

# The Howey Political Report



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## “QUOTE” OF THE WEEK

“If they can beat Bob Kuzman, then we’re all in trouble....”

- Indiana House Democratic campaign coordinator Joel Miller, telling HPR he believes State Rep. Bob Kuzman will win in HD19

## GOP embraces Iraq push; Dems cautious

### Pence, Fox split sharply on question

By **MARK SCHOEFF Jr.** in Washington and **BRIAN A. HOWEY** in Indianapolis

If the decision on whether to attack Iraq will help determine control of the U.S. House, there are probably few districts better than the new 6th CD to serve as a barometer.

In that race, the lines are starkly drawn. Incumbent conservative Republican Mike Pence has been one of the most fervid and vocal advocates of taking action against Iraq to overthrow Saddam Hussein, the country's dictatorial leader who the United States believes is building an arsenal of weapons of mass destruction. "If the facts are there to prove Iraq's complicity with terrorism and al-Qaeda and even with September 11, let us do no less than our duty. Let us pass a declaration of war," Pence said Wednesday, the second time in a week he has called for U.S. action.

**Democratic challenger** Mel Fox takes the opposite view. "They still have not made the case to me that we need to do this," she said of the Bush administration. "There are so many unanswered questions for me." She said she is concerned about how long the United States would have to occupy Iraq after defeating Saddam and how the attack would affect stability in the Middle East.

Fox pointed to senior Sen. Richard Lugar to defend her position. "Sen. Lugar and I have been on the same page with this since day one," she said. Lugar, a senior member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and committee chairman Joseph Biden (D-Del.) sent a letter to President Bush that stated: "Mr. President, based on what we have heard to date, there is not yet consensus on many critical questions." Among them: What is the likelihood Iraq would use weapons of mass destruction against the United States if

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# TICKER

## T A P E

**REPUBLICANS TO PROBE LAKE COUNTY PARTY:** After hearing from seven maverick Lake County Republicans, the State Republican Central Committee voted Tuesday to conduct an investigation into the county party (William Lazarus, Times of Northwest Indiana). "This really is a fact-finding effort. It's no judgment on the merits," said Republican Party Executive Director Luke Messer. "We want to get to the bottom of the facts and pull people together at the end of the day." Unity will not be easy to achieve. The GOP mavericks want to oust Lake County Republican Chairman Roger Chiabai and East Chicago Chairman Robert Cantrell. For Lake County to have a genuine two-party system "the state committee is going to have to intervene and basically put the Lake County Republican Party into receivership," said St. John Republican Joseph Hero, one of the seven dissenters who made their way to the Republican Central Committee meeting in Indianapolis. Munster GOP activist Karen Gianotti said she told the central committee she's seen a number of county chairmen come and go through the years and "there's one thread through the whole thing: The party stays weak, powerless and impotent because it's in bed

*Continued on page 3*

it is attacked? And what are the country's links to terrorist groups?"

On Sunday at Earlham College -- after President Bush's United Nations speech and before Saddam said he would let weapons inspectors in unfettered -- Lugar was asked about the pending invasion. "It's a tough call for leadership," Lugar told the audience (Don Fasnacht, *Richmond Palladium-Item*).

"At the end of the day, I really don't know. What we want is the eradication of these weapons, these materials. In deference to the president, I don't think he's gotten to the point of proving his case."

By Wednesday, the White House was signaling that it would seek permission from Congress to take "unilateral action" in Iraq by the middle of next week offering Bush "maximum flexibility."

### Saliency on Campaign Trail?

As Congress wrestles with the wording of a resolution authorizing force, Hoosier congressional candidates say that Washington's preoccupation with Iraq isn't reflected on the campaign trail. "I don't understand these polls saying people support (attacking Iraq)," said Fox. "I'm not getting that from anyone in our district." After a Rotary Club speech in Richmond this week, "not one person asked me about the war or where I stood on the situation with Iraq," she said.

Bryan Hartke, the Democratic challenger in the 8th CD, gives the same report from his district. "Over the last couple of weeks, I have had a half dozen comments about this," he said. He said he gets more questions from voters about the economy, Social Security and a controversy over statements made by incumbent Rep. John Hostettler to a group of breast cancer survivors. Hartke said he



leans toward supporting the use of force against Iraq. "I hope (Bush) does present evidence that Saddam Hussein is a clear danger to us. If he does that, I would vote to support a resolution that we go in and take out Hussein." Hostettler's office did not return a call from HPR.

### JLT wants more proof

In the open 2nd CD, Republican Chris Chocola said this week in a *South Bend Tribune* forum, "I support the president's approach to dealing with the Iraqi regime. Saddam Hussein has made it clear that he represents a threat to the peace and stability of the world. I support President Bush in his efforts to create a coalition of nations to deal with Iraq. If Iraq continues its violation of UN resolutions, I have faith the United Nations will enforce its resolutions and the international community will act against Saddam. However, if they are unwilling to act, the United States cannot stand idly by."

His opponent, Democrat Jill Long Thompson, explained, "I was very pleased that in his speech to the United Nations, President Bush pledged to seek congressional support before the U.S. takes military action. We have to weigh every concern, particularly committing ground troops and the impact on our economy. And there must be at least two conditions. One, if Saddam does not let weapons

inspectors into Iraq, and two, if weapons inspectors find Saddam Hussein harboring weapons of mass destruction. Then it is the responsibility of the United States to step in and take action."

Republican 7th CD challenger Brose McVey told HPR he's approached the coming war cautiously, saying "I don't want America going around the globe playing cowboy. I support a resolution for the president to act unilaterally. But I expect the president to make the case. We can't just be going around picking other countries' leadership. It has got to be premised on a threat. I believe he's making a better case. We have a moral obligation to act."

U.S. Rep. Julia Carson has issued no statements on her position. She may be formulating a stance. Her website had a poll asking the question, "Do you favor unilateral military action against Iraq?" At mid-morning, 152 people had responded with 28 percent saying yes, 60 percent saying no, and 13 percent undecided.

## Sodrel and Hill

In the 9th CD, Republican challenger Mike Sodrel supports attacking Hussein, but has not found that it's a dominant issue for voters. "You tend to hear more about Iraq from people at the American Legion and the VFW," he said. "For the public at large, I don't find Iraq that high on the list. That may be a function of being in the heartland. Urban people tend to have more concern about terrorism than people do in rural areas." Sodrel said that Hoosiers he talks to inherently trust Bush to do the right thing.

A vote this fall on use of force, may put Iraq at the top of the agenda, Sodrel said. "What I'd like to see is a resolution of Congress that says the president is authorized to take whatever action is necessary to enforce those UN resolutions." In the 11 years since the Gulf War, Iraq has defied several United Nations directives to curtail the building of weapons of mass destruction.

U.S. Rep. Baron Hill, said he is undecided on an Iraq resolution. "I want to support the president," he said after a House Armed Services Committee hearing that featured Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld. "It's a serious business when we commit our men and women to an act of war." What he wants to hear from the administration is an explanation of what weapons Hussein has that make him a threat to the United States and the Middle East. "To their credit, they're revealing things and building a case," he said.

He is not worried about scheduling a vote before the election, Hill said. Some observers believe that congressional action in the fall would boost Republicans because it would highlight national security. "If Saddam is a serious threat, and we have clear and compelling evidence that he has weapons of mass destruction, then the timing has nothing to do with it," Hill said. "When we're talking about men and women being put in harm's way, then politics won't come into play at all."

Hill's predecessor, Lee Hamilton, predicts that Congress will pass a measure with a strong majority giving Bush wide latitude in removing Hussein. Hamilton said several questions must be answered before America moves against Iraq. The most important: "What threat does Iraq really pose to you, your family, your community, and the nation? Dismantling Al Qaeda would be a higher priority on my agenda, but you can't deny that Iraq is a threat to the region," he said Tuesday at a conference at George Mason University.

A vote on going after Iraq, however, is unlikely to affect the election. "My impression is that the war will be decisive in very, very few congressional races," Hamilton said. The key is that members of Congress explain their positions clearly. For now, though, the president has succeeded in changing the political agenda. "The fact of the matter is that the country is focused on Iraq and matters of national security." ❖

## TICKER T A P E

with the Democrats."

**BUSH APPROVAL AT 70 PERCENT:** The American public is strongly behind President George W. Bush's efforts to push the United Nations into taking a more forceful position against Iraq and its leader, Saddam Hussein. A just-completed CNN/USA Today/Gallup Poll shows that Americans overwhelmingly want the UN to take a tougher stance against Iraq, to pass a resolution demanding compliance with weapons inspection efforts, and to authorize military action if Iraq does not comply. President Bush's job approval rating is now at 70%, marking the first time since late July that it has been at that level or higher.

**DANIELS OFFERS TIMING FLEXIBILITY ON BUDGET:** White House budget director Mitchell E. Daniels Jr. may have offered Capitol Hill a bit of breathing room for finishing this year's appropriations work (Congressional Quarterly). Daniels said Wednesday the Bush administration "could agree to a relatively generous long-term continuing resolution (CR) that would allow Congress to adjourn for the year without clearing the fiscal 2003 spending bills. But before President Bush will consider any long-term CR, Daniels

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added, Congress must clear the defense appropriations bill (HR 5010). Only then would the president be willing to sign a CR that would keep the rest of the government running through the November election and into next year," he said. Though CRs "typically hold programs at the previous year's funding level," Daniels said he "would include fiscal 2002 supplemental spending in the baseline for the CR, except for "obvious one-time items" such as recovery aid for New York City.

**Gore to give major speech on Iraq:** Former Vice President Al Gore said on Wednesday that he will give a "major speech" on Iraq next Monday at San Francisco's Commonwealth Club. Gore is the only potential 2004 presidential nominee who has not spoken on the subject.

**War with Iraq would roil fuel markets:** Growing tensions with Iraq have threatened to put gasoline and heating oil prices, connected like a pipeline to their crude oil source, on the launch pad again (Brendan O'Shaughnessey, Times of Northwest Indiana). But the chief U.S. economist for BP, formerly BP Amoco, predicted in Hammond on Tuesday that the growing diversity of energy sources around the world would help secure a

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# PERHAPS... WE WANDER

By Brian Howey

## The politics of the Colts

INDIANAPOLIS - *Sports*

*Illustrated's* Peter King reports that Jim Irsay has been hanging out in Beverly Hills (*by the ce-ment pond?*) King follows by saying he would be "stunned" if the NFL (*NotForLong*) would entrust Irsay with the future Los Angeles franchise.

Meanwhile, the *Indianapolis Star* continues to grease the skids for the team's transfer, editorializing last week that with sewers, education and transportation all needing money, it might be time to just let the Colts roll at midnight.

Duh!

As with the case of hundreds of other Indiana corporations, the state, cities and towns have given millions upon millions of dollars as inducements to come or stay. The Colts are simply the highest profile of the corporations seeking handouts. They bring national TV and as a young J.C. Watts might say, "Pub, man, pub."

The debate on whether the Colts will flee has reached an early, assinine level, with few thinking outside the box. So, we'll try and relaunch the mindset.

**1.** Indianapolis built its modern revival on sports. Yes, amateur sports, but the Pacers and Colts are very much a part of the civic fabric. To lose either would be a severe psychological blow, even if economists can't link a team staying or going to any economic development data. The city has done it before with the Pacers, still a source of pride.

**2.** The city and state have already invested tens of millions of dollars into the Colts. To send them packing at the thought of paying out \$10 million or more a year is to basically throw out more than two decades of community investment.

**3.** As Deputy Mayor Mike O'Connor has pointed out, every city that has lost an NFL franchise -- Houston,

Cleveland, Baltimore, St. Louis -- had to spend hundreds of millions more to attract a new team. Los Angeles is the lone exception and that area simply hasn't gotten its act together.

**4.** The local news media have shown virtually no curiosity as to how smaller market teams in Denver, Cincinnati, and Pittsburgh have kept their teams and built or renovated new stadiums to keep their franchises viable.

**5.** If the city has to fork out \$10- to \$15 million a year to keep the Colts "in the middle of the pack," perhaps the city and NFL ought to be looking to itty-bitty Green Bay for a solution. The Green Bay Packers Inc. has been a publicly owned, non-profit corporation since 1923, with a total of 4,748,909 shares owned by 110,901 stockholders. If the city or state has to infuse money into the Colts, it should be for an equity position in the franchise, with a first refusal clause added when the team comes up for sale. That way we know the nomadic Colts really are ours.

**6.** Until all this can be worked out, perhaps some of the United Airlines penalty money the city will receive should be used to prop up the Colts through 2006, when, hopefully, the tax restructuring will have kicked in and our corporate community will be growing again, giving everyone a better gauge into how viable a new stadium would be.

**7.** Perhaps a new stadium ought to be built at the Marion, Madison and Hamilton county lines (or Marion, Hendricks and Boone) so there is a regional approach to financing and developmental benefits.

**8.** Everybody needs to start thinking outside the box here, because if we lose the Colts, it will signal to not only Hoosiers, but to the nation, that we in Central Indiana have lost our edge. ❖

# COLUMNISTS ON INDIANA

**Sylvia Smith**, *Fort Wayne Journal Gazette* - President Bush did a remarkable thing Thursday. He managed to back up -- retreat a bit, if you will -- while at the same time appearing tough, resolute and determined. Far from being critical of this maneuver, I think Bush's speech at the United Nations showed the president at his finest. It is no small accomplishment to accommodate one's critics while coming across as stubborn and just this side of bullheaded. ❖

**Morton Marcus**, *syndicated* - Although as Hoosiers we are aware of many lovely sites in our state, the general impression of Indiana is of a state where industrial waste, civic neglect, and nature itself have been most unkind. Our cities and towns have delightful areas that visitors rarely see. Our forests and hills, fields and wetlands have spectacular beauty, but they are not an integral part of our image. To change Indiana from a national joke and an environmental disgrace, we

need a massive state-wide program of environmental remediation. Indiana's General Assembly, with full support from our citizens and businesses, needs to enact laws that put the state at the forefront of environmental protection and enhancement. The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) must be strengthened so that it becomes a positive force for, rather than an impediment to, economic development and environmental improvement. ❖

**Lesley Stedman**, *Louisville Courier-Journal* - Recent problems at the Muscatatuck and Fort Wayne state developmental centers are again casting the spotlight on the continuing debate about how the state should care for people with disabilities. The central issue of the discussion so far has been what combination of group homes, assisted-living apartments and institutions produces the best care system. Perhaps more focus needs to be on how to keep residents safe. ❖

## HPR Pre-Election Briefing set for Oct. 30

*The Howey Political Report* in connection with TeleResearch, the Indianapolis Press Club, DLZ and the Indiana Republican and Democratic parties will conduct its 2002 Pre-Election Briefing at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 30.

The briefing will include TeleResearch polling data from the 2nd and 7th Congressional Districts, Marion County races, and analysis from HPR's Brian Howey, Jeff Lewis of TeleResearch, John Ketzenberger of the *Indianapolis Business Journal*, Amos Brown from the *Indianapolis Recorder*, Terry Burns from the *Indianapolis Star* and former Republican Chairman Mike McDaniel.

Tickets will be \$20 for Indianapolis Press Club members and \$25 for non-members and can be ordered at the Press Club or by e-mailing [TeleResearch@aol.com](mailto:TeleResearch@aol.com) or [brianhowey@howeypolitics.com](mailto:brianhowey@howeypolitics.com). ❖

The  
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Report



## TICKER TAPE

supply of oil to the United States and suggested that consumer fear would create the biggest problems at the pump. "It would certainly roil the markets," BP's Mark Finley said of a war with Iraq. "The question is, would people run to the gas stations and hoard oil or be calmed by government and industry assurances of emergency supplies?"

**INDIANA TO OPEN AUSTRALIAN TRADE OFFICE:** Indiana will open a foreign trade office in Sydney, Australia, on Oct. 1, Lt. Gov. Joe Kernan said. "Indiana companies make the goods the world wants, and we are confident having an office presence in Australia will enable us to boost our trade relationships with importers in that market," Kernan said in a statement released Tuesday. Indiana industries that do best in other markets -- pharmaceuticals, medical devices and auto parts -- probably will benefit in Australia, too, said commerce spokesman Jeff Harris. Indiana exported \$235 million in goods to Australia in 2001. The state's 14th trade office also will serve New Zealand. It will help Hoosier businesses with market research, agent and distributor searches, access to special events and trade shows, as well as logistical and regulatory assistance. Indiana has trade offices in

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# TICKER

## T A P E

Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Israel, Japan, South Korea, Mexico, the Netherlands, Singapore, South Africa and Taiwan.

**UNCERTAINTY SUR-  
ROUNDS STATE BUDGET  
PROCESS:** Lawmakers took their first steps yesterday toward crafting a new two-year state budget, with little promising news but lots of uncertainty about the state's financial health. State budget officials have told agency heads to plan for no spending increases during the next two years, and to absorb \$193 million in permanent spending cuts identified by Gov. Frank O'Bannon's administration (Mike Smith, Associated Press). Unless the state economy improves and tax collections rise dramatically in the coming months, the General Assembly will face the prospect of more tax increases or providing less money for most government services than is now being spent on them. William Sheldrake, president of the Indiana Fiscal Policy Institute, a nonpartisan government research organization, said yesterday that the recession has hit Indiana especially hard, and there are few signs it is letting up. "There is no question it is a worse fiscal situation here than in most states," Sheldrake said.

# Indiana 2002 Racing Form

**Trend Line:** Democratic hopes for winning congressional elections apparently are tied to how well they can keep domestic issues in the forefront because Republicans have a big advantage with voters on national security, an *Associated Press* poll found. When people are asked whom they trust most to handle the economy the two parties are very close, the poll indicated. But Democrats ran ahead among those who think domestic issues in general -- including the economy, education and health care -- are most important. When it comes to dealing with national security and the war on terrorism, 37 percent favored Republicans to 15 percent who favored Democrats. ... In the competition for control of Congress, 40 percent of registered voters said they would support the Democratic candidate and 40 percent the Republican, according to the poll conducted for the AP by International Communications Research of Media, Pa.

## Indiana Congressional Races

**Congressional District 2: Republican:** Chris Chocola. **Democrat:** Jill Long Thompson. **Geography:** South Bend, Michigan City, Mishawaka, Elkhart, Kokomo, Plymouth, Logansport; LaPorte, St. Joseph, Starke, Marshall, Pulaski, Fulton, Cass, Carroll and parts of Howard, Porter, Elkhart and White counties. **Media Market:** South Bend-Elkhart, Indianapolis, Lafayette, Chicago. **Websites:** www.jilllongthompson.com; www.chocolaforcongress.com **2000 Result:** Roemer (D) 107,076, Chocola (R) 98,367.

**2002 Forecast:** In their only scheduled televised debate, candidates for the 2nd Congressional District clashed Sunday over Social Security, health care and the national defense of a country

leading the charge against global terrorism (Terrance Bland, *South Bend Tribune*). The next scheduled debate will be at 6 p.m. Sept. 30 in Kokomo. Chocola said Long Thompson is merely using "scare tactics intended to scare senior citizens" when she says the Republican wants to privatize Social Security. Chocola said no one has ever suggested money paid into the trust fund be invested in the stock market. Instead, Chocola said he opposes any cuts in benefits, increasing the retirement age or raising taxes to help pay for Social Security. Long Thompson said there are only three things that can be done with Social Security: letting the funds sit idle, thereby losing value; investing the money in savings bonds; or putting the Social Security funds into the stock market, which she described as too risky. The Republican criticized Long Thompson for supporting what he called "Hillary Clinton's health care plan" during Long Thompson's earlier term in Congress. Chocola said there is a "benefit plan sitting on the doorstep of the Senate" that could be passed right now, but Democrats want to delay passage so health care can be used as a political issue in the elections. "Quit playing politics," Chocola said, urging health care problems should be solved in a bipartisan way. **Status:** TOSSUP.

**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:** McVey began his television ad campaign on Monday (It can be viewed on his website). The *Indianapolis Star* noted that McVey does not mention he is a Republican, which is really not surprising since Marion County has become more Democratic, though it should remain competitive. McVey campaign manager Tim Searcy observed, "With this advertisement, Brose firmly demonstrates that politics do not have to be dry, boring ads that all look the same. Brose may be the only candidate in the United States that addresses the voters completely in his own voice and admits that he 'doesn't have all the answers.' Voters are looking for someone like them, and whom they can identify with. Brose represents Hoosier values and common sense, and will vote in Congress like Hoosiers would." Carson's campaign is expected to hit the air soon and sources there maintain she has a comfortable lead. HPR and TeleResearch will be polling the 7th CD this weekend. **Status:** *Leans*

# HORSE R A C E

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:** In a three-paragraph letter dated Tuesday to WNIN television in Evansville, Hostettler said he would "respectfully decline your invitation" to debate Hartke on Oct. 6. Hostettler has already cut off all communication with the 8th District's largest newspaper, the *Evansville Courier and Press*, after the publication broke the story about Hostettler's insulting demeanor in a meeting earlier this year with a group of 11 Hoosier breast cancer survivors. Indiana Democratic Party Chairman Peter J. Manous criticized Hostettler, R-8th, Wednesday after the 4-term incumbent reneged on a promise to debate Democratic challenger Bryan Hartke. "This is just the latest example of why Mr. Hostettler is unfit to adequately represent the Hoosiers of the Eighth District," Manous said. **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:** Sodrel began his TV ad campaign (it can be viewed on his website) with an introductory spot that touts his seven years of military service, his volunteering for the Boy Scouts and Boys and Girls Clubs, and the Chamber of Commerce. The ad ends with Sodrel in front of an air force jet. Sodrel is obviously trying to parlay the current patriotism in the country into support. Sodrel's campaign says the NRCC is making determinations over what challenger races it will help. The campaign is also remaining in touch with the White House, noting that President Bush has made virtually no appearances on behalf of challengers to date. Scott Downes, Hill's campaign manager, said Wednesday that Hill plans to use broadcast commercials but has not begun doing so yet. Downes would not elaborate on when the ads would appear or what their message would be (*Louisville Courier-Journal*). **Status:** *Leans Hill* ❖

## Indiana House Races

**Trend Line:** How about a 50/50 House? It's a real possibility, though at this stage we see Democrats hanging on to at least 51 seats. But that could change with the slip of a missile, a crash of a skyscraper, or a brand new scandal. It's very volatile; there is a potential for a wave to develop in both party's direction. We see Republicans picking up at least one seat (HD 44 in the Democratic seat being vacated by Susan Crosby). There are five seats in the tossup zone and four - HD 8, HD 17, HD 36, and HD 56 - are currently held by Democrats. Rep. Jim Atterhold's HD 86 is still the best prospect for a Democratic pickup.

**House District 8: Republican:** Carl Baxmeyer. **Democrat:** Ryan Dvorak.

**Geography:** St. Joseph County. **1998 Results:** M. Dvorak 11,613, Sulok (R) 6,715. **2000 Results:** M. Dvorak 15,660, Zirkle (R) 9,768. **2002 Forecast:** Republicans say this race is within the margin of error. Turnout and CD race will be factors. Republicans must overcome Dvorak's name ID. A strong showing by Chocola helps Baxmeyer. **Status:** *TOSSUP.*

**House District 15: Republican:** Don Lehe. **Democrat:** George Baranowski.

**Geography:** Schererville, Merrillville, Lake County. **1998 Results:** Fesko (R) 9,914, Blacklund (L) 986. **2000 Results:** Domezich (R) 15,134, Duda (D) 8,753, Backlund (L) 439. **Forecast:** Democrats will be gunning for Lehe as payback for the nasty 2000 campaign mailers, but Republicans think Lehe will win. **Status:** *LEANS R.*

## TICKER T A P E

**FREEMAN-WILSON HAD DELIQUENT TAX PROBLEM:** Delinquent. It was the state of Karen Freeman-Wilson's property taxes when she was Gary city judge. And while she was Indiana's Attorney General. And as she announced she will be a candidate for Gary mayor next year. Years of unpaid property taxes and penalties had been mounting on Freeman-Wilson. Lake County officials were prepared to sell both Freeman-Wilson's personal law office and a rental house she owns in a treasurer's tax sale this week (Steve Patterson, Post-Tribune). The rental house was headed to the auction block because its tax bill was nearly \$2,000 delinquent. And the overdue tax bill on her law office was more than \$3,000 delinquent. Both had overdue tax bills dating back to 1999. But in mid-August, Freeman-Wilson paid the balance on her rental house at 817 Fillmore St. And Monday, she paid the balance due on her law offices at 700 Jackson St. "When I found out about both situations, they got paid," Freeman-Wilson said. "It's not something that I take lightly."

**'WEST WING' TO SPOOF INDIANA'S TIME CONTROVERSY:** Indiana's wacky time zones have finally gotten the attention of the president of the United States. That president is Jeb Bartlet, the fic-

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tional commander-in-chief played by Martin Sheen on NBC's *The West Wing*. In the two-hour season premier airing Sept. 25, Bartlet's re-election campaign takes him to an Indiana farm so he can expound on alternative fuels. (That's how we know it's fiction; real presidential candidates almost never campaign in Indiana.) Three of the president's aides -- Josh, Toby and Donna -- miss the presidential motorcade as it's leaving the farm and get fouled up by Indiana's confusing time zones as they try to catch up with the president (Maureen Groppe, *Lafayette Journal & Courier*).

**REPUBLICANS PRESS BUDGET REFORMS:** House Republicans offered their thoughts on how the state's money could be better managed, recycling ideas included in proposals from the last year (Shannon Lohrmann, *Lafayette Journal & Courier*). "The (O'Bannon) administration's poor tax and fiscal policy has nearly bankrupted Indiana," said Rep. Jeff Espich, R-Uniondale, the House Republicans' fiscal leader. This was the first of four planned announcements that will end about a month before the general election. In Lafayette, legislative candidates Don Lehe and Patti Smith joined state Reps. Sue Scholer and Tim Brown in talking up the Republican plan.

**House District 17: Republican:** Steven Heim. **Democrat:** Ralph Winters.

**Geography:** Plymouth, Culver, Marshall. **1998 results:** Cook 10,448, Beck 5,596. **2000 Results:** Cook 13,428, Roush 5,859. **2002 Forecast:** Republicans are optimistic they can retake this seat. Heim appears to be running strong in Marshall and Starke counties. LG Joe Kernan campaigned door to door with Winters on Wednesday. Bush polled about 54 percent. The seat is being vacated by State Rep. Gary Cook. **Status:** *TOSSUP*.

**District 19: Republican:** Crown Point Councilwoman Pamela Roth. **Democrat:** Rep.

Bob Kuzman. **Geography:** Crown Point, south Lake County. **1994 results:** Conlon (R) 8,850, McCall (D) 5,280. **1996 Results:** Kuzman (D) 12,236, Sparks (R) 10,453. **1998 Results:** Kuzman 9,130, Gasparovic (R) 6,917. **2000 Results:** Kuzman 13,879, Johnson (R) 12,177. **2002 Forecast:** Republicans insist Kuzman has some of the "lowest re-elects" among Democrats and say Roth is one of their hardest working candidates. House Democrats emphatically say that Kuzman is in "good shape," adding, "If they can beat Bob Kuzman, then we're all in trouble." **Status:** *LEANS D*.

**House District 26: Republican:** State Rep. Sue Scholer. **Democrat:** Joe Micon.

**Geography:** Lafayette, West Lafayette, Tippecanoe County. **1998 results:** Scholer 5,750, Clapper 4,655. **2000 Results:** Scholer 9,086, Windler 5,186. **2002 Forecast:** Micon has been adept at getting earned media. Scholer is working district door to door. Scholer is expected to go up on TV soon. **Status:** *Leans R*.

**House District 27: Republican:** Bob Hicks. **Democrat:** State Rep. Sheila Klinker.

**Geography:** Lafayette, West Lafayette, Tippecanoe County. **1998 Results:** Klinker 10,553, Julian (R) 5,512, Rumps (L) 287. **2000 Results:** Klinker (D) 12,544, O'Brien (R) 8,095. **2002 Forecast:** Caterpillar expansion will give Klinker a tailwind. Republicans say polling shows weakness for Klinker on spending caps and Hicks will be working those angles and is closing the gap. Klinker has voted against spending caps four times since '96. **Status:** *LEANS D*.

**House District 36: Republican:** Andy Kincaid. **Democrat:** Terri Austin.

**Geography:** Madison and Delaware counties. **2000 Results:** Jack Lutz (R) 12,397, Austin 11,487. **2002 Forecast:** Rep. Jack Lutz did not return to this district and the woman who gave him a real run for his money in 2000, Terri Austin, is back. She is being pressed by Andy Kincaid, an aide to U.S. Rep. Mike Pence. Republicans say this is a dead heat. **Status:** *TOSSUP*.

**House District 42: Republican:** Fountain County Auditor Patti Smith. **Democrat:**

Rep. Dale Grubb. **Geography:** Parke, Warren, Vermillion counties. **2000 Results:** Grubb 13,669, Andrews (R) 7,774, Stevenson (L) 454. **2002 Forecast:** Republicans are planning to put resources in this race after polling shows Grubb's re-elect numbers are softer than expected. Smith has "Patti" signs throughout the district and hopes a popular Republican sheriff candidate in Vermillion County along with Jerry McMullen's Republican state Senate bid will help her. **Status:** *LEANS D*.

**House District 44: Republican:** Andrew P. Thomas. **Democrat:** Putnam County

Councilwoman Lana Schimpf. **Geography:** Brazil, Clay and Putnam counties. **1998 Results:** Crosby 13,224. **2000 Results:** Crosby 16,132. **2002 Forecast:** Schimpf, who runs a Greencastle construction company, was the caucus choice to run in place of Rep. Susan Crosby. This may be one of the Republicans' best chances for pickup. Democrats want to use the daylight saving time issue against Thomas. **Status:** *Leans R*.

**House District 45: Republican:** Jasonville Mayor Bruce Borders. **Democrat:** Alan

Chowning. **Geography:** Sullivan, Daviess, Greene, Knox and Vigo counties. **1998 Results:** Gregg 14,351. **2000 Results:** Gregg 16,554, Hood 5,187. **2002 Forecast:** Sen. John Waterman thinks Borders can win, but we find it hard to believe John Gregg would let his seat go to the Republicans. Borders is doing parades in his Elvis outfit, handing out teddy bears. **Status:** *Likely D*.

**House District 48: Republican:** Elkhart City Councilman Timothy Neese.

**Democrat:** Bruce D. Carter. **Geography:** Elkhart, Elkhart County. **1998 Results:** Mock 16,833. **2000 Results:** Mock 14,876, Crabtree 6,777. **2002 Forecast:** State Rep. Dean Mock is retiring. This is about a 60 percent Republican district, but Carter upset Mock in 1986 and served one term before losing the rematch. Neese has served on the Elkhart City Council for the past decade



and he is favored. **Status:** *Likely R.*

**House District 52: Republican:** Marlon Stutzman. **Democrat:** Rep. Dale Sturtz.

**Geography:** LaGrange, Noble, DeKalb counties. **1994 Results:** Sturtz (D) 6,837, LeCount (R) 5,789. **1996 Results:** Sturtz 10,049, Hanneman (R) 6,258. **1998 Results:** Sturtz 6,677, Wonderly 6,385. **2000 Results:** Sturtz 9,536, Wonderly 7,825. **2002 Forecast:** While this is a 62-percent Republican district, but Sturtz is a former LaGrange sheriff and is very popular. We don't see that changing despite the fact that Stutzman is an attractive young candidate. Sturtz appears to be recovering from his heart surgery last winter. **Status:** *Likely D.*

**House District 56: Republican:** Richard Hamm **Democrat:** Phillip Pflum.

**Geography:** Richmond, Wayne County. **1994 Results:** Bodiker 7,142, Hamm 7,087. **1996 Results:** Bodiker 10,772, Hamm 8,159. **1998 Results:** Bodiker 8,152, Paust 5,947. **2000 Results:** Bodiker 9,508, Pappin 8,882. **2002 Forecast:** Pflum upset Donnie Hamilton in the Democratic primary by making 1,400 phone calls to Democrats. He is now going door to door almost every night. Hamm has lost three prior races. The district is 51 percent Democratic. This race could be influenced by either state or national dynamics which have yet to take shape. **Status:** *TOSSUP.*

**House District 57: Republican:** Roland Stine. **Democrat:** John R. Wheeler.

**Geography:** Shelbyville, Shelby and Bartholomew counties. **1996 Results:** Linder 13,730, Thayer (D) 6,704. **1998 Results:** Linder 12,741. **2000 Results:** Herndon 10,903, Lux 9,745. **2002 Forecast:** Stine is expected to run well in Shelby County, with Bartholomew in play. Republicans are confident Stine will win. **Status:** *LEANS R.*

**House District 60: Republican:** Bloomington Councilman L. David Sabbagh.

**Democrat:** Peggy Welch. **Geography:** Bloomington, Greene, Lawrence and Monroe Counties. **1994 results:** Bales (R) 11,825, Anderson 5,210. **1996 Results:** Bales 15,743, Germann (L) 1,931. **1998 Results:** Welch (D) 10,172, Ellington 8,987. **2000 Results:** Welch 13,961, Shean (R) 10,495. **Forecast:** Sabbagh cast this race in statewide terms on Wednesday. "You and I have an opportunity to change the course of Indiana's future," he said (*Bloomington Herald-Times*). "We can't afford to continue the status quo. Changes must be made to assure a sound future for our state. When something's broke, you fix it." **Status:** *Leans D.*

**House District 68: Republican:** John Keeton. **Democrat:** Rep. Bob Bischoff.

**Geography:** Lawrenceburg, Rising Sun, Dearborn, Switzerland counties. **1998 Results:** Bischoff 11,881, Kristoff (L) 1,742. **2000 Results:** Bischoff 11,746, Leising 11,544. **2002 Forecast:** Republicans think they can pick this seat up. Keeton is putting a lot of effort in Franklin County. Bischoff believes his district is Democratic enough to pull him through. **Status:** *Leans D.*

**House District 75: Republican:** Vanderburgh County Clerk Marsha Abell.

**Democrat:** Rep. Dennis Avery. **Geography:** Evansville, Vanderburgh and Gibson counties. **1998 Results:** Avery 11,714, Spurling (L) 1,250. **2000 Results:** Avery 14,850. **2002 Forecast:** In last three weeks, Abell has taken Server to task over lack of committee chairmanships (Server serves on Ways & Means). **Status:** *Leans D.*

**House District 81: Republican:** Matt Kelty. **Democrat:** Rep. Winfield Moses Jr.

**Geography:** Fort Wayne, Allen County. **2000 Results:** Moses 8,573, Conley (R) 4,794. **2002 Forecast:** Republicans say Moses's re-elect and approval numbers show he is vulnerable. Kelty has one of the highest voter contact numbers in the Republican caucus. Kelty is expected to go up on radio soon and has plenty of money in his warchest. Democrats believe Moses is entrenched and will survive in this 60 percent Democratic district. **Status:** *Leans D.*

**House District 86: Republican:** State Rep. Jim Atterholt. **Democrat:** Dr. David

Orentlicher. **Geography:** Indianapolis, Boone, Hamilton counties. **1998 Results:** Sturtz 6,677, Wonderly 6,385. **2000 Results:** Atterholt 17,320, Goodloe-Coe (D) 9,708, Perry (L) 1,178. **2002 Forecast:** Both parties say this will be the toughest race and may be the Democrats' best shot at a pickup. President Bush got 51 percent in this district in 2002 and Karen Freeman-Wilson polled 51.5 percent, so it's a true swing district. **Status:** *Tossup.*

# TICKER

## T A P E

with the President and against the evil that caused the death of so many innocent Americans."

**RIGDON COMPLAINS THAT SOUDER WON'T DEBATE:** With Election Day just six weeks away, 3rd CD Democratic challenger Jay Rigdon today challenged his opponent to debate him face to face. Negotiations with the Souder for Congress campaign to arrange joint appearances, in progress since August, have slowed to a crawl with no firm dates set and one opportunity already declined. "When it comes to open, public debates, the tactic of toying with the public while ultimately denying them the opportunity for side-by-side comparison is unacceptable," stated Rigdon.

**SENATE PASSES NEWPORT VX AMENDMENT:** The U.S. Senate late Wednesday passed an amendment authored by U.S. Sen. Evan Bayh to better safeguard the nation's chemical weapons depots from possible terrorist attacks. The amendment to the Department of Homeland Security bill will bolster security by tightening airspace around the chemical weapons depots, including the Newport Chemical Weapons Depot in Vermillion County, Indiana.

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Brian A. Howey ❖