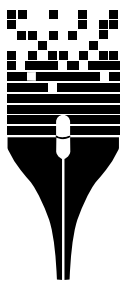


The Howey Political Report



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“QUOTE” OF THE WEEK

“Leadership means you don’t listen to the polls, you go out and do what needs to be done ... and to make people understand what needs to go on.”

- Jeffersonville Mayor Tom Galligan

Chicken salad days upon pudding state

A coming collision of fallacy, reality

“Go home, feed the kids; go home, feed the kids. How can you have any pudding if you don’t eat your meat?”

- Pink Floyd, “Another Brick in the Wall (Part 2)”

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

These are the “chicken salad” days of the first Jurassic Age Indiana biennial budget.

The days are warm, the physiques are soft, the spines consist of cartilage, and the brains are woolly, maleable and devoid of logic. You can bear witness here:

“We took chicken feathers and made chicken salad,” said State Rep. Earl Harris, D-East Chicago (*Times of Northwest Indiana*).

“We did the best we could *with what we had*,” said House Speaker B. Patrick Bauer (*Indianapolis Star*).

“It is the first time in 12 years that I had to vote on something that was not on my desk,” said State Rep. Jack Lutz, R-Anderson (*Muncie Star Press*).

“We rose up together and solved the problems collectively,” Ways and Means Chairman Bill Crawford told the *Fort Wayne Journal Gazette*. “This shows that at times when we are challenged we can accomplish something.”

State Sen. Robert Meeks, the quote star of the session, told the *Star*, “We tried to go out and find all these pockets of money. That’s how we funded the budget.” He agreed the state is spending too much, but said, “We’re cutting the structural deficit in half.”

And the governor? The chief executive who threatened to veto a budget that flat-lined Medicaid and corrections (which it will)?

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ADAMS SEES BUDGET DISASTER: Schools aside, Elkhart County residents shouldn't expect to see much happening locally as a result of the new \$22.7 billion state budget. The area lawmakers who voted on the spending plan sure aren't. "The only thing in there is more debt," said State Sen. Kent Adams, R-Warsaw (Trevor Wendzonka, Elkhart Truth). "It's a recipe for disaster, and definitely the wrong way to go. We've already been told we might be back down in Indianapolis in six to eight months, raising taxes."

MONEY NOT ENOUGH TO SAVE NORTH KNOX TEACHERS: It's not really going to matter to 15 North Knox teachers whether Gov. Frank O'Bannon signs the new budget bill (Vincennes Sun-Commercial). "As we look at it right now, we don't see any of those 15 teachers coming back," Superintendent Tim Lavery said Tuesday. Those teachers were told earlier this month that because of a lack of money their positions were being cut. Based on early projections from the state, if the budget bill is signed Lavery said North Knox should receive a 1.3-percent increase each of the next two years, not enough to reinstate the teaching positions.

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"I intend to sign this budget," Gov. Frank O'Bannon said within minutes of the Senate passage. As for a tax increase, O'Bannon told the *Evansville Courier & Press*, "I asked all the leaders here last month if they were asking me to lead them to a tax increase. They said it would be the smallest parade you ever saw."

It was, essentially, the blind leading the blind; the limp limping with the limp. It was a James Buchanan style of leadership marked with equivocation, self-congratulatory platitudes, and a consistent evasion of reality.

On Another Tuesday night

About 48 hours after any semblance of Statehouse leadership spine softened to pudding, an ominous voice was heard to the north. Elkhart Community Schools Supt. Mark Mow "prepared the school board Tuesday to hear reports the federal government likely will soon label Elkhart schools 'failing,' reported the *Elkhart Truth's* Steph Price.

"I see how hard the staff works every day," said Mow. "Yet because of these rules ... this district (is) going to be labeled as failing. I don't believe it."

How does this fit in this meat and pudding picture?

A Republican president -- George W. Bush -- backed by the likes of Democratic Sen. Evan Bayh, had heralded the "No Child Left Behind" federal school standards last year in nearby Hamilton, Ohio.

Mow initiated an echo that will follow the previous echoes in hundreds of school board meeting rooms last year and this that have resulted in about 1,500 pink-slipped teachers and classroom aides.

No Child Left Behind will begin issuing reports in June on public school achievement based on new federal standards. Price reported for the *Truth*, "The legislation mandates 58.8 percent of students must pass the ISTEP+ language arts exam; and 57.1 percent, the ISTEP+ math exam. Last fall, only Elkhart's sixth-

graders scored higher than the new federal mandates, and that only in English. Other districtwide passing rates would leave Elkhart below the federal standards, labeled a failing school district by No Child Left Behind. "This is serious business," said Mow.

That this first shot of reality came in Elkhart is instructive. Elkhart is a classic Hoosier city of about 50,000. It relies heavily on manufacturing, has a burgeoning Hispanic population (about 20 percent, many bringing language issues into the public schools). It also has a history of environmental issues and is an entrepreneurial haven, boasting the highest concentration of millionaires outside the Indianapolis doughnut. It is a Republican town, though until 1999 had six consecutive Democratic mayoral administrations.

Elkhart folks are proud of their schools, believing, as do their counterparts in fictional Lake Wobegone, that their schools and kids are "above average."

Mow was trying to prepare them for a new reality that in the eyes of President Bush's Republican government they are not. And if Elkhart is a "failing" school district, those obvious suspects in Gary, Indianapolis, East Chicago, Michigan City, etc., etc., may be joined by the Logansports, Kokomos, Vincenneses, New Castles, Shelbyvilles and other places where school boards have been cutting back on teachers and teacher aides.

A pudding budget

The biggest source of pride and pumped chests was the so-called salvation of education. Indiana will increase its school funding an average of 2.3 percent next year and 1.9 percent in 2005. Sen. Meeks was boasting about that, and the fact that there were no new taxes.

But Meeks' beliefs were another obscene dose of fallacy. Some in the legislature, such as Rep. Tom Saunders, R-Lewisville, were smart enough to get it. "It will shift that burden back to property taxpayers," he said of Meeks' little pock-

ets of money. School districts will be allowed to transfer money out of capital accounts or raise property taxes, reported Rick Yencer, *Muncie Star Press*.

Ken Cress, president of the Association of Concerned Taxpayers, told the *Star Press* that legislators, less than a year after restructuring property taxes, had begun the process of inching them back up. "On one hand, they protect us, and the other hand, they jam us," Cress said.

Saunders told the *Star Press* that throughout the session legislative leaders screamed "Chicken little, 'No money, no money, no money'" before finding their remedy of pudding.

Some legislators, such as State Sen. Allie Craycraft, got it, stating, "We did not fund the budget properly. It flat-lined spending and put it on the backs of people who need it the most" (i.e. Medicaid recipients, county sheriffs and prosecutors, and schools that will need massive doses of remediation once they bear the brunt of President Bush's No Child Left Behind standards).

And some don't get it. State Sen. David Ford, R-Hartford City, and a Republican LG contender, told the *Star Press*, "It took care of education up and down the line."

Go home, feed the kids

With the blind leading the blind, the limp limping with the limp, the cartilage spines bowing with the weight of duty, the Statehouse brains simply blinked off.

There were no calls for tax increases, even temporary ones that could be rolled back, to fund the meat of education that Republicans such as Randall Tobias have insisted is essential. The legislature and governor spurned slots at horse race tracks (where people go to gamble) that might have funded the meat and pudding of our education needs because O'Bannon and Sens. Borst and Garton had declared opposition to an "expansion of gambling" before they relented on the Orange

County casino, broadened the riverboat boarding times to 24 hours, and the administration OK'd the Hoosier Lottery's entry into a new national super-colossus lotto. Even Republican Chairman Jim Kittle seemed to have a flare for the game, bringing in Wayne Newton to perform at the party's spring dinner last month.

The schools could have been properly funded with some creativity, guts and leadership. Instead, there is chicken salad.

Gov. O'Bannon

Indiana is full of at-risk kids who will be even more at risk as the chicken salad days of the Jurassic Age turn to a crisis in places such as Elkhart and Lake Wobegon where schools are "failures."

Frank O'Bannon's governorship is equally at risk. It's as dynamic as James Buchanan's presidency and it may be a precursor to leadership needed to fill Indiana's gaping void and promise.

Why has O'Bannon facilitated failure? A governor must lead and sell ideas, and Frank O'Bannon is not a great salesman. It's prompted the Democratic Party, now with its third chairman in three years, to "go native," as one disappointed activist explained. This failure to sell ideas cost the party the Joe Kernan gubernatorial candidacy.

Politics is now, more than ever, about charisma, salesmanship, speaking ability, toeing the personal line, and, unfortunately, personal destruction. Frank O'Bannon is none of those things. O'Bannon was so nice; his staff so protective that the legislature mistook staff motives for hostility, distrust and contempt. He was reluctant to "meddle" in legislative politics, always adhering to the separation of the branches of government. The problem for Gov. O'Bannon is that he never got close to the line; he stayed too far away from the House and Senate, and it cost him dearly.

Frank O'Bannon's legacy won't reflect his character. ❖

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LARGE TO CHALLENGE ORENTLICHER: Former Washington Township board member Mort Large will announce he will challenge State Rep. David Orentlicher in HD86. "This state doesn't have it together," Large said. "The press releases out of the legislature after it ended are insane, touting a balanced budget."

O'BANNON DENIES CLEMENCY: Gov. Frank O'Bannon on Wednesday declined to stop Kevin Lee Hough's scheduled execution, meaning the Fort Wayne man will die by lethal injection just after midnight Friday morning (Niki Kelly, Fort Wayne Journal Gazette). "Hough has presented no new evidence at this stage of the case indicating his innocence or showing that any miscarriage of justice has occurred," O'Bannon said in a six-page statement.

STINE SUPPORTED TOUGHER DUI LAW: State Rep. W. Roland Stine, who was laid to rest on Wednesday, left Indianapolis late on April 24, his last day at the Statehouse, after supporting a now-failed proposal to increase prison time for first-time intoxicated drivers who kill (Shelbyville News). Less than an hour after the Senate's 26-23 rejection of

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the bill, Stine was killed by a drunken driver just miles from his home. Johnson County investigators say Alan S. Wickliff, 31, had a blood-alcohol level of 0.21 when he crossed the center line of State Road 44 just outside of Shelby County and crashed head-on into Stine's Prizm. Stine was a staunch supporter of tougher DUI law enforcement, according to his assistant Bridget Bobel, senior communications specialist and House Republican staff member.

KITTLE WILL CALL FOR STINE'S REPLACEMENT: Because W. Roland Stine occupied a state political office, it will be up to the chairman of the Indiana Republican Party, not local officials, to call a caucus of party leaders to elect his successor (Shelbyville News). Shelby County GOP Chairman Rod Meyerholtz said he's talked to the state party office, but it has not set a date and time to hold the meeting. "They'd have to have the caucus on or before the 24th of May," he said, that is, within 30 days of Stine's death. Whoever is selected will be the third person to hold the 57th District seat in less than 2 1/2 years, since Jeff Linder left the office at the end of 2000 after 10 years to run for Congress. He lost to fellow Republican Mike Pence in the primary. Mike Herndon filled the seat

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Surveying the 2004 gubernatorial field

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY**

INDIANAPOLIS -- Here we are, finally, in the Month of Mitch!

So here, on Mitch 1, 2003, and with the Indiana General Assembly evacuating the Indiana capital with all the fervor of Saigon 1975, it seems practical and timely to recalibrate the current Indiana gubernatorial field while making the assumption that White House Budget Director Mitch Daniels is going to leap in and create a huge political splash, perhaps even bigger than the one David McIntosh made four years ago.

Here is our current assessment of both the Republican and Democratic fields.

Mitch Daniels

Here's what Stuart Rothenberg wrote in the April 25 edition of *Roll Call*: "They are the two words most likely to bring a smile to the faces of Republicans who care about governors races: Mitch Daniels. ... But if Daniels would be his party's strongest nominee" for Indiana governor, "he would also be an imperfect candidate." Rothenberg continues, "I first met Daniels...back in the early 1980s, when he was executive director of the National Republican Senatorial Committee under the chairmanship of Sen. Dick Lugar. I always liked Daniels and found him to be smart and straight-forward, a bottom line, down-to-earth guy in a town filled with people who see only what they want to see.

"But while Mitch Daniels is a person of accomplishment (and I'll bet a terrific fundraiser), I'm not yet convinced that he is the sure-fire winner as Indiana governor that many Republicans and conservatives assume him to be."

Rothenberg adds that "most voters in Indiana won't know much about Daniels. Daniels has never run for office, and he doesn't have the kind of personal flair that would generate lots of media

coverage. He's about as flamboyant as most accountants. Smart, disciplined and fiscally conservative? Sure. Entertaining, charismatic and spontaneous? Well..." Rothenberg continues, "Fairly or unfairly, the one-time Lugar aide will be criticized for turning a big surplus into a budget deficit and for opposing new government spending, some of which will seem attractive to some Hoosiers.

"If the economy remains weak, the deficit grows and President Bush finds himself in trouble, Daniels will also get the blame. Finally, being OMB director hasn't exactly proven to be a launching pad for elective office recently."

Rothenberg concludes, "With all of these reservations, I'm certainly not suggesting that Daniels can't be elected governor of Indiana next year. Indeed, if Daniels runs, he should be a formidable contender. But DC Republicans ought not kid themselves that he'd be an ideal candidate for office. He would have many questions to answer."

Howey's Take: I beg to differ with Rothenberg on a couple of points. Mitch Daniels is entertaining; he has had the recent round of Lincoln Day crowds feeding out of his hands. He's a great interview, extremely accessible (a reporter can get a phone call or e-mail from him promptly), always with a great seven-second one-liner perfect for television's attention span (i.e., "*In Indiana, we don't mow our grass in the winter*").

As for "most voters don't know him," the critical voters (GOP activists) out of the Lugar organization do know him and trust him.

He's the best GOP gubernatorial contender since ... David McIntosh.

How powerful will Daniels be? The early key is whether he can clear the field. The betting downtown is that will occur, with the exception of Eric Miller.

As for vulnerabilities, if Bush is nearly as popular as he is now, Daniels

will be formidable. If Bush's fortunes sag (the economy, Iraq), Daniels becomes more vulnerable.

HPR's bottom line: It's all about executing a campaign. That's how we get upsets. Daniels' Lugar-Reagan pedigree makes it highly unlikely he will make the same types of mistakes we've seen out of the last four GOP nominees.

David McIntosh

McIntosh welcomed Daniels into the race, telling the *South Bend Tribune*, "Mitch has been stumping for several weeks and numerous insiders have privately told me he plans to run. I want to be the first person to welcome him to the arena." McIntosh also re-released that January 2002 Chris Wilson survey showing him with a 16-1 margin. That poll is old and McIntosh still must show he can overcome the campaign mistakes in 2000. He could address doubters by showing robust fundraising numbers in short order.

Sen. Murray Clark

As typical under the Garton/Borst stanglehold in the Senate, Clark was virtually inconspicuous this session. Republican senators hardly get the latitude to grow. The feeling is that in a no-Mitch scenario, Clark would emerge in the front tier of candidates. If Daniels runs, it will be tough for Clark to find traction.

Sen. Luke Kenley

His future is on the finance track in the Senate. His school funding formula proposal was a clanker politically because it cut urban districts while those in his own Senate district did quite nicely, thank you, something duly noted around the state. We find his prospects for success tiny whether Daniels runs or not.

Eric Miller

Everybody assumes that Miller is in for the long haul. And, unlike the two GOP senators, Miller actually came out of

this session with a big, personal victory: His efforts to stave off property taxes for churches. Miller staying in the race would allow Daniels or McIntosh to appear more centrist, which could help in the fall of 2004 (remember, McIntosh was still appealing to his base in October 2000).

Joe Andrew

He has yet to officially kick off his campaign or announce his new Indiana mailing address. His campaign website -- www.joeandrew.com -- is very basic. But Democratic sources tell HPR Andrew is raising scads of money and lining up powerful labor ducks, his Northeast Indiana home base, Lake and Porter counties, and African-American support.

We're watching for Andrew to emerge, perhaps in a similar time sequence to Mitch Daniels.

Sen. Vi Simpson

With the Senate out of session, Simpson needs to go to work and bolster her fundraising numbers. The \$250,000 she voluntarily reported included a \$130,000 transfer from her Senate campaign, which raised eyebrows (the wrong way). While she has impressive endorsements, the money front remains the most critical part of her to-do list and she needs to do it fast.

GOP/LG

Reports are that Sen. Becky Skillman is uninterested in the Republican LG nomination.

So here's an HPR-induced parlor game: Who?

Is there a female with proper credentials, either in the legislature or a mayor? Who?

Any legislators? Sen. David Ford? See HPR cover story. Out of the mayors, perhaps Lafayette's Dave Heath?

In the Statehouse? Treasurer Tim Berry or Attorney Gen. Steve Carter?

It's not a cornucopia of talent. ❖

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for one term and left in 2002 to run for his former post as Shelby County sheriff, losing to incumbent Sheriff Tom Debaun in the primary. Stine was elected last year to replace Herndon.

McGOFF TO HEAD WATER LOAN FUND: James P. McGoff Jr., a partner at Bingham McHale LLP, has been named executive director of the State Revolving Fund loan program, state Budget Director Marilyn Schultz said.

The program has lent more than \$1 billion to communities throughout the state so they can undertake wastewater and drinking water projects. The program's financial aspects are handled by the State Budget Agency and the program is administered in cooperation with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management. Under a plan by the two agencies, the staff will operate as a single entity under McGoff, who will report to Schultz. "With \$1 billion in loans having been made, this program clearly is extremely important to communities and also is significant in size," Schultz said. "The demands of operating the program exceed the time that budget agency staff members with other duties have to devote. So we decided it was time to hire a professional executive director who can devote his full attention to

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this important program." The program was created in 1992 to provide low-interest loans to communities that otherwise would have to steeply raise utility rates to afford expensive improvements to their wastewater and drinking water systems. The low interest rates lead directly to lower utility bills for consumers. Loans typically are used to improve treatment plants, to extend or improve sewer or water lines, to correct combined sewer overflows and to improve water towers. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency provides grants to Indiana, which issues bonds through the Indiana Bond Bank to obtain additional money to loan to communities.

EDWARDS TOP FUNDRAISER IN INDIANA: If dollars were votes, Sen. John Edwards would win Indiana's Democratic presidential primary, hands down. The Iowa caucus is nine months off, but the presidential prospects are already scrambling for cash. Through March 31, they have raised \$26 million from individual donors, \$89,405 of it from Hoosiers (Sylvia Smith, Fort Wayne Journal Gazette). President Bush, unlikely to have an opponent in the Republican primary, has not started raising money for his 2004 re-election campaign. When he does, however, Hoosiers are

2003 Racing Form

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:** Rock called for improving the city school system to attract new business. "The mayor needs to be a leader, something we have not had in the past," Rock said (*Anderson Herald-Bulletin*). Stewart is an Anderson school board member. **Primar Status:** *LIKELY ROCK; LIKELY BLEVINS.*

Carmel Mayoral: **Republican:** Mayor James Brainard, Council President Luci Snyder, Councilman Wayne Wilson. **2003 Outlook:** Snyder complained bitterly that Brainard hired a private eye to do in-depth Internet searches on her and Wilson, providing an e-mail in which Brainard discusses details of the probe. The Brainard campaign claimed it was just basic opposition research. Snyder believes that

"Carmel isn't a little town anymore" and that Brainard's election will bring the advent of a "political machine" to Carmel. **Primary Status:** *LEANS BRAINARD.*

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:** *Post-Tribune* reporter Michael Puente wrote, "Just by the numbers George Pabey should be a shoo-in to win as mayor of this city on May 6. With his Puerto Rican heritage, Pabey should be able to easily capitalize on the Hispanic vote." Ditto for Randolph and the African-American vote. "But it's not that easy in this majority-minority city, where ethnic loyalties seem to be put aside at election time, at least in the mayor's race. Both men know they have uphill climbs in beating longtime Mayor Pastrick, and relying on ethnic pride won't be enough." Puente added, "For the most part, both challengers are hitting on the same issues in attack Pastrick: The city's bloated payroll, high-priced attorneys and consultants, an increase in crime, poor management of city finances and a lack of economic development." The *Post-Tribune* reported that Randolph won his judgeship in spite of Pastrick, but the council tried to shut the court down due to "mismanagement." As for Pastrick and criticism that he uses public works projects to win votes just prior to election years, the mayor said, "Well, that's true to a degree." We believe Pastrick will return for a ninth term, though Randolph said, "I expect to win, if they don't steal it from me." **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 raised \$15,800 this year on top of \$17,000 he already had. The mayor's contributors included Art Decio and Commissioner Phil Stiver. Henke reported \$14,100, including \$6,000 of his own money. Perron reported \$10,500. **Primary Status:** *Leans Miller.*

Gary Mayoral: **Republican:** Rev. Carl Dix. **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:** The four leading Democratic candidates for mayor publicly agreed to participate in a live televised debate set for today. Less than 24 hours before that debate is to take place, however, the three challengers to Mayor Scott King indicated they won't appear (*Post-Tribune*). Grimes confirmed Wednesday that he, Freeman-Wilson and Allen are backing out of their commitment. King's foes are focusing on the proposed \$20 million baseball stadium that ended up being built for \$45 million. Each of King's challengers told the *Post-Tribune* that if elected they will immediately seek to terminate the existing lease with the stadium tenants, the Gary SouthShore RailCats. The challengers say the lease is too generous and provides too many perks for the politically connected team owners. King pointed out that the homicide rate has been cut in half since 1996, many dilapidated buildings have been torn down and new sidewalks

HORSE RACE

and lights are in. "How were we going to get people to come downtown?" King asked.

General Status: *Solid King.*

Indianapolis Mayoral: **Republican:** Treasurer Greg Jordan. **Democrat:** Mayor Bart Peterson, Karen Sue Beck. **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:** Peterson entered the second week of a TV campaign stressing that he has accomplished 90 percent of the Peterson Plan **General Status:** *Likely Peterson.*

Jeffersonville Mayoral: **Republican:** Monty Snelling, Derrick Chapman. **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:** Waiz raised \$31,298, compared to \$22,192 for Galligan and \$4,400 for Ogden. Snelling raised \$1,800. Galligan was asked by the *Jeffersonville Evening News* whether it is possible to be a "strong mayor and not make political or personal enemies." Galligan responded, "It all depends on what you classify as political and personal enemies. If you do something, part of the community's gonna be against it and part will be for it. Leadership means you don't listen to the polls, you go out and do what needs to be done. Because good leadership is always out front doing the things that need to be done to make people understand what needs to go on." Waiz is running "almost solely as the anti-Galligan, promising a kinder, gentler city administration and a better grip on spending." Ogden said he supported Galligan until last year "when he said he had had enough of the mayor's constant feuding with the council." **Primary 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 raised a leading \$58,000, while Winski reported \$33,000. An 18-year-old tax problem involving mayoral candidate Joie Winski and her husband, Steve, has surfaced in the waning days of the primary campaign. Details about a Notice of Federal Tax Lien was e-mailed to *The News-Dispatch* on Sunday, April 27. The lien dates to 1985, and has subsequent entries in 1989, 1990 and 1991 that show the Winskis owe \$7,798.09 to the Internal Revenue Service. **Primary status:** *LEANS OBERLIE.*

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:** Garner leads the Democratic field with \$23,470 while Clemons reported \$13,300, all donated by himself. None of the other Democrats raised more than \$5,000. Garner accused Mayor Overton of the council being unable to get "correct financial reports. The complete budget is not available." Overton's controller, Gregg LaMar, retorted, "The monthly reports are available to anyone who wants them" (*Louisville Courier-Journal*). **Primary Status:** *LIKELY GARNER.*

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:** Anderson reported \$28,328, Burke \$18,026, Jenkins \$8,411. Recent print advertisements touting Mayor Anderson as Indiana Sen. Evan Bayh's "favorite mayor" were published without Bayh being informed (Pete Ciancone, *Terre Haute Tribune-Star*) "He has many favorite mayors," Bayh spokesman Mark Kornblau said. **Primary Status:** *LEANS ANDERSON.*

Vincennes Mayoral: **Republican:** Mayor Terry Mooney, Joe Black. **Democrat:** Edd Moyer, Ron Thomas. **1999 Results:** Mooney (R) 3,009, Hatcher (D) 1,939. **2003 Forecast:** Mooney sparred with Black, an attorney, over rising sewer costs, saying a rate increase of only 57 percent was needed to pay off the bonds (*Vincennes Sun-Commercial*). Mooney said he had to make the "tough decisions" on increasing sewer and water rates. Black accused Mooney is presiding over a city with a 20.7 percent poverty rate and a 5.8 percent population loss over the last 20 years. "How can you deal with a city problem if you don't recognize it?" he asked the mayor. **Primay status:** *LEANS MOONEY* ❖

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likely to open their wallets. In the 2000 race, more than \$1 million was sent to the Bush-Cheney campaign from Indiana givers. Edwards, who leads the pack among the 10 declared Democratic contenders in overall money raising, is also the top recipient of Hoosier cash - \$43,050. Through the end of March, he was the only candidate among the group who had attended a fund-raiser in Indiana, which helps explain his top ranking among Hoosier Democrats. But next week Massachusetts Sen. John Kerry is scheduled to attend an Indianapolis fund-raiser and will likely add to his \$3,750 tally from Hoosiers.

IN GOD WE TRUST BILL DIES: An effort to encourage schools to put "In God We Trust" in their hallways died over the weekend (Shannon Lohrmann, *Lafayette Journal & Courier*). The Senate approved, 45-5, a compromise, but Rep. Terry Goodin, D-Crothersville, the proposal's House sponsor, pulled it from debate before the vote could be taken last Thursday. A compromise was never reached between the two chambers. House Bill 1056 was changed in the Senate to reiterate that schools have permission to lead the Pledge of Allegiance, allow students a "brief period" of silence and post the national motto, "In God

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We Trust." In the House, the bill included the pledge and a moment of silence. The provision permitting "In God We Trust" to be posted was never addressed in a House committee.

LIGGETT BLAMED FOR CONSTRUCTION DELAY: The ceiling is falling in on Randolph County, and prominent local Republicans blame a Democratic state representative (Muncie Star Press). Walls, ceilings and heating ducts left in poor condition during the first stages of a courthouse renovation are not likely to be fixed soon. County Commissioner Drew Wright said Wednesday that State Rep. Ron Liggett, D-Redkey, is to blame. State Rep. Tom Saunders said Liggett "pulled a fast one" that led to a last-minute addition to the state's budget. The budget item will prevent the county from receiving economic development income tax money to finish courthouse renovations. The demolition phase was completed last year. The rebuilding of walls and ceilings was expected to start this year. Republicans say the walls and ceilings are falling on county employees. "We are going to have to do something," Wright said. "As long as those funds are not available for us to use, it's not going to be completed." ❖

COLUMNISTS ON INDIANA

Dick Cady, *Bloomington Herald-*

Times - Late last year, during an off-the-record conversation, a certain political figure of the Republican stripe decried how Ivy Tech State College benefits from having influential state legislators on its payroll. This Republican said, confidentially, that certain information was being collected to show how the relationship affected the disastrous 2001 state budget in an adverse way. Sen. Bob Garton, who serves as president pro tem of the Senate, is Ivy Tech president Gerald Lamkin's executive assistant for "professional development." Also on the staff are B. Patrick Bauer, the Democratic speaker of the House, and Rep. Bill Crawford, the Democrat who chairs the House Ways and Means Committee through Bauer's graces. Oh, yes, there's one more. Rep. Craig Fry, D-Mishawaka, is Ivy Tech executive director of apprenticeship training. Fry is chairman of the House Commerce, Economic Development and Technology Committee. But here's a little kicker. As many as 31 wives and other relatives of legislators could be on the Ivy Tech payroll. The source of that information is another Republican who doesn't want to be identified but thinks the situation is outrageous. Do relatives of legislators work for Indiana and Purdue universities? Certainly, but not, apparently, with the same budgetary effect Ivy Tech enjoys. Does the situation merit an independent inquiry? Certainly, if only to clear the air. But with powerful people from both political parties at the trough, don't expect anything more than lip-service explanations. ❖

Bill Moreau, *Indianapolis Eye* -

Two questions that should now be on the minds of everyone who cares about Indiana's public, post-secondary education system? (1) Did the small number of legislators, the Governor, the Budget Director and the Commissioner for Higher Education and

their staffs represent the viewpoints of their constituents? Stated another way: (2) Does this budget — taking into account both what is included and what is excluded — embody Hoosiers' views of how their precious tax dollars should be apportioned across various state government functions, including higher education? There hasn't been an in-depth look at Hoosiers' perceptions of public higher education in many years, but if the answer to both questions is, "Yes," higher education could be in for some very tough times. Don't get me wrong. The general fund appropriations for higher education could have been a lot worse in these difficult fiscal times. They are worse in many other states. On balance, it can be said that higher education held its own in the budget debate. By its fingernails. Taking just those two sources of funds, in the 1989-90 Purdue-West Lafayette budget, state appropriations constituted 65 percent and student fees 35 percent. Those two lines headed toward each other every year — the chart became known, ironically, as "the scissors graph" — and this year they crossed: now it's 47 percent state/53 percent students. ❖

Mike McDaniel, *Indianapolis Eye* -

The legislature has made substantial changes in tax policy and state law to reverse our economic spiral, but daily leadership is essential. The lieutenant governor has been given the responsibility of providing the leadership necessary to grow our economy. These duties and responsibilities are critically important to the very stability and future vitality of our state. To be competitive in the world marketplace, we must have full-time leadership. Removing the lieutenant governor's constitutional responsibility to preside over the Senate would give him the crystal clear priority of purpose, which he needs and the people of Indiana deserve. ❖