

THE HOWEY POLITICAL REPORT



The Weekly Briefing On Indiana Politics

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“QUOTE” OF THE WEEK

“Why does he think a legislative Hall of Fame is needed, and does he think he deserves to be in it?”

-State Rep. Sally Rideout Lambert, criticizing Rep. B. Patrick Bauer's day off in Boonville

Lake County is the gubernatorial key

But did Goldsmith leave his Indy base exposed?

GARY - This year's gubernatorial race between Stephen Goldsmith and Frank O'Bannon will probably be forever known as the "Lake County Experiment."

Long a self-styled Hoosier "step-child," the expensive push for support in Northwest Indiana via the expensive Chicago media market by Goldsmith at the expense of protecting his Central Indiana base will likely be *the* story of this historic race.

Goldsmith will run at least 1,000 gross rating points of TV ads in the Chicago TV market over the last week of the campaign with the intent of making O'Bannon defend what should be a big Lake County advantage for the Democrat. And O'Bannon's campaign says it is matching Goldsmith's last Chicago buy.

"The Republicans have succeeded in getting Frank O'Bannon to pay attention up here," said Peter Blum, editorial writer for the *Gary Post-Tribune*. "Can a Republican win Lake County? No. Can they do damage? Sure."

Rachel Gorlin, spokeswoman for the O'Bannon campaign, observed of Goldsmith's Lake County effort, "I think their strategy is depressing Democratic votes up here, not maximizing Republicans. They've done a reasonably good job of making us work for every vote up here." Originally, O'Bannon had hoped to carry Lake County with a 60-40 edge while making inroads in Indianapolis.

But ...

Republican party pros and strategists openly wonder why Goldsmith has concentrated so hard in Northwest Indiana at the expense of the Indianapolis media market, where a number of warning lights flicker. Both the Goldsmith and O'Bannon campaigns say that TV spending in the final week of the campaign in Indianapolis is about even.

A TeleResearch Poll showed O'Bannon leading Goldsmith 51-38 in the 10th CD, while showing Republican Virginia Blankenbaker

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Indiana's fastest growing source of political news



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PLAY OF THE WEEK: To the hundreds of Democrats in the tiny Dearborn County town of St. Leon, for their efforts of perpetuating the raising of hickory poles. That practice began in the 1828 campaign in honor of Old Hickory, Andrew Jackson. The St. Leon pole raising dates at least back to 1892 and probably much earlier. Hundreds of Democrats gathered to raise the poles last Saturday in the rain. U.S. Rep. Lee Hamilton raised the colors once the huge poles were mounted.



WTHR-TV's long-awaited campaign finance reform report ran last Wednesday night. In Roger Harvey's segment, he

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over Democrat Julia Carson 40-36. Polls in the 42nd Indiana Senate District in Shelby, Decatur, Franklin county area - a seat being vacated by conservative Jean Leising - had Goldsmith leading O'Bannon 46-32 percent in July, 45-35 percent in early October, but had him tied 40-40 percent last week.

In 1988, John Mutz carried the nine-county Indianapolis metro area 55-45, but lost by big margins to Evan Bayh everywhere else. John Hatfield of the Goldsmith campaign believes the mayor needs that kind of margin this year in Indianapolis and the doughnut counties, in tandem with a strong showing in Allen County and a cut into the Democratic strength in Lake County.

The Indianapolis police brawl controversy resurfaced this week with the FOP attorney John C. Ruckleshaus declaring the four indicted officers were innocent. Ruckleshaus, brother of 1968 GOP senate nominee Bill Ruckleshaus, called Goldsmith and police officials "liars."

There were numerous anecdotes flying around the Statehouse from Republican sources that questioned whether the Marion County GOP would deliver for the mayor. Estimates of pluralities needed from Marion County ranged from 12,000 to 18,000 votes. To win, Goldsmith would need a motherlode of support from the doughnut - Hamilton, Johnson, Boone and

Hendricks counties specifically - to win.

The *Post-Tribune's* Blum wonders about the emphasis on Lake County at the expense of Indianapolis and Central Indiana, remembering that Goldsmith won a second term as mayor with only 58 percent of the vote against a feeble Democratic candidate.

"There seems to be an inability for Goldsmith to believe that he's not universally loved down there," Blum observed. "After that win in the mayor's race, he might have realized the ground in his own back yard was soft."

Gorlin, speaking in Indianapolis, added, "We're doing better down here than he is. There's a decent chance we will do far better than anyone expected us to do in Marion County."

One GOP strategist with extensive campaign experience, noted that Goldsmith had and should have maintained "an enormous advantage" in Central Indiana. The election, this strategist insisted, could have been salted away for Goldsmith if he had concentrated on gaining a terrific plurality in the doughnut.

Numerous Republican sources worry that Goldsmith is conducting a Bayh-like airwar without spending enough time and energy on the ground war.

Hatfield of the Goldsmith campaign insisted that "we are doing all of the things a statewide campaign should be doing - phone

calls, neighborhood blitzes." He said that the campaign "had to go out and build an organization statewide."

But HPR has learned that much of the get-out-the-vote effort is being conducted by the Indiana Republican State Central Committee. And last week phone banking has fallen on individual county organizations, some of which had supported Goldsmith's primary opponent Rex Early.

One county chair who spoke on background said that county coordinators had been selected by the Goldsmith campaign, but the GOTV "comes down to each county chairman." And of the 92 county chairs, more than 60 supported Early.

The county chair noted that of the 92 county chairs, "one-third are good, a third are so-so and a third don't get the job done."

Hatfield deflected the talk that Goldsmith is simply an "airwave guy." He said Goldsmith's first race as prosecutor against Andrew Jacobs Sr., was won on "knocking on doors, pounding the pavement." That race, however, occurred almost 20 years ago.

The Republican strategist noted, "As prosecutor, Goldsmith was able to live off the coattails of others. He never learned the other way."

There are worries for the O'Bannon campaign. One is the kind of direct mail Goldsmith is sending out to evangelical Christians and Catholics exploiting the Democrat's comments on partial birth abortion during the final debate. Another is organized labor, once seen as a re-energized force. But last week, AFSCME dropped a direct mail piece featuring a pink slip "signed" by Stephen Goldsmith to state and local employees. Republicans characterized it as a smear tactic that will backfire. And the O'Bannon camp has disavowed that mailing.

"Who in their right mind would think that's an effective piece of direct mail?" Gorlin said. "They did this without our knowledge."

Organized labor and the Democrats, armed with many credible issues such as the repeal of fair share and reforms against prevailing wage and child labor laws, has added what many observers see as a hysterical touch against Republican opponents. These range from the "pink slips" against Goldsmith, to accusing State

Reps. Cleo Duncan, David Lohr and John Kimmel of protecting child molesters in the parental rights bill, to the Medicare "cuts" ad in the 8th CD race against U.S. Rep. John Hostettler that were rejected by Evansville TV stations, to the "Sellout Sally" ads against State Rep. Sally Rideout Lambert, as examples of going too far.

The fallout could be enormous. Duncan is believed to have a sizeable lead while Lohr, Kimmel and Lambert are said to be waging close-to-tossup races against Democrats once thought to be operating in friendly labor districts. Many observers believe Hostettler will likely win a narrow re-election victory.

Another element thought to help O'Bannon and the Democrats is the emergence of Gov. Evan Bayh in a late TV ad blitz. But, unlike his ad for O'Bannon last spring in which the governor seemed enthusiastic, vigorous and warm, the latest Bayh ad comes off wooden and TelePrompter-driven.

Watch the independents

As we've said all autumn, this race will be won on turnout. That 10 percent of the Democratic base that sat out the 1994 election due to embarrassment should return. Labor will certainly motivate scores of their members, families and friends. Pocketbook issues should help Democrats.

A liability for Goldsmith is the lack of emotional bonding that scores of GOP partisans have expressed to HPR. Their attitudes seem totally different to Goldsmith than to a Dick Lugar or a Dan Quayle.

Most significantly, independents and undecideds in this type of environment tend to break in one direction. Remember that the Reagan-Carter election in 1980 and numerous Senate races that year were tossups on the final weekend. Ditto in 1994 when the Souder-Long and McIntosh-Hogsett races were declared tossups in polls in the final week, only to have Souder and McIntosh forge 10-point victories.

In those races, the undecideds all broke Republican. IU pollster Brian Vargus will be in the field this weekend for a WISH-TV poll to be released Monday night. TeleResearch will be conducting a Marion County survey Wednesday through Friday. Those polls could shed some light as to where the undecideds are breaking.

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explained that Indianapolis Mayor Stephen Goldsmith had received \$700,000 in campaign contributions from corporations and individuals who work for the city. The management firm of Oscar Robertson / Smoot received \$7.5 million in contracts and gave \$36,425 in campaign funds. Harvey quoted Summit Construction Co., president Steve Overbeck as saying, "Whoever supports Steve Goldsmith gets the work." Overbeck said he was told by the Goldsmith campaign that his \$10,000 contribution "wasn't enough." A mowing contractor, Frank Harmon, said he received a call from the campaign "hours" after getting a contract. When he refused to donate, Harmon said he lost half of his business this year. Goldsmith was quoted, "Nobody's complained to me about this subject."

In David McAnally's companion report on WTHR, it was documented that Democrat LG Frank O'Bannon had presided over \$200 million in Commerce Department grants. GTE received a \$200,000 grant and gave \$1,300 to the O'Bannon campaign. Monon Corp. also received a \$200,000 grant and gave \$1,000 to the campaign. State Rep. Jeff Espich said O'Bannon's role at commerce had been used as a "slush fund." But GTE's Neil Krevada said his company's PAC "gave

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Media COVERAGE

■ HPR's Brian Howey joins Gov. Bob Orr, Eric Berman and Jeff Elswick on WIBC-Alt 1070 in Indianapolis 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. on Election Night.

■ CBS: 7 p.m. to 2 a.m., anchored by Dan Rather with Bob Schieffer, Ed Bradley Mike Wallace.

■ NBC: 7 p.m. to 2 a.m., anchored by Tom Brokaw with Tim Russert, Maria Shriver and Lisa Myers. Simulcast on MS/NBC.

■ ABC: 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., 11:35 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., anchored by Peter Jennings with David Brinkley, Jeff Greenfield and Cokie Roberts.

■ CNN: 6 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., anchored by Bernard Shaw and Judy Woodruff with Bill Schneider and Ken Bodé.

■ FOX News Channel: 8 p.m. to 1 a.m., anchored by Catherine Crier and Mike Schneider.

■ Comedy Central: "Politically Incorrect," 9 to 11 p.m., featuring Al Franken, Lowell Weicker, Richard Belzer, Jerry Falwell and live music from The Presidents of the United States of America. Like it or lump it.

■ TV Food Network: 9 to 11 p.m., famous chefs prepare the favorite recipes of American presidents.



HORSE RACE



TRENDLINE: The stage has been set for the re-emergence of Dan Quayle on to the American presidential scene. He's collected a ton of IOUs. Now in Arizona, he's close to developing a California base of support. Jack Kemp toasted himself in his debate with Al Gore. Out of the wreckage of the Dole-Kemp campaign, lies a winged Phoenix....

PRESIDENT

Bill Clinton, R
Bob Dole, D
Ross Perot, Reform

STATUS

Safe D

COMMENTS

Star/News/WTHR poll has Dole leading Clinton in Indiana 39.2 to 35.7. Clinton wins in a landslide, but will not finish his term due to scandals.

GOVERNOR

Stephen Goldsmith, R
Frank O'Bannon, D
Steve Dillon, L

STATUS

Tossup

Star/News/WTHR poll has O'Bannon up, 44.9-43.7. TeleResearch poll in 10th CD has FOB leading ther 51-38. Poll in 42nd Senate district saw SG lead go from 45-35 to 40-40 in Leising's turf. We're hearing many stories of GOPpers sitting on their hands. Upset?

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Steve Carter, R
Jeff Modisett, D

STATUS

Leans D

Modisett worked for earned media over the summer while Carter disappeared. Too big of name ID for GOP

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Suellen Reed, R
Ann England, D

STATUS

Leans R

Reed should benefit from lack of fervor against incumbents despite Goals 2000.

3RD CD

Joe Zakas, R
Tim Roemer, D

STATUS

Likely D

Missed opportunity for Republicans. Zakas campaign got off the ground too slow, didn't make the \$\$ curve.

7TH CD

Ed Pease, R
Bob Hellmann, D

STATUS

Likely R

This district that gave Bush a 14 percent plurality in '92 and Mike Harmless only 35 percent of vote in '94.

8TH CD

John Hostettler, R
Jonathon Weinzapfel, D

STATUS

LEANS R

Hostettler poised for improbable re-election in a tough district and a hostile environment.

9TH CD

Jean Leising, R
Lee Hamilton, D

STATUS

LIKELY D

John Huang will not be enough to sink Hamilton. His campaign hit on all cylinders this time out.

10TH CD

Virginia Blankenbaker, R
Julia Carson, D

STATUS

Tossup

Blankenbaker seems to have all bases covered. Jacobs/Carson comparison ad devastating. But Carson seems to turn out the vote ... so down to the wire.

<u>19th INDIANA HOUSE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
Duane Sparks, R Robert Kuzman, D	Tossup	Labor could boost Kuzman. Landfill controversy in south Lake County helps Sparks. Barn-burner.
30TH INDIANA HOUSE		
Jon Padfield, R Ron Herrell, D	LEANS D	<i>Kokomo Trib</i> endorses Herrell. If unions vote - which they didn't in '94 and '95 - Herrell eeks it out.
32ND INDIANA HOUSE		
Eric Turner, R Elizabeth Stanley, D	LEANS R	Stanley said to be dumping in six figures on TV blitz. But sounds like a student council candidate.
34TH INDIANA HOUSE		
James Vanleer, R Tiny Adams, D	TOSSUP	Adams trying to ride big labor wave. Borg-Warner sold to Mexican firm; 800 Muncie jobs on line.
35TH INDIANA HOUSE		
Bruce Munson, R Sue Errington, D	TOSSUP	Dealer plates on car, 2-year-old joke fodder vs. Munson. But he's in better shape than Vanleer.
43RD INDIANA HOUSE		
John Kimmel, R Clyde Kersey, D	TOSSUP	Labor pickets Kimmel's business; may have back-fired. Kimmel has \$\$/ad advantage. Labor to rescue?
46TH INDIANA HOUSE		
David Lohr, R Vern Tincher, D	TOSSUP	Tincher has a "beat dog" look about him; big contrast to the effervescent Lohr. Potential upset.
54TH INDIANA HOUSE		
Tom Saunders, R David Copenhaver, D	LIKELY R	Doug Kinser's popularity allowed the Ds to carry this seat. Copenhaver hasn't inherited that.
67TH INDIANA HOUSE		
Cleo Duncan, R Vicki Kellerman, D	LIKELY R	Republicans stop tracking this race. Early Kellerman attack ads backfire on promising Dem.
74TH INDIANA HOUSE		
Sally Lambert, R Russ Stilwell, D	LEANS D	Hostettler running strong in Warrick. If Sally can tap into that, watch out, but this is Stilwell's to lose.
79TH INDIANA HOUSE		
Mike Ripley, R Barb Engle, D	TOSSUP	Engle is a respected local legislator. Ripley is a respected local commissioner. Can't get a good read.
80TH INDIANA HOUSE		
John Becker, R Ben GiaQuinta, D	LEANS D	This is a district designed for a Democrat and Becker won when D's sat. If labor return, BGQ does.
97TH INDIANA HOUSE		
Irene Heffley, R Edmund Mahern, D	LIKELY D	Mahern has too much family name ID and should benefit from Carson and O'Bannon turnout.
100TH INDIANA HOUSE		
Martha Womacks, R John Day, D	LEANS D	Another case where labor, Carson and O'Bannon should carry the Day.

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equally to Frank O'Bannon and Steve Goldsmith." And McAnally noted that ATA Airlines had received a commerce grant, and gave the O'Bannon campaign \$5,000, but it gave Goldsmith \$15,000.

1992 INDIANA PRESIDENTIAL VOTE

Bush 939,375 (43 percent)
Clinton 848,420 (37 percent)
Perot 455,934 (20 percent)

1992 INDIANA GUBERNATORIAL VOTE

Bayh 1,382,151 (62 percent)
Pearson 822,853 (37 percent)

1988 INDIANA PRESIDENTIAL VOTE

Bush 1,297,763 (60 percent)
Dukakis 860,643 (39 percent)

1988 INDIANA GUBERNATORIAL VOTE

Bayh 1,138,574 (53 percent)
Mutz 1,002,207 (47 percent)

In 1988, John Mutz won the Indianapolis and doughnut counties 55-45 percent, while virtually every other area of the state voted for Evan Bayh.

Richard Trumpka, secretary-treasurer of the AFL-CIO addressed 600 union members in Evansville last week, saying that unions are "fighting the radical right, the new right and the not-quite-right." He called the 1994 elections a

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"wake-up call for all working people" and brought the crowd to its feet several times. Chuck Deppert of the Indiana AFL-CIO also told the crowd to remember Republican legislators Rep. Vaneta Becker and Sen. Greg Server who sided with labor on the prevailing wage vote. "You don't have to be a Democrat to be right on the issues, but it helps," Deppert said.

Trumpka told the Evansville Courier that he has no regrets for characterizing Medicare "cuts" in ads aimed at Hostettler that were rejected by several Evansville TV stations. "Absolutely, we'd do it again," Trumpka said. "We wanted worker issues to be at the center of the debate, and it is. We've already won."

The last time a Democrat was re-elected to a second term - FDR in 1936 - the New York Yankees won the World Series.

On ABC's "This Week With David Brinkley," Congressional analyst Charles Cook predicted the Democrats would gain 12-13 seats in the U.S. House. Analyst Stuart Rothenberg predicted a 10-15 seat Democratic pickup. The Democrats would have to gain 19 seats to seize control of Congress. Due to redistricting ordered by the U.S. Supreme

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COLUMNISTS ON INDIANA

Mary Dieter, Louisville Courier-Journal - Last Sunday, *The Indianapolis Star* ran an apology for taking what Executive Editor Frank Caperton said was an unbalanced approach in its political gossip column, "Behind Closed Doors." Based on what Caperton said was a single complaint, the *Star* counted the items that appeared in the column and found Republican Stephen Goldsmith had been the subject 13 times, while Democrat Frank O'Bannon and Libertarian Steve Dillon had been the subject of none. Caperton allowed that the individual items were solid and that they had been written because Goldsmith had had "some difficult weeks lately." But he apologized that the question of balanced had been raised. And the fallout has been raining down ever since. Reporters for the *Star* and its sister paper, the *News*, are wondering if their own credibility, by association, is shot. Newsmakers are wondering if stories will be pursued or ignored based on a political agenda or a balanced scorecard. And Hoosiers, even those whose primary newspaper is not the *Star*, should wonder if a Goldsmith administration would be scrutinized vigorously by the media outlet with the largest reporting contingent and the most resources of any in the state. Fairness, or balance, is not measured by column inches or counted by item. It must be considered in each individual news story: Are we being fair to the subjects of the story, and are we being fair to our readers?

Dave Kitchell, Logansport Pharos-Tribune - Truth is not always stronger than stigma. One of the favorite catch phrases these days is "the liberal media," but in reality, a survey a few years ago by Indiana University found that the number of Democrats in American newsrooms is actually only about 5 percent more than the percentage of Democrats in the rest of the population. Yet a Roper Poll earlier this year probably did little to support the notion of objectivity among the Washington press corps. It reported that 89 percent of them voted for Clinton in 1992. Conservatives made up just 2 percent of

the voters in that poll. What's really unfortunate about politics is that while Americans seem to demand truth and purity from their media news coverage, they don't demand it from their political advertising. The campaign for Indiana governor has become an unfortunate, expensive example. Instead of a dash for democracy, this race has become a season of bloodsport. Steve Goldsmith and Frank O'Bannon appear to have the premier gubernatorial race in the country, but if this is the best election Indiana voters have witnessed in years, why does it have to be so negative? These commercials represent a great argument for V-chips.

Morton Marcus, Indianapolis Business Journal - Why do politicians challenge the electorate's memory? "Are you better off today than you were four years ago?" they ask. In 1992, 32 Indiana counties had unemployment rates of 7.5 percent or more. In 1996, only five counties had rates that high. Four years ago, only seven Hoosier counties had unemployment rates under 4 percent, while 49 enjoyed that status in mid-'96.

Mike Leonard, Bloomington Herald-Times - At the top of the ballot are the choices for president, starting with President Bill Clinton, a vacillating, closet liberal who encourages children to smoke marijuana and operates an administration so corrupt that it makes poor Dick Nixon spin in his grave. Clinton's pushy wife, Hillary, murdered her friend, Vince Foster, but because she's so clever, and the Clinton administration is so corrupt, she'll never do time. Look up "mean" in the dictionary and you'll see, next to the word, a picture of Republican challenger Bob Dole. Dole is the man who talks about trust, character and family values, even though he dumped his first wife as a political liability and ignored their child as she was growing up. Dole is the man so old, and with a brain so atrophied, that he apparently forgot he opposed supply-side economics as utter folly during his entire 30-year career in the Senate.

Pat Bauer invades Boonville! Shad on the banks! Son of 'sloppy work'!

BOONVILLE - Boo!

Or, perhaps, Boo-Boo.

Or, as Rex Early might say, "Wuh-oh!"

It's not unusual for the last week before an election to get hysterical. And 1996 on this Halloween is no different.

For Indianapolis Mayor Stephen Goldsmith and LG Frank O'Bannon, the thoughts were on fish. For State Rep. Sally Rideout Lambert, her thoughts were on B. Patrick Bauer's long journey to Boonville.

Even the two islands of humanity and civility- state chairs Joe Andrew and Mike McDaniel - were at each other's throats.

Lambert, in a tight race with Democrat Russ Stilwell, put the most amusing spin on last-minute shenanigans. "It is interesting that Bauer has traveled all the way down to our community from South Bend to share his views on this election," Lambert said Wednesday. "As a legislator who had to be reprimanded by the Speaker of the House for his personal attacks on me shortly after I arrived at the Statehouse, I am not surprised to see him on this Halloween eve trying to scare the voters of District 74."

Lambert wondered why Bauer didn't push for free textbooks and hear GOP proposals for the same when he chaired the Hosue Ways and Means Committee.

She asked, "Why does he think a legislative Hall of Fame is needed, and does he think he deserves to be in it?"

Finally, Lambert asked, did Bauer take the day off from his job at South Bend Community Schools, "or are the taxpayers of Indiana and St. Joseph County paying his salary today?"

Boo!

Bad f r fish

The O'Bannon TV ad concludes, "Bad for fish. Wrong for Indiana."

But the Goldsmith campaign was flipping out over this ad. "First Steve Goldsmith turned over the city's sewage treatment plant to a French company - and Hoosiers lost their jobs." Not true, said Goldsmith spokesman John Hatfield, no one lost their job and the company

is still based in Indy.

"Then raw sewage was let out that threatened the public health. Half a million dead fish ... and taxpayers on the hook for \$100,000."

Goldsmith's campaign insists that no fines were assessed the city, and supplied DNR documentation that WWTP was not responsible.

Hatfield also noted that the DNR used tax dollars to kill shad - which made up 94 percent of the White River fish kill - on Glen Flint Lake.

1996 WATCH

PU-Boo!

38 examples of 'sloppy work'

The Goldsmith campaign is currently running a TV ad in which the mayor eyeballs the camera and tells viewers to "ignore O'Bannon's ridiculous attacks." Then Goldsmith tells us that O'Bannon is responsible for 38 tax increases. Those are the same 38 tax increases that Goldsmith called up the *South Bend Tribune's* Jack Colwell and apologized for "sloppy work" because they were never documented.

Boo-Boo, Number Two!

Can't we all just get along?

Finally, HPR is distressed at the 11th-hour falling out between Joe Andrew and Mike McDaniel.

McDaniel sent a letter on Oct. 29 to Andrew requesting an end to "dirty tricks," "negative advertising," killer phone calls, "poison mail," and "false attacks on Steve Goldsmith."

Andrew, saturated with sarcasm, responded with an "As your friend, I am truly disappointed" letter and accused the GOP of its motor voter scrutiny as a case of latent racism.

McDaniel told the *Indianapolis Star*, "I thought he and I were friends. He's lost it and he's trying to stir something up that's not there." Once this is all over, perhaps there's a Phyllis George among us who will say, "Go on, give each other a little hug."

Boo ... wuh-oh!

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Court, which party controls Congress may not be known until December when Texas holds its Congressional elections. Said Cook of his scenario of a nearly even split in the House, "There will either be a centrist coalition or complete chaos. Both parties have been severely admonished in 1992 and 1994. I think you'll see a more tolerant center."

House Minority Leader Dick Gephardt speaking in Indianapolis on behalf of 8th CD nominee Jonathon Weinzapfel called U.S. Rep. John Hostettler "a Gingrich robot" and added, "He votes with the speaker on all of the revolution and all of the contract items." Which is false. Hostettler broke ranks with Gingrich on the balanced budget amendment, term limits and the budget vote last December that prompted the cancellation of his January fundraiser with the Speaker.

The Evansville Courier endorsed Hostettler for re-election, saying of the Republican, "He is, we believe, a man of his district. Weinzapfel says Hostettler is not representative of the district's people, but we disagree. He strikes us as wholly characteristic of the people of the rural district."

Chicago Tribune's Carol Jouzaitis

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wrote this quote that may come back to haunt Vice President Al Gore if ethical problems engulf a second Clinton administration. She quoted President Clinton as saying of Gore, "We spend so much time together, it's almost like we can speak in code. I think there has never been a relationship quite like this in American history."

Election Data Services estimates a continued migration of Congressional seats from the East and Midwest to the Sunbelt. But while Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan and Ohio are all expected to lose a seat when maps are redrawn after the 2000 Census, Indiana is expected to retain its 10 seats.

Roll Call reports in its Oct. 24 edition that 10th CD Republican Virginia Blankenbaker "is favored to win."

Sen. Richard Lugar wrote in a Chicago Tribune op-ed piece on Oct. 25 that the United States needs to concentrate on developing new energy resources due to chronic instability in the Persian Gulf. "I am not an alarmist and most certainly not a pessimist, but if we do not develop and act on a national energy preparedness plan, a future worldwide energy crisis could be far more catastrophic than 1973 and 1979."

PERHAPS... WE WANDER

By Brian Howey

I love Election Night.

I've covered elections in South Bend, Elkhart, Vincennes, Bloomington, Peru and Fort Wayne and Indianapolis. In many ways, there are many things that are the same.

The Republicans gather in posh quarters. There is a bar and folks sip mixed drinks in clear plastic cups. Finger foods splay out on a red-clothed table.

The Democrats are usually somewhere down the street, usually on the other side of the tracks. There's a keg of beer in a big blue tub. Folks gather around the keg and discuss the returns.

What's the saying, "Date a Democrat, marry a Republican?"

The partys are so different. In Vincennes, I recall the 1976 election when Democratic operatives were handing out fifths of whiskey and gin to anybody on the street to

get folks to vote.

Republicans aren't so obvious. They wink as a check is produced and talk about future contracts or paving projects.

And it all comes together on Election Night, when folks await the returns.

There's one thing I don't like about hanging out with the parties on this night. There's usually some stupid band playing, as if folks come to really listen to the music. There might be a TV on, but the sound is down, so no one can hear anything - they just watch the totals.

Gov. Bob Orr used to surround himself with TVs, one to each network, each affiliate, so he could keep himself up to speed.

The parties should take heed; prepare a bank of TVs, heighten the drama, until the war has been won or lost.

Then you strike up the band.



The Howey Political Report

presents at absolutely no cost



The Smoke-Filled Room

Post Mortem

How will Election '96
change the world as we know it?

5:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday Nov. 6, 1996
Rathskeller Restaurant at the Athenaeum
401 E. Michigan St., Indianapolis

Visit our new Internet site
www.inoffice.com/hpr