



Clinton-Obama Hoosier Showdown

Hillary wins in Texas, Ohio sets the stage for intense May 6 primary showdown

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY**

INDIANAPOLIS - How about a beer with Barack on Dyngus Day at the West Side Democratic Club? A distinct possibility. Or a backseat car ride with Hillary Clinton (as I did from Fort Wayne to Arcola Elementary School in April 1992)? Another possibility. Or, perhaps, a Jefferson-Jackson Day Dinner bill on May 4 with with Obama and Clinton. The invitations have been sent to the campaigns.

Since Obama won the Iowa caucus and then extended a narrow delegate lead on Super Tuesday, the notion of a May 6 Indiana presidential primary has been the dream of pundits and TV station advertising execs. On Tuesday, after Clinton ended Obama's 12-state winning streak (including Vermont) with big wins in the Ohio and Texas primaries (but not the Texas caucus), Democrats are all but guaranteed this epic presidential race will extend into the summer. Perhaps all the way to August. And that gives heft and weight to Hoosier

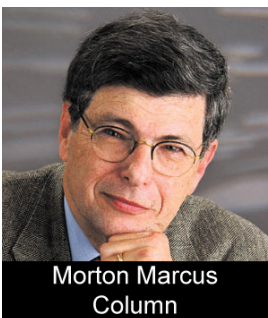


voters. In fact, Clinton beamed her resurgence Wednesday morning that the "Ohio River Valley will elect the next president." The former First Lady did well along the Ohio riverfront (sans Cincinnati) and will try to duplicate that in the Pittsburgh area leading up to the April 22 Pennsylvania

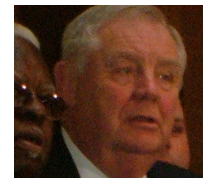
About that recession

By **MORTON J. MARCUS**

INDIANAPOLIS - Save the date: March 27. That's when the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) will release the latest data on Indiana's economy. At that time we'll get the first estimate of personal income for the last three months of 2007 plus revisions of previous quarters. If there is a recession, that's where we will see the first clear indications. If? Yes, it is still not clear if there is a recession in Indiana or the U.S. because the data, our photos of economic performance, are not developed instantly. Certainly



Morton Marcus
Column



“The stress in this job is going to get a lot of people trying to do the right thing on property taxes.”

- State Sen. Bob Meeks, who suffered a slight stroke last week



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there are national problems, but are they reaching all the states?

In the third quarter of 2007, real personal income grew in the nation by 0.96%. This quarterly gain of nearly one percent was at a seasonally adjusted rate. Each of the 50 states and the District of Columbia (all 51 "states") were advancing from July to September last year while everyone was focusing on the mortgage and housing crises. Indiana had an 0.87% increase which qualified for 31st place in the U.S. Indiana's long-term quarterly growth rate (1948 to mid-2007) for real personal income has been 0.73% (39th in the nation) compared with an 0.89% for the U.S. Our volatility (the variation compared to our average growth) was the 16th highest in the nation. High volatility in itself is not a problem, if the level of income is persistently high. Over this long term of 238 quarters, Indiana has grown in 180 of them (75.6% of the time, tied for 37th place with Oklahoma and Mississippi).

The U.S. grew in 86.1% of the quarters. Ohio and Michigan has less positive records than Indiana while our other neighbors outperformed us. How many states fall off the growth wagon in a recession? Does Indiana lead the nation on the downside? On the upside? A partial answer to these questions can be derived from the last recession in the U.S. Measured by real personal income, that recession began after a personal income peak in the second quarter of 2002. Then, for three consecutive quarters, real U.S. personal income declined before resuming its growth path in the second quarter of 2003. But there was weakness in the economy earlier.

In the seven quarters prior to that recession, real quarterly personal income growth for the nation was 0.16%. In the first quarter of 2000, 49 states were growing; by the fourth quarter of that year only 36 were still growing. Half a year later and 26 states were growing. When real personal income peaked in 2002,

30 states were growing and the next quarter that number was down to 20. Indiana's experience, however, was not in sync with the nation. We showed no decline in real personal income during the national recession. Our weakness came in those seven quarters preceding the U.S. recession. While the nation was sluggish at 0.16% average quarterly growth, Indiana stagnated at -0.02%. During the three quarter national recession, when the U.S. average growth rate was -0.13%, Indiana grew by an average of 0.30%.

This favorable record was not sustained. Since the last recession, Indiana has averaged an 0.47% quarterly growth rate in real personal income and the nation has achieved an 0.85% increase. What does all this tell us about Indiana and the next (current) recession? Possibly nothing. It may be that Indiana is now so different from the U.S. that cyclical national movements do not correspond tightly with our economic variations. As a state specialized in particular sectors of the manufacturing economy, all we know is that we do not track the nation well. And thus we persistently lag national growth rates. ❖

Mr. Marcus is an independent economist, formerly with IU's Kelley School of Business.

The PDF returns!

With this edition, the **Howey Politics Indiana** weekly PDF returns. While most of the new aspects of the revamped **www.howeypolitics.com** have met our expectations, including the **HPI Daily Wire**, we did not like the formatting of the weekly **HPI**, so we're back in the PDF for those who like to print **HPI** out.

For those who like to read it online or on their Blackberries, each of these stories still appears online. ❖



Clinton/Obama, from page 1

primary. Then it's likely on to Lawrenceburg, Madison, Jeffersonville, New Albany and Evansville in Indiana.

The other decisive Hoosier battleground between Clinton and Obama will be the 6th CD, according to Indiana Democratic Chairman Dan Parker. "How it breaks out is 1, 2, 7, 8 and 9 all have six delegates," Parker said of the Congressional districts. "3, 4 and 5 all have four. The 6th has five and the reason that's important and the reason they'll fight over that most is if you win the majority in that district by one vote, you get the extra delegate. With all the rest of them because they're even, you'll have to get dramatically more than the other candidate to win more delegates. You've got to get 58 percent of the vote in those five districts that have 6 delegates to move to from 2 to 4 (delegates) instead of 3/3 due to rounding factors." It will take the Indiana Election Division two weeks after the May 6 primary to officially certify who wins what delegates.

So if you're in Indianapolis (media market), Anderson, Muncie or Columbus, you're likely to see Obama and Clinton at the end of April and first week in May. Parker said the Democrats have scheduled the Jefferson-Jackson Day Dinner for Sunday May 4. He notes that North Carolina - which votes the same day as Indiana - will have its JJ dinner the prior weekend. "So there's no conflict," he said, adding that both campaigns have been advised of all major events between now and May 6 in Indiana.

The Howey-Gauge Poll of Feb. 17-18 had Obama with a 40-25 percent lead, though Jill Long Thompson's internal polls show Clinton leading (though the campaign declined to show toplines to prove it). This, of course, comes well before U.S. Sen. Evan Bayh throws his considerable weight (and endorsement) behind Clinton. Bayh hasn't had a narrow election since 1988, so this will be the first time in two decades that his role in an election is truly in doubt. While the Obama/Clinton drama might begin the day after Easter in the South Bend/Mishawaka Dyngus Day bashes - where Robert F. Kennedy's 1968 appearance is still remembered with relish - it will reach the crescendo on the weekend prior to May 6.

Bayh found himself in the crosshairs on behalf of Clinton last weekend where he was asked about the "Red Phone" ad and the "fear mongering" (as described by the Baltimore Sun and UPI). For Bayh, the next terror attack by al Qaeda stateside is not if, "but a matter of when," he said on CBS's Face the Nation on Sunday. "Our intelligence people have said that publicly," Bayh said, adding

that "I don't think it's fearmongering" to raise the point. The Obama campaign responded by noting that it's not just answering the red phone (a Cold War icon which doesn't exist anymore), "It's what you say," Obama said, noting that Sen. Clinton didn't say the right thing when she voted for the October 2002 Iraq War resolution.

Despite Clinton's wins in Ohio, Texas and Rhode Island (Obama won the dual Texas caucus), Bayh proclaimed on MSNBC Wednesday, "She's got the momentum now. And I think it's very important that as people focus on this election and they understand this is a serious moment for our country, there are serious consequences for our nation's security and our economy, they're going to focus on which of these very good candidates has the strength, the experience, the ability to really deliver the results that the American people have a right to expect in our commander in chief and in our president, and I think that favors Senator Clinton. So you ask about the politics and the math and all that. The bottom line on that is neither one of these candidates is going to win in these primaries and caucuses enough delegates to get the nomination. So it's going to come down to the so-called superdelegates and what we do about Florida, what we do about Michigan and all those things yet to be determined. That's ultimately going to decide who our nominee is going to be."



At an Andre Carson campaign event in February, Bayh said that super delegates should follow the votes in the states. But on Wednesday, he told MSNBC, "But I do think it's very important who wins these big states, who can win blue collar voters and swing areas. That kind of thing is going to be necessary to winning the fall campaign, and Senator Clinton did very, very well with those people in those areas last night. I think it's indisputable that the last presidential election was decided in Ohio. And Senator Clinton won Ohio by 10 percent last night. A 10 percent victory is generally considered to be a landslide. That's the threshold of a landslide. So she did well, overwhelmingly well in the most important state four years ago. Four years about before that, it was Florida. Now, we can argue about there was no campaign in Florida and all that..."

Asked about the super delegates making a decision that might negate the popular votes on MSNBC, Bayh responded, "When do we stop democracy? I come from a state, six and a half million people. We haven't voted yet. Are you going to tell my people in my state that we shouldn't count, that we shouldn't matter, we should just stop this thing right now because of political considerations? I don't think that that's a very fair way to go forward. So, look, we need to have an open and honest



debate about the challenges that face our country, about who's best prepared to lead us at this very difficult time, and be respectful, be positive, not, you know, divisive and negative, and then just see where the process takes us. That's how democracy should work. And we need to go forward here. It's a very, very close race."

Indeed, a very, very close race that will play out in an Indiana setting in the coming two months.

* * *

Campaign Note: If you hum "Back Home Again ..." to Hillary Clinton, it might hit a cord. She was Jimmy Carter's Indiana campaign director in 1976 and lived in an upstairs room in Irvington house now owned by Marion County Democratic Chairman Michael O'Connor, who calls it the "Hillary Clinton Room" though not quite as famous as the Lincoln Bedroom. ❖

Dream ticket is Evan Bayh's nightmare

By RYAN NEES

KOKOMO - If Evan Bayh hopes to be the Vice Presidential nominee for the Democratic Party this fall, he should call Hillary Clinton and urge her to concede her presidential campaign immediately. And he should urge her out for just as self-serving reasons as he urged her in. Let's get something straight right now. Hillary Clinton can't win the nomination. In fact, since her victories in Texas, Rhode Island, and Ohio, her task actually has become more difficult as 370 delegates that were once up for grabs are now off the board, and given that she won so few net delegates (it'll be in the single digits), she'll have to win an even larger share of a delegate populace whose number is diminishing.



Presuming she were to run the table from now until June, when Puerto Rico casts the last votes in the primary, the best she can hope for is a pledged delegate tie with Barack Obama. She has to hope to convince a significant majority of the remaining uncommitted superdelegates to steal the nomination from Obama, overturning the will of the voters, despite his probable popular vote victory, his probable lead in pledged delegates, and his certain lead in the number of contests won. Because neither candidate can win without some superdelegate help, she would have to make this case for the three long months between the final contest and the convention.

The only -- only -- way she wins the nomination is by spending those three months trashing Obama, squashing all the hope out of his millions of supporters, and effectively demolishing the Democratic Party and handing the election to John McCain. Perhaps, cynics would say, this is what Hillary Clinton wants. If she can't have the nomination, then no one else should either, and by denying Barack Obama the presidency, she sets herself up for another run in four years. In that case, Sen. Bayh has reason enough to call for her withdrawal simply to prevent an egomaniacal kamikaze mission that destroys both Clinton and the party

that dare not nominate her. But increasingly it looks as if Hillary Clinton is prolonging the campaign to force her way onto the ticket, yesterday taking a strikingly receptive tack on the question, saying on CBS that the so-called "Dream Ticket" may be "where this is headed," adding, "of course we have to decide who's on top."

That "dream" is Evan Bayh's nightmare, and indeed, the longer she is in, the harder it will be for Senator Obama to risk alienating her supporters by denying her the veep slot. She's playing for second. Hillary Clinton is the new Evan Bayh. Sure, Bayh can cloak his decision in terms of nobility. He can argue that for the sake of the party, Sen. Clinton should step aside. He can cloak it in terms of personal concern, arguing that Clinton should concede for her own sake, ensuring her future as a leader in the party. But Bayh's decision doesn't have to be made personally in any such seemingly self-sacrificial terms. It can be, and for his sake should be, made entirely for self-serving reasons, an ironic end, no doubt, to the sycophantic beginning that was his initial endorsement of her in the first place.

One has to believe that Obama would prefer almost anyone to Clinton on the ticket, and he likely shudders at the possibility of his masterpiece movement of change being diluted by such an establishment, status-quo figure. Yet Bayh's name continues to be circulated as a possible VP pick for both Obama and Clinton because of his perceived red state appeal, national security credentials, and being a white male. And Obama's camp itself isn't likely to discount Bayh either, who, though a supporter of Clinton, has never engaged in the sort of incendiary race-baiting or personal attacks that other surrogates have.

Obama supporters like Thomas Hamilton and Tim Roemer are also likely to vouch for him. If Clinton waits until August to be forced out of the race, she'll get a spot on the ticket to salvage the party from destruction. If Bayh urges her out now, he not only salvages his own chances, but greatly enhances them, for an earlier-rather-than-later Clinton withdrawal allows Obama to pick someone other his New York rival with fewer November repercussions. What better pick than Bayh, which carries the added benefit of appearing to unify the party, joining Obama with a prominent Clinton supporter? That support, perhaps in a private 3 a.m. phone call, Bayh should revoke. ❖



Holes in House GOP recruiting class has dampened prospects

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY**

INDIANAPOLIS - The 2008 election cycle was supposed to be the one where Republicans would regain a majority of the Indiana House that, along with the re-election of Gov. Mitch Daniels, would set the stage for the second part of his reform movement. But a Howey Politics Indiana analysis of fall House races reveals a Republican recruiting effort with several gaping holes and, consequently, if that status quo persists will be tough to shuck its minority status. House Minority Leader Brian C. Bosma is calling the '08 recruitment effort a work in progress. Five Democrats thought to be vulnerable in 2008 - freshmen State Reps. Greg Battles and Dave Cheatham and veterans Teri Austin, Phil Pflum and Ron Herrell - don't have opponents. There is no Republican candidate in the open HD97, the seat being vacated by State Rep. Jon Elrod, and thus a likely Democratic pickup. Elrod won that seat by only a handful of votes in 2006. The Democrats have a 51-49 advantage and with Elrod's seat open in a very Democratic district, the GOP already starts out in a 52-48 hole.

In seats targeted by Democrats - HD86 being vacated by State Rep. David Orentlicher and HD31 where State Rep. Tim Harris has won his last two races by razor thin margins - the majority party recruited highly respected attorney Edward O. DeLaney and 2006 secretary of state nominee Joe Pearson. DeLaney will face Warren Central history and economics teacher Adam Nelson.

There are seven races HPI sees as potential tossups: HD15 tenuously held by State Rep. Don Lehe, HD31 Harris vs. Pearson, HD35 Rep. Jack Lutz in a rematch

with Lee Ann Mengelt, the HD26 open seat being vacated by Joe Micon, HD42 in a seat held by the ailing Rep. Amos Thomas, HD46 held by State Rep. Vern Tincher, and the open HD89 being vacated by the retiring Rep. Larry Buell. Five of those seats are occupied by Republicans. Harris defeated Blackford County Commissioner Larry Hile by just 19 votes in 2006 and is seen as vulnerable. In HD 35, Rep. Lutz defeated Mengelt by 1,669 votes. In HD44, Rep. Thomas will likely face former Greencastle mayor Nancy Michael. Rep. Thomas defeated Michael's primary opponent, Richard Thompson, by 1,179 votes in 2006. Rep. Lehe will likely face a rematch with former Newton County Sheriff Myron Sutton, who lost in 2006 by 27 votes. Sutton first has to win the Democratic primary against John Anthony Malan.

Another potential open seat is HD38, which could be vacated by State Rep. Jim Buck, R-Kokomo, should he succeed State Sen. Jeff Drozda, who will resign this spring to take a job out of state. While HD38 is a heavily GOP district, Democrat Bob Snow of Kokomo filed there. Indiana Democratic Chairman Dan Parker said that Snow could take advantage of divisions in the Republican Party in Howard County.

The potential pickups for Republicans in this "tossup" group include HD46, where State Rep. Vern Tincher faces former Indiana State basketball star Bob Heaton, and the open HD26 where Republican West Lafayette Councilman Randy Truitt will face Democrat John Polles, a retired lieutenant colonel and Vietnam vet who earned a Ph.D in science education from Purdue University and headed the university's department of military science. Republicans are optimistic that they can wrest HD63, the open seat being vacated by State Rep. Dave Crooks, away from the Democrats. Republican Mark Messmer, co-owner of Messmer Mechanical in Jasper, will face DuBois County Commissioner John G. Burger. In HD89, Christopher Swatts won the slating and should he win his primary, will face Democrat John Barnes, who lost to Rep. Buell by just 512

votes despite getting the cold shoulder from state Democrats. Barnes has already raised more than \$10,000.

Democratic Chairman Parker said the lack of GOP recruits in the five seats mentioned at the top of this story



House Republicans gather in 2006 to make the first in a series of campaign promises, but backlash to the Iraq War and Capitol Hill ethic lapses doomed the majority they hope to reacquire this fall. (HPI Photo by Brian A. Howey)



"may be indicative of the prospects for Republicans nationally." Parker went so far as to suggest, "I think we will increase our majority." Parker said he was shocked that the Republicans couldn't recruit candidates against Battles, Cheatham and Herrell. The lack of opponents for Herrell, Austin, Battles, Cheatham and Pflum come at a time when Indiana congressional Democratic candidates have out-raised GOP candidates by a 65-35 percent clip, according to a recent story in the Times of Northwest Indiana. That's a virtual historical reversal for the two parties. Parker also sees the lack of an opponent to run against Rep. Austin as a sign that Eric Miller's anti-gay fringe is ebbing. Last month, Miller sent an e-mail to his Advance America supporters urging them to run for the legislature as his tax repeal movement faltered. Few apparently decided to answer that call. Last year, billboards were posted in Anderson taking Austin to task for her vote against the same sex marriage amendment. "People are not voting on issues like gay marriage, of which there aren't any in Indiana to begin with," Parker said. "They are voting on jobs and the economy."

Mike Gentry, who heads the House Republican Campaign Committee, maintains that Republicans are "in a very strong position" to take seats held by Micon, Tincher, Crooks, State Rep. Sandra Blanton (in the seat vacated by State Rep. Jerry Denbo) and HD70 held by State Rep. Paul Robertson. In that scenario, if the GOP were to run the table on those seats and successfully defend Reps. Harris, Lehe and Thomas, there would be the formula for a GOP takeover. In the GOP's favor, Gov. Daniels' re-election war chest is expected to exceed \$20 million and they hope he has coattails. But with U.S. Sen. John McCain the Republican presidential nominee, the question as to whether those two candidates can ignite the Christian conservatives for the GOP is debatable. In a Feb. 2-3 Survey USA, Gov. Daniels' fav/unfavs among pro-life supporters stood at 52/41, among proponents of the same sex marriage ban 40/57 percent, and among gun owners 44/47 percent.

In HD62, Rep. Blanton will face one of five Republicans in the primary there, with Brook Tarr, an Orange

County highway engineer and former INDOT employee, the early favorite. In HD70, where Robertson won by 2,500 votes in 2006, Republicans are running Tim Hunt, who is director of business development for Koetter Construction Co, in Floyds Knobs. "Those five seats are more Republican than the seats you mentioned," Gentry said of Battles, Cheatham, Austin, Pflum and Herrell. "In fact, the candidates in those five districts may be the best top five target seat recruits we have had at the HRCC since I have been involved." Gentry was also optimistic that slated Republican Christopher Swatts will hang on to HD89, the seat being vacated by retiring State Rep. Larry Buell.

Gentry added that in recent HRCC polling, "the governor's numbers are much improved from 2006 - +19 percent in our poll. The generic ballot of +6 percent for House Republicans vs. even in 2006." Gentry also said that "fundraising hasn't missed a beat" and that most of the HRCC staff is back. "It's the same campaign team that lost only three seats when our counterparts were getting their ass handed to them in 2006." Gentry cited 19 Minnesota Republicans who lost that year and 13 in Wisconsin.

Bosma said HRCC conceded that it would probably not hold on to HD97 even if Elrod wasn't running for re-election instead of Congress. So he starts the math at 52-48 Democratic. He is banking on Messmer, Truitt and Heaton as taking Democratic-held open seats in Republican majority districts, while holding on to Reps. Ed Soliday, Harris and Lehe which he says recent HRCC polling tells him "we're scientifically reinforced." Said Bosma, "I don't see any other or our incumbents in danger. As for the Herrell, Austin and Battles Democratic seats, Bosma is urging patience, saying that it's better to have the party fill those spots by June as opposed to having a "numbskull" file just to fill the slot. "We're talking to some very strong potential candidates," Bosma insisted. "They just couldn't make the commitment by filing deadline." Bosma said that in addition to ongoing candidate recruitment, the party's fund raising is stronger than it was in the past two cycles.

The other storyline kicking around the Statehouse is that Gentry is distracted by his new company, Maverick Strategies, which is running the congressional campaigns of Elrod and U.S. Rep. Dan Burton. Bosma has worked with Gentry for four election cycles. "Ninety percent of Mike Gentry's attention is better than 100 percent of the next best person," Bosma said. Gentry explains, "I spend very little time on the Burton or Elrod campaigns, just a conference call here and there. Kyle Kasting, one of my partners in Maverick Strategies, is the day-to-day guy on both campaigns. People who really know me realize my sons' 4-H pigs have always been the biggest diversion of my time and just like politics we win a lot in that operation as well. My political value is worth a lot less if we don't win the House back, so I have always been clear as to my main focus." ❖



REP. HARRIS



BOB HEATON



2008 Indiana Governor: Site Selection (revisited)

Governor 2008: Republican: Gov. Mitch Daniels, La Ron Keith. Democrat: 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:** Remember the 2004 Daniels-Kernan race and the must read on everyone's coffee table (or lavatory)? The Kernan campaign cited **Site Selection Magazine** as evidence that Indiana was an economic development hotspot. We thought we'd check back and see what **Site Selection Magazine** was saying about the Hoosier state in 2008. In a January article by John W. McCurry, he leads off by saying, "A popular 1970 song by R. Dean Taylor went by the title **Indiana Wants Me**. That song was about anything but economic development but its title could aptly describe the state's major push to grow its diverse life sciences sector. The Hoosier State is in the midst of a string of successes in the industry, where investors run the gamut from A to Z - as in Arcadia HealthCar to Zimmer." It quotes Arcadia CEO Marvin Richardson saying, "Having a FedEx hub helps us in terms of distribution of our product. Purdue and Butler are both highly rated and produce good kids. That helps our recruiting." But here's a gem the Daniels campaign will certainly use: Richardson said Arcadia looked at sites in Minnesota and Michigan for its \$3 million investment that will bring 400 jobs. "The bottom line was that I was driving from Minneapolis to Rochester and the phone rang and it was Gov. Mitch Daniels. He took personal interest in our business and took time to understand our needs. We talked at least three times and met twice. He has a solid grasp of the types of businesses he wants to draw. We developed a relationship that transcended anything we were doing."



Gov. Joe Kernan's 2004 campaign relied on Site Selection Magazine to show its economic development prowess. (HPI Photo by Brian A. Howey)

There is OBS Medical CEO Frank Cheng who told Site Selection, "We compared several spots and we always came back to Indiana and Indianapolis as an attractive place to operate. Gov. Mitch Daniels has systematically tried to build up the life science industry in Indiana." OBS considered sites in Boston, North Carolina, New Jersey, Chicago, Milwaukee, San Francisco and Seattle. The 15-employee company hopes to expand to 100 within the next year or so. Then there's Connexions, a Florida-based outsourcing firm that is bringing 750 jobs to Jeffersonville. And CSpine Inc. which is bringing 49 jobs to Plymouth.

In another magazine - **Governing.com** - gave Indiana a B grade, up from C+. It said that Indiana was the only state to have its grade improve in the four main categories: money, people infrastructure and information." Indiana was the only state to have its grade improve in all categories. Governing's analysis was this: "Mitch Daniels didn't waste any time when he took over as governor of Indiana at the start of 2004. He talked the legislature into

voting for Daylight saving time, ending a controversy that had dragged on for decades. And he set about privatizing large chunks of state government in order to encourage the competition that he felt would bring better performance in the end. Not all of it has helped Daniels politically. But the state's governmental structure has been changed in important ways." Governing, which notes Indiana had 10 weaknesses and 1 strength in 2005, now has 8 strengths and 1 weakness in 2008.

Meanwhile, Jill Long Thompson unveiled the first detailed economic development proposal from the Democrats vowing to revamp Indiana's tax structure, make health care affordable and bring broadband

to smaller communities in what she called a "fundamental change to the state's approach for a growing economy." The proposal didn't give an alternative to HB1001 and ignored the Telecommunications Act of 2007 which is already extending broadband to smaller communities around the state. Thompson said, "Looking across Indiana, you see factories closing, families struggling to pay their mortgages, pay their taxes and keep up with the rising costs of healthcare. Once-thriving communities are slowly dying as people and businesses move away. And our current Governor doesn't seem to have the solutions or seem to care,"



said Long Thompson. She said she would change Indiana's tax policy by expanding tax incentives to both employees and businesses. In the case of businesses, she would offer incentives to provide healthcare, acquire new technology and reduce their impact on the environment. She said she would create permanent tax deductions for individuals to offset healthcare and education costs. Long Thompson said she would create insurance pools to "vastly reduce costs to individuals and smaller businesses." The Argos Democrat said she would reform "education policy by re-emphasizing vocational education in Indiana's high schools and providing incentives for students to complete their education." Long Thompson also said Indiana's infrastructure needs to "bring broadband and high-speed internet connectivity to every county."

Cam Savage of the Daniels campaign countered, "Gov. Daniels created the Indiana Broadband Development Program and supported and signed sweeping telecommunications legislation in 2006 that's been hailed as a national model. Consumers are already benefiting. Broadband services have been extended to more than 100 rural communities, creating more than 2,000 new jobs across the state, and pumping more than \$500 million in private investment into the economy."

The Schellinger campaign is preparing to finally release its public policy positions in the next week or so, campaign sources tell HPI. Schellinger was endorsed by the Lake County Democratic Party. **Primary Status:** TOSSUP, **General Status:** Leans Daniels

2008 Congressional

Congressional District 7: Republican: State Rep. Jon Elrod. Democrat: Indianapolis Councilman Andre Carson. **2006 Results:** Carson 121,303, Horning (R) 97,491, Campbell (L) 4,381. **2008 Forecast:** The Social Security issue took center stage in the final week of the campaign. Carson's latest campaign ad speaks right to senior citizens, calling Social Security a safety net. But before it's over, the ad says, "Jon Elrod? He actually supports George Bush's risky scheme to privatize Social Security. That's not the kind of change we need in Washington" (Rader, WTHR-TRV). "When you don't want to talk about your issues and your ideas, you go negative," said Elrod. "I certainly never proposed changing anything as far as Social Security benefits for people currently receiving them already in the work force. It may make sense to have private accounts for people that are entering the work force in the future or maybe some people could opt out of it." Carson is airing the endorsement of U.S. Sen. Evan Bayh, who said, "He knows that there are things more important than money. He's a good husband,

and a good father. His wife is an educator so you know he lives education in the house. He knows that our values, the way we treat our kids, the way we do right by our seniors, the way we strengthen our families. These values are the stuff that make Indiana and America great - that's the kind of congressman he's going to be. Representing us in Washington DC." The Carson campaign also sent



out a four-color mailer on Iraq. Its front panel shows a burned out humvee and a child holding an American flag and hugging her father. It asks, "Which direction? Keep troops in Iraq or Bring them home?" On

the back panel, Carson says, "Just recently, Indiana sent its largest contingent of troops since WWII to the war in Iraq. Enough is enough. I oppose the war and in Congress I will work to bring our troops safely home." In contrast, Elrod is supporting the McCain/Bush position. As this race goes into its final weekend, this will be a turnout election. If Carson can stoke up his grandmother's once legenday machine, he's the odds-on favorite to win on Tuesday. Elrod has been out-raised by more than \$250,000 prior to the Tuesday night fundraiser at Indiana Republican HQ. The Republican is hoping that fractures in the Democratic base (i.e. supporters of State Rep. Carolene Mays, David Orentlicher and Dr. Woody Myers) along with the Lugar organization's call center and absentee clout will bring about an upset. **Special Election Status:** LEANS CARSON

2008 Legislative

SD21 Caucus: With the coming resignation of State Sen. Jeff Drozda, that has been exclusively covered by Howey Politics Indiana, State Rep. Jim Buck began immediately to shore up support for a jump to the Senate. He will face caucus opposition from Dave Mueller, vice president of the Westfield-Washington School Board. Mueller is a Purdue graduate who owns Insects Limited, Inc. located in Westfield. He is a stored product entomologist who specializes in agriculture and food safety. Buck joined the House as part of the 1994 Republican tsunami. Given his lengthy legislative history and contacts, we see this caucus as Buck's to lose. **Status:** LIKELY BUCK ❖



Delph's outreach on immigration spurned

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY**

INDIANAPOLIS - As the two illegal immigration bills head for a possible compromise (or death) in the final week of the Indiana General Assembly, we conducted this interview with State Sen. Mike Delph at the Starbuck's on North Keystone Avenue. The senator had recently been characterized as "El Diablo" by **El Indy Latino** newspaper last week.

HPI: I've always felt immigration is a federal issue that needs a federal solution. Give us your take on how you got to the point where you needed to write this legislation?

Delph: First of all, I completely agree. Immigration policy is a federal issue. The federal government has abdicated its constitutional responsibilities to defend our borders and enforce customs law. As a result there are the social and economic costs that have been shifted down to the state and local governments that those taxpayers bear every day, from school construction to incarceration of illegal immigrants to health care. There's a real economic cost there. One thing that I like to correct people on is this is not an immigration proposal. This is an illegal immigration proposal. It's against the law. We're a nation of immigrants. We're the great melting pot. I embrace our diversity as a nation of immigrants. But illegal immigration in the state of Indiana has gotten completely out of control. What happened was that I kept going to town meetings and this issue kept popping up. 'What are you going to do about illegal immigration?' I kept hearing conversations around the Statehouse that illegal immigration was starting to percolate; it was starting to hit the radar in terms of state and local politics. I started researching the issue as to what we could do under the confines of the Constitution and customs law and I reached this proposal that could help resolve the issue. State government regulates businesses, we regulate business licenses and so that's what SB335 is designed to do: put requirements on those who seek to do business in the state of Indiana. The original



proposal was pretty harsh but I did that to get a message out to the business community. I've made four concessions. The first I made was to put a third strike provision in there. It went from a two strike, which was the Arizona proposal, to three strikes. Second, we said that if you just use E-Verify, whether it works or doesn't work and there's debate about that. But if you just use it, you have immunity from prosecution. We pushed out the implementation date to October 2009 to give people time to ramp out and put in the infrastructure to enforce the law. The last concession we made is that it only applies to new hires going forth. I've tried to do everything I could to meet some concerns of the business community and lobbyists. I'm convinced that no matter what I do, they are going to be against this proposal. They don't like this proposal. They share your view that this is a federal issue and the states shouldn't be involved in this. This Hispanic community has said that this is a federal issue. As we move closer to this proposal being reality here in Indiana, it's become very clear to me that those who are the most vocal against this proposal are those that are profiting the most from the status quo, whether it's from the Hispanic community or the business community. They are using the federal impotence on enforcing immigration law as a shield or excuse to protect their own profit.

HPI: Is it proper to have the enforcement mechanism fall on business?

Delph: Thomas Jefferson said the price of freedom is eternal vigilance. I argue that in a post-9/11 world all Americans, regardless of race or ethnicity, have an obligation to look out and be vigilant over one another. Businesses are no different. They have a corporate responsibility to obey and follow the laws. This proposal isn't to punish law abiding corporate citizens, but lift them up by punishing those who aren't sharing those values. Do I think it's proper? I think it's necessary in a post-9/11 world.

HPI: What have you learned from similar laws in Arizona and Oklahoma?

Delph: Arizona and Oklahoma have done different things. SB335 has been amended into two separate vehicles: SB345 and HB1219. I've got two different conference committees I'm going to be a part of as an adviser to Rep. Vern Tincher, who is my partner in this. The bill is based on Arizona, Oklahoma, Georgia and Arkansas. The impact



of Arizona and Oklahoma still needs study. It's still being studied. It's my hope that just the process of introducing this legislation sends a message to the Hispanic community, the business community and other communities of concern that the state of Indiana is no longer going to stand idly by and accept inaction on the part of the federal government. Or accept law breaking by anybody, and that's what is going on. The more I study, the more convinced I am that I'm doing the right thing. You have human beings that are being shuttled into our state under the cloud of darkness and are being put into a role that is not free. They may have slightly better conditions than where they came from, but it's not freedom. I'll give you an example. In my own church, we have a growing Hispanic community. I have a gentleman from Guatemala in my church who's a citizen. He came up to me and said, 'Mike, I'm really concerned about what you're doing.' We talked for about an hour and he asked if I would meet with a group of friends. We met at my church with about 25 illegal immigrants a couple of Thursdays ago. One of the girls in the nursery who watches over my youngest daughter, Lilly, said, 'I'm married to an illegal immigrant. He's right here sitting right next to me. Your daughter loves him. What are you going to tell your daughter?' So this has been a very personal emotional roller coaster for me. But she also said that each and every day - before my proposal - every time he called her on the phone, she was in fear of getting that phone call: 'I've been caught. I'm being taken away.' I turned the issue around. I said, 'What kind of life is that? Is that freedom? Is that fair to you? Fair to your kids?' It's not at all. There are real human rights abuses going on here. There are people exploiting labor for profit. There are people exploiting human beings for other things beyond profit. It's a real problem. The estimates of the illegal population are hard to quantify. It's my personal belief after talking with people deep in the Hispanic community who are on the ground and with people in law enforcement, we are well in excess of 100,000 illegal immigrants here in Indiana. It's a much higher number than you read in Pew.

HPI: Is it your hope that if this legislation passes into law, along with other states, that it's going to be a patchwork....

Delph: We're shifting the problem to other states, there's no doubt about that.

HPI: What we're looking at is within three or four years if the feds don't get their act together, we're looking at a patchwork of laws that will be untenable.

Delph: You're absolutely right. It will be a prob-

lem. It's unacceptable. But what do we tell our constituents when they say, 'Senator, what are you doing about it.' They don't want us to say, 'We're writing a letter to the congressional delegation.' I sent a letter to Sen. McCain when he was in town. He's going to be the leader of my party. He could very well be the next president of the United States and Congress has been spending time dealing with Roger Clemens using performance enhancing drugs and whether the New England Patriots stole signals from their opponents. That is absolutely unacceptable and ridiculous. The state of Indiana on the same day was holding hearings on illegal immigration. It's a complete abdication of leadership out of Washington.

HPI: I thought the Pence-Hutchison legislation was a good compromise: The Ellis Island centers, people returning to their country of origin, getting work visas, getting on the path to citizenship, paying a fine and learning English. What was your impression of Pence-Hutchison?

Delph: I never reviewed that because I've been so busy doing my own legislation. I can tell you when I talk to taxpayers in my district, they don't like the idea of any kind of amnesty.

HPI: It wasn't amnesty. People are throwing that word around at every piece of legislation that tries to solve the problem federally.

Delph: The English thing is something I hear all the time in my district. They do not like the fact that when they go to a store or a fast food restaurant they have a difficult time communicating with people they are interacting with.

HPI: But that's been part of the American experience going back to the 1880s when the Germans came or the 1910s when the Italians and Poles came.

Delph: It's a little bit different because when the Germans came, they had these points of assimilation. People would go to New York City or San Antonio, Houston, Los Angeles or Miami and then maybe the next generation would move elsewhere. Now you've got the entry point at Frankfort, and Greenfield, Indiana. There's this huge culture clash. It happens in rural America.

HPI: While there have been some local issues, actually the Hispanics in Indiana seem to be assimilating into our culture without a great deal of turmoil. And couldn't the General Assembly pass a resolution endorsing Pence-Hutchison or asking the congressional delegation to get to work and come up with a federal solution?

Delph: I'm willing to review it. But one thing I ask the Hispanic community is, 'What are you willing to do? Are you willing to serve in the military?' I've had Hispanic



Sen. Delph as a student intern with Nicaraguan President Chamorro.



people come to me and say that the illegal immigrants "cast an aspersion on me." It's not fair to American citizens.

HPI: Will this legislation clear both chambers and go to the governor? And what kind of conversations have you had with the governor?

Delph: I don't know where the governor is going to be on this.

HPI: He's in a wait and see mode.

Delph: It's going to be difficult for him. Like me, he speaks Spanish. He has a very strong affinity for the Hispanic community. It's personally a very difficult decision for him. But in terms of where we end up on this, in the final week of the session is going to be all about property taxes. I would imagine once we get a resolution on property taxes they'll gavel the session over and it will probably die.

HPI: Would passage of this legislation be enough to send the message to Washington that there has to be a federal solution?

Delph: I think the congressional delegation is very much aware what the state of Indiana is doing on illegal immigration. They are aware of the frustration in the Indiana General Assembly. I can tell you that the federal government hasn't resourced this adequately. Part of the intent of this legislation is to coordinate law enforcement. This idea that there is going to be mass racial profiling is insulting to our law enforcement.

HPI: The point of the Howey Politics Indiana analysis in last week's edition wasn't to bash you, but to point out that there will be political consequences for the Republican Party. Pew, Newhouse and other sources are showing a distinct erosion in support among Hispanics for the Republican Party. This was something I pointed out after Congressman Hostettler's hearings in late summer 2006. Now I know Rep. Tincher is involved and I know it's gotten Democratic support.

Delph: It's a bipartisan issue.

HPI: I've heard Gov. Daniels speak on the subject. He and President Bush speak quite eloquently on the topic, but people like Hostettler and Rep. Tom Tancredo have radicalized the perceptions and that is staining the Republican Party. It's a perception thing.

Delph: I've got some props. I was the first Republican to reach out to the Latino community back in 2001 when I was campaigning for secretary of state. I went to the Hispanic Job Fair and registered citizens (He shows a picture of himself and former IPS Supt. Esperanza Zendejas). I spoke to the crowd in Spanish. I interned

for (Nicaraguan President) Chomorro back in 1991-92. I traveled all over Colombia. I studied in Mexico City and I learned Spanish there. I've got a record of reaching out.

This is not about not embracing in diversity. If what you mean by a political backlash is that I get punished for standing up for one of the basic pillars of democracy, respect for the rule of law, I'll accept that punishment. If people are exploiting human beings for profit. You're seeing a lot of periodicals like this (holds El Indy Latino) ... these folks make money off of illegal immigration because it increases their market share. Television and radio get more eyeballs, more listeners and the

more money they make.

HPI: You're saying that El Indy Latino is profiting from illegal immigration.

Delph: Absolutely. Because the more people they can reach out to, the more their advertising rates go up. What's suffering is the human tragedy that's going on. The people that are in the shadows, outside of freedom, who are being exploited for sexual gratuities and for other things that are not in the American dream. That's why I go to the Hispanic community and say, "Where is the outrage?" Two weeks ago there was a van pulled over in Hendricks County. They literally had 20 people stacked up on top of each other, including women and children, like cattle. I went to the TV station and said, "Where is the outrage? When are you guys going to go on television and say, 'This is wrong?'"

HPI: And what's your reaction to El Indy Latino's "Sen. Diablo"?

Delph: It's tabloid journalism. It's an insult to my family. I feel worse for my daughters and wife than myself. I'm getting a pretty thick skin. It's not true. It's silly and it's unfortunate. And I think what you're going to find is that other Hispanic publications are going to come to my defense very quickly. This idea that I am poisoning the Hispanic community is at fault because I have reached out to the Hispanic community.

HPI: Have there been any proposals from the Indiana Latino community on illegal immigration?

Delph: No. Everybody who's been critical of my proposal, I've said to them, "If this isn't your solution, what is your solution? If you've got a better solution, I'm all ears." The community as a whole cannot be accomplices to law breaking because they create racial tensions and suspicions over legal citizens. ❖





Politics & plagerism: the strange case of Tim Goeglein

By **MARK SCHOEFF JR.**

WASHINGTON -- It looked as if Tim Goeglein would be one of those rare White House staffers who joins the administration when it first comes into office and then stays until the bitter end eight years later. Instead, Goeglein's tenure came to a bitter end in a swift downfall last week. Goeglein, a Fort Wayne native and former aide to Sen. Dan Coats, worked in President Bush's public liaison office until Friday, when a blogger demonstrated that he had plagiarized eight paragraphs of a guest column for the Ft. Wayne News-Sentinel. He was exposed by Nancy Nall, a former News-Sentinel columnist who now has her own blog.



Goeglein promptly admitted his transgression and apologized to the paper and to the person from whom he stole the words. Within hours, the White House announced Goeglein's resignation as a News-Sentinel investigation revealed that Goeglein had plagiarized 20 of 38 columns he had written over the course of his tenure in the White House.

Why Goeglein did it is a mystery. He wasn't under deadline pressure. He could submit his column whenever the spirit moved him. He wasn't a struggling writer who needed to churn out clips so he could land a journalism job. He had established himself as a good communicator earlier in his career, which included a stint with WOWO radio in Ft. Wayne. When he was Coats' press secretary, Goeglein demonstrated his skill in capturing earned media for his boss. It seemed as if Goeglein was able to pitch -- and sell -- separate stories about each dimension of Coats' 19-point Project for American Renewal, an initiative that offered tax cuts and other incentives to solve social problems through private sector, community and personal efforts.

Goeglein didn't suffer a career lapse after Capitol Hill success. In the White House, he was a top aide to former political guru Karl Rove. Goeglein helped build the Bush administration's relationship with conservatives, especially the Christian right. In the 2000, Goeglein was an adviser to religious activist Gary Bauer's campaign.

In its statement about his departure, the White House credited Goeglein with making important contributions to Bush's faith-based initiatives, his global campaign against AIDS and the confirmation of two Supreme Court justices, John Roberts Jr., another Indiana native, and Samuel Alito Jr. Goeglein certainly wasn't a reckless rule-breaker. I contacted him repeatedly to talk about the Supreme Court confirmations and other issues in his portfolio. Each time, he fastidiously checked with the White House press office and declined politely. "The powers that be asked that I not do this one," he wrote in an e-mail exchange last fall. It was those same powers who say that they had no idea Goeglein was writing a column for the News-Sentinel. In published reports, he indicated that he had informed the press office of his outside endeavor at the beginning of the administration.

We might never know what drove Goeglein to plagiarize. But we can speculate on why he penned guest columns. We have to assume he loved to write. His News-Sentinel column, which covered a range of issues not directly related to the White House agenda, could be treacle. Nonetheless, there's a deep satisfaction that comes with being published. You can point to something tangible -- a story on a printed page or a Web site -- and say, "i did that." So much of what goes on in Washington is intangible. How do you point to maintaining good White House relations with the right-wing and say, "I did that"? You have to develop a narrative and hope that others will understand and recognize it. Telling those stories over and over to undergird your professional value can be draining.

But Goeglein made a terrible mistake. Presenting someone else's work as your own is the writing equivalent of a sex scandal. We've become almost inured to bedroom peccadilloes in the nation's capital. Senators and House members, even presidents, who are exposed in episodes of infidelity often can bounce back. A senator who is alleged to have been a client of the infamous Washington madam just appeared at a press conference on immigration on Wednesday, apparently not concerned that someone would ask a stray question about his personal life.

In the same way, Goeglein could make a comeback. He may not get another chance to write for publication. But there is a prominent presidential candidate who definitely needs help with the right wing. Perhaps Goeglein should reach out to Sen. John McCain to restart his career.



Schoeff, a native of Fort Wayne, writes for Howey Politics Indiana from Washington.



Leslie Stedman Weidenbener,

Louisville Courier-Journal: It's not quite clear whether the changes that House Democrats made to a proposed constitutional amendment putting limits on property tax bills are meant to be a serious plan or a philosophical statement. But I'm leaning toward the latter. As passed by the Senate, the proposed constitutional amendment would have limited homeowners' property tax bills to no more than 1 percent of assessed value, although the tax burden needed to pay off construction debt approved by voters in a referendum would be exempt. That exception would apply only to new debt because Indiana hasn't used referendums in the past. But the House Ways and Means Committee, which is controlled by Democrats, amended the language so that the proposed amendment would now limit tax bills to no more than 1 percent of the household's income -- plus the amount dedicated to all existing debt repayment. On its surface, the Democrats' plan, which passed the House last week, might seem like a better deal for most taxpayers. After all, most homeowners have an assessed value that is higher than their annual household income. Debt repayment makes up an estimated one-quarter to one-third of all tax bills. The practical problem with the Democrats' idea is that lawmakers don't have any numbers to show how it would affect taxpayers, local governments and schools, which lose money when a homeowner hits the cap. Democrats, though, have produced no numbers at all to support their plan. Neither has the Legislative Services Agency. House Ways and Means Chairman Bill Crawford, D-Indianapolis, has said the plan would be better for both taxpayers and local governments. But that can't happen. If taxpayers save more, local governments and schools lose more. If local governments and schools receive more revenue, then taxpayers are paying more. ❖

Doug Ross, Times of Northwest Indiana

ana: If I were Sen. Evan Bayh, I would be having second thoughts about endorsing Sen. Hillary Clinton. How important is Bayh's endorsement? I'll let the numbers tell you themselves. Sen. Barack Obama has the support of 40 percent of likely voters in the Democratic primary in Indiana, while Clinton has the support of just 25 percent. That's the finding of the Howey-Gauge Poll conducted Feb. 16-17 and released on Monday in Indianapolis. Bayh's support for Clinton came last fall, when the candidates were still in the starting gate. Was Bayh hoping to become yet another Hoosier vice president? Could be, although the last veep from Indiana, Dan Quayle, didn't provide much reason for Hoosier pride. He'll go down in history as the vice president who couldn't spell "potato" correctly, among other gaffes. Maybe it's just me, but I haven't seen much evidence of Bayh visiting Northwest Indiana. Sen. Dick Lugar, whose ex-

pertise is both foreign policy and energy policy, is a world-class globetrotter. Yet Lugar visits Northwest Indiana more often than Bayh. Perhaps Bayh should visit this corner of the state more often. It might help him learn what folks here see as the issues in the presidential race. But Bayh isn't the only Democrat who needs to spend time here. Did you know there's a governor's race this year? And that there are two Democrats vying for their party's nomination? Perhaps you've heard of Jill Long Thompson. She's a former congresswoman from northeast Indiana, which gives her some name recognition there, but she's also a former Valparaiso City Council member. Yet 58 percent of the likely voters who responded in that Howey-Gauge Poll didn't even recognize

her name. Focusing on fundraising is understandable, but how about gaining personal endorsements? Bayh's backing of Clinton doesn't seem to count for much. Who else would the Democratic voters listen to? How about the candidate herself? It's time for Long Thompson to take her message directly to the voters. Or as some people are fond of saying, "You really should get out more." But Long Thompson's name recognition is far greater than that of her opponent in the primary, Jim Schellinger. Only 21 percent of the poll respondents had heard of him. He's backed into an even tighter corner than his opponent in the primary. Schellinger is an architect who lived in the South Bend area but now works in the Indianapolis area. Memorize that, and consider yourself more informed than 79 percent of the people likely to vote in the Democratic primary just two months away. My advice to voters? Get your doorbell fixed. Long Thompson and Schellinger, or one of their supporters, might be on the doorstep soon. My advice to the candidates? Wear name tags. You'll need them. ❖

Jack Colwell, South Bend Tribune:

A statewide poll in Indiana shows Barack Obama with a large lead over Hillary Clinton. If Clinton begins a comeback with wins Tuesday in Ohio and Texas and somehow remains a viable contender until the May 6 Indiana primary, there's no guarantee of victory in Indiana, even with endorsement of her by Sen. Evan Bayh. The poll, conducted Feb. 17-18 by Gauge Market Research for Howey Politics Indiana, shows these percentages of support among likely Democratic primary voters: Obama, 40; Clinton, 25; the rest still uncertain. The poll was completed just prior to Obama's Wisconsin primary victory and his latest surge in national polls. Bayh has campaigned for Clinton. And many other prominent Hoosier Democrats also have endorsed her, due at least in part to hope she would pick Bayh as a running mate. The poll indicates that this prospect is not resulting in widespread support for Clinton among Democratic voters. ❖





Sen. Ford dies; services Saturday

HARTFORD CITY - Sen. David Ford's bout with pancreatic cancer was painfully short – about seven weeks – but he spent those precious days living life to the fullest (Kelly, **Fort Wayne Journal Gazette**).

He traveled to Chicago in a friend's RV to witness his son's wedding, e-mailed and talked on the phone about legislative business and even celebrated his 59th birthday just days before his death. Ford's battle ended Wednesday morning when he died at home. Ford, R-Hartford City, had been receiving hospice care and chemotherapy after hospitalization for what appeared to be flu-like symptoms in mid-January. After surgery, doctors discovered he was critically ill. "David was a unique individual, probably the most principled man I've ever met," said Senate President Pro Tem David Long. "He walked the walk in ways that we rarely see in people." The mood was solemn in the Senate on Wednesday – black ribbons hanging on the doors, and flowers and an open Bible sitting on Ford's empty desk. "I knew Dave Ford as a fellow student early in life, as a legislator the last three years and as a kind and thoughtful friend in between," Gov. Mitch Daniels said. "I haven't met a more insightful or harder-working member of the General Assembly. I'm not sure a person like Dave Ford can be replaced."



SEN. FORD

Services for Ford will be at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Muncie. Long said the funeral would likely be Saturday, although details were pending. Memorials may be made to the David C. Ford Scholarship Fund, Blackford High School, 2392 N. Indiana 3, Hartford City, IN 47348.

Mayors lobby for city income tax

INDIANAPOLIS - A group of Lake County mayors came to the Capitol on Wednesday lobbying for cities to have the power to levy their own income taxes (**Post-Tribune**). Mayors Rudy Clay of Gary, Brian Snedecor of Hobart and George Pabey of East Chicago met with key legislators and representatives of Gov. Mitch Daniels at the Statehouse. The mayors worry their cities will face financial crises if unfunded property tax caps take effect, slashing their budgets. Clay said he asked House Ways and Means Committee Chairman William Crawford to give individual taxing units the power to levy an income tax to offset cuts in police department and fire department budgets because of the tax caps. Giving cities the power to tax within their own borders is especially important in Lake County, Clay said, because county officials have thus far not enacted a county income tax. "We want to give property tax relief, but we need to have the capability to maintain these key services," Clay said. Crawford, D-Indianapolis, said he believes the idea is worth considering. "We are still working toward an agreement," Crawford said.

Truth in music bill OK'd

INDIANAPOLIS - musical performances featuring impostors who were never involved with the original groups would be prohibited under a bill headed to Gov. Mitch Daniels' desk (**Associated Press**). The Senate gave final legislative approval to the bill yesterday by voting 46-0 to accept a

minor change made by the House.

Z. Mae Jimison dies

INDIANAPOLIS - Former Marion Superior Court Judge and Marion County's first African-American female Judge, Zilthia Mae Jimison, passed away on Wednesday. She was 64. Known as "Z. Mae" among colleagues and friends, Judge Jimison served two times on the Marion County bench, first appointed in 1988 (serving till 1990) and later elected in 1996 (serving till 2002). She spent much of her elected term creating and Supervising Marion County's Drug Court. In between Judge stints, she served on the Marion County City-County Council from 1992 – 1995 and ran for Mayor of Indianapolis against incumbent Stephen Goldsmith in 2005. Judge Cynthia Ayers noted the historic role she played in the Indiana judiciary. "As the first black woman appointed to the Superior Court of Marion County, she crossed a historic barrier and opened doors for other qualified women to become part of the judiciary in this state," Judge Ayers said.

GOP Chairs disowns Zirkle

SOUTH BEND - The Republican Party chairman for St. Joseph County sharply denounced Tony Zirkle's suggestion that the United States should debate segregating by race (**South Bend Tribune**). Zirkle is one of four people seeking the Republican nomination as the 2nd District U.S. representative. Zirkle said he wasn't saying which side of the debate he'd take but that segregation might be a way to deal with the high rate of black men in prison and out-of-wedlock births among blacks. "These comments are antiquated and asinine and are the childish machinations of a publicity hound," said Chris Riley, St. Joseph County Republican chairman.