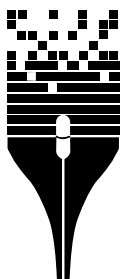


# The Howey Political Report



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: 317-968-0487  
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; \$450 annually including the HPR Daily Wire. Call 317-254-1533 or 254-0535.**

© 2002, 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

“The President’s speech today offered the beginning for many other countries to become part of the picture and part of the coalition.”

- U.S. Sen. Richard G. Lugar, reacting to President Bush’s United Nations speech today

## Bush becomes the commanding figure

### Lugar asks questions; races impacted?

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY** in Indianapolis

Exactly one year after President George W. Bush reached and exceeded expectations in the defining crisis of his presidency, he used an emotional national backdrop and the United Nations pulpit to try and convince a skeptical world to accept his vision of war before peace.

How Bush does in getting Congressional Republicans, Democrats and world leaders in Europe, Russia, China and the Arab world to accept that vision could have a dramatic impact on the Indiana election scene, where possibly five Congressional seats will be in play by the Nov. 5 election.

This morning, Bush called the regime of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein "a grave and gathering danger," as the world watched his address before the United Nations. "The Security Council resolutions will be enforced. The just demands of peace and security will be met. Or action will be unavoidable," Bush said. "And a regime that has lost its legitimacy will also lose its power." Bush said to assume the Iraqi government's good faith would be "to bet the lives of millions and the peace of the world in a reckless gamble."

**Then Bush turned the tables** of credibility on the world community. "We have been more than patient. We have tried sanctions. We have tried the carrot of oil for food and the stick of coalition military strikes. But Saddam Hussein has defied all these efforts," Bush said, adding that the situation was a "difficult and defining moment" for the United Nations.

U.S. Sen. Richard Lugar reacted by saying, "President Bush's substantial and inclusive speech begins the coalition building and the attempt to put together the largest number of countries possible. He and Secretary Powell will now be

## INSIDE FEATURES

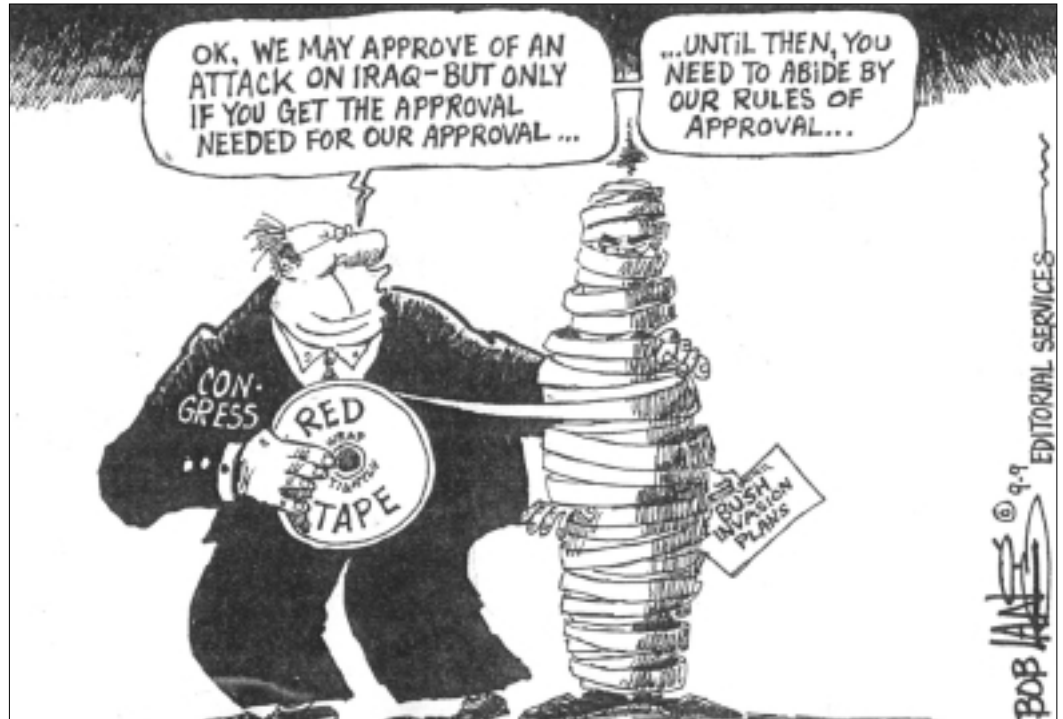
|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| <b>Ticker: Osborn leads Brizzi</b>   | <b>p. 2</b> |
| <b>Perhaps: Schermerhorn &amp; Aller</b>                                   | <b>p. 4</b> |
| <b>Horse Race: Chocola’s inoculation failure; Hostettler claims setup;</b> |             |
| <b>Guiliani endorses McVey</b>   | <b>p. 6</b> |
| <b>Columnists: Smith, Colwell</b>  | <b>p. 8</b> |

# TICKER T A P E

**PENCE CALLS FOR WAR:** U.S. Rep. Mike Pence, this morning, was the first Representative on the House Floor to support President Bush in his call for action against Iraq. "I rise today to respectfully repeat the question the President asked that august and historic body, 'will the UN choose to be relevant on the planet earth?' said Pence. "We must learn the lessons of history. Over sixty years ago, Neville Chamberlain retreated in the face of tyranny. For the past decade the United Nations has repeated the mistakes of the past. President Bush demonstrated that he will not play the role of a modern day Chamberlain, but the role of Churchill. As the President said today, 'Saddam has made the case against himself.' A dictator who routinely murders his own people, harbors terrorists, and develops weapons of mass destruction is a threat to the civilized world.

**OSBORN HAS SLIGHT LEAD OVER BRIZZI:** A poll released by Democratic Marion County Prosecutor candidate Jim Osborn shows him leading 33-29 percent, with 38 percent undecided. The Momentum Analysis LCC Poll was conducted from Aug. 27-31 with 400 likely voters and has a 4.9 percent error rate. "It

*Continued on page 3*



very busy in persuading many nations that they have a shared responsibility in getting international hands on the weapons of mass destruction and destroying them, bringing the regime into compliance with UN resolutions that have been violated, dealing with the regime's human rights violations, and advancing peace and stability in the region and the world," Lugar said. "The President's speech today offered the beginning for many other countries to become part of the picture and part of the coalition. The President signaled to us eight days ago, in the leadership meeting at the White House, that this is what he wanted to do in gaining the support of Congress and a coalition around the world."

## Lugar & Biden questions

On Sept. 10, Lugar and Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Joe Biden, D-Del., released a letter to President Bush saying that Bush had to better prepare his case against Iraq and answer critical questions. "Mr. President, based on what we have heard to date, there is not yet a consensus on many critical questions," Lugar and Biden wrote.

"For example, what is the likelihood that Iraq would use its weapons of mass destruction against us, to deter us or to supply terrorists? What are Iraq's links to terrorist groups, including those responsible for the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001? Can Iraq be disarmed without the use of force? Would attacking Iraq precipitate the very thing we are trying to prevent: the use of weapons of mass destruction against us or countries such as Israel? Can we shift substantial resources to the Iraqi theater without compromising the war on terrorism in many other areas? What would be our obligations to a post-Saddam Iraq militarily and economically? It will be impossible to answer these questions with certainty in advance; however, they must be part of the calculus you make in weighing the various courses of action."

A day later, on Sept. 11, Lugar noted five things that need to happen:

1. More hard-nosed enforcement of UN resolutions against Iraq (which the President enumerated today);
2. Total assurance that the weapons of mass destruction in Iraq are destroyed and the full confidence of the intelligence confirming that;

3. **Keeping** the American people informed of the cost and commitment of a war in Iraq and its aftermath;

4. The President building a broad international coalition, "explaining clearly how we plan to move the Iraqi people into the community of nations" (which Lugar said began with the UN speech); and

5. The President seeking a vote in Congress, (which President Bush said at the White House leadership meeting he would do).

Lugar said that hearings will be forthcoming in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that will include the administration and other experts.

Bush's speeches Wednesday and this morning cannot fully be gauged, with reaction just now beginning to form. Senate Minority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., said Congress must "give the president all the authority he would need" to go after Saddam. Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, D-SD, called the speech "helpful" but not conclusive, and said many questions remain (*CNN*). Biden said this afternoon, "This is the world's fight," and added that "the credibility of the world is on the line. It is important for the president to show there is nothing unilateral about what we are doing. I think the president did a very good job today."

On the international scene, Russia and China had not commented on Bush's UN speech, and *CNN* was reporting that France, another Security Council member, has moved more toward Bush's stance without commenting on whether it would join in any UN-approved military strike.

## Bush & Miss Liberty

As night fell on Sept. 11, 2002, President Bush used the powerful backdrop of the New York City harbor at Ellis Island, with the Statue of Liberty and a huge American flag elegantly blowing in the wind behind him, to prepare the somber and threatened nation for war.

"This nation has defeated tyrants, liberated death camps, raised this lamp of

liberty to every captive land," Bush said. "We have no intention of ignoring or appeasing history's latest gang of fanatics trying to murder their way to power."

It capped an incredible day for this American president -- any American president for that matter. In a CBS interview, Bush pounded his desk in anger as he talked of Sept. 11. The *Dallas Morning News* reported this morning, "Moving from one sobering tribute to another, President Bush embraced a nation still in mourning Wednesday and braced it for the unfinished business of war yet ahead."

The *Washington Post* reported, "Tears ran freely down Bush's cheeks this afternoon as he met with the families of victims."

## Political impact

Political analyst Charlie Cook observed today, "While there are still no signs of any overall shift in races in favor of either party in this year's midterm elections, two contradictory trends seem to be emerging in recent weeks that could alter the face of the 2002 campaign. The decline in President Bush's job approval that began in July has stabilized, and in some measurements has actually improved over the past two weeks. The first is that while Americans have considerable hesitation about the wisdom of attacking Iraq, they have begun to pull behind their commander-in-chief as the probability of such a conflict rises, once again showing the classic 'rally round the flag' phenomenon. Despite that, concerns about where the country is and where it is heading remain high, and pessimism about the economy is clearly increasing."

Hanging in the balance in the fight for control of Congress are the 2nd (tossup) where Bush has a 69 percent approval rating, 7th and 9th (Leans D) and 6th and 8th CDs (both leaning R).

President Bush is the towering figure whose actions could have dramatic influence on those races. ❖

# TICKER

## T A P E

was conducted after the PERF issue surfaced," said Kip Tew. "It didn't knock Jim out." Tew, the former Marion County Democratic chair, observed, "Whoever defines the race and then sustains it with money will win."

**POLL SHOWS 49 PERCENT APPROVAL RATING FOR KERNAN:** The South Bend Tribune/WSBT-TV poll in the 2nd CD showed this approval ratings to key Hoosier political fixtures: Sen. Richard G. Lugar 69 percent; Sen. Evan Bayh 61; Gov. Frank O'Bannon 58; U.S. Rep. Tim Roemer 54; Lt. Gov. Joe Kernan 49. A factor in Kernan falling below the "magic" 50 percent approval for an official was that nearly one in five respondents said they "weren't sure" about his job performance, an indication that many voters don't know what the job of lieutenant governor involves or how to rate it.

**COLTS MAY NEED \$10 MILLION SUBSIDY:** The cost of keeping the Indianapolis Colts in town could jump by more than \$10 million annually as early as 2004, Mayor Bart Peterson said Wednesday (*Indianapolis Star*). That, he insists, is not too high a price to pay to keep the local National Football League franchise. Peterson, who is hoping the price tag

*continued on page 4*

# TICKER T A P E

will end up being lower, refused to rule out the possibility of asking the state for help or seeking a tax increase to keep the Colts. "I wouldn't put anything off the table." The new payments would tie the Colts to Indianapolis at least through the 2007 season. Under the RCA Dome lease the city and the Colts renegotiated in 1998, future payments could guarantee the team would stay here through the 2013 season. Without the extra money, conditions of the lease could let the team start the 2007 season in another city. The money would be on top of substantial payments Indianapolis already makes to the Colts. The city's Capital Improvement Board expects to spend \$12.5 million on the team next year -- on top of nearly \$37 million in payments handed over since 2000. Additionally, the city agreed in 1998 to make the payments on a \$22 million loan the team received and to fund \$20 million in stadium upgrades the team requested.

**LLOYD SAYS HE WOULD BE 'NUTS' TO RAISE TAXES:** Evansville Mayor Russ Lloyd Jr. said it would be "nuts" to raise city property taxes unnecessarily. (Evansville Courier & Press). Lloyd, a Republican, was responding to a report from the Clifton Gunderson Certified Public Accountants and Consultants firm

*continued on page 5*

# PERHAPS... WE WANDER

By Brian Howey

## The reporter and the politician

INDIANAPOLIS - "Who is that?" asked Gov. O'Bannon.

There was me, Bill Moreau and the governor staring at a bill-signing photo that included Gov. Robert D. Orr, a young-looking State Sen. Tom Wyss, and Phil Schermerhorn, my former colleague at the *Elkhart Truth* who died this past week. The photo was on display at the funeral home during Schermerhorn's calling.

"That's Bob Aller," I told the governor and Moreau.

*Bob Aller...*

**He was a Republican legislator** from Mishawaka, first elected in 1984. His most conspicuous 15 minutes of fame may have come after the 1986 election, where his seat was included in one of two legislative recounts (along with Rep. Dean Mock and the old 3rd Congressional District race between Rep. John Hiler and Democrat Tom Ward). Aller's first re-election race with the guy he had defeated -- Democrat Robert Price -- was a virtual tie.

In the confusion of the recount that commenced in earnest in 1987, the stage was set for young Secretary of State Evan Bayh to descend on the scene, along with a key Republican operative named Rex Early. Aller would prevail in a recount that wasn't ultimately decided until almost 77 days later. It set the stage for what might be described as a relatively obscure political career.

Except for one thing.

Aller had struck up a friendship with Schermerhorn, who had covered his 1984 campaign for the *Truth*. As that professional relationship grew, Aller discovered Schermerhorn's story. A man with a

dry wit and a vivid sense of humor and a dutiful sense of reporting, Schermerhorn's mind was encased in a frail body. He had a kidney transplant some years before. He and his family had to endure an excruciating wait for an organ donation in a society that was just beginning to comprehend wonders of emerging medical sciences. The first heart transplant in South Africa in 1967 had since progressed into an array of new abilities to take the organs of the expired and allow new leases on life for the sick.

Schermerhorn left the reporting ranks in early 1986, hitching up with Evan Bayh as an unpaid volunteer on his first statewide campaign. After Bayh defeated Republican Rob Bowen, Schermerhorn joined the Democrat's staff as a spokesman.

The friendship with Aller endured, and at Schermerhorn's urging, it was Rep. Aller who sponsored one of the breakthrough pieces of legislation setting up Indiana's first organ donor registry. Schermerhorn would help develop legislation to set up a state fund for bone marrow and organ screening.

**Thus, the photo** of Gov. Orr's bill-signing ceremony, where Schermerhorn joined Wyss and Aller to celebrate legislation that continues to give life.

Not long after Orr signed that bill, I was working on the *Truth's* urban affairs desk one morning with another colleague, Susan Dillman, when word came that Aller had unexpectedly died of a heart attack. It hit us with an emotional thunderclap. Aller had conducted himself with such a genteel spirit and then vanished. Some might call his career "obscure," to the point that in 2002 he was largely forgotten. His greatest contribution, however, was significant, and its need still great. Schermerhorn died last week awaiting his third kidney transplant. ❖

## Indiana Demos plant seeds of doubt for Chocola

SOUTH BEND - At first glance, you might think that Democrat Jill Long Thompson suffered a humiliating rebuke when three South Bend-Elkhart TV stations refused to run her ad.

Republican Chris Chocola objected to a contention in the ad that his firm, CTB International, "cut health benefits for future retirees by nearly a million dollars while handing his top executives nearly a million dollars in benefits" (Jack Colwell, *South Bend Tribune*). Chocola is CTB board chairman. An Enron symbol is shown near the close of the spot, and viewers are asked to call Chocola's campaign headquarters to "tell him to practice Hoosier values, not Enron values."

For the record, Chocola said in his letter of complaint that "anyone who had benefits kept benefits, and no cuts were made."

The problem for the Republican is that the seed of doubt was planted.

Democratic internal polling has consistently shown this year that the corporate scandals, along with Social Security and prescription drugs, are the hot button issues. It may be the worst possible year for a CEO to be running for Congress. Indiana Democrats have now seared in that connection with the voters.

**Indiana Democratic** Chairman Peter J. Manous said on Monday that Chris Chocola can't dispute the facts of an ad that details how he cut future health and retirement benefits for his employees, while handing bonuses to top executives.

"Here is the essential point: If Chris Chocola cut health and retirement benefits as chairman of the board of his company, Hoosier families cannot depend on him to fight for their interests in Congress," Manous said. "We cannot afford to send someone to Washington who puts corporate interests ahead of workers' interests. We will continue to tell the truth about Chris Chocola's record of working against the interest of families.

These are facts that Chris Chocola cannot dispute. The facts are on our side. Expect to hear more about Chris Chocola's failed leadership on issues important to Indiana workers."

Manous added that Chocola and the National Republican Congressional Committee failed to rebut the ad's factual claims, which only confirm the trouble he will encounter when trying to explain his actions to working families.

## HORSE R A C E

A week after President Bush raised more than \$300,000 for the Chocola campaign, on top of at least \$602,000 cash on hand in the June 30 FEC report, a poll conducted for *South Bend Tribune* and WSBT-TV showed Long Thompson ahead of Chocola by 3 percentage points, 43-40. Only 80 of the 403 likely voters polled were interviewed following President Bush's South Bend visit. It is "verification that the race for the 2nd District seat in Congress is a toss-up," wrote the *Tribune's* Jack Colwell.

**The poll also shows** why both candidates are stressing the Social Security issue so much in their TV spots. Long Thompson has a significant lead among likely voters who picked Social Security as the most important issue in the congressional race. Pollster Del Ali said the key to victory could be whether Chocola can diminish Long Thompson's strength on Social Security or whether she can retain it.

What's making some GOP observers squirm is that Chocola's East Coast directed strategy has failed to inoculate him on the Social Security and corporate greed issues.

Democrats are landing the first salvos, forcing Chocola to respond. That could spell big trouble.

**Horse Race Status:** *Tossup.* ❖

## TICKER T A P E

of Indianapolis, which recently reviewed the city's 2003 budget. The firm was hired by the Democratic-controlled City Council after members expressed concerns about the way the Republican administration has handled city finances the past few years. Lloyd says if the council follows the formula used in the report, property taxes would have to be increased. The report said the city administration figured interest revenues about \$1.8 million too much in eight funds

**HESBURGH DESCRIBES U.S. AS CARE-FREE PLACE PRIOR TO 911:** The Rev. Theodore Hesburgh described the United States of America as a fundamentally carefree and friendly country prior to Sept. 11. "We like to think everyone loves us, or at least they should," he said (Bryon Coppens, *South Bend Tribune*). It comes as a surprise to us when they don't. "Whatever we think of ourselves as a people, we now know some people hate us, and not only hate us, but hate us enough to destroy us," Hesburgh said.

**PENCE OPPOSES BANKRUPTCY REFORM BILL:** U.S. Rep. Mike Pence tonight took to the House floor to speak in opposition to the Bankruptcy Reform Conference Report. The report includes a provision,

*continued on page 6*

# TICKER

## T A P E

which limits the First Amendment rights of peaceful protesters outside abortion clinics. Pence anticipate House action on the Conference Report before adjourning in October. "I rise this evening, grievously concerned about the direction in which this House may be inextricably going as it considers the Bankruptcy Reform Conference Report," said Pence. "G.K. Chesterton once said, 'The reformer is always right about what is wrong. And he is generally wrong about what is right.'" "We in this House, may have the opportunity to do the work of reformers and the obligation to do what is right."

**FREEMAN-WILSON TO CHALLENGE GARY'S MAYOR KING:** Former Indiana Attorney General Karen Freeman-Wilson announced Saturday that she would challenge Mayor Scott King in next year's Democratic mayoral primary (Associated Press). Freeman-Wilson never mentioned King by name as she told dozens of supporters gathered in a church parking lot that the city administration has had many recent failures. Among other things, she criticized the city's expenditures hosting the Miss USA contest when money could not be found to give city employees raises. "This city deserves a

# Indiana 2002, 2004 Racing Form

**Trend Line:** Democrats will regain control of the House of Representatives and expand their majority in the Senate following the November mid-term elections, said Michael Lewis-Beck, a University of Iowa political scientist and election forecaster. Lewis-Beck and his collaborator, Charles Tien of Hunter College, predict the House will gain eight Democratic seats and the Senate will gain three Democratic seats. The news is not all bad for the Republicans, Lewis-Beck said, since these predicted seat losses are clearly a smaller number than are traditionally lost by the party of the sitting president. The forecast models, which are based on data gathered on elections across the post-World War II period, take into account two important substantive factors: the popularity of the president and the increase in disposable income. Lewis-Beck said summer estimates of both are somewhat favorable for the party in the White House. In June, President Bush's popularity in the Gallup poll equaled 70 percent, which is the second highest June midterm election rating since 1950, and disposable income growth over the first two quarters of 2002 was 2.21 percent, which is the largest midterm growth in disposable income since 1986. "However," he said, "these positive numbers will be overwhelmed by the historic pattern of midterm loss for the president's party. The party controlling the White House has lost an average of 24 House seats and 4 Senate seats during midterm elections since 1950." With respect to the Senate, these relatively positive popularity and economy numbers will help the Republicans, but not enough to overcome the losses they will sustain from having an unusually large number (20) of Republican seats being contested, Lewis-Beck said.

# HORSE RACE

## 2002 State Races

**Secretary of State 2002:** Republican: Deputy Secretary of State Todd Rokita Democrat: Bloomington Mayor John Fernandez. **Libertarian:** Rebecca Sink-Burris. **1994 Results:** Gilroy (R) 902,100, Jeffers (D) 542,539, Dillon (L) 32,483, Knight (A) 13,948. **1998 Results:** Gilroy 828,557, Little (D) 652,565, Dillon (L) 51,775. **2002 Forecast:** Voters would be required to show a photo identification at the polls under an election plan announced by Todd Rokita, the Republican candidate for secretary of state (Mike Smith, *Associated Press*). The proposal also would give the secretary of state greater oversight of the state's Election Division and allow that person to break tie votes on the Indiana Election Commission, a board that now includes two Democrats and two Republicans. Rokita, deputy secretary of state under incumbent Republican Sue Anne Gilroy, said Indiana's election system is regarded as one of the nation's fairest, and more reforms have been enacted since the presidential election fiasco in Florida two years ago. "This will build on Indiana's past successes and extends on Indiana's lead in election fairness," Rokita said of his plan. His plan would give the secretary of state hiring and firing authority within the Election Division, which is now overseen by two co-directors, one Democrat and one Republican. To eliminate gridlock on the Election Commission, the secretary of state could cast tie-breaking votes, just as the lieutenant governor can do in the state Senate. Rokita also wants Democratic Gov. Frank O'Bannon to free up \$9 million designated for election upgrades that instead was diverted to help shore up the state's budget deficit. With more than 60,000 non-profit organizations operating throughout Indiana, John Fernandez, Democratic nominee for Secretary of State, issued his plan to protect Hoosiers from fundraising scams. Aimed at protecting Hoosier investments in charitable organizations operating within Indiana, the Fernandez plan calls for legislation enhancing the registration, monitoring, reporting and enforcement of Indiana's Professional Fundraiser Consultant and Solicitor Registration statute, shifting its enforcement responsibility to the secretary of state's office. "From Wall Street to Main Street, all Hoosiers investments need to be protected," said Fernandez. . **Status:** *Tossup.*

# Indiana Congressional Races

## **Congressional District 7: Republican:** Brose McVey. **Democrat:** U.S.

Rep. Julia Carson. **Libertarian:** Andy Horning. **Geography:** Indianapolis. **Media Market:** Indianapolis. **Websites:** www.juliacarson.org; www.broseforcongress.org **2000 Results:** Carson (D) 91,300, Scott (R) 61,818, Ali (L) 2,513. **2002 Forecast:** Rudy Giuliani endorsed McVey on Wednesday. "After spending time with Brose in Indianapolis and reviewing Rep. Carson's record in Congress, I'm convinced Brose McVey is the best candidate to represent the 7th District in Congress," Giuliani said. A number of conversations we've had with Marion County Democrats lead us to believe that this race is in play, although until we see some independent polling, it remains a "Leans" Democratic seat, an assessment shared by the Cook Political Report. Remember, the February Public Opinion Strategies poll showed Carson leading 45-31 percent over the largely unknown McVey. That 45 percent has to be troubling for Democrats. Carson gets a tail wind from the Frank Anderson sheriff candidacy, and must be heartened by the poll released in the Marion County prosecutor's race showing Osborn with a narrow lead over Brizzi. But if a national "rally around the president" trend takes shape over Iraq, this race could tighten up into the toss-up zone. Since Sept. 11, 2001, President Bush has enjoyed the most significant approval ratings from African-Americans than any Republican president, often in the 40th percentile. While we don't expect 7th CD blacks to abandon Carson, even a small shift could be a boost for McVey. Keep your eyes on this one. **Status:** *Leans Carson.*

## **Congressional District 8: Republican:** U.S. Rep. John Hostettler. **Democrat:**

Bryan Hartke. **Geography:** Evansville, Terre Haute, Greencastle; Posey, Vanderburgh, Warrick, Gibson, Pike, Martin, Daviess, Knox, Sullivan, Greene, Owen, Clay, Vigo, Vermillion, Parke, Putnam, Warren and part of Fountain counties. **Websites:** www.bryan-hartke.com; www.house.gov/hostettler/ **Media Market:** Evansville, Terre Haute, Indianapolis. Lafayette. **1994 results:** Hostettler (R) 93,529, McCloskey (D) 84,857. **1996 Results:** Hostettler (R) 109,582, Weinzapfel (D) 106,134, Hager (L) 3,799. **1998 Results:** Hostettler (R) 92,227, Riecken (D) 81,381, Hager (L) 3,395. **2000 Results:** Hostettler 116,860, Perry 100,461. **2002 Outlook:** Eleven breast cancer survivors said they're dismayed because they claim Rep. John Hostettler is calling them liars. "All 11 can't be wrong about what happened that day," the women wrote in a letter sent to newspapers across the 8th District (*Evansville Courier & Press*). The women met with the 8th District representative April 30 to seek his support for breast cancer research, but said all he wanted to talk about was a link between abortion and breast cancer. Hostettler has denied that, and his recent campaign letter described the women as being on a smear campaign and says their accusations "never happened." The newsletter describes the women's actions as "a classic political setup. Hostettler has had hundreds of very controversial and emotional meetings, but again, never has he been accused of behavior these ladies have concocted." Those statements were in the "August Hostettler Hotline." *Evansville Courier & Press* Editor Paul McAuliffe was to appear on WNIN-PBS9 to answer viewer questions involving the newspaper's coverage of the incumbent. Hostettler was invited to have representatives appear on the show. The two candidates will debate on public television on Oct. 6, if Hostettler will agree to a revised format (*Evansville Courier & Press*). **Status:** *Leans Hostettler.*

## **Congressional District 9: Republican:** Mike Sodrel. **Democrat:** U.S. Rep. Baron Hill. .

**Media Market:** Evansville, Indianapolis, Louisville, Dayton, Cincinnati. **Websites:** www.house.gov/baronhill/, www.mikesodrel.com **1994 results:** Hamilton 91,459 (D), Leising (R) 84,315. **1996 Results:** Hamilton (D) 128,885, Leising (R) 97,747, Feeney (L) 2,315. **1998 Results:** Hill (D) 92,477, Leising (R) 87,278, Feeney (L) 2,397. **2000 Results:** Hill 125,978, Bailey (R) 101,790, Chambers (L) 4,634. **2002 Forecast:** Our sense of this race is that Sodrel did not make the necessary impressions during his July trip to Washington to elevate this race as a priority with the NRCC. Last week's visit to Louisville by President Bush was a perfect opportunity for Republicans to boost Sodrel's candidacy, but it didn't happen. **Status:** *Leans Hill* ❖

# TICKER

## T A P E

mayor who's going to govern with integrity," she said. Freeman-Wilson, who was defeated for the attorney general's post by Republican Stephen Carter in the 2000 election, also questioned the city's spending in building a downtown stadium for its new minor league baseball team. Why did the city "spend \$50 million on a baseball stadium when any other stadium only costs half or less than half of that?" she asked.

**BIG SEPTEMBER FOR NUNN-LUGAR:** This will be a big month for the Nunn-Lugar denuclearization legislation. Before contracts can be implemented through the program to help the Russian government dismantle nuclear, chemical, and biological arsenals, the administration must certify that Russia has met six conditions pertaining to U.S.-Russia weapons agreements. Sen. Richard Lugar argues that the waiver process impedes projects that have been effective over the last 10 years in reducing Russian weapons of mass destruction and controlling related material. The program is operating under a temporary waiver of the six conditions that will expire on Sept. 30. A measure in the Senate defense authorization bill contains a permanent waiver. The House version of the bill permits a three-year

*continued on page 8*

# TICKER T A P E

waiver. Conservatives in the House and the Bush administration are wary of the Nunn-Lugar program, which receives about \$400 million annually, because of traditional Cold War distrust of Russia. But Lugar says the president supports the waiver. "We're giving the president authority to overrule his own administration," Lugar said in a meeting with reporters on Friday to review an August trip to Russia. In that visit, Lugar toured seven Russian weapons facilities, presiding over public ceremonies to dedicate new weapons-destruction efforts and meeting with Russian bioweapons scientists and defense officials. The primary reason for establishing Nunn-Lugar was to secure nuclear, chemical and biological material and keep it out of the hands of terrorists--a goal that has new resonance in the aftermath of Sept. 11. Lugar wants to expand the program beyond Russia, but is receiving resistance from the House. The Senate defense authorization bill includes expansion language, it is prohibited in the House bill. "While we're in one war and on the threshold of another, this is just incomprehensible."

**NO GARY HOMICIDES FOR SIX WEEKS:** Six weeks, no new homicides. By all accounts, it's a modern record for the city that has led the nation in per capita homicides for a decade (Post-Tribune).

# COLUMNISTS ON INDIANA

**Sylvia Smith, Fort Wayne Journal**

*Gazette* - Will it be a one-flavor Congress after Nov. 5, or will government continue to be a vanilla/chocolate twisty cone?

The majority party in both the House (now Republican controlled) and Senate (in Democratic hands) can afford few missteps on Election Day without affecting who runs things. Democrats have just a one-seat advantage in the Senate. The Republicans' House majority is a mere six votes. That doesn't offer much wiggle room for either the forecasters or the parties. About the most specific thing that can be said about the outcome of the '02 congressional elections is that neither party will probably end up with a comfortable majority in either the House or Senate. Probably the House will stay in Republican hands, but the GOP's six-vote majority could be squeezed to three or four. It's not impossible that the Senate would end up in Republican hands or return to a 50-50 split -- or have a three-seat Democratic majority. "The Senate could fall in either direction," said University of Virginia political scientist Larry Sabato, "and you'd be foolish to predict." But that's what political junkies do -- predict. They use logic and the science of politics and, it must be admitted, instinct. Sabato, for instance, has calculated that there are a mere 48 House seats in which the incumbent is not a shoo-in. Among the nine Hoosier congressional races, three are usually put in that category: Democratic Rep. Julia Carson vs. Brose McVey in Indianapolis; Democratic Rep. Baron Hill vs. Mike Sodrel in southeastern Indiana; and Republican Chris Chocola vs. Jill Long Thompson in the South Bend area, the only district in which an incumbent is not running for reelection. Ron Faucheux, editor of *Campaigns & Elections* magazine, concurs with Sabato's list of interesting Hoosier races and agrees with Sabato's

estimation that of those three, only the Thompson-Chocola race is truly a toss-up. In fact, Sabato thinks there are just 16 House races -- out of 435! -- where the outcome is not all but a done deal. Under Sabato's calculus, 202 House seats are fairly safe Democratic seats, and 217 are comfortably Republican. Because it takes 218 to command a majority, that means the GOP has to pick up just one of the 16 toss-up races to stay in control.

**Jack Colwell - South Bend Tribune** - Sept. 11 will come again. Not just on the calendar. Unfortunately, another day like Sept. 11, when terrorists strike in a horrible way, is sure to come. Another. And then eventually another. That doesn't mean, of course, that we should give up to terror. A national goal must be to lessen the number of terrorist incidents and to keep any future Sept. 11 from being as deadly as the first. President Bush, in his speeches Thursday in South Bend, talked of people out there who hate America. He talked of efforts at homeland security and advocated action against Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein as a way of preventing attack with weapons of mass destruction. There are so many people around the world who hate America for a variety of reasons, some which we can understand and others that seem irrational, that a few -- let us hope a very few -- will find a way to do violence. "The battlefield is now here in America," Bush said. Indeed, the oceans cannot protect us anymore. They haven't really for decades now. The "America First" isolationists who blocked efforts to stop aggression leading to World War II thought the nation could avoid the rest of the world and neglect military defense. They thought that right up until Dec. 7, 1941, a day of surprise attack that has been likened to Sept. 11. How many hate us? How many of them could and would do violence? We don't know. ❖