

THE HOWEY POLITICAL REPORT



The Weekly Briefing On Indiana Politics

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Brian A. Howey
editor and publisher

The Howey Political Report Office: 317-685-0883
200 W. Washington St., Suite M-1 Fax: 317-692-1032
Indianapolis, IN 46204 hwypol@iquest.net

NewsLink Home Page: <http://www.iquest.net/~hwypol/>

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“QUOTE” OF THE WEEK

“The two-minute rule is a Northern Indiana strategy because Southern Hoosiers can’t talk that fast....”

—Attorney General candidate Gregg Zoeller (from New Albany) on having only 2 minutes to speak before the district caucuses

Defectors guide Witwer victory

The ‘Publishers’ Campaign’ is set to begin

INDIANAPOLIS - The first ballot results at Tuesday’s Republican convention reverberated on the floor like a thunderclap: George Witwer 826, Sue Anne Gilroy 524, Bill Friend 448.

It went contrary to the first hard delegate count in two days that emerged 90 minutes prior to the first votes, placing Gilroy at 750, Witwer at 650 and Friend at 500.

A benign kind of pandemonium broke out to the right of the stage after the first ballot totals emerged as the remaining contenders sought out one man, Marion County Chairman John Sweezy.

“We’d appreciate any movement,” Rep. Friend said to Sweezy.

“What were your totals?” Sweezy inquired, before almost inaudibly saying, “We’ll stay with Sue Anne on the second ballot.”

Next came Witwer. “We want to cooperate with you,” he told Sweezy. “We’ll talk to you later,” came the reply.

Minutes later, when Witwer wrapped up an improbable run for the Republican ticket with a 1,121 to 542 vote victory, Sweezy was gone, not unlike the Sinclair dinosaur crawling off from the 1970s.

In one dramatic moment, the kingmaker, the biggest of the “Big County” chairs, had seen his empire totter. It came atop two conspicuous embarrassments - a guaranteed Bill Hudnut victory at the February slating convention that was lost to Marvin Scott for the 10th CD nomination, and then Scott’s own decisive primary loss to maverick Virginia Blankenbaker in May.

Just 18 hours earlier at the 10th District caucus, Sweezy, Sen. Pat Miller and Sheriff Jack Cottey had tried to instill “discipline.”

“Think very seriously about what Marion County can do,” Miller said. “If we go in there united, we can come out united.”

Added Cottey, “If this organization gets to the point where we don’t work together as a team, we might as well hang it up.”

Then Sweezy told the caucus, “OK, here are my recommendations.” They included Gilroy, Gregg Zoeller for attorney general and

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Indiana’s fastest growing source of political news



TICKER T A P E

PLAY OF THE WEEK: Give Doc Bowen and John Mutz some real credit for utilizing their clout after being out of public life for eight years (Bowen served as Secretary of Health and Human Services under President Reagan). Combined, the two were 6-0 in backing candidates. Mutz was instrumental in Steve Carter's victory for attorney general and had headed his former aide's campaign. Mutz played a vigorous role at Tuesday's convention. Bowen had originally endorsed Bob Garton for governor. After Garton dropped out, he endorsed Mayor Goldsmith and publicly backed Suellen Reed, Carter and George Witwer.



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What occurred in the 10th was breach of discipline

From page 1

Suellen Reed for superintendent.

One Indianapolis delegate leaned over and told an HPR correspondent, "That's too bad. I was going to vote for Zoeller until he said to vote for him."

Added to that was this message to delegates: voting machines were set up so that Sweezy could tell how each delegate had voted.

A ripple turns to a wave

What occurred at the 10th CD caucus rippled through the entire convention until it turned into a first ballot wave. Delegate after delegate from all regions of the state told HPR that there were serious concerns about an "all Marion County ticket," many recalling the Mutz-Goldsmith ticket of '88 that was capsized by Evan Bayh and Frank O'Bannon. Some from small counties were put off by being "told who to vote for."

Eric Miller of Citizens Concerned for the Constitution had opposed the Gilroy nomination over the abortion issue, but he shrewdly picked up on the geography concerns. Standing outside the 3rd and 4th CD caucuses Monday night, Miller - the other convention kingmaker from the Goldsmith sphere - told HPR, "I'm

hearing a lot of anti-Indianapolis talk. Gilroy must win by the second ballot or it may not happen."

As the caucuses broke up, Gordon Durnil said the Gilroy count was just under the total needed for the nomination. Gilroy political director John Williams said he was "cautiously optimistic."

What occurred was an extreme breach in discipline in the Marion County delegation. Zoeller, for instance, had expected 200 votes, but instead received 110. The impact of the Sweezy alienation factor possibly cost him the nomination. On the AG first ballot, Steve Carter finished with 837, followed by Eric Koch at 719 and Zoeller at 506. If the 200 Marion County votes had come through, Zoeller would have finished second. He said that would have allowed him to pick up a number of second ballot commitments from Koch supporters.

Zoeller had recognized the swift change in the tide. He asked former national committeeman Don Cox, "What do I do if I finish third?"

Cox replied, "We sit up here and watch it come unglued."

Zoeller was philosophical about the Sweezy endorsement. "I asked for it," he said.

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Congressional generic poll numbers look better for GOP

HORSE RACE

TRENDLINE: The latest Congressional generic polling data conducted earlier this month shows Democrats holding a slight 46-44 percent lead over Republicans. But that's not good news, considering the Democrats' lead was 50-37 percent just a month ago.

PRESIDENT

Bill Clinton, D
Bob Dole, R
Ralph Nader, I

STATUS

TOSSUP

COMMENTS

This race moves into tossup zone for the first time. Whitewater has been a problem, but we see the White House's misuse of FBI files and the agency's stinging rebuke as big trouble. CNN-Time poll has Clinton lead over Dole at 6 points.

GOVERNOR

Stephen Goldsmith, R
Frank O'Bannon, D

TOSSUP

Both tickets are set. Gender factor is out. Kernan and Witwer bolster each party's geographical base. In the end, LGs will have little impact on this race unless they do dumb things. Goldsmith and O'Bannon present greatest contrast since 1860 election. HR thirsts for new polling data.

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Steve Carter, R
Jeff Modisett, D

TOSSUP

How much of an advantage will Republican Steve Carter get in his race to succeed AG Pam Carter? Also, Modisett is the Democrat Republicans love to hate. This race will be spicy.

SUPT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Ann England, D
Suellen Reed, R

LEANS R

We give Supt. Reed the early edge in this race primarily due to incumbency and her moderate record.

2ND CD

Marc Carmichael, D
David McIntosh, R

LIKELY R

HR has never seen a more dramatic swing in press coverage than McIntosh has received in the last month. It's gone from great page one headlines and laudatory editorials over his FDA intervention on behalf of a sick child to page one above the fold "assault and battery charges" in the *Star*. Those USAir charges will be dropped and the biggest fallout could be boost in fundraising for Carmichael.

Horse Race Key: Safe means assured victory; Likely is outside 10 points; Leans is between 4 and 9 points; Tossup is within statistical margin of error. Status in bold/caps means a change.

TICKER T A P E

REPUBLICAN CONVENTION

BALLOT RESULTS

First Ballot

Lieutenant Governor

George Witwer	826
Sue Anne Gilroy	524
Bill Friend	448
Sue Scholer	154
Steve Johnson	123
Sue Landske	102

Supt of Instruction

Suellen Reed	1,339
David Lohr	819

Attorney General

Steve Carter	837
Eric Koch	719
Gregg Zoeller	506
Charles Braun	112

Second Ballot

Lieutenant Governor

George Witwer	1,121
Sue Anne Gilroy	542
Bill Friend	377
Sue Landske	51
Sue Scholer	49
Steve Johnson	19

Attorney General

Steve Carter	1,087
Eric Koch	776
Gregg Zoeller	280
Charles Braun	17

How did Steve Carter engineer his victory for attorney general? Two factors, the campaign began pumping out press releases over the past two weeks with a series of key endorsements, reaching a crescendo with Doc Bowen

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Witwer's first day with Goldsmith: 'Like a hand fitting into a glove...'

HPR INTERVIEW

"I welcome the opportunity to debate and defend my work because it gives me an opportunity to present to the voters why it is we need to move toward real, principled change that results in smaller government, individual responsibility and less taxes...."

- George Witwer



BLUFFTON - The late Democratic strategist Bill Schreiber told HPR last year that he saw in George Witwer a potential rising star, but, perhaps, in a future election cycle.

For Witwer, Indiana's happy warrior, the future became now when he won a stunning second ballot nomination as Republican lieutenant governor.

HPR caught up with Witwer a day after his first political victory (he had lost legislative, congressional and gubernatorial primaries) and a day of meetings with Mayor Stephen Goldsmith on Wednesday.

HPR: Did the geography issue win the nomination for you?

Witwer: I honestly don't know what won it for me. There were a lot of issues and that was one. People wanted geographic diversity. That was an issue. How important it was in the delegates' mind decisively I don't know. I became the logical choice because of all the things I talked about in my campaign speech: the right location geographically; that I'm a proven fundraiser; that I was able to energize grassroots that will help offset the Democratic unions that will help Frank O'Bannon; and because I will help unite the party. The other thing that helped me was that I traveled 140,000 miles over a year and a half, many more miles before that. Through all of that I made a lot of friends in the party. And people knew the Opportunity Project was a tremendous help in getting a Republican majority in the legislature.

HPR: What role did the pro-life delegates play in this? I noticed that you and David Lohr came within seven votes in your totals on the first ballot.

Witwer: I don't know to what degree that's a coincidence or whether there was a direct relationship there. I think a lot of people see a relationship between the two. I honestly don't know. Steve Goldsmith and I were both opposed to Goals 2000 and David Lohr campaign on that issue.

HPR: How much support did you get out of Marion County on the first ballot?

Witwer: Someone told me I won Marion County on the second ballot. On the first ballot, I think I did well. I knew I had a bloc of 75 to 100 votes that would stick with me. I know there was a lot of emphasis put on the Marion County delegates to follow the lead of their chairman and I think there were that many delegates to vote their conscience.

HPR: After the first ballot, you came up to Sweezy and said, "We want to cooperate with you" and he responded, "We'll talk to you later." How does that strike you now?

Witwer: Well, John had an election to win and he was going to pursue it as he saw fit. He happened to be in a different camp this election, but I'm sure we will work together in the future to elect Republicans. That just happens in the course of conventions. People will be on different sides.

HPR: Last February we had a conversation and you questioned whether you should stay in the governor's race. Did you consider getting out then?

Witwer: I was trying to figure out what was the most constructive role I could play. When Steve got into the race and it was evident how strong he was in the polls and financially, it became difficult for me to believe I had a good shot of winning. But you never know how these things will turn out and so I never believed it was impossible for me to win, some way or some how if things broke just right. But I also looked back at that period of time and I was running as an issues candidate and my fundamental goal was to sell a positive vision for the state and the best opportunities lay ahead. The logical thing to do at that point was to stay in the race even though it was an uphill climb. I had an opportunity to spread the message and galvanize public opinion behind some real conservative change.

HPR: Did you come to that decision that weekend?

Witwer: It was an evolving thing. Through the whole campaign, I was always re-evaluating continuing. I've got to tell you there

might have been times when I considered it more than other times. But I don't think I ever seriously considered getting out because I always knew this was the best opportunity that I could come across to advance the ball on these issues.

HPR: Did the Early campaign ask you to leave the ticket in exchange for the LG role?

Witwer: I don't want to deny anything that was kind of confidentially presented to me. There were a lot of people during the campaign who would have wanted me to get out and support one candidate or another. I really felt my mission wasn't to broker vote, but to sell a vision.

HPR: You ended up with a pretty good floor team with the Souder and McIntosh people and Mitch Harper.

Witwer: Let me tell you both Congressmen Mark Souder and David McIntosh were terrific in this effort. They stuck their necks out in backing me, as well as Gov. Bowen. They had some excellent staff folks who helped me on the floor. I'm really indebted.

HPR: How did Doc Bowen's endorsement come about?

Witwer: Doc came very close to endorsing me for governor. It came right around this time last year. But when he learned that his old friend Bob Garton was getting in, he had to endorse him. Then he concluded he had to endorse Steve, especially at a time when the polls weren't being very generous to me. I think it was natural for him to endorse me when it became evident I was running for lieutenant governor.

HPR: You never criticized Goldsmith during the campaign.

Witwer: As true in the convention and the primary, my interest was not in my opponents, it was advancing the issues and agenda. Who my opponents were was irrelevant.

HPR: What did you and Goldsmith talk about when you met on the trail?

Witwer: Steve and I think alike, just as Rex and I think alike. We had very cordial conversations, as I did with Rex. I felt a real friendship with both those guys. But there's a limit, too, because I was competing.

HPR: When did you think the LG battle was won?

Witwer: I really was very pessimistic I would win. I felt like a fish out of water. I had never been involved in running at a convention. I felt like this was going to be decided by politics that I didn't understand. What I underestimated was the amount of warm support I had with the delegates that had been generated over a long period of time. And I've been straightforward on the issues. People want people to stand up for principle.

HPR: Were you disappointed that a short list didn't emerge?

Witwer: In either case I would have had to have competed for the nomination. I really anticipated that there would be less work and effort involved in winning. I kind of thought it would be clear for Steve on the short list who he wanted. I kind of thought it would be a wink and a nod communicated through the short list. Instead of a restful six weeks, I had to cram a year's campaigning in about a week and a half.

HPR: How did you talk with Goldsmith go today?

Witwer: Reassuring. Everything Steve appears to be to the public is true behind the scenes. He is a man of integrity, a man of his word. He really believes in what he says. He doesn't make promises he doesn't intend to keep. I felt extremely comfortable working with these folks. I felt like a hand fitting into a glove. Today could not have been more energizing for me personally, a more reassuring day, and a day that could not have been more productive.

HPR: The Democrats like to portray you as this over-eager, wide-eyed guy who conducts questionable research. How do you respond?

Witwer: With regard to my research, it's held up to review over the years. It's consistent with the very best research on the issues around the country. It's been well documented, footnoted and, frankly, I have a lot of respect for what is published with the Indiana Policy Review. I try to maintain those standards. Another thing, if I recommended a specific policy proposal, it had always been pilot tested in another state. So I welcome the opportunity to debate and defend my work because it gives me an opportunity to present to the voters why it is we need to move toward real, principled change that results in smaller government, individual responsibility, and less taxes.

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and former 5th CD Rep. Bud Hillis in the final week. That gave Carter the perception of momentum. Secondly, the delegates were given the perception that Carter was conducting a door-to-door campaign, although a lot of his contact came via the phone. Eric Koch had actually driven more miles and talked with more delegates individually. Said Zoeller, "Koch did 10 times the work Steve and I did."

Zoeller entered the convention was an impressive list of endorsements and the tag of "front runner." He felt that Jeff Modisett's nomination for Democratic AG would help him. But, he said, the lack of an LG short list literally sucked the oxygen out of his AG campaign. "For a few days during the Modisett story, we watched Koch's numbers freeze. But the Gilroy story took the attention away," Zoeller said. "We had assumed there would be a pick or a short list on lieutenant governor. I needed that."

The most tasteless display during either Republican or Democratic convention occurred at AG candidate Gary Secrest's booth Monday night. It featured life-size cutouts of President and Hillary Clinton and invited delegates to shoot darts at them from nerf guns.

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T A P E

Mayor Stephen Goldsmith is preliminarily scheduled to appear on NBC's "Meet the Press" this Sunday. Goldsmith will be in Cleveland for the U.S. Conference of Mayors and is expected to appear with mayors from Philadelphia, Seattle and Cleveland.

Fort Wayne Mayor Paul Helmke will be elected as vice president of the U.S. Conference of Mayors this weekend. After Chicago Mayor Richard Daley completes his coming term as president of the group, Helmke will succeed him in 1997. Helmke said he will use the two years to articulate his views on urban America on a national forum. He hopes to parlay that into a run for statewide or federal office by 2000.

Word out of Kokomo is that several traditional Republican campaign donors who have helped State Sen. Steve Johnson have chipped in some money to Democrat Ron Herrell, who is challenging Republican State Rep. Jon Padfield. HPR sources suggest that Padfield may have more problems with some segments of the Republican Party than had been anticipated.

A letter has been sent from the Indianapolis Archdiocese

Early endorses Goldsmith, but with no hug; Speeches accent contrasts between the parties

INDIANAPOLIS - It wasn't quite as emotional as the Beatles reunion, but there stood Stephen Goldsmith and Rex Early together on stage at the Republican Convention.

The only thing missing was someone like Phyllis George prodding the two once-bitter foes to "give each other a little hug." A good ol' GOP handshake would suffice and it brought a standing ovation from the gallery.

Early officially endorsed Goldsmith. "We share a deep love for our country and state and our beliefs and values are not negotiable," Early said in his endorsement speech. "That's why I'm here today to pledge my support for Steve Goldsmith and our Republican ticket. The stakes are way too high. My support for Steve Goldsmith is easy for me. Steve, George and I all agree on the issues."

Early's pledge of support followed a bitter primary battle which had the former GOP chairman on the attack and the mayor complaining about the "personal" nature of the onslaught.

Early also told the convention, "We've never compromised our beliefs like the Democrats have done." For the second time in two weeks, Indiana politicians used a theme from Hoosier rocker John Mellencamp. "You've got to stand for something or you'll fall for anything," Early said.

At the Democratic convention, Frank O'Bannon used Mellencamp's "Small Town" as a musical theme accenting his Corydon roots contrast with the Indianapolis mayor.

Goldsmith received standing ovations at each of the Congressional district caucuses Monday night. It prompted him to quip, "This is great. People in this city never stood for me as mayor."

During his keynote address at Tuesday's convention, Goldsmith attempted to emphasize the dramatic contrasts between himself, O'Bannon and the Democrats. "We believe in liberty," Goldsmith began, "and Democrats past and future, believe in bureaucracy. We believe the way to create wealth is the free market.

Democrats believe in redistribution of the wealth. Republicans believe in individual responsibility. Democrats believe in a dependence on government."

Goldsmith took on the Bayh-O'Bannon credo that Indiana is one of only two states not to enact a general tax increase. During the last eight years, Goldsmith said the Democratic

1996 administration had presided over a \$2 billion rise in property taxes. "Listen to this," Goldsmith said, "Indiana government is the fastest growing government in the United States."

And Goldsmith called "nonsense" the Democrats' charges that the only way to cut spending is "to hurt people or cut services." He pointed to Indianapolis' 40 percent reduction in city employees while maintaining services as proof that his philosophy works.

The mayor accented Bayh-O'Bannon's "stream of broken promises" to construct the I-69 extension from Indianapolis to Evansville, the Hoosier Heartland Corridor and the Northwest tollway. "We will fulfill our promises," Goldsmith promised.

All of these themes will likely become part of a media assault on the O'Bannon-Kernan ticket during the summer and fall. The Republican strategy will be to force the Democrats to defend the status quo.

Goldsmith's gamble in not selecting an LG or coming up with a short list appeared to pay off. The party seemed energized and the delegates generally happy that the decision had been theirs, giving them "ownership" of the ticket. But the exhilarating races seemed to drain the delegates. When George Witwer and Steve Carter won on the second ballot, they joined Goldsmith on the dias, sans balloons or "Hey Look Us Over" music.

And then everyone quietly filed out of the convention center, in contrast to the Democrat's party atmosphere 10 days before.

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Sweezy: 'You never know whether it will help...'

From page 2

"And John told me, 'You never know whether it will help or hurt.'"

Gilroy needed 900 votes

Gilroy needed to come out of the first ballot in the 900-vote range - close enough to give her leverage to make a play for the 154 delegates who voted for Rep. Sue Scholer and the 102 who voted for Sen. Sue Landske. But her 302-vote loss to Witwer on the first ballot was as devastating as Zoeller's third place finish. It sucked all the oxygen from their viability.

It allowed the pro-life segment of the party - riding the "geography" vehicle - to position Witwer for the momentum. Witwer and Rep. David Lohr in his challenge to Reed finished within seven votes of each other on the first ballot.

"Ninety-five percent of Lohr's support voted for Witwer," Miller maintained.

Meanwhile, two highly talented floor teams worked the delegates. A coalition of Gilroy and Connie Nass supporters (who switched last Friday) included Kevin Kellems, Gordon Durnil, John Williams, Dan Evans, Bill Watt, Jewell DeBonis, Lesa Dietrick.

They were matched up with the younger, new wave GOP operatives from the Souder/McIntosh wing that coalesced around Witwer: Mark Wickersham and Mitch Harper (Souder) and Devin Anderson (McIntosh). At the Lake County straw poll last February in Merrillville, Witwer's floor troops were emotional and accusing. His troops on Tuesday were cool and calculating.

Witwer himself seemed a bit dazed after his brief talk with Sweezy. "All I can do is hope this will grow," he said of his first ballot showing as his clot of supporters departed from the Sweezy circle.

By the second ballot, there were major defections from the Marion County delegation - Washington Township went with Witwer - while he picked up 104 delegates from Johnson, 71 from Friend, half of the Landske support and two-thirds of Scholer's. Gilroy

picked up only 18 more votes.

With that, the clear message came to the Sweezy camp that perhaps Cottey was right, it indeed might time to "hang it up."

Immediately after the second ballot totals, the pro-life faction emerged from their geography decoy. "Two-thirds of the Friend/Witwer delegates were pro-life," Eric Miller said. "David Lohr's people are happy."

Harper added that Gilroy's answer to questions about her abortion stance played a major role. "Her answer to that question that she supported a 20-year-old law was not good."

Gilroy 100 hour campaign

John Williams said that Gilroy was "disappointed" in the voting, but said the campaign did as well as it could have with only 100 hours to prepare. It left little time for the campaign to address the concerns about geography.

"Monday night, we had so many people say, 'We didn't know Sue Anne was from Fountain County and Crawfordsville,'" Williams said. "If we had time to run a real campaign, we'd have come out OK."

"We're not bitter," Williams said. "Sue Anne will go on being secretary of state. At this time, we're not actively campaigning for any other office."

That includes mayor of Indianapolis, should Goldsmith win on Nov. 5, although that could change.

The events of Tuesday and the major defections in the Marion County delegation raise major questions as to how effective Sweezy will be in controlling a potential succession to Goldsmith at City Hall.

In the last four years, he has battled Goldsmith, fallen out with Rex Early (a potential mayoral candidate himself), and brushed off Witwer.

The publishers' pinnacle

Witwer's nomination elevates several dynamics. First, it brings to a historical pinna-

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urging Central Indiana Catholics to write their congressmen urging the support of a ban on partial birth abortions. It suggests that President Clinton's recent support of partial birth abortions may help move the key Catholic voting bloc toward the GOP this fall.

How bad was Secretary of State Sue Anne Gilroy hurt by her unsuccessful run for lieutenant governor? Many Republicans, including those who did not vote for her, tell HPR that the fallout will be minimal, if any at all. The consensus appears to be that she was asked by the party to run and was simply heeding the party's call.

Kevin Shaw Kellems, a long-time aide to U.S. Sen. Dick Lugar, has resigned as his state director to earn a master's degree in foreign policy studies at Georgetown University in Washington. Kellems had already started classes when he was recruited to work Gilroy's "100-hour campaign" for LG.

Rex Early has been chosen to head up Bob Dole's Indiana presidential campaign.

The best speech by any Republican during Monday's caucus meetings came from Rep. Bill Friend. Unlike earlier LG campaign appearances

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when Friend came off low-key, Monday's two-minute addresses were downright fiery, ignited by the Big County chairs recruiting Gilroy to enter the race. "My resolve is to be the next lieutenant governor," Friend declared during his speeches.

State Sen. Joe Zakas unveiled some of his campaign fodder that will be aimed at U.S. Rep. Tim Roemer. He told 3rd CD delegates that Roemer votes with President Clinton 75 percent of the time and received a 75 percent rating from the ADA. "Sometimes he votes like John Brademas," Zakas said. "And sometimes he votes like John Hiler. Put that together and you've got Bill Clinton."

U.S. Rep. Steve Buyer told the 5th CD caucus of President Clinton, "He's the most slippery devil I've ever met."

Allen County Democrats have appointed John H. Barnets as director of field operations and will direct the party's get-out-the-vote effort. Chairman Brian Stier said Barnets "will develop, implement and monitor all aspects of the grassroots organization and its activities." In 1994, Democrats didn't begin a GOTV effort until a few days before the November election.

Steve Shine: 'We consider George one of our own'

From page 7
cle the political impact of Indiana's publishing realm. Witwer's family has been in the newspaper business in Northern Indiana since 1962 with the *Kendallville News-Sun*, the *Auburn Evening Star* and the *Bluffton News-Banner*. It blends this small, community publishing with the state's biggest, the *Indianapolis Star/News* where Goldsmith has ties with the Pulliam and Quayle families.

Goldsmith/Witwer will be running against Frank O'Bannon, whose family has published the *Corydon Democrat* for decades. Ironically, Goldsmith and Dan Quayle have had a labored relationship with the press despite their family pedigree, whereas Witwer and O'Bannon have kept themselves accessible to the news media.

Witwer's 4th CD news bump

Witwer's election brings a strong geographical element to the campaign. It was openly apparent on Wednesday when both the *Journal Gazette* and the *News-Sentinel* in Fort Wayne bannered his nomination above the fold on page one. In contrast, South Bend Mayor Joe Kernan's nomination and the Democratic convention were both played deep inside both

newspapers. This is key since Goldsmith fared poorly in Northeast Indiana during the primary, as did the Mutz-Goldsmith ticket in 1988. Witwer will now be the hometown candidate in the crucial 4th CD.

"It helps us," said Allen County Chairman Steve Shine of Witwer. "He's close enough to Allen County that we consider George one of our own."

Each totally comfortable

From a philosophical standpoint, Witwer and Goldsmith are a good blend. Each is totally comfortable with the other's political and public policy ideas. Both have sound, progression conservative credentials in research and public policy.

Indiana Democrats were happy with the ticket and astonished that it happened. They view Witwer as a wet-behind-the-ears David Lohr-type conservative. Democrats had been much more concerned about Gilroy on the ticket.

Said one lobbyist, "Democrats were concerned about Gilroy and they see George as an easier opponent."



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