

# THE HOWEY POLITICAL REPORT



## The Weekly Briefing On Indiana Politics

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## “QUOTE” OF THE WEEK

“I think I’m just going to move past it because I don’t think anything productive can come from it ....”

—Mayor Stephen Goldsmith, to the Indianapolis Star, on a city audit of the parks department showing that \$26,000 was paid for work not done.

# Dole Drag makes long shadows here

## GOP fade may have big downticket impact

**HPR Forecast:** The political impotence of the Bob Dole presidential campaign is beginning to cast long shadows over Indiana’s November landscape. It’s becoming - with all due respect to Joe Camel - the Dole Drag.



**INDIANAPOLIS** - Several weeks after the May primary, boosters of Republican gubernatorial nominee Stephen Goldsmith were hinting at an increased double-digit lead in his race against Lt. Gov. Frank O’Bannon.

It seemed plausible that Goldsmith’s 10-point April lead had grown. Goldsmith did exceptionally well in areas around South Bend and in the Ohio River valley. None of Rex Early’s media attacks seemed to stick.

**But a Mason-Dixon Indiana Poll** released last week jolted the state’s political establishment. Goldsmith had only a 42-36 percent lead over O’Bannon. And more stunning, Bob Dole led President Clinton by only 45-41 percent.

Nationally, Clinton had a 24-point lead over Dole in an ICR Survey Research Group poll released on July 26. It found Clinton leading 52-28 over Dole. That included a 7-percent increase over the week before and had Clinton cracking the 50 percent barrier for the first time since the primary season.

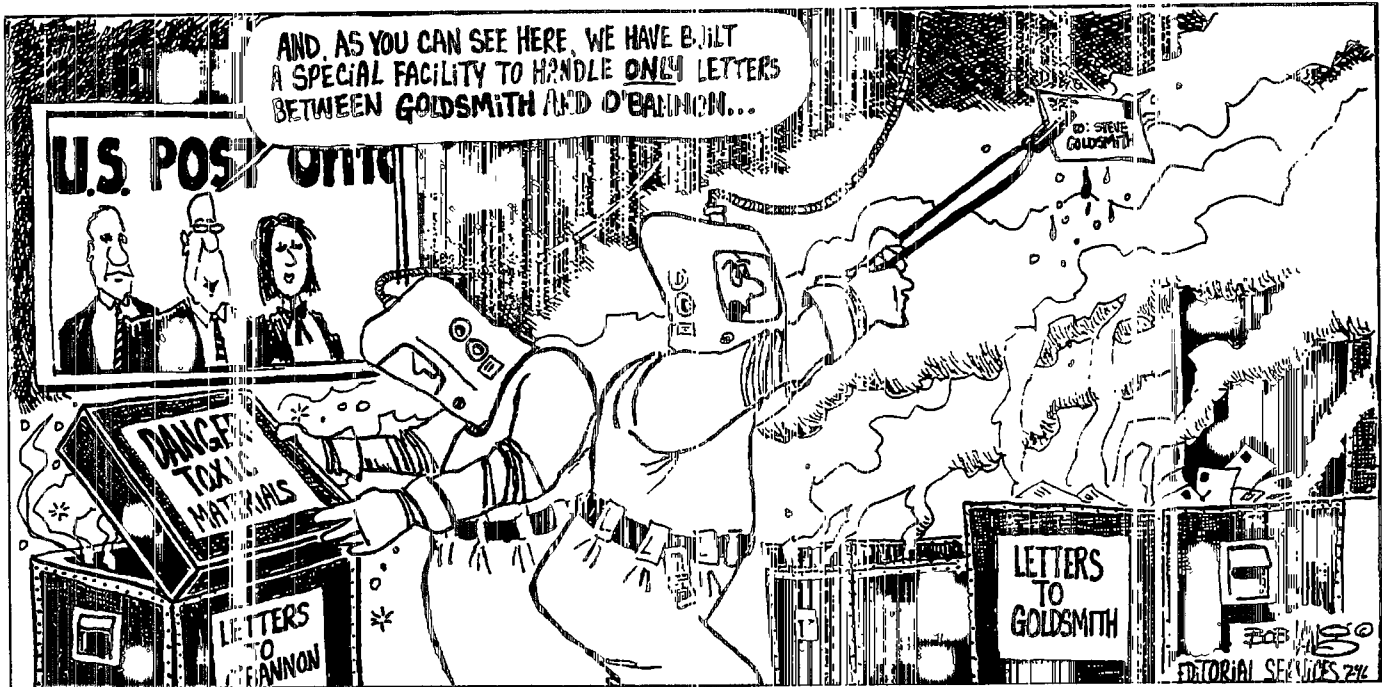
**The reasons for the Clinton bump** vary. Bill Clinton runs for president better than he does anything else. He has dodged potentially lethal political issues concerning the Whitewater Little Rock trials, “Filegate” and nasty books from disgruntled FBI agents and best-selling journalists. He may have benefitted from the recent events surround the summer Olympics, the Atlanta bombing, and the downing of TWA Flight 800. Also, summer polls are always hindered by high vacation rates.

What these trends show is good news for Democrats. HPR

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- Indiana’s fastest-growing source of political news*



# TICKER

## T A P E

**PLAY OF THE WEEK:** The Indianapolis Star lay-out desk for its July 20 edition. Besides the Lynn Ford column, which noted the strange ironies of the violent Indiana weather and Tommie Lee Smith's execution on the same night, was a storm damage photo showing a tree lying across a tombstone with the name "Smith" inscribed across the front.

Knowledgeable sources tell HPR that the Dole campaign has not asked for paperwork on U.S. Sen. Dick Lugar. That's not to say that Lugar isn't in play in the veep list. Some of the key people who handled the security searches for the Reagan campaign in 1980 are involved with Dole's search

*Continued on page 3*

## Goldsmith, O'Bannon become pen pals;

**Pen pals!**  
Frank O'Bannon and Steve Goldsmith went through an excruciating exchange of campaign finance reform proposals via the mail over the past two weeks. Goldsmith accused O'Bannon of worming his way toward "liberal" special interest money. Meanwhile, Goldsmith is raking in proceeds from contractors and conservative special interests.

So the end result will be the most expensive gubernatorial campaign in Hoosier history - probably in the \$8 million to \$10 million range. It will only be a precursor of things to come, such as the Evan Bayh-Dan Coats Senate showdown in 1998, which could be one of the most expensive Senate races in history.

### What was Newt worth?

Speaker Newt Gingrich appeared in Indianapolis on behalf of 10th CD Republican nominee Virginia Blankenbaker. She raised \$40,000 from the Garfield Park venue, but only half of an expected 800 people attended because of the stormy weather.

As you'll see in the HPR interview, U.S. Rep. Mark Souder explained that a Gingrich visit is typically worth \$50,000 in fundraising, but minus \$250,000 in negative advertising that

Democratic opponents will use in a TV commercial this fall. In fact, Democratic strategist James Carville recently told ABC's Sam Donaldson that he would love to have the Democrats pay \$2 million to put Gingrich on the air this fall. When Julia Carson announced her candidacy, she told HPR she wasn't inclined

**1996 WATCH** to make Gingrich an issue. If she runs any kind of a TV ad campaign this fall, it will be fascinating if she doesn't play the Gingrich card against Blankenbaker.

### TV coverage was spotty

TV coverage of the Gingrich visit was spotty. One Indianapolis TV station showed B-roll of Gingrich's visit to Indianapolis last summer at the RCA Dome. Another concentrated almost exclusively on Gingrich protestors.

Blankenbaker put out a media advisory saying there would be no one-on-one interviews. But when Gingrich emerged from his car, a reporter from WRTV stepped in quickly to ask for an interview, which the Speaker granted, leaving the other TV crews steaming.

**Duncan-Kellerman race moves into tossup zone; Lohr looks endangered**

**HORSE RACE**

**TRENDLINE:** *Nuvo's* wundermind Harrison Ullman ponders the coverage his small staff gives "Golfgate" and how it has been ignored by the "mainstream media." Perhaps if *Nuvo* would drop all of those slutty advertisements the mainstreamers would take it more seriously.

**PRESIDENT**

Bill Clinton, D Bob Dole, R Ralph Nader, I	<b>Leans D</b>	Mason-Dixon poll gives Dole a 44-41 percent lead in Indiana - terrible numbers for a Republican. Nationally, the lead is 24 points, 53-28. The significance there is Clinton has cracked the 50 percent barrier. Perot acting more like ol' time party boss than new age political reformer.
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**GOVERNOR**

Stephen Goldsmith, R Frank O'Bannon, D Steve Dillon, L	<b>Leans R</b>	Mason-Dixon poll shows this race tightening up, with Goldsmith leading 42-36 percent. City audits show Oscar Robertson/Smoot paid for work not done. Goldsmith responds by wanting to move beyond it. Which reminds HR of someone whistling past the graveyard.
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**8TH CD**

John Hostettler, R Jonathon Weinzapfel, D	<b>Tossup</b>	Weinzapfel has apparently irritated some labor groups by urging Medicare cuts. The candidate says he is taking the Clinton position. NRCC probe of Weinzapfel finances could be a problem, as well as his own bottom line.
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**67TH HOUSE**

Cleo Duncan, R Vickie Kellerman, D	<b>TOSSUP</b>	We moved this race into the tossup zone because of the national dynamic and O'Bannon's resilience. Democrats are expected to exploit missed votes by Duncan at the end of the '95 session, but those came due to a deathbed vigil. That could be a double-edged sword.
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**46TH HOUSE**

David Lohr, R Vern Tincher, D	<b>LIKELY D</b>	Again, same story. Dole Drag is close to putting this in the bag for Tincher. Even top Republicans are pessimistic that Lohr can hold this seat and, privately, some are saying that it's just as well due to Lohr's firebrand reputation.
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**Horse Race Key:** Safe means assured victory; Likely is outside 10 points; Leans is between 4 and 9 points; Tossup is within statistical margin of error. Status in bold/caps means a change.

**TICKER TAPE**

this year. So they already have much of the Lugar paperwork. The other thing to watch is for strikes going against many of those prominently on the list, which could lead Lugar into the final short list simply because other than the mortician rap, there aren't any.

There is further evidence that the New York Times' day-after coverage that had the Indiana Republican convention dominated by the pro-life wing was bogus. An Associated Press survey revealed that of 44 of 52 Hoosier delegates to the national convention, 24 said the platform should not support a constitutional amendment to ban abortion, 11 said they do support such an amendment and 9 said they didn't know. Nationally, 41 percent of the delegates favor the platform to call for a ban on abortions, while 34 opposed it and 24 were undecided.

House Speaker Newt Gingrich mentioned Indianapolis Mayor Stephen Goldsmith on last Sunday's edition of "Meet the Press" on NBC. Gingrich was asked about a potential Dole tax cut and how it could possibly be accomplished and still keep the deficit from rising. "Privatization" like what Goldsmith has done in Indianapolis was part of Gingrich's reply.

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## Souder doesn't see 'any evidence' of Dole campaign clicking in '96

FORT WAYNE - Of Indiana's Congressional delegation, no one is more astute in assessing the current environment than 4th CD Republican Mark Souder.

HPR has consistently found Souder's assessment of the political dynamic both in-state and nationally to be correct, if not precise.

While Souder is not facing much of a threat from Democrat Jerry Houseman in his first re-election battle, he is expected to take part in House campaign battles this fall as a strategist in his caucus.

We asked Souder to assess the impact of the 104th Congress, the current and forthcoming political environment, President Clinton, Bob Dole and, of course, Speaker Newt Gingrich in this interview.

**HPR:** What are you hearing from your constituents these days?

**Souder:** The two most common questions I get in Northeast Indiana are: Why aren't you getting your message out, and does Dole have a chance?

**HPR:** Let's start with Dole. George Will said on Brinkley last Sunday that the reason Republicans are pushing welfare reform in Congress so hard is they figure Dole is a loser and they want to be able to take something home to voters.

**Souder:** I think that's an overstatement. It isn't that we think Dole doesn't have a chance. It's just that we haven't seen any evidence of it.

**HPR:** Well, poor ol' Bob doesn't have any money right now, to be fair.

**Souder:** It's more than just the money, though. How, when you're talking about the Atlanta Olympics, do you take that moment in time to announce that you will open up Pennsylvania Avenue if you become president? And you kind of go: What? Come again? Not only doesn't he have the paid media time, but he's not using his free media time wisely. It's not real clear to us why Clinton is speaking to the Disabled Veterans and Dole isn't. So what it does is, we know we can't depend on Dole to carry us in. It doesn't mean that he won't win.

But it does mean that if he comes back and wins, it's going to be a charge in the last couple of weeks. Therefore, we need a record to run on. One of those will be that we got welfare reform done. Another one will be that we got health care reform. The bottom line is that doesn't necessarily help Dole. It also shows that Clinton can govern. It shows the American people that maybe having a conservative Congress that pushes hard - and this is if you're a moderate or a liberal - maybe having Clinton there isn't such a bad deal. Now, if you're a conservative, you can still say that we could accomplish more, but that's why the columns are running the way they are. It's not that we don't think he has a chance. We're just going to make sure we can maintain control of Congress. We hope he comes along, but we're not going to wait anymore.

**HPR:** Do you get the sense that Americans, having witnessed the Carter presidency and the first two Clinton years of total Democratic control, believe a divided government is better?

**Souder:** I believe there is a fair number of that. I believe the vast majority of people have become increasingly conservative and would like to see a Congress reflecting those views. So that takes me back to Republicans whining about message. Most of any drop we've had in the polls, I believe, is due to distortions in Medicare. Most people still want the budget balanced, strong defense, English as the first language, cracking down on drugs, term limits. So our agenda and what people say they want is very conservative. In responding to your question, people are saying, "We don't like the media version of what you're saying." If we had an attractive Republican candidate ... Let me rephrase that. If we had somebody more attractive than Bob Dole - he's not unattractive, but he's not exactly inspirational - if we had an attractive conservative candidate who could appeal, I think we would be ahead for president and Congress. So the assumption that they want both parties doesn't override the fact they're conservative. But if the candidate is perceived

# HPR INTERVIEW

"We know Dole won't carry us in. It doesn't mean that he won't win. But it does mean that if he comes back and wins, it's going to be a charge in the last couple of weeks..."

- Rep. Mark Souder



as weak, they don't perceive it as a crushing blow. There is increasing support for what you said.

**HPR:** Will the vice president choice have much of an impact?

**Souder:** No. Conventional wisdom is he's going to take a guy a lot like him. Awhile ago, he was going to take a Midwestern governor. If someone said your life hangs on one of three choices, I'd say one, Engler; two, Rumsfeld, Cheney, or Lugar, someone in the a-lot-like-Dole-mode, or three, a break-the-mold guy like McCain and Thompson in the Senate. The problem with John Kasich is that he provides too much of a hyperactivity comparison to Dole.

**HPR:** My gut feeling right now is George Voinovich. It's a-lot-like-Dole meets Midwestern governor.

**Souder:** It wouldn't shock me if it was Lugar. That's what amazes me. The only thing that would really shake things up is to announce part of a team: Lugar is going to be secretary of state, Powell as secretary of defense and Nunn as vice president. That would get some excitement. The basic pitch would be, the adults are taking over.

**HPR:** We've talked in the past about the polls bending against Congressional Republicans and your prediction of a snapback. Have we seen the snapback?

**Souder:** It's when you start to jell in the campaign season and when people focus in, and the media dictating the tone in the middle. We're just now starting to see a little movement, but as I just said in an interview some of the freshmen had with the New York Times Magazine, literally we get so sick of hearing this, "You guys are struggling." Well, no, there isn't a freshman, with the exception of Wes Cooley, who isn't double Dole (in the polls). Right now he's 25 down. We don't have any freshmen 25 down. You know John Hostettler will probably win that race. The odds are Dole won't carry that district, even if he carries Indiana.

**HPR:** How many freshman will win?

**Souder:** Not counting Enid Greene and two others, if you take those three off, I don't think we'll lose more than five and may not lose any. If Dole stays more than 10 down, we're looking at tough times.

**HPR:** You don't have much of a race.

**Souder:** I don't think I'll have much of a race. I think Dave (McIntosh) looks pretty solid. Hostettler is running pretty strong. Hamilton's worked it really hard so he has the edge down there depending on how Dole and Goldsmith do. Roemer having Kernan on the ticket helps him in his district, but if there's a Republican tide Zakas could gain there. I think we'll hold Pease and who knows what's happening in the 10th.

**HPR:** What will be the main post-Labor Day theme?

**Souder:** The unifying theme that was in the Contract and we'll use again is that we trust individuals and local communities to make decisions, not Washington. It's a theme as Ronald Reagan's speech for Barry Goldwater. There will be variations on that theme no matter what the issue is.

**HPR:** Put welfare into context.

**Souder:** It's not critical. We passed welfare multiple times. But here's where welfare helps us in close races like John's (Hostettler) might be. It's to show that we just don't stand there and argue our principles, that we're able to get a few things done

**HPR:** Will there be a Son of Contract or a Capitol steps centerpiece?

**Souder:** No. One of the themelines emerging that wasn't predictable is the drug issue. That's emerged as a cutting edge. It hits at an underlying question of character and values.

**HPR:** But wasn't the drug war prior to the Clinton presidency a boondoggle? We saw that in Fort Wayne during the '92 and '94 campaigns.

**Souder:** No. I think there's a lot of question on the treatment side. We haven't seen corresponding increases on the treatment side. But the fact is on interdiction, when they cut back on resources, we've seen an increase in supply, an increase in purity and a drop in street price.

**HPR:** How are you getting along with Speaker Gingrich?

**Souder:** Oh, we don't talk much. When he comes in, you raise at least \$50,000 and if cancels your fundraiser, it's worth \$250,000. Not that you raise it, but that it means that much in your opponent's ads. It's hard to call me a Newt Clone. It would take \$250,000 that won't come in negative ads.

# TICKER

## T A P E

### FEC REPORTS JUNE 30

#### 1ST CD

**Petyo (R)** \$12,706 received January '95 through June '96; 4 percent from PACs; \$11,664 spent; \$1,041 cash on hand June 30; \$14,106 debt.

**Visdoskey (D)** \$156,080 received January '95 through June '96; 65 percent from PACs; \$131,059 spent; \$85,196 cash on hand June 30.

#### 2ND CD

**McIntosh (R)** \$910,572 received January '95 through June '96; 36 percent from PACs; \$345,642 spent; \$605,062 cash on hand; \$13,509 debt.

**Carmichael (D)** \$105,314 raised January '95 through June '96; 56 percent from PACs; \$65,407 spent; \$47,525 cash on hand; \$33,530 debt.

#### 3RD CD

**Zakas (R)** \$90,561 raised January '95 through June '96; 2 percent from PACs; \$52,419 spent; \$38,142 cash on hand.

**Roemer (D)** \$274,702 raised January '95 through June '96; 63 percent from PACs; \$83,101 spent; \$315,418 cash on hand.

#### 4TH CD

**Souder (R)** \$249,185 raised from January '95 to June '96; 32 percent from PACs;

*continued on page 6*

# TICKER

## T A P E

\$189,593 spent; \$65,792 cash on hand.

Houseman (D) \$27,466 raised from January '95 to June '96; 18 percent from PACs; \$20,212 spent; \$7,254 cash on hand.

### 5TH CD

Buyer (R) \$214,641 raised from January '95 to June '96; 42 percent from PACs; \$95,415 spent; \$125,092 cash on hand.

Clark (D) \$5,235 raised from January '95 to June '96; 13 percent from PACs; \$4,869 spent; \$366 cash on hand; \$973 debt.

### 6TH CD

Burton (R) \$509,512 raised from January '95 through June '96; 27 percent from PACs; \$295,211 spent; \$942,398 cash on hand.

Dillard-Trammell (D) No report filed.

### 7TH CD

Pease (R) \$260,317 raised from January '95 through June '96; 10 percent from PACs; \$246,253 amount spent; \$14,065 cash on hand.

Hellman (D) \$136,801 raised from January '95 through June '96; 58 percent from PACs; \$83,853 spent; \$52,948 cash on hand; \$10,238 debt.

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# COLUMNISTS ON INDIANA

**Harrison Ullman, Nuvo** - As mayor and as governor, Steve Goldsmith promises that the corporation that owns *The Indianapolis Star* will pay lower taxes, that it will be bothered less by government demands for environmental protection and workplace safety, that it will be sued less by lawyers working on contingency fees, that it will be annoyed less by employees in labor unions. Goldsmith is good for business and *The Star* has become a business instead of a newspaper. I believe those are some of the reasons why *The Star's* reporters have been pulled away from stories that raise questions about the cost and corruption of Mayor Goldsmith's record. Our guys beat their guys on these stories because their guys were kept on a leash that's too short to let them sniff around local government during an election year. I'd like to say we beat their guys because our guys were better, but the truth is that we got the stories first only because *The Star* didn't want the stories covered by its own reporters. That makes *The Newspaper* as corrupt as the government.

**Mary Dieter, Louisville Courier-Journal** - It is always mildly irritating to hear politicians talk about the "gender gap" in reference to the differences among men and women in the way they are accepted. If the politician is fretting that women don't like him as well as men do, he scurries about, trying to position himself so women will like him after all. Or, if he's gloating that his opponent suffers from a gender gap, he styles himself as the political answer to women's prayers. What is so irksome, however, is that both positions suggest the politician is interested in women only for what they can give him - votes. That is why it is so heartening to learn about a project undertaken by Lt. Gov. Frank O'Bannon's gubernatorial campaign - an effort to learn what women are thinking about, worrying about, and, yes, even voting about. "Women With O'Bannon" is a new organization that, first, wants to get O'Bannon elected and, second, wants to help women get more involved in the political process.

**Gerry Lanosga, Indianapolis News** - Let's see. That's \$4 million for Jim Harbaugh, \$6 million and \$5 million for Dale Davis and Antonio Davis, and Reggie Miller is holding out for maybe \$10 million. And for teachers in the Indianapolis Public Schools? Looks like layoffs. Legend has it there once were societies whose heroes were teachers and philosophers. Legend has it.

**Dave Kitchell, Logansport Pharos-Tribune** - Steve Goldsmith may be on the road to the Statehouse, but to move from the City-County Building in Indianapolis a few blocks, he has to go all over the state to get there. The mayor says he has a road map for the state, and if you believe the polls, it may be a map many should be looking at closely. When Goldsmith's road to the Statehouse came through Logansport, he showed signs that his positions on major issues are crystalizing. The ingredients in a Goldsmith administration appear to be more local control of education, less government and a more structured system to handle the rise in the state's juvenile offender population.

**Alan Julian, Evansville Courier** - Even when labor leaders like Republicans, they have a hard time saying it. But this year, they've found a way around that problem. Two local Republicans, State Rep. Vaneta Becker and State Sen. Greg Server, made local labor interests happy last year when they voted against changes to the state's prevailing wage law. By voting with labor, Ms. Becker and Server went against the leadership of their own party. That was one reason Ms. Becker had such a tough race in the GOP primary this year. So how were Ms. Becker and Server rewarded by labor? Well, neither Republican has yet been endorsed openly by local unions, but it appears neither will have a Democratic opponent in this year's general election. Local Democratic Party leaders acknowledge that, at labor's request, they have discouraged anyone from running against Server or Ms. Becker.

# PERHAPS... WE WANDER

By Brian Howey

## Lugar probably had an ear for Marshall

SOMEWHERE-ON-THE-HIGHWAY-OF VICE-PRESIDENTS - Bob Dole has a "short list of a long list" and guess what? Another Hoosier - Sen. Dick Lugar - is still in play.

The Internet's *Politics Now* website lists the starting lineup as Sens. Pete Dominenici, John McCain and Govs. Christie Whitman, George Voinovich (HPR's bet) and Tom Ridge.

Lugar is on the second team along with Lamar! Alexander, John Ashcroft, James Baker, Carroll Campbell, Dick Cheney, John Engler, Kay Bailey Hutchison (hmmmm), John Kasich, Dan Lungren, Connie Mack, Donald Rumsfeld and the Thompson twins - Tommy and Fred.

If Lugar were nominated as vice president, he would break the Hoosier mold because he is an accomplished intellect who has crafted revolutionary public policy into action. Compare that to the field.

A Kentuckian, Irvin Cobb, once called Indiana "the average American state" and this was why the state was once a breeding ground for veeps. "The average Indianian makes suitable vice presidential material because he's absolutely that - average. If he were sub-average, he couldn't get the nomination and if he were above average, he wouldn't take it."

Five Hoosiers have been vice president: Dan Quayle from 1989-93 under George Bush; Thomas R. Marshall from 1913-21 under Woodrow Wilson; Charles W. Fairbanks, 1905-09 under Theodore Roosevelt; Thomas A. Hendricks in 1885 under Grover Cleveland; and Schuyler Colfax from 1869-73 under U.S. Grant.

But members of that group actually ran in two more races as second bananas: Hendricks in 1876 with Samuel Tilden and Fairbanks in 1916 with Charles Evans Hughes. Obviously, both of those runs were unsuccessful.

On the tragic side, Hendricks died in office after serving only eight months. Colfax,

who had presidential ambitions of his own, had hoped that Grant would serve only one term and was positioning himself for 1872. But the scandal, in which he was caught bribing members of Congress with Union Pacific Railroad stock, effectively ended his political career.

As for careers, Colfax and Quayle had publishing backgrounds while Marshall, Hendricks and Fairbanks were attorneys.

And it is because of Hendricks (Shelbyville), Quayle (Huntington) and Marshall (Columbia City) that State Road 9 is also known as the Highway of Vice Presidents.

Of the Hoosier veeps, Quayle was the most ridiculed, but only because he was the only television age veep. Colfax did not have to endure the hearty scorn of Jay Leno, Arsenio Hall and David Letterman nightly. But Quayle gets great credit for igniting what has become a mainstream political concept: family values. Quayle displayed far more verve taking on Murphy Brown in 1992 than Bob Dole just did with Demi Moore in "Striptease."

Marshall was the most popular Hoosier vice president and had the best quotes. It was he who, after listening to an opponent speak, belittled him by saying, "What this country really needs is a good 5 cent cigar."

That statement still rings true today.

And Marshall had the best descriptions for what it is like to be vice president. "A vice president is like a man in a cataleptic state. He cannot speak, he cannot move, he suffers no pain and yet he is perfectly conscious of everything that is going on around him."

Marshall also spun this little tale: "There were two brothers. One ran away to sea. The other was elected vice president. Neither was ever heard from again."

So if Dick Lugar seemed a little reluctant to enter the veepstakes last spring when he suspended his presidential campaign, it was probably because he remembered the Marshall lessons.

## TICKER T A P E

### 8TH CD

Hostettler (R) \$214,974 raised from January '95 through June '96; 2 percent from PACs; \$81,065 spent from January '95 through June '96; \$141,093 cash on hand.

Weinzapfel (D) \$149,929 raised from January '95 through June '96; 22 percent from PACs; \$98,906 spent; \$51,024 cash on hand; \$29,692 debt.

### 9TH CD

Leising (R) \$199,966 raised from January '95 through June '96; 4 percent from PACs; \$149,568 spent; \$51,667 cash on hand.

Hamilton (D) \$532,886 raised from January '95 through June '96; 48 percent from PACs; \$372,191 spent; \$175,561 cash on hand.

### 10TH CD

Blankenbaker (R) \$267,629 raised from January '95 through June '96; 9 percent from PACs; \$231,867 spent; \$35,762 cash on hand; \$11,000 debt.

Carson (D) \$92,799 raised from January '95 through June '96; \$0 from PACs; \$82,036 spent; \$25,090 cash on hand; \$4,500 debt.

U.S. Rep. John Hostettler and Democratic challenger

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## T A P E

Jonathon Weinzapfel are discussing an hour-long debate that would air at 7 p.m. Sept. 29 on Evansville TV station WVIN. The two candidates have already agreed to attend an Oct. 24 Pike County Forum. Weinzapfel had been complaining that Hostettler was slow in setting up the debates. But Hostettler told the Evansville Press that his pace is being determined by a busy July schedule and the imminent birth of his fourth child expected to occur in August.

U.S. Sen. Dan Coats has offered the "White House Accountability Act" that would bring executive branch staffers under the same laws and regulations as the rest of the country. "My legislation is designed to eliminate a dubious double standard," Coats explained.

National Republican Campaign Committee has charged 9th CD Democrat Jonathon Weinzapfel with taking \$18,000 in bank loans without providing any security or collateral, as required by law. The NRCC maintains that Weinzapfel took a \$10,000 loan from Old National Bank in Evansville 11 days prior to his May 7 primary victory and another \$8,000 on June 22. Weinzapfel is on leave from Old National. The NRCC's action caught Hostettler campaign officials off-guard since they didn't know it was coming.

## Dole, from page 1

sees Congressional seats held by U.S. Reps. Lee Hamilton in the 9th and Tim Roemer in the 3rd as moving into safer harbors thanks to the national dynamic. There is good reason to believe that if Dole continues to falter, the overall boost to Goldsmith, who could normally have expected to receive some momentum from a 450,000 presidential plurality in this state, is diminishing.

## Freshmen appear in good shape

Ironically, the Indiana '94 freshman class appears to be in good shape at this point. U.S. Reps. Mark Souder and David McIntosh are "safe" and "likely" winners in November, and John Hostettler - long seen to be the weakest of the three - has Jonathon Weinzapfel on the defensive over the Medicare issue in the Bloody 8th, in addition to a substantial money lead.

What is most telling about the "national dynamic" is the push by Congressional Republicans to strike deals on health care and welfare - which occurred on Wednesday - bargains that could also enhance President Clinton's reputation.

## Drag could help House Dems

The Dole Drag can be expected to have considerable impact in the fight for the Indiana House. Of 16 races HPR has identified within the margin of error, at least 10 Democrats could be expected to pick up substantial district votes if the current dynamic continues to tilt so decisively for Democrats. These races include eight seats Republicans had won by narrow margins in 1994. Those of Reps. Jon Padfield in Kokomo, John Becker in Fort Wayne, David Lohr and John Kimmell in Terre Haute, Martha Womacks and Irene Heffley in Indianapolis, James Vanleer in Muncie, and Cleo Duncan in the Batesville area are seats that will be tough to hold in that type of environment.

Republicans had been talking about possibly picking up Dick Bodiker's seat in Richmond since he won by only 58 votes in 1994, but that appears to be increasingly unlikely. Given this type of backdrop, Republicans could find seats like those of Rep. Sue Scholer in

Lafayette, Rep. Bruce Munson in Muncie and Sen. Becky Skillman in the Bedford area as moving into contested territory.

"Dole has to become a stronger candidate at the top of the ticket," Del Ali, vice president at Mason Dixon, told the *South Bend Tribune's* Jack Colwell. "Right now, he (Dole) is a bummer. He is a drag."

Colwell emphasized the word "right now" when placing Ali's remarks into context. Recent presidential history is full of stories of candidates blowing big summer leads, as Michael Dukakis did in 1988 and Jimmy Carter did in 1976 (although he pulled it out at the end.)

## Gubernatorial impact

In the governor's race, three elements could be playing a role. One is Evan Bay's May television advertising blitz on behalf of O'Bannon. The Mason Dixon poll is the first public survey in the field since the primary. Secondly, there is the negative publicity that Goldsmith has been getting over "Golfgate," primarily in the Indianapolis media market. However, out-state media markets appear to be getting interested in the story, particularly in light of the first audit revealing that Oscar Robertson/Smoot received \$26,000 for work allegedly not done. Goldsmith insists the problem is only a tiny portion of the budget, but the audit also covered only a small part of ORS's activities.

The potentially bad news for Golfgate and Goldsmith's blithe handling of the matter as a mere annoyance is that the issue could end up giving the mayor a Nixonian five o'clock shadow.

Finally, there is the Dole Drag.

## What am I doing here?

HPR has heard stories of Goldsmith interviews with the Indianapolis press and how uptight and disinterested he seems to be. Several out-state editors have reported similar observations at recent meetings.

One editor told HPR, "After awhile, Goldsmith's attitude seemed to be, 'What am I doing here talking to these guys?'"