

# THE HOWEY POLITICAL REPORT



## The Weekly Briefing On Indiana Politics

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## “QUOTE” OF THE WEEK

“I might say I’ll help start a party and lead the nation in a third direction....”

—U.S. Rep. Tim Roemer, to the LaPorte

*Herald-Argus*, on a scenario if Democrats retook the House and failed to pass welfare reform.

# O’Bannon’s rapid response tentative

## Goldsmith wasn’t challenged on claims

INDIANAPOLIS - On June 5, Mayor Stephen Goldsmith addressed the Indiana Bankers’ Association, unveiling his hard freeze on property tax.

Just hours later, Lt. Gov. Frank O’Bannon’s campaign called a press conference and at 3 that afternoon was in front of the cameras denouncing Goldsmith’s freeze as a “shell game.”

The June 5 sequence is important because it suggested that the O’Bannon campaign would be in a rapid response mode, not unlike the Clinton-Gore war room in Little Rock during the 1992 presidential campaign. That year, Clinton-Gore would monitor Bush-Quayle by the hour and could deliver a response within minutes, which it effectively did.

What also occurred during Goldsmith’s talk to the bankers that day was part of his standard stump speech of his post-primary campaign:

- That Indiana has the fastest growing state government in the United States.
- That property taxes have gone from \$4 billion to \$8 billion during the Bayh-O’Bannon administration.

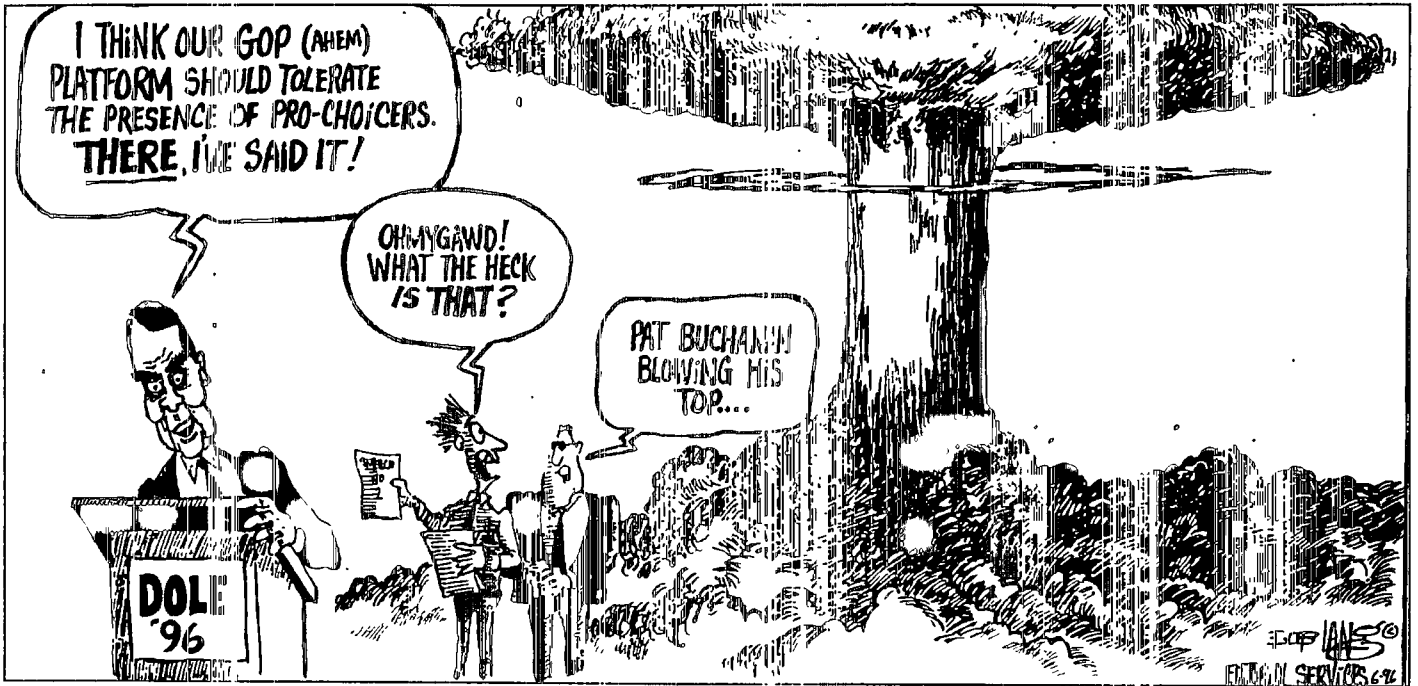
These items were not brought up by the press when it met with O’Bannon that afternoon. And for the rest of the month, virtually wherever Goldsmith spoke with voters, these were presented as fact as well as included in a brochure that was distributed during the June 18 Republican convention.

HPR brought this to the attention of O’Bannon campaign manager Tom New on June 25. The Goldsmith line that Indiana was the fastest growing state government came from a May 20 *U.S. News and World Report* article titled “States Are Leaner.” It cited a report from the National Association of State Budget Officers in making that claim. However, the magazine issued a clarification in its June 24 issue, acknowledging that Indiana’s growth was, in fact, below aver-

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# TICKER T A P E

**PLAY OF THE WEEK:** In the last edition, HPR suggested that the out-state media might not be willing to commit resources to taking a long, investigative look at the first Goldsmith mayoral administration. On July 11, Marion County Democrats were going to attempt to make it easy for journalists with limited budgets and not much time. At a 9 a.m. news conference, the Democrats will release complete depositions and summaries from the "Golfgate" controversy.



So, what's a little vowel mean? A lot, if you're Stephen Goldsmith in Evansville and you want to endorse 77th House District Republican

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## Turpin's political swan song bad news for Dems

**BROWNSBURG** - The worst news for Indiana Democrats in the last two weeks was that House Ways and Means Chairman Sam Turpin won't seek re-election.

With Turpin besieged by ethics problems and a criminal investigation, trying to hold down the 40th House District, HPR's Horse Race saw this race as a tossup. Turpin's opponent, former FAA official Tom Downey, has a squeaky clean record in government service, as a member of his church and community. That contrasted with Turpin, a prolific Republican fundraiser who was ill-prepared to head the Ways and Means Committee in 1995, was getting a highly-publicized (by Indiana standards) divorce and is now the main target of a corruption probe relating to Indiana's gaming industry.

Without Turpin, Horse Race sees the 40th in a "leans Republican" category.

House Republican Campaign Committee field director David A. Bottorff said that the race to replace Turpin appears to be coming down to two men: Brownsburg Councilman Matt Whetstone and real estate agent Ed Schrier, who has run several unsuccessful races in the past. Republican precinct officials will convene on July 20 to choose a nominee.

"Those are the two names we hear

most," Bottorff said.

Downey had a chance to win this race due to Turpin's legal woes. But without Turpin and with a new Republican candidate who has political distance from him, the 40th District is so overwhelmingly Republican that it is hard to

# 1996 WATCH

believe that Downey has a good chance to win. The district's high-water Republican year came in 1988 with Dan Quayle on the national ticket. It voted 74 percent Republican that year. Its baseline low point came in the 1990 secretary of state's race when only 58 percent voted for Bill Hudnut in his loss to Joe Hogsett.

"It's an excellent district for a Republican," Bottorff said. "Whoever comes in will have a fresh start."

### INVESTIGATION UPDATE:

Speculation centers on a probable indictment of Turpin as the reason for his immediate resignation as Ways and Means chairman. The Indiana State Police probe is on-going. A new investigator will take over the Indiana Gaming Commission investigation. There are also two grand juries.

## GOP sources put latest Goldsmith lead at 12 points

# HORSE RACE

**TRENDLINE:** Sen. Bob Dole has been stung by the tobacco issue. On Wednesday, Dole began trying to shift attention, announcing he would no longer fight to repeal the 1994 assault weapons ban. Watch for Dole to attack Clinton on a failed illegal drug policy.

### PRESIDENT

Bill Clinton, D Bob Dole, R Ralph Nader, I	Tossup	Dole campaign has cancer. Tobacco has become the GOP equivalent of Dukakis in a tank, Muskie on a flatbed truck. New Clinton ad, "Who's really protecting our children," a killer. If it weren't for Whitewater/FBI, this would be headed for a blow. Powell refuses to campaign for the ticket.
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### GOVERNOR

Stephen Goldsmith, R Frank O'Bannon, D	Leans R	Reliable Republican sources from both inside the Goldsmith campaign and in another prominent campaign tell HPR the mayor's tracking shows a 12 percent lead. Campaign won't confirm. Goldsmith concentrating fundraising in smaller counties.
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### 3RD CD

Tim Roemer, D Joe Zakas, R	<b>LEANS D</b>	Roemer hints at a 16-point lead. Tells <i>Herald-Argus</i> , "Ask George Bush about how safe a 16-17 point lead is." Could be stung by Pokagon casino in Elkhart, but Zakas has voted for gambling.
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### 2ND CD

Marc Carmichael, D David McIntosh, R	Leans R	Weirdness continues in the 2nd. Perennial candidate Bill Frazier ponders an independent run. Could cut into McIntosh base. Carmichael ready to surface. Alan Secrest polls during USAir incident and before Frazier. Says race is "doable."
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### 8TH CD

John Hostettler, R Jonathon Weinzapfel, D	Tossup	Weinzapfel pledges to refrain from "personal attacks." <i>Cook Political Report</i> has this race "leans R." <i>Rothenberg Political Report</i> says, "Hostettler begins as a narrow favorite for reelection, but the race is a tossup." Ditto.
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**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 TAPE

David Lang. Instead, Goldsmith talked of "David Long, a fine candidate" (Evansville Press). David Long is a Fort Wayne Republican running for the Indiana Senate. When told of the error, Goldsmith apologized. "They're both good men and fine candidates," he said.

Sen. Dick Lugar published a lengthy op-ed piece in Wednesday's *Washington Post* titled, "Why I ran for President and why I wish I'd won the nomination." The short answer is that by 1992 Lugar said that President Clinton had "de-emphasized foreign policy to a degree that would have been unimaginable in previous years." He also described talking with many Hoosier families at McDonald's and found they felt economically "they were on a treadmill." Lugar spokesman Mark Shoaf said the article is not an attempt to secure the vice presidential nomination. "He's not campaigning to be vice president," Shoaf said. "Those who do campaign usually fail."

Last month, U.S. Rep. John Hostettler met with environmentalists, a group he has antagonized since he won the 1994 GOP primary. This week, Hostettler was due to appear at the Evansville Central Labor Council's annual forum. Don Walker, president of the labor council, said the event is not

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## Christian Coalition's Jim Quinn surveys the November election

# HPR INTERVIEW

**"If you look at what happened in the '94 election, not one pro-life incumbent was defeated. Not one Republican and Democrat. To make that claim today that they are fearful of candidates and a party that is pro-life, that's astounding...."**

**- Jim Quinn,  
Indiana Christian  
Coalition**



INDIANAPOLIS - Jim Quinn is executive director of the Indiana Christian Coalition. Nationally, his organization has been a major player in Republican politics.

But a CM Research Poll in the 10th CD asked respondents if they would likely vote for a Christian Coalition-backed candidate. In the general voter category, 26 percent said yes; 28.3 percent of Republicans and 30.1 percent of the Democrats also said yes.

HPR talked with Quinn about the recent Indiana Republican convention, GOP presidential candidate Bob Dole and state Democrats.

**HPR:** What were the driving forces behind George Witwer's win and David Lohr's strong showing at the Republican convention?

**Quinn:** A survey of the delegates would show a high number of individuals who ran for delegate seats who had not been delegates before. Most of those people became involved because Dr. Suellen Reed's strong support for federal education and evidence of her support of the Goals 2000 and her protestations that she didn't support that. Indiana in the last 20 years, in inflation adjusted dollars, has spent 40 percent more per pupil. There has been a dramatic growth in per student spending. And we have gone in SAT scores from 19th to 49th. So we're going in the wrong direction.

**HPR:** How many of this type of delegate were there?

**Quinn:** I'm not real sure. A good example of that was in Boone County, where their voting machines did not have enough space for all the delegate candidates who filed. It happened all over the state - not in every county, but in a good number.

**HPR:** How far away are we from an organization like yours organizing and running delegate candidacies to control a convention?

**Quinn:** I don't know. The Christian Coalition is always encouraging people to get involved in politics. We believe that when people of faith get involved, good things happen and more decisions will be made at the kitchen table than at the conference table. We encourage

through our county chapters people to become precinct captains, to get people registered to vote, run for local, city, county and school board races and as delegates. But we did not produce a voter guide for delegate races. I'm not saying we won't in the future.

**HPR:** Are you concentrating your efforts only in the Republican Party?

**Quinn:** Absolutely not. We are interested in getting people of faith to vote. If you want to look at a piece of polling data, a Wirthlin Poll taken after the 1992 election showed that people who are essentially Baby Boomers, are married, have children, and who go to church at least once a month voted for George Bush 4 to 1. People say that we concentrate on Republican politics or members of the Republican Party, but it just seems to us right now that the pro-life, pro-family movement and people who are interested in those issues vote primarily for people who hold those values. And most of those people - with exceptions like Tim Roemer up in the 3rd District, a very strong pro-life Democrat - vote Republican.

**HPR:** The Indiana House has pro-life Democratic leadership and pro-choice Republicans. Yet I haven't seen the Christian Coalition at any Democratic events. Let me give you an example: I attended a 9th CD seminar last fall in Batesville and when discussions turned to the Christian Coalition, the people there reacted quite negatively and with great paranoia. They saw you as a threat.

**Quinn:** We are trying to reach out to all people of faith. I've had conversations with Ann DeLaney. All my conversations are civil. I spent an hour with Lee Hamilton; I spent time with Tim Roemer in their Washington offices. We discussed the issues of the day. I was very pleased to see Lee Hamilton vote in favor of the ban on partial birth abortions. And he went on to say in a Cincinnati newspaper that it was a brutal, horrific procedure. Now, we applaud these moves. In our non-partisan voter guides, we explain to our constituents issues that we believe are important to pro-life, pro-family vot-

ers and how members of the entire Congress and Indiana legislature vote on certain issues. Yes, we do reach out to Democrats. I also understand why people would tend to see the Christian Coalition as a threat.

**HPR:** Would you like to allay that threat?

**Quinn:** I certainly believe this: that both parties are somewhat distanced from what the mainstream voter would believe. A classic example in the Democratic Party is that when they are informed what the Democratic Party platform says about abortion, 70 percent of registered Democrats don't agree with it.

**HPR:** Most public opinion polls both nationally and in Indiana show that most voters are pro-choice.

**Quinn:** No, no, no. You don't even know what the Democratic platform says about abortion.

**HPR:** You're right.

**Quinn:** It stands for federally funded abortion at any stage of the pregnancy. Now you know that if any opinion poll that asked that question, that's almost 90 percent no. In a *USA Today*/Gallup poll ... 56 percent said that abortion should be legal in only a few circumstances or illegal in all circumstances. That's a February 1995 poll. I find that to be a far cry from the so-called pro-choice majority.

**HPR:** Moderate Republicans are fearful that pro-life Republicans are going to push the party so far to the right that it will make Bob Dole unelectable. Do you share that fear?

**Quinn:** Ronald Reagan and George Bush ran on that plank. If you look at what happened in the '94 election, not one pro-life incumbent was defeated. Not one. Republican and Democrat. To make the claim today that they are fearful of candidates and a party that is pro-life, that's astounding. I think it shows a profound lack of knowledge about the electorate.

**HPR:** Operation Rescue in Fort Wayne has disbanded. Is the pro-life movement heading to the Christian Coalition as an umbrella?

**Quinn:** I couldn't address what the national abortion groups are doing. I do know the pro-life/pro-family movements have been attempting to bring those organizations together to educate about a whole host of issues: pornography on the Internet, local control of education and school choice, gambling....

**HPR:** Are you concerned about Bob Dole's stance on abortion and his declaration of tolerance on that issue?

**Quinn:** What is a major concern to us is that the Republican Party remain firm in its commitment to the pro-life movement. It has disturbed a good number of people with good reasons. Not so much the declaration of tolerance, but putting it in the abortion plank. It's something of a slap in the face. Henry Hyde disagrees with the plank on term limits and he makes a very articulate and intelligent case. But nowhere is there going to be a statement of tolerance in the term limits plank for Henry Hyde. So if there is going to be a statement of tolerance, it doesn't seem to me to be right to single out a single issue when there are disagreements over many issues.

**HPR:** Will that be a problem this August?

**Quinn:** It will all be worked out prior to the convention. I remain hopeful and confident that it will be. One of the interesting off-shoots of this debate is that polls are being conducted about how the general population - particularly among Democrats - on how people feel about the Democratic Party's plank on abortion and how extreme it is.

**HPR:** Is the gambling issue a concern, given the Sam Turpin and Sally Battin Kirkpatrick stories that are breaking?

**Quinn:** It's a concern to everyone. In the short run, gambling has proven to be a corrupting influence on government. Gaming produces nothing for the economy after the initial impact of a construction of a hotel or a pier. There is no economic development, other than a little piggy bank for government. I also had my own experience growing up in New Jersey. Of all of the promises for Atlantic City, none of that has taken place. It is still a rat hole.

**HPR:** Will this issue stir up your voters?

**Quinn:** Going back to Atlantic City, I think every mayor since gaming been the law of the land has spent time in prison for corruption and racketeering charges. To see that there are similar difficulties cropping up in Indiana is a concern. There can be conflict of interest even if gaming is legal. It's one more thing voters will watch.

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an attempt to "ambush" Hostettler. "I'm hoping he can stay longer than 30 minutes," Walker said. Earlier in the week, the AFL-CIO began running TV ads in the Evansville and Terre Haute TV markets blasting Hostettler as a congressman who makes \$134,000 and who failed to join 90 Republican colleagues to support an increase in the minimum wage.

Vice President Al Gore and U.S. Rep. John Hostettler have exchanged letters over the doppler weather radar controversy. Hostettler reminded Gore that in a 1994 campaign appearance for Democrat Frank McCloskey, he said that a doppler site in Evansville was "a done deal." Last February, the Evansville U.S. Weather Office was closed. "The system has blind spots," Hostettler said. His Democratic opponent, Jonathon Weinzapfel, agreed. "I'm disappointed that the administration hasn't come through on their promise of two years ago. For his part, Gore promised to review the situation, acknowledged that weather forecasting is an "inexact science" and added, "Thunderstorms and weather do not always play by the same rules."

Warrick Superior Judge Robert Aylsworth ordered reporter

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# TICKER

## T A P E

Tom Raithel of the Evansville Courier and Mark Cowling, formerly of the Evansville Press to answer questions about 1994 conversations they had with Indiana State Police investigator Mark Durnil. Two weeks before the election, the papers published a story saying that former Prosecutor Tony Long, former Sheriff Jeff Gore, Commissioners Larry Barr and Randall Bailey and highway planning consultant Gene Boerste were under investigation. All were later cleared of any wrongdoing and filed a tort claim against ISP and the Warrick County court system. Paul McAuliffe, executive editor of the Courier, said, "Our reporter can certainly testify that his story was an accurate report of information provided by Mr. Durnil." Durnil, a nephew of former Republican Chairman Gordon Durnil, has denied naming those under probe.

Democrat Dave Crooks has been endorsed by the Indiana Chamber of Commerce in his 63rd House District race against Donna Gentry.

Gov. Evan Bayh's spokesman, Fred Nation, tells HPR that after extensive probes by the FBI and Gaming Commissioner Jack Thar, "There is absolutely no evidence of any contact -

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# COLUMNISTS ON INDIANA

**Jack Colwell**, *South Bend Tribune* - Sen. Dick Lugar said the results of polling on the "character" issue and the choice for the presidency makes clear the difficult task Bob Dole faces. Ask Americans about the character question and Dole comes out ranked better than President Clinton. Ask for whom they would vote for president and Clinton is the choice. Clearly, Lugar said, a majority of voters look at the myriad allegations about Clinton - with confusion over what's true, what's mud - and has decided it would be better in their own economic interest to have a President Clinton rather than a President Dole after the election. The worst case scenario for Dole is that the majority has already written him off as an alternative and will stick with Clinton no matter what. Lugar said he doubted that he would wind up on the Republican ticket as Dole's running mate. Lugar wouldn't rule out joining the ticket, but said he has had no contact from Dole about such a prospect and has no knowledge of whether he's on any list, long or short.

**Stuart Rothenberg**, *Roll Call* - The year 1996 isn't likely to go down in the record books as another political "Year of the Woman." Not only does there appear to be a smaller pool of potential women House winners, but some of the highest profile early hopefuls have already been weeded out in the primaries. Even more surprising, given the GOP's obvious problems with women voters, the two parties have recruited roughly even numbers of top tier House and Senate candidates. (Former) State Sen. Virginia Blankenbaker is credible but still a longer shot to pick up the Indiana 10th. State Sen. Jean Leising could run a strong race against U.S. Rep. Lee Hamilton.

**Sylvia Smith**, *Fort Wayne Journal Gazette* - Hoosier Republican Rep. John Hostettler got some welcome news June 26 from the Supreme Court. That's when the court threw open the bank vault for him. The ruling threw out a campaign election law that limits how much money

the Democratic and Republican parties can spend on federal candidates' campaigns. So if a party wants to funnel \$30,000 or \$50,000 into a candidate's campaign, it wouldn't take a high-level meeting to figure out the best use of the dough. And if you think \$50,000 is peanuts in a House campaign that costs \$400,000, you haven't considered just how nourishing peanut butter is. Beyond that, the ruling invites donors to skirt other laws. An individual, for instance, may give no more than \$2,000 per election to any one candidate. Say you've maxed out on Candidate X but want desperately to help even more. Wouldn't it be logical for you to write a healthy check to the national committee, suggesting a series of last minute TV ads on behalf of Candidate X?

**Gerry Lanosga**, *Indianapolis News* - There's a handy little tote board on the wall in the Marion County clerk's office that should make the hearts of the "family values" advocates swell with pride. It says that so far this year, 3,095 couples have been through the office to apply for marriage licenses. That would be heterosexual marriage, of course - the only kind recognized by the State of Indiana. Meanwhile, our conservative politicians have done their best to downplay the occurrence of homosexuality in the general population. While liberals and gay activists have estimated the number of homosexuals at 10 percent or more, these skeptics put the figure at 2 percent or less. Why, then, if the interest in marriage is so strong and homosexuals are so few, is there such a panic about the suggestion that homosexuals should be allowed to marry? According to the latest figures in the clerk's office, 3,270 couples - heterosexual couples, that is - have filed for divorce this year. That's right on track to meet or even exceed last year's figure of 6,310 unhappy couples - roughly three couples divorcing for every four couples applying for a marriage license. Heterosexual marriage, it seems, really *does* need to be protected - from heterosexuals.

## Poll shows Carson, Blankenbaker 2 points apart; Frazier considers 2nd CD independent run

INDIANAPOLIS - A CM Research Poll conducted for 10th CD Republican Virginia Blankenbaker has her trailing Democrat Julia Carson by a 41-39 percent margin.

The poll had an error margin of 3.5 percent.

The same poll obtained by HPR shows that 52 percent responding disapprove of Congress. Ironically, House Speaker Newt Gingrich will attempt to return to Indiana on July 21 for fundraisers for Blankenbaker and State Sen. Jean Leising in the 9th CD.

Gingrich will appear at 3:30 p.m. (Eastern Time) at Beech Tool & Mold in New Albany on behalf of Leising, and then at 6 p.m. at a picnic in Garfield Park in Indianapolis for Blankenbaker.

Does Gingrich's visit worry Blankenbaker, given his high disapproval rating? "Not at all," said Blankenbaker campaign manager Jim Knoop. "Obviously, he'll raise a lot of money for us."

The last time Gingrich attempted to raise money for Congressional candidates in Indiana was last January. But the speaker abruptly cancelled appearances on behalf of U.S. Reps. Mark Souder and John Hostettler, partly because of their vote against Gingrich on the budget. A week prior, Souder told HPR that politically Gingrich was a "liability" but that he felt bringing the speaker to Fort Wayne was good for the community as well as for his campaign coffers.

When Carson announced her candidacy, she noted Gingrich's unpopularity in the state, but said she would not tailor her campaign against him.

### Frazier ponders another run

MUNCIE - Bill Frazier is back, throwing a new loop into the 2nd CD race. Frazier was passing out petitions in Muncie and Columbus

this week for an independent run against U.S. Rep. David McIntosh and Democrat Marc Carmichael. "He will cut into the McIntosh base considerably," said Warren Mathias, campaign manager for Carmichael.

It appears that Carmichael is about ready to surface. He has hired Alan Secrest to do his polling, Gary Nordlinger for media and Direct Response, Inc. for direct mail. Secrest has been in the field, but it occurred during McIntosh's USAir controversy and prior to Frazier's flirt with yet another run.

Compared to nearly \$650,000 that McIntosh has raised, Carmichael will report \$93,471 raised and \$47,525 cash on hand.

### Can Zakas exploit casino?

ELKHART - A Pokagon Indian tribe casino in the City with a Heart might be seen as bad political news for U.S. Rep. Tim Roemer. But whether State Sen. Joe Zakas can exploit it is another matter.

Roemer helped the Pokagons gain tribal status, then said he was double-crossed when the tribe began its quest for a land-based casino. Originally they were looking in Michigan. But last week, they announced that a second casino might be located at the Quality Hotel Center in downtown Elkhart, as well as land near the Indiana Toll Road. This comes in a county that had a huge turnout in 1988 against the lottery referendum.

Tribal spokesman David Miller said a decision will be made by November.

The problem for Zakas is that he voted for legalized bingo and the horse tracks. He voted against the riverboat amendment, but then voted for the budget bill it was attached to.

Zakas will report \$65,000 raised in his July report. He is awaiting a new campaign manager that was to begin duties this week.

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ever - between Sally Kirkpatrick and the gaming commission or office." Nation added that all Bayh administration department heads have said they have had "virtually no contact" with Kirkpatrick, who resigned as a Bayh fundraiser and as vice chair of the Indiana Democratic Party last month after her ties to a casino firm were revealed.

Nation also took issue with the term "casino-related" in stories appearing in the Indianapolis Star/News. Nation said that the term is too broad since numerous people can have business relationships with firms prior to any given firm's entry into the gaming business. To make his point, Nation said he told Star editorial board members that the newspaper's own attorney, Peter Rustoven, would be "casino related" because of his work on behalf of Argosy.

One rumor concerning Republican LG candidate George Witwer is that he is in for a rocky relationship with the legislators because he "sued" over log rolling a pension increase into a budget bill. Witwer, however, had nothing to do with that suit. It was filed by Mike Pence and the Indiana Policy Review Foundation.

U.S. Sen. Dick Lugar stumped (and golfed) extensively over the Fourth of July holiday in

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# TICKER

## T A P E

virtually every Indiana Congressional District while he stumped for Republican candidates in Terre Haute, Indianapolis, Fort Wayne, South Bend, Vincennes, Evansville and Clarksville. At each stop, Lugar endorsed the congressional candidate in that district.

U.S. Rep. Dick Armey will appear at a fundraiser for U.S. Rep. David McIntosh in Muncie on July 15.

Lt. Gov. Frank O'Bannon gave blood on Monday during a Fraternal Order of Police blood drive.

Debates between LG candidates George Witwer and Joe Kerr have tentatively been scheduled at the Indiana State Fair, at the Indianapolis Press Club and in Nashville for the Association of Economic Development. The State Fair debate will be on agriculture policy. Debates between Frank O'Bannon and Steve Goldsmith are still being arranged.



## O'Bannon, from page 1

age.

Did the O'Bannon campaign know that Goldsmith was using the May 20 report as campaign fodder?

Yes, New responded.

Would O'Bannon take issue with it?

New said his campaign was aware of the magazine's clarification and, yes, would make a point of taking issue with Goldsmith's attack. On the same day, Goldsmith spokesman John Hatfield said he was unaware of the magazine's clarification.

The O'Bannon response finally occurred on July 2 when the campaign explained that Goldsmith was including federal Medicaid money returned to states to pay for several different programs. In reality, the O'Bannon campaign is saying that the Indiana General Fund has increased only 20 percent from \$5.5 billion in 1990 to \$6.7 billion in 1995. That comes out to a 3.87 percent increase compounded annually.

July 2 represented another significant moment for the O'Bannon campaign, albeit for dubious reasons. On June 27, O'Bannon gathered with members of the Indiana Fraternal Order of Police for an endorsement in the Statehouse rotunda. He took that opportunity to announce a 10-point anti-crime program.

Predictably, the first questions from the press corps that day were about cost. O'Bannon could only answer that the costs would be released at a later date. Equally predictable, the press corps was abuzz about O'Bannon's lack of detail. One TV reporter compared it to O'Bannon's June 5 press conference when he deferred specifics on property tax reform until Purdue University's Larry DeBoer releases his comprehensive study on Dec. 1 - nearly a month after the 1996 general election.

Another print reporter saw the June 27 press conference as evidence that the late strategist Bill Schreiber's "game plan" for the Democrat had run its course and that the campaign appeared to be rudderless in the post-primary environment. And an O'Bannon supporter was astounded that the campaign would put the candidate up at a press conference without

being armed with statistics.

"They could have let the FOP endorsement stand for itself and said that a comprehensive crime initiative would come once the costs were calculated," the Democrat said.

That occurred on July 2, when the O'Bannon campaign calculated costs totaling \$67 million on just three of the 10 points: adult and juvenile prisons and an expanded boot camp. The other seven categories, including "life without parole for all murderers," an "anti-gang offensive" and automatic prison sentences for drug dealers came up with all zeroes.

How did the media react? The June 27 initiative was obscured largely due to Rep. Sam Turpin's announcement that he would not seek re-election. In fact, when Goldsmith and lieutenant governor nominee George Witwer called a press conference to respond to O'Bannon after their first joint fly-around that day, only HPR showed up, as the rest of the press corps worked the Turpin story.

The July 2 fill-in-the-blanks press conference came at the brink of the Fourth of July holiday. The *Indianapolis Star/News* did not cover that press conference. The most significant out-state coverage of the July 2 story came in a Lesley Stedman story on Sunday July 7 in the *Fort Wayne Journal Gazette* in which she placed into context the tax controversy.

In that story, New complained that on Goldsmith's convention brochure, he used the ploy that Bayh-O'Bannon was responsible for property tax levy increases while on the other side of the card, claimed that Indianapolis had no tax hikes, although the city's levy increased.

With knowledgeable Republican sources putting Goldsmith's late June poll lead at 12 percent over O'Bannon, the dilemma for the Democrats is placing as much information into their candidate's hands to maximize his impact as well as preparing for a rapid response to match Goldsmith's staccato campaign style.

They are facing an opponent who has made a series of shrewd and successful tactical decisions (his mayoral ad last fall suggesting he might run for governor; his response to Rex Early on crime; and the open convention). O'Bannon must run an almost perfect campaign to defeat the mayor.