



Huntsman, Perry & Mitch envy

Hoosiers hear ambassador as Tex governor rockets into the lead, but ...

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY**

INDIANAPOLIS - There stood Jon Huntsman, slender and proper, his beautiful wife Mary Kay nearby, and about 150 Hoosier Republicans gathered in half moon formation around him. His resume is sterling: two terms as a successful governor of Utah, two years as President Obama's ambassador to China, where he could communicate with the people there in their own tongue. He served under President Reagan. He drives a Harley. He's pro-life, and pro-2nd Amendment.

"To be clear," Huntsman said at one point, "I believe in evolution and trust scientists on global warming. Call me crazy."

This was a scene Hoosiers have seen before. The best and brightest – Birch Bayh and Dick Lugar – waged presidential campaigns and were rewarded with single



Jon Huntsman talks at Indiana GOP headquarters on Monday. Texas Gov. Rick Perry below at his prayer rally. (HPI Photo by Brian A. Howey)



digits and slights from pundits and early exits from snowy Iowa and New Hampshire.

Gov. Mitch Daniels and Mike Pence could have broken into double digits had they run, and you can make an intellectual case that either of them might be in the upper tier in this confounding GOP presidential race. But here was Huntsman coming in at a Real Clear Politics

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2 cities, 2 mayor trends

By **JACK COLWELL**

SOUTH BEND - Mishawaka and South Bend, cities side by side, with many folks living in one and working in the other, have much in common.

They share in the heritage of ethnic groups that came for factory jobs as the cities grew and in the struggles now to replace those jobs of old with new opportunities. Politically, they often vote the same way in statewide contests and on presidential choices.

When it comes to electing their mayors, however, they differ.



“Some of them in Congress right now of this Tea Party movement would love to see you and me hanging on a tree.”

- U.S. Rep. Andre Carson



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Really differ.

Since 1963, nearly a half century ago: Mishawaka has elected only one Democrat as mayor, Bob Kovach for one term, in 1979. South Bend has elected only one Republican as mayor, Lloyd Allen for two terms, in 1963 and 1967.

Will that trend continue?

Almost certainly it will in South Bend, where Democratic nominee Pete Buttigieg actually got a lot more votes from Republicans crossing over to the Democratic primary than the Republican nominee, Wayne Curry, got in the lowest GOP primary turnout in modern history.

It could continue as well in Mishawaka, but there will be a competitive race, with a combative Democratic challenger. Mishawaka's race this fall will overshadow a South Bend race generally regarded as already over. Mishawaka Mayor Dave Wood is a Republican who talks in the same nonpartisan way about city policies as did popular former Mayor Bob Beutter, who is his campaign chairman. Wood says Mishawaka is a Democratic town - the city council now is 7-2 Democratic - but that voters like the long-time checks-and-balances formula of a Republican mayor, not highly partisan, working with a Democratic council, also putting aside politics for the best interests of the city.

State Rep. Craig Fry, now in his 12th term as a state representative, is the Democratic nominee. Fry is aware that Democrats in Mishawaka, just like Republicans in South Bend, often have put up pathetic efforts in mayoral races. Not this time, not in Mishawaka, Fry says.

Fry, never known for backing down, whether in battling for Capitol Avenue funds in the legislature or in his responses to folks who send him critical letters, says of his campaign: "We're going to be aggressive, honest and brutal when it's appropriate."

Wood, in office not quite a year, was selected by Republican

precinct officials to replace Jeff Rea, another popular Republican mayor, who resigned to accept leadership of the St. Joseph County Chamber of Commerce. Wood, who was elected three times to the council, left a higher paying job as a bank vice president to become mayor.

Wood says he is following up on successful programs of past Republican mayors in keeping Mishawaka on a path to continued growth, with expansion of health care, retail and service jobs to replace manufacturing of the past.

Fry contends there is a big difference between Wood and those past Republican mayors. "I don't see this mayor as being capable," Fry says. "His judgment is flawed."

Fry isn't ready to start listing flaws yet but promises that he will "lay it out during the campaign," particularly in hard-hitting mailings.

Some Wood supporters worry that he could be "too nice a guy" to prevail in a hard-fought political battle. "We're preparing," Wood says, laughing at concerns that he won't be ready to respond.

Wood says being mayor is "the only office I ever aspired to." Fry says being mayor has always been a goal. He is ready, he says, not just with state legislative experience but with administrative experience as executive director of apprenticeship studies for Ivy Tech State College, with statewide responsibilities for 9,000 students at 68 locations.

They differ on whether Mishawaka should play nice with South Bend and county government or be very skeptical about playing together.

Wood says there needs to be cooperation because "we're all in this together" and "divisiveness between communities isn't going to get it done."

A business coming to either city is a plus for both in jobs and economic impact, Wood says.



Fry says he is "proud to be attacked in the South Bend Tribune (editorials) for being parochial for Mishawaka."

"I'm going to work on behalf of the people of

Mishawaka," he says, not for South Bend or the county, unless cooperation clearly is for Mishawaka's advantage. ❖

Colwell has covered Indiana politics for the South Bend Tribune for more than five decades.

Huntsman, from page 1

composite poll average of 1.3%, trailing Herman Cain (4.3%) and Rick Santorum (1.8%).

Huntsman was the second Republican to take Chairman Eric Holcomb's magnificent invitation to come to Indiana and speak to the faithful. Cain drew about 50 people more when he appeared at the Columbia Club in August. A few days after he appeared in Indiana, Cain suggested that impeaching President Obama would be "a great thing to do."

Huntsman is the moderate in the race, and some believed he could pick up the Daniels mantle after the family veto. The Students for Daniels group did just that.

Perry the new frontrunner

The new frontrunner in the Republican race is Texas Gov. Rick Perry, who is the real figure filling the Daniels vacuum, sucking up much of the Bush money that had patiently awaited the Indiana governor's entry into the race. Perry leads Mitt Romney 24-18% in Quinnipiac, 27-14% in CNN, 25-14% in Gallup, 27-17% in PPP and 29-18% in Rasmussen Reports for a 24.2 to 17% average, followed by Sarah Palin at 10.6% and Michele Bachmann at 9.3%. Of the four leading contenders, three are Tea Party bonafides, should half-term Alaska Gov. Palin get into the race.

When it comes to climate change – his Texas has been seared this summer with close to 50 days of 100-degree heat – Perry responded with a 30,000-person prayer rally at

Reliant Stadium in Houston, home of the Texans, where he urged his flock to "pray for rain." Hurricane Irene, seen by Rep. Bachmann as a warning sign from God, careened into New England with a historic deluge. Perry said in New Hampshire that climate change was "unproven scientific theory." Last April, Perry signed a three-day state proclamation: "I urge Texans of all faiths and traditions to offer prayers on that day for the healing of our land, the rebuilding of our communities and the restoration of our normal way of life."

On evolution, Perry advocates teaching creationism in schools. Asked by a student in New Hampshire on Aug. 17, Perry said, "It's a theory that's out there. It's got some gaps in it. In Texas we teach both creationism and evolution." The mother then told her young son: "Ask him why he doesn't believe in science."

In South Carolina, Perry told a woman, "Well, God is how we got here. God may have done it in the blink of the eye or he may have done it over this long period of time, I don't know. But I know how it got started."

At the Aug. 6 prayer rally, Perry delivered a 13-minute sermon: "Father, our heart breaks for America. We see discord at home. We see fear in the marketplace. We see anger in the halls of government, and as a nation we have forgotten who made us, who protects us, who blesses us, and for that we cry out for your forgiveness." The Guardian observed: His rhetorical style is derived from the tent preachers of the Old West, and the crowd stood enthusiastically throughout, responding with amens.

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Ambassador Jon Huntsman was politely received by about 150 at Indiana GOP headquarters Monday. (HPI Photo by Brian A. Howey)



Huntsman senses opening

Huntsman sensed an opening, saying on ABC's "This Week," "When we take a position that isn't willing to embrace evolution, when we take a position that basically runs counter to what 98 of 100 climate scientists have said, what the National Academy of Science has said about what is causing climate change and man's contribution to it, I think we find ourselves on the wrong side of science, and, therefore, in a losing position."

He was rewarded in Indianapolis with a modest, polite crowd. "Barack Obama has had two and a half years to develop an economic expansion and job growth. He has failed," Huntsman said to about 150 persons at Republican headquarters as Lt. Gov. Becky Skillman and Chairman Eric Holcomb looked on. "We need to be the party that focuses on rebuilding the core of this country. Nothing else matters," he said.

Huntsman also said that the U.S. relationship with China is "the only relationship that matters in the 21st century." He added, "I think it'd be a really good idea to have a president who can speak with China in their language." Huntsman endorsed the Medicare reforms and budget plan of U.S. Rep. Paul Ryan, called for an overhaul of the U.S. tax code, said the U.S. needs to get out of "nation building" in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

These developments come as President Obama sags in the polls with his RCP composite standing at 42.8% approve and 53.4% disapprove. Gallup's three-day rolling average had the president at 38/55%.

"This is the worst rating of his term," wrote Pat Kiely, Indiana Manufacturing Association president, this week. "While the United States credit rating was recently cut by Standard & Poor's following the raucous debt ceiling debate, the American voter has nearly downgraded the President's political capital to near junk status. Normally, most Americans consider this politics as usual; but this time it is impacting our entire economy and financial standing both as citizens and as a country. As the President's and Congress' popularity decreases, the markets, jobs and the economy follow. We are not in this alone, as it appears most of the world is suffering from government fatigue, a fatigue that is handcuffs on the recovery.

Republican Nomination Preferences, by Support for Tea Party Movement
Based on Republicans and Republican-leaning independents

	Support Tea Party movement	Do not support Tea Party movement
	%	%
Rick Perry	35	20
Mitt Romney	14	23
Michele Bachmann	14	6
Ron Paul	12	16
Herman Cain	6	3
Newt Gingrich	5	3
Rick Santorum	3	3
Jon Huntsman	1	2
Other	2	2
No preference	8	24

Gallup, Aug. 17-21, 2011

Note: 58% of Republicans and Republican leaners identify themselves as supporters of the Tea Party movement and 36% as nonsupporters.

GALLUP

"President Obama is now in a real political danger zone," Kiely continued. "With roughly 14 months until the next presidential election, no modern sitting president survived reelection with similar poll numbers, except one. It was Harry S. Truman, and he was as low as 36 percent approval even in his reelection year. Can the President be another Truman? Maybe, but time is short and the country needs to see much different policies. The idea that the President can talk about job growth and bringing back manufacturing, while at the same time his agencies are trying to regulate certain business

sectors into extinction, it is destroying confidence and job creation. The next few months will be critical in getting the economy back on track. If the President shifts quickly and the markets and unemployment improve, he is back in the game."

The potential dilemma for Republicans is that the party appears to be veering wide right, with Gov. Perry jetting into the frontrunner status.

The other moderate

The other "moderate" in the GOP field - Romney, who will visit Indiana Republicans in September - has won only six of 18 elections (1994 Massachusetts Senate primary, the two 2002 gubernatorial races, and just three 2008 presidential primaries in Michigan, Massachusetts and Utah, all on his home turf). Romney decided against seeking a second term as governor, badly trailing Democrat Deval Patrick in the polls. Romney lost presidential primaries in New Hampshire, South Carolina, Florida, California, Arizona, Connecticut, Illinois, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Oklahoma, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, Virginia, and Maryland.

So if there is a Perry stopper, betting on Romney will be dicey.

Perry 'Fed Up'

How far to the right is Perry?

In his 2010 book "Fed Up! Our Fight to Save America from Washington," Perry advocates repealing the 16th Amendment (income tax) and the 17th Amendment



(popular vote election of U.S. senators). He said the 17th Amendment was a "blow to the ability of states to exert influence on the federal government" that "traded structural difficulties and some local corruption for a much larger and dangerous form of corruption."

Social Security? It is "violently tossing aside any respect for our founding principles of federalism and limited government," Perry said, calling it a "failure." He believes Medicare is unconstitutional and said of the Great Society, "From housing to public television, from the environment to art, from education to medical care, from public transportation to food, and beyond, Washington took greater control of powers that were conspicuously missing from Article 1 of the Constitution."

He told Newsweek, "I don't think our founding fathers when they were putting the term 'general welfare' in there were thinking about a federally operated program of pensions nor a federally operated program of health care. What they clearly said was that those were issues that the states need to address. Not the federal government. I stand very clear on that."

As for the judiciary, Perry writes of requiring federal

judges to stand for reappointment and reconfirmation, and letting Congress override Supreme Court decisions with two-thirds votes in the House and Senate.

The Perry campaign, realizing the dangers "Fed Up" has lurking in its wake, now describes the book as "a look back, not a path forward." It was written "as a review and critique of 50 years of federal excesses, not in any way as a 2012 campaign blueprint or manifesto," he says.

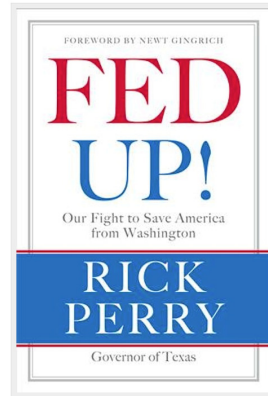
And there was the April 15, 2009, Tea Party rally in Austin, where the subject of secession came up. "There's a lot of different scenarios," Perry said. "We've got a great union. There's absolutely no reason to dissolve it. But if Washington continues to thumb their nose at the American people, you know, who knows what might come out of that. But Texas is a very unique place, and we're a pretty independent lot to boot."

Perry said when Texas entered the Union in 1845 it was with the understanding it could pull out. However, according to the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, Texas negotiated the power to divide into four additional states at some point if it wanted to, but not the right to secede. The Huffington Post observed: Texas did secede in 1861, but the North's victory in the Civil War put an end to that.

Who's crazy now?

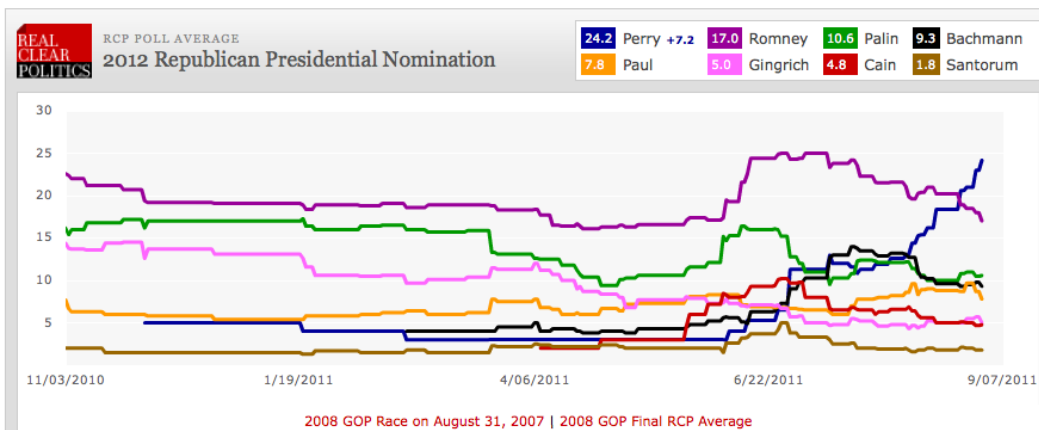
The supreme irony is that the "crazy" label is dangled on Jon Huntsman while Perry has talked secession, Bachmann a pre-planned federal default and confusion over Elvis, and Palin has trouble with something as simple as Paul Revere and American gun rights.

While some Hoosier Republicans will gravitate toward Perry, the unmistakable wish we consistently detect from the party faithful here is Mitch envy. And to this day, they dream of a GOP version of a Barack/Hillary showdown that extends well beyond the May 2012 Indiana Republican primary, into a brokered national convention, with visions of a "draft" movement dancing in their heads. ❖



Polling Data												
Poll	Date	Perry	Romney	Palin	Bachmann	Giuliani	Paul	Gingrich	Cain	Santorum	Huntsman	Spread
RCP Average	8/7 - 8/27	24.2	17.0	10.6	9.3	8.3	7.8	5.0	4.8	1.8	1.3	Perry +7.2
Quinnipiac	8/16 - 8/27	24	18	11	10	--	9	3	5	1	1	Perry +6
CNN/Opinion Research	8/24 - 8/25	27	14	10	9	9	6	6	2	1	1	Perry +13
Gallup	8/17 - 8/21	25	14	11	7	9	11	3	4	3	1	Perry +11
PPP (D)	8/18 - 8/21	27	17	13	10	--	6	7	7	3	2	Perry +10
Rasmussen Reports	8/15 - 8/15	29	18	--	13	--	9	5	6	1	1	Perry +11
FOX News	8/7 - 8/9	13	21	8	7	7	6	6	5	2	2	Romney +8

[See All 2012 Republican Presidential Nomination Polling Data](#)





Big city Democrat mayors going negative early

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY**

INDIANAPOLIS - Democratic mayoral nominees in two of Indiana's three largest cities have already begun to air negative TV ads in August, suggesting they are facing growing odds against their campaigns. The third big race. in Evansville, is also a tossup.

Fort Wayne Mayor Tom Henry began running his third ad this week titled "Promises to Stop." The spot contrasts Republican Paula Hughes' 10-year record of supporting, calling for or voting for tax increases against her recent campaign "promise" to stop. "The real issue in this ad isn't taxes - it's trust," said Henry for Mayor campaign manager Justin Schall. "If Paula Hughes really believed in her campaign 'promise,' then she wouldn't

have supported 10 straight years of tax increases. But instead, Hughes is playing the same old political game - say one thing, even if you did another - and hope no one notices. If Hughes is going to mislead voters then we will continue to challenge her to admit the truth."

In the ad, Hughes is shown signing a no-tax pledge while an array of votes she has made fill the screen. "Every year for 10 years Paula Hughes wanted to do one thing: raise your taxes. When a politician says one thing and does another, how can we trust her with Fort Wayne's future?" Henry had been running positive bio ads, one featuring many of his brothers. Another responded to Hughes' position that Fort Wayne spending has been out of control. In that regard, Hughes appears to have set the topic for the early part of the campaign and Henry has now responded.



The Henry ad comes as Indianapolis Democrat Melina Kennedy launched an attack ad at Mayor Gregg Ballard over education issues. "Four years ago Greg Ballard promised education would be a top priority," the ad says, "but now the Indianapolis Star called out Ballard for his 'complete absence' from the debate over our public schools." That ad came on the same day the state announced the takeover of local high and middle schools in Indianapolis and Gary. The Kennedy campaign called the timing a "coincidence." WISH-TV political reporter Jim Shella called the timing of the Kennedy ad "unusual because it's not yet Labor Day. It means that Kennedy is trailing incumbent Republican Greg Ballard, though no public polls have been published."

One Republican source told HPI on background, "Republican trend lines right now are so strong that it appears that even Democrats in urban areas could have problems."

This also appears to be the case in Evansville where we continue to hear Republican Lloyd Winnecke will have an overwhelming money advantage over Democrat nominee Rick Davis. Sources in Evansville tell HPI that Winnecke has effectively cut into part of the coalition of corporate heads, labor and rank and file Democrats who propelled Mayor Jonathan Weinzapfel to two terms.

Weinzapfel decided not to seek a third term earlier this year, but Davis angered many establishment Democrats by declaring for the office last October before the mayor had decided his political future. He then launched campaign themes that were critical of Weinzapfel. Most observers don't expect Weinzapfel to endorse Davis. Winnecke, who is a Vanderburgh County commissioner and a marketing vice president at Fifth Third Bank, has been able to win over many of Weinzapfel's corporate backers, and some of the Democratic establishment angered by Davis.

Informed and reliable sources tell HPI that internal Winnecke polling shows him with a lead, though it is within the margin of error. Evansville is a heavily Democratic city that has had only one Republican mayor in the last generation. But it would repeat the





situation of both Fort Wayne and Indianapolis where Henry presides over a heavily Republican city and Ballard presides over a heavily Democratic city.

A key juncture in Evansville will likely come up this fall: Winnecke was present during a meeting in 2008 that led to a suspension of the Vanderburgh County homestead property tax credit, the issue largely seen as effectively ending a Weinzapfel gubernatorial campaign and discouraging him from seeking a third term. "Winnecke was in the meeting," a GOP source told HPI. But Davis might not be able to exploit the issue. He was county treasurer at the time, presided over the printing of tax bills without the homestead credits, and never spoke out.

HPI Horse Race is rating all three races in Evansville, Fort Wayne and Indianapolis as Tossups. HPI will publish a comprehensive report on Indiana mayoral races statewide in the Sept. 15 edition.

U.S. Senate: Mourdock Sounds Off!

As Indiana Treasurer Richard Mourdock lashed out at Indianapolis Business Journal columnist Peter Rusthoven and Howey Politics Indiana's Brian A. Howey for writing that the treasurer "presided" over a Indiana Public Retirement System that lost \$1.2 billion since June, Mourdock called for an "a retraction and an apology" from Rusthoven. HPI's Howey responded to Mourdock in last week's edition, saying the treasurer's campaign has refused to answer questions related to that story and others. HPI posted a statement on Monday, saying: The Indiana Constitution defines the treasurer as Indiana's "chief financial officer," but this is not an accurate definition, with significant parts of Indiana's financial portfolio beyond his scope of duty. With his campaign ignoring almost all of our inquiries, which would have given my readers more pertinent information, and then hiding behind a carefully crafted op-ed, it is Mourdock as a public official who has done a disservice to his constituents and my readers. In the coming days and weeks, Howey Politics Indiana will peel back this onion, learn and convey what appears to be a diminishing portfolio of Indiana's treasurer, as well as Mourdock's performance in office and his attendance to duty. My pledge to HPI and the 300,000 newspaper readers who have access to my column is that I will do this as thoroughly, accurately and as fairly as possible, and some of that will require the treasurer and his campaign to answer our questions in a timely and truthful manner.

The Mourdock op-ed – which Howey Politics Indiana has published in full at www.howeypolitics.com as well as the Aug. 25 Howey column ("Questions for Mourdock") – prompted a large volume of response from web and newspaper readers, about half critical of the columnist and the other half critical of the treasurer. The response has also prompted an array of other information to come in that Howey Politics Indiana is in the process of researching.

That side show aside, the bigger development in the Senate race was an Associated Press article by Tom LoBianco that raised the specter of State Sen. Mike Delph's entry into the Senate race. The story was picked up by many newspapers statewide over the weekend and that isn't good news for the struggling Mourdock campaign. The last thing it needs right now is Delph as a possible entry, because it will freeze some of the money that would gravitate to a Lugar challenger. It has also been widely reported that national groups Mourdock had assumed would financially aid his campaign are still on the sidelines, unimpressed with his campaign to date.

LoBianco reported: Do Indiana's political elephants forget decade-old slights? State Treasurer Richard Mourdock and state Sen. Mike Delph have been pondering that question lately as the latter's name is floated for a run against Sen. Richard Lugar next year. A Delph campaign could split the vote, making it infinitely harder for Mourdock to ride a conservative backlash to unseat Lugar. A wide-open primary, in which many candidates split up opposition to an embattled incumbent, could be Lugar's best friend as he battles a strong challenge from the right. A crowded field helped Rep. Dan Burton win his 2010 GOP primary, even though he captured just 30 percent of the vote.

The AP story continued: Delph and Mourdock know all about wide-open political fields and party civil wars. Nearly a decade ago, the two scrapped at the Indiana



U.S. Rep. Joe Donnelly greets supporters at French Lick last weekend. (HPI Photo by Brian A. Howey)



Republican Party's nominating convention over secretary of state. Both men say they are now over that battle; Delph calls it "water under the bridge." But both are keenly aware of the irony a Delph entry into the Senate race could create. When they clashed in 2002, they created an opening for the more moderate Todd Rokita to win the secretary of state nod. He ultimately used the office to launch a successful bid for Congress last year. Delph says he isn't the one pushing his name as a possible Lugar challenger, and he says he isn't sure who is. But the chatter has gotten attention well beyond Indiana. "If Mike's not floating his name, it seems somebody does want to see that irony play out. Who would it work best for if there were multiple conservative candidates? Well, that would be Richard Lugar," Mourdock said. If Delph does jump in, he and Mourdock would get to settle an old score from the Republican Party's 2002 convention. After the first round of balloting at the convention, Mourdock's team distributed fliers saying Delph was dropping out of the running and throwing his support behind him. Only half of the statement was true: Delph did ultimately withdraw his candidacy, but he released his supporters to any candidate they wanted. Mourdock says he never saw the flier but does remember his team telling Republican delegates to unite behind one conservative candidate during the second round of voting.

In the Mourdock line of thought, conspirators abound, queuing up Delph to enter the race as a spoiler. The reality is, Delph thinks for himself. And the likely reason for Delph to be exploring a Senate run is that U.S. Rep. Dan Burton is digging his heels in again, seeking a 15th term. Last spring, informed and reliable GOP sources told HPI that Burton would stay in the race, then exit at the last minute next February, endorsing Delph as a successor. But David McIntosh's entry into the 5th changes that potential dynamic. Delph, possibly sensing a vulnerable Lugar and a poorly performing Mourdock campaign, figures the Senate race is worth exploring.

It's been several years since Lugar has made a stop in Kokomo, but he'll mend that today. The problem is, he won't be the most welcome guest, as Republican Party Chairman Craig Dunn said he is upset about the visit

coming before municipal elections (de la Bastide, Kokomo Tribune). Lugar will make a 3:30 p.m. stop at the new Subway restaurant on Markland Avenue. After presenting an energy award there, he will then attend a fundraiser at The Quarry restaurant on the city's westside. The latter event was aimed at raising funds to fuel Republican mayoral candidate Scott Kern in his challenge of Democrat Greg Goodnight. But with Lugar coming, Dunn argues, some will redirect their funds to Lugar, who's at the center of a hot primary battle against State Treasurer Richard Mourdock. The state's Tea Party is backing Mourdock in the 2012 primary challenge for Senate. "[Lugar's] fundraiser is taking money away from the municipal candidates," Dunn said. "In contrast, Richard Mourdock's campaign called and asked about a date for a fundraiser in Kokomo. I told them

Nov. 28, after the municipal elections." He's upset that Lugar didn't extend the local party the same courtesy. In addition, Dunn argues, Lugar's visit has forced him to cancel an event planned for this year's municipal candidates. Kern said he understands party officials try to differentiate between municipal, state and federal campaigns. "I understand why Craig is upset, it will hurt our fundraising," Kern said. "I don't believe I have to outspend my opponent to win the election. I won't make an issue of it," he said. When asked about Lugar's visit, David Willkie, political director of Friends of Dick Lugar, said Lugar is helping Republican candidates throughout the state this election cycle and will continue to do so. "Part of that fundraiser

is to bring people to the Republican Party," he said. "The intent is to expand the reach of the party." Dunn said, "He doesn't come to Kokomo for six years, and his first visit is for a fundraiser."

U.S. Rep. Joe Donnelly and Democratic gubernatorial contender John Gregg consolidated their holds on 2012 nominations last weekend at the annual Indiana Democratic Editorial Convention. And Donnelly, seeking to challenge the winner of the U.S. Senate race between Sen. Dick Lugar and Indiana Treasurer Richard Mourdock, vowed to make the Indiana Democratic party "the party of jobs."

"We are going to renew and rebuild infrastructure," Donnelly told a luncheon audience on Saturday afternoon, just minutes after the Indiana Democratic Central Commit-



John Gregg greets supporter Erin Fox Zody at the French Lick Springs Resort last Friday. (HPI Photo by Brian A. Howey)



tee unanimously endorsed both Gregg and the congressman from Granger. "It's all about jobs," Donnelly added that "Where it's made, it's made in the USA."

Donnelly vowed to help Democratic mayoral candidates in 2011 as a precursor to the party's efforts in 2012. "It all starts in 2011," he said. "We'll be with our mayors, knocking on doors." Donnelly also vowed to win back Congressional seats the party lost in 2012. "We're going to win back the Senate seat," he said. "It's about Indiana's future and America's future."

Gregg spent much of the weekend meeting with groups of Democrats and speaking at the Orange County Jefferson-Jackson Dinner Friday night. Gregg introduced his new campaign manager, Rebecca Pearcey. On Thursday night, Gregg and Donnelly huddled with former Sen. Evan Bayh, Chairman Dan Parker, St. Joseph County Chairman Butch Morgan, 8th CD Chairman Tony Long and national Committeeman Dean Boerste. Donnelly and Gregg described the meeting with Bayh and the chairs as "friendly and informal." Whether the two will be able to tap into Bayh's \$10 million campaign war chest did not come up in the conversation. **Primary Horse Race Status:** Leans Lugar

Governor: John & Mike & Jim & Rupert

The Indiana governor's race was already shaping up to be an orator's delight with former House Speaker John Gregg and former radio and TV host Mike Pence preparing the square off. Now reality TV star Rupert Boneham is exploring a run as a Libertarian. On his website (www.RupertForGovernor.com), Boneham explained, "I have formed an exploratory committee to evaluate becoming a candidate for governor of Indiana. I hope to make a final decision in the coming weeks, but wanted to take time to discuss my decision with family, friends and the community that has so graciously supported Rupert's Kids. I have spent my entire adult life serving my community and I see an opportunity to make a difference for Indiana. While surveying the current choices for our next governor, I do not see anyone that has an understanding of what daily life is like for many Hoosiers nor anyone who appears to understand the harm that misguided government policies are doing to our communities. It is obvious that career politicians are not the answer because they are often the problem. I will be evaluating whether or not hardworking Hoosiers are ready for a new voice with new ideas."

On Wednesday, during the news conference at

a Downtown office building, Boneham insisted he would make a serious candidate. "There is no way I would bring reality (TV) into my real world," he told the Indianapolis Star. "Reality TV has no place in running for governor."

Politico lists the Indiana governor's race as seventh on its top 10 list: 7. Indiana John Gregg has united the party and landed Barack Obama's 2008 Ohio political director to manage his campaign. Rep. Mike Pence, who first said he wouldn't dive into the substance of issues until next year, earned a good round of press for his proposal to cut four state taxes. Despite even Gov. Mitch Daniels questioning its feasibility, Gregg even had a hard time criticizing it, comparing it to ice cream. Who Won August: Pence. No recent public polling.

The Mike Pence for Indiana campaign has released its second video highlighting travels around the state. The web video is available at www.mikepence.com (Howey Politics Indiana). A high resolution video is available for download here: <http://mikepence.com/videouploads/summer-campaign.m2t>.

Pence campaigned for Fort Wayne Republican Paula Hughes and Evansville Republican Lloyd Winnecke in recent days. Dozens of people piled into the Hughes for Mayor headquarters Tuesday. Pence (R-6th District) spoke about cutting wasteful spending and conservative values, saying Hughes' record displays both. "By coming to town today and coming to town again before election day we'll make it clear to any voters it might matter to, that I think Fort Wayne has a unique opportunity to elect a principled conservative to the mayor's office in Paula Hughes," said Pence.

Pence also paid a visit to former Gov. Edgar Whitcomb at his home in Rome, Ind.

The Jim Wallace for Governor Committee has retained the services of Jennifer Pearsey and her firm, MS Strategies, to serve as its fundraising counsel for the 2012 campaign. MS Strategies is a full-service consulting firm providing public policy, political and marketing strategies. Pearsey has extensive experience in local and statewide politics. From 2008 to 2010, she served as political director for the Ballard for Mayor Committee in Indianapolis, developing and executing a successful fundraising plan, as well as cultivating and maintaining relationships with key constituencies and major donors. Previously, she had served on Mayor Ballard's staff, as well as on the staff of the Indiana Senate Republican Caucus. "Jennifer's professional expertise brings an invaluable added dimension to our campaign," said Wallace. "She's considered a true political 'heavyweight' within the Republican Party - and we're



Rupert Boneham is pondering a Libertarian gubernatorial run.



fortunate to have her and her company supporting our team." Pearsey will begin working with the Wallace campaign immediately and sees this new relationship as an opportunity both for her firm and for the state of Indiana. "It will be an honor to work with Jim Wallace, because of his commitment to creating jobs for Hoosiers while maintaining fiscal responsibility in our great state," says Pearsey. "I look forward to helping Jim Wallace become the next Governor of Indiana."

5th CD: McIntosh builds campaign

The McIntosh for Indiana Campaign announced today the hiring of three key members in David McIntosh's bid for Indiana's new 5th Congressional District. Robb Greene will serve as campaign manager, Jason Sondhi as finance director, and Chris Kashman as deputy campaign manager. "Every successful endeavor begins with putting the right people in place," McIntosh said. "Their combined campaign experience and political expertise are exciting additions to our team." Greene, who grew up in Noblesville, recently served as the deputy chief of staff for Congressman Marlin Stutzman, following positions as campaign manager for Stutzman's races for U.S. Senate and Congress. Prior to that, Greene oversaw the successful Republican caucus campaigns for the City-County Council in 2007 that took back a Republican majority followed by his role as executive director of the Marion County Republican Central Committee. Sondhi served as finance director for the Indiana Republican Party in 2007-2008. Following that, Sondhi became the finance director for Indianapolis Mayor Greg Ballard in 2008 before becoming deputy regional campaign manager for Senator John McCain's Presidential bid. Kashman, a native of Zionsville, is a graduate of Indiana University Bloomington. He earned his law degree from Loyola University Chicago School of Law. He recently completed an internship with the Republican Caucus in the Indiana State Senate and has volunteered on several campaigns.

8th CD: Crooks confident

Dave Crooks and Terry White hosted hospitality suits in French Lick this weekend. Crooks told HPI that his third quarter FEC report will be strong "I'm optimistic we'll show a positive figure because labor is stepping up." Crooks also said he expects the endorsement of most of

the legislative Democrats in the 8th CD, though State Sen. Lindel Hume will endorse White. Crooks said he has "quietly" polled most of the 8th CD county chairs "and a vast majority will be for me."

Crooks believes he has some powerful advantages. "I have unique appeal to independents and Republicans in the center of the district. Bush beat Kerry with 72% of the vote in HD63 and I polled 52%," Crooks said of his 2004 race in his old legislative district. "That shows I have a lot of Republicans and independents who support me." He noted that U.S. Rep. John Hostettler had a 3,000 vote bounce in Daviess County. "I believe I can win or break even in Daviess County," Crooks said. "That's not easy for a Democrat. (Brad) Ellsworth did it only once." Crooks noted that he grew up in Sullivan County, ran radio stations in Clay and Owen counties and he worked at one in Parke County. "I have unique name ID north of I-64. Our focus in the months to come will be South of 64 in Warrick, Vanderburgh and Posey counties.

White is Democratic chairman in Warrick County and has many allies in Evansville, sources tell HPI. **Primary Horse Race:** Tossup

9th CD: Joe Pearson in Bloomington

Former State Rep. Joe Pearson has married and he and his new wife have a home in Bloomington, in the 9th CD. This intrigues some Democrats still searching for an opponent for U.S. Rep.

Todd Young.

HD12: Karagan to run

Republican Pete Karagan of Munster has announced for HD12. The current HD12 is represented by State Rep. Mara Candelaria Reardon, D-Hammond. Karagan called on the state to fully fund the maintenance of the Little Calumet River levy. He called for legislation to resolve the Griffith/Calumet Township tax issues (Howey Politics Indiana). "Currently the residents of Griffith are paying an excessive property tax as part of Calumet Township," Karagan said. He also called for the rebuilding of the Cline Avenue Bridge, "which is critical to the economic health of Lake County." And he called on the state to "properly fund schools at all levels in Indiana. Incentives need to be provided for teaching math and science." ❖



Former State Rep. Dave Crooks is seeking the 8th CD Democratic nomination. (HPI Photo by Brian A. Howey)



A principal and a QB

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY**

FRENCH LICK, Ind. - Football season has arrived after a brutally hot Indiana summer. It's like Christmas in September.

I ran into Spencer County Commissioner Al Logsdon here last weekend and he had an intriguing, inspirational story to tell. He was principal of Heritage Hills High School in Lincoln City. The school's football program has been a pro player factory, producing former Indianapolis Colt Ken Dilger, Bruce King of the Kansas City Chiefs and Buffalo Bills, and, of course, the kid from Santa Claus, Jay Cutler of the Chicago Bears.



Cutler had a 26-1 record his junior and senior years, with his team outscoring opponents 746-85 on the way to a state championship. Trailing Zionsville 24-20 in overtime, Cutler lateraled to half-back Cole Seifrig, who

then passed to Cutler in the end zone.

Despite his high school success, then-Indiana University football coach Cam Cameron told Cutler he wasn't good enough for the Hoosiers. A Purdue assistant said the Boilermakers didn't like his throwing motion. Dilger helped get Cutler a scholarship to Illinois, but it was rescinded.

Principal Logsdon joined long-time Heritage Hills Coach Bob Clayton in solving this dilemma: Where would Jay Cutler go to college?

"He was a smart kid," Logsdon said. So Vanderbilt University with its stellar academic reputation quickly came to the forefront. A tape of Cutler's last three games at Heritage Hills was sent to the Vanderbilt football program. Logsdon followed up with a phone call and was told, "We get tapes all the time." Not interested.

Logsdon persisted: You would be smart to take a few minutes and watch this one of Cutler.

Less than an hour later, Vanderbilt was back on the phone: What's the best way to get to Santa Claus?

Cutler started all 46 games at Vanderbilt and while the Commodores were only 11-35, Cutler lit up the record

books. In his final year at Vanderbilt, he completed 273-of-462 passes (59.1%) for 3,073 yards, 21 touchdowns and nine interceptions, as he became the first Commodore to win the SEC Offensive Player of the Year since 1967. Vandy nearly upset 13th ranked Florida, then ended his career with a 28-24 win over Tennessee, its first victory over the Vols since 1982.

Cutler grew up a Chicago Bears fan, and after several seasons with the Denver Broncos as a first round draft choice, he was traded to the Bears, where he led them to the 2011 NFC Championship game against eventual Super Bowl winner Green Bay. Cutler was injured in that game, and some NFL players questioned his toughness after he came out in the third quarter. Clayton would have none of that talk, telling the Evansville Courier & Press, "Jay's always been a tough kid, that's one thing I'll never question, his toughness. I saw him play a semi-state against Roncalli (High School) with a horribly sprained ankle. He was on crutches three days that week, and he played the best game he's ever played."



For Logsdon, Cutler is the pinnacle of pride for a small Southern Indiana high school that has produced a pipeline of players to the NFL.

But as principal, the focus became one of literacy. "A poll we took of parents showed that 85 percent of our students had never been to a bookstore," he explains. "Most had not even taken a book out of the public library which is located in an isolated part of the district. This is a poor community. Most parents never attended college, and children just don't have a lot of exposure to books."



Chicago Bears quarterback Jay Cutler led his Heritage Hills HS team to a state title, catching the winning pass against Zionsville.

The school of 800 students began to focus on literacy. According to the Heritage Hills website, Logsdon attended conferences across the country on literacy and asked well-known speakers if they would be willing to reduce their fees and come to his rural district to lead workshops during the summer academy. Over the past few years, several have done so. The faculty has scheduled a 20-minute reading time every day, when everyone in the school takes

time to read for pleasure, and they have used a Goals 2000 grant to hire a literacy consultant from Indiana University who visits the school at least six times a year.

"Now when I go clothes shopping," one mother remarked, "my daughter wants to go to the bookstore as well." The bookstore, and Soldier Field in Chicago are the destinations of choice these days in Santa Claus. ❖



How will spending change as we grow older

By **MORTON J. MARCUS**

INDIANAPOLIS - The 2010 Census reported nearly 40 percent of Indiana's population is 45 years or older. They were born in 1965 or earlier. Two-thirds of them are under age 65. Do you get the picture?

The 1.7 million Hoosiers, who have been called baby-boomers all their lives, represent 26.5 percent of our total population. Their choices as consumers, workers and voters will determine our state's future. Will the spending of the today's 45 to 64 year old group change to match the pattern of spending we see in today's older citizens?

Each year the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) compiles data on the spending patterns of American households, which BLS calls "consuming units." The data are available by the age of the person answering the questions.



The 2009 Consumer Expenditure Survey reports the average household of the 45 to 64 year old had \$76,300 of income. The 65 and older households averaged \$39,900 (including social security and food stamps).

Of the 45 to 64 year old households nationally, 62 percent attended college while the older group had only 45 percent who went beyond high school. Incomes are generally higher for those with more education. In addition, the younger group has had more opportunity to earn higher income than their seniors, although the latter may have more secure pensions.

Reported expenditures total 95.7 percent of after-tax income for 45 to 64 year old households, but 98 percent for those in the 65 and older group. These "savings" include mortgage principal payments which BLS treats as reductions in liabilities rather than expenditures.

For the young group, 7.3 percent of expenditures go for mortgage interest and other charges. This is substantially higher than the 3.5 percent spent by those 65 and older who are more likely to have paid off all or part of their mortgages and therefore lower interest payments.

Younger homeowners spend 2.4 percent on maintenance, repairs, insurance, and other housing expenses; older folks, with lower incomes, older housing and possibly less inclination to engage in do-it-yourself projects, expend 4.6 percent of their outlays on these items. Property taxes equal 4.1 percent of spending for the 45 to 64 group and 4.7 percent for the lower income older population.

Other differences: of food purchases made by 45 to 64 year olds, 58 percent are for consumption at home. Among those 65 and older, the percentage rises to 66 percent.

Is this difference because a.) the younger group has higher current income, b.) the younger group does not suffer from immobilizing circumstances, or c.) the younger people have a stronger preference for eating out? The answers will be important to the restaurant industry.

For health care those 65 and older spend 12.9 percent of their outlays while the younger cohort spends only 6.3 percent. Of the total amounts, younger people spend half on insurance while the older group puts out two-thirds of their health spending on insurance. This may not mean that the 65 plus group spends more for health insurance, it may only mean that their incomes are lower than the more youthful group.

If baby boomers do have higher incomes when they are 65 plus, the health care burden may be less pronounced. This will have strong implications for national policy as well as presenting extensive marketing opportunities for other forms of consumer spending. ❖

Mr. Marcus is an independent economist, speaker, and writer formerly with IU's Kelley School of Business.

Petraeus retires with a warning

WASHINGTON - An era in the American military came to an end on Wednesday when David H. Petraeus, the most influential general of his generation, retired with a 17-gun salute and a warning that coming budget cuts should not lead to the "hollow Army" that occurred after the Vietnam War (New York Times). Just 11 days before the 10th anniversary of Osama Bin Laden's attacks on New York and Washington, General Petraeus also implicitly cautioned that the United States should not abandon the troop-intensive and expensive counterinsurgency doctrine that was his hallmark.

General Petraeus said that the United States should keep counterinsurgency as a doctrine – he helped write the military's updated manual on it in 2005 and 2006 – if only because war is unpredictable and the military needs to be trained for all possibilities. "We have relearned since 9/11 the timeless lesson that we don't always get to fight the wars for which we're most prepared or most inclined," General Petraeus said at the retirement ceremony, held in the bright sunshine of the parade ground at Fort Myer, near Arlington National Cemetery. "Given that reality, we will need to maintain the full-spectrum capability that we have developed over this last decade of conflict in Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere."



Matt Tully, Indianapolis Star: There's an overriding question to ask in the wake of the inflammatory statements U.S. Rep. Andre Carson made recently about congressional members of the tea party. Why? Why did the Indianapolis Democrat dive head first into the partisan wars that have polluted the nation's capital? Why did Carson, who has built a solid reputation during his first three years in office, make a statement that could drive him to the fringe inside the Capitol, alongside colleagues who yell "you lie" during presidential speeches and "baby killer" during debates. It makes no sense. It's hard to imagine what good can come from Carson's sweeping statement that accused political opponents of wanting to see black Americans "hanging on a tree." Outside of rallying die-hards within the Democratic base and raising the fury of the tea party, such highly charged words do little but further tear apart an already bitterly divided Congress and nation. They won't help one person get a job or help one piece of legislation pass. ❖

Mark Kiesling, NWI Times: Is this the beginning of the end or the start of a trend? Indiana is taking over the Gary Roosevelt Career and Technical Academy, which in polite circles is known as "troubled" but which in reality is circling the drain. The state has recommended that EdisonLearning (yes, that's one word) take over the school, which is one of seven Indiana schools on probation. EdisonLearning is owned by a private equity firm, and this will mark the first time in state history a school has been taken over by the state, although discussions are under way regarding the remaining six schools, which are all in Indianapolis. Well, Gary finally leads Indianapolis in something, although I am not sure how much of an honor that is. "No one wants to be in this position, but now it's time to look forward," state Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Bennett said. No, not the guy who sang, "I Left My Heart In San Francisco," but thanks for asking. While some Gary political leaders have been openly skeptical of the move, Bennett said the easy way out would have been to do nothing or just shut the school altogether. It will be interesting to see what EdisonLearning will be able to do once Roosevelt is separated politically and financially from Gary Community School Corp. One fear expressed by the Gary politicians is that the move will not succeed, but another is that it will -- bringing with it questions about the efficiency of the Gary school corporation itself. Right now, the school corporation is willing to work with EdisonLearning to keep Roosevelt afloat. "I hope it will be a collaboration," said Gary's school superintendent, Myrtle Campbell. "I know of some corporations where Edison is working. It will be critical that they work with us.



Mizell Stewart III, Evansville Courier & Press: For a few seconds, Lloyd Winnecke was at a loss for words. The moment came at Thursday's town hall debate at Harrison High School organized by students at the Randall T. Shepard Academy for Law and Social Justice. The question, posed by Harrison student Cole Shafer, asked each candidate where he disagrees with his own political party. Winnecke, a Republican, responded with "gay rights." While he would appear to be more liberal on social issues, Winnecke may also do well to disagree with the folks writing canned e-mail blasts for the Vanderburgh County Republican Party. In addition to the Harrison town hall, Thursday marked the release of a jobs plan from Rick Davis, Winnecke's Democratic opponent, in which Davis proposed leveraging federal dollars to help at-risk students find jobs and establish a public-private partnership to provide loans to small businesses, among other initiatives. The Davis plan is fine as far as it goes, but someone at the county GOP couldn't help but copy and paste language from the Republican National Committee in response: "It is fitting that Rick Davis is releasing his jobs plan on the same week that his fellow liberal, Barack Obama, announced he would release one. Davis supported ObamaCare and he now appears to follow Obama's philosophy on jobs. Evansville could expect millions of dollars of new spending with Davis as mayor. Among other things, Davis has proposed more government-funded programs and more government-funded jobs. This kind of tax and spend mentality is bankrupting the country, and we cannot afford to let it bankrupt Evansville." With heated rhetoric like that, you'd think Davis proposed a new minor-league baseball stadium. The actual proposal isn't nearly so sweeping. "We certainly wish we had seen that before it went out," Winnecke said Friday. "I don't know that it (the Davis plan) is a tax-and-spend mentality, but our jobs plan certainly takes a different approach." County GOP Chairman Wayne Parke could not be reached Friday. As a city voter, I'm hard pressed to see (or care) what Rick Davis' support of President Obama's health care plan has to do with a municipal election in the city of Evansville. ❖

Andrea Neal, Indianapolis Star: It doesn't take an economist to spot the common thread in these recent economic development headlines: Chattanooga, Tenn.: "Volkswagen hires 2,000th employee." July 29. Shreveport, La.: "NJ-based bag manufacturer to build Louisiana plant." July 28. Decatur, Ala.: "Polyplex to build \$185 million plant." July 21. West Point, Ga.: "Kia builds vehicle No. 300,000." July 7. All four stories have southern datelines. All come from states with right-to-work laws, which prohibit labor contracts that require employees to join a union. ❖



Carson won't apologize

INDIANAPOLIS - U.S. Rep. Andre Carson says he will not apologize for saying some tea party-aligned congressmen want to see blacks "hanging on a tree" (Schneider, Indianapolis Star). "I stand on the truth of what I spoke," Carson told The Indianapolis Star after his words, spoken last week at a job fair in Miami, were posted on a website founded by conservative commentator Glenn Beck.



"Some of these folks in Congress right now would love to see us as second-class citizens," Carson, a leader of the Congressional Black Caucus, said at the Florida event. "Some of them in Congress right now with this tea party movement would love to see you and me hanging on a tree." The racially charged imagery, evoking lynchings of blacks, sparked a firestorm of reaction from the 7th District constituents he has represented in Marion County since 2008, and nationally. Many, including tea party activists, called for an apology, or even his resignation. Others said Carson has nothing to apologize for. Asked whether he has any regrets, Carson said: "I don't regret the truth of what I've spoken." Perhaps, he conceded, other words might have been better. "I was very passionate in my language, and perhaps if I had to do it over, that analogy wouldn't have been used because I would have known it would have been a distraction," Carson said. And that, he insisted, is all this criticism is about: a distraction from the real issue, which he sees as a Congress being pushed by some into passing legislation that hurts his constituents of all racial backgrounds. "I stand in solidarity with the tea party in call-

ing for greater government transparency, reducing our deficit, but I won't hesitate in calling out those who have no interest in creating jobs for Americans, funding job training, Head Start, child nutrition and housing assistance, all of which many Americans I think really need to have a fighting chance," he said. Carson added that he does not think the tea party is racist, but he thinks there are racist elements among some of its extreme members. Many in the tea party said it was Carson who was being racist. "I think his comments set back our racial progress by decades as opposed to anything the tea party is doing," said Dr. David Blank, an Indianapolis physician who is active with the Indianapolis Tea Party. "He's doing a racist message, and he's setting people up against each other." "He owes every Hoosier an apology for his comment," Monica Boyer, a Kosciusko County tea party leader, told the newspaper. "Since Mr. Carson can't stand on substance or truth, the only thing he has left is to play the race card."

Goldsmith arrested on July 30 in DC

WASHINGTON - Former Indianapolis Mayor Steve Goldsmith spent two days in a Washington D.C. jail in July. The New York Post reports he was arrested for domestic violence on July 30th after his wife called police to their Georgetown home. The Post reports Goldsmith was arrested after his wife Margaret told police her husband smashed a phone and grabbed her when she tried to call for help. The Post cites the D.C. police report as saying Margaret, 59, told Goldsmith she should have put a bullet through him years ago. Both Stephen and his wife Margaret now say there was no domestic violence. She says the police report states otherwise and she immediately took action to set the

record straight. Mrs. Goldsmith says her husband was arrested because police told her it was required by D.C. law. Stephen and Margaret Goldsmith released a written statement to WIBC News Thursday morning, Margaret Goldsmith commented: "The police report is a summary of what discussions occurred that evening in our home, and those comments have been misconstrued as well as taken out of context." She said no charges were ever filed and no one was injured. Goldsmith resigned Aug. 4 as Deputy Mayor of New York. In the statement to WIBC, the former Indianapolis Mayor said, "Margaret and I agree that the facts have not been accurately portrayed."

Obama to address joint session Sept. 8

WASHINGTON - President Barack Obama will deliver a rare address to a joint session of Congress next week to introduce a long-awaited plan for jobs and economic growth, but not before being forced to yield in a test of wills with House Speaker John Boehner over not what he would say, but when he would say it (Associated Press). Obama agreed to schedule his address on Sept. 8 after Boehner balked at the president's request for a Sept. 7 speech. Obama's address still gives him a grand stage to unveil his economic agenda, though it falls on the same evening as the opening game of the National Football League season. White House officials were working on the precise timing of the speech in hopes of avoiding a conflict.

Huntsman offers jobs plan

INDIANAPOLIS - The former Utah governor reiterated his call for a



"revenue-neutral" restructuring that ends the "maze of special interest carve-outs, loopholes and temporary provisions" in the tax code. Echoing the bipartisan plan crafted by the Simpson-Bowles Commission, Huntsman proposed consolidating the sprawling system into three lower individual tax brackets at 8 percent, 14 percent and 23 percent. He called for reducing the corporate rate to 25 percent and a tax holiday for repatriation of corporate profits overseas. He also recommended eliminating capital gains and dividends taxes, as well as the alternate minimum tax. "The president believes he can tax and spend and regulate our way to prosperity," Huntsman said. "We cannot. We must compete our way to prosperity."

Victory to return to Circle Friday

INDIANAPOLIS - The historic bronze Victory sculpture will return to Monument Circle in downtown Indianapolis on Friday, September 2 for public viewing before its return to the top of the Soldiers and Sailors Monument on Tuesday, September 6. All activities are weather dependant; here is the anticipated schedule: Friday, September 2: Victory sculpture departs Stout Field about 9 a.m. with expected arrival at Monument Circle about 10 a.m. Placement of sculpture: northwest quadrant of Monument Circle adjacent to the Soldiers and Sailors Monument. No parking in northwest quadrant September 2-6 to allow passage of traffic. Sculpture will be within the steel cage that will secure its 284-foot rise to the top of the monument, and be surrounded by fencing and concrete barriers. Public viewing of Victory sculpture. Tuesday, September 6: Approximately 6 a.m., crews will prepare for the sculpture's return to the top of the monument. Approximately 6:30 a.m., the sculpture

will begin its ascent and completion is expected within one hour.

Fair has protocol for victims fund

INDIANAPOLIS - The Indiana State Fair Commission will use the services of nationally recognized victims compensation expert Kenneth Feinberg to quickly and fairly distribute the private donations made to the Indiana State Fair Remembrance Fund. Andre Lacy, chairman of the Indiana State Fair Commission, said today that Feinberg -- who is donating his services -- will recommend protocols for eligibility and payment amounts to victims of the Aug. 13 state fair accident. So far, donations of about \$263,000 have been made to the fund. That does not yet include about \$554,000 of concert proceeds donated by the bands Maroon 5 and Train, who performed their scheduled state fair concert offsite at Conseco Fieldhouse in the days after the accident. "Our goal is to get the funds donated by the bands, Hoosiers and many others who have stepped up to help the accident victims and families as soon as we can in a manner consistent with rules for charitable giving," said Lacy.

Freeman-Wilson focuses on schools

GARY - Karen Freeman-Wilson has organized a team to address educational challenges in Gary. A New Day Education Committee met Wednesday and began focusing on five core areas: connecting families with educational services, involving the community, establishing safety within schools, providing positive early childhood development and promoting college and career success. The committee of community leaders also emphasized that bringing together

charter schools, alternative schools and adult educational programs with public schools should be part of the master plan. Freeman-Wilson, who won the Democratic mayoral primary in May, faces Republican Charles Smith Jr. and independent LaVetta Sparks-Wade in the Nov. 2 election for mayor of the largely Democratic city. "If I'm not the next mayor then I'm willing to allow anyone to access this information that we are working on," Freeman-Wilson said. "It's just crucial for the next mayor to have a head-start on planning for the large amount of challenges that we are facing in educating our children."

Ex-prosecutor ordered to repay

ENGLISH - Former Crawford County prosecutor Jimmie Montgomery was ordered by a judge this week to repay \$146,000 that he and his wife were accused of taking from an incapacitated relative's estate (Louisville Courier-Journal). Harrison Superior Court Judge Roger Davis had threatened to jail Montgomery and his wife Shirley for contempt if they didn't reimburse the money the couple had paid themselves from her aunt's estate for caring for the woman in their home during the last two years. The accusations that the Montgomerys illegally dipped into Alberta D. Suddarth's estate surfaced this summer.

New contract for ISU president

TERRE HAUTE - Indiana State University's trustees have given the school president a new contract that runs until 2016 (Associated Press). The contract the Board of Trustees approved Tuesday keeps President Dan Bradley's base salary at about \$271,000. ❖