case in Allen County where parents left a gun sitting under a chair cushion. Their son, who had repeated felony convictions, took it and shot and killed a police officer. The officer's family sued the parents for damages and the Indiana Supreme Court ruled the case could go forward, but a verdict hasn't come out yet.

### BROWN ACCUSES LANDSKE OF RACISM:

State Rep. Charlie Brown accused Sen. Sue Landske of racism after last-minute efforts to revive the food-and-beverage tax for mass transit failed as the General

*continued on page 5*

# 2004 Racing Form

## Indiana 2004 Congressional

**U.S. Senate: Republican:** Marvin Scott, Dwight Wilkerson. **Democrat:** U.S. Sen.

Evan Bayh. **1992 Results:** Coats (R) 1,267,972, Hogsett (D) 900,148. **1998 Results:** Bayh (D) 1,012,244, Helmke (R) 552,732. **2004 Forecast:** On the veepstakes, Del Ali, Washington-based independent pollster: "People are saying [Sen.] Evan Bayh from Indiana, but you are not trying to win Indiana. The advantage is, he is a very respected US senator. He is a hard guy to attack. But I don't think you need him for the Midwest.

Will Marshall, president of the Progressive Policy Institute, a centrist Democratic think tank in

Washington: "Evan Bayh, with his Midwestern background, certainly has to be in the top tier. Bill Richardson, for all the obvious reasons: The Southwest will be crucial, as will the Latino vote in a close election. John Edwards has to be high on the list, someone who can speak Southern. He brings political talent and attractiveness to the ticket, and brings a different sort of balance to it." NBC's Tim Russert noted that in 2000, "It was Florida, Florida, Florida. In 2004, it will be Ohio, Ohio, Ohio." Could that perception help Bayh? **Status:** *Safe Bayh*.

**Congressional District 1: Republican:** Frank Kendrick, Cy Huerter, Mark Leyva.

**Democrat:** U.S. Rep. Pete Visclosky. **Geography:** Lake, Porter, Newton, Jasper, Benton counties. **Media Market:** Chicago. **People:** 87/13% urban/rural; median income \$44,087; Poverty 10%; Race: 69.8% white, 18.2% black; 10% Hispanic; blue/white collar 31/53%; **2000**

**Presidential:** Gore 56%, Bush 42%; **Cook Partisan Voting Index:** D +7, **2002 Results:** Visclosky 90,443 (67%), Levya (R) 41,909 (31%). **2002 Money:** Visclosky \$755,668, Levya \$11,956. **2004 Outlook:** We give Kendrick an edge in the GOP race due to his higher name ID as a former Purdue basketball player. But Visclosky is not in danger. **Status:** *Safe Visclosky*

**Congressional District 2: Republican:** U.S. Rep. Chris Chocola, Tony Zirkle.

**Democrat:** Joe Donnelly. **Geography:** South Bend, Michigan City, Mishawaka, Elkhart, Kokomo, Plymouth, Logansport; LaPorte, St. Joseph, Starke, Marshall, Pulaski, Fulton, Cass, Carroll and parts of Howard, Porter, Elkhart and White counties. **Media Market:** South Bend-Elkhart, Indianapolis, Lafayette, Chicago. **People:** Urban/rural 73/27%; median income \$40,381; Poverty 9.5%; Race 84% white, 8% black; 5 Hispanic; Blue/white collar: 34/50%. **2000**

**Presidential:** Bush 53%, Gore 44%; **Cook Partisan Voting Index:** R+5; **2002 Result:** Chocola 95,081 (50%), Long Thompson 86,253 (46%); **2002 Money:** Chocola \$1.69m, Long Thompson \$1.535m. **2004 Outlook:** Chocola was in Libya this week meeting with Gadhafi. The United States "should accept his posture, but trust and verify," Chocola told *Insight Magazine*. The head of the northern Indiana chapter of Women's Action for New Directions on Tuesday linked a budget-reform bill proposed by Chocola with Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan's comment that Social Security cuts will be needed to control the nation's budget deficit (James Wensits, *South Bend Tribune*). Karen Jacob, WAND chapter president, referred to Greenspan's statements as a "wake-up call" and criticized Chocola's plan to control spending. "If Rep. Chocola is concerned about responsible use of taxpayer dollars and reducing the deficit, he need look no further than the Pentagon," Jacob said. Jacob was responding to a budget-reform bill introduced last month by Chocola. The measure is intended to rein in government spending and calls for a thorough analysis of all voluntary entitlement and discretionary spending programs. **Status:** *Leans Chocola*.

**Congressional District 3: Republican:** U.S. Rep. Mark Souder, William Larsen.

**Democrat:** Steve G. Hope, Maria Parra, Mark Summers. **Geography:** Fort Wayne, Goshen; Kosciusko, Whitley, LaGrange, Steuben, DeKalb and parts of Elkhart and Allen counties. **Media Market:** South Bend-Elkhart, Fort Wayne. **People:** Urban/rural 65/35%; median income \$44,013; Race: 87% white, 6% black, 4.5% Hispanic; Blue/white collar: 36/52% **2000**

**Presidential:** Bush 66%, Gore 33%. **Cook Partisan Voting Index:** R+17. **2002 results:** Souder

# HORSE RACE

92,566 (63%), Ridgon 50,509 (34%). **2002 Money:** Souder \$518,717, Ridgon \$131,458. **2004 Outlook:** We expect Souder to easily win re-election. His Democratic opponent is a tossup.

**Primary and general status:** *Safe Souder*

**Congressional District 4: Republican:** U.S. Rep. Steve Buyer, Dennis Hardy Mike Campbell, Brian Paasch. **Democrat:** David Sanders, Bill Abbott. **Geography:** Tippecanoe, Clinton, Boone, Montgomery, Hendricks, Morgan, Lawrence and parts of Marion, Johnson, Monroe, Fountain and White counties. **Media Market:** Lafayette, Indianapolis, Terre Haute, Evansville, Louisville. **People:** urban/rural 68/32%; median income \$435,947; Poverty 8%; Race 93% white, 1.3% black, 2.6% Hispanic; blue/white collar 29/56%; **2000 Presidential:** Bush 66%, Gore 31%; **Cook Partisan Voting Index:** R+18; **2002 Results:** Buyer 112,760 (71%); Abbott 41,314 (26%). **2002 Money:** Buyer \$924,869, Abbott \$21,634. **2004 Outlook:** Buyer has been appointed to the subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet. David Sanders, Purdue associate professor of biology, enters the race as a Democrat. West Lafayette Mayor Jan Mills said she's glad that Sanders is running. "He's uniquely qualified to represent us," she said (*Purdue Exponent*). Sanders ran unsuccessfully against State Sen. Ronnie Altling in 2002. **Status:** *Safe Buyer*.

**Congressional District 5: Republican:** U.S. Rep. Dan Burton, George Thomas Holland, Victor Dean Wakley. **Democrat:** Mike Brinegar, Katherine Fox Carr. **Geography:** Indianapolis, Kokomo, Marion, Shelbyville; Wabash, Huntington, Howard, Grant, Tipton, Hamilton, Hancock and parts of Marion, Johnson and Shelby counties. **Media Market:** Indianapolis, Fort Wayne, Lafayette. **People:** urban/rural 75/25; median income \$52,800; poverty 5.2%; race: 92% white, 2.6% black, 1.6% Hispanic; blue/white collar 25/63%. **2000 Presidential:** Bush 69%, Gore 30%. **Cook Partisan Voting Index:** R+20. **2002 Results:** Burton 129,442 (72%), Carr 45,283 (25%). **2002 Money:** Burton \$844,159, Carr \$25,551. **2004 Outlook:** Burton went to Iraq last week, the most danger he'll face this year. **Status:** *Safe Burton*

**Congressional District 6: Republican:** U.S. Rep. Mike Pence. **Democrat:** Melina Ann Fox. **Geography:** Anderson, Muncie, Richmond; Wells, Adams, Blackford, Jay, Madison, Delaware, Randolph, Henry, Wayne, Rush, Fayette, Union, Decatur, Franklin, and parts of Bartholomew, Shelby, Johnson and Allen counties. **Media Market:** Indianapolis, Fort Wayne, Dayton, Cincinnati. **People:** urban/rural 59/40%; median income \$39,002; poverty 9.7%; race: 93% white, 3.8% black, 1.3% Hispanic; blue/white collar 35/49%; **2000 Presidential:** Bush 58%, Gore 40%; **Cook Partisan Voting Index:** R+10; **2002 results:** Pence 118,436 (64%), Fox 63,871. **2002 Money:** Pence \$1.2m, Fox \$342,987. **2004 Outlook:** Pence will be the early favorite, but he could see his numbers dwindle if he continues to push the gay marriage issue when jobs, energy and health care are on the minds of most voters. In Iraq, Pence said, "I am very confident that democracy will prevail," Pence said during a teleconference Tuesday (*Muncie Star Press*). "The threat of civil war is very real." **Status:** *Likely Pence*

**Congressional District 7: Republican:** Bob Croddy, Andy Horning. **Democrat:** U.S. Rep. Julia Carson, Bob Hidalgo. **Geography:** Indianapolis. **Media Market:** Indianapolis. **People:** Urban 99.7%; median income \$36,522; poverty 13.5%; race white 63, black 29.4%, Hispanic 4.4%, Asian 1.3%; blue/white collar 26/58%; **2000 Presidential:** Gore 55%, Bush 43%; **Cook Partisan Voting Index:** D+6. **2002 Results:** Carson 77,478 (53%), McVey 64,379 (44%). **2002 Money:** Carson \$1.099m, McVey \$1.15m. **2004 Forecast:** Bobby Hidalgo, Comedy Channel fodder, challenges Carson. The congresswoman jumped into the governor's race, defending the use of federal jobless funds after criticism from Rep. Buyer. **Status:** *Likely Carson*.

**Congressional District 8: Republican:** U.S. Rep. John Hostettler. **Democrat:** Jon Jennings, Bill Pearman. **Geography:** Evansville, Terre Haute, Greencastle; Posey, Vanderburgh, Warrick, Gibson, Pike, Martin, Daviess, Knox, Sullivan, Greene, Owen, Clay, Vigo, Vermillion, Parke, Putnam, Warren and part of Fountain counties. **Media Market:** Evansville, Terre Haute, Indianapolis, Lafayette. **People:** Urban/rural 58/42%; median income \$36,732; poverty 10.7%; race white 93.7%, black 3.7%, Hispanic .9%; blue/white collar: 32/52%. **2000 Presidential:** Bush 56%, Gore 42%; **Cook Partisan Voting Index:** R+8. **2002 Results:** Hostettler 98,952

# TICKER

## T A P E

Assembly ended Thursday (Post-Tribune). Brown criticized Landske for breaking ranks with the Northwest Indiana delegation and killing funding for the Lake County Regional Transportation Authority. Local lawmakers want the tax to expand bus service throughout Lake County, increase on-demand service in the southern part of the Lake County and provide the local match for a study of new commuter rail service to Chicago from Lowell and Valparaiso. "That smacks of racism and classism. Somehow we don't want racial minorities to travel to Lowell and south Lake County," Brown, D-Gary, said. Landske, R-Cedar Lake, denied Brown's accusation. "He is way off-base. That is ridiculous," she said. The language to allow the county to adopt a 1 percent tax on restaurant food and beverages passed the House but failed in the Senate when Sen. Larry Borst did not allow the Senate Finance Committee to vote on the bill. During the hearing, Borst had a list of questions that he felt hadn't been adequately addressed by local officials, including their long-term plan for the money and who would provide oversight. "We have been studying this issue for three years, including several times in Lake County, where we have reached a consensus.

*continued on page 6*

# TICKER

## T A P E

How could we even know about Sen. Borst's concerns? Are we going to let a senator from Marion County dictate public policy in Lake County?" Brown said.

**HUBBARD, LUGAR TO HEAD BUSH-CHENEY CAMPAIGN IN INDIANA:** Former Indiana GOP Chairman Al Hubbard and U.S. Sen. Richard Lugar will co-chair the Bush-Cheney campaign in Indiana, campaign manager Ken Mehlman announced this week.

**LUGAR NOMINATED FOR NOBEL PRIZE:** President Bush, Pope John Paul II and the two U.N. officials at the heart of the effort to find weapon of mass destruction in Iraq are among the nominees for the 2004 Nobel Peace Prize. Tuesday's nominating deadline brought the number of candidates for the prestigious prize to 194 -- 50 organizations and 144 individuals, said Geir Lundestad, secretary of the secretive awards committee. The winner of the \$1.3 million award will be announced in mid-October. The five-member committee keeps the list of candidates secret for 50 years, only releasing the number of nominations it receives, but those making the nominations often announce their choice. This year, those nominated include Bush and British

(51%), Hartke 88,763 (46%), **2004 Forecast:** Washington analyst Stuart Rothenberg told the *Washington Post*, "The best Democratic chance in the region probably is Indiana 8, where Cong. John Hostettler runs terrible campaigns and is again vulnerable to a decent Democratic challenger. Hostettler introduced HR 3313, a bill that would remove all issues having to do with marriage from any court's jurisdiction. "Simply put the federal courts don't have jurisdiction over marriage issues. They can't hear them. And if they can't hear cases regarding marriage policy, they can't redefine the sacred institution and establish a national precedent for homosexual marriage," he explained. **Status:** *Leans Hostettler.*

**Congressional District 9: Republican:** Mike Sodrel. **Democrat:** U.S. Rep. Baron Hill, Lendell Terry. **Media Market:** Evansville, Indianapolis, Louisville, Dayton, Cincinnati. **People:** urban/rural 52/48%, median income \$39,011; race white 94%, 2.3% black, 1.5% Hispanic; blue/white collar: 34/50%; **2000 Presidential:** Bush 56%, Gore 42%; Cook Partisan Voting Index: R+8. **2002 Results:** Hill 96,654 (51%), Sodrel 87,169 (46%). **2002 Money:** Hill \$1.144m, Sodrel \$1.62m. **2004 Forecast:** We see this as potentially close, in part due to how well President Bush will run in this district. **Status:** *Tossup*

## Indiana 2004 Legislative

**Senate District 36: Republican:** Sen. Larry Borst, Johnson County Council President Brent Waltz. **Democrat:** Terry Rice. **2000 Primary Results:** Borst 7,513. **2000 General Results:** Borst (R) 24,621, Reno (D) 12,120, Williamson (L) 1,026. **2004 Forecast:** Borst begins his TV campaign on network affiliates. The ad shows Borst with Mitch Daniels and scenes of him throwing a football to a young boy. The *Indianapolis Star* reported in its first extensive coverage of this race: But Waltz, who's pushing a message of youth and change, has already hit a snag -- he's violated Indiana campaign finance laws. The report Waltz filed with the Johnson County Election Board shows that he's raised \$2,300 for the race and has bankrolled his campaign with a \$25,000 loan from himself. Waltz attributed this mistake to a confusing filing process that puts newcomer candidates at a disadvantage. He is due to appear before the Election Commission on March 10. Rice told HPR, "I know both candidates well. I have been a teacher and teacher union president of the Perry Township schools for the past 32 years, with 15 of those years as the teachers' elected leader. Over the past 32 years I have reached many families in Perry Township and in Johnson County, because I am also a faculty member at IUPUI. Certainly Larry Borst knows my influence because of my exposure to the hundreds of families in these communities. I expect to have a large cross-over vote in November. There is an incredible outcry for change as I speak to the folks in Johnson county and southern Marion county. I began advertising over a month ago, even though I am unopposed in the primary. If, by chance, Brent Waltz should lose to Larry Borst he has guaranteed to me his support in my race. This statement, in itself, indicates clearly, that voters in Indiana, and especially, District 36, want a change at the state legislature." **Primary Status:** *Tossup.*

**House District 86: Republican:** Andy Miller, Mort Large. **Democrat:** State Rep. David Orentlicher. **2002 Results:** Orentlicher 9,909, Atterholt (R) 9,872. **2004 Forecast:** Orentlicher e-mailed constituents: "On Monday, yesterday and today, I came to the State House prepared to consider bills that would: 1. Stimulate job growth by extending the research and development tax credit. 2. Reform the State's property tax system. 3. Provide funding for optional all-day kindergarten programs. 4. Make health care insurance more affordable for employees whose companies do not provide coverage as a benefit. Because House Republicans repeatedly walked out of scheduled House proceedings, all of these bills died. If we are able to conduct business next week, the first three proposals could still pass via House bills that were debated in the Senate this week. If the House Republicans continue to prevent House action, all of these proposals will have to wait until next year." Miller launches his website at [www.andymiller.org](http://www.andymiller.org). **Primary Status:** *TOSSUP*. **General Status:** *TOSSUP* ❖

# COLUMNISTS ON INDIANA

**Russ Pulliam**, *Indianapolis Star* - Evan Bayh, Indiana's Democratic U.S. senator, may be somewhere near the top of the list of vice presidential prospects. His Midwest roots could prove to be more important to front-runner John Kerry than the South in an attempt to unseat President Bush. Though he looks moderate in the Indiana political context, Sen. Bayh is one of the most conservative prominent Democrats on the national scene. Sen. Bayh's name pops up in most of the recent political stories about Sen. Kerry's choice for a running mate. ❖

**Charlie Cook**, *National Journal* - This Thursday, March 4, the Bush-Cheney '04 campaign is scheduled to begin its advertising effort on a number of national cable television networks, as well as local broadcast stations in 17 states, signaling in some ways the start of the general election campaign. The advertising begins in nine states that then-Vice President Al Gore carried in 2000 and eight states President Bush won. The nine 2000 Gore states where the Bush campaign has or will buy ads are Iowa, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, New Mexico, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Washington and Wisconsin. The eight 2000 Bush states that will see Bush '04 ads are Arkansas, Arizona, Florida, Missouri, Nevada, New Hampshire, Ohio and West Virginia. These 16 states are almost universally acknowledged to be battlegrounds -- plus Arizona, which Bush carried 51 percent to 45 percent last time. While Arizona might not be quite as competitive as the others, it was obviously enough of a concern for the campaign to want to spend some early advertising for prophylactic purposes. ❖

**Dick Morris**, *The Hill* - The Democratic Party chose a nominee Tuesday who probably cannot win the White House in November. In opting for Sen. John Kerry of Massachusetts and turning down Sen. John Edwards of North Carolina, Democrats have broken from the pragmatism and moderation that dominated their party's profile under Bill Clinton and Al Gore in the 1990s. Their party has now moved back to the liberal extremism of Walter Mondale and Michael Dukakis that characterized the 1980s, with the same predictable result. It is now up to President Bush to take advantage of this by implementing a three-part strategy in the coming campaign. First, his paid media must attack Kerry's voting record to define him as an ultraliberal. There are likely those in the White House who are urging Bush to run positive ads. That won't work. Even if positive ads produce a small, short-term bounce for Bush, events soon will come to dominate, and the impact of those ads likely will evaporate. But if Bush uses the next eight months to educate voters on Kerry's opposition to the death penalty, his vote against the 1991 Iraq war, his poor attendance record in the past year and his opposition to the Defense of Marriage Act, he could put this election away by defining Kerry right now. Kerry is a fair and inviting target. Bush has to zero in on him and push him to the left right now. Whether Kerr ever consorted with Jane Fonda is beside the point, but Kerry's voting record is not. Finally, Bush must begin to pull American troops out of Iraq after the handover in June. He should leave a sufficient number there, in safe, secluded bases, to intervene if the bad guys try to come back in power. But the daily drip of casualties must end. ❖

## TICKER TAPE

Prime Minister Tony Blair, French President Jacques Chirac, former Czech President Vaclav Havel, the pope, the European Union, former chief U.N. weapons inspector Hans Blix and Mohamed El Baradei, who still heads the International Atomic Energy Agency. Other known candidates for the 2004 award are kidnapped Colombian politician Ingrid Betancourt, Cuban dissident Oswaldo Paya and jailed Israeli technician Mordechai Vanunu, for exposing his country's nuclear weapons program. Sen. Richard Lugar and former Sen. Sam Nunn were nominated for their program to dismantle nuclear weapons left over from the Soviet Union.

**KITTLE DECRIES BUDGET NUMBERS!** "Unfortunately, each month Indiana's economy confirms that Gov. Joe Kernan has failed Hoosiers. As indicated by the State Budget Director, individual income tax revenue came in \$11 million below target. For seven years, Joe Kernan served as lieutenant governor and director of Indiana's Department of Commerce. If Gov. Kernan had been successful in his efforts to create and maintain good-paying jobs for hard-working Hoosiers, Indiana would be in much better standing. More jobs means more peo-

# TICKER

## T A P E

ple working which means more people making money and more people paying income taxes. "In my opinion, there is no performance measure more damning for Gov. Kernan than Indiana's incessant failure to meet revenue projections. Today's numbers mean Indiana's state government will only have enough money to operate for a couple of hours when this budget expires on July 1, 2005. Gov. Kernan's continuous inability to help the state meet or exceed forecasts is indicative of a larger pattern of ineptitude. These disturbing numbers, coupled with the fact that Indiana has the largest budget deficit in the nation, proves that Gov. Kernan is incapable of getting Indiana's economy back on track."

**BURTON SAYS IRAQ WILL BE READY:** U.S. Rep. Dan Burton is heading back to the United States after spending a couple of days in Iraq. It was his first trip there. He says he doesn't think the Iraqi people will be ready to take over control of the country by the end of June. But he adds they are making progress including creating a constitution. "Most of the constitution is very good, it has freedom of the press, free election, habeas corpus," said Rep. Burton. He said one of the goals was to "make sure Islam was not going to usurp the rights of other religions and minorities. I think that's been worked

## Rep. Hill teams with DeLay on roads

BY MARK SCHOEFF JR.

*The Howey Political Report*

WASHINGTON -- In the political atmosphere of Washington, finding a Democratic bedfellow for House Majority Leader Tom DeLay may seem like the strangest of undertakings.

The fiercely conservative firebrand from Texas is known as a tough champion of Republican causes, earning him his nickname, "The Hammer." But when it comes to building highways, partisanship takes a backseat to regional advocacy. And when DeLay took up the cause of bringing more money back to states that receive less than what they pay into the highway fund, he needed a Democratic partner.

The one he found was Rep. Baron Hill (D-9th CD). Hill and DeLay have coauthored a bill that would require each state to receive a return of at least 95 percent of the gas tax dollars it sends to Washington. The bill has attracted 144 cosponsors in the House, including all nine members of Indiana's delegation. Last week in a packed Capitol Hill press conference, Hill and DeLay tried to build momentum for their measure, which could become part of the six-year highway authorization bill that is currently stalled in Congress.

Hill, who has worked to develop a reputation as a fiscal conservative during his six-year tenure in Congress, was seen as a moderate Democrat who could be teamed with DeLay.

"The Share coalition of donor states had already identified Tom DeLay as the Republican sponsor of the donor-state legislation," said Steve Fisher, a Washington lobbyist with several Indiana clients who is part of the States' Highway Alliance for Real Equity (Share). "Having already enlisted him to serve in that role, the Share coalition then sought out a Democratic cosponsor who would be a good partner to DeLay, and Baron Hill fit that description."

Although Hill is not a member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, he has taken up the highway funding cause with alacrity. "He's been very engaged, very energetic, and very willing to do whatever is needed to advance the effort. He recognizes how important it is to the whole state of Indiana," said Becky Weber, the Washington lobbyist for the Indiana Department of Transportation.

### Changing Highway Formula

Changing the highway funding formula is a priority for Indiana because under current law, the state receives a return of about 90 percent on the gas-tax money it pays into the highway trust fund. In the House version of the highway reauthorization bill, maintaining that rate would require securing hundreds of millions of dollars in transportation appropriations. "There's no way we're going to get that number of projects, which is why we need to get the formula changed," said Jeff Viohl, Indiana's federal lobbyist. "This is an ongoing, very intense effort."

Part of the intensity surrounding the highway bill is due to the focus on jobs. The Senate bill would provide \$1.8 billion in additional highway funding over eight years, producing 85,000 jobs. "It's a good investment in immediate job creation," said Gov. Joseph Kernan last week when he was in Washington for the winter meeting of the National Governors Association. "Our transportation system is one of our huge advantages because of our location. The more money we have to spend on roads and highways, the better off Indiana is."

### Highways and Budget Deficits

But the total amount of money that will be authorized for highways has been a source of controversy. President Bush has threatened to veto a bill that



totals more than \$256 billion. The \$375 billion House version is unlikely to survive. The \$318 billion the Senate approved may be trimmed during the negotiating process.

Hill tries to keep highway funding affordable in two ways. "Pay go is something that I support. That means that if you spend extra money up and above what you're going to be spending in the budget, then you have to pay for it somehow," he said. "And I have publicly talked about a user fee (gas tax) and support it if necessary. When I say necessary, I think we need to look at other funding like the ethanol and all that set of things before we go there."

The economic benefits of highway spending usually puts it in the same category as Mom and apple pie -- everyone is for it. Votes against appropriations bills can leave a congressman vulnerable to political attack. Hill opposed the \$820 billion omnibus appropriations bill in December that contained about \$3 million for building two bridges over the Ohio river in Louisville in the southern part of his district. That funding was part of \$88 billion allocated for transportation in the bill.

A Hill spokesman said Hill voted against the bill because it contained wasteful spending unrelated to the Ohio River bridges. "To suggest that by voting

against (an appropriation bill) that was pork-laden means that Baron Hill is not an advocate for the Ohio River bridges or bringing transportation funding back to the state shows a lack of understanding and is an irrelevant statement to this debate," said Hill spokesman Stefan Bailey.

### Political Tussles over Roads

Hill's challenger in this year's race, Republican Mike Sodrel, who owns and operates a trucking and coach company, points to the Ohio River bridges project as the key transportation issue in the district. "He has been involved with that project as a private citizen since its infancy," said Kevin Boehnlein, Sodrel's campaign manager. "He feels that there has been leadership on this issue, but not on this side of the river." Boehnlein was questioning Hill's efforts but praising GOP Rep. Anne Northup of Kentucky, who represents the part of Louisville just across the Ohio River from the 9th. Boehnlein asserted that Sodrel could work better than Hill with the Republican majority in the House.

Bailey said Hill has formed a partnership with Northup. "We've worked together in a bipartisan fashion in the past to make the bridges project a reality," he said. ❖

## TICKER T A P E

out."

### BUSH ADMINISTRATION CONCERNED ABOUT GAS PRICES:

The Bush administration is "extremely concerned" about soaring retail gasoline prices, which recently topped \$1.70 per gallon nationwide and are likely to set a record high this month, according to energy officials (Associated Press). "This administration is extremely concerned," U.S. Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham told reporters after testifying before a Senate appropriations subcommittee on the department's proposed budget for fiscal 2005. Abraham did not say what, if anything, the administration was doing about rising gasoline prices. At a separate Senate hearing on energy supply and demand, the head of the U.S. Energy Information Administration said there was a "good possibility" that retail gasoline prices will set a new high by the end of March. The current national average price for unleaded gasoline is \$1.72 per gallon, just 3 cents shy of the record set during late August, according to the EIA, which is the statistical arm of the Energy Department.

**BURTON TO OPPOSE MEDICARE NOMINEE:** The Senate should block President Bush's choice to head the Medicare and Medicaid systems, Rep. Dan Burton, R-5th, and six other House members said Thursday (Fort Wayne Journal Gazette). They said the nominee, Food and Drug

## Gay marriage in the three-ring circus

By **MIKE BACKLUND**

*The Howey Political Report*

On Capitol Hill, broadcast executives endured continued congressional grilling over the offence and outrage caused by Ms. Jackson's bare breast. The nation's morality police and politicians relentlessly bantered on, droning over the "moral decline of America." I too suddenly found myself offended, outraged and utterly disappointed. Unfortunately, unlike being offended by television and radio, where I can simply turn off the

source of offence, I am stuck, not afforded even the possibility of escape until Nov. 2.

It seems a new fad is sweeping our nation and Indiana has not been spared from its collateral damage. This

### Statehouse Analysis

new trend has more of an impact and is more damaging than any wardrobe malfunction could ever hope to be. What I am referring to is the absolute lack of maturity and statesmanship being dis-

# TICKER

## T A P E

Administration commissioner Mark McClellan, snubbed congressional committees that wanted to question him about the Bush administration's opposition to re-importation of prescription drugs. "We have asked him to testify at a series of hearings about prescription drug pricing issues and the ongoing national interest in drug pharmaceutical market access, or re-importation, as an avenue for Americans to get access to lower cost, high quality medicines. Unfortunately, he has declined each and every one of our requests," the letter says.



played by public officials. We have seen it in Texas, where state Democrats ran across the border, preventing a quorum in Texas' House of Representatives. In New York, New Mexico and California, where rather than change the law, officials have opted to make their own. Now Indiana has jumped into the mix, but instead of running scared or legislating on the fly, we are pouting like a scolded child.

**The juvenile temper** tantrums displayed by House Republicans over the past week are completely unacceptable. After not having a bill called back from committee, Rep. Bosma decide he and the other 48 Republican House members were taking their ball and going home. Their display of sandbox politics shows this tactic for what it truly is: More political grandstanding at the expense of Hoosier taxpayers. After leaving the floor, House Republicans retreated to caucus drafted news releases and talking points, and then set out to drive their melancholy violin saga home via the television news.

**It is long established** and accepted that the Speaker of the House drives the direction of business, thereby allowing the majority the ability to set the agenda for the session. Bills routinely die in committee, and both parties employ the tactic, the only difference is which side holds the gavel. If this were anything other than an attempt to cry wolf, then Republicans would be asking for a formal rule change in House Proceedings. If the Speaker can block House Rule 85, then change the rule, do not whine, leave the House, and still expect to be paid your per diem.

This outburst can only hurt the Republicans as the General Election draws near. This bed-wetting will only backfire further once property tax bills begin to arrive in the spring. Republicans will be

seen as obstructionists, albeit unintended by their late February coup de' cry. If Republicans are now so concerned over amending the state Constitution seven years after the fact, then I offer this advice. Make the argument moot. Instead, create legal recognition of civil unions, afford the same rights of tax designation, property rights, and last will rights to the gay community. This will move the issue away from the divisive rhetoric so recklessly being thrown about by both sides. Moreover, if gays want to then call it marriage within the confines of their own community, so be it. Catholics who divorce and then remarry do not receive acknowledgement of their marriage in the eyes of the church, but are nonetheless afforded the same legal distinctions from the state.

**Asked about the importance** of this issue, Speaker Bauer replied by saying "There is no real issue to be heard, Indiana already has one of the best laws in the nation." Speaker Bauer is correct on saying there is no issue, as he points out, back in 1997 the late Gov. O'Bannon signed a law stating marriage in the state of Indiana is only between a man and a woman.

If Rep. Bosma feels so strongly that laws are of no consequence and that only through amending the state Constitution will the institution of religious marriage be saved, then let him take his message of impending doom to the voters. Let the Republicans campaign on this issue to try to achieve a majority in the House. Then they could make Democrats' bills die in committee, and we could see the Democrats walk out, get on TV and tell us how the state Constitution must be amended to provide healthcare for all Hoosiers or Indiana will risk eternal damnation in the eyes of Karl Marx. ❖