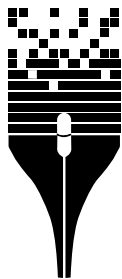


The Howey Political Report



Vital lessons learned from Bush-Gore '00

An early look at the Indiana impact

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY** in Indianapolis

The son of a president - George W. Bush - is poised to claim the White House in much the same controversial way as the last son of a president - John Quincy Adams - 175 years ago. Tuesday night's 5 to 4 U.S. Supreme Court ruling staggered the campaign of Democrat Al Gore, apparently bringing to an end what gonzo journalist Hunter S. Thompson called a "wrestling match in the Florida swamps."

How Gore concedes - or as some insiders are predicting, withdraws - from the race will go a long way toward determining how America's evenly split government will function in the next two years, as well as determine the very earliest pecking order for the 2004 presidential race. ABC News' Terry Moran was reporting on Wednesday morning that the universal feeling inside the Gore campaign was that "we were robbed." That is the undercurrent that will be gnawing at a vexed America in the next unsettled months.

Bush would preside over one of the most evenly split Americas in history: 271 to 263 divide in the Electoral College favoring Bush; a .3 of a percent Gore lead in the popular vote; a tiny five-vote Republican majority in the House; a 50/50 split Senate; the Republicans controlling 17 state legislatures, the Democrats 16; a Florida Supreme Court split 4 to 3 for hand recounts; a 5 to 4 U.S. Supreme Court decision on behalf of Bush.

Democratic National Chairman Joe Andrew said that Democrats were not questioning the authority of the majority court ruling, but told CNN this morning, "The dissent itself makes us wonder if the Court should have gotten involved at all."

Continued on page 2

The Howey Political Report is published by NewsLink Inc. Founded in 1994, The Howey Political Report is an independent, non-partisan newsletter analyzing the political process in Indiana.

Brian A. Howey, publisher

Mark Schoeff Jr., Washington writer

Jack E. Howey, editor

The Howey Political Report Office: 317-254-1533
PO Box 40265 Fax: 317-466-0993
Indianapolis, IN 46240-0265 Mobile: 317-506-0883

brianhowey@howeypolitics.com
www.howeypolitics.com

Washington office: 202-775-3242;
Business Office: 317-254-0535.

Subscriptions: \$250 annually via e-mail or fax. Call 317-254-1533.

© 2000, *The Howey Political Report*. All rights reserved. Photocopying, Internet forwarding, faxing or reproducing in any form, in whole or in part, is a violation of federal law and is **strictly prohibited** without consent of the publisher.

"QUOTE" OF THE WEEK

"Our nation has been savaged by its own Supreme Court...."

- U.S. Rep. Julia Carson after the U.S. Supreme Court issued a stay of the Florida recount last Saturday.

INSIDE FEATURES

- Ticker Tape: Dan Coats at Defense** p. 2
- Congress Watch: Bayh & abortion** p. 3
- Bulen Symposium: Thanks, Al Gore** p. 4
- Marion Co. Dems gird for battle** p. 7

***Don't forget to create your own
2001 HPR 50 Most Influential List***

TICKER T A P E

SPECULATION HAS COATS AS POTENTIAL DEFENSE SECRETARY: Former Indiana Sen. Dan Coats may be on the short list as George W. Bush's secretary of defense, should he assume the White House. Coats and Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Ridge top the list, sources have told HPR. The Washington Post reported, "If Ridge really does turn down the job, this source said, a likely alternate would be former senator Dan Coats, a conservative Republican from Indiana. As a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Coats showed a strong interest in the military reform issues that Bush made a central part of his campaign discussion of national security issues." Coats, who was appointed to the Senate in 1989 to succeed Dan Quayle and was elected to a six-year term in 1992, led the GOP in 1993 in arguing against lifting the ban on allowing gays to serve openly in the military. He was also skeptical of gender integration in the military, especially in basic training units. Coats declined to comment. The Washington Times speculated on Wednesday that former Indiana congressman Lee Hamilton might also be asked to join a Bush administration. Speculation has former Indianapolis mayor Stephen Goldsmith leading

Continued on page 3



Bush, *from page 1*

What impact will all of this have on Indiana?

- Three past political figures - Stephen Goldsmith, Dan Coats and Lee Hamilton - await a potential ascension to a Bush cabinet, although that will have little impact on the state's political scene. It would give Indiana potentially more clout in Washington.

- Depending how Bush traverses the choppy political waters, Congressmen Mike Pence, John Hostettler, Baron Hill and Tim Roemer could be in for tough races in 2002 - the Bush mid-term.

- The clout of Democratic moderates Sen. Evan Bayh, and Reps. Roemer and Hill could be greatly enhanced if they reach out in a centrist way to a President Bush. That could poise Bayh for a presidential run in 2004 (See page 3). On the Republican side, U.S. Rep. Steve Buyer's conspicuous involvement in the Florida recounts could raise his stock with the incoming administration. The Conservative Action Team activities of David McIntosh and Dan Burton will wane. In essence, the political pendulum is shifting toward the center.

- The 50/50 split Senate presents some procedural challenges to U.S. Sen. Richard Lugar, who had hoped to cap his career in the upper chamber as chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee. Twenty Republicans and 14 Democrats will be up for re-election in 2002, the same year current Chairman Jesse Helms is expected to retire.

- Two-thirds of Indiana counties not on electronic or optical scanner voting systems will be looking to upgrade, including Marion (mechanical machines) and Elkhart (punch cards), which have already begun that process.

And the lessons learned?

Every vote counts. The way every vote is counted - everywhere - is vitally important. We may be entering an era similar to the evenly split America of 1876-1888 when each presidential election and administration was buffeted by tight elections, Electoral College/popular vote splits; assassination; and a series of on-term presidencies.

Bush might have easily won this election had he been forthright about his DUI. Gore's gravitation to the center spawned Ralph Nader, who may have cost him victory. ❖

Son of Al and Hillary and Evan ...

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY** in Indianapolis

Sooooo! Hillary Rodham Clinton isn't going to run for president in 2004, and I believe her.

Mrs. Clinton was asked by CNN's Larry King Monday night, "Let's say Gore loses. That means the Democratic Party has no incumbent. Are you interested in that office in '04?"

"No, I'm not," the First Lady earnestly replied.

Not at all?

"No. I am intent upon being the best senator that I can be. That is what I want to do," Mrs. Clinton said, adding that was "as definitive as I can get."

So this is good news for U.S. Sen. Evan Bayh. The First Lady turned celebrity Senator-elect is out, no matter what kind of "draft Hillary" movement springs forth in 2003. Al Gore is tainted for his inability to use the great economy to propel him to a victory in his home state. Joe Lieberman is a marked "selfish" man in Democratic circles. The Kerr(e)ys and Edwards are simply stylish bridesmaids.

Evan Bayh has the pedigree, the resume and a family dynasty behind him, not to mention his boyish good looks.

The pieces are all in place, save for one - the head of a child emerging from the birth canal sans suctioned brains (i.e. partial birth abortion).

Creator's Syndicate columnist L. Brent Bozell III observed, "To paraphrase Lloyd Bentsen's rejoinder to Dan Quayle, Evan Bayh is no Bob Casey. He is not a uniformly pro-life Democrat, but he has made the strategic mistake (at least within the Democratic firmament) of voting for a ban on partial-birth abortions. Last year, he sided with the pro-abortion position in four of five abortion-related votes - except for the partial-birth vote. As Governor of Indiana, he indicated support for a 24-hour waiting period for abortions, although he never proposed or signed one into law."

Such commentary conjures images of last summer's veepstakes when Gore vice-presidential coordinator Warren Christopher was spun hard by the feminist left. "We shared information we have on all the candidates and shared with him our feelings that Evan's record is problematic for us," NARAL's Alice Germond told the *Baltimore Sun*. "We want to keep the Democratic Party the party of choice."

Bozell notes that "Bayh has yet to make the apparently mandatory journey" made by nationally ambitious Democrats

CONGRESS WATCH

Jesse Jackson, Dick Gephardt, Bill Clinton, and Al "I

Was Always Pro-Choice" Gore, and abandon whatever pro-life "imperfections" they had to become a 100-percent rubber-stamp for abortion-on-demand Democrats. "Mark my words: the pro-aborts will not stop until Bayh goes down that road. And they'll have plenty of help," observed Bozell.

That, despite a new poll from the pro-abortion Alan Guttmacher Institute shows support for abortion is falling even among teenage boys, and the *Los Angeles Times* finds support for the Roe v. Wade decision has fallen 13 points to 43 percent. That prompted Bozell to write, "Perhaps poll-watching Democrats and their friends in the media should wonder whether it would be politically wiser to push Al Gore toward Evan Bayh, instead of pushing Evan Bayh toward Al Gore."

Or Sen. Bayh could heed the advice of Frank Cherry of St. Paul, Ind., who responded to a recent Howey newspaper column: "Evan Bayh does not meet the required liberal mold to be a candidate in New York or California. In the near future, I will write to him again to encourage him to change to the Republican Party where he would be far better received."❖

TICKER

T A P E

Bush's list to head the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

STEEL CRISIS PROMPTS NORTHWEST INDIANA COST CUTTING:

Government and business leaders in Northwest Indiana, concerned about an evolving crisis in the domestic steel industry, are refocusing their attention on ways to cut escalating costs of government (Robin Biesen, Times of Northwest Indiana). Suggestions include consolidation of government units performing identical services to forming cooperative purchasing groups to save money on such everyday needs as paper and light bulbs. But so far, there is no consensus among leaders in Lake, Porter and LaPorte counties despite a growing sense of urgency about the need to cut costs. Big industry has told government that they must cut costs just as industry has had to do. Government leaders, however, say it is a mistake to treat government as private business because they are mandated to provide services the private sector either can't or won't provide.

INDIANA BUDGET NUMBERS WILL BE DOWN:

Thanks to the politically correct gasoline tax suspension, Indiana's surplus num-

continued on page 4

TICKER T A P E

bers will be down. A revenue forecast set for Dec. 19 likely will show tax collections are about \$100 million below projections, said Pat Kiely, president of the Indiana Manufacturers Association and former chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee (John Ketzenberger, Indianapolis Business Journal). "Much of that shortfall, about \$40 million, is attributed to O'Bannon's decision last summer to suspend the sales tax on gasoline in the wake of sharply rising prices," Ketzenberger wrote. "We're already seeing some slow-downs in Indiana," Kiely said, ticking off industries such as trucking, engine manufacturing, automotive parts and recreational vehicles. "It's not going to be a bleak forecast, but it's certainly going to be less than [lawmakers] have had to deal with in the last few bienniums." The Indiana Chamber of Commerce's Kevin Brinegar agreed the budget is made more complicated by both redistricting and the slowing economy. "A lot of the surplus has been spent and revenue collections are down ... about 3 percent," said Brinegar.

SEARCH UNDER WAY FOR CHEAPER GAS: Some new gas pricing regulations hammered out by state officials, consumer advocates and NIPSCO kicked in earli-

continued on page 5

PERHAPS... WE WANDER

By Brian Howey

Internet, TV, newspapers, Al Gore (and me....)

INDIANAPOLIS - Today's Internet is about where the new medium of television was in 1957. That was the year after folks from my Michigan City neighborhood gathered around a huge box with a tiny screen to watch the 1956 Democratic National Convention. It was a year after I was born.

Tracy Westen of *grassroots.com* noted at the Bulen Symposium at IUPUI earlier this month the correlations in the development of the two mediums. "TV in the early days thought it was vaudeville," Westen said. "The Internet in the early days thought it was TV."

There were all sorts of thoughts swirling around the IUPUI auditorium that day. What impact did the Internet have on politics? On the presidential race? How do you make money off the Internet? What will happen when the Internet and TV combine to create a new hybrid of mass information? Or how about this loaded question in the new era of Gannett here in Indiana: Will newspapers as we know them today even survive?

Overtaking newspapers

An article by Jeremy Schlosberg in *TIME* helps put some of those questions into perspective. "By the time we vote for president again - assuming the current election is over by then - the Internet will have replaced the newspaper as the second primary source of political news, just behind television."

Schlosberg cites the figure of 60 percent of Americans who identified newspapers as one of their two top sources of campaign news four years ago. In early November 2000, only 39 percent of Americans said the same thing. "By

contrast, the Internet, selected by only 3 percent of Americans as one of their top two sources of election information in 1996, nearly quadrupled its status by November 2000, as 11 percent of Americans had elevated it to one of their top two news sources," Schlosberg reported. "If the patterns continue anywhere near apace over the next four years, it'll be no contest - the Internet will move comfortably in behind TV as the No. 2 most important source of election news in the U.S."

The Star wonders

Last Sunday, Ted Daniels of the Indianapolis Star wrote in his "307 N. Penn" column on the front of the Focus section (and under the headline: "Election stories get surprisingly little reaction"), "Given this extensive coverage, however, our readers haven't had much to say about our efforts. On the other hand, dozens have called in recent weeks to protest our dropping of death certificates from the 'For the Record' column. Your silence on the presidential story is almost deafening."

Daniels then observed, "It either means you think we've done a good job of covering this story, or, more ominously, that you don't really care or have followed it from other news sources."

Well, duh!

Out of curiosity, I went to my own website - www.howeypolitics.com - only to discover that since the beginning of this year, I've taken 15,219 hits on my website.

Without knowledge of this, on the panel I appeared on at Bulen, Richard Lowry of the *National Review OnLine* observed that journalists "like Howey" are putting their shingle out on the internet and aren't in any hurry to go back into the

rigid corporate journalism settings that used to be a career requirement.

HPR, 1994-2000

When HPR debuted in August 1994 after I was fired by the *Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette* and spent a year as an NBC affiliate assignment editor, I required about a dozen newspaper subscriptions and a clipping service, as well as hundreds of hours of long distance phone time just to figure out what was going on.

Today, I don't subscribe to any newspapers - I can read them all online, from New York and Washington, to the *Indianapolis Star*, to *Los Angeles Times* and the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*.

Instead of playing phone tag with key sources, I fire off one or a series of e-mails at all hours of the day and night, getting responses likewise. So much credible data and research are available in minutes, as opposed to the hours or days it used to take. Instead of paying for an additional phone line and paying for a ton of fax paper, I get perhaps 50 percent of news releases via e-mail.

And in January 2000, HPR went to an e-mail delivery system. My subscribers often are reading my copy within minutes after it is proofed and e-mailed, as opposed to the days it used to take to wind through the printer and U.S. Postal Service. The money I save from printing and postage funded our value added product - the *HPR Daily Wire*.

While it was tough getting fired from the *Journal Gazette* (they dropped the hyphen after I left) at the time, it was probably the best break of my career (thank you Craig Klugman). While my colleagues at the *Star* and other print outposts - where they have yet to reconcile freefall circulation rates and declining market penetration with free website replications - fret, I've used the Internet to open up multiple revenue streams, declared independence, as well as nurturing my own credibility (remember *Behind Closed Doors*, October 1996). And you

haven't seen nothin' yet.

Party pros

There have been similar opportunities for the party pros. As Indiana Democratic Chairman Robin Winston observed, the internet has allowed the party pros to conduct rapid opposition research, statistical compilation, and communicate. The Indiana Democratic website received 2,400 hits a week and the party sent out about 80,000 e-mails per week during the election sequence.

Winston worried, however, that he can't "move too far away from our core constituencies." As in the early days of the telephone, a significant portion of the party's constituencies aren't cyber connected. "The Internet will allow us to do more, but we hope we don't leave anyone behind," said Winston.

There is little doubt that in 2000, the internet became as important to political organizations as paper clips, envelopes and acetaminophen had been.

The most incredible talk

The most incredible part of the third Bulen symposium was a mid-day discussion on whether communication via the internet was a good thing. Some worried that e-mail conversations were impersonal, lacking voice inflection and body language.

I recall conversing with people that I never would have otherwise (including a high school buddy now at Texas Instruments, where he helped invent the voice of Furby).

In just this past week, I've had e-mail conversations with William Moreau, Scott Jones, Sheila Kennedy, Andrew Horning, Steve Shine, Brose McVey, Chris Sautter, Gary Hofmeister, Gerry Dick, Kevin Kellems, Robin Winston, Brian Stier, Anne Hathaway, John Gregg, Peggy Welch ... and those are just the ones I can publicly acknowledge.

So, thank you, thank you, thank you Al Gore. ❖

TICKER T A P E

er this month and offer some long-term protection for Northwest Indiana homeowners and businesses from skyrocketing natural gas prices (Joe Carroll, Times of Northwest Indiana). NIPSCO's customers are protected from inflated heating bills if the company fails to negotiate lower prices for wholesale gas. If the company does find bargains on the wholesale market, both it and its customers are rewarded.

HELMKE KEEPING HIS OPTIONS OPEN: Former Fort Wayne Mayor Paul Helmke, who has shed a significant number of "chicken dinner circuit" pounds, told HPR that he will be keeping his options open for the next several election cycles, including the 2004 governor's race. Helmke served three terms as mayor of Fort Wayne and then ran unsuccessfully against U.S. Sen. Evan Bayh in 1998.

REPUBLICAN JOCKEYING FOR 2002 SECRETARY OF STATE: Names HPR is hearing bandied about for the 2002 secretary of state open seat include Todd Rokita, chief of staff to Secretary of State Sue Anne Gilroy, Clerk of Court Brian Bishop, and even Indiana Republican Chairman Mike McDaniel, according to GOP sources. The office will be at the top of the Indiana bal-

continued on page 6

TICKER

T A P E

lot in 2002. Gilroy has served the maximum two terms. She has told HPR that she, too, is keeping her political options open.

ELECTION COMMISSION LOOKS INTO CHAMBER ADS AGAINST AG: The Indiana Election Commission agreed last Wednesday to look into whether the U.S. Chamber of Commerce broke the law with campaign ads in last month's election for state attorney general (Mike Smith, Associated Press). Democrats contend the ads were attack ads aired in flagrant disregard of Indiana election law and aided in the Nov. 7 defeat of incumbent Karen Freeman-Wilson. "What ought to concern everyone is the fact that under cover of darkness, this outside, well-funded group came in under stealth and made a massive TV buy at the very least in the Indianapolis market ... and had a huge impact on this election," said Shaw Friedman, an attorney for the Indiana Democratic Party. "Hoosiers rightfully have an expectation of knowing how campaigns are funded and who is putting up the funds for that, and that is what this fight is about."

LUGAR, NUNN HONORED BY DIPLOMATS: Sen. Richard Lugar and former Sen. Sam Nunn of Georgia

A chairman showdown in Indy

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY** in Indianapolis
 INDIANAPOLIS - While the legislature prepares to grapple with reapportionment, another critical component in the works for Indiana's political parties is the county chair elections that will come in 2001.

Already an exodus is taking place. Second CD sources tell HPR that sitting Republican chairs in Rush, Shelby, Jay, Henry and possibly Randolph counties will be leaving those posts. Delaware County changed chairs just a year ago. A multitude of other vacancies in both major parties are expected to open up in the next three months.

It tends to reinforce the words of one of the state's political chairs that only a third of the county chairs are really dedicated to the job of guiding a political organization through a time of great political change and without the patronage that once greased the machinations.

Occasionally, there is a fight for one of these jobs, and that looks like it will occur in Marion County with the Democrats.

This would take place on Indiana's epic demographic/political fault line. With Julia Carson winning the 10th CD in 1996, Jeb Bardon's ouster of Candy Marendt in HD94 in 1998, Bart Peterson's epic truncation of 32-years of GOP mayoral rule in 1999, the near capture of the 15-14 split City-County Council in '99, and Gov. Frank O'Bannon's wins by 20,000 votes in 1996 and 50,000 last month, the Democrats have enjoyed unprecedented success in what was once a Republican bulwark.

But it goes much further than that. Last month, Marion County Democrats made significant inroads in judicial and township races, particularly in Washington Township and Sheriff Jack Cottey's home turf, Warren Township.

Kip Tew played an instrumental role in the initial Carson victory, and he

left the office in 1997, turning it over to Steve Laudig.

Despite Laudig's successes, his style apparently has rubbed some people the wrong way. Two party stalwarts are preparing a challenge: Tew and super lobbyist Ed Treacy.

Word in Democratic circles is that Mayor Peterson would like to see a change. He was mum when HPR inquired, which ultimately says volumes. Rumors were that Carson was pushing a change. Gov. O'Bannon is said to have a disdain for intruding into local affairs but appreciates the mayoral vantage point.

HPR's mystic reading of the tea leaves leads us to believe that Carson also will sidestep this mess, figuring that continuity is valuable, particularly with reapportionment just over the horizon.

One reliable Indianapolis Democratic source told HPR, "Those who would challenge (Laudig) have no record of accomplishment that begins to reach his. It is a tradition of ours - and of human nature - that folks who want power will come out of the woodwork after the work is done."

But in the next breath, this same source added, "Perhaps a three-way contest would serve us well, though."

Laudig will most certainly talk about the inroads made during his tenure, the vital importance of reapportionment, and will try and stoke up concerns of lobbyists heading up the Democratic Party's emerging stronghold.

Could there be an upset in the making? Well, any big city party boss worth his salt will have made enough precinct appointments to assure victory. Rising star mayors, two-term governors and a twitch of the congresswoman's nose, however, can waylay the best laid plans. ❖

COLUMNISTS ON INDIANA

Jack Colwell, *South Bend Tribune* - Let's talk about college costs. No, not Notre Dame tuition or dorm expenses at Indiana University. Let's have questions about the cost of the Electoral College. And the possible price of reforming or abolishing it. **Q.** OK, we all know now that the president doesn't win election by getting the most votes but by getting a majority of electors in this Electoral College. Is that fair? **A.** Depends on whether your candidate wins. **Q.** What do you mean? **A.** Before the election, opinion polls showed a strong possibility that George W. Bush would get the most votes nationally but that Al Gore, forging ahead in key battleground states, could get the 270 electors to win in the Electoral College. Republicans, aghast, were reported to be ready, if that happened, to wage a campaign to "delegitimize" a Gore presidency, portraying Gore as a fluke to be ignored until he could be defeated in 2004. **Q.** So Republicans don't like the Electoral College and want the president picked by popular vote of the people? **A.** No. That GOP belittling of the Electoral College was planned if the scenario of Gore winning with fewer popular votes had come true. It didn't. Instead, surprisingly, the opposite occurred. Gore got the most popular votes, while Bush, counting Florida, was ahead in the count that really counts, in the Electoral College. **Q.** What would be the problem (with splitting up Electoral College votes by congressional district? **A.** A study of the effect of a proposal to split each state's electoral votes on the basis of percentages of the popular vote in each state, showed that the 2000 election would have been thrown into the House because no candidate would have had a majority

of electoral votes. Ralph Nader would have had 14.5 electoral votes. And neither Bush nor Gore, virtually tied, would have reached the magic number. In fact, four of the prior eight presidential elections also would have ended up in the House, where each state gets one vote. The congressional district scheme could bring similar problems if there was any significant third-party challenger. **Q.** The House deciding? With all the eye-gouging politics there. And the smallest state having the same voice as the largest? Wouldn't that be horrible? **A.** Yes. That's why we better be careful about tinkering with reform of the Electoral College. We should keep it as is or else amend Article II of the Constitution to abolish it and also take the House out of the act. ❖

Sylvia Smith, *Fort Wayne Journal Gazette* - Savvy sore losers might vent by screaming at their staffs or kicking a cat, but they do it off camera and away from reporters. The well-considered concession speech can be a losing politician's noblest moment - even if every word is a lie. Consider Dan Quayle's comments in Huntington on election night in 1992 after the Bush-Quayle ticket lost to the Clinton-Gore team: "Tonight is Bill Clinton's night. We must all pull together. He is going to be president for the next four years. He deserves our congratulations." Quayle's lines were not necessarily eloquent, but they were civil and decent. A loser's concession speech is not designed to wish the winner well, although the also-ran may indeed bear no grudge. The true purpose of the concession speech is to be the politician's first speech of the next campaign. ❖

TICKER TAPE

were honored Thursday for dismantling nuclear weapons. The Excellence in Diplomacy Award comes from the American Academy of Diplomacy, a limited membership organization of government officials who served as ambassadors at major embassies abroad or in senior foreign policy positions in Washington. Lugar is the first person to receive the award while still in office. Starting in 1991, Lugar and Nunn worked on an alliance to encourage dismantlement and conversion of the post-Cold War Soviet nuclear stockpile. About 30,000 tactical nuclear weapons in four newly independent republics were destroyed and warheads from intercontinental strategic missiles still aimed at the United States were removed. "The legislation and its implementation over the last three years has reduced the risk to American security of nuclear weapons," said Bruce Laingen, president of the American Academy of Diplomacy (Tania Anderson, Fort Wayne News-Sentinel). "It's a major contribution to peace and security."

NEWMAN WON'T RUN FOR RE-ELECTION: Marion County Prosecutor Scott Newman, one of the rising political stars in Indiana's Republican political universe, says he won't run for re-election in 2002. "If you do

continued on page 8

TICKER T A P E

the job right, you immerse yourself every day in people's pain, anger, helplessness, loss and grief," Newman said (Vic Ryckaert, Indianapolis Star). "All of this takes a heavy toll." There had been speculation that Newman might be a candidate for mayor of Indianapolis in 2003 or governor in 2004, but he told the Star, "I have no plans now to run for any other office. I have other things I want to do in life." Another potential option for Newman would be the Southern Indiana District Attorneys office, which would be up for appointment by apparent incoming president George W. Bush. Newman was critical of past DA Judy Stewart when she refused to implement such programs as Project Exile, the program to charge violent gun offenders under federal law instead of state law. When Stewart dragged her feet on that, despite urgings from President Clinton and then-Mayor Stephen Goldsmith, Newman successfully worked to beef up Indiana law.

JONES SAYS HE'LL SUPPORT KERNAN IN 2004: Escient CEO Scott A. Jones told HPR he will support Lt. Gov. Joe Kernan for governor in 2004. "I have no interest whatsoever in the governor's seat," Jones said. "I'm happy to support Joe Kernan if he chooses to run. And from a tech point of view, I will continue to operate in a strongly bipartisan

2001 HPR 50 Most Influential List Requires Your Input

Obviously, due to changing fortunes - electoral, financial and perceptions - our "2001 HPR 50 Most Influential" list needs updating and we ask for your help. Do your own list (full or partial), send it to us by fax (317-466-0493) or e-mail (brianhowey@howeypolitics.com) by Dec. 20 and then watch for the new rankings in our Jan. 4 edition.

2000 50 Most Influential

- 1.) U.S. Sen. Dick Lugar
- 2.) U.S. Sen. Evan Bayh
- 3.) Gov. Frank O'Bannon
- 4.) Rep. David McIntosh
- 5.) State Sen. Larry Borst
- 6.) Chair Robin Winston
- 7.) DNC Chair Joe Andrew
- 8.) Speaker John Gregg
- 9.) Mayor Bart Peterson
- 10.) U.S. Rep. Tim Roemer
- 11.) U.S. Rep. Mark Souder
- 12.) U.S. Rep. Ed Pease
- 13.) Lt. Gov. Joe Kernan
- 14.) Rep. Patrick Bauer
- 15.) Rep. Jeff Espich
- 16.) Mayor Graham Richard
- 17.) Mayor Russell Lloyd
- 18.) Marty Morris
- 19.) Chair Mike McDaniel
- 20.) Judy O'Bannon
- 21.) Mitch Daniels
- 22.) Sen. Teresa Lubbers
- 23.) Jeff Smulyan
- 24.) U.S. Rep. Baron Hill
- 25.) Tom Sugar
- 26.) Mel & Herb Simon
- 27.) Stephen Goldsmith
- 28.) U.S. Rep. Dan Burton
- 29.) U.S. Rep. Steve Buyer
- 30.) Sen. Bob Garton
- 31.) Pat Kiely
- 32.) Ken Zeller
- 33.) U.S. Rep. Pete Visclosky
- 34.) U.S. Rep. Julia Carson
- 35.) David Gogol
- 36.) Margaret Burlingame
- 37.) John R. Price
- 38.) Rep. Paul Mannweiler
- 39.) Mayor Bob Pastrick
- 40.) Tom New
- 41.) Lee Hamilton

- 42.) Chris Jones
 - 43.) Butch Morgan
 - 44.) Mayor John Fernandez
 - 45.) Auditor Connie Nass
 - 46.) Steve Hilbert
 - 47.) Mayor Steve Leucke
 - 48.) Supt. Suellen Reed
 - 49.) Betty Cockrum
 - 50.) Mayor Scott King
- Honorable Mention:** Karl Berron, Norm Cox, Dick Freeland, John Hammond, Al Hubbard, David Johnson, Kevin Kellems, Bob Knight, Jeff Modisett, Win Moses, Mike Pence, Jim Purucker, Scott Newman, Chris Sautter, Steve Shine, Stephen Stiglich, Becky Skillman, George Van Til and Harrison J. Ullmann.

1999 50 Most Influential

- 1.) U.S. Sen. Dick Lugar
- 2.) Gov. Frank O'Bannon
- 3.) U.S. Sen. Evan Bayh
- 4.) State Sen. Larry Borst
- 5.) Chairman Joe Andrew
- 6.) Dan Quayle
- 7.) Mel & Herb Simon
- 8.) Steve Hilbert
- 9.) Speaker John Gregg
- 10.) Marty Morris
- 11.) U.S. Rep. David McIntosh
- 12.) U.S. Rep. Tim Roemer
- 13.) U.S. Rep. Ed Pease
- 14.) State Rep. Patrick Bauer
- 15.) Mitch Daniels
- 16.) Chair Mike McDaniel
- 17.) Pat Kiely
- 18.) Judy O'Bannon

- 19.) Lt. Gov. Joe Kernan
 - 20.) U.S. Rep. Mark Souder
 - 21.) Chair Robin Winston
 - 22.) Pros. Scott Newman
 - 23.) Ken Zeller
 - 24.) U.S. Rep. Julia Carson
 - 25.) U.S. Rep. Steve Buyer
 - 26.) State Sen. Bob Garton
 - 27.) Tom New
 - 28.) Rep. Paul Mannweiler
 - 29.) Secretary of State Sue Anne Gilroy
 - 30.) Tom Sugar
 - 31.) U.S. Rep. Dan Burton
 - 32.) David Gogol
 - 33.) Bernie Toon
 - 34.) Stephen Stiglich
 - 35.) Steve Shine
 - 36.) Butch Morgan
 - 37.) Mayor Stephen Goldsmith
 - 38.) Mayor Paul Helmke
 - 39.) Michael K. Phillips
 - 40.) Gordon Durnil
 - 41.) Mayor John Fernandez
 - 42.) AG Jeff Modisett
 - 43.) Lee Hamilton
 - 44.) Bart Peterson
 - 45.) Supt. Suellen Reed
 - 46.) Nancy Pappas
 - 47.) Dick Freeland
 - 48.) Teresa & Mark Lubbers
 - 49.) Ed & Ann DeLaney
 - 50.) Jeff Smulyan
- Honorable Mention:** Vi Simpson, Jack Cottey, Rex Early, Peter Rusthoven, John Hammond, Jeff Espich, Eric Miller, Karl Berron, Mike Smith, Jim Purucker, and Peggy Welch. ❖

Are we a republic, or just losers?

By MARK T. CURRY

Sloppy legislation and slapdash jurisprudence at the state level, combined with careless disregard for state election guidelines at the county level, have resulted in a man who may not even have received the most votes in Florida to receive that state's electoral votes and thus evidently become the president of the United States.

And there are suggestions that the failings in this election went beyond carelessness and accident. In the *Washington Post* yesterday morning, Jesse Jackson and John J. Sweeney wrote:

"There were dozens of gross injustices in the Florida election. The huge number of undervoted ballots, concentrated in minority precincts across Florida, was the only one for which there appeared to be a partial remedy--and that remedy was the recount ordered by the Florida Supreme Court on Friday. For all the rest - the police blockades and the midnight moves of polling places, the discriminatory purges - there is going to be no remedy."

The *New York Times* reported yesterday that "a study of all 614 precincts in Miami-Dade by an epidemiologist and a psychologist at the University of Miami showed that black voters were 15 times more likely to have their votes thrown out than whites. Other factors that were an indication of a vote that might be thrown out included age, income and education level, but to a lesser extent."

Justice John Paul Stevens wrote in his dissent of last night's ruling, "Although we may never know with complete certainty the identity of the winner of this year's presidential election, the identity of the loser is perfectly clear. It is the nation's confidence in the judge as an impartial guardian of the law."

The result of the Supreme Court's ruling is that the Bush campaign successfully ran out the clock by employing a strategy to slow down the protest and contest process to assure that no meaningful progress was

made.

"What difference does it make how many recounts you've already done if they all leave out the same group of ballots?" wrote Michael Kinsley, editor of *Slate*, in a recent article.

Enough of a difference to win the presidency.

A republic, according to American Heritage, is "A political order in which the supreme power lies in a body of citizens who are entitled to vote for officers and representatives responsible to them."

If we're not a republic, what, then, are we?

Losers.

Our politicians have failed us in the most fundamental way, but don't expect many people to get excited about it. In fact, one may expect the confusion, the often arcane meanderings of pundits and political operatives which have flooded the media over the past five weeks, to further the depressing truth: Most Americans don't care for politics.

Of course, we've learned not to expect politics to change, either. This is the challenge facing Hoosier politicians at every level.

If there is one legacy we can leave our state and country after this debacle of an election, it is this: let's at least get together and clean up the vote-counting process. Our state and national representatives must work to ensure no vote is lost due to problems with a ballot system, or to the vagaries of a recount, or as a result of ill-defined and poorly conceived legislation.

And one would think it is obvious that everyone's vote should count, regardless of ethnic background, education, income and age.

We owe the past, present and future citizens of our republic that much. ❖

Curry, a Columbus, Ind., native, lives in Kingston, Jamaica, where his wife serves with the U.S. Embassy.

TICKER T A P E

manner to move the technology agenda forward in a way that benefits our state's economy in very positive ways. There is much to do. I can do it best as Chairman of Technet and the Indiana Technology Partnership."

ELKHART COUNTY LOOKS TO CHANGE VOTING SYSTEM: The Elkhart County Board of Commissioners voted 3-0 to take bids on a new voting system for Elkhart County on Monday (South Bend Tribune). The vote came after hearing county Clerk Randy Yohn give his latest in a long string of pitches for buying or leasing an optical scan system. More than 300 ballots in the November election in Elkhart County were thrown out because voters incorrectly punched them. In addition, in some individual races such as this year's presidential race, up to 1,000 Elkhart County votes went uncounted because of overvoting or other mistakes. "This isn't being spearheaded by what's going on in Florida," Yohn told commissioners. "But I guess it does save me a lot of arguing. All you have to do is watch what's going on there." ❖

This edition of HPR was completed at 10:57 a.m. Dec. 13.