

# THE HOWEY POLITICAL REPORT



## The Weekly Briefing On Indiana Politics

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## “QUOTE” OF THE WEEK

“Dignity is not an abstract with us. It’s in practice every day....”

—Terry Holt, spokesman for the Lugar campaign, on going negative in TV advertising in New Hampshire

## Lugar’s principles may block victory

Candidate reduced to a ‘fleck on the radar’

DES MOINES, Iowa - There was a rectangular patch of steps leading up to the front door of WHO-AM, cleared of humanity.

Roiling around this cold, cement oasis were about 50 members of the press, armed with microphones, sound booms, cameras and tape recorders. One reporter dressed in a great coat was poised at one corner of this rectangle, not unlike Mark Bavarro preparing for a post-touchdown end zone prayer above Jimmy Hoffa’s grave.

The doors of WHO swung open, and presidential candidate Steve Forbes emerged with a small clot of advisers. “Step there,” one handler said. Forbes did.

HPR was on the right side of the door, and as Forbes stepped forward, ended up shoulder-to-shoulder with the candidate as he approached the battery of about 30 unblinking, unemotional TV cameras. The faces of the reporters were contorted as the upper part of the rectangle collapsed. Faces and torsos seemed to protrude from the wall of the rectangle, as if their feet were off the steps and the swell of humanity held them parallel to the ground.

As the upper rectangle collapsed, those below began screaming, “Get out of the way!” A reporter one step down asked, “Mr. Forbes, your thoughts going into tonight’s caucuses?”

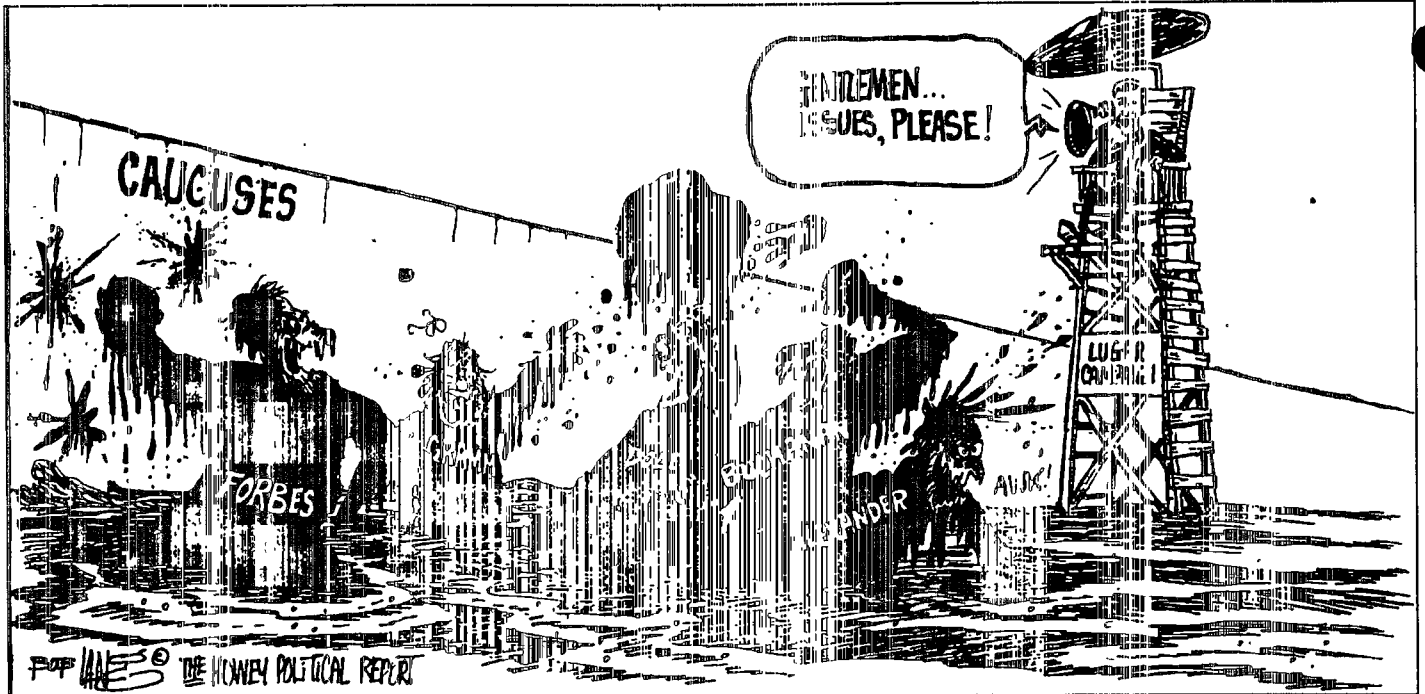
“I think we’ve made remarkable progress over the last 18 weeks,” the millionaire began. HPR, still shoulder-to-shoulder, was fascinated with the view of this media vortex of unforgiving documentors of the dirtiest caucus campaign in history. And there was a unique view of Forbes. His millionaire neck needed a shave, and there were flecks of dandruff on his coat, which moved thoughts beyond the vortex and to Sen. Dick Lugar in serene Room 608 at the Hotel Muscatine on the Mississippi riverfront only 18 hours before.

There, Lugar launched into a wholly unique commentary of his confrontation with the caucuses, his ire directed at David Yepsen

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# TICKER T A P E

**PLAY OF THE WEEK:** Butler University Prof. Marvin Scott gets the nod for working hard over the past year after nearly defeating U.S. Rep. Andy Jacobs. His defeat of former Indianapolis Mayor Bill Hudnut in slating last Saturday wouldn't have happened if Scott hadn't been so diligent about his goal. It also signals that the conservative wing of the Marion County GOP is dominant.

Former Vice President Dan Quayle's official opening of Campaign America, the PAC he inherited from Bob Dole, took place in Carmel last Friday. HPR spies report that the event was rather odd. Instead

*Continued on page 3*

## 'They're always looking for some little fleck....'

From page 1  
of the *Des Moines Register*.

"Yepsen dismisses my candidacy," Lugar began. "He says I got a late start, that I haven't raised enough money, that I don't have traction, that I'm not on the radar screen. They're always looking for that little fleck on some radar screen."

No one in Indiana had ever reduced Dick Lugar to a fleck on anything, be it a radar screen or the coat of someone else. Yet, that is what Iowans and the converged media had done. When Forbes left, striding through the vortex that was now walking backward in front of him, Lugar was waiting in a van to enter WHO for his half-hour interview. His entrance was reduced to the Indiana media who were digging his campaign, crews from CBS and ABC who followed each candidate, and a few remnants of the Forbes vortex.

That night, Forbes finished with 10 percent of the vote, a free-fall from a week before when he was challenging Bob Dole for the lead. Lugar ended up with 4 percent. The difference was between 6,000 and 7,000 votes cast and an ocean of perception.

In Iowa, Lugar was reduced to a fleck, a

historical footnote among such ignominious names as Harris, Yorty, Connally and Crane.

## He'll fit right in?

The Iowa caucuses, as heard during the Iowa-Indiana basketball game on Feb. 10:

*"Lamar Alexander talks about balancing the budget, but as governor, he raised taxes four times to do it while doubling state spending. As a Washington bureaucrat, Lamar Alexander increased spending for his department by over \$5 billion. Now he says that same bureaucracy should be eliminated. Running for president, Lamar claims he's an outsider, but collects \$295,000 a year from his politically-connected law firm that lobbies for special interests in Washington. Lamar Alexander is attacking conservative Steve Forbes' flat tax. Lamar Alexander: he won't change Washington. He'll fit right in....Paid for by the Steve Forbes for President Committee."*

## 'The commercials,' said Lugar

Inside WHO, Lugar was asked why Forbes' flat tax was getting all the press, while his own national sales tax proposals were all but being ignored.

*continued on page 3*

"The commercials," Lugar said.

Lugar's campaign had spent about \$750,000 in Iowa. Forbes had dropped \$4 million.

Lugar's commercials over the weekend weren't talking about his proposal to abolish the Internal Revenue Service with a national sales tax. As Elizabeth Kolbert wrote in Monday's edition of the *New York Times*, "In his latest campaign commercial, Senator Richard Lugar of Indiana urges Iowa voters to choose him for this one reason: his campaign commercials."

Kolbert added, "While this may not be the most compelling case for a candidacy, it is certainly a revealing statement about the state of the race here on the eve of the Iowa caucuses."

### 'Lugar's worst week'

On Monday morning, Lugar campaign manager Mark Lubbers and spokesman Terry Holt were talking about comments Alexander made in defense of his negative ads in Iowa. Sunday, on ABC's *This Week with David Brinkley*, Sam Donaldson had pressed Alexander on the subject of negative advertising.

Didn't Alexander start all the negativity last summer, Donaldson asked. "Well, I did," Alexander responded, "but that was in New Hampshire and that was on the radio."

Now, a new dilemma was facing the Lugar campaign. Were they in the campaign on principle, or did they want to win? And in order to win, did they have to go negative?

The belief was that Dole would continue to self-destruct and that Pat Buchanan cannot defeat President Clinton. Alexander the suspected "alternative" candidate (to be borne out that evening with 18 percent of the vote for third place) would have to be the target. "It's going to be Lugar's worst week in his life," Lubbers said in the hallway of a Des Moines elementary school while Lugar feasted on a school lunch with dozens of little friends.

A debate was sparked on the Lugar press bus. Could Lugar go negative? Would using a clip of Alexander saying that his negative ads were OK because they occurred in New Hampshire be considered a low blow?

"The whole idea that Lugar is running a positive campaign belies the first paid negative ad," Holt said Tuesday night, adding that the idea "is under some consideration."

But, Holt added, "If you abandon principle, then you abandon the very reason you run. Dignity is not an abstract with us. It's in practice every day."

The betting was that Lugar wouldn't go along, even if it meant his campaign would falter. At WHO, Lugar was asked, "Does the fact that none of the other candidates are attacking

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you says something?" Lugar responded, "The basic issue is integrity in office."

By his very nature, Lugar will emerge from the '96 campaign with his integrity intact. That has to be reconciled with the fact that it probably means he won't be president.

"Lugar came here early and told people, 'I'm a truth teller,'" Lubbers said. "The problem is, a lot of people want to be pandered. We pass out a lot of stuff that other candidates hide from. We wear it as a badge of honor."

The irony facing the Lugarites is that it was Alexander who appeared to be the chief beneficiary of the backlash against negative advertising in Iowa. He finished in third place with 18 percent. Lugar may have been the victim of his own political ads - the nuclear terrorist commercial that ran during the holidays in Iowa. It puzzled and disturbed many Iowans. While the commercial got Lugar a burst of publicity from the national news media, it was not designed to move the numbers. The media exposure that followed the ad was supposed to do that. It never happened.

In reality, Iowa GOP leaders had anticipated 130,000 voters, and only 98,000 showed up. Lugar's clean campaign commercials were a faint beacon in the gloam.

### Lugar prospects in Granite

What are Lugar's New Hampshire prospects? On Tuesday, the *Boston Globe*-WBZT-

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of national players attending an event of such proportion in Washington or New York and attracting big names, the Carmel event attracted a lot of Hamilton County officeholders and party types.

A topic of some discussion both in Indiana and on the presidential campaign trail is where would Dan Quayle be if he were in the race? Surprisingly, a number of national reporters believe Quayle would be in the top tier of candidates if he had stayed in the race. HPR's line is that it depends on which Quayle would show up: the 1988 deer in the headlights model or the 1992 family values model.

Indiana Democratic Chairman Joe Andrew will be the luncheon speaker for the Indiana Democratic Editorial Association's spring meeting on March 9 at The Seasons in Nashville. The event will coincide with the Indiana Wine/Grape Growers Convention.

U.S. Rep. Tim Roemer kicked off his fourth Congressional campaign with a promise not to engage in negative advertising.

State Sen. Richard Thompson has appointed Matt Whetstone his campaign manager for his 7th CD Republican nomination race. Thompson has

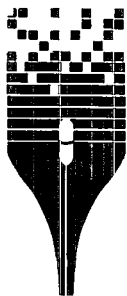
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## Lugar on the GOP nomination: 'This is a disastrous course'

# HPR INTERVIEW

**"These candidates are killing their prospects of defeating President Clinton. They are disillusioning Americans about politics ...."  
- Sen. Lugar**



MUSCATINE, Iowa - The Hotel Muscatine is a stately Mississippi Riverfront lodge. It was in this remote city of about 25,000 that HPR caught up with Sen. Dick Lugar on Sunday.

It was kind of an odd place for a presidential campaign to be - nearly 45 minutes away from the nearest TV market in Davenport. With Char Lugar sitting on a nearby couch reading, and a room of about 75 people waiting for Lugar to speak downstairs, HPR conducted this interview:

**HPR:** I was intrigued that you left Iowa on Saturday and went to New Hampshire. Why?

**Lugar:** I just made a judgment that in terms of national media, which is broadcasting into both places now as well as the rest of the nation, that we had greater opportunities there yesterday than we did here. Essentially, here both the field is crowded as well as TV time. I need to do well in both places so I was able to campaign in Iowa to begin with yesterday and I was back that night given the miracles of aircraft. I could do both. I was unique among candidates that I did both. In any event, I felt the New Hampshire events did very well, both in terms of the national press conference in Manchester, and we had good national and local press coverage in Exeter. There was a massive demonstration of support from all over New Hampshire on a Saturday afternoon.

**HPR:** Where are you tracking at in New Hampshire.

**Lugar:** I don't know. I don't mean to be vague about it. I'm just out of touch from all the normal paperwork I usually get when I'm in Washington or someplace closer. We had an endorsement from the *Keene Sentinel*.

**HPR:** Yes, I was there last May when you first met with their editorial board.

**Lugar:** And then the *Portsmouth Herald* today, over on the coast where we were yesterday. So that's really heartening: two very strong endorsements.

**HPR:** We've talked in the past about the 1980 campaign when all the undecideds broke during the last weekend for Reagan. Do you get

any sense where the undecideds here will go?

**Lugar:** No, but I've been campaigning very strongly. Many of the undecideds have just become undecided because they are so turned off over the negative advertising. There has never been a campaign in history where so many ads were broadcast and clearly such a high percentage were negative, and pretty good percentage of those were almost total distortion of people's records. It really threatens to poison the well of politics and certainly the Republican nomination process. All I am saying is enough is enough. Negative campaigning is going to get worse if you don't bring an end to it now. These candidates are killing their prospects of defeating President Clinton. They are disillusioning Americans about politics. I'm hopeful that appeal will bring a number of people from the undecided column. Some are loose behind the other candidates. I just find that especially with young people ... I was at North High School in Sioux City and I was at Northern Iowa Community College and there were people checking out of the system and I was telling them they could check back in with my message. There are so many negative duels going on and such a proliferation that it makes it very difficult to get any message through. This is not a very hospitable field. So we will do the best we can here but we will proceed to another day and then I think things will likely thin out.

**HPR:** It was a year ago January that a number of Washington reporters had breakfast with you and encouraged you to run for the presidency. Aren't these the same people that are ignoring your message now?

**Lugar:** Well, they're taking a very dispassionate view. They're saying what Dave Yepsen did out here on one show tonight; that the issue isn't whether Lugar would be a good president or whether foreign policy is important or whether character counts. Yepsen said Lugar started too late and he hasn't raised as much money as other people, and he just hasn't gotten as much traction as other people. Therefore, he's not on the radar screen. But that's not good enough. If people in journalism, quite apart

from politics, don't really care about the nature of who is going to be president of the United States, heaven help us. What people are preoccupied with today, and I heard this in Manchester, is did Dole initiate dirty telephone calls to do in Forbes. Well, I don't know whether he did or not. And it's reprehensible. But, I say people in glass houses shouldn't throw stones. Forbes is whining about this after \$10 million of dirt thrown out in every direction. Why the detective case as to whether these calls have been made by somebody when you've had a barrage that is unparalleled in history? Likewise, with Dole attacking Forbes. Ten million dollars has been spent on dirt. At the same time, he's (Dole) going down to his last penny draining his money firing back. This is a demolition derby of some consequence.

**HPR:** Process is circumventing policy.

**Lugar:** Yeah. There's not debate on policy. There was a column in the Des Moines Register today (See page 7) by one of their senior editors and it said everyone but Lugar probably doesn't know what the capital of China is. In terms of policy, we're not debating that. Any longer we are not talking about what we used to, whether it is downsizing government, balance the budget, cut taxes. We all agree to that so there wasn't any issue to begin with. Some are saying that because we all agree it

comes down to who can seem to be the harshest and nastiest, or, failing that, who can do in the others by flinging dirt.

**HPR:** President Clinton came here this weekend and kind of sucked the oxygen from your and other Republican campaigns. What kind of contrast does he put in the minds of people you hope to sway?

**Lugar:** Well, he had a remarkable opportunity. He even pointed that out, that he was a refreshing contrast to what was going on here on the other side. I saw him on television last night. He had a rather statesmanlike demeanor and a very pleasant figure with lots of young people packing the stadium indicating in optimistic tones what he saw. He said he liked to work together with people. President Clinton is well ahead of whoever is going to be the nominee in this state right now. There will be a winner of sorts on Monday. I mean, someone is going to come out ahead. But vis a vis President Clinton, whoever that is is miles behind after all of this. And this is just the first of these episodes. This is while I've made the strong point that a vote for me is a vote to stop it as well as a vote for a good candidate. I'm the only one who isn't engaged in this stuff and people who are, are going to lose. This is a disastrous course.

## Is this heaven? No, it's President Clinton's Iowa

Is this heaven?

No, it's Clinton, Iowa.

Actually, coverage of President Clinton's trip to Iowa was written about in terms approaching the beloved baseball movie, "*Field of Dreams*." The reasons were obvious by contrast.

Under the headline, "Upbeat, confident Clinton meets Iowans," the *Des Moines Register* reported the Clinton visit this way in Monday's editions: "Looking like he held a free ticket to political heaven, an upbeat President Clinton ended his two-day campaign swing through Iowa Sunday by promoting national unity and government programs that work for people" (Ken Fuson, Kathy A. Bolten). "While the Republican presidential candidates bickered, Clinton appeared before large, supportive crowds at a downtown Des Moines church, at Drake University and in West Des Moines. 'You

look happy,' Clinton told the Drake crowd. 'I like that.'"

The *New York Times*' Richard L. Berke wrote in a page 1 story, "Freed from the burden of being opposed for his party's nomination, Mr. Clinton tweaked the candidates who are vying to take him on, preaching for more civil politics." Berke quoted Clinton: "This year I read all these columns and I see all this news coverage on whether the ads are more important than the grassroots campaigning or the negative ads become more influential. Let me tell you something, folks: every election is about you."

Berke reported that the speech "was interrupted more than a dozen times with applause and chants. By contrast, Mr. Dole, who drew generally sparse crowds this weekend, cancelled a rally this morning in Davenport, citing high winds."

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also retained Whistlestop Communications, an Indianapolis-based political consulting firm, to assist the campaign. Whistlestop is also working with LG candidate State Sen. Steve Johnson and AG candidate Gary Secrest.

How have Indiana's three freshmen Congressmen done on the fundraising front? U.S. Rep. David McIntosh raised \$474,171 in 1995. U.S. Rep. Mark Souder raised \$128,721 and U.S. Rep. John Hostettler had \$85,939.

Former State Sen. Tony Maidenberg has declined to enter the 5th CD race to challenge U.S. Rep. Steve Buyer. That leaves Hugh P. Salisbury, a retired teacher from Plymouth, as the only announced Democrat. Buyer has \$66,000 cash on hand.

Add State Sen. Tom Weatherwax's name to the list of potential GOP lieutenant governors. "I've looked at the tea leaves and I'm very much interested in that opportunity," Weatherwax told the Logansport Pharos-Tribune.

GOP gubernatorial candidate George Witwer released a legislative plan called the "Indiana Bill of Rights" which he says will reverse many failed social policies of the last 30 years, including no fault

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divorce.

WPTA-TV in Fort Wayne surveyed 235 Republicans on the governor's race and reported these results:

Goldsmith	25 percent
Early	9 percent
Witwer	9 percent
Undecided	56 percent

In head-to-head matchups with Lt. Gov. Frank O'Ballon, the Democrat led Witwer 26-24 percent; Early 26-21 percent; and Goldsmith 25-22 percent.

Purdue University Political Science Prof. Jay McCann appeared with HPR's Brian Howey on WBAA-AM on Wednesday. McCann sees the Republican Party potentially splitting into three wings: the populist/religious group personified by Pat Buchanan; the libertarian wing that isn't as interested in moral issues, as personified by Bob Dole, Lamar Alexander and Dick Lugar; and the Gingrich "deficit hawk" wing, which doesn't have a champion in the field at this point.

Some observers thought that Bill Hudnut's defeat in the 10th CD slating last weekend would be good news for the Virginia Blankenbaker campaign. But sources tell HPR that isn't necessarily so. They believe Blankenbaker matched up better against Hudnut than

## 'People want to back someone with momentum'

From page 3

TV had the race like this:

Dole	26 percent
Buchanan	17 percent
Forbes	16 percent
Lugar	6 percent
Alexander	5 percent
Gramm	5 percent

The dilemma facing Lugar is the same that he faced last December: how to get recognition? On Tuesday night and Wednesday morning, it was Alexander who was getting the big play from NBC News, although his splash on the *Today Show* concerned allegations of odd financial dealings while he was governor.

More telling was an Associated Press dispatch Wednesday afternoon. The lead was, "Competing for New Hampshire momentum. Bob Dole and Lamar Alexander were rolling out high-profile endorsements today while arguing over who would be the best Republican candidate against President Clinton."

It wasn't until the final two paragraphs that Lugar even got this mention: "For those back in the GOP pack, New Hampshire could be the end. Sen. Dick Lugar of Indiana shrugged off his seventh-place showing in Iowa. 'I believe that I will be discovered,' Lugar said. 'If not here, I hope in some other state along the trail.'"

"Our performance in Iowa is making our goals in New Hampshire more difficult," Holt said from Manchester late Tuesday night. "People want to back someone with momentum."

Lugar's Saturday visit to Exeter was played on page 29 - a section page - by the *Boston Globe*. That AP story read, in part, "Many know he is running a positive campaign, but they don't know what else he stands for," Lugar said.

Money will also become a problem, for both Lugar and Alexander. David Haase of the *Indianapolis Star/News*, reported Wednesday morning on Lugar's \$1.4 million debt and the fact that he had to borrow \$1 million in November to keep the campaign afloat.

Haase quoted Colby College Prof. Anthony Corrado as saying, "It's going to be

very difficult for Dick Lugar to continue on particularly since he has not developed the type of strong fundraising base that would be needed to weather a candidate in difficult times."

The other stress point is that Lugar's Indiana fundraising base may be tapped out, particularly with the Rex Early-Steve Goldsmith gubernatorial primary brawl just getting under way and six of the state's 10 Congressional Districts having the potential of falling within polling error margins.

ABC's Jeff Greenfield summed up the money problem this way: "If you do dismally in

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## WATCH

Iowa, an atmosphere of death hangs over your campaign. Your contributors don't

return calls, crowds begin to diminish. It becomes a kind of self-fulfilling prophecy."

■ **LUGAR NOTES:** Last week, it was gubernatorial candidate Rex Early, Jean Ann Harcourt and Betty Rendel who journeyed to Des Moines to help the Lugar campaign. Next week, former Gov. Bob Orr flies out to stump for the senator. There had been talk of Indiana Republicans chartering buses out to New Hampshire. But by Wednesday, those plans had been scrapped.

■ Early was to have campaigned at three Des Moines American Legion halls over the noon hour. However, none was open for lunch.

■ Here is the current presidential delegate count:

Bill Clinton	56
<b>2,146 needed to nominate; 4,290 total</b>	
Alexander	5
Buchanan	19
Dole	8
Forbes	3
Gramm	10
Lugar	0
Others	1
<b>996 needed to nominate; 1,990 total</b>	



# COLUMNISTS ON INDIANA

**James Flansburg**, *Des Moines Register* - Only one GOP candidate appears to be fully qualified and acts as if he's running for president, gives you some confidence he can name the capital of China and knows why the United States still keeps an army in Europe - Indiana Senator Richard Lugar. For his sense of history and tradition, his dignity, his study and hard work, he's at the back of the pack with those other big Republican names, Taylor, Keyes and Dornan.

**David Yepsen**, *Des Moines Register* - Indiana Senator Richard Lugar has also impressed the Iowans he's met. He's talked about issues like nuclear terrorism and foreign policy that are ignored by the others. His problem is that he got into the race late and has had trouble finding time to campaign.

**Michael Barone**, *U.S. News & World Report* - Richard Lugar is counterprogramming, highlighting his support for federally subsidized school lunches and the assault weapons ban. Alexander, after months of campaigning, commands red-plaid-shirt organizations in both Iowa and New Hampshire. For days, his upbeat ads and sunny temperament stood out in the negative atmosphere. To call attention to the Dole-Forbes ad wars, Alexander traveled to Maine's L.L. Bean store to buy a tall pair of mud boots. "Before I'm through," he said, "I might need a pair of waders." What's next: Both Dole and Forbes can probably survive a second place finish in tax-hating New Hampshire. Others will have to finish in the top three in New Hampshire to survive.

**Brian Howey**, *HPR* - Lugar's last day in Iowa may well become one of his darker political moments - his first defeat since he lost to Birch Bayh during the Watergate-marred election of 1974. Lugar had worked at this campaign for a year, calling on the devotion of thousands of supporters and friends, spending \$750,000 and countless hours on planes, cars and buses. The irony is that on this very day, Birch Bayh - who

won 14 percent of the vote in 1976 here - called Lugar's campaign headquarters to offer his best wishes. Yet Lugar was constantly peppered with questions on when he would "get out" of the race. "I am confident Iowans will make good judgments," Lugar said with characteristic dignity. "This is one step in the process." So it is. From a historical perspective, Lugar can take solace that Iowans have a poor record in choosing future presidents. George Bush won here in 1980, which turned out to be Ronald Reagan's year. Eight years later, Bob Dole beat Bush a week before he self-destructed out East. New Hampshire voters have a tendency of correcting the mistakes of Iowa. Next Tuesday may well be Dick Lugar's last chance to salvage a shot at the presidency.

**Kevin Phillips**, *Los Angeles Times* - The 104th Congress may be the worst in 50 years. Believers in the Washington system - once described as dropping coins into the elephants' and donkeys' mouths and getting laws and regulation at the other end - were cheered in 1995 by the apparent renewal of tired political parties and government mechanisms represented by ultrapowerful Speaker Newt Gingrich and his bold agenda of national change. A year later, two-thirds of the Contract With America is sitting in the Senate's dumpster and crumbled in President Clinton's veto basket; Congress' ratings are back to autumn 1994 contempt levels, and Gingrich has set records for first-year credibility loss by a new speaker. The notion of a "reform" GOP Congress is now right up there with Tinkerbell and the Tooth Fairy.

**John Krull**, *Indianapolis News* - The GOP's unwieldy coalition is headed for a crack-up that could have implications in races all across the country. The two largest Iowa vote-getters were Dole and Buchanan. They are, in their own ways, flawed candidates - Dole because of his many past failures to claim the prize, Buchanan because of chronic churlishness that borders on thuggery.

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**Marvin Scott.** And Blankenbaker had a lot of fodder to use against the former mayor, including the fact that he had a for sale sign in front of his Indianapolis home and had registered to vote in Chicago.

**Jim Knoop**, who had been campaign manager for the Pat Rooney gubernatorial campaign, will now fill the same job for Blankenbaker. Knoop brought this observation on Marvin Scott's slating win: "The form they are required to sign is unbelievable. I'm surprised candidates aren't asked to sign it in blood."

**Hoosier environmentalists are angry with U.S. Rep. John Hostettler.** The *Bloomington Herald-Times* reported that representatives of local interest groups were not notified of a town meeting Hostettler had last Saturday. Democratic candidate Jonathan Weinzapfel observed, "On the surface, this might appear to be a minor issue affecting a handful of people, but I view this controversy as clearly symptomatic of what is so wrong with Washington these days. We need to stop drawing lines in the sand and start bringing people on these different sides together."

**Hostettler toured the 8th CD with U.S. Sen. Dan Coats on**

*continued on page 8*

# TICKER T A P E

Monday while announcing he's seeking a second term. Coats described Hostettler as a man of "conviction, courage and clarity" (*Kurt Van der Dussen, Bloomington Herald-Times*).

HPR's Brian Howey will appear on WNDY-TV's Mike Pence Show at 11:30 p.m. Saturday. The topic will be the Lugar presidential campaign in Iowa and New Hampshire.

Joe Saint has rejoined the Digger Phelps for President in '04 campaign following months of mourning the untimely death of Jerry Garcia.



# PERHAPS... WE WANDER

By Brian Howey

INDIANAPOLIS - Columnist Kevin Phillips' description of the 104th Congress as one of the worst of the century has interesting implications for Indiana, where as many as six of the state's 10 Congressional Districts could be competitive.

U.S. Rep. Mark Souder told HPR last fall that if he were facing a stiff re-election battle, that means the Republican Revolution would be in chaos. There is ample evidence that the revolution is faltering. Souder, however, appears to be in relatively good shape.

A WPTA-TV poll has Souder leading IPFW Prof. Jerry Houseman by a 50-33 margin, with a +/- 4.2 percent error margin.

Since the 4th CD is Dan Quayle's old House seat, those numbers don't come as a surprise. If Phillips' interpretation of the revolution is correct, HPR believes there will be a shift in competitive districts. U.S. Rep. Lee Hamilton's 9th CD rematch with State Sen. Jean Leising will ease to the backburner. U.S. Rep. John Hostettler is in for a tough race no matter what happens. And U.S. Rep. David McIntosh may find himself

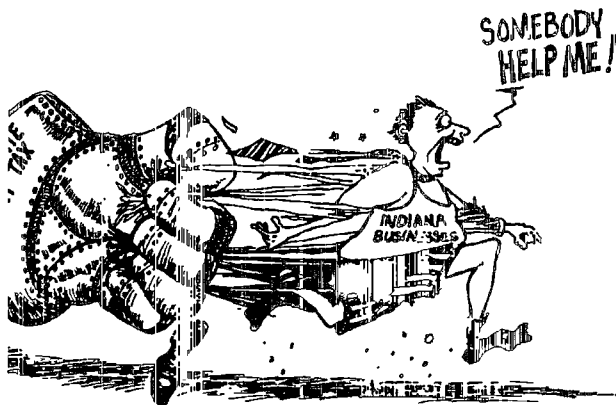
on the endangered species list, despite his \$468,000 raised in 1995. McIntosh has the keenest ties to unpopular House Speaker Newt Gingrich and the 2nd CD was held by Democrat Phil Sharp for 20 years. Both he and Hostettler can expect to see an influx of environmentalist PAC money and involvement.

"The 2nd District is a very unforgiving district," explained IU pollster Brian Vargus. "It's one of the tougher ones to run in the state, if not the toughest" (*Brian Francisco, Muncie Star*).

When it was suggested to Souder that GOP freshmen may have problems since they don't have their balanced budget centerpiece, he didn't seem too concerned. "We'll do it piece-meal; by continuing resolution," Souder said. "We're actually ahead of the pace for balancing the budget through the CRs. The problem is we can't get to entitlements."

Souder was quick to point out, "We've done the House reforms."

That may play in Fort Wayne. But how will it play in Muncie?



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