

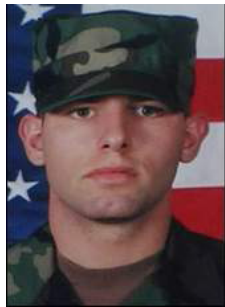


As Hoosier blood flows

Politicians in Washington ponder the contradictions with the Iraq War surge

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY**

LONDON – As Sen. Richard Lugar wound up a week-long trip to Europe, the topic turned to Iraq as we headed from Heathrow Airport into the British capital. “The amount of information about Iraq is so voluminous every day,” Lugar said. “It is so laden with



SPC. PATTERSON

emotion. This is the period before the flood. The thought that Gen. Petraeus or Ambassador Crocker would offer testimony or a written report that the president studiously looks at and says, ‘Aha!’ isn’t going to happen. In fact the information flows in like a brook and most of it is contradictory.”

And so does Hoosier blood. After the Petraeus/Crocker testi-



General Fil, Commander MND-N, briefs U.S. Rep. Brad Ellsworth (left) on the status of the Baghdad security plan last weekend. (House Armed Services Committee Photo)

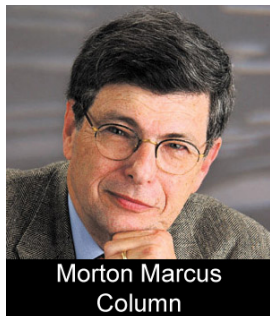
mony this past week, that’s what we have - contradiction. Where the surge has been applied, the violence has gone down, even while claiming the lives of American troops,

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Focus on accountability

By **MORTON J. MARCUS**

INDIANAPOLIS - The biggest change the Kernan-Shepard commission could recommend for improving local government would be to focus responsibility. Some folks



Morton Marcus
Column

want to consolidate government horizontally; that means combining units of the same type. It might take the form of consolidating school corporations or it could be bringing the number of library districts down from 238 to some smaller number. (It could mean reducing the number of counties from 92 to a more realistic num-



“The pace and intensity of American regional diplomacy related to Iraq has failed to match the urgency and magnitude of the problem.”

- U.S. Sen. Richard Lugar’s opening Foreign Relations Committee statement, Sept. 11



ber, but I should not try to make you laugh.)

Many people think that putting all the township assessors under the county assessor would be a good idea. Others want to combine fire departments. Merging the police department with the sheriff's office is often cited as an attractive change.

Behind each of these recommendations is our belief in two specific conditions:

First, most of us believe there are economies of scale in the production of government services. This means we think we can reduce costs as we expand the universe of services. For example, one garbage department would cut some "unnecessary" overhead if it served the large number of homes currently covered by two departments. "Trim the administrative fat" is another popular cry from those who see no reason for eleven cities and towns in Lake County or for South Bend and Mishawaka to have separate local governments.

Second, we believe that many functions are best handled by "trained professionals" rather than by political appointees. Would we get better snow removal service from a department headed by an expert in the allocation of resources or from someone who seeks to please the voters? While efficiency is always desirable, satisfying popular demand has its claim on good government as well.

Vertical reorganization is a different story from horizontal consolidation. Right now we have overlapping units of government. You and I may live in the same city of the same county, but we could live in different school districts. We may live in the

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same school district, but in different counties.

Vertical realignment would result in a single executive and a single legislative unit responsible for



Former Gov. Joe Kernan and Chief Justice Randall Shepard during a press briefing on their commission in August. (HPR Photo by Brian A. Howey)

all government services applicable to a defined geographic area. The mayor becomes responsible for all government activities in his/her city. One county commissioner becomes the person who takes the heat for government safety and schools as well as libraries in unincorporated portions of the county.

This means reconstructing the

basic forms of our local governments. It means that when the council meets to consider the budget, it must weigh dollars for education versus dollars for fire fighting or recreation.

Today important budgetary decisions are made in isolation. The school board doesn't bother to ask what is happening with the sewers. The county or the city has no input to the schools' decision making.

It means that we stop electing county clerks, auditors, recorders, treasurers and sheriffs. They would be appointed by the elected chief county administrator. No more three county commissioners; just one. School districts would report either to mayors or to the county administrator. They need not be consolidated, but that is a tangled issue for some other time.

Of course machine politics controlling a city or county is a strong possibility. Yet, this model is also the best hope for clean competitive government with a vigorous electorate.

Today, voters have no idea who is responsible for their services. Who is at the top when each government official can hide behind the many masks of government layering? It is time to strip off those disguises and let us focus on where responsibility lies.

❖

Mr. Marcus is an economist, author, and speaker, formerly with the Indiana University Kelley School of Business.



Hoosier Blood in Iraq: From page 1

including two Hoosiers this week. The problem comes with sustainability and whether, Lugar ponders, "Iraqis want to be Iraqis."

With U.S. Rep. Mark Souder, who is as about as conservative and Republican as they come, the observation was this: "I don't think we can sustain the rotations" though he refused to support a "cut and run." And there was U.S. Sen. Barack Obama, the Democratic presidential candidate, who said, "Our military cannot sustain its current deployments without crippling our ability to respond to contingencies around the world. It's time for a change of direction that brings our troops home, applies real pressure on the Iraqis to act, surges our diplomacy, and addresses Iraq's urgent humanitarian crisis."

Sen. Evan Bayh explained, "We need to get beyond those pre-existing views, look at the facts, and, ultimately, it's what can we do to make the Iraqis do their part because ultimately we can't do this for them. We can't build a country for them. Only they can do that for themselves and there's general agreement now: they're just not getting the job done."

Or this opinion from U.S. Rep. Brad Ellsworth, who spent last weekend in Iraq: "This country has to make a decision and be honest with itself," Ellsworth said. "We cannot sustain these troop levels or this intensity. This is (Bush's) call. Our commander-in-chief has to be willing to listen and change the strategic course. At some point (Iraqis) have to stand up on their own two feet."

With Gen. David Petraeus and Ambassador Ryan Crocker seated before him, Lugar explained, "One can debate, as many will do this week, whether progress in Iraq has been sufficient to justify continuing American sacrifices. But the greatest risk for U.S. policy is not that we are incapable of making progress, but that this progress may be largely beside the point given the divisions that now afflict Iraqi society. The risk is that our efforts are comparable to a farmer expending his resources and efforts to plant a crop on a flood plain without factoring in the probability that the waters may rise. In my judgment, some type of success in Iraq is possible, but as policy makers, we should acknowledge that we are facing extraordinarily narrow margins for achieving our goals."

And there's this important point: south of Kurdistan, Iraq is a basket case. It has missed virtually every political goal the Bush administration set. The police force is filled with insurgents and corruption. There are no civic

organizations. The middle and professional classes have fled. When President Bush announced the surge last January, he called Baghdad the "linchpin."

In his Jan. 10 speech, Bush said, "The most urgent priority for success in Iraq is security, especially in Baghdad. Eighty percent of Iraq's sectarian violence occurs within 30 miles of the capital. I've made it clear to the prime minister and Iraq's other leaders that America's commitment is not open-ended. If the Iraqi government does not follow through on its promises, it will lose the support of the American people -- and it will lose the support of the Iraqi people."

But when he paid his Labor Day visit, it was in Anbar province, with 5 percent of the population, citing gains there. One of the sheikhs he met - Abdul Sattar - was killed by a roadside bomb today. It is still too dangerous to drive from the airport into Baghdad.

A CNN/Public Opinion Research poll released this morning showed Bush's approval at 36 percent, the same as it was in August and last January. The poll showed that 61 percent believe the country is on the wrong track. These are the seeds for a political disaster for Republicans in 2008 elections. Democratic Reps. Baron Hill and Joe Donnelly have no known opponents and Ellsworth is a heavy favorite for a second term.

Lugar said the "most uncertain step in the path to a unified, functioning Iraqi society is likely to be when benchmark successes have to be preserved and translated into

a sustainable national reconciliation among the Iraqi populace." Lugar said that reconciliation would have to be resilient enough to "withstand blood feuds, government corruption, brain drain, calculated terrorist acts, and external interference that will challenge social order."

And missing in all of this is the Bush diplomacy. "We ought to be doing that every day and for the next two years," Lugar said of a dialogue with Syria, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Jordan and Iran. Is the Bush administration engaged? "Not exactly," Lugar told HPR in London, noting that Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice has "two subcommittees" on the issue and that "one has met once and never met again."

Even a drawdown, Lugar said, is not an option. "We can't say, 'Sorry, but this is over.' Even if you were thinking about a partial withdrawal, planning how you do that safely" is a huge logistical problem.

"We are in very deep and (with) a lot of people we've led that way," Lugar said. "Planning and how you do that safely is a problem. There's no seaport here. There is evidence that adversaries in surrounding countries who we



President Bush met with Sheikh Abdul Sattar on Sept. 3. Sattar was killed by a IED today. The New York Times also reported today the long-awaited oil revenue deal has unraveled. (White House Photo)



are not talking to are going to make life rough for us if we try to do that. So we'd find ourselves battling out of the place."

And here's some vital perspective: Cpl. Ryan A. Woodward of Fort Wayne and Army Specialist Nicholas Patterson of Rochester made the ultimate sacrifice in Iraq this past week for our nation. This comes while the politicians in Washington ponder the excruciating contradictions.

Statements by Hoosier Members:

U.S. Rep. Mark Souder: "I do not, and will not, support a cut-and-run retreat from Iraq. (Gannett News Service). "But the United States cannot be the main police force to referee internal fighting. We can't keep the country from being overrun by Iran or Syria, as well as keep tabs on terrorists who may use Iraq as a base to destabilize Saudi Arabia, U.A.E., Qatar, and other nations."

U.S. Rep. Steve Buyer: "General Petraeus presented Congress and the American people a candid and forthright assessment of the surge strategy. This Congress entrusted General Petraeus with altering the course in Iraq with the 'surge' strategy to secure peace and stability, and it is working. Ethnic and religious groups are working alongside Iraqi military and multinational forces in an unprecedented manner to take their country back from the terrorists and invest in their future as a sovereign unified nation. As momentum gains toward a stabilized military environment on the ground, the State Department must work to complement that progress by addressing the challenges that are still evident on the political front. For months some in Congress have argued that security failures are the reason to pull out of Iraq. Now that 'security progress' is being made, these critics have pivoted and are claiming that the 'political progress' is not sufficient enough to warrant continued operations."

U.S. Rep. Mike Pence: "Every American should welcome the report presented to Congress by General David H. Petraeus and Ambassador Ryan C. Crocker. While the progress of political reform remains slow, I am heartened to learn that the military surge is working and our troops can begin to come home. Word that we can reduce our forces to pre-surge levels by next summer without jeopardizing the gains our soldiers have achieved will be an encouragement to thousands of military families and millions of Americans. By rejecting calls for a rapid withdrawal of U.S. forces in Iraq, General Petraeus and Ambassador Crocker have done a great service to the people of the United States. These American leaders have offered Congress a responsible plan for going forward, which I

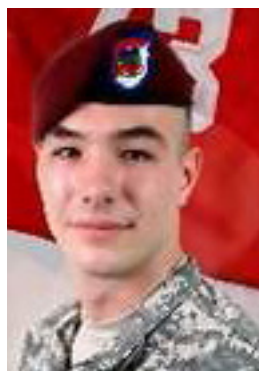
hope will be the basis for the consensus which has so far eluded our national debate. I am especially pleased that the hope I witnessed first-hand this spring has expanded into a summer of progress on the ground in Iraq. The joint security Sstations I toured in Baghdad have now expanded across Iraq and the Sunni tribal cooperation that drove al Qaeda from al Anbar has expanded to other regions of the country. I look forward to working with these leaders and our Commander in Chief to support this plan and achieve American success in Iraq."

U.S. Rep. Dan Burton: "I want to applaud the thorough, non-partisan and informative testimony that General Petraeus and Ambassador Crocker presented to Congress. There have been numerous reports presented to the media recently from government bureaucrats and so-called military experts about the situation in Iraq. However, the testimony offered by General Petraeus and Ambassador Crocker offers, in my opinion, the most accurate, credible and up-to-date assessment of the security and political realities on the ground in Iraq. These two men have been on the front lines in Iraq for a long time and they are in the best position to judge the results of the military 'surge' and to make the correct recommendations to Congress and the White House regarding the way forward. I am deeply concerned about the slanderous personal attacks on General Petraeus and Ambassador Crocker that preceded this hearing. To say that these two honorable men, with exemplary records of service to our country,

would be anything but honest and forthright is ridiculous. I hope my colleagues on both sides of the aisle will keep that in mind as we digest General Petraeus' report and debate the next steps to take on the Iraqi front in the global war on terror; a war we cannot afford to lose. Withdrawal and defeat would be a disaster not only for the U.S., but for the entire free world. We owe our soldiers, the families of the fallen, our posterity, and our national honor no less."

U.S. Rep. Baron Hill: Hill dismissed Petraeus' call to remove up to 30,000 U.S. troops by next summer, putting the overall level at roughly pre-surge numbers. "This is the same stay-the-course strategy that I have consistently rejected," Hill said in a statement. "I believe it is time to begin the process of safely redeploying our troops out of Iraq. We have lost focus as to our goal, our enemy and our purpose. We must refocus our troops' efforts to confront terrorism on its front lines and bring our National Guardsmen and Reservists home."

U.S. Sen. Richard Lugar: This is Sen. Lugar's excerpted opening statement before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on Sept. 11: Our national



Cpl. Ryan A. Woodward, 22, of Fort Wayne, who was killed in Iraq the week of Gen. Petraeus's report to Congress.



debate has framed two interdependent steps of the current surge strategy. We are attempting first to reduce the violence in Iraq through the application of additional American troops, better training of Iraqi forces, and tactics aimed at sustaining stability in key neighborhoods. Second, we are hoping to use the "breathing space" created by improved security to induce Iraqi political leaders to conclude meaningful compromises on governance and power sharing.

At our last hearing on Iraq, featuring the GAO report on benchmarks, I expressed skepticism that the success or failure of the benchmarks will be determinative in Iraq. Benchmarks are an important starting point for debate, but they do not answer many questions, including the most fundamental question pertaining to Iraq: namely do Iraqis want to be Iraqis? By this I mean are the Iraqi people, most of whom are now organized according to sectarian and tribal loyalties, willing to sacrifice their own pursuit of national or regional hegemony by granting their sectarian rivals political and economic power? Can a unified society be achieved despite the extreme sectarian fears and resentments incubated during the repressive reign of Saddam Hussein and intensified during the recent period of sectarian bloodletting?

Is there sufficient room for national reconciliation when many Sunnis continue to see their political pre-eminence as a birthright and most Shi'ites believe that their numerical superiority and the oppression they suffered under Saddam Hussein give them the right to dominate the new Iraq? And even if polling indicates that many Iraqis do want to live in a unified Iraq, how does this theoretical bloc acquire the political power and courage needed to stare down militia leaders, sectarian strong men, and criminal gangs who routinely employ violence for their own tribal and personal ends. I frame the question in these stark terms, because it underscores that achieving benchmarks, which has been a very difficult process up to this point, may be the least of the challenges ahead of us. Benchmarks measure only the official actions of Iraqi leaders and the current status of Iraq's political and economic rebuilding effort. They do not measure the degree to which Iraqis intend to pursue tribal or sectarian agendas over the long term, irrespective of decisions in Baghdad. They do not measure the impact of regional players, who may choose to support or subvert stability in Iraq. They also do not measure the degree to which progress is dependent on current American military operations, which cannot be sustained indefinitely.

At this stage of the conflict, with our military strained by Iraq deployments and our global advantages being diminished by the weight of our burden in Iraq, it is not enough for the administration to counsel patience until the next milestone or report. We need to see a strategy



SEN. LUGAR

for how our troops and other resources in Iraq might be employed to fundamentally change the equation. The pace and intensity of American regional diplomacy related to Iraq has failed to match the urgency and magnitude of the problem. Although Secretary Rice and her team have made some inroads with Gulf nations and other players, we still lack a forum with which to engage Iraq's neighbors on a constant basis. We are allowing conditions in which miscalculation can thrive. Every nation surrounding Iraq has intense interests in what is happening there. Yet the three Iraq Regional Working Groups established at Sharm el Sheikh in early May have met only once since then. Broader regional conferences, such as the one that took place in Baghdad this past weekend, also have convened so infrequently that they have had little positive impact on Iraq's status.

6th CD Challenger Barry Welsh: Democrat Barry Welsh had this to say in response to Pence's public remarks during the hearing. "Congressman Pence is and has been in lock step with President Bush on Iraq. I find it comforting to know that Indiana Senator Richard Lugar has embraced the reality on the ground and has begun to espouse views which are closer to my own. I find Pence's remarks offensive coming just one day before the anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. Had the congressman been alive to witness Pearl Harbor, would he have advocated attacking Brazil because Japan attacked our base in the Pacific? By supporting the war in Iraq Mike Pence has done essentially the same thing." ❖

Bayh quizzes Petraeus, Crocker in committee

WASHINGTON - Here is a transcript of Senate Armed Services Committee hearing with questions from Indiana U.S. Sen. Evan Bayh to Gen. David Petraeus and Ambassador Ryan Crocker on Sept. 11.

BAYH: This is our fourth hearing in the last several days. We've heard from the GSA; from General Jones; we've had the National Intelligence Estimate and now we have your thinking. Let me kind of give you what I have concluded is the bottom line on all of this and get your response. The bottom line on all of this is that the American people, particularly our servicemen and women, but also our taxpayers, would be required to continue to sacrifice in Iraq for an indefinite period of time to allow Iraqi politicians to get their act together, to make the tough decisions that only they can make to fully begin the process of political reconciliation. What's your reaction to that?

CROCKER: There is a process underway that we've talked about over the course of the afternoon. It's bottom-up to some degree, it's some top-down to some degree, and it's linkages between. It's the beginnings, if you



will, of a political reconciliation process that obviously needs to go much farther if it is to carry Iraq to a position of security and stability over the long run.

BAYH: Ambassador, there is a question behind my observation. Let me get to it. For several years now the progress has not been adequate; I think we'd all agree on that. The theory has been, insecure people do not make hard decisions. My direct question to you is: What about accountability for taking these hard steps? What about consequences if they don't? Sixty to seventy troops are killed every month; 9 to 12 billion dollars spent every month. They're not doing what they need to do. When do we say: Enough already, and have some consequences when they don't?

CROCKER: Again, it's important to bear in mind the recent past: 2006 up through early 2007 was an extremely bad period in Iraq. Not only were things not moving forward, but they were sliding back, in political terms, economic terms and, above all, security terms. Iraq came pretty close, I think, to just unraveling that year which began with the February bombing of the golden mosques.

BAYH: There was some mystery in Iraq before that time period you just mentioned, and they weren't making progress then either.

CROCKER: Senator, the challenges are immense. The failures are there, too, on the Iraqi side. It is frustrating to me. I'm out there. We are pushing them constantly in all sorts of ways. But I've got to be honest: This is going to take more time.

BAYH: And I think we all need to be honest with ourselves, Ambassador. Isn't it possible that, at the end of the day, in spite of all of our efforts and support and encouragement, this just may be beyond them?

CROCKER: I think clearly that's the case. We're here before you today to give our best assessment in four lines of operation where we see things standing now.

BAYH: What you're hearing from a lot of us is, so often in these last several years, we've tried to give the Iraqi leadership the benefit of the doubt. But now only doubt remains. General, I'd like to turn to you. I thought you had an excellent, very candid response to Senator Warner's question. He asked you going forward, with the recommendations that you're making, will that make America safer? And you said that you could not answer that question because that was beyond the scope of your responsibilities.

PETRAEUS: Candidly, I have been so focused on Iraq that drawing all the way out was something that, for a moment there, was a bit of a surprise. But I think that we have very, very clear and very serious national interests in

Iraq. Trying to achieve those interests ... has very serious implications for our safety and our security. So I think the answer really, to come back to it, is "yes." But again, frankly, having focused down and down and down, that was something that really, at first glance....

BAYH: I judge that by your response, you've given that a little additional.

PETRAEUS: Immediately after, actually.

BAYH: Isn't it at least possible, in looking at this from a global perspective, that the strategy which we pursue in Iraq, indeed our presence there, is in fact counterproductive in terms of the global war against terror and making America safer?

PETRAEUS: Senator, I think again if al Qaeda was to be able to retain a substantial presence in Iraq, particularly the sanctuary in the order of what they had in certain areas prior to the surge, that would be very serious. I don't know where they would go next. Some have speculated that they would, in fact, focus more on Afghanistan. Others, more in the particular region there to go after other countries in that particular region. It is hard to tell whether they will continue to regard it that way because of the loss of some momentum there. And I am not sure that it is true that they are still generating more radicals in Iraq. I think, again, one of the big changes that I've reported in the past six or eight or twelve months, if you will, dating back to certainly October of last year when the first of these tribal compositions to Al Qaeda emerged, is that the Sunni Arabs in al Qaeda, and that is the area where they had been able to find sanctuary and so forth, have in large numbers turned against Al Qaeda. They've gotten over the fact that

they're not going to run Iraq again. They've gotten over the fact that they're disrespected -- in their view, dispossessed, whatever it may be -- and now want to make the Euphrates River Valley a decent place to live, work, and raise a family and maybe even open up the border. Now they've got a police academy again and the rest of that and rebuild Ramadi and some of these other places and others have seen the same. And what they really want now is a seat at the table in Baghdad. They want adequate representation. They want their share of this ethno-sectarian competition for power resources. They want their share of the resources, and that's why it is significant, as the ambassador reported on the Anbar Summit that was held out here the other day, the second of these, where the national government has reached out to them in such a substantial way. So how, I think, al Qaeda plays out is of enormous importance to country and to the overall international jihadist movement. And failing to achieve our objectives there would just be an enormous shot of adrenaline to them. ❖



U.S. SEN. EVAN BAYH



2008 Indiana Governor

Governor 2008: Republican: Gov. Mitch Daniels. Democrat: Senate Minority Leader Richard Young, Jim Schellinger, Jill Long Thompson. **1996 Results:** O'Bannon (D) 1,075,342, Goldsmith (R) 997,505, Dillon (L) 35,261.

2000 Results: O'Bannon (D) 1,230,345, McIntosh (R) 906,492, Horning (L) 38,686. **2004 Results:** Daniels (R) 1,302,912, Kernan (D) 1,113,900, Gividen (L) 31,644. **2008 Forecast:** Daniels

says a special legislative session is "very unlikely." He said that House Speaker B. Patrick Bauer "authored the rebate, likes the rebate, insists on keeping the rebate, so a rebate it is." The rebate will include a note saying the money comes as the result of state legislative action. So this sets the stage for the 2008 Indiana General Assembly and, subsequently, the elections. Some believe Daniels ignored the property tax problem in 2007 and now is faced with the dilemma that it could spiral out of his control. The problem with that scenario is that legislators will be facing the same angst and anger. It will be in everyone's interest to do something about property taxes.

Daniels is facing a potentially monstrous anti-Republican wave in 2008 due to the Iraq War debacle. Many Hoosier Republican lawmakers are still drinking the Bush-Cheney Kool-Aid. This poses the greatest threat to a second term. The governor and his campaign believe that Hoosiers have the innate ability (and history) of separating state issues from the national dynamic. Frank McCloskey, Jill Long Thompson, Chris Chocola, Mike Sodrel and John Hostettler (victims of the last two national waves) might beg to differ.

So how does Daniels build a levee to contain a wave? By making the 2008 election a referendum on not only his stewardship over the past three years, but on the future. This would include the property tax reform and reorganization of state and local government that the Kernan-Shepard Commission will offer up at the end of the year. It is shrewd and risky, but those are the hallmarks of this unique governorship.

Sen. Young denied a Jim Shella-inspired rumor that his campaign was about to pack it in.

The Jim Schellinger for Indiana campaign announced the expansion of its team, including eight full-time staffers, Rich Davis and David Dixon as media consultants (they helped Kansas Gov. Kathleen Sebelius upset Gov. Tim

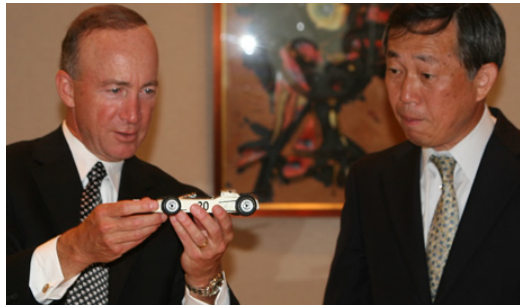
Shallenburger in 2002); Jim Crounce of the Mack-Crounce Group as direct mail consultant; Erik Greathouse, campaign director (he was a fundraiser for Sen. Claire McCaskill of Missouri); and Joel Miller, field director (former executive director of the Marion County Democrats).

Schellinger lists the following endorsements on his website: United Auto Workers; Ironworkers Local 22; American Federation of State, County, & Municipal Employees; Indiana State District Council of Roofers; Indianapolis Mayor Bart Peterson; Congresswoman Julia Carson; Former Speaker John Gregg; State Rep. Bill Crawford; State Rep. Terri Austin; Hammond Mayor Tom McDermott; Lake County Sheriff Roy Dominguez; Butch Morgan, 2nd Democratic District Chair; Sen. John Broden; Dr. Vidya Kora, LaPorte County Democratic Chair; Shaw Friedman, former legal counsel to the Indiana Democratic Party; Robin Winston, Former Indiana Democratic Party Chair; Kip Tew, Former Indiana Democratic Party Chair; Michael O'Connor, Marion County Democratic Chair; Ed Treacy, Former Marion County Democratic Chair; Rod Pate, Clark County Democratic Chair; and Columbus Mayor Fred Armstrong.

Long Thompson called on the Daniels administration to drop any plans it may have to privatize Logansport State Hospital. Long Thompson made her comments in response to an article Sunday in the Louisville Courier Journal in which Family and Social Services Secretary Mitch Roob indicated that privatization of the Cass County facility was under consideration. "There is no benefit to either

the public or the patients from turning Logansport State Hospital over to private management," said Long Thompson, who has visited the facility. "I believe the staff is working hard to provide quality care to Logansport patients."

In the Courier-Journal article, Roob said a recent federal audit had prompted new consideration to privatizing Logansport State Hospital. The audit conducted by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has not been publicly released. But Long Thompson said her discussions with employees at the hospital have convinced her that any deficiencies at the facility were the result of insufficient staffing. Long Thompson noted that a representative of the Indiana chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness has expressed "serious misgivings" about privatizing Logansport. "Rather than pass off responsibility for managing Logansport State Hospital to the private sector, the Daniels administration should be working to create an environment in which constructive change can occur," said Long Thompson. **Democratic Primary Status:** Tossup. **General Status:** Leans Daniels.



Gov. Daniels in Japan talking speed with a Honda executive. (Photo courtesy of Gov. Daniels)



2007 Mayoral

Fort Wayne: Republican: Matthew Kelty.

Democrat: Tom Henry. **2003 Results:** Richard (D) 27,251, Buskirk (R) 19,701. **2007 Forecast:** Democratic sources tell HPR that Henry's polling shows this race to be a dead heat. That's incredible! The Democrat's refusal to say anything on the Kelty indictment is backfiring and is prompting state Democrats to begin rushing in new resources. Kelty's "ad" posted on www.mattkelty.com is just the latest weird twist to the strangest campaign we've ever seen. Kelty says, "I am wrongly accused and I am innocent. My campaign finance reports were filed according to the law, and I spoke the truth to the grand jury."

With part of Fort Wayne's skyline visible in the background, Kelty says similar things on a video posted on the popular Web site www.youtube.com, predicting he'll be cleared of all charges when he gets his chance to tell his side of the story in court. He also says that although the judicial system has weaknesses, it's still "the best the world has ever seen." Kelty said, "The indictments were a traumatic blow to me and my family, so it took some time for us to understand all of what was going on," explaining why the ad and video are appearing weeks after the indictments. "I felt it most prudent to reassure my family first, my professional colleagues after that, and it seems also appropriate now to come forward with strength and confidence." Being low-key and quiet isn't necessarily a bad personality trait, but political candidates likely wouldn't want those terms associated with their campaigns (Lanka, **Fort Wayne Journal Gazette**).

Henry has been unable to grab the spotlight, partly because he refuses to make Kelty's legal problems an issue. Just last week Henry announced an initiative to use collective purchasing for regional governments, but media coverage of the announcement competed with a story about a Kelty radio commercial in which he proclaims his innocence. City Councilman Tim Pape, D-5th, said the current atmosphere presents a difficult environment for Henry to get attention. Kelty was indicted last month on nine criminal charges, including seven felonies, related to campaign finance violations and perjury. "Matt's challenges with these issues have sucked a lot of attention with the media for the mayor's race," Pape said. Joe Fox, Henry's campaign manager, said Henry has made six announcements in the past two months, while Kelty has made two, both involving property taxes. At both events, Kelty advocated permanently capping property taxes. "Yet people believe Henry hasn't been saying anything," Fox said. **Status: LEANS HENRY.**

Indianapolis: Democrat: Mayor Bart Peterson. Republican: Greg Ballard. **2003 Results:** Peterson (D) 92,763, Jordan (R) 55,354. **2007 Forecast:** Ballard calls the elimination of township government in his



reform proposals on Wednesday. Ballard's proposals would include township boards, trustees, assessors, constables, courts, and fire departments. Ballard also proposed the sale of township properties and other duplicative entities. "Each and every property tax bill shows that government is bloated," Ballard said. "Eliminating duplicative government such as these township offices will reduce spending, reduce property tax burden, and better serve the people." Peterson is running a look-the-camera-in-the-eye TV ad saying "I understand people's anger" and "this summer's property tax bills were devastating." The ad is vastly better than his add earlier this summer on crime. The Star's Matt Tully said it best: "When he looks into the camera with his sad eyes and his concerned frown, it's hard not to believe every word he says. This latest commercial, the one about property taxes, should be required viewing in Political Advertising 101. There are no splashy gimmicks, no menacing voiceovers and no images of the mayor with smiling children or dust-covered factory workers. It's just Peterson and the camera for a full 60 seconds." **Status: LIKELY PETERSON.**

South Bend: Republican: Juan Manigault.

Democrat: Mayor Stephen Luecke. **2003 General Results:** Luecke (D) 10,598, Schmidt (R) 4,188. **2007**



MAYOR LUECKE

Forecast: Luecke announced that Mary Downes will manage his re-election campaign for the final two months of the mayoral race. "Mary is someone who always has the best interests of our community at heart, and she shares my belief that we can build a better South Bend," said Mayor Luecke. "We're fortunate to have her come on board because of the depth and experience she brings to the table. She's been an educator, a public servant, and a community leader, and I'm grateful that she is joining us in our drive toward Election Day."

Downes most recently served as interim director of the Take Ten anti-violence in schools program at the Robinson Neighborhood Center, where she also volunteers. Prior to that, Downes served as chief of staff to Gov. Joe Kernan, a position she also held during his tenure as lieutenant governor. In 1995, she served as Kernan's campaign manager for his re-election to a third term. The Luecke campaign says that Downes coming on board is not a "shakeup," but Democratic Party sources tell HPR that the challenge from Manigault has prompted the state party to allocate additional resources to South Bend. **Status: LEANS LUECKE ❖**



THE BOAR'S NEST

Hillenbrand, St. Angelo on Mitch's steering group

By BRIAN A. HOWEY and BEVERLY PHILLIPS

Just prior to his re-election kickoff last June, Gov. **Mitch Daniels** promised some conspicuous Democratic support. That occurred this morning when former Indiana Democratic Chairman **Gordon St. Angelo** and 1980 Democratic gubernatorial nominee **John Hillenbrand III** were announced as members of Gov. Daniels' re-election steering committee.

It may be the first time in modern history when a party nominee and chair declared support for a governor in the opposite party.

The committee will be chaired by **James Morris**, the former CEO of Indianapolis Water Co., who headed the United Nations Food Program.

Vice Chairs include Indianapolis Motor Speedway CEO **Tony George**, **David Simon** of Simon Property Group, **Patricia Miller** of Vera Bradley and **Bob Jones** of Evansville. The senior executive committee includes former Govs. **Otis Bowen**, **Edgar Whitcomb**, U.S. Sen. **Richard Lugar**, former vice president **Dan Quayle** and former Sen. **Dan Coats**. Other names

on the committee include Damon Bailey, Gerald Bepko, NCAA President Myles Brand, Timothy Durham, Dan Evans,

Dick Freeland, Larry Glasscock, Harry Gonso, August Hillenbrand, Scott Jones, Al Kite, Jim Kittle Jr., Fred Klipsch, Dean Kruse, Cathy Langham, Forest Lucas, P.E. McAllister, Don Mattingly, Mickey Mauer, James McCormick III, George McGinnis, Dane Miller, James Moseley, John Mutz, Bobby Plump, Jay Potesta, Mamon Powers, Ian Rolland, Jerry Semler, Beurt SerVaas, Lynn St. James, Tony Stewart and Dean White.

Carson fundraising flat

The fact that U.S. Rep. **Julia Carson** had raised only \$6,000 during the first half of 2007 after a relatively narrow 7.5 percent victory over underfunded **Eric Dickerson** in 2006 has caught the attention of **Congressional Quarterly**. Watch for an article there.

Senate women call for cig ad ban

Indiana Senate women are speaking out about predatory marketing by cigarette companies aimed at women and some say teenage girls. Critics say slick advertising in fashion magazines like Vogue and Cosmopolitan are grooming young women to replace those who quit or die from smoking-related diseases. In a released statement this week, Hoosier Senate women say cigarette marketers are spending an estimated \$239 million each year in Indiana alone. According to the release, "25 percent of Hoosier women smoke; of those 4,125 die each year; -- 30 percent of Hoosier high school girls smoke and nine of ten begin before age 19; and -- Indiana spends \$778.6 million annually for women with smoking related illness." The senators are calling on Indiana magazines to voluntarily reject cigarette advertising. Senate supporters include **Beverly Gard**, herself a breast cancer survivor; **Patricia Miller**; **Connie Lawson**; **Vaneta Becker**; **Teresa Lubbers**; **Sue Landske**; **Sue Errington**; **Jean Breaux**; **Connie Sipes**; and **Vi Simpson**. ❖



Hillenbrand (center, top photo) at a 9th CD Democratic retreat in Jacawba Farms in Batesville has joined Gov. Mitch Daniels campaign steering committee along with Yankee Don Mattingly and NASCAR's Tony Stewart.

Teresa Lubbers; **Sue Landske**; **Sue Errington**; **Jean Breaux**; **Connie Sipes**; and **Vi Simpson**. ❖



Now or never for challengers?

By **MARK CURRY**

WASHINGTON - Challengers are gaining on the leading presidential candidates from both parties, according to the latest polling information.

"We're seeing a split-level campaign," explains CNN's Senior Political Analyst, Bill Schneider. "The national campaign is mostly about celebrity.... But where there's a campaign, like in the early voting states, things look different."

In the Republican contest, a CNN poll released Sept. 11 reveals Fred Thompson has "closed within a statistically insignificant one percentage point" of Rudy Giuliani. A CBS/New York Times poll has the former senator within five percentage points of Giuliani, although a USAToday/Gallup survey has New York City's former mayor with a 12 point lead.

"But the GOP frontrunner in Iowa and New Hampshire, former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, is the candidate who's running fourth in the national polls," Schneider reports.

Over at The American Spectator,

Jennifer Rubin writes that "So far from being a foregone conclusion and an all but certain win for Romney, the New Hampshire contest, like the rest of the race, is up in the air." Rubin states it all comes down to "solid organizations and frequent retail politicking" in the Granite State. "So regardless of a chaotic primary calendar, New Hampshire will be proving its influence and drawing presidential hopefuls once again," she writes.

The Democratic race is similar, CNN's Schneider writes, citing a Los Angeles Times-Bloomberg poll in Iowa that finds Hillary Clinton only five points ahead of John Edwards, who leads Barack Obama by a mere four points.

"If Clinton's rivals are going to stop her, they're going to have to do it in the early states," according to Schneider. "Then, the national polls could suddenly change, as they did in 2004 after John Kerry beat Howard Dean in Iowa and New Hampshire."

PRESIDENTIAL Politics 2008



RUDY GIULIANI

Obama calls for withdrawal

Sen. Barack Obama is calling for the immediate withdrawal of all U.S. combat brigades from Iraq, with the

2008 State Presidential Polls

Iowa (R)	Date	Romney	Giuliani	Thompson	McCain	Huckabee
LAT/Bloomberg	Sept. 6-10	28	16	16	7	8
ARG	Aug. 26-29	27	17	13	5	14

New Hampshire (R)	Date	Romney	Giuliani	Thompson	McCain	Huckabee
LAT/Bloomberg	Sept. 9-10	28	23	11	12	--

South Carolina (R)	Date	Romney	Giuliani	Thompson	McCain	Huckabee
LAT/Bloomberg	July 26-30	9	23	26	15	6

Iowa (D)	Date	Clinton	Edwards	Obama	Richardson
LAT/Bloomberg	Sept. 6-10	28	23	19	10
ARG	Aug. 26-29	28	20	23	13

N. Hampshire (D)	Date	Clinton	Edwards	Obama	Richardson
LAT/Bloomberg	Sept. 6-9	35	14	16	8

South Carolina (D)	Date	Clinton	Edwards	Obama	Richardson
LAT/Bloomberg	Sept. 9-10	45	7	27	1



pullout being completed by the end of next year. "Let me be clear: There is no military solution in Iraq and there never was," Obama said at Ashford University in Clinton, Iowa on Wednesday. "The best way to protect our security and to pressure Iraq's leaders to resolve their civil war is to immediately begin to remove our combat troops. Not in six months or one year -- now." Obama said, "What's at stake is bigger than this war: It's our global leadership. Now is the time to be bold. We must not stay the course or take the conventional path because the other course is unknown." He called for removing one or two combat brigades a month.

Hil Campaigns In Florida

A New Hampshire state senator who has endorsed John Edwards tells the Boston Globe that he is unhappy with Hillary Clinton's recent activities in Florida just a week after she agreed not to campaign there.

The Democratic National Committee Rules and Bylaws Committee is threatening to invalidate Florida's presidential primary after the state violated party rules by scheduling their primary before Feb. 5, 2008. Michigan Democratic voters face the same penalty after the state party established a Jan. 15th primary date.

According to Globe correspondent James Pindell, N.H. State Sen. Peter Burling said he is "very concerned" that Clinton spoke at the event "about a week after she and all other Democratic presidential candidates agreed not to campaign in either Florida or Michigan."

Pindell cites New Hampshire Democratic Chair Ray Buckley as saying Clinton was not, in fact, violating the pledge she and Democratic leaders signed in South Carolina, Nevada, and Iowa because the states have 30 days to comply before they are in violation.

Clinton spokesman Mo Elleithee said the campaign will honor the traditional role of Iowa and New Hampshire as well as the pledge, Pindell concludes.

Ask Al

Democrat Al Gore says he will probably endorse one of his party's 2008 presidential candidates, reports Beth Fouhy of Associated Press.

Gore told Fouhy that several candidates had called and visited him to seek advice. In the interview, Gore again declined to completely rule out a presidential run next year but said "it doesn't feel right at this point." He also said he doubted he would ever completely rule out a return to politics in the future.

Chris Cillizza of The Washington Post's political blog, The Fix, reports that Gore has met with Obama, Edwards and Sen. Chris Dodd.

Cillizza will keynote this year's HPR forum set for Oct. 23rd. He will offer his insights on the Indiana governor and congressional races and will spend considerable time on the 2008 presidential contest. He will also talk about the impact of the Internet and blogs on 21st Century politics.

Petraeus buys time

ABC News political blog, The Note, reports that George Stephanopoulos said the Congressional testimony of the commander of multi-national forces in Iraq, U.S. Gen. David Petraeus, makes it likely that the next president will inherit a situation where more than 100,000 US troops will remain in Iraq in January 2009.

"He did what the president needed him to do," Stephanopoulos said. "He bought time."

But, the blog's authors observe, "...the substance of Petraeus' recommendations mean we'll probably be back here again in March - six months closer to the election - with the Republicans perhaps even more conflicted over whether to continue to support the war."



McCain wants Bush on weekly TV

Redstate.com reports that John McCain says he would like to see President Bush on television once a week talking about the situation on the ground in Iraq.

"McCain would make it a detailed briefing (presumably with maps and charts) that would give Americans an understanding of what was happening," the blog entry reads. "Before people accept the fact that U.S. forces are making progress, McCain said they must first hear from Bush that errors were made in the past."

Edwards coming to Michigan City



Edwards at an Indianapolis fundraiser last spring with Robin Winston and Jim Schellinger.

Democrat John Edwards will be featured at a reception in the home of LaPorte County Democratic Chairman Vidya Kora and his wife Sudha from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 25. The host committee includes Robin and Charlitta Winston, Shaw and Greta Friedman, Anthony Bertig and Mark Holtan. ❖



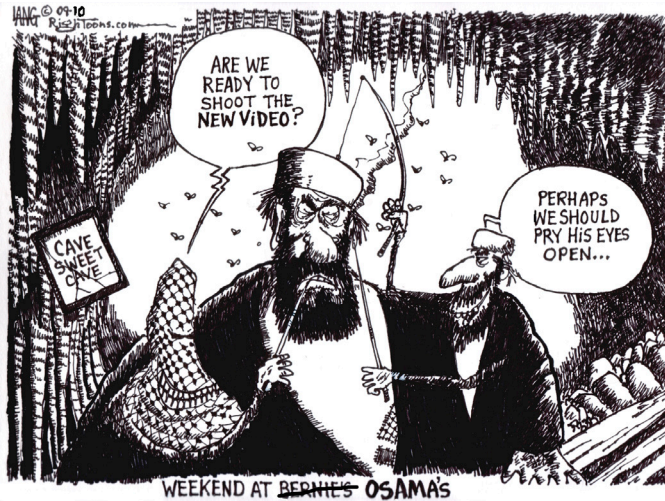
Gary Gerard, Warsaw Times-Union - You may have heard that Sen. Larry Craig, a Republican from Idaho, got busted in June in an airport in St. Paul, Minn., for "interference with privacy" and "disorderly conduct." According to the cop report, there were several complaints about lewd conduct in airport bathrooms, and airport cops busted a few people and were running a bit of a sting operation. Wrong place, wrong time for Sen. Craig. So the airport cop sits in a stall in the bathroom and Craig shows up. Craig lurks outside the stall for a couple minutes, looking in at the cop a few times. Enough times for the cop to note that Craig has blues eyes. Then Craig gets in the stall next door to the cop and starts playing footsy and running his hand along the bottom of the stall where the cop can see it. He touches the cop's foot with his. The cop, having been in this situation before, recognizes this as the behavior of a man who wants to hook up in the restroom. The officer shows his ID under the stall and asks Craig to exit where the arrest is made. Craig showed the cop his U.S. Senator ID and asked, "What do you think of that?" The cop must not have thought much of it because Craig pleaded guilty to the misdemeanor "disorderly conduct" charge on Aug. 8. When the guilty plea became public, a firestorm of controversy erupted in the U.S. Senate. Craig's been stripped of all his leadership positions and legions of his fellow Republican Senators are calling for him to resign. He's supposed to announce today whether he'll listen to them. Amazingly and conversely, Democrats aren't calling for him to resign. They're saying, "Hey, it's just a misdemeanor. Let the voters decide." My guess is the bizarre politics involved in this is driven by the fact that the cop was a male. It has the whole gay vibe, even though Craig - a big proponent of family values and a big opponent of gay marriage - emphatically denies being gay. (He's not a gay man, he just plays one in airport restrooms.) The whole incident makes Craig - and the GOP - look more than just a little hypocritical, so off with his head. ❖

Jerry Davich, Post-Tribune - I've felt truly "patriotic," whatever exactly that means, only once in my life. It took place while standing outside the Jacob Javits Convention Center in New York City, just four days after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks. I was sent to the Ground Zero site to find any Northwest Indiana residents who arrived there

to volunteer -- for construction work, first-aid help, food-supply lines, whatever. There, I spoke with a 50-year-old Schererville man who bolted to the Big Apple after hearing news of the attacks. There, standing alongside thousands of eager volunteers, a parade of youngsters began singing "God Bless America," holding signs stating "America, YOUR Beautiful" while passing out Kool-Aid and cookies. There, I realized I was witnessing something very special, something very, well, patriotic. It even gave this all-American cynic goose bumps. I haven't had that same feeling ever since, although I've come close while covering the funerals of several local soldiers killed in the war in Iraq. So today, on Patriot Day 2007, I'm trying to figure out what it is to be a patriot, or patriotic. Patriot Day is a relatively new national day of remembrance, signed into law by President Bush in December 2001. But what exactly are we supposed to do on this day, besides remember the 2,749 victims killed on 9/11? Do we also celebrate our patriotism? Define our patriotism? Defend or debate our patriotism? My dictionary defines a patriot as someone who "loves" his country. Simple enough, huh? But it's how we show our love of

country that matters, I say, just like how we should show, not tell, our love for loved ones. ❖

Stephanie Salter, Terre Haute Tribune-Star - This is the era of "You're with us or against us" — the post-millennial version of "America, love it or leave it" — and a patriot is narrowly defined. A patriot is someone who gets with the program and stays the course. A patriot supports the executive branch of the government in all its endeavors, be they domestic wiretaps, non-competitive defense contracts or troop surges in an over-taxed military that is being asked to do the impossible. A patriot ignores benchmarks that are not met, weapons of mass destruction that are not found, ties to al Qaida that never existed and an Iraq occupation plan that looked no farther down the road than a few post-invasion weeks. A patriot cannot oppose the war and support the troops. A patriot cannot ask why a small percentage of young Americans must do the fighting and dying while the rest of us are expected to just keep shopping. A patriot accepts that the stakes in this war are so precious — freedom, global stability, our very way of life — but never wonders aloud why those stakes do not then warrant a military draft. ❖



WEEKEND AT BERNIE'S OSAMAS



Connor seen as next likely ag chief

WASHINGTON - White House watchers say a Hoosier would be the most likely candidate to become secretary of the Agriculture Department if a series

of political dominoes falls as they expect (Smith, Fort Wayne Journal Gazette). Agriculture Secretary

Mike Johanns is expected to resign to return to Nebraska to campaign for the Republican Senate nomination. Sen. Chuck Hagel, R-Neb., announced this week that he would not seek another term. If that happens, said agricultural analyst Dave Juday, Charles Conner would no doubt be high on President Bush's list of candidates to head the Agriculture Department for the remaining months of his administration. Juday, a Hoosier who follows agricultural issues for World Perspectives Inc., a Washington-based consulting firm, said Bush hasn't always made the logical choice with his nominations for Cabinet positions. But he said Bush knows and has worked with Conner, and a major task of the agriculture secretary over the next year is to "push the farm bill across the line." Congress is working on a revision of agriculture policy. The White House has threatened to veto the House version, and the Senate has not yet developed its approach. "There are probably few people in the country who know farm programs and how the Hill works better than Chuck Conner," Juday said.



Fugitive councilman's wife loses assets

EAST CHICAGO - A federal appeals court has ruled that Joanna Kollintzas will not get to keep her fugitive husband's pensions, life insurance policies or checking accounts

(**Times of Northwest Indiana**). She was married to former City Council President Frank Kollintzas, who fled the country in 2005 after he was convicted of helping drain city coffers to buy votes in a 1999 election. He was sentenced in absentia to pay part of a \$25 million restitution order. Joanna Kollintzas had attempted to shield joint assets from seizure by filing for divorce, but the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals ruled earlier this month that the government had a superior interest in the assets. She did not file for divorce until after prosecutors served her with notice that they intended to seize more than \$500,000.

Donnelly comments on MoveOn Petraeus ad

WASHINGTON - U.S. Rep. Joe Donnelly released this statement critical of a MoveOn ad earlier this week: "When I visited Baghdad in July, I met with General Petraeus. That meeting confirmed the impressions I'd had of him since he first rose to lead our forces in Iraq: he is whip-smart and a man of integrity. Above all else, he is a patriot. Calling into question his commitment to our country is incorrect and unhelpful. President Bush is our commander-in-chief and as such, the buck stops with him when it comes to our Iraq policy. The general is doing his job serving the country and he continues to have my confidence as he and our brave service members work to make the best out of an extremely difficult situation in Iraq."

DLGF releases nine county assessments

INDIANAPOLIS - The Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF) today announced it is nearing the end of its county-by-county review. Commissioner Cheryl Musgrave said the DLGF has released nine counties, whose assessments have passed the initial review process, while they will hold public hearings in another four counties to determine if reassess-

ments will be ordered there. The DLGF released the following counties: Allen, DeKalb, Greene, Johnson, Kosciusko, Lake, Noble, Owen and St. Joseph. "Assessments in these counties were done in accordance with state guidelines," Commissioner Cheryl Musgrave said.

Legislators will take aim at dog fighting

INDIANAPOLIS - The dog-fighting scandal surrounding National Football League quarterback Michael Vick has prompted two Indiana lawmakers to try to strengthen state laws on the contests (**Associated Press**). "Let's make Indiana's the strictest law in the nation," state Sen. Jim Arnold, D-LaPorte, said yesterday. Rep. Linda Lawson, D-Hammond, who led an effort last year to reform Indiana's animal cruelty laws, said she would push for stronger dogfighting legislation in the House next year.

Councilman enters diversion program

SOUTH BEND - If County Council member Heath Weaver behaves himself for the next year, he could have a highly publicized public intoxication arrest wiped from his record (**South Bend Tribune**). That is the result of a pretrial diversion agreement approved recently in St. Joseph Superior Court. Weaver, D-District H, said he is satisfied with the outcome. "It was fair," he said this week, "and it was right, because I wasn't treated any different than anyone else."

Councilman's trial scheduled before election

INDIANAPOLIS -Indianapolis Councilman Ron Gibson, will likely have a trial on a three misdemeanor charges before the election (**Indianapolis Star**). His attorney asked a special judge Wednesday to schedule a trial by jury on three misdemeanor charges as soon as possible. ❖