

The Howey Political Report

The weekly briefing
on Indiana politics

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Quote Of The Week:

"If they say there was a violation, I'll take my warning letter like a man...."

- Tom Spiece, jailed
businessman,
Wabash Plain Dealer

Emerging movements

Christian coalition taking root in Indiana's Republican Party

LAFAYETTE - It may be too early to label this a movement, but quietly the Christian Coalition is beginning to organize throughout Indiana.

There are active groups operating in Tippecanoe and Monroe counties, where controversies involving local gay rights ordinances and the banning of a Nativity scene at the Tippecanoe County courthouse prompted activism.

Beginning last weekend in Evansville and continuing over the next two months, Christian Coalition state director David L. Lantz will appear at dinners in Anderson (Sept. 1), Columbus (Sept. 10), Lafayette (Sept. 23), Bloomington (Sept. 29), Marion (Oct. 18) and Vevey to begin organizations.

The roots of the Christian Coalition go back to the turn of the century, when organizations like the Women's Christian Temperance Union rallied to rid the country of booze and William Jennings Bryan was unabashed about his Christian faith as a Democratic Party kingpin. Bryan's humiliation at the Scopes Monkey Trial ended that era and it was dormant until an IRS commissioner named Jerome Kurtz tried to strip tax exemptions from private schools in 1978.

That prompted Richard Viguerie to begin organizing a conservative force that fueled Rev. Jerry Falwell's Moral Majority and backed Ronald Reagan in the 1980 presidential race. Moral Majority disbanded as the 1980s drew to a close, creating a vacuum for 1988 presidential aspirant Pat Robertson, a pastor who hosted the "700 Club" and founded the "Family Channel." The Christian Coalition is an offshoot of Robertson's presidential campaign. It had a donor list of 57,000 in 1990, according to David Von Drehle and Thomas B. Edsall of the *Washington Post*, ballooning to 1.5 million this year. They say the key difference between the Moral Majority and the Christian Coalition is that the former was a "preacher-based" organization run from the top down while the latter is a grass roots political movement.

Headed by Ralph Reed, the Christian Coalition now has a

Continued on Page 2

Inside Features:

- Bayh v. Coats "likely"...in 1998 - page 3
- Horse Race has fresh (and stale) polls - page 3
- Columnists on Dan, Mick, Evan, Hillary - page 4
- Issues taking shape for '95 Legislature - page 5
- Jill Long's red-eye to wide-eye - page 6
- Exclusive Lugar interview - page 7
- John Myers has great week in the press - page 8

Christian Coalition, from page 1

budget of \$20 million. It has backed the U.S. Senate nomination of Oliver North in Virginia, upset the incumbent Republican governor of Minnesota and has become the most potent GOP force in Iowa, Washington and Texas.

The Indiana Christian Coalition has direct connections to Robertson's organization. Christian conservatives in Lafayette became alarmed when a gay rights ordinance was passed by the City Council in 1993. In December of that year, the Tippecanoe County commissioners - two out of the three being Republicans - rejected a Nativity scene on the courthouse lawn.

At the invitation of local conservatives, Christian Coalition attorneys Michael Hirsch and David Etheridge went to Lafayette last Dec. 21, prepared to file a suit in U.S. District Court. The commissioners, who had sanctioned a gay rights demonstration earlier in the year, relented. With that battle won, the activists took aim at the Tippecanoe County GOP, where 56 out of 94 normally moribund precinct races were contested in May.

A gay rights ordinance in Bloomington galvanized a similar movement there during the summer of 1993. "That was the catalyst in both communities," Lantz acknowledged. "There was no organized resistance in Bloomington like there was in Lafayette," Lantz explained. "People didn't get organized until it came up on first reading."

Headed by insurance agent Jeff Canada, the Christian Coalition in Monroe County claims to have a mailing list of 600 people and distributed more than 10,000 voter guides in the May primary. The organization has vowed to target swing districts both in Bloomington and on the Indiana University campus on behalf of Republican congressional candidate John Hostettler in the 8th CD.

Lantz points to a July 31 *Indianapolis Star* classified ad seeking a "gay/lesbian coordinator for student support services" as another example of what he calls taxpayer-supported assistance to alternative lifestyles. "While homosexual rights ordinances and the IU gay/lesbian center were the "emotional issues" that prompted Christians to become politically active, Lantz said a variety of other issues represent the true future of the movement.

"Outcome-based education will raise taxes a whole heck of a lot," said Lantz, who previously published the *Indiana Issues* newsletter, a respected analysis of state economics. "The property taxes will be a major issue debated in the 1995 General Assembly. As this movement matures, it will get more and more into the mainstream."

Indeed, in the July 1, 1991, edition of *Indiana Issues*, Lantz identified the top issues of 1992 as property tax reform, education policy reform (citing COMMIT as the best example to achieve school choice), and social/moral values.

Roger Gray, who heads the Tippecanoe County Christian Coalition, said he doesn't know how many people are in the movement there, or even how many of the new GOP precinct officials are affiliated. "It's very loosely organized and that's intentional," said Gray, who is a

remodeling contractor.

He says the Coalition's aim there is to "clean up at least one of the two political parties."

Gray said the movement will actively register voters with a goal of supporting legislative candidates David Koltic against Sen. Mike Gery and Steve Spehager against Rep. Sheila Klinker. They are targeting Democratic Commissioner Hubert Yount and will back City Council candidates in 1995 who promise to repeal the gay rights ordinance.

"A lot of these new precinct committeemen are prominent in their churches. They will be deputizing people in church," said Gray.

Lantz said the purpose of his travels across the state aren't necessarily to take over the GOP, as has been the case in Iowa and Minnesota. "The main purpose is to train Christians on how to become involved in politics," Lantz said. His trip to Vevey in Switzerland County, where riverboat gambling is an issue, is a case in point on how local issues prompt activism.

"I want to focus them on the local level," Lantz said. "If you have a liberal mayor or school board, our people will run for those offices. Over the course of time, they will rise through the ranks and will have an impact on delegates to the state conventions. Eventually, they will have a greater say in county and state parties."

Lantz **does not expect** outright attempts to take over the state Republican Central Committee. "While some states are trying to do that, Indiana is a relatively conservative state. There isn't that much polarization," he said.

Gray isn't as concerned that the current state Republican chairman, Allan B. Hubbard, is pro-choice on the abortion issue. "I would have a bigger problem with someone who is my state representative as opposed to my chairman," Gray said. "The chairman isn't going to be the one who passes law. I would have a problem with the platform being pro-choice.

"I wouldn't actively seek to remove him (Hubbard), but next time we elect a state chairman, I would like to see a pro-lifer put in," Gray said.

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The Horse Race

US. SENATE	STATUS	COMMENTS
Jontz (D) v. Lugar (R)	Safe R	WPTA-TV poll gives Lugar 53-19 percent lead in 4th CD. Lugar polls 49 percent of independents and 25 percent of Democrats. <i>Rothenberg Political Report</i> : "Jontz not serious threat."
2ND CD Haggett (D) v. McIntosh (R)	Toss Up	McIntosh camp releases stale Indiana Farm Bureau poll (June 20) showing him with a 42-28 percent lead. Lugar polling had similar data, but <i>HPR</i> needs fresh poll to move this off "toss up."
4TH CD Long (D) v. Souder (R)	Leaning D	WPTA-TV poll gives Long 51-36 percent edge, including 33 percent Republicans and 52 percent independents. But same poll had Souder fourth in primary, behind Glamour Shot gal.
5TH CD Beatty (D) v. Buyer (R)	Leaning R	Buyer and Beatty spend week chatting with cops and prosecutors about crime bill. Two different stories. You don't suppose boys in blue seeing it both ways depending whose on line, eh?
7th CD Harmless (D) v. Myers (R)	Leaning R	Myers sticks to his guns on crime bill, despite Harmless criticism. Both appearing on Network Indiana's <i>Mike Pence Show</i> set. Hey guys, hoops at Larry Bird's...at midnight?
8TH CD McCloskey (D) v. Hostettler (R)	Leaning D	Sen. Lugar proclaims McCloskey vulnerable. Privy to inside polling data and other GOP stuff. Hostettler camp upbeat about decent press, TV coverage.
3RD CD Roemer (D) v. Burkett (R)	Safe D	<i>South Bend Trib's</i> Jack Colwell depressed about lack of race. DeLaney's bluster v. Roemer scared off viable challengers. Hiler-Ward reruns dusted off for Election Night?

TRENDLINE: Now that crime bill has moved from the House, look for CD races to shift to that 800-pound gorilla - health care reform. Vargus Poll this Sunday should update status.

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Sparking of that Bayh '98 Senate bid...it's 'likely'

So, Evan, what's it going to be in '98?

When Gov. Bayh made Franklin his 56th "Capital for a Day" on July 22, Rick Morwick of the *Johnson County Daily Journal* said the topic of the governor's future election plans kept coming up.

A fourth-grader raised it the first time at the Kickapoo Wonder Five Camp. Bayh launched into how he likes being governor, but he can't seek that third term. "Maybe," he said of 1998. "I haven't decided yet. I'll be back in private life for at least the next couple of years. But I'll think about it."

A ninth-grader at Franklin High School found Bayh warmer to the notion of challenging U.S. Sen. Dan Coats. "It's possible I'll run for the Senate...but I haven't decided yet. It's likely, but not definite," Bayh said.

Bayh mentioned that there were family concerns that would weigh into his decision, since he and his wife, Susan, are interested in raising children. "It's not like I have a certain year picked out. I'll definitely think about it."

Wrote Morwick, "...ask Bayh about his political ambitions once his second term as governor expires, and the glow pales a bit as he searches for the right words. The hesitation is only slight, but it's obvious the question throws him out of his rhythm."

Rhythm aside, Bayh is picking up accolades from some unexpected sources, such as Republicans. Franklin Mayor Charles Littleton, a Republican, introduced Bayh as a "great, great, governor."

Columnists on Indiana

Sylvia Smith, *Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette* - Writing on U.S. Rep. Dan Burton's "investigation" into the death of former White House counsel Vincent Foster, "Certainly Burton is not muffled by reason or logic. He clearly has no other motivation than to try to embarrass the White House. That a member of one political party tries to undermine the president of the other political party may be just part of partisan politics. It's unforgivable, however, that in trying to muddy President Clinton, Burton is also causing Vincent Foster's family a pain that no family should have to endure. Burton's tortured logic doesn't embarrass Clinton. Burton is embarrassing himself and Indiana."

Joseph Spear, *Newspaper Enterprise Association* - Writing on Burton: "The first thing I want to say is if the more responsible members of the Republican Party had any sense of decency, they would issue an abject apology to the Vincent Foster family and then retire to the Washington Mall for a recantation ceremony featuring the consumption of barrels of cathartic substances. Rep. Burton, a former insurance salesman who apparently fancies himself a forensic expert, took to the House floor to challenge the (Fiske) report. 'I'm not saying he was murdered,' Burton said. 'I'm not saying he didn't commit suicide, but there are questions that lead one to believe the body was moved.' On the anniversary of Foster's death, the family issued a statement denouncing the 'despicable' rumor campaign." But the slimeballers who daily gather beneath the Capitol dome would have none of that. Maybe I would pillory them across the street in Lafayette Park, lest the melting grease destroy the White House lawn "

Mary Beth Schneider, *Indianapolis Star* - Writing on the looming control for the Indiana House: "Republicans think they can see daylight shining a path to the speaker's chair. Democrats say that is unthinkable, that Speaker of the House Michael K. Phillips will, come Election Day, be assured of having been speaker longer than any other Democrat in Indiana's history....But the buzz among lobbyists who watch these races intensely and who can predict the outcomes with more dispassion than your average party leader, is that the Republicans probably won't regain a majority in the House this time out - but they have a shot."

Nancy Nall, *Fort Wayne News-Sentinel* - "So this is what rock 'n' roll has come to: First a silver anniversary rock festival sponsored by Pepsi and now a press release from the Indiana governor's office reading in part, "(Evan Bayh) has purchased and listened to the (Rolling Stones new) Voodoo Lounge album. It's been years since the Stones' earliest brushes with politicians, if you count what

Mick Jagger did to Margaret Trudeau, a 'brush.' I know all about William Weld, the governor of Massachusetts, and his catholic tastes in music. But there's still something fundamentally weird about politicians gettin' down and fun-kay at rock concerts. It's not like we saw Indiana's first couple in the mop top at a House of Pain concert. If the Stones aren't safe after all these years, what is?"

Peter L. Blum, *Gary Post-Tribune* - "Reading judicial tea leaves is an occupation fraught with disappointment. Trying to predict what judges or juries will decide is about as easy as reliably picking winning numbers in the lottery. So guessing what the Indiana Supreme Court will do with the state's casino law isn't a high percentage bet. The court has certainly given some indications of the direction it's headed, but no wise gambler ought to bet the mortgage on the outcome of this case." Blum writes that while Gary Hammond and East Chicago had referendums, cities in Porter County had to bow to a countywide vote. "The Portage businessmen may think they got a raw deal from the General Assembly and that the Supreme Court will fix it for them. The real raw deal came from the voters of Porter County, who didn't buy the casino argument."

David L. Haase, *Indianapolis News* - Writing on losing the procedural vote on the crime bill, Haase said the Clinton administration has lost its focus. "Remember Ronald Reagan? Of course you do. And you know exactly what he stood for: Killing commies and lowering taxes. That's all he ever talked about....That's the challenge Clinton - and the Democrats still tied to him - face. During the 1992 presidential campaign, Clinton political guru James Carville taped a sign above his desk. It read, 'It's the economy, stupid.' He needed it because his guy and his party kept changing the tune. They need to decide again: what is it, stupid? Put the Americans back in the channel and don't change the picture."

Gerry Lanosga, *Indianapolis News* - "The sign says 'Tent Revival,' and the rally near the Indianapolis Baptist Temple on the Southside could be any other old-time gospel meeting....But soul-saving isn't the only thing on Handy Hogue's agenda. He has come to town - the itinerant preacher updated - to sound the alert about the devil's servants, Bill and Hillary Clinton. The Clintons and their associates have brought this country 'to the abyss of emptiness,' Hogue yells. Baptist Temple Pastor Greg Dixon joined in, "Some of the most wicked men who ever lived on this earth are in control of the government right now." Later, the faithful will trickle away in the oncoming darkness to the sounds of Rock of Ages. But for now, Hogue is on a roll. 'Move over, Hillary,' he shouts, 'Jesus is coming.'

'95 Legislature

Mannweiler, Early: "best" crop of GOP challengers

Hous Minority Leader Paul Mannweiler predicting R publicans have "an excellent chance" of picking up the needed six seats to regain control (Gattman, *Elkhart Truth*).

"The quality of our candidates is very much improved," Mannweiler said at a fund-raiser for State Rep. Phil Warner in Goshen.

Said former GOP chairman and current television personality Rexford Early, "We've got the best quality of challengers I've seen in many years."

Also attending was former Gov. Otis "Doc" Bowen. He reminded the gathering that only two years ago the GOP was "struggling to maintain control of the State."

Mannweiler told Elkhart County Republicans that if the GOP regains control of the House, Warner would return as chairman of the Education Committee and State Rep. Dean Mock, R-Elkhart, would be in a leadership position on transportation issues.

Prison narcotics brings legislation aimed at guards

Decriing the availability of illegal narcotics in the Indiana penal system, State Rep. Vernon Smith, D-Gary, is seeking tough sanctions against guards who help supply inmates.

"It is ridiculous for us to have trafficking in our penal facilities," Smith said in an Aug. 17 *Associated Press* story. "Many of these people could get their lives back together if they could do without that contact."

"It's just an on-going everyday concern," said Ed Cohn, deputy commissioner for program services.

Smith's bill would make it a Class A felony for prison employees to traffick narcotics with a maximum term of 30 years, compared to the current Class D status with a maximum term of three years. Smith's bill would have convicted penal employees serve their terms in the same institution they traffick at.

'Spi c ' bill to dance into '95 Legislature

You've seen Wabash shoe-seller Tom Spiece dancing throughout the globe in his TV ads. Next January, State Rep. Bill Ruppel, R-North Manchester, will dance a child labor bill into the Legislature.

Ruppel's bill would require a judge to determine whether a child labor complainant can remain anonymous. Spiece cooled his heels in a Huntington County jail for 25 days starting July 28, when he refused to tender child labor records to the Department of Labor.

Ruppel tried to mediate a dispute between Spiece

and DOL child labor inspector Marilyn Schaab.

Gas tax hike faces rocky road ahead

State Rep. Johnny Nugent, R-Lawrenceburg, warned municipal and county officials they'll have to be vocal in their support of a 5-cent-a-gallon gas tax to raise \$2.7 billion if they want it to pass.

"My concern is that there is no grassroots support for me to come here and raise gasoline taxes for any reason," Nugent said (Larry McIntyre, *Indianapolis Star*).

Nugent released a study to House Motor Vehicles and Transportation Evaluation Committee members last month. It said that 55,000 miles (68 percent) of Indiana's locally maintained roads are rated fair and poor. Between 6,000 and 12,000 bridges are deficient.

Driving panel urges BAC reduction to reluctant Legislature

The Governor's Council on Impaired and Dangerous Driving agreed on Aug. 19 to support lowering the blood alcohol limit defining drunken driving from .10 to .08 percent and to require motorcyclists to wear a helmet. But Thomas Wyman of the *Associated Press* wrote, "The opposition to both proposals is expected to be so strong that even finding a lawmaker willing to sponsor either measure will be an uphill battle."

Barbara Goffman (*Journal-Gazette*) quoted State Rep. Phyllis Pond, R-Fort Wayne, as saying about the .08 BAC limit, "I'm not convinced it will be effective." Pond said she wouldn't sponsor the motorcycle helmet law, saying, "There's too much controversy."

John McGoff, past president of the Indiana chapter for the American College of Emergency Physicians, said that in 1992 if all motorcyclists had worn helmets, 18 lives and \$17.9 million would have been saved. "I see the legislative process being held up by a bunch of thugs," McGoff said.

Three strikes & yer out? Depends on which bill

How about two strikes for the Legislature? Barbara Albert of the *Indianapolis Star* writes that legislators approved two different, contradictory versions of the "three strikes" bill during the last session.

"We've got to fix it," said State Sen. Maurice Doll, D-Vincennes. "It doesn't work now." One law provides a life sentence without parole if a person is convicted of three unrelated felonies. Under that law, the judge retains discretion on the sentence. But under the second law, the judge has no such option "and must impose a life term."

Perhaps...we wander

A look at Indiana by Brian Howey

From the red-eye, to the "wide-eye" with Jill Long

FORT WAYNE - The hassle, the travel, the fatigue prompted a sigh from U.S. Rep. Jill Long as she walked across the plaza at the City-County Building.

"I don't enjoy that," said Long, "but I enjoy the problem solving."

She was about to be confronted by 100 or so constituents at one of three "town hall" meetings Long would conduct in Huntington and Allen counties this day. It was one of those congressional gauntlets that make a commoner wonder why anyone would want to serve on Capitol Hill.

Long had been up until 2 a.m. Sunday as the crime bill was being reshaped following its rejection by rule nine days before. She joined the Democratic majority to pass it along to the Senate late Sunday afternoon. There was the 4 a.m. Monday flight back to northeastern Indiana for her date with hundreds of constituents.

"If I look like a truck ran over me, that's why," Long explained. The problem was, there was nothing less than a runaway truck awaiting her in the City Council chambers. The folks were mad, this August Monday, and that was putting it lightly.

She started talking about health care reform, distinctly distancing herself from the Clinton-Mitchell plan, saying it was "much bigger and more bureaucratic than it had to be." But the gathered folks wanted to talk about procedure...and guns.

The questions emanated from a forest of raised hands. That 1,300-page health care bill, one man began, "Have you read it? Or did you skim through it?"

This is a Limbaughesque tangent, protracted by the city's two daily newspapers. The *Journal-Gazette* editorial page had given a "jeer" to those demanding that every legislator read each bill in entirety. The *News-Sentinel* took the opposite approach, saying that was a reasonable expectation.

"I won't read the Mitchell bill," Long said, "it won't even get to the House."

"Did you read the modified crime bill?" asked another.

"No, I didn't," Long said, "I read the summary." She tried to explain how it would be impossible to read every legal word in freshly crafted bills, at one point explaining, "We're a democracy...."

"No, we're a republic," a man said.

"You're right," Long responded, then regained her train of thought, saying it would be impossible to go through every bill with a fine-tooth comb. "This whole notion - did you read the bill - that's silly," she said.

"Why is it silly?" the questioner persisted.

"Because the changes come fairly quickly," Long said. "So what we need is to see how it changes."

That brought the proceeding to guns. "How in good conscience could you vote for something contrary to the Constitution you swore to uphold," asked a man about the crime bill that contained the assault weapons ban.

"If it is unconstitutional, and it may be. If it is, we can handle that through the Supreme Court," Long said.

"How could you wash away the 2nd Amendment?" asked Tom Ostragnai, a Republican and anti-crime advocate, in a lengthy question directed to the patient Long.

"Do you want me to answer the question, or do you want to keep talking?" Long firmly asked. She explained that while some are concerned about the 2nd Amendment providing "security at the border, there are people in homes who want security at night." The bill, Long continued, had too many good things in it to allow the assault weapons ban to derail it. Besides, she said, even constitutional lawyers disagree on whether the ban violates the constitution.

"If I had to vote on it again, I'd vote the same way," she said to applause, noting that Fort Wayne would stand to get 64 to 70 new police officers.

"You keep talking about constitutional lawyers," a man observed.

"They interpret it," said Long.

"That's a scary thought," the man continued. "We are so afraid of the federal government being so intrusive

Long-Souder debate
10-4 p.m. Sunday Oct. 2
Indiana-Purdue, Fort Wayne

in our lives (applause). We're to the point where we're mad."

No doubt. At this point, an aide to the congresswoman began subtly looking at her watch and another approached her flank. When Long was asked how she could help Congress "do nothing," she was interrupted for several moments, until a number of people cried, "Let her finish!"

"I don't think that Congress should do nothing," she said as she and her entourage prepared to head for another town hall meeting.

Long has an uncanny ability to leave such a tumult with so many at odds over the issues, yet with few harboring negatives against her personally. Some of the most conspicuous grumbling after the meeting didn't come from the pro-gun/pro-life folks, but from Democrats upset with her stance on Clinton-Mitchell.

Indeed, with a Republican tidal wave taking shape for November, a WPTA-TV poll showed her with a 51-36 percent lead over Republican Mark Souder.

Not a totally comfortable lead, but Jill Long wears well.

Senate Watch

Lugar sheds light on crime, health care and possible '96 options

FORT WAYNE - The Howey Political Report sat down with U.S. Sen. Richard Lugar for 90 minutes last Sunday to talk about upcoming issues in the Senate, his work on ridding the former Soviet Union of nuclear weapons, his race against Democrat Jim Jontz, and that possible presidential run in 1996.

*** *** *** ***

HPR: How has the crime bill impacted President Clinton's agenda in Congress?

Lugar: A plan had been set up for the House to pass health care after one week of debate - a week ago Friday. And Sen. Mitchell was supposed to have cobbled together some elements of the Kennedy bill, some of his own. Suddenly, the crime bill doesn't get a rule. Furthermore, House members are getting skittish about health care and want the Senate to go first. So now they won't do anything about that until at least after Labor Day and maybe not even then. Health concerns have been forgotten in the House altogether. The public is getting a sense of anxiety and CNN had a poll that showed that 48 percent just want it to go away, like a bad dream. It will be awfully hard to pass a bill if a majority of the public believes it will cost more, will hurt their health care and will be relieved if it all goes away.

HPR: Is there any chance health care reform will come down this year in the September/October sequence?

Lugar: It just depends. It's up to the Democrats and where their interests lie, because they still have the votes.

HPR: That CNN poll kind of lowered the boom on Republicans as being obstructionists. Does that concern you?

Lugar: That is a concern. The Republicans are not the problem. It's the Democrats, both in the Moynihan Committee to begin with and now in the so-called mainstream who indicated to Mitchell they don't like his bill and aren't going to vote for it. Now if Republicans are perceived as the ones stopping all of this, that would be more difficult. And Democrats will try to portray that. But it will be very difficult with 58 Democrats dissenting on the crime bill and with the Democrats failing to support the president on health care.

HPR: This almost sounds like something Woodward would write, like "Son of Agenda."

Lugar: The first time health care came up during the campaign, Ira Magaziner claimed that reform would save \$12 billion a year. Now Clinton's other economic advisers said, "Now listen, no way. This is smoke and mirrors." So initially, they are plugging in health care as revenue neutral. In this book ("*The Agenda*"), we never

something comes up, they score it revenue neutral. No one had any idea. Now the CBO is scoring this and they're telling everybody this is going to cost lots of money.

HPR: Draw the distinction between "*The Agenda*," what we're seeing with health care now and what David Stockman was talking about in "*The Triumph of Politics*" when the Reagan administration went in in 1981 and basically pulled numbers out of the air?

Lugar: In the first part of 1993, they were aiming at \$140 billion in deficit reduction. They got that figure and Alan Greenspan agreed to that. In order to get that \$140 (billion), you have to get estimates of all these programs and this is where numbers really get flying in every direction. You can try, but when you get to health care, how in the world can you get estimates on that? In "*The Agenda*," Hillary decided that there might be only one good fight left in the administration and therefore you ought to put health care together with the original budget checks and they finally talked her out of it. Initially, that was her idea, to lump them all together. So, failing that, you get the situation we now have.

HPR: If health care doesn't get through, will it come back in the next Congress where the President will probably have much slimmer control, if at all?

Lugar: It's not inconceivable the president may come back. He's shown great resilience in the past and no one should underestimate him to pull out of the tailspin. It's not obvious on its face where we will pick up the seven Senate seats. What I think people will figure is that Republicans will pick up seats. If the numbers are difficult for the Clintons now, they will be more difficult. I think the answer to your basic question is, yeah, health care will reappear and reappear, and one after that and one after that. Even if we passed a bill this year, my guess is we'd be amending it in very large measure next time. The last time we had a go at this with catastrophic (health care), and seniors found they were going to have to pay more, they were livid and the whole thing was repealed.

HPR: Can you give me a realistic analysis on your race against Jim Jontz, where you think you are now and where you will be on Election Day?

Lugar: It's a long ways away. Each day has its adventures. I think we've had a good campaign. We have a stable financial base and we will have an adequate amount of money. I feel we're going to have a good opportunity to help the other statewide candidates, the congressional candidates and both houses of the legislature. If we do the right things, we'll have a very large Republican victory for a lot of people.

HPR: Will you be debating your opponent?

Lugar: Perhaps.

HPR: If you're successful in November, are you interested in the presidential race in 1996?

Lugar: I've asked all of our people to keep their eyes exclusively on Nov. 8. I will neither confirm nor deny any interest at all in that situation.

Congress Watch

Myers getting better shake in press coverage

U.S. Rep. John Myers had the kind of week an incumbent facing a tough re-election battle salivates over. He got some great press.

It started on Aug. 6 when a *Terre Haute Tribune-Star* editorial praised his efforts to save a proposed communications facility for the Indiana Air National Guard's 181st Tactical Fighter Group at Hulman Regional Airport. "Myers wouldn't take no for an answer on this project, and his insistence will mean long-term benefits for Terre Haute and the district," the editorial read.

Four days later, a George Stuteville story on page 1 of the *Indianapolis Star* appeared under this headline: "Congress brings home the bacon with 'academic pork': Rep. John Myers plays a pivotal role in directing millions of federal dollars each year to Indiana schools."

Wrote Stuteville, "Since 1991, he has single-handedly sent an average of more than \$15 million a year to Hoosier campuses.

"Indiana lobbyists in Washington and college administrators agree Myers exerts the most influence among members of the Hoosier congressional delegation for shepherding special program funds some critics call 'academic pork.'"

An incumbent might wince at the word "pork" these days. As Myers explained, "I may get accused of pork-barreling, but it has to be worthwhile. I do not believe

in sending the money just to get it to go to Indiana."

On Aug. 13, the *Lafayette Journal and Courier* praised Myers in an editorial. "Certainly because he is the second-highest ranking Republican on the House Appropriations Committee, Myers has the access and power needed to abuse the system if he were so inclined. We don't believe he has opted to do so."

That comes on the heels of a July 22 *Courier and Journal* editorial praising Myers for helping to secure nearly \$50 million for a railroad relocation project.

"Railroad relocation wasn't going anywhere when Myers got interested in the 1970s," the editorial stated. "Because of his help, the project is so nearly complete that Congress will see it through. Thank you Congressman Myers."

On the same day of the July 22 editorial, Myers' opponent Michael Harmless wasn't doing so well. A *Journal Review* article in Crawfordsville reported that Greencastle residents questioned Harmless's role in that town's recovery following IBM's flight in 1987. Dick Andis, the retired Greencastle Development Center director, said Harmless had nothing to do with attracting six companies to occupy the IBM facility. "He was not a part of it," Andis charged, adding that all but one of the companies had committed by the time Harmless assumed the mayor's office. Barb Lawrence of the Harmless campaign called the Andis remarks "sour grapes" and retorted, "There's basically no foundation to what they are saying."

Musings and Meanderings

It got a bit catty last week in the 2nd CD: Catty I - On Aug. 16, National Republican Chairwoman Jean Ann Harcourt hired a press release off against Secretary of State Joe Hogsett for "campaigning for a higher-paying job" at taxpayer expense. She suggested that Hogsett "should resign as secretary of state" since he's running for Congress. Following that logic, why didn't Dan Quayle resign his House seat when running for the Senate? Or the Senate when running for vice president? Or John Mutz when he ran for governor?

Catty II: On Aug. 18 state Democratic chairwoman Ann DeLaney tried to make hay over David McIntosh for not releasing his federal income tax report. "What is David hiding from the voters of the 2nd Congressional District?" DeLaney asked. She complained that McIntosh released only "summary" information on "only" his 1993 returns. She quoted the *Richmond Palladium-Item*, where McIntosh was quoted as saying, "We'd rather not have lots of copies of them floating around." We predict neither the "running for office while in office" nor the "income tax return" issues will make much difference on Nov. 8....

Indianapolis News city editor Craig Hitchcock leaves on Aug. 26 to join Marion County Prosecutor Jeff M disett's re-election campaign. Hitchcock received his

law degree and was sworn in as an attorney in June, by, of course, Clerk of the Courts Dwayne Brown....

Lt. Gov. Frank O'Bannon was featured on ABC's "Good Morning America" on Aug. 17 during the opening of the 143rd Indiana State Fair, along with eight 4-H Club members. O'Bannon's press secretary, Donna Inrus, said the state's second banana "jumped at the chance to appear on a network morning show" (*Schwantes, Indianapolis News*)....

As predicted by the *HPR* last week (in addition to the crime bill passing the House), Quayle will appear on behalf of Republican David McIntosh Sept. 13 in Muncie with a press conference and then a fund-raiser at the Hotel Roberts....

Fourteen Allen County Democrats won't be forced off the ballot after their post-primary slating was challenged by a defeated GOP legislative candidate. The Allen County Election Board ruled 2-1 that Democratic Chairman Don Brogan's authority granted in 1989 to place candidates on the ballot carried over, even though the county committee didn't explicitly give that authority until Aug. 5. Outgoing Republican County C