

THE HOWEY POLITICAL REPORT



The Weekly Briefing On Indiana Politics

The Howey Political Report is published 40 times a year by NewsLink, Inc. The Howey Political Report is an independent, non-partisan newsletter analyzing the political process in Indiana. It neither endorses candidates nor advocates positions of public policy.

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Subscription information: \$250 annually for 40 editions via fax or first class mail. Call 317-685-0883.

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“QUOTE” OF THE WEEK

“We are now engaged in a struggle for the heart and soul of the Republican Party....”

—U.S. Sen. Bob Dole, after his defeat by Pat Buchanan, in Manchester, N.H.

Lugar hangs on as ‘The Alternative’

Brokered convention is Hoosier’s last ‘96 hope

HPR Presidential forecast: U.S. Sen. Dick Lugar will try to remain in the 1996 presidential race, hoping for a brokered convention and a shot at becoming a compromise candidate after multiple ballots. Short of that, he’ll take a long hard look at 2000. And he won’t be alone in the Hoosier state, as both Dan Quayle and Evan Bayh will be sizing up their options for the White House.



MANCHESTER, N.H. - Saturday was a perfect example of why Dick Lugar has not folded his presidential campaign.

Steve Forbes won the Delaware primary. In the first four major contests of the 1996 presidential race, there have been three different winners: Bob Dole in Iowa, Pat Buchanan in New Hampshire and Louisiana, and now Forbes in Delaware.

But there are major dilemmas for each of those candidates. Buchanan will not be able to escape his “extremist” label and seems to be a perfect fit for Ross Perot’s United We Stand party, which will be on the ballot in all 50 states. Dole hits the \$30 million primary season expenditure ceiling in mid-March and it is possible he won’t have the nomination wrapped up by then. Lamar Alexander has yet to win a primary, isn’t raising much money and has significant ethical clouds on his horizon.

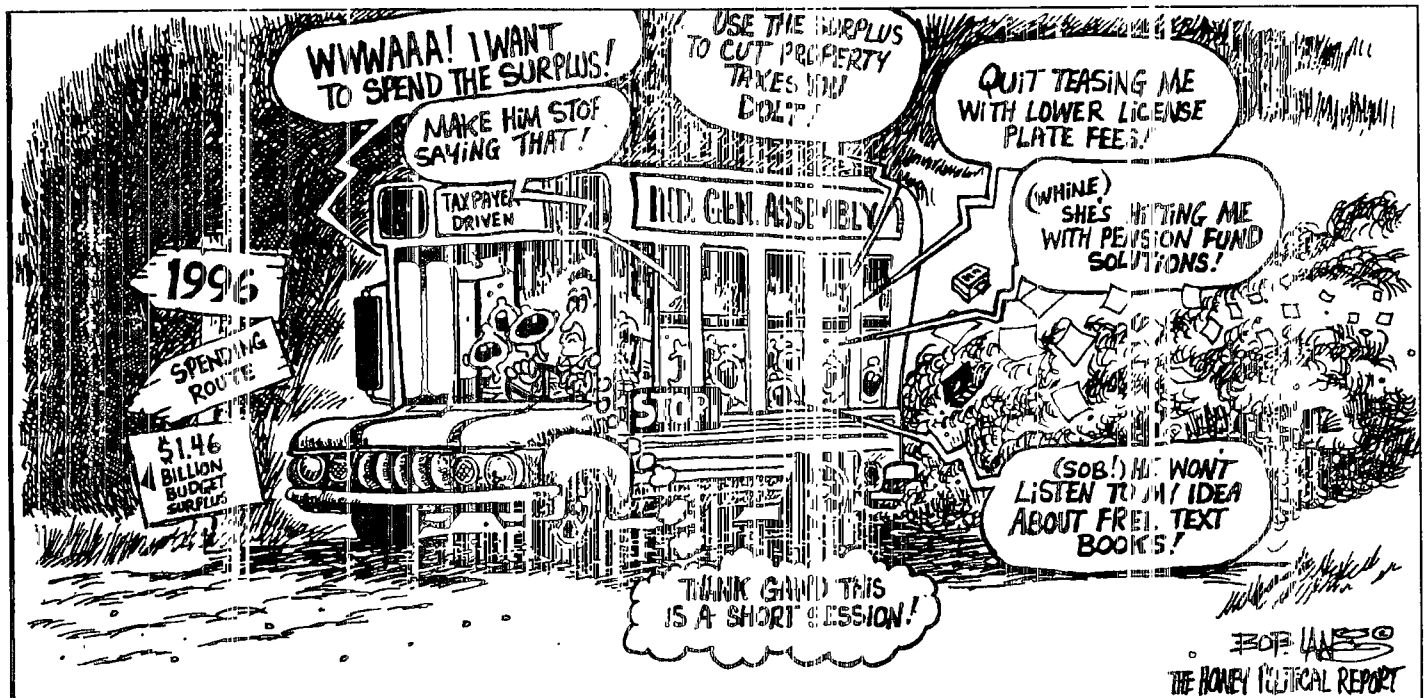
In a sense, the conditions are in place for a brokered convention. *New York Times* columnist William Safire went so far as to suggest that in a brokered convention scenario, “Lugar wins on the 10th ballot.”

After watching this GOP field twist in the New Hampshire and Iowa winds these past two weeks, there seems to be a growing appetite among many Republicans for an old-fashioned multiple-ballot convention. The fear is the party’s nominee coming out of the primary process will be flawed and wounded. Instead of a boring,

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TICKER T A P E

PLAY OF THE WEEK: The campaign staff of U.S. Rep. David McIntosh sowed this little story: his probable fall opponent, Marc Carmichael, attended a fund-raiser for McIntosh last August. Carmichael told the *Muncie Star*, "I was there representing Indiana Gas. I go to as many Republican fund-raisers as I do Democratic fund-raisers." He said Indiana Gas Co. paid his \$125 entry fee. But he told the *Star* that he was "sure there were some people speculating that I would be the eventual challenger."

REJECTED PLAY OF THE WEEK: Several weeks ago, 8th CD Democrat Jonathan Weinzapfel complained about

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Lugar needs at least one victory in New England

From page 1

coronation convention in August, the Republicans might do better against President Clinton with a San Diego thriller - a hot candidate emerging on a consensus ticket.

That is why Dick Lugar is staying in the race. But Lugar will need to notch a win somewhere by March 5 to remain viable. The sights have been set for New England, where he is one of only four candidates on the ballot in Rhode Island. The campaign will also concentrate on Connecticut, Massachusetts and Vermont. While the rest of the field is on a cross-continent scramble, Lugar will be the lone candidate in the Northeast. Forbes won Delaware because he was the only candidate to campaign there.

With at least one win, along with a Dole demise (watch Arizona and South Carolina), Lugar believes he can establish serious credentials for the March 19 Midwest primaries in Illinois, Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin in his backyard, where 119 delegates will be at stake.

Another element possibly coming into play is the transformation of this election from domestic to foreign policy. Casualties in Bosnia, a win by nationalists or Communists in the Russian elections this June, or if the Taiwan-

China showdown flares up would feed into notions of Lugar as a foreign policy expert.

Without some success in New England, however, Lugar will be marginalized and he will have little chance of becoming The Alternative. In fact, if Lugar can't get 10 percent of the vote in his next primary, he'll lose crucial federal election matching funds.

Even if Lugar does win a small state, should no winner emerge from the field, look for intense pressure to be applied on Gen. Powell to become The Great Alternative.

What went wrong?

Why is Lugar reduced to The Alternative strategy in the first place?

There are many reasons, which include:

- This is a "Lugar family" campaign - manned by many Hoosier loyalists who were titans on the Indiana landscape. Running a national race, however, is different and much tougher. The lone family member to have run a national operation - Mitch Daniels as Ronald Reagan's political director - didn't come on board for business and personal reasons. This is no knock on Mark Lubbers, the current campaign manager, but for Lugar to succeed on the

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Encoring with early line on presidential, gov, congressional

HORSE RACE

Yes, it's back. From here to the May 7 primary, Horse Race will analyze the sporting aspects of Indiana politics. In 1994, we were good at this, calling the three GOP Congressional seat pickups and the takeover of the Indiana House. Enjoy!

REPUBLICAN PRESIDENT

STATUS

COMMENTS

Lamar Alexander, Pat Buchanan, Bob Dole, Steve Forbes, Dick Lugar, Alan Keyes, Bob Dornan	LEANS DOLE	Dole has the most money. Lamar has ethical and money problems. Buchanan is a marketing phenom who will end up on Perot's United We Stand ticket. If Dole and Alexander continue to stagger, look for a brokered convention and vigorous efforts to get Colin Powell in the race.
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REPUBLICAN GOVERNOR

Rex Early, Steve Goldsmith, George Witwer	LEANS GOLD-SMITH	No fireworks yet. Any of you guys need a match? The longer Goldsmith goes unchallenged, the harder for Early to get within the margin of error. No debate scheduled yet.
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DEMOCRAT 8TH CD

Jonathan Weinzapfel, Rick McConnell	TOSSUP	A few weeks ago, this would have been a "leans to" McConnell. But Weinzapfel's slating win in Vanderburgh County shows he's a serious contender, particularly since he forced Levco out.
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REPUBLICAN 10TH CD

Virginia Blankenbaker, Marvin Scott	TOSSUP	Blankenbaker has put together a great campaign staff, with Jim Knoop as its cherry. Key question: How enthusiastic will the Marion County GOP come out for Scott? Both candidates will work hard.
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DEMOCRAT 10TH CD

Mmoja Ajabu, Julia Carson, Ann DeLaney	LEANS DELANEY	If this is resolved by skin color, DeLaney wins. Carson trying to reach out to white voters. DeLaney organizational skills outweigh all the people she ticked off as state chair. Ajabu's entry is a bad joke. Let's see Ann and Julia debate!
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REPUBLICAN 3RD CD

Brad Allamong, Rich Burkett, Brian Haygood, Dan Holtz, Joe Zakas	LEANS ZAKAS	Holtz has put together an impressive campaign staff. Strategist Ed Goeas is a big-timer. But HPR sources say Zakas is working the district hard, and if he does, he will be hard to beat.
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TICKER TAPE

Vanderburgh County Democrats slating for the May primary. But on Feb. 17, Weinzapfel won the slating endorsement with 68 percent of the vote. Vanderburgh County Prosecutor Stan Levco subsequently dropped out of the race saying, "It was either a very bad defeat or an expression on behalf of the precinct committeemen that I'm doing a good job as prosecutor" (Jim Beck, Evansville Courier). Weinzapfel now has a different take on slating. "What a tremendous victory. I have a mandate from Democrats in Vanderburgh County. Hopefully, this will be a springboard to get me through the primary."



The Goldsmith administration is refusing to acknowledge an FBI investigation into the city's Department of Public Works. "We don't know anything about it," Goldsmith press secretary Ed Sagabiel told *Nuvo*. The FBI had told HPR that it can neither "confirm or deny" an investigation "particularly in this case." *Nuvo* reports that Jack F. Smith, a former internal affairs investigator in the administration, said he was interviewed by the FBI over ghost employment allegations. *Nuvo* quoted Smith as saying, "At the time I did the investigation, I merely went to Goldsmith and told him about

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Lubbers on a brokered convention; speculates on a Lugar bid in 2000

MERRIMACK, N.H. - At the time of this interview with Mark Lubbers, campaign manager for U.S. Sen. Dick Lugar, he was looking at Lugar placing fifth with 6 percent of the vote.

It went down to 5 percent by night's end. And while there was ample disappointment, Lubbers still saw openings for Lugar to continue as a player in both 1996 and 2000.

HPR: Where do you go from here?

Lubbers: We go to Washington, first, and figure out what happened tonight. Analyze where we are moneywise, organizationwise in New England, and then in all likelihood, hit it again in Vermont, Maine, Connecticut, Rhode Island and Massachusetts.

HPR: Pennsylvania, where Lamar Alexander isn't on the ballot?

Lubbers: Pennsylvania is late. It is after the Midwest primary.

HPR: What is your scenario for a brokered convention?

Lubbers: Well, because of the winner-take-all system, you're going to have to have this horse race continue between Alexander, Buchanan and Dole for some time. And it could. It depends on how much money Lamar can raise, and he's in the same financial condition we are, basically. And for that matter, Buchanan is not in that much better position. You could see them go on and each starting to split up delegates to where none of them gets the nomination. I don't reject it. It's more likely ... one of the things we've seen in the shelf life of information and public sentiment is shorter today than ever before. The way the people will feel about these candidates could change remarkably in the next two or three weeks. Alexander for sure because he's got such a checkered past, ethically. And look, Buchanan has run for president three times in New Hampshire and he couldn't deliver a knockout blow. Dole has spent a fortune in this state, he's got the best organization in the state, he's got the governor endorsing him, he's got everything a person would want and he can't even get a quarter of the vote. So he's obviously a flawed candidate and Buchanan simply can't get better than 30 percent of the vote

nationally. So here we are again, looking at our 6 percent and it's not a horrible thing. And we are victims tonight, as we were in Iowa, of the wasted vote phenomenon. We had people who wanted somebody besides Buchanan, besides Alexander and besides Dole and those were our votes. We were at 10 in the New York Post poll this morning and they didn't show up tonight. If Dole gets a third, Buchanan gets a third and Alexander gets a third, then at a brokered convention they're going to be looking for somebody different. It's the Lincoln strategy.

HPR: Lugar's backyard comes into play with the Michigan, Ohio, Illinois and Wisconsin primaries on March 19.

Lubbers: Yeah, but we've got to do something before then.

HPR: Right.

Lubbers: We would take a good hard shot at Vermont, Rhode Island, where there are only four of us on the ballot, and see if we can make some magic happen. There's got to be buyer's remorse that sets in here once they've figured out what they've done. I mean, Clinton will beat any of these three candidates.

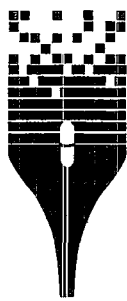
HPR: A week ago, Lugar and Alexander were pretty much in the same boat. Lugar actually was leading Alexander in some polls. What happened?

Lubbers: They were in virtually identical situations. And as you reported in your last newsletter, Dick Lugar had to go back and manage the farm bill and that cost us four days of campaigning in Iowa when people were making up their minds. And he stole the march on us. Here, we were victimized by the wasted vote syndrome. Lugar had been up to 10 in most of the tracking polls leading up to today. And people when they went to the polls today felt they couldn't let Buchanan win so we lost votes to Alexander and Bob Dole in an attempt by honest Republicans to stop Pat. We've always said this was a race between Alexander and Lugar to inherit the Dole base. If America wants to nominate someone with as checkered an ethical past as Lamar Alexander, then not only is that party in trouble, but the whole democratic process is

HPR INTERVIEW

"One of the lessons for all of us is that you look at who wins the presidential nominating process and very rarely does somebody win on their first try"

- Mark Lubbers



in deep trouble.

HPR: Is this the last presidential race for Dick Lugar?

Lubbers: I don't think so. He's 63, which is still young. He'd be 67 next time when he runs and 68 when he would be sworn into office. So for someone who runs three miles four times a week and is in the kind of physical shape that he's in, that is definitely not beyond the pale and one of the lessons for all of us is that you look at who wins the presidential nominating process and very rarely does somebody win on their first try.

HPR: You learned a lot along the way.

Lubbers: I'll say.

HPR: Could he run again and still remain a U.S. senator?

Lubbers: I would say not. I would say that as honorable and dutybound as he is, that you would have to devote your full attention to it. If you're going to be in it, that would mean you'd have to miss a tremendous number of (Senate) votes.

HPR: Is there any scenario where he would pull out of this race tomorrow or within the next week or so?

Lubbers: Sure.

HPR: He pretty much had to say he was going to keep going.

Lubbers: And that's our intent tonight. We don't know what the final numbers are going to be here. We're going to look at the decision polls tell us to find out why people voted for various folks. If Dole is terminally injured, we know that the only reason people vote for him is his experience. And Lugar is the only other candidate with experience.

HPR: In January 1995 at the Godfrey Sperling breakfast in Washington, a number of national media types encouraged Dick Lugar to get into this race. And yet, they shut you out.

Lubbers: It's part of the cult of personality we're engaged in. Two things I could cite will make my point, and Jim Shella will use this in his analysis piece over the weekend; Charlie Gibson, walking into the room where GMA was doing all their interviews this week looks over at Lamar Alexander and Pat Buchanan and says, "Look, two of the props in the presidential campaign, I mean candidates." And he was right the first time because that's the way the media has

treated this whole process. It's getting worse, not better. The second one was, I watched WMUR tonight and I see it is underwritten, I mean sponsored, by Miller Lite. And I suppose by the end of the evening we'll have the Chevrolet Player of the Game. I mean this process has been absolutely likened to a sporting event and that's not the way it should be.

HPR: When Lugar talked tonight about a big two weeks ahead, was that a pledge to go on?

Lubbers: If he had pledged to go on, he would have said, "I pledge to go on." It's clearly our intent. You've been more inside our campaign than anybody else. If we go on, we'll make our stand in New England. Buchanan's victory assures that. If Dole had won, I could put it only at a very small chance to knock Dole off.

HPR: Does Alexander win most of Super Tuesday in the Southland?

Lubbers: Dole is going to beat him like a drum. I mean the whole Super Tuesday ... I mean the South would have fallen like 1864 if he had won here tonight.

HPR: What do you do to stay in, as far as raising money?

Lubbers: Nobody is going to raise a lot of money with our showing in fifth place tonight. We've been careful how we've spent money. We've seen three candidates go by the boards for a lack of money: Pete Wilson, Sen. Specter and Sen. Gramm. We've got a half a million in the bank. We've got a three-way horse race at the top. We could either see a brokered convention or we can hang around, which is our intent, and see if they don't beat each other up with negative advertising.

HPR: Can you hang on until the Midwest?

Lubbers: What you can't do is hang on everywhere. We will not go to Arizona, Delaware or Colorado.

HPR: Can Lugar inherit a lot of endorsements in the Midwest if Dole falls apart?

Lubbers: Well, the endorsements are virtually useless, Brian. The popular governor of New Hampshire did three commercials by my count over the last two months to elect Bob Dole and he got only 23 percent. So endorsements are worthless. If that's true in New Hampshire, I guarantee they're worthless in Ohio, and Illinois.

TICKER T A P E

theft and ghost employment and OSHA violations."

Some political observers believe Goldsmith is making a big mistake by not acknowledging the probe is underway. Said one Republican, "I'd rather have this hit the news in winter than have it blow up next October."

Julia Carson was slated by Marion County Democrats on Feb. 17 after Ann DeLaney refused to participate. Said Carson, "Contrary to the views of a few, I am not the African-American candidate for Congress from Indianapolis, I am the Democratic candidate for Congress who happens to be an African-American."

Mmoja Ajabu has filed as a Democrat in the 10th CD. It is legal for convicted Hoosiers to run for office while appeals are pending.

Republican gubernatorial hopeful George Witwer finally made it official, filing his candidacy with Secretary of State Sue Ann Gilroy, carrying more than 5,000 signatures under his arm. Indianapolis Mayor Stephen Goldsmith filed with 9,608 signatures. Lt. Gov. Frank O'Bannon presented 10,000 signatures, making a point of noting they came from all 92 counties.

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After the three gubernatorial candidates addressed the Indiana Federation of College Republicans in Indianapolis Saturday, they conducted a straw poll, where Goldsmith came in with 60 percent, Witwer with 28 percent and Early with 12 percent.

Ed Goetas has joined the Dan Holtz for Congress campaign in the 3rd CD as chief strategist. Joel Cheesman, who worked on David McIntosh's 1994 campaign, has come on board as communications director. Goetas, who heads the Fairness Group, which is also working with the Goldsmith campaign, said of Holtz, "He is the clear conservative choice as the Republican nominee against Roemer in November."

Former Monroe County GOP Chairman John Lee Smith kicked off his "Take the Campaign to the Voters" effort in Crawfordsville as he seeks the 7th CD nomination. The goal: Talk to every voter in the district before election day. "That all begins this Saturday and will continue non-stop through election day," said campaign manager Bill Maegerlein.

Hamilton County Prosecutor Sonia Leerkamp is refusing to press charges on an Indy 500

COLUMNISTS ON INDIANA

Dave Kitchell, Logansport Pharos-Tribune - When it comes to Lugar's organization in Indiana, "The Lugar Team" in 1994 meant a dynastic political sweep of state offices. But when it came to presidential politics this year, "The Lugar Team" has only meant an expansion franchise in the diluted field of presidential politics. For Lugar, now in his early sixties, this may be his last campaign at-bat. His next campaign would not come until 2000, and given the number of defections from the Senate among incumbents, this campaign may very well be his final one in a class, distinguished career.

Dan Quayle, Indianapolis Star - Internecine struggles are simply the growing pains of an emerging majority party. They're also a sign that the chance to be the Republican nominee in 1996 is a prize well worth having. All we need to do is stick to the high road and keep this primary campaign focused on our message: lower taxes, less regulation, strong families and integrity. Remember: Bill Clinton is the ultimate opponent.

Brian Howey, HPR - Both Pa. Buchanan and Dick Lugar are operating shoestring budget campaigns. But Buchanan has mastered TV and sloganeering from years as a Nixon speechwriter to his part on CNN's Crossfire. Bob Dole seemed to get the hang of it after his embarrassing loss to Buchanan on Tuesday. As the campaign moved to the Dakotas, Dole's contrast was his "mainstream" to Buchanan's "extreme." How did Buchanan respond? With a press conference in front of Mount Rushmore, simply telling folks that he is no extremist; that Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln and Teddy Roosevelt all effectively used tariffs. Lugar, Dole and Clinton would be wise to take heed of Buchanan's mastery of the image. Or as Ronald Reagan would say, "There he goes again."

Kris Meltzer, Shelbyville News - George Washington is the father of our country. He is the general who led the revolution. He survived the harsh winter at Valley Forge. He ate cherry

pie with his wooden teeth and never told a lie. George Washington deserves a lot more than to be lumped together with all of those other presidents who came after him. He may have lost his holiday, but now, thanks to good ol' American capitalism, he is finally getting the recognition he deserves: Wal-Mart is building a store on the site of Washington's boyhood home. Just think, little boys will be able to enjoy a cherry slurpee in the same spot where Washington chopped down the cherry tree.

Curt Koveker, Crothersville Times - What if, after obtaining a college degree and a teaching certificate, educators could only teach for just six or 12 years before being forced to seek employment in another field? Why don't we let newspapers publish for eight years then shut 'em down and let some inexperienced reporters have a shot? Pretty preposterous? But on another level, that's what a Denver-based group called Americans Back in Charge are promoting. This past week ABIC sent out fliers to voters throughout the nation who had congressmen and senators opposing the recently defeated term limits resolution in Congress. Here in the 9th District, residents received a four-page flier blasting Congressman Lee Hamilton for voting against the issue. The only people who should limit the terms of officer of their congressman or senator are the voters.

Mary Dieter, Louisville Courier Journal - Well, there's the session of the Indiana General Assembly. And then there's that other gathering taking place in Indianapolis these days: a convention of lieutenant governor wannabees. At least 12 lawmakers have been mentioned or are mentioning themselves as potential candidates for the No. 2 spot on the ballot next November. Also on the list: five statewide office holders, three mayors, two former mayors, a former congressman, a former county prosecutor, a U.S. attorney, a gubernatorial candidate, a former gubernatorial candidate, a former U.S. Senate candidate and a businesswoman. That's 30 at least, 18 Republicans, 12 Democrats.

Lugar's lack of success is a marketing problem

From page 2

national level, he may need either Daniels or an outsider with that experience who can persuade the senator to do what is necessary to win. Lubbers acknowledges that this has been a learning experience (HPR Interview, p. 5-6).

■ There is a recognition in the campaign that rarely does anyone win on their first try, particularly on the GOP side with Reagan, Bush and Dole as prime examples. Of all the candidates in the 1996 cycle, Lugar will emerge with his reputation fully intact.

■ Sources in the campaign acknowledge that it is almost impossible to run for president while holding office. Alexander and Lugar were in the same place in the polls prior to both Iowa and New Hampshire, and had a similar amount of cash on hand. Yet Alexander placed in Iowa because he could be there, while Lugar was back in Washington managing the farm bill. Lugar refused to initiate, much less even talk about, running a presidential campaign until after his 1994 re-election run. That was "too late" in the specter of presidential politics and that tag dogged him, taking a life of its own in the media.

■ Lugar was encouraged to enter the race while meeting with members of the national media at the Godfrey Sperling breakfast in January 1995. While there have been a number of glowing columns about Lugar in the months leading up to the primaries, Lugar was shut out of coverage by the beat TV and press reporters who rely exclusively on "conventional wisdom" in their horse race coverage. A classic example was Tim Russert of NBC's *Meet the Press*. Lugar has appeared on that program the fifth most times in its long history, but not once since he declared his candidacy. Russert told National Public Radio on the eve of the New Hampshire primary that it was probable a "mistake" not to have covered Lugar.

■ While Bob Dole told a crowd in Milford, N.H. on election eve that he didn't realize job security would be such a big issue, Lugar has been talking about stagnant mien income. When it comes to taxes, he has championed a national sales tax and an anti-tax

group showered the Granite State with "Abolish the IRS" signs prior to the campaign. But Lugar never effectively got his message out, with 4 percent in Iowa and 5 percent in New Hampshire as ample evidence. The campaign consistently said that Lugar refused to be

LUGAR WATCH

reduced to a "soundbite." Obviously, Lugar's problem is marketing - something Pat Buchanan has figured out. Again, this is where a figure with national campaign experience might weigh in with principled marketing techniques that still give the senator ethical comfort. Here's a final case in point: of all the elements of the 1994 Republican Revolution, Lugar was one of the only one's to deliver in his restructuring of American agriculture and the downsizing of the USDA. And Lugar had the presidential-level achievement in the Lugar-Nunn Act, which is responsible for the systematic destruction of old Soviet warheads. Neither of these messages were delivered to voters effectively via mass media. HPR heard over and over in Iowa and New Hampshire scores of voters saying they "just didn't know who Lugar is" or voters dismissing the whole field as negative campaigners who behaved in typical Washingtonian fashion.

Lugar will look at 2000

Here's HPR's 1996 scenario at this juncture: Dole staggers to the nomination with a big win in California just as his primary funds run out. Buchanan declares war on the GOP establishment and, with a giant sucking sound, jumps to the United We Stand ticket. In a three-way race, Clinton wins re-election.

A less likely scenario is the two-man race, where Dole holds the South and West, and wins either New York, California and two big Midwestern states for an Electoral College victory.

In either case, the 2000 presidential race may be a free-for-all. Dole would finish a sec

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pool at a party at the home of Conesco CEO's Steve Hilbert. More than \$250,000 was in the pool, prompting Marion County Prosecutor Scott Newman to leave the party. Gov. Bayh and Indianapolis Mayor Stephen Goldsmith attended. Said Leerkamp, "The illegal gambling statutes in Indiana have rather all-encompassing language which may be applied to situations such as the one at hand or the Saturday night poker game among friends" (*Indianapolis Star*).

Conesco's Hilbert made other news, buying a \$20 million stake in Dan Quayle's fast-growing financial services company, Circle Investors, Inc.

HPR cartoonist Bob Lang is now a regularly featured artist on CNN's "All Politics" web site on America Online.

U.S. Rep. Tim Roemer has come out for a balanced budget in seven years. Speaking in Michigan City, Roemer explained, "A farmer once said to me: 'Tim, here's how I explain the deficit. When I find myself in a hole, I quit digging.' We've got to stop digging a hole." (*Dan Rosenberg, Michigan City News-Dispatch*).

Roemer also commented on this curious issue: changing the tax code so that companies aren't

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TICKER

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rewarded for closing U.S. mainland factories down and moving them to Puerto Rico. That was the earthquake issue that never erupted in his 1990 campaign against John Miller, an election he won by just 2,600 votes. Roemer's wife, Sally, once lobbied in Washington for a member of the Puerto Rican legislature. And Roemer's father-in-law, U.S. Sen. Bennett Johnston, D-La., helped write that tax code provision. In 1990, Whitehall Laboratories in Elkhart had announced it was moving 700 jobs to Puerto Rico.



Hubbard says Quayle is planning a 2000 run

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ond term at age 80 and may settle as a one-term.

Lugar will take a long hard look at 2000, unless he's Secretary of State, and that is unlikely to happen if Frank O'Bannon becomes governor of Indiana. Sources say that Lugar will not let a Democratic governor fill his Senate seat.

Lugar would be 67 years old in 2000, one presidential campaign under his belt, and would be in a position to rectify the '96 shortcomings.

Quayle has 2000 in his plans

The problem is, Lugar will not be the only Hoosier aiming for 2000. Former Indiana Republican Chairman Al Hubbard told HFR that Dan Quayle will run in 2000.

There is no love lost between the Lugar and Quayle organizations in Indiana. While Quayle has a national support base, he still will need as Indiana fund-raising base. That is in doubt because Quayle has angered many Republicans here as being elusive and for not supporting Lugar. There will likely be an intricate political chess game for cornering in-state support by 1998.

The key to this might be the '96 governor's race. If O'Bannon wins, Lugar would not resign his seat to run for president full time.

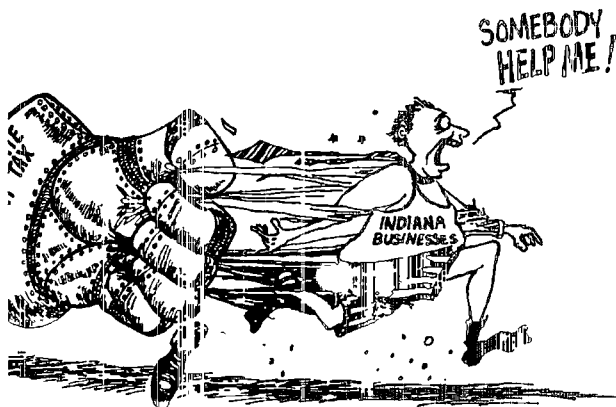
Bayh might reconsider

And then there's Evan Bayh. He is poised to challenge U.S. Sen. Dan Coats in 1998. He never raised taxes as governor, but Coats hasn't supported new taxes in Congress. Bayh's career has been a series of electoral lay-ups. He'll need to shoot three-pointers to defeat Coats.

If Clinton wins re-election, Bayh might want to reconsider a race against Coats. He is virtually alone nationally with "New Democrat" credentials. Bayh could be in a position to effectively challenge Vice President Gore for the nomination in 2000, particularly if a second Clinton administration wobbles or self-destructs.

Why didn't Bayh push harder for the Chicago Bears moving to Gary? Because it was his friend, Mayor Richard Daley, who saved Clinton's 1992 campaign. And the early death of Bayh's mother, Marvella, to cancer has Bayh moving on an accelerated career path.

2000 has a good chance of being an intriguing Hoosier presidential odyssey.



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