

THE HOWEY POLITICAL REPORT



The Weekly Briefing On Indiana Politics

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Brian A. Howey
editor and publisher

Howey Political Report Office: 317-685-0883
PO Box 44168 Fax: 317-692-1032
Indianapolis, IN 46244 CompuServe: 75141,51

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“QUOTE” OF THE WEEK

“Move the Bears to Gary, Murder Capital, U.S.A., or we’ll kill you....”

—Gary mechanic Bill Manoski, to the Chicago Tribune

Labor stayed home in Kokomo races

Prevailing wage issue not used in city context

KOKOMO - Shortly after 6 p.m. Election Day, Howard County Democratic Chairman D.J. Bolinger began sifting through the first returning precincts in the mayor's race.

To his pleasant surprise, Democrat Jean Lushin did very well in what were heavy Republican precincts. “I thought, hey-hey, we’re looking good,” Bolinger said.

But a few minutes later, Bolinger knew Lushin was a goner, the first Democrat to lose a mayor's race there in 16 years. “Our former clerk looked at one of the first traditional labor precincts; one that she had carried with 500 votes in the past,” he said. “This time, only 300 total voted. When I saw that, I knew it was over.”

It wasn't just one Democratic precinct in this city that is dominated by Chrysler and General Motors - a UAW city. Indiana Republican Chairman Mike McDaniel's spin on last Tuesday's municipal election was that Republicans carried the industrial belt, winning mayoral races in Muncie, Richmond, Kokomo, Marion and Lafayette, losing only Anderson. In those cities, Republican mayoral candidates out-pollled Democrats 39,163 to 33,237.

“I don't buy that a bit,” Bolinger said. “We saw that pattern in a lot of union, working class neighborhoods. The industrial votes in Kokomo didn't come out - again.”

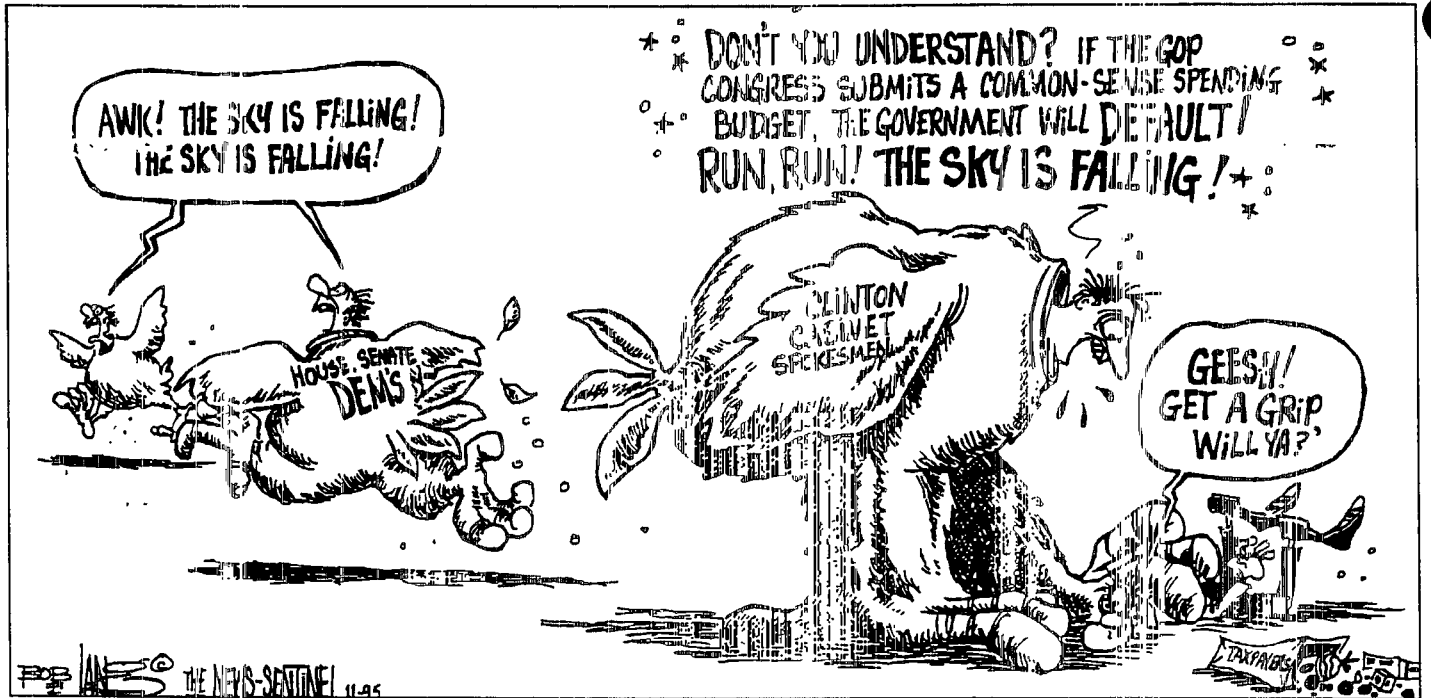
“We did everything: direct mail, door-to-door. We made every speaking engagement, went to every church. The unions came in with endorsements and money. If we had a halfway decent turnout, we would have won.”

If there's one trend facing Democrats in the wake of the city elections, it is that the rank and file organized labor vote for the most part stayed home. It's the same labor bloc that was incensed over Republican efforts in the 1995 Indiana General Assembly to reform the prevailing wage laws, and turned out 20,000 people to protest.

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HUMOR M I L L

Devil's Dictionary

By Ambrose Bierce

Labor, n. One of the processes by which A acquires property for B.

Slang, n. The grunt of a human dog (*Pignorum intolerabilis*) with an audible memory. The speech of one who utters with his tongue what he thinks with his ear, and feels the pride of a creator in accomplishing the feat of a parrot. A means (under Providence) of setting up as a wit without a capital of sense.

Brandy, n. A cordial composed of one part thunder-and-lightning, one part remorse, two parts bloody murder, one part death-hell-and-the-grave and four parts clarified Satan.

'95 missed opportunity was prevailing wage

From page 1

Many political analysts and party pros had been predicting that the rank and file would return to vote Democratic after they voted Republican over guns and abortion in 1994.

In Kokomo, a strong labor showing on the part of Jean Lushin would have given the party momentum going into a crucial race against State Rep. Jon Padfield, one of eight Republican seats Democrats must reclaim in order to gain a majority in the Indiana House.

"I really thought we could get them out this time," Bolinger said. "It's a big dilemma."

So big that in two weeks Howard County Democrats will be meeting with the unions to find out what went wrong. "We had the most unified labor support ever," Bolinger said. "I had never seen this kind of support before. But the rank and file didn't get out."

That wasn't the case everywhere. In another key 1996 battleground - Boonville - where Democratic Speaker Michael K. Phillips lost to Republican Sally Rideout Lambert in 1994, labor rallied. Democrats will use the victory of Clerk-Treasurer Pam Hendrickson over incumbent Mayor Frank Baker as a shoving off point in their attempts to defeat Lambert. Hendrickson credited city employees for getting

the vote out - the same city employees represented by the Teamsters Union who have been working without a contract.

Having a sitting mayor can be helpful in legislative and congressional races for fundraising, although many mayors HPR knows talk with contempt about how the legislature makes their lives harder.

But the missed opportunity in 1995 may have been the Democrats avoidance of the prevailing wage issue in a city context. There is a natural extension there, demonstrated by Fort Wayne Mayor Paul Helmke last summer when he vowed to put the reform in practice once the courts had ruled on its constitutionality. But Helmke's opponent, Democrat Tom Essex, didn't use it to rally his base in Fort Wayne. In fact, outside of Helmke's statement, the issue was virtually ignored in a campaign context by Republicans, who could have cited its tax saving benefits, or Democrats, who could have used it as a pocket book wedge issue.

Democrats locking to defeat State Rep. James Vanleer in Muncie, Padfield in Kokomo, Jack Lutz in Anderson, and to protect Democratic State Rep. Dick Bodiker in Richmond may find their lives a bit harder in 1996 if they can't rally their labor voting bloc.

Unofficial Nov. 7 mayoral election results

ALEXANDRIA	EVANSVILLE	JEFFERSONVILLE	PILYMOOUTH
Wehsollek (R) 1,464	McDonald (D) 19,162	Galligan (D) 5,381	Greenlee (R) 1,151
Bradburn (D) 527	Frary (R) 9,565	Carrico (R) 2,094	Shorter-Pifer (D) 909
ANDERSON	FORT WAYNE	LAPORTE	PRINCETON
Lawler (D) 9,411	Helmke (R) 21,909	Krentz (R) 2,702	Taylor (D) 1,223
Graham (R) 8,817	Essex (D) 11,033	Houston (D) 2,367	Nixon (R) 1,158
	Kempf (L) 1,029		Conner (I) 131
BEDFORD	GARY	LAWRENCEBURG	RICHMOND
Williams (R) 2,557	King (D) 23,588	Gabbard (D) 862	Andrews (R) 5,184
Shipman (D) 954	Williams (I) 5,482	Combs (R) 564	Stolle (D) 3,709
BLOOMINGTON	Boswell (R) 1,108	MARION	SHELBYVILLE
Fernandez (D) 7,020	McCraney (I) 96	Mowery (R) 3,917	Stephen (R) 2,356
White (R) 6,347	GOSHEN	Kotek (D) 2,635	Williams (D) 1,700
Lewis (I) 344	Puro (D) 2,827	KENDALLVILLE	ROCHESTER
BLUFFTON	Hoke (R) 2,425	McGahan (D) 1,162	Thompson (R) 1,058
Ellis (D) 1,732	GREENFIELD	Smith (R) 1,065	Fansler (D) 922
Garcia (R) 1,397	Elmore (R) 2,311	KOKOMO	SOUTH BEND
BOONVILLE	Andrews (D) 875	Trobaugh (R) 5,108	Kernan (D) 14,309
Hendrickson (D) 1,587	GREENWOOD	Lushin (D) 4,713	Waite (R) 3,106
Baker (R) 886	Henderson (R) 4,066	LAFAYETTE	VALPARAISO
COLUMBUS	McGovern (D) 2,837	Heath (R) 6,412	Butterfield (D) 3,923
Armstrong (D) 4,680	FRANKFORT	Riehle (D) 6,248	Hefron (R) 2,768
Stark (R) 4,076	Woodruff (R) 1,799	LOGANSPORT	VINCENNES
COLUMBIA CITY	Scott (D) 1,469	Vernon (D) 2,868	Hatcher (D) 2,632
Zickgraf (D) 983	FRANKLIN	Gibson (R) 2,128	Kasting (R) 2,396
Weir (R) 688	Cook (R) 1,844	MISHAWAKA	Clark (I) 1,027
CRAWFORDSVILLE	Cantwell (D) 1,559	Buetter (R) 5,521	WABASH
Michael (R) 2,110	HAMMOND	Hall (D) 2,572	McCallen (D) 2,069
Knecht (D) 765	Dedelow (R) 11,099	MUNCIE	Bergman (R) 1,404
DECATUR	Philpot (D) 10,578	Canan (R) 9,718	WARSAW
Isch (R) 1,853	HUNTINGTON	Carey (D) 6,521	Plank (R) 1,909
Thomas (D) 407	Kyle (D) 2,297	Hampton (I) 574	Frantz (D) 542
ELWOOD	Snowden (R) 2,013	NEW ALBANY	WASHINGTON
Werline (D) 1,655	INDIANAPOLIS	England (D) 6,845	Eumert (D) 2,003
McQuitty (R) 704	Goldsmith (R) 64,209	Real (R) 5,886	Overton (R) 890
ELKHART	Jimison (D) 39,539	PERU	WEST LAFAYETTE
Perron (D) 5,017	Dillon (L) 7,175	Blair (D) 1,758	Margerum (D) 2,805
McDowell (R) 4,869		Livengood (R) 1,334	Valentine (R) 2,170

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T A P E

Plays of the Week

Like the ghost of Elections Past, Present and Future, Bill Hudnut returns to Indianapolis to test voter sentiment on possible bids for 10th CD or mayor. Which begs the question, would there be enough ego space for a Gov. Goldsmith and a Mayor Hudnut?



The most compelling election photo taken last week was that of Vanderburgh County Republican Chairman Joe Harrison Jr., taken by Evansville Press photographer Michael W. Whitley. It showed Harrison, face in hand, clipboard in the other, reacting sadly to the defeat of city clerk Marsha Abell. Harrison orally fell on his sword, telling the Press, "I am saddened by what happened tonight. Last fall was obviously a lot different with all our victories. This is a difficult time; it just kills me inside. I failed at raising sufficient money for all our candidates. A lot of our losses are the result of that. A lot of this just rests on my shoulders."

Attorney General Pam Carter is telling friends that she is inclined to seek a statewide office in 1996 - preferably lieutenant governor - rather than run for the 10th CD seat occupied by U.S. Rep. Andy Jacobs. Plans likely will be to pursue

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TICKER T A P E

the AG re-election and position herself for LG.

One rumor was that the White House was putting pressure on Jacobs not to retire because the Clintonites see it as a safe seat up for a contest when they believe they can retake the U.S. House. Other sources tell HPR that state Democrats have tried to talk Jacobs out of retiring. Former Marion County Prosecutor Jeff Modisett acknowledges, "There's been a concerted effort by many of us to talk him out of retirement." Modisett said that "state and national leaders" have joined the effort.

State Rep. Rick McConnell has called on U.S. Rep. John Hostettler to forego his pay-check while the federal government is shut down. McConnell, D-Princeton, is running for the 8th CD Democratic nomination.

Howard County Democratic Chairman D.J. Bolinger had hoped that Democrats there could rally around one candidate to oppose State Rep. Jon Padfield in 1996. Nothing doing. In addition to Roy Harrell, other Democrats taking a long hard look at it include Kokomo City Council members Jerry Fulk and Cindy Dunlap (who has supporters on the state committee), Joe Zupardo and Center Township

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Hudnut expects Jacobs to retire; says next Indy mayor should 'embrace' Goldsmith reforms

CHICAGO - Just when you thought former Indianapolis Mayor Bill Hudnut was preoccupied with keeping the Bears away from Gary, he turns up in Indianapolis on Election Day acting very much like a Hoosier politician of the future.

Is he positioning himself to succeed Mayor Steve Goldsmith? Or Andy Jacobs in Congress? It's all very speculative....

HPR: What were you looking for when you paid a visit to Indianapolis last week?

Hudnut: It's fair to say that a lot of people have encouraged me to come back to Indiana and expressed the hope that I would run for office...again. The second thing to say is that I still view myself as an Indiana citizen, even though I'm earning my living in Chicago. The third thing to say is I'm looking at the options and seriously studying them.

HPR: Is Congress your first choice?

Hudnut: People have talked to me about Congress and - how should I put it? - being in the wings for the mayor's job. So I say that both options are being considered.

HPR: There are rumors that state and national Democrats are urging Andy Jacobs not to retire. You two have been close. What are you hearing out of Jacobs' camp?

Hudnut: I think that Andy is going to retire. That is my estimate of the situation. He's been there 30 years. He's got two small children whom he loves dearly and who he wants to be with, as well as his wife, of course. I think that now he's in the minority, he realizes it's not as much fun as being in the majority. And so he's probably run the course.

HPR: That announcement will be coming Saturday and I suspect you will be eagerly watching.

Hudnut: Yep.

HPR: If he does, how will you respond?

Hudnut: Well, I think the flood gates would probably be open for a lot of people to try to move into that seat. I certainly wouldn't close the door on that possibility for myself.

HPR: Will you be setting up a committee and start raising money?

Hudnut: That remains to be seen.

HPR: Did last week's turnout surprise

you?

Hudnut: Yes. I think most people thought Steve was a shoo-in and they thought, "Why bother. Why take the time?"

HPR: Do you feel Goldsmith's base stayed home?
Hudnut: Well, I'm not astute enough to know. I'm a candidate, not a campaign manager. I don't know. He got 58 percent of the vote, which wins most elections. I think we'll just have to see how it plays out next year. I'm sure someone like Rex Early was delighted.

HPR: Does that hurt Goldsmith in '96?
Hudnut: It may, by giving others encouragement. This is not a quote from me, it's a quote from somebody else who said, "The 800-pound gorilla ain't 800 pounds."

HPR: But still a svelt front-runner...

Hudnut: Yes.

HPR: If he is on track in '96, will you position yourself for mayor?

Hudnut: We'll have to wait and see what develops. I think Steve has a good shot at it. He's got a lot of strengths. His only weakness is he's from Marion County. He can overcome that. He's got money. He's got good name recognition. But most importantly, he's proven himself to be very good at what people want, which is to downsize government. That's a message that resonates with voters.

HPR: If you succeeded him as mayor, would you continue his reforms?

Hudnut: Well, we can't cross the bridge 'til we get to it. I think I was a good mayor for the '80s, he's a good mayor for the '90s. I recognize that reinventing government, downsizing and privatizing are the order of the day. I have no idea if his successor would have to have a tax increase. There's a lot of comment that he or she would. I certainly have no quarrel about Steve's ideas for limited government. That's what the times call for and I think whoever succeeds him should be willing to embrace that philosophy. I think Steve has done a fine job in keeping a lid on government spending and on taxes.



COLUMNISTS ON INDIANA

Jack Colwell, South Bend Tribune - Mayor Steve Goldsmith didn't win big in either city. Not in Indianapolis, where Goldsmith was re-elected, but with only 58 percent of a very low vote. Not at all in South Bend, where Republican city council candidates who campaigned for Goldsmith-style privatization were trounced. One got 33 percent of the vote. The other 28 percent. If Goldsmith had anything like the 82.2 percent South Bend Mayor Joe Kernan achieved or hit Mishawaka Mayor Bob Buetter's 68.2 percent, the stories around the state would have been about his momentum as he prepared to take privatization statewide. Kernan closed his campaign with some scoffing at Indianapolis privatization. He cited better water and solid waste pickup rates in South Bend and added: "It appears that it would have been a good idea for Mayor Goldsmith to come up to South Bend and learn how to provide quality services at the best price." If the mayoral totals Tuesday affected the prospects for the '96 state tickets, Kernan's chances of being picked for lieutenant governor were enhanced, Goldsmith's stock for governor were diminished. Neither, probably, by a decisive degree.

Mary Dieter, Louisville Courier-Journal - The Indianapolis mayor's race should interest all Hoosiers because of the strong prospect that its winner, Steve Goldsmith, will run for governor next year. In a vacuum, it looked as if Goldsmith handily won a second term. But in the world of politics, where everybody puts their own spin on every occurrence, there are plenty of people who think Tuesday may have given Goldsmith more cause for concern than jubilation. "This was not a disaster for Steve Goldsmith, but it's pretty darn close because he's given Rex Early an opening," said (Indiana Democratic Chairman Joe) Andrew. Goldsmith campaign manager Anne Shane said she didn't think a close look was necessary. Her candidate did well in heavily Republican areas of Marion County, where turnout was stronger, so he held his base, she said. Had he been unable to do so, a reassessment might have been in order. But while she was scoffing at the naysayers, even

Shane was less than enthusiastic the day after Goldsmith's victory. "I actually feel pretty good about it," she said, as if she had to convince herself.

Tom Tuley, Evansville Courier - Last Tuesday's Evansville election may not have generated much enthusiasm among voters - far more of those eligible stayed home than voted - but it left both parties with reasons to be enthusiastic about the next, and bigger, round coming up in the fall of 1996. For the Democratic Party, it could gloat that its mayor won big and it gained a post on the Republicans - that of city clerk. The Republicans, on the other hand, had their own reasons to gloat despite Clerk Marsha Abell's loss and Mayor Frank McDonald II's lop-sided victory over Republican challenger Lori Frary. Heading into Tuesday's election, most looked upon the entire Republican slate as dead meat, and even Republicans were talking about the possibility they might lose their three seats on the City Council. But it didn't happen. Republicans held on to all three seats, but not by much. In fact, examining the totals shows that if just 1,074 people had changed their votes, the races indeed would have been a clean sweep.

Rod Spaw, Evansville Press - The recent decision of the EPA to redesignate Vanderburgh County as an attainment area for ozone was as much political as scientific, prompted by the prospect of Toyota picking Vanderburgh County for its new U.S. truck assembly plant. That in turn - political decisions being linear - allowed EPA policymakers to entertain the notion that the state of Indiana will take a more active role in improving regional air quality than it ever has in the past. People who rank public health on an equal footing with economic development are not as trusting. A group of them will argue that the EPA decision contradicts the agency's own policy and lacks scientific merit.



TICKER TAPE

Trustee **Greg Goodnight**. Also, **Bolinger** threw water on rumors that the Republican House caucus was not planning to support Padfield or *State Rep. David Lohr* of Terre Haute. The caucus ran a half-page ad in the *Kokomo Tribune* on Padfield's behalf last Labor Day weekend.

Republicans are expecting about 600 people to turn out for the 1995 Republican State Fall Dinner to hear National GOP Chairman **Haley Barbour**.

The *Chicago Tribune's Peter Kendall*, writing on Gary Democrat **Scott King's** big victory last week: "The election's outcome was, in part, a repudiation of racial politics - many blacks voted for King without regard to his race." It quoted **Marion R. Williams**, an African-American who entered the race as an independent as saying, "When I went door-to-door, people said, 'We don't want any more of you people for mayor.' Many felt that the 28 years of African-American leadership was enough. There was a feeling that the city needed a white man to run it." Current Gary Mayor **Thomas Barnes** had urged voters not to vote for a white candidate.

Recounts have been filed by Elkhart Republican mayoral candidate **Carol McDowell**, who lost to Mayor **Jim Perron** by 148 votes, and by three defeated

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Lugar campaign memo on target; analysts rate the Hoosier's chances

INDIANAPOLIS - A confidential memo the Lugar presidential campaign sent to senior staff, state coordinators and fund-raisers insists that the campaign is "on course."

That strategy calls for at least a fourth place finish in Iowa, a third place finish in New Hampshire, and then decisive wins on March 19 in the Midwest - Illinois, Michigan and Ohio where 196 delegates are at stake.

In the Oct. 19 document, campaign manager Mark Lubbers explained, "Our strategy is proving exactly right. It was, and is, the following:

- 1.) Dole will fall.
- 2.) Don't waste capital attacking Dole. Others will do that, to our benefit.
- 3.) Position to inherit the Dole base.
- 4.) Do well in Iowa (a moving target). Today, I would say that means beat Alexander. Get 25,000 votes. Finish in top 4."
- 5.) Leverage Iowa with a good showing in New Hampshire. (Finish in top 3).
- 6.) Do well in New England on March 5. Win at least two states.
- 7.) Survive Southern primaries on March 12 "Super Tuesday" where Gramm, Alexander, Buchanan and a now-desperate Dole campaign will spend most of the rest of their money and tear each other into pieces.
- 8.) Win the Midwest on March 19.
- 9.) On the wings of that momentum win in California and Washington as the consensus candidate on March 26.

In the memo, Lubbers was able to accurately forecast several developments - Dole's fade in the polls, survey research that 60 percent of Republican voters in New Hampshire will wait until February to make a decision, Gen. Colin Powell "freezing the field" and his focusing attention on the character issue.

"The combination of these factors has created an earlier window of opportunity for Lugar," writes Lubbers. "First, we originally

expected to see a shift away from Dole after Iowa. It now appears that Dole may be so weakened prior to Iowa that Gramm could beat him there. This would feed our dream scenario in Iowa - a Gramm-Dole-Lugar finish, which would say:

- 1.) Dole is done; if he can't win Iowa, he's done.
- 2.) Lugar wins in the race to inherit the Dole base.

On his candidate, Lubbers' assessment of Lugar is as follows:

"Dick Lugar remains the most presidential. Several give better stump speeches exciting people with red-meat rhetoric.

"Lugar is fully engaged in this effort. I find his political intuition extraordinarily acute. His speaking style has evolved enormously in the past five months. On the political stump he is succinct, engaging and political without compromising his presidential demeanor."

Latest New Hampshire poll

The latest poll of New Hampshire voters by The American Research Group had the race this way:

Dole.....	27 percent
Buchanan.....	17 percent
Alexander.....	6 percent
Forbes.....	6 percent
Lugar.....	6 percent
Gramm.....	3 percent
Undecided	31 percent

Rothenberg's assessment

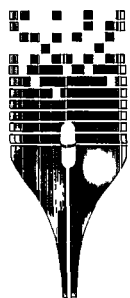
When you ask Stuart Rothenberg, who publishes the *Rothenberg Political Report* in Washington, about Lugar, he answers, "He'd make a good president, but I still don't see how he gets there."

It's the same comment that has been conventional wisdom in Washington since Lugar entered the race. In the Nov. 10 edition of the *Rothenberg Political Report*, the "post-Powell" stage of the 1996 campaign is assessed in this manner:

LUGAR WATCH

"Lugar is fully engaged in this effort. I find his political intuition extraordinarily acute. His speaking style has evolved enormously in the past five months...."

- Mark Lubbers



"Colin Powell's announcement that he won't run immediately produced a long list of winners. Bill Clinton and Bob Dole each lost a potential opponent who was leading in the polls. More importantly, Powell's decision jump-starts a race that had been frozen for weeks in anticipation of the general's decision. Dole can now try to line up support from Republicans who flirted with the general."

Rothenberg noted New Hampshire Gov. Steve Merrill's endorsement of Dole as an event that was partially eclipsed by the Powell announcement and described it as a "blow to Gramm, who for months appeared to be the front runner."

"Without Powell in the race, Dole's primary numbers in national and key state polls should stabilize, if not improve. The latest American Research Group poll...offers a mixed message. It documents Dole's weaknesses, but suggests his nearest threat isn't from one of the other candidates with a real shot at the nomination. Powell's exit does once again raise an important question: who - if anyone - will emerge as the single alternative to Dole?"

C k's assessment

Charles E. Cook Jr. publishes the *Cook Political Report* and sees the race this way:

"Few signs are indicating that Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole's hold on the GOP frontrunner slot has slipped. While Dole's favorable ratings have dropped, his unfavorable ratings have risen, and his general election performance against President Clinton has deteriorated, his fundraising pace is actually accelerating and his leads in both national and New Hampshire primary polls have held fast.

"We continue to see Gramm as the only member of this current field who could possibly knock Dole out, but regard this as a shrinking possibility.

"Should Dole's candidacy collapse at some point and no new Republicans enter the fray, former Tennessee Gov. Lamar Alexander would be the most likely beneficiary, but he is hardly a potential catalyst for a Dole decline. The other question is whether Alexander's candidacy remains viable, both politically and financially, while he waits for a Dole collapse

that may or may not occur.

"It's possible that Lugar could benefit from a sudden Dole decline, even though his fund-raising pace remains slow as to limit his ability to take advantage of such a situation. Since Lugar's overhead is much lower than Alexander's, he could conceivably out-wait the former Tennessee governor and still be around if something happens.

"And yet the most likely scenario...is that Dole nails down the nomination by the first week of April, and perhaps sooner."

Howey's assessment

The fact that Cook is even mentioning Lugar has a chance to benefit from a Dole collapse is a departure from months of punditry in the Beltway Echo Chamber.

But the bottom line for Dick Lugar is he is going to have to have a little luck break his way. His staff is small but sound. His paid

LUGAR WATCH

media is decent and his relationship with the national press is of the nature that if any

sweep across their brain pans and laptops that Lugar has a chance, the corresponding exposure would be substantial.

There are three possible scenarios for a Dole decline so necessary for Lugar to emerge. One would be an ending fiasco in the 104th Congress, particularly if President Clinton wins the current war of chicken over the budget. The second is if Congress adjourns without passing and/or overriding vetoes on the Contract With America. While the contract may not be recognized by a majority of Americans, it is by most of the likely voters in Iowa and New Hampshire. The third would be if Dole gets sick or falls down the stairs on some desolate tarmac in Waterloo. Any of these events could set off a stampede away from Dole.

The elements for Lugar's success on setting the pace on issues have also hurt him. He has talked about national security since last February, yet it was the Oklahoma City bombing that knocked his April 19th announcement

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Democratic council candidates in Bloomington and Fort Wayne. Bloomington Democrat *Michael Bonnell*, who lost by 20 votes, charged that some city residents were denied a vote while others from outside the city did vote (*Jackie Sheckler, Herald-Times*). Filing for recounts in Fort Wayne were defeated council members *Tom Henry* and *Janet Bradbury*. Henry lost his race by two votes.

The *Elkhart Truth* reports that "allegations of sabotage and vandalism by Elkhart police officers may be an effort by city officials to discredit opponents of Mayor James Perron, the president of FOP Lodge 52 said." Board of Works President *Vaughn Moreno* accused a small group of police officers of damaging video cameras in police cars, smearing excrement on bathroom walls and stopping up toilets. But FOP President *Bruce Davidson* responded by saying, "I can't think of one member of the department so immature to do such a thing." Many members of the EPD had supported Republican *Carol McDowell*.

Republican Attorney General candidate *Greg Zoeller* picked up the endorsements of former GOP state chairmen *Gordon Durnil* and *Keith Luse*, as well as former Republican National

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Committeeman *Don Cox*. Zoeller began a 10-city announcement tour in Clarksville on Sunday and winds up in the Statehouse rotunda on Friday.

As if it weren't bad enough for 1994 10th CD nominee *Marvin Scott*, who saw former supporters like *William Bennett*, *Bob Orr* and *Al Hubbard* drop their support, now he is losing former general counsel *Kerry Rentro* to the campaign of rival *Virginia Blankenbaker*.

John Ketzenberger, who had been the *Fort Wayne Journal Gazette's* statehouse reporter since 1991, has taken a similar position with *Gannett*.

Vanderburgh County Prosecutor Stan Levco may enter the 8th CD Democratic race if *Rick Borries* drops out.

"One of the best..."

That's how Washington Political Analyst **Charles Cook** describes the **Howey Political Report**
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Lugar...is a long shot, with events out of his control

From page 7

rally off the air. The day he made a breakthrough second place finish in the Maine straw poll, the assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Rabin kept him off the front pages in Manchester, Boston, New York, Washington and Des Moines.

Any similar events coming at better times in the news cycle could propel Lugar into the first tier of candidates.

Lugar is rising in the polls without the benefit of any concentrated or lengthy TV buys in Iowa and New Hampshire. His newest TV ad, titled "Oath of Office," is designed to take advantage of the "character" issue Gen. Powell brought to the table.

Yet it is fascinating to watch how the news media reacts to his infusion of foreign policy into the landscape. Associated Press writer Sally Buzbee wrote an analysis of the "Oath of Office" TV ad this way: "Lugar is respected on foreign policy, but it's questionable how many voters see that as the crucial qualification for the White House."

That's an astounding observation, given that the U.S. is flirting with sending troops to Bosnia (a move Lugar supports), the health concerns of Russian President Boris Yeltsin, the assassination of Rabin, which accents the continuing instability in the Middle East (as well as the recent deaths of six Americans in Saudi Arabia), and the frequent finds of weapons grade uranium in Eastern and Central Europe that, placed in the context of Oklahoma City and the World Trade Center, all could become explosive political issues in the U.S.

While Dole's position in Congress is potentially perilous, Lugar stands to gain, having moved a historic agriculture reform bill through the Senate when his Republican counterparts in the House failed. That could create a

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vivid contrast to Dole if much of the Contract dies in the Senate. Finally, Lugar introduced the issue of gambling into the 1996 mix and that issue has the potential to resonate with Christian Coalition voters who dominate Iowa.

The downside to a competitive Lugar scenario is whether the ag reforms will hurt him in Iowa and the national sales tax will hamper his efforts in sales tax-free New Hampshire. If Lugar finds himself on the upswing, it can be expected the other campaigns will hit him on those issues and an appropriate response will be crucial to maintaining any such momentum.

Every time I hear Washington pundits dismiss Lugar as having no chance, I think of Conan O'Brien's debut on NBC, when he said after Clinton, Rabin and Arafat had gathered on the White House lawn hours before, "The day you get your own network TV show will be the same day peace comes to the Middle East."

A Lugar presidential nomination is still a long shot, to be determined by events totally out of his control. But his campaign has positioned him well and virtually every day brings a reminder that it's a crazy world.

Here is the text of Lugar's "Oath of Office" TV ad:

(Actor portraying judge) "Raise your arm and repeat after me. I, Richard Lugar, do solemnly swear that I will faithfully ... (Voice-over announcer): No president in the history of our country has been better prepared to accept the oath of office than Sen. Dick Lugar. (Judge): ...the office of president of the United States... (Announcer): Dick Lugar - the Rhodes Scholar who went to the American Embassy in London and volunteered for the United States Navy... (Judge): ...and will, to the best of my ability...

(Announcer): Dick Lugar - the courageous young mayor who led America's 12th largest city through the toughest times our cities have ever seen... (Judge)...preserve, protect and defend... (Announcer): Dick Lugar - Ronald Reagan's number one supporter in the Senate - considered the Republican's foremost authority on world affairs... (Judge): ...the Constitution of the United States. (Announcer): Dick Lugar - husband of 39 years and father of four. The character it takes to be everything a president should be. (Lugar): So help me God."