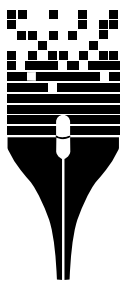


The Howey Political Report



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“QUOTE” OF THE WEEK

“I told him American public opinion was behind President Bush.”

- CBS anchor Dan Rather, responding to Saddam Hussein’s question of whether the American people support the coming war.

E. C., Elkhart, Gary T.H. top primaries

Action will shift to big cities in fall

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY** in *Indianapolis*

The stage is set for the first round of Hoosier municipal elections, with intense mayoral primary races aimed at incumbents in East Chicago, Elkhart, Gary, Jeffersonville, and Terre Haute. There will also be a spirited primary race in New Albany as the Democrats jockey for position to challenge Mayor Regina Overton.

The nominees for Indiana’s four biggest cities -- Indianapolis, Fort Wayne, Evansville and South Bend -- are already settled and those candidates will spend the next six months raising money, meeting with community groups and setting the stage for the homestretch that will begin on Labor Day.

Mayoral and council candidates face tough issues surrounding reassessment, billions of dollars in unsolved combined sewer overflow problems, homeland security, dramatic expenditures in snow removal and fuel prices, and an explosion of methamphetamine labs that have hit smaller cities and towns much more dramatically than crack cocaine did the bigger cities in the 1980s and ‘90s. There are also the traditional fault lines between city hall and police and fire departments. Any of those issues could torpedo an incumbent mayor.

As for general trends, this municipal election sequence follows a volatile one in 1999 when more than a dozen incumbent mayors lost. But some of the most intense action occurred in primaries where incumbent mayors in Terre Haute, Shelbyville, LaPorte, Winchester, Wabash, Huntington, and Columbia City were defeated while incumbents in Anderson, Jeffersonville, Knox and Michigan City had to fend off spirited challenges. It is hard to pinpoint any

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Fort Wayne, Evansville mayoral**

rates; 9 running in Kokomo p. 6

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BUSH AT 56 PERCENT: A CBS News poll of 681 adults, conducted over February 24-25 (+/- 4%), shows: 56% "approve of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as President"; 35% disapprove; 9% don't know. 51% "approve of the way George W. Bush is handling foreign policy"; 41% disapprove; 8% don't know.

SIMPSON TO OFFICIALLY KICK OFF HER CAMPAIGN ON MARCH 12: Democratic gubernatorial candidate Vi Simpson has scheduled a "celebration" and fund-raiser for 5:30 p.m. March 12 at the Murat Centre in Indianapolis. "I am very conscious of the human and financial resources that must be mobilized if our campaign is to be successful, and we are off to a great start," Sen. Simpson said Wednesday.

ANDREW PUTS TOGETHER CAMPAIGN FINANCE TEAM: Democratic gubernatorial candidate Joe Andrew will have Sally Kirkpatrick Perkins chair his campaign finance committee. Brian Hardwick, former national finance director of the Democratic National Committee, will serve as a national finance consultant. Rounding out the finance team is Jenny Hill, daughter of U.S. Rep. Baron Hill and current staffer for the



statewide trends that resulted in the 1999 defeats of incumbents, just as it is in 2003. Municipal elections often are determined on issues surrounding police and fire departments, annexation, tax rates, and an array of issues ranging from wastewater treatment, new minor league baseball stadiums, crime rates, and, well, whether a majority of a community can stand the face of a predominant public official for another four years.

There are a variety of different thresholds that face Indiana political figures. A tough, grizzled or ideological person can take that personal and political formula and win a congressional or senate seat. Those same attributes don't necessarily work for a gubernatorial candidate, where the long-standing axiom is that Hoosiers want to be able to envision sitting down to dinner with such a man or woman. Prosecutors don't often translate to other offices because of the public perception of their black vs. white crusades against crime while a city represents a trove of grazys.

Mayors are a different breed

And mayors, while they can com-

mand great power within city limits, or a county, often find that popularity doesn't translate to the entire media market due to small town bias or envy aimed at their bigger urban brothers.

With the exceptions of Evansville Mayor Vance Hartke, Indianapolis Mayor Richard Lugar, South Bend Mayor Joe Kernan, and State Rep. Winfield Moses Jr., few mayors ever move on up the political food chain. It was a painful lesson learned by Indianapolis Mayor Bill Hudnut in 1990 and Bloomington Mayor John Fernandez in 2002. Both were activist mayors who led progressive administrations in successful cities but found their records were viewed through an ideological prism that led to their defeats for secretary of state.

For a person hoping for a soaring political career, being elected coroner, auditor or sheriff has more promise than being a mayor.

Mayors are a completely different breed. They preside over the strata of politics and governance that is described as "where the rubber meets the road." A congressman or senator won't face the white hot heat of political retribution if the

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garbage isn't picked up or streets aren't plowed. A mayor will.

Senators or legislators aren't often believed to be in harm's way, but mayors are, as we have painfully seen in the last few months in Evansville. Republican Mayor Russ Lloyd Jr. was threatened with bodily harm and his potential assailant was sentenced to 180 days in jail last week, conjuring frightening images of his father's assassination several months after completing a second term in 1980.

Not ideologues

Mayors aren't very often ideologues because they need to forge broad coalitions in order to have functioning cities and political organizations. A congressman can get by without attending a local NAACP banquet, but that could be suicide for a mayor. Perhaps the most ideological of all mayors this year is Elkhart Mayor Dave Miller, and he is facing two primary opponents, including a credible one from a city councilman.

The most successful ideologue mayor, Indianapolis' Stephen Goldsmith, saw his plurality plummet against a token opponent in his 1995 re-election campaign compared to his 1991 election. Goldsmith subsequently lost his home county during the 1996 gubernatorial race suggesting a diminished return on his ideology.

Machine mayors

Three of the most entertaining primary dogfights will come in the traditionally Democratic cities of East Chicago, Gary and Terre Haute where incumbent mayors will be fending off fratricidal challenges.

The most anticipated will come in East Chicago, where Mayor Robert Pastrick is seeking his ninth term. He will be fending off challenges from former state senator and Judge Lonnie Randolph and Councilman George Pabey, as well as a potential indictment from District Attorney Joseph VanBokkelen. So, all is

normal in the People's Republic of East Chicago!

Pastrick could be indicted and find the proverbial live boy, dead girl or barnyard animal in his comforts and still win. It's important to note that none of these things have ever happened to Pastrick, though his political opponents have been known to talk like that and leave real corpses outside of fund-raisers. Just watching Pastrick get to his unique victory lane is fascinating. As one Region wag once told me, Chicago's Daley Machine has been known to swing through East Chicago to bone up on political pointers.

Gary Mayor Scott King is seeking his third term and faces a four-way challenge, though his most credible opponent, Lake County Commissioner Rudy Clay, just withdrew. Clay is a smart pol who knows how to count votes and knows that King is formidable and is establishing a true machine in the Steel City.

Big cities in autumn

After the primary round, the two most fascinating races will occur in Fort Wayne and Evansville in the general election. Democrat Fort Wayne Mayor Graham Richard and Republican Lloyd in Evansville wrested control from the other party in 1999 in squeaky-tight victories. Richard faces a rematch from Linda Buskirk, who will get more of a tailwind with newly annexed areas of the city that are predominantly Republican, as well as a more united GOP.

Lloyd will face a challenge from State Rep. Jonathon Weinzapfel, who has an unsuccessful 1998 congressional race under his belt.

Unless something dramatic happens, HPR expects both the Fort Wayne and Evansville races to enter the autumnal sequence firmly in tossup range. Check out this week's extensive HPR Horse Race section on the following pages for a benchmark score card of the top mayoral races in Indiana this year. ❖

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Kernan for Indiana campaign, to serve as finance director for Andrew's efforts. The Andrew For Indiana Committee filed its CFA-1 papers on Feb. 12. HPR had reported last week that the committee had not made the filing.

GARTON, BORST SEE BIG BUDGET REVISIONS: After reviewing the recently passed House Bill 1001, Senate Republicans remarked on the provisions of the \$22.8 billion spending plan Wednesday. "The budget undoubtedly will undergo significant alterations before it can be considered by the full Senate," said Senate President Pro Tempore Robert D. Garton (R-Columbus). "We've identified some positive aspects of the bill, but failing to address the \$800 million structural deficit is unacceptable." While the bill does not raise state taxes, it effectively forces counties to raise property taxes with such provisions as allowing some counties a one-time levy increase in order to repay the state \$54 million in county juvenile corrections debts. Another cut in transportation and flat grant monies moves \$103 million to local property tax rolls. In addition, counties that have already participated in inventory tax elimination would suffer financially if the current version of the

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budget were to pass into law. "We need to solve the problems embedded in state spending instead of simply pushing the burden onto local governments," said Senate Finance Committee Chairman Lawrence Borst (R-Greenwood). Borst also noted that while there are no reductions in general fund spending, the bill flat-lines Medicaid, excluding \$263 million in funding for the projected need for Medicaid services.

"Flatlining Medicaid funding is unrealistic," Borst said. "The need heavily outweighs the dollars this bill provides."

SBC WORKERS RALLY AT STATEHOUSE: More than 1,000 employees of SBC Communications crowded in the north atrium of the Indiana Statehouse yesterday to show lawmakers that a controversial bill passed by the House is about more than just a battle between giant phone companies. "This is a jobs bill," Jeff Rechenbach, vice president of the Communications Workers of America, shouted to SBC line maintenance workers, customer service representatives and other employees who spent their lunch hours at the Statehouse (Louisville Courier-Journal).

HILL NAMED TO BASE CLOSING PANEL: For the second time in a week, the Crane military facility has

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Indiana 2003 Racing Form

Indiana 2003 Mayoral Races

Anderson Mayoral: **Republican:** Kevin Smith, John Blevins. **Democrat:** Robert W. Rock, Anderson Twp. Assessor Dorothy Manis, Irma Hampton Stewart. **Independent:** Linda Haynes. **1995 Results:** Lawler (D) 9,411, Graham (R) 8,817. **1999 Results:** Lawler (D) 8,395, Czarniecki (R) 7,002 Haynes (I) 1,950. **2003 Forecast:** Manis called for the resignation of Police Chief Ed Leonard on Monday after members of the Fraternal Order of Police objected to an information leak to the media about an internal investigation (Ken de la Bastide, Anderson Herald-Bulletin). Rock, an assistant city attorney, said he couldn't comment on the allegations raised by the FOP because he represents the city. He said the next police chief could be someone from outside the department. "My ethics will be the measure and will be enforced throughout the administration," said Rock. "I want decisions made not based on politics but what is best for the community." "There are systemic problems in the police department," said Stewart. "I'm not aware of any action by the mayor (Lawler). I would like to have heard a strong statement on standards on the leaking of information." Blevins said he has not seen Lawler taking any action in terms of the FOP complaints. "The city is suffering from benign neglect at all levels," he said. "The city will continue to drift until there are changes made next January. All the leadership positions should be selected for their professional abilities and skills. City hall needs a clean sweep." Manis is attempting to drive a wedge between Rock, who has the endorsement of Mayor Lawler, and the FOP. **General Status:** *TOSSUP.*

HORSE RACE

Bloomington Mayoral: **Republican:** Fred Prall. **Democrat:** Mark Kruzan. **1999 Results:** Fernandez (D) 6,589, Lewis (FUSSA) 258, Clemens (I) 2,746 Maidi (I) 306. **2003 Outlook:** Bill Van Hoy III withdrew his Republican mayoral candidacy Tuesday after finding out he does not live within Bloomington's city limits. Van Hoy filed as a Republican candidate Friday, about an hour before the noon deadline for those interested in running in this year's election. We see Kruzan as the prohibitive favorite in this race. **General Status:** *LIKELY KRUZAN.*

Columbus Mayoral: **Republican:** David Mann. **Democrat:** Mayor Fred Armstrong. **1999 Results:** Armstrong (D) 6,278, Paris (R) 2,599. **2003 Outlook:** Armstrong is seeking his third term and will face a challenge from former Bartholomew County Sheriff David Mann. Armstrong is a former police officer and councilman. He will be campaigning on what he calls his "commUNITY" themes. His state of the city address articulated gains in airport expansion, the arts, the building of ADA ramps, paving 20 miles of street, the building of more apartment housing, retail expansion and a 105 percent increase in arrests while combating a methamphetamine problem. **General Status:** *LEANS ARMSTRONG.*

Crown Point Mayoral: **Republican:** Councilman Pam Roth, Gayle Van Sessen. **Democrat:** Bill Wirtz. **1999 Results:** Metros (D) 3,005, Kemp (R) 2,671. **2003 Outlook:** Van Sessen, executive director of the Chamber of Commerce, will face off against Councilman Roth, who lost to State Rep. Bob Kuzman last year. Sessen had been planning this candidacy for several years and many observers believe the Roth challenge could split the party as it tries to capture an open seat. We see the GOP primary as a toss-up. **Primary Status:** *TOSSUP.*

East Chicago Mayoral: **Republican:** None. **Democrat:** Mayor Robert Pastrick, Councilman George Pabey, Judge Lonnie Randolph. **1999 Primary Results:** Pastrick 5,772, Stephen Stiglich 3,790. **1999 General Results:** Pastrick (D) 3,027, Acost (R) 629. **2003 Forecast:** Prepare for a donnybrook, but no matter what happens - indictment or not - we just don't see Mayor Pastrick's last hurrah at this point. Former Indiana Democratic Chairman Peter Manous showed up at a Pastrick fundraiser this past week. **General Status:** *Solid Pastrick.*

Elkhart Mayoral: **Republican:** Mayor Dave Miller, Councilman Dave Henke,

Charles Hawkins. **Democrat:** James Perron. **1995 Results:** Perron (D) 5,017, McDowell (R) 4,869. **1999 Results:** Miller (R) 4,959, Perron (D) 3,902. **2003 Forecast:** Miller will have to fend off a primary challenge from Councilman Henke. If he prevails, he will have a rematch with five-term mayor Perron, who surprisingly won't have primary opposition. But Perron brings to the race baggage as he announced he won't appeal a \$200,000 penalty stemming from a 1994 defamation case as the result of a letter he wrote to the Elkhart Truth. Perron has been negotiating with the courts as to whether he is liable for the damages, the city or the city's insurer. If the city gets tagged with it, you can expect the Republican nominee to use that against him. **Primary Status:** *Leans Miller.*

Evansville Mayoral: Republican: Mayor Russell Lloyd Jr. **Democrat:** State Rep. Jonathon Weinzapfel. **1995 Results:** McDonald (D) 19,162, Frary (R) 9,565. **1999 Results:** Lloyd (R) 15,980, Borries (D) 15,461. **2003 Forecast:** Lloyd won by 519 votes against Rick Borries, who had an extremely divided Democratic Party, and who polled poorly with women. That splintered Democratic Party doomed Borries, but Weinzapfel enters the race with a united party. "This party hasn't been this united since Frank McDonald's first term," said House Majority Leader Russ Stilwell. What Weinzapfel is up against is a city that hasn't tossed out an incumbent in 50 years. The good news in recent days for Weinzapfel is that Lloyd is taking some heat for his baseball stadium deal and a recent \$300,000 workers training grant the council didn't know about it. The bad news is that Lloyd faces a security threat and may get some sympathy support. Lloyd also has some projects that are coming to fruition. So there are a lot of cross-currents at play here, and we see this race as a pure tossup this fall. **General Status:** *TOSSUP.*

Fort Wayne Mayoral: Republican: Linda Buskirk, O. (Bro) Blye. **Democrat:** Mayor Graham Richard. **1995 Results:** Helmke 21,909, Essex (D) 11,033, Kempf (L) 1,029. **1999 Results:** Richard (D) 21,607, Buskirk (R) 21,531. **2003 Forecast:** Richard should be buoyed by recent police statistics that show a decline in the crime rate, though not nearly the 20 percent reduction he promised for his first year in office in 2000. Richard won by less than 100 votes with Buskirk leading a splintered GOP, had to endure a three-hour water crisis 10 days prior to the election, backlash from Mayor Helmke's aggressive annexation efforts, and a late *Journal Gazette* poll that showed her with a double-digit lead that might have depressed her turnout. This year, Buskirk finds only Blye in the Republican primary (who is wanted on misdemeanor charges), a Joe Squadrito faded from memory, thousands of new Republican voters in St. Joseph Township, and an Indiana Republican Party that will be inclined to help offset the \$100,000 Indiana Democrats pumped into the Richard campaign down the homestretch. Richard has his work cut out for him. **General Status:** *Tossup.*

Gary Mayoral: Republican: Open. **Democrat:** Mayor Scott King, Karen Freeman-Wilson, Dozier Allen, Roosevelt Allen, Douglas Grimes. **1995 Results:** King (D) 23,588, Williams (I) 5,482, Boswell (R) 1,108, McCraney (I) 96. **1999 Results:** King (D) 11,467. **2003 Forecast:** We believe Mayor King will prevail for two reasons: Suzette Raggs' impressive precinct election to city clerk earlier this month, and Commissioner Rudy Clay's withdrawal from the primary. Clay can count votes and knew that the six challengers would split up any anti-King vote. It would be a huge upset if King gets beat on his way to a third term. **General Status:** *SOLID KING.*

Hammond Mayoral: Republican: Mayor Duane Dedelow. **Democrat:** Tom McDermott. **1995 Results:** Dedelow (R) 11,099, Philpot (D) 10,578. **1999 Results:** Dedelow (R) 10,192, Philpot (D) 8,527, Robinson (L) 278. **2003 Outlook:** Two mayors will square off this fall. Dedelow succeeded McDermott, then a Republican. McDermott has kept a high profile since he left office and is preparing an aggressive fall campaign. **General Status:** *TOSSUP.*

Indianapolis Mayoral: Republican: Treasurer Greg Jordan. **Democrat:** Mayor Bart Peterson. **Libertarian:** Open. **1995 Results:** Goldsmith (R) 64,209, Jimison (D) 39,539, Dillon (L) 7,175. **1999 Results:** Peterson (D) 102,870, Gilroy (R) 83,044, Horning (L) 7,772, Gibson (OP) 2,145. **2003 Forecast:** Despite Peterson's feuds with water workers and IPD, highlighted by FOP members turning their backs on him during his Tuesday State of the City address, we believe he's in good shape. Peterson has about a \$2 million warchest advantage, a city trending Democratic, and the Julia Carson and Sheriff Anderson campaign organizations that will be

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gained a well-placed ally in Congress in its efforts to stay open after 2004 (Bloomington Herald-Times). Ninth District U.S. Rep. Baron Hill has been appointed to serve on the House Armed Services Committee's base-reviewing Readiness Subcommittee.

O'BANNON AGAINST BUSH HEALTH PLAN: The Bush proposal would allow small businesses to band together and buy health insurance through a trade association or professional society. Under such an arrangement, Bush says, small businesses could pool their purchasing power and negotiate lower premiums. But governors said the new entities, known as "association health plans," would destabilize the insurance market and would be risky for consumers because they could charge higher premiums to older, sicker workers and could sell bare-bones insurance policies without the benefits now required by state laws. In a letter to Congress, Gov. O'Bannon, a Democrat, and Gov. John Hoeven of North Dakota, a Republican, said they feared that healthy people would buy minimal coverage from an association plan, then "jump back to state-regulated insurance when they need more comprehensive coverage" (New York Times). The National Governors Association tries

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to operate by consensus. But after it adjourned, four Democratic governors joined Sen. Tom Daschle, Democrat of South Dakota and the Senate minority leader, in denouncing President Bush's domestic policies. Gov. Gary Locke of Washington said the governors, struggling with the worst fiscal problems since World War II, "received nothing but great smiles and rhetoric" from the administration.

SIMPSON CAMPAIGN OPENS UP OFFICE, LAUNCHES WEBSITE: State Sen. Vi Simpson's gubernatorial campaign launched a website, www.visimpson.com, an office at 251 N. Illinois St., Suite 970, and a telephone number, 317-829-7351. Erin Coriden, a former press assistant to Indianapolis Mayor Bart Peterson, has joined the campaign as a full-time coordinator. "Our campaign for governor is giving every Hoosier a chance to participate in building a brighter future for Indiana," Simpson said. "The website is a reflection of that ideal."

SIMPSON CALLS FOR NIGHT CLUB SAFETY STUDY: Alarmed by recent disasters at nightclubs in Chicago and Rhode Island, Sen. Vi Simpson and two other Hoosier state senators are pushing for state action to prevent the same from

there for him if a crisis arises. **General Status:** *Likely Peterson.*

Jeffersonville Mayoral: **Republican:** None. **Democrat:** Mayor Tom Galligan, Councilman Rob Waiz, Kenneth Ogden, Glenn Muncy. **1999 Results:** Galligan (D) 3,194, Cook (I) 640, Cooper (R) 619. **2003 Outlook:** Mayor Galligan had come under fire for nepotism since he is married to his city attorney, Anne Marie Galligan. The mayor had been presiding over city council meetings, but stopped last summer when he was told by Councilman Ron Ellis that the couple's input "wasn't wanted or needed" (Jon Reiter, *Jeffersonville Evening News*). The marriage came after both had entered office. Waiz, who is council president, said, "They should be here. He has to preside over the meetings. It's a shame it's taken him this long to come back." **Primary Status:** *LEANS GALLIGAN.*

Kokomo Mayoral: **Republican:** Lynn Bolinger, Patrick Donoghue, Gary McKay, Matthew McKillip, Thomas Hamilton. **Democrat:** Jean Lushin, Roland Ellis, Councilman Andrew Castner, Susan Alexander. **1999 Results:** Trobaugh (R) 5,606, Kennedy (D) 3,581. **2003 Forecast:** Mayor James Trobaugh, president of IACT, won't seek a third term, setting off two wild primary scrambles with an unprecedented nine candidates (Eric Smith, *Kokomo Tribune*). Trobaugh was facing a number of tough issues, ranging from EPA requirements for the city to solve its combined sewer overflow problem, to the mysterious hum that has afflicted the city for years. Lushin lost to Trobaugh in 1995 with 48 percent of the vote. Caster is an incumbent councilman. Those two would be the presumed frontrunners in the Democratic primary, though city Chairman Mike Kennedy called Alexander, "A newcomer who brings in new ideas." Ellis lost the 1999 mayoral primary to Kennedy by 1,300 votes. On the GOP side, Donoghue is probably the best known as a former Kokomo fire chief. **General Status:** *TOSSUP.*

Lafayette Mayoral: **Republican:** Councilwoman Lisa Decker, Ann Miller. **Democrat:** Councilman Tony Roswarski. **1999 Results:** Heath (R) 6,237, Weiss (D) 5,496. **2003 Forecast:** Decker is expected to win the primary against Miller, a real estate agent and relative political unknown. She raised questions about a new \$1.2 million swimming pool, suggesting that with lost jobs, it was inappropriate to spend money that way. Decker is known as a behind-the-scenes mover and shaker. Roswarski, a former policeman, won his city council seat by a 69-31 percent margin in 1999 against an incumbent. The Roswarski name carries some weight politically in Lafayette and many observers expect a Decker-Roswarski race to be very competitive. **General Status:** *TOSSUP.*

Michigan City Mayoral: **Republican:** Open. **Democrat:** Councilwoman Joie Winski, City Controller Chuck Oberlie, Rev. Albert Isbell, Derald Borton, Jack Wright, Lester Bromley. **1999 Results:** Brillson (D) 3,749, Kniola (R) 3,217. **2003 Forecast:** Oberlie and Winski are the favorites. Oberlie has served the last six mayors from both parties over the past 34 years and has endorsements from outgoing Mayor Sheila Brillson and former mayor Joe LaRocco (Jeff Tucker, *Michigan City News-Dispatch*). Among the others, Isbell is a former city councilman and a Baptist minister. Borton initially entered the race as a Republican and lost a recent race for the LaPorte County Council, receiving only 110 votes. Wright is a former Elston HS basketball player and a former Economic Development Commission member. His mother was the first African-American to graduate from Elston in 1928. Bromley is largely unknown. **General status:** *TOSSUP.*

Mishawaka Mayoral: **Republican:** Councilman Bill Pemberton, Jeff Rae. **Democrat:** St. Joseph County Commissioner Cynthia Bodle. **1999 Results:** Buetter (R) 5,391, VanBruaene (D) 2,286. **2003 Forecast:** Rae has been Mayor Beutter's economic development director and Pemberton is president of the city council, so there are two credible Republicans running in the primary. Bodle is unopposed. Republicans have held the mayor's office for nine consecutive terms, but Commissioner Bodle is expected to make the general race competitive. **General status:** *TOSSUP.*

Muncie Mayoral: **Republican:** Mayor Dan Canan. **Democrat:** Dennis Tyler. **1995 Results:** Canan (R) 9,718, Carey (D) 6,521. **1999 Results:** Canan (R) 7,973, Smith (D) 5,611.

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2003 Forecast: Tyler enters the race after his first choice, fellow city firefighter and longtime party treasurer Roy Huff, declined the offer Friday because of health reasons (Rick Yencer, *Muncie Star Press*). Tyler, in announcing his mayoral campaign, said he would turn over day-to-day operation of the Delaware County Democratic Party to someone else. "I understand the difference between the partisan side of being party chairman and being a mayor that reaches out to everyone," Tyler said. If elected, Tyler said, he will resign as Democratic chairman and retire from the Muncie Fire Department. Joined by Huff and State Sen. Allie Craycraft, Tyler launched his campaign, acknowledging he was a "decided underdog." **General status:** *LIKE-LY CANAN*.

New Albany Mayoral: Republican: Mayor Regina Overton. **Democrat:**

Councilman James E. Garner, Councilman Maury Goldberg, Larry Scharlow, Betty Lou Tuttle, Yvonne Kersey. **1995 Results:** England 6,845, Real (R) 5,886. **1999 Results:** Overton (R) 5,512, England (D) 4,205. **2003 Forecast:** Six New Albany Democrats will compete in the May 6 primary for the chance to oppose Mayor Overton in the fall election (Louisville Courier-Journal). They are City Council members James Garner and Maury Goldberg, who ran in the 1991 mayoral primary; Yvonne Kersey, who ran in the 1999 mayoral primary; two businessmen, Larry Clemons, also a candidate in the 1991 primary, and Larry Scharlow; and Betty Lou Tuttle. Warren Nash, chairman of the county Democratic Party, declared Overton to be "in serious trouble." He said that the winner will have an excellent chance of defeating her (*Louisville Courier-Journal*), even though Overton recently negotiated a new FOP contract. **General Status:** *Tossup*.

Portage Mayoral: Republican: Joe Blackwell. **Democrat:** Mayor Doug Olson.

2003 Forecast: Former three-term mayor Sammie Maletta declined a rematch and endorsed Blackwell, a retired U.S. Steel accountant. **General status:** *LEANS OLSON*.

South Bend Mayoral: Republican: Thomas Schmidt. **Democrat:** Mayor Steve

Luecke, Mike Waite. **1995 Results:** Kernan (D) 14,309, Waite (R) 3,106. **1999 Results:** Luecke (D) 13,678, Bradley (R) 6,321. **2003 Forecast:** Republican County Chairman Matt Lentsch practically heaved a sigh of relief as he introduced Thomas R. Schmidt as his mayoral candidate just a few hours before the nomination period closed at noon Friday (James Wensits, *South Bend Tribune*). Lentsch said the search for a candidate lasted several months but came down to the last possible week. Schmidt, owner of two Mishawaka businesses, has been a South Bend resident for the past eight years. He jumped right into the fray, saying he wants to remove the "Democrats only" sign that has hung on the mayor's office for so long. The last Republican to serve as mayor of South Bend was the late Lloyd Allen, who served from 1963-71. Meanwhile, Michael C. "Mike" Waite, who was the Republican mayoral candidate in 1995, filed again, this time as a Democrat. Because he declared himself to be a Republican in the 1995 primary election, Waite could face a challenge from St. Joseph County Democratic Chairman Owen "Butch" Morgan. **General status:** *Solid Luecke*.

Terre Haute Mayoral: Republican: Duke Bennett. **Democrat:** Mayor Judy

Anderson, Jim Jenkins, Kevin Burke. **1999 Results:** Anderson (D) 6,791, Hooper (R) 2,608, Cronk (I) 1,178, Brour (I) 174. **2003 Forecast:** Mayor Anderson faces a two-way primary against the man she defeated in the 1999 primary, former Mayor Jim Jenkins, and businessman Kevin Burke. She entered the post-filing deadline with a nepotism situation involving her son, who has been awarded a number of contracts from various city departments. The Vigo County prosecutor has called for an Indiana State Police investigation. Anderson is also not on good terms with the *Terre Haute Tribune-Star*, refusing to speak to reporters there. The good news for Anderson is that she is expected to get the firefighters union endorsement, which is important because she won the '99 primary on firefighter issues. Also, Burke and Jenkins could split the anti-Anderson vote. Usually the winner of the Democratic primary wins handily in the November election, but Bennett is an elder at the Maryland Community Church, the congregation that greatly aided the upset victory of State Rep. Brooks LaPlante over Vern Tincher last year. **Primary Status:** *LEANS ANDERSON*.

- Brian A. Howey ❖

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happening here (Bloomington Herald-Times). Simpson, an Ellettsville Democrat who is running for governor, and two Republican senators have introduced a resolution in the state Senate calling for an interim study committee on nightclub safety issues. She was joined by State Sens. Teresa Lubbers and Ronnie Altling. "We were surprised to learn that Indiana has no state law regulating the indoor use of pyrotechnics," Simpson said Tuesday.

CLARK SEEKS PENSION FUND PROBE: State Sen. Murray Clark, who criticized Democratic Gov. Frank O'Bannon for downplaying a scandal at the state's pension fund, called Tuesday for a large-scale, independent investigation of the Public Employees' Retirement Fund (Indianapolis Star). Clark, who is running for governor in 2004, said O'Bannon hasn't done enough to help the 250,000 public workers and retirees whose personal information was compromised when a convicted identity thief was hired for a top job. "We now know the problem is far greater," said Clark, the sponsor of Senate Bill 320, which would make it easier to prosecute identity thieves. The Senate passed the bill Tuesday, 49-0.

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TERRE HAUTE COUNCIL: Pat Ralston, director of the State Emergency Management Agency, entered as a Democrat in the race for City Council District 2 (Pete Ciancone, Terre Haute Tribune-Star). He will run against Brian Crowley in May, and may face incumbent Republican Ryan Cummins in the fall. Cummins is the council's lone Republican who brings a determination to raise issues nobody else wants to address, and he's defending a district that is stoutly Republican.

SOUDEPRAISES SUPREME COURT: U.S. Rep. Mark Souder released the following statement in response to today's Supreme Court decision in favor of pro-life protestors: "The concept of using laws designed to stop organized crime against peaceful pro-life demonstrators should be ludicrous to most reasonable people, but it certainly wasn't to those extremists who will do anything to silence pro-life voices. Luckily, the Supreme Court today stopped their frankly unconstitutional attack dead in its tracks. Part of the fight for pro-lifers is actually a fight to make sure pro-life voices can be heard."

HAMMOND ARTIST PAINTS LUGAR PORTRAIT: Hammond resident Michael Chelich is accustomed to meeting with members of the political elite. Lately, he

COLUMNISTS ON INDIANA

Cameron Carter, *Indianapolis Eye* -

Death comes in many forms. Some are quiet and peaceful, others painful and noisy. Indiana Democrats are currently experiencing the latter. Why are Indiana Democrats screeching so? Pain. Pain caused by lost credibility, their record of failure after 16 years of running state government, an intra-party squabble over their next candidate for governor and, most recently, their state chairman Peter Manous' disgraceful resignation. Let's look at the Democrats' predicament and try to, as one of their most beloved leaders once said, "feel their pain." How would you feel if your views on issues ranging from tax cuts to partial-birth abortions were shared by only a frail minority of the public? Isolated? Lonely perhaps? How would you feel about losing the last election and daily policy debates? Defeated? Beaten down? How would you feel if your national leaders have become so incoherent on the overriding issue of our time -- the global war on terrorism and weapons of mass destruction of which the coming conflict with Iraq is but a part -- that your party's credibility on national security issues is on a par with that of Sean Penn and Madonna? Lost and insecure? How would you feel if, closer to home, your longtime political brothers-and sisters-in-arms were dividing bitterly with you over who should be your party's next nominee for governor? Conflicted? Angry? Isolation ... defeat ... incoherence ... conflict ... and anger. This is the state of Indiana Democrats today. It's made them, well, a little ... cranky. When I wrote an analysis of the current gubernatorial field that actually praised Sen. Evan Bayh for his common-sense foreign policy (see "Bayh Froze the Field, But Dems Remain in Disarray for 2004" in the Eye archives), I was attacked for it in a party-sanctioned press release. One prominent Democrat found the release so objectionable that he

offered a private apology for the actions of his party and its then chairman, Peter Manous. When Democrat fixer Robin Winston emerged from an emergency powwow in the governor's office regarding the resignation of Manous, he lashed out at reporters and impugned the motives of U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Indiana Joseph Van Bokkelen. Furthering the Carville-ization of political discourse, Demo-domo Winston said, "This is a Republican U.S. attorney appointed by George Bush going after a prominent Democrat in this state--and no one has been convicted yet." (Yet? Not even his own defense attorney has acknowledged that Manous is a target of the federal investigation into a Porter County land deal, yet Winston in high dudgeon may have let that cat out of the bag.) Common to both these instances is a tried and true political tactic: If you can't refute the message, attack the credibility of the messenger. ❖

Dan Carpenter, *Indianapolis Star* -

As George Orwell reminded us, there's nothing more conducive to big government than a society indefinitely at war. His novel "1984," published shortly after World War II, is a cautionary tale not just about brute tyranny but about mass conformity. Big Brother was not a dictator but a protector, you see, and he had to be fear-somely powerful in order to confront foreign evil and domestic disloyalty. A generation earlier, at the end of World War I, the anarchist author Randolph Bourne put it another way: "War is the health of the state." "It automatically sets in motion throughout society those irresistible forces for uniformity," he wrote, "for passionate cooperation with the Government in coercing into obedience the minority groups and individuals which lack the larger herd sense." These men were pre-scient. ❖

Roemer, Souder fear homeland security pork

By MARK SCHOEFF JR.

The Howey Political Report

WASHINGTON - With the terrorism alert code ominously changing colors and the United States poised to go to war with Iraq, no one in Washington is arguing that less money should be devoted to homeland security. But former Rep. Tim Roemer says that how the money is allocated can be as important as sheer spending levels.

One of the dangers for homeland security funding is that it could devolve into pork-barrel politics. "There may be a tendency for Congress to look at (homeland security) as another opportunity to send money home to local constituencies and get it earmarked," said Roemer. "There need to be benchmarks attached to this sort of process. We need to make sure things are measurably safer and there are benchmarks established in a uniform way across the country to look at air, sea, and land projects that add up in a comprehensive way to make the homeland more secure."

A **Hoosier House** member who is in the middle of evolving homeland security oversight on Capitol Hill shares Roemer's concern about the pork-barrel threat. "In fact, I already see this happening," said Republican Rep. Mark Souder, a member of the recently established House Homeland Security Committee. "We would need to look at how to benchmark. The ultimate problem is that when you harden certain high-risk targets, you make softer targets more vulnerable, and that's why benchmarks are not easy."

Roemer, a Democrat who served in the former 3rd CD since 1990 before retiring this year, is now a member of the commission looking into the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in New York, Washington, and rural Pennsylvania. The panel of five Republicans and 5 Democrats was created by legislation that Roemer wrote and

helped shepherd through Congress. The commission bill, passed late last session, calls for an 18-month investigation. The clock started ticking in November.

In the White House budget released earlier this month, the Bush administration proposed a \$36.2 billion budget for the newly created Dept. of Homeland Security, which melds 22 previously existing agencies and will employ approximately 170,000 workers. In the last session of Congress, controversy swirled over \$3.5 billion intended for first-responder training -- police, fire, emergency health personnel. The money was held up by political squabbling over the appropriations budget for the current fiscal year.

Roemer said that the first-responder funding delay set back homeland security. "I don't think anyone would disagree that holding up the \$3.5 billion and not being able to do last year's business has been harmful and has made it difficult for local government and states to implement anti-terrorism measures because they haven't had the money," he said.

Some Democrats running for their party's presidential nomination -- and some on the Hill -- have criticized President Bush for spending too little on homeland security. But another prominent Hoosier on the 9/11 commission says there is plenty of concern on both sides of the aisle.

"There is a fairly broad, accepted criticism that more needs to be done," said former Democratic Rep. Lee Hamilton, who is the vice chairman of the 9/11 panel. "I don't think there's anyone who thinks (first responders) are as well prepared as they need to be." He said that improvements are also needed in protecting critical infrastructure like chemical and nuclear plants, electrical power grids, water supplies, and transportation systems. ❖

TICKER T A P E

has spent hours in private sessions with Sen. Dick Lugar, R-Ind., mostly chatting about international politics, a passion of Lugar's (Susie Oh, *Times of Northwest Indiana*). For Chelich, these encounters are just part of the job. Chelich, 39, is a still-life and portrait artist who won a commission from the Indiana Historical Society last fall to paint a likeness of Lugar. He has also done portraits of Govs. Frank O'Bannon and Evan Bayh for the State Capitol collection. Lugar's portrait will hang in the meeting room of the Senate Agriculture Committee, of which he was chairman from 1995 to 2001.

HUFFINGTON CITES CORPORATE GREED: Arianna Huffington, diva of cable television "news" shows, was at Vincennes University Tuesday morning to talk about her new book and urge students especially to become more involved in the fight against corporate greed (Gayle Robbins, *Vincennes Sun-Commercial*). Huffington, a syndicated columnist, said that after all the publicity, commentary, legislation and subsequent indictments dealing with corporate scandals, the "fox is still guarding the hen house" in that politicians continue to do the bidding of corporate America.

