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The Howey Political Report

The weekly briefing
 on Indiana politics

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Is Phillips in danger? Pages 4-6

4th, 8th CDs move into "Toss Up" zone as Clinton staggers

EVANSVILLE - Going into the autumn sequence of Campaign '92, the conventional wisdom was that Indiana's 2nd and 7th Congressional Districts would be the most likely places for seats to switch parties.

But within the last week, the 4th CD in Northeast Indiana and the 8th CD in the southwest have emerged as volatile territory for Democratic incumbents who must endure a damaged president.

It's not really much of a surprise that perennially targeted U.S. Rep. Frank McCloskey is in yet another race for his life. What is an intriguing development is that U.S. Rep. Jill Long has joined him on the endangered list.

HPR is moving the 4th, 8th and 2nd CDs into its "Toss Up" category as the campaigns head into the final six weeks of the campaign. The most obvious reason may have been summed up by CNN political analyst Bill Schneider, who in the wake of the defeat of U.S. Rep. Mike Synar in Oklahoma last week, bluntly eyed the camera and stated:

"No one is safe. The message is, something bad is out there waiting for congressional Democrats..."

Stuart Rothenberg, who publishes the Rothenberg Political Report, agreed that the 4th and 8th fit a national profile of formerly secure Democrats in swing or Republican districts who will be in for strong tests.

"There is a real national wave. Democrats are below where they need to be on the ballot test," Rothenberg said. "There is a drag from above. And it's harder for them to make a case that they've been successful on crime and health care where Bill Clinton's approval ratings are down."

On Monday night, an ABC News Poll revealed that approval for President Clinton's Haiti policy had dropped 10 points in one week. His own rating had 44 percent approving of his job performance and 51 percent disapproving.

Continued on page 2

Quote Of The Week:

"Running for sheriff was easy. You talked about crime and everyone was against it."

- State Rep. Dale Sturtz
 of LaGrange on his tough
 re-election battle

Inside Features:

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Said Rothenberg of the 4th and 8th, "They fit the profile of conservative seats where if the Republican vote coalesces, if it comes back, Democrats have to take note. Democrats in swing districts or GOP districts are going to find themselves far less secure."

This is augmented by a Wirthlin Group poll which showed 31 percent "strongly" disapprove of Clinton's performance while only 17 percent "strongly" approve. Says Rothenberg, "Disapproval is both high and intense. This has serious negative implications for the Democrats when it comes to turnout."

It was backed up by several polls, the most striking coming in the 4th and 8th CDs. Small samplings by Brian Vargus and the Indiana University Public Opinion Laboratory for the Indianapolis Star/WISH-TV put both races within its large (11 percent) margin of error.

Republican **Mark Souder** then released figures from the R.T. Nielson Co. of Salt Lake City, Utah, (603 surveyed, +/- 3.3 margin of error) which had Long at 45.9 percent, Souder at 42 percent and 12 percent undecided.

The Vargus numbers (101 surveyed) had Long at 37 percent and Souder at 24.

"My goal was to get these kinds of numbers 10 days out," Souder explained. "I don't want to peak too early."

The Republican traveled to Washington Tuesday to sign the "national contract" with 300 other candidates on Capitol Hill. He will have Jack Kemp in Fort Wayne on Oct. 5 and was preparing for a 3 p.m. Sunday Oct. 2 debate (televised live, but going up against a Chicago Bears football game) against Long.

Long has yet to hit the airwaves, prompting Souder to say, "She really shouldn't have waited this long." Long's campaign manager, Rosalyn Cooperman, said Long would be hitting the airwaves "soon."

In the 8th CD, **Vargus** sampled 109 voters and staked McCloskey to a lead of 31.2 percent with Republican John Hostettler following at 25.7 percent, and 43 percent undecided.

Devon Anderson of the Indiana Republican Central Committee declared that the McCloskey-Hostettler race is in the mix. As for the 4th CD, he said, "We're looking for more thorough polling data," but added, "In this political environment, if the Democrats underestimate Bill Clinton's unpopularity and wait to run a traditional campaign, put them at the top of the upset list."

Chris Sautter, who is consulting with both the McCloskey and Long campaigns, viewed the Souder numbers with skepticism.

"I have seen polling not too old. The numbers were nowhere near what he is saying," Sautter said. "A lot can happen, but I have no reason to believe the numbers are significantly different than what it was a few months ago. Maybe it is...."

"There's nothing to suggest this is a dead heat," Sautter said, "But this is a Republican-leaning district. Anything can happen. Jill is running hard. She's assuming it's going to be competitive."

Souder campaign manager **Mark Wickersham** expressed his amazement that Long had not even made a TV buy by Monday. "She's given us time to define ourselves and to define her. It reminds me of the primary when Mike Loomis was sitting on a lot of money and didn't do anything until the final three weeks."

In the 8th CD, **McCloskey** began airing his TV ads on Monday with an "I am Frank McCloskey" theme accenting his ability to protect jobs. The ads refer to him as "the conscience of the House," a moniker bestowed on him by U.S. Rep. Pat Schroeder, D-Colo., for his outspoken stance on Bosnia.

"With Frank, he's always had a lot of close elections," Sautter said. "Six weeks out, we usually get on the air. That's typical."

While Democrats can talk about "traditional" campaign strategies, President Clinton's plunging numbers and the unpredictability of the Haitian commitment and other oddities such as former President Jimmy Carter make this fall sequence a very untraditional environment for Democrats.

Many Americans were relieved on Sept. 19 when they awoke to find American GIs landing in relative peace in Port-au-Prince. At that time, it seemed like a diplomatic coup for Clinton.

What has transpired since have been a steady stream of revelations on ABC's "Nightline," "Dateline NBC," William Safire in the New York Times and articles in The Washington Post that reveal a wavering president who was cornered into the Haitian equation by splintered policy-makers in his own administration and a reluctant Pentagon. They were driven by such forces as a hunger-striking activist Randall Robinson and Hollywood glitterati such as Robert Di Nero and Julia Roberts. Already committed, Clinton had to build consensus from behind, then was forced to rely on Carter, who reached an agreement incommensurate candid acknowledgment to Haitian Gen. Raoul Cedras of his being "ashamed" of the U.S. government was a bizarre twist.

Americans, who will have extremely limited tolerance for any U.S. casualties, seem to be wondering who is in charge of U.S. foreign policy. That is a scary scenario for all congressional Democrats, even those such as Long, who parted with Clinton on NAFTA and the stimulus package, and McCloskey, a strident critic of the administration's handling of Bosnia.

Said Rothenberg, "Democrats will try to localize their races and point to their achievements," which is the strategy McCloskey unveiled this week.

Sautter tried to put the best face on the president and his candidate clients.

"I don't think it will have any impact," he said of Clinton. "I think you have to look at the fact that it's six weeks out. A lot can happen. I think it's premature to speculate one way or another whether Bill Clinton will be a factor."

OUTLOOK: Will Congressional leadership try to pass something...or cut the troops loose early?

The Horse Race

2ND CD	STATUS	COMMENTS
H geen (D) v. McIntosh (R)	TOSS UP	Repubs and independent reporters say McIntosh hitting stride. But Muncie NAACP brands latest McIntosh TV ad racist. Returns to "Toss Up" due to BC.
4TH CD L ng (D) v. Souder (R)	TOSS UP	Souder defines himself and Long early. Two polls show race within margin of error. Long expected to hit airwaves "soon." This races moves into "Toss Up" zone due to district, BC.
5TH CD Beatty (D) v. Buyer (R)	Leaning R	Indy Star/WISH-TV poll gives Buyer a 35.6 to 12.9 percent lead over Beatty in tiny sampling. Buyer spin: "Beatty approval ratings match Clinton's." Beatty spin: "Buyer under 50 percent."
7TH CD Harmless (D) v. Myers (R)	SAFE R	Harmless gets TV jump on Myers. Problem is, he has to do it in state's most expensive market, along with two others. Star/WISH poll gives Myers 45-14 percent lead. Moves to "Safe R."
8TH CD McCloskey (D) v. Hostettler (R)	TOSS UP	Star/WISH and GOP poll shows this race within margin of error. Moves into "Toss Up" zone. McCloskey on TV Monday. Clinton drag makes Frank vulnerable.
10TH CD Jacobs (D) v. Scott (R)	Safe D	State GOP shopping notion around that Jacobs might be in trouble. Pul-zeel HPR is no fool. Andy could win this 'un even if he shopped Teapot Dome to Sen. Byrd!
74TH INDIANA HOUSE Phillips (D) v. Lambert (R)	Leaning D	RHCC adds this race to the target list. What took you boys so long? "Arrogance" is the word that conjures up J.R. Dailey Syndrome. Still, this is MKP's race to lose.
TRENDLINE: The more we learn about President Carter-Clinton's Haiti negotiations, the question is, "Who's running the show?" Synar defeat underscores Dem perils.		

Dems take aim at GOP 'contract'

At least four Indiana Republican congressional candidates gathered on the steps of the U.S. Capitol Tuesday to sign a "contract" with the American people.

The declaration stated that in the first 100 days of Congress, these Republicans would pass a balanced budget amendment, an anti-crime package, welfare reform limiting recipients to two years of eligibility, term limits, a \$500-per-child tax credit, enforcement of child support laws, and a prohibition of U.S. troops going under United Nations command.

But while Mark Souder, David McIntosh, Steve Buyer and John Hostettler were in Washington appearing with Speaker Newt Gingrich, Democrats in Indiana were castigating the plan.

"He's trying to align us with Bill Clinton," said Jill Long campaign manager Rosalyn Cooperman of Souder, "yet, I find it so ironic that he just signed this blind pledge.

"There is no specific outline on how they are going to pay for this balanced budget amendment," Cooperman said, saying that it is failed Reaganomics. "This sounds like a whole lot more Washington and a whole lot less of Grabill."

In the 6th CD, Democrat J.D. Beatty signed a "Contract with Constituents" in Kokomo. "Republicans are signing a blood oath to blindly follow whatever policies or proposals made by Washington Republican leaders," Beatty charged, "regardless of their effect on people back home in the district."

Democrats cited a Wall Street Journal article that called the GOP contract a "fraud."

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HPR Interview

Sally Rideout Lambert says Phillips vulnerable not only on New Orleans trip but for lack of 'bacon'

BOONVILLE - Three weeks ago, the Indiana Republican Campaign Committee wasn't paying much attention to the race for the 74th House District, a seat occupied by Speaker Michael K. Phillips.

This week, however, the Republicans have made Phillips their sixth targeted Democrat in their attempt to gain a majority in the House. State Rep. Mike Young, who heads up the RCC, was always high on Phillips' Republican challenger, Sally Rideout Lambert, but not enough to target the race. Two events occurred in early September to change that. WTHR-TV in Indianapolis aired a series of reports revealing that Phillips didn't attend any sessions at a national legislative conference in New Orleans. Then a poll of registered voters the Lambert campaign commissioned two months earlier and conducted on Sept. 13-15 showed Lambert with a 2-point lead. The poll had a 4-percent error rate.

Here is an HPR interview with Lambert, who may be the most intriguing challenger for a legislative seat this fall:

HPR: Why did you decide to challenge Speaker Phillips?

Sally Rideout Lambert: The best reason I can give is that I've lived in District 74 all my life. And in the last two elections, when Speaker Phillips was not challenged, it's been a little discouraging. I was raised in a fairly political home and I always thought people should have options when they go to the polls. That's what makes our government work. When politicians aren't challenged, they aren't challenged to do better. I just felt someone needed to challenge Mike Phillips.

HPR: Where do you believe Speaker Phillips is vulnerable?

Lambert: When you look at Mike Phillips, he's a walking advertisement for term limits. He has grown very arrogant with the power he has accumulated in over 25 years at the Statehouse. And, he is no longer doing things he needs to do for District 74. He does things for the people who put money in his pocket and those are the people in Indianapolis.

HPR: How do you perceive Speaker Phillips' arrogance?

Lambert: I think he first showed his arrogance when he refused to record votes during the 1993 budget session. Another was when he forced the hand of the local school board to force the Hoosier Millionaire to come and be taped in the Boonville High School. The third example, recently, was shown when he attended a conference on

taxpayer money and did not attend the conference at all.

HPR: Some will make a case that the most valuable information can be gleaned not in boring seminars, but on golf courses and in the hallways. How do you respond to that?

Lambert: I do believe there can be some valuable information gained on a golf course, I guess. I never played golf myself. I've never been to a seminar on tax money. But I do know if I were an employee of a large company and they sent me to a seminar and I came home and I said, 'Well, I didn't really go to any meetings, but I went golfing with a bunch of people, went on a riverboat gambling tour with some other employees and came away with some great contacts and you paid for it,' I don't think that company would employ me much longer. I think the voters need to remember that we are kind of like a company and that Mike is our employee. He should be expected to do the things we expect of him. If taxpayers sent him to a seminar, then he should go.

HPR: If you are elected, will you be attending similar seminars?

Lambert: I have made a promise and I plan to keep it. If elected, if I feel the need to go to a seminar and feel it will be useful to my district or the citizens of Indiana, I will find another way to pay for it.

HPR: How can a freshman legislator possibly serve a district as well as a speaker of the House. How are you going to make the case that they should bring the speaker home?

Lambert: The reason why it's nice to have a speaker of the House as your state representative is generally they try harder to bring home some pork or bacon. I do not know of any major pork that Mike has brought home to his district. We have two main roads that go from District 74 into Evansville. They have been two-lane roads forever. They have been on the books to be upgraded to four lanes forever. The projects on these continue to get pushed back. It was supposed to be 1994 then 1996 and now 1998. When you have a speaker of the House in power at the same time with the governor of the same party, it seems like you could push forward some of those major road projects that you need. And he hasn't done anything. What he tried to get down here for Alcoa with the coal technology grant, he was not able to get that pushed through and that means more jobs will be leaving our coal mines, which is the major employer in District 74.

HPR: How can you defeat Speaker Phillips?

Lambert: Our recent poll of registered voters who would be voting showed that 11 percent said Mike deserved re-election and 45 percent said they would vote for a new person, which obviously leaves about 40 percent undecided. I think when you take that number along with the fact that Mike has 85-percent name ID in the district, if people know him that well and they aren't ready to commit

Continued on page 5

Legislature Watch

Some similarities, big differences between Dailey and Phillips targeting

MUNCIE - A photo transmitted by the Associated Press and published across Indiana on Nov. 5, 1986, is stunning in its simplicity.

There were House Speaker J. Roberts Dailey and his wife, Anita, watching election results in Muncie. Dailey dourly stares at the tabulations coming through, a look of both depression and resignation crossing his face. Anita Dailey just looks stunned.

What happened that night was a 9,228-6,416 defeat of Dailey - the most powerful legislator in the state - at the hands of a 26-year-old lumber company salesman named Marc Carmichael. It was a landslide 59 percent upset for the Democrats, removing a three-term speaker as well as a five-term legislator.

Carmichael understood prior to the election what an upset of Dailey would mean. "This is a race that would send a message to Bob Dailey and the rest of the people down there," he said. "If the speaker can be beaten in a district he drew up himself, then the rest of you can be beaten, too."

Those words resonate today as House Republicans announce they are gunning for House Speaker Michael K. Phillips, D-Boonville. They have released a poll showing a 25-year-old Vanderburgh County GOP office manager named Sally Rideout Lambert leading Phillips by 2 points in a poll of registered voters.

There are a couple of similarities between what happened to Dailey in 1986 and what Republicans dream of doing to Phillips this year. And there several major differences that could make topping Phillips a tougher mountain to climb. The '86 mid-terms were bad news for Republicans in general, just as the '94 midterms are shaping up badly for Democrats this year. In 1986, Democrats gained one congressional seat (Jim Jontz in the 5th CD)

Lambert interview, from page 4

to voting for him at this time, I think if we can get my message to the people and remind them what he has done and what he has not done for us, they will be voting for a new person. The poll was planned for two months and was conducted on Sept. 13th, 14th and 15th. It just so happened we hit on some good timing. If the New Orleans story had broken a week later, it still would have shown a very high disapproval rating. The *Hoosier Millionaire* taping really woke a lot of people up over what Speaker Phillips will do to get his way. The New Orleans story was just kind of icing on the cake.

HPR: How do you answer concerns that you're too inexperienced?

and almost won the 3rd CD. In the Indiana House, Republicans saw a 61-39 advantage dwindle to 52-48.

In 1986, a number of forces were gunning for Dailey and Senate Pro Tem Robert Garton from the onset. The most conspicuous was the Indiana State Teachers Association. Dailey had accumulated a number of chinks in his armor as the result of policy during his six-year tenure as speaker. He was declared "arrogant" for his refusal to call a proposed constitutional amendment to allow a state lottery. He accumulated an increasing number of special interest enemies for his iron-fisted rule that has since eroded.

The speakership has been weakened since the 1988 50/50 split. But Phillips seems to have gathered his barnacles more for his personality than autocratic rule. Unlike 1986, there hasn't been any kind of galvanized opposition joining forces to oust him. In fact, the House

'This is a race that would send a message ...'
- Marc Carmichael, November 1986

Republicans are only now getting around to targeting Phillips even though signs of vulnerability have surfaced over the past two months. So while the Dailey defeat can be attributed to a bad Republican year and a united front of special interests, Phillips seems to be more vulnerable for allegations of impropriety (New Orleans) and several local problems (the Hoosier Millionaire taping, Alcoa) compounded by bad environment for Democrats.

On Nov. 5, 1986, Carmichael told supporters, "I think what happened was either people who wanted to vote for me or vote against him were determined to get to the polls." Of course, they were aided by a massive get-out-the-vote effort.

Lambert drew the distinction on her relatively lonely efforts thus far: "I was talking to a local legislator about what happened to Dailey. Everyone tried to lay claim on that one. Here, no one besides me and my volunteers can lay claim to victory if we upset Mike Phillips."

Lambert: I'm 25. Mike was 26 when he was first elected. He had not worked in the Indiana Statehouse before he was elected. I know how things are run from my days as a Senate intern. I know many of the people. I won't be spending the first days of the session looking for, as they say up there, the bathroom.

HPR: Why didn't the Republicans move on this race sooner than they did?

Lambert: Being down here, I knew how people feel. People are tired of Mike Phillips and his partner, Tony Long, running the entire county. For people in Indianapolis, it's harder for them to understand. I think that between the New Orleans story breaking and our poll, that indicated to them that they have a shot down here and this could be the year.

Columnists (on Indiana)

Mary Dieter, *Louisville Courier-Journal* - "The Statehouse was in a tizzy recently with the news that an Indianapolis television station had tailed House Speaker Michael K. Phillips at a July legislative conference and found that he apparently did not attend any work sessions. There are more troubling aspects to the whole mess. The TV reports showed at least six Indiana lobbyists hobnobbing with lawmakers. It's bad enough that they have almost unlimited access when legislators are in Indiana, but they get even more intimate contact when they think they're out of Hoosiers' view. Phillips' natural enemies - Republican lawmakers - have been unusually mild in their criticism of him. Why? Because they know that similar criticism likely could be aimed at them, and it's better to be quiet than to spout off and later be found to be just as guilty - and hypocritical too."

John Krull, *Indianapolis News* - "Like cockroaches scurrying when the light comes on, Indiana lawmakers began running for cover this week. The reason? Television station WTHR Channel 13 sent a camera crew down to New Orleans to record the goings on when 29 members of the Indiana General Assembly attended the State Legislators' annual convention. For example, Rep. Mike Phillips apparently did not know there was a conference taking place. Or maybe his schedule was just too crowded for the speaker of the House to squeeze in any sessions. Right after he was caught, Phillips trotted out a half-fast defense of his actions. The golf really was an informal dialogue among legislators about pressing policy questions. And the gambling excursions really were research trips, since gambling is becoming a big issue in Indiana. When even Forrest Gump didn't buy that nonsense, Phillips decided to try another approach. Really, the reimbursement was a noble act on the speaker's part. And it was downright churlish of us to object to paying for his golf."

Morton J. Marcus, *syndicated* - "Let me commend House Speaker Michael Phillips for refunding some travel monies to the state after a TV crew followed him about at a convention in New Orleans. This was an honorable act. He did not contend the TV report was misleading. He did not question the ethics or wisdom of the TV reporter who chose to use his station's resources on a triviality. He did not resort to the argument that everyone else does the same thing. Rep. Phillips just repaid the money. But what about these conventions? Most of the effective meetings at a convention are not in the conference rooms. They take place in the corridors, the restaurants, the bars and on trips away from the conference site. Rep. Phillips' reported presence on a riverboat casino and at an off-track betting parlor seems to me to be perfectly in line with the duties of an Indiana legislator. If the citizens of Indiana

supported taxing church property, our representatives would be seen in more churches."

David Scott Coker, *Indianapolis News* - "Several weeks ago Indiana House Speaker Michael Phillips held a press conference in Indianapolis to complain about Republicans using 'killer phone banks' to conduct political preference polls on five Indiana House seats now controlled by Democrats. While Republicans and Democrats alike contend that these activities have been used in state and local elections campaigns for years, some individuals in Warrick County found Speaker Phillips' remarks a bit hypocritical when considered in light of what has occurred recently on his home turf. Several Warrick County candidates for local judicial races, a county commissioner's race and a county prosecutor race have been receiving reports from disturbed constituents who claim that the same tactics have been used in Southern Indiana for the past several weeks."

Mike Dooley, *Fort Wayne News-Sentinel* - "Will Sheriff Joe Squadrito challenge incumbent Paul Helmke for the Republican nomination for mayor in next year's GOP primary? Stranger things have happened. The rumor that Squadrito might take on the mayor has had local Republicans abuzz for some time now. It started quietly, but has gained some momentum in recent weeks and is now being taken as inevitable by some party faithful. While the sheriff says his main concern at the moment is winning re-election, he admits the prospect of being mayor someday is intriguing. 'I don't necessarily see it happening,' he said, 'but you never say never.' That's not the case with some of the mayor's supporters, though. They're more than willing to use the word 'never' to describe a Squadrito candidacy and to toss in some other opinions about that possibility. Elut, hey, this is a family newspaper. We don't print language like that."

Dick Robinson, *Terre Haute Tribune-Star* - "Property tax reform isn't an idea whose time has come. It's time has come again and again. Policy makers have ignored this issue, because they don't know how to handle it or are afraid to try. That'll change. Lawmakers must deal with the property tax issue, or the Indiana Tax Court, where the tax is being challenged, will be forced to act. The question before the court isn't about ever-increasing tax bills. It's about an alleged unfair assessment method. That's not news. However, having a judge say the assessment process is unfair is better than listening to politicians feigning concern while doing nothing. The one-size-fits-all property tax, a relic of horse and buggy days, may soon catch up with the 1990s."

Musings and Meanderings

Within hours after airing a get-tough-on-crim TV ad, the **Muncie NAACP** was demanding that Republican **David McIntosh** discontinue its use. The ad says, "The Clinton administration lobbied for racial quotas in capital punishment that would virtually eliminate the death penalty." It briefly showed black and Hispanic inmates. The NAACP said the ad "exploits racial fears and stereotypes." Responded McIntosh campaign manager **Chris Wilson**, "The ad is about crime, not race." (*Network Indiana*).

The **Mike Pence Show** returns to the Indianapolis radio market on Oct. 10 on **WSYW-AM** (810) from 9 a.m. to noon. Pence also picked up **WIMS-AM** in Michigan City and **WCSI-AM** in Columbus. The former congressional candidate-turned-audio-pundit is now on 17 stations statewide. Pence will also begin his "Capital for a Day" remote broadcasts Oct. 4 in Brazil, Oct. 11 in Bedford, Oct. 14 in Richmond, Oct. 21 in Rushville and Oct. 28 in Greensburg. Capital for a Day, eh? You don't think Pence is thinking about running for governor, do you? Naaaaa.

Brian Howey's "Politicking" column debuts in the *Shelbyville News* this week. It's Howey's 21st Indiana newspaper, reaching more than 400,000 readers each week.

Next door in Illinois, Republican Gov. **Jim Edgar** is leading Democrat **Dawn Netsch** 57-24 percent in a *Chicago Tribune* poll. To the east, Ohio Lt. Gov. **Mike DeWine** is leading Democrat **Joel Hyatt** 42-32 percent for the U.S. Senate seat being vacated by **Howard Metzenbaum** (*Akron Beacon-Journal*). The *Columbus Dispatch* gives DeWine a 52-34 percent lead. To the north, the Michigan Senate race between Democrat **Bob Carr** and Republican **Spence Abraham** is a pure toss-up. Carr lead by 4 points in a Market Strategies Poll and 6 points in a Greenberg Research Poll. But **WJBK-TV** had Abraham up 38-33 percent. The same poll had Republican Gov. **John Engler** leading **Howard Wolpe** 50-39 percent.

Noblesville Mayor **Mary Sue Rowland** has filed for divorce in Boone County, and the filed papers were duly mailed to most of the guest list at a Sept. 17 "'94 City Celebration" event. Rowland, who attended the event with

her husband, Ted, calls the divorce "corporate restructuring." (**John Flora**, *Indianapolis News*). "This is really a private matter. I don't see what all the fuss is about. It's not illegal. It's not immoral. It isn't even fattening."

Indianapolis Mayor **Stephen Goldsmith** said his privatization efforts in Indianapolis have "just scratched the surface." (**Gerry Langosga**, *Indianapolis News*). Next on the list: the Indianapolis International Airport, the city's fleet service agency, and city computer and privatization initiatives.

Two members of the Connersville City Council - **Dick O'Neal** and **Judy Getz** - are preparing homes outside the city (**Kimball Hendrix**, *Connersville News-Examiner*). But both maintain they still live in the city. "I've got nothing to hide and I'm not running for re-election anyway," said O'Neal.

Sen. **Richard Lugar** and **Jim Jontz** are feuding over debates. An Oct. 24 showdown is likely. Jontz quipped, "Dick Lugar has become an outsider." Retorted Lugar, "It's manifestly so untrue that it's ludicrous." He called the Jontz debate quibbling "public-relations puffery."

J. Patrick Rooney has established his campaign committee for governor. Goldsmith is still mum.

Dan Quayle's name was pulled for jury duty in Hamilton Superior Court for the fourth quarter. And speaking of a Quayle candidacy for president in 1996, a *Peru Daily Tribune* "Infocentral" question went 49-51 percent against a run out of 120 callers. One caller liked the former veep, but explained, "He is too mild a man to win" and added, "He talks like a funeral parlor director."

Newsweek, prior to **Murphy Brown II**, wasn't even including Quayle on the list of '96 GOP presidential contenders. After MBII, it was speculating a Quayle-**Pete Wilson** ticket as worrying the White House.

Speculation that **WKJG-TV's Linda Jackson** will leave is now moot. Jackson signed a three-year contract with Fort Wayne's NBC affiliate and will become executive producer.

Both **WPTA-TV** in Fort Wayne and **WTHR-TV** in Indianapolis have unveiled Saturday morning news.

Humor Misc.

Dwayne, revisited

This headline last week in the *New Castle Courier-Times*: "Supreme Brown Out: Troubled State Supreme Court Clerk **Dwayne Brown** now finds powers limited."

Wend Illisms, by Wendell Trogdon, *Indianapolis News*:

"**Rep. Lee Hamilton** says Democrats can't run away from **President Clinton**...which is what happens when they elect a president who jogs every morning."

Voter: What do you think of President Clinton?

Democrat: President who?

Letterman:

One of **David Letterman's** proposed campaign slogans for Washington, D.C., mayoral candidate **Marion Barry**: "Give him another crack at it."

The Devil's Dictionary, by Ambrose Bierce

Politics, n. A strife of interests masquerading as a contest of principles. The conduct of public affairs for private advantage.

Reporter, n. A writer who guesses his way to the truth and dispels it with a tempest of words.

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