

The Howey Political Report



Gore's poll surge; its Indiana impact

National polls show veep leading Bush

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY**

The Howey Political Report

INDIANAPOLIS - Hoosiers woke up to intriguing news over the weekend: That double-digit lead George W. Bush had across the nation - ranging from 11 to 16 points - had evaporated over night.

A *Newsweek* Poll (Princeton Survey Research Association, 806 registered, Aug. 17-18, +/-4 percent) showed Gore leading Bush, 48 to 42 percent. Bush led by 11 percent in the same poll two weeks ago. A *CNN/USA Today/Gallup* Poll (1,043 adults, Aug. 18-19, +/- 4 percent) had Gore up, 47-46 percent.

A John McLaughlin Poll released last week had Bush leading Gore in Indiana, 56.6 to 25.9 percent.\

A number of national political analysts warned over the weekend that it probably will be Labor Day before the polls shake out enough to establish reliable trending.

But the bounce for Gore was giving Democrats hope that the vice president was going to make it a tough race. A spokesman for the Gore campaign noted, "We may have our act together. The question is, can we keep it together?"

Gender gap revived

Both the Gallup and *Newsweek* surveys revealed a brand new gender gap. In the Gallup survey, Gore went from a 9-point deficit to a 22-percent lead among women.

"He's talking about issues that matter to people at the kitchen table," observed Indiana Democratic Chairman Robin Winston. "He's also raising the question that this

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“QUOTE” OF THE WEEK

“Are we better off today than we were eight years ago? You bet we are! Yes we are...” - President Bill Clinton to the Democratic National Convention.

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FAME IS FLEETING: Evan Bayh stood in line at a Burger King at the Los Angeles Airport Friday afternoon, and the almost-vice presidential candidate didn't even attract a second look (Jack Colwell, South Bend Tribune). If the public can lose interest that quickly, what does that presage for the junior senator from Indiana? A New York Times article Friday morning noted that "the beauty pageant for 2004 and beyond is already under way...." As far as Bayh and the other future candidates are concerned, a great deal depends on what happens to Al Gore in the November election. If Gore loses, Bayh and other also-rans will be at the head of the line for presidential consideration in 2004. If Gore wins, they may have to wait another four years. What is Bayh's immediate goal? As of last Friday afternoon, it was to get to the head of the Burger King line. Last Monday morning, Bayh told the 88-member Hoosier Democratic delegation at a breakfast meeting not to be disappointed in his being passed over for the vice presidential nomination. He said that making it to the "final four" qualifies as having a good season. Bayh also related an interview he had with Vice President Al Gore in which Gore praised Hoosier economic growth during Bayh's gubernatorial

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country is on the right course, so why change it?"

By contrast, Bush has a commanding 20-percent lead among men in several national polls. "It's Venus vs. Mars," observed CNN analyst Bill Schneider.

Gore copied the "balcony hero" strategy that Presidents Ronald Reagan and Bill Clinton have used so effectively in their State of the Union speeches, pointing to real people in the Democratic National Convention audience who faced dilemmas with health care and education issues.

Gore reminded voters that he was pro-choice and that he would put Social Security and Medicare "in a lock box." He also promised to battle big drug companies in attempts to lower the price of prescription drugs.

And there was that long kiss he gave to his wife, Tipper, before making the speech. While it may not have been the stuff that produced the epic "*Love Story*," a number of analysts over the weekend said it probably appealed to women. "I think it really was that big, fat wet kiss he laid on Tipper," said Jeff

Lewis, pollster for TeleResearch Corp., which polls in Indiana for HPR. "That moved 'em."

"Gore got the job done as far as establishing that he's his own guy," Lewis said. "The Lieberman selection really gives him distance from the president."

The Gore 17-point "bounce" can be looked at either way. Bill Clinton received a 30-point bounce in 1992 and won; Bob Dole came out of San Diego in 1996 with a 15-point bump and lost. George H.W. Bush's 11-point bounce in 1988 allowed him to overcome a big lead by Michael Dukakis and it positioned him for a victory.

McDaniel skeptical

Indiana Republican Chairman Mike McDaniel wasn't buying the new national numbers. "I find it incredibly hard to believe that they had that much bounce out of that convention," he said. "The important thing to remember - and I've been telling people this for a month - the national numbers are not important. It's the Electoral College numbers that count and Bush was ahead in 31 states before our convention. We're competitive in places we haven't been competitive in 12

to 16 years."

The Bush campaign believes it has a lock on 16 states (including Indiana) with 135 Electoral College votes, exactly half way to the 270 needed for victory. Bush is aiming for wins in traditional Democratic territory, such as Illinois, Wisconsin and Iowa here in the Midwest, the same states that drew Gore and Lieberman on their Mississippi riverboat cruise over the weekend.

McDaniel believes it is going to be hard for Gore to become competitive in a 50-state scenario, in part because he will have to be competing for attention against the Summer Olympics in September and the World Series, which doesn't start this year until Oct. 21. "They'll be playing baseball in November," McDaniel said.

Indiana impact

McDaniel believes there is going to be a "great day" in store of Hoosier Republicans in November. "I'm totally confident George W. Bush is going to be our next president. The Democrats know they aren't going to beat Bush or Lugar and some of those people will be staying home."

The McIntosh gubernatorial campaign, looking at what informed sources say is a 8.7-percent deficit to Gov. Frank O'Bannon in the John McLaughlin survey, wasn't unnerved by the Gore bounce nationally and doesn't believe it will translate in Indiana. "I'd like to see a few more polls to establish a trend," said Rob Collins, McIntosh's campaign spokesman. "I'm confident Bush will be back in the lead in 10 days."

Collins believes there will be "fissures" developing between Gore/Lieberman and the Kennedy/Jackson wing of the Democratic Party.

Democratic Chairman Robin Winston was still pushing the notion that Gore could become competitive in Indiana. "When I tell you guys it's going to be tough, we're going to be very com-

petitive down to the wire. It's going to be closer than ever before for a Democrat," Winston said. "Al Gore could win this state."

O'Bannon's not worried

Gov. O'Bannon said he isn't worried about GOP presidential candidate George W. Bush carrying David McIntosh into the governor's mansion on his coattails because the coattail effect "doesn't fit Indiana" (Jack Colwell, *South Bend Tribune*). O'Bannon said he feels confident he has a double-digit percentage lead over McIntosh and that McIntosh's guarantee of a 25-percent property tax cut is so misleading "he ought to change his (TV) ad."

O'Bannon pointed out that he and Evan Bayh won the last three gubernatorial elections even though Republican presidential candidates carried the state. He said, "I feel good about our chances."

Winston observed that the WTHR-TV poll showing O'Bannon leading McIntosh by a 53-42 percent margin was confined to the station's Central Indiana viewing area. "It didn't include Lake County or the Ohio River counties. Just imagine what the governor's lead might look like with those included," Winston said. "It did include the entire 2nd Congressional District and the doughnut counties."

HPR's Analysis

The notion that Gore will carry Indiana sounds like a bet we'd like to make with Winston, with the payoff at St. Elmo's on Nov. 8.

However, the news could have been a lot worse for Indiana Democrats. O'Bannon gets a bit of a tail-wind with the good national news for Gore. Information we have seen leads us to believe that O'Bannon's lead is in the 9 to 11 point range.

We'd also like to see more surveys before we can identify distinct trends. ❖

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term. Bayh gave credit for that record to people such as those who comprise the delegation, some of whom are mayors and state legislators.

BAYH MIGHT HIT TRAIL FOR GORE: It's possible that Sen. Evan Bayh will campaign for the Gore/Lieberman ticket in the Midwest. Bayh warmed up for that duty by addressing the California, Kentucky, and New York delegations at the Democratic convention. Such exposure before such crucial delegations as New York and California could be important if the post-Clinton/Gore era begins after the November election.

COOK GROUP GOES PUBLIC WITH DEVICE: A product Cook Group Inc. of Bloomington calls "a revolutionary new therapy for healing" is being introduced directly to consumers in a large-scale ad campaign started Sunday (Brian Werth, *Bloomington Herald-Times*). The ads are aimed at patients that have wounds that are difficult to heal and their caregivers. People who suffer from diabetes and poor circulation might be helped by the product, Cook officials say. It's the first time in the company's history that it has used direct-to-consumer advertising. The product is paper-thin material that, when applied to a

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wound or skin, mimics the skin and acts as a scaffold for cell growth.

O'BANNON ACTIVE WITH DGA IN LA: The Democratic convention probably won't have a direct impact on congressional and statewide races. But it can give an intangible boost. Gov. Frank O'Bannon, who arrived in Los Angeles Wednesday afternoon, said that convention themes resonate in Indiana. "The issues coming out of this convention are some of the same issues I'm campaigning on in the state," he said, citing education, health care, and the environment. He wasn't doing any fundraising while in California, but he was schmoozing with colleagues in the Democratic Governors Association, which he recently chaired for two years. The DGA provides "services for Democratic governors that help them get their message into their communities. They have helped me with fundraising this summer and will continue to do that." O'Bannon said DGA was decisive in helping elect a Democratic governor in Mississippi last year. He watched the Sen. Joseph Lieberman's vice presidential acceptance speech from the DGA suite in the Staples Center Wednesday night.

BAYH BRUSHES OFF LEWINSKY GRAND JURY LEAK: Another grand jury

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Bush numbers loom over Dems

Unity, enthusiasm of convention undergirds work

By MARK SCHOEFF JR.

The Howey Political Report

WASHINGTON - Democrats left Los Angeles convention last week excited and unified. But when they return to Indiana, they will hit reality head-on. The Republican presidential nominee, Texas Gov. George W. Bush, has built a substantial lead in the state that could hurt Democratic congressional races.

In every poll published this year, Bush has led Vice President Al Gore by double digits. An HPR-TeleResearch poll of 868 likely voters in June put Bush ahead of Gore by 54 to 33 percent. Gore trailed by an even wider margin among independents. Then last week, a Republican poll by John McLaughlin & Associates had Bush leading 56.6 to 25.9 percent, but that survey occurred before Gore's acceptance speech last week.

"Bush is going to be strong in Indiana," Indiana Democratic Chairman Robin Winston said last week in Los Angeles. But he thinks things will change. "It's a competitive state for us. This election is 2 1/2 months away and anything can happen."

While in Los Angeles, Winston invited the Democratic presidential ticket of Gore and vice presidential nominee Sen. Joseph Lieberman to visit Indiana.. Winston suggested Lake, Clark and Floyd counties as possible venues. They are among the Democratic strongholds statewide and provide Chicago and Louisville television exposure, respectively. Winston hasn't received an answer from the Gore camp.

Democrats know they have a tall order every four years. Indiana typically is first to go into the winning column for the Republican presidential nominee. "Our state for a national (Democratic) candidate is always an uphill battle," said Sen. Evan

Bayh (D).

Dems point to '88

But Hoosier Democrats are quick to cite Bayh as an example of how Democrats can succeed. In 1988, Vice President George Bush chose Indiana Sen. Dan Quayle as his running mate. Bush carried Indiana by 21 percent. But Bayh won the gubernatorial contest by 6 percent. "That shows that Hoosiers are very

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independent," said Bayh. "They look at these races carefully and they split their ballots." Gov. Frank O'Bannon points out that a statewide poll conducted by the *Indianapolis Star* showed him with a lead over Rep. David McIntosh in the gubernatorial race that equaled the Bush lead over Gore. "There is a big swing of independent voters."

Bayh won re-election in 1992, when Bush again carried Indiana. O'Bannon was elected governor in 1996 when GOP Sen. Bob Dole won the state. Currently, five of the 12 members of Hoosier congressional delegation are Democrats.

Although Bayh overcame the Bush/Quayle momentum of 1988, he was an exceptional candidate, said Chris Sautter, president of Sautter Communications, a Democratic consulting firm in Washington. And many of the successful Democrats were incumbents. This year, Democratic challengers like Paul Perry in the 8th CD and Robert Rock Jr. in the 2nd CD could be swept under by the Bush current.

Prez year voters hold sway

More voters come out during a presidential year. In the 8th CD, 41,000

more voters went to the polls in 1996 than in 1998. In the 2nd CD, 46,000 more cast ballots in 1996 than in 1998. The presidential-year only voters can make an impact on down-ballot contests.

"They're more inclined to vote consistent with how they vote at the top of the ticket all the way down the ticket," said Sautter, who has worked Hoosier races for 20 years. "It's always a question of margin. When you have a challenger who's not well known, he or she needs the benefit of a neutral or as close to neutral (presidential race) as possible."

Perry, who did not go to Los Angeles so that he could concentrate on grass-roots organizing and see his twins off to kindergarten, said he is not consumed by top-of-the-ticket calculations. "People are going to vote for me or against me on the merits of what I stand for," said the Warrick County orthopedic surgeon. In his race against 8th CD incumbent GOP Rep. John Hostettler, he has focused almost exclusively on health care.

Turning out the base

Rep. Julia Carson (D-10th CD) dismisses the Bush coattail argument and rejects the notion that Indiana is a Republican state. "I don't think (Bush) is a drag on congressional races," she said. "Indiana is a Democratic state, it's just that more Republicans vote. We have to get out the base. The Democratic convention has fired up the troops to our advantage."

The ground war will help ensure that 3rd CD Democratic Rep. Tim Roemer will withstand any kind of Bush onslaught, said district Chairman Butch Morgan. "The numbers we've seen on Tim Roemer are very encouraging, and he continues to go door-to-door. Tim Roemer fits this district well."

In the 8th CD, convention momentum will translate into a renewed vigor for the daily grind of politics. "I know Paul is working very, very hard," said Rita Long, Warrick County chair, from Los Angeles. "Hard work does pay off. That's the mes-

sage Democrats will carry forward from the convention."

In addition, the top of the ticket encompasses not just Bush but also O'Bannon, who could produce his own undercurrent to sweep Democrats in a positive direction. "We have an exceptionally strong governor," said Mary Jo Rock, campaign manager for her son.

National help for Democrats

Rock didn't go to Los Angeles, but he did pick up some national support, said Ray Scheele, Ball State University political science professor and 2nd CD chair. Scheele said that Rep. Patrick Kennedy, head of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, said the DCCC would fund a poll for Rock in early September. "The DCCC is increasingly interested in this race," said Scheele. The poll will be "the beginning of a commitment to the 2nd District in terms of resources and attention paid."

Democratic Senate candidate David Johnson cited a similar trend in his own race. He spent a good chunk of his time in Los Angeles attending Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee events. Although they were not fundraisers, they put Johnson in front of potential donors and DSCC leadership. "I've talked to Sen. (Robert) Torricelli," Johnson. Torricelli chairs the DSCC. "There's a great deal of interest in this race."

Issue momentum

Beyond the promise of campaign contributions, the Los Angeles convention produced some intangible benefits for Hoosier Democrats. Gore focused most of his acceptance speech on issues, including Medicare prescription coverage and patients' rights. That kind of airtime for health care might help Perry. "It reinforces what I'm about as a candidate," Perry said.

The convention's issue orientation also resonated with O'Bannon. "The issues coming out of this convention are some of

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investigation of President Clinton's alleged cover-up of an affair with White House intern Monica Lewinsky won't affect Vice President Al Gore's chances in the fall, said Sen. Evan Bayh. News of further grand jury action was leaked Thursday hours before Gore's presidential nomination acceptance speech at the Democratic convention. "The reaction of the country is going to be 'enough already,'" Bayh said in a CNN interview Thursday night. "People are ready to move on. They realize that what the president did was wrong and that what the Republicans did in trying to remove him from office was wrong."

DELEGATES 'ELECTRIFIED' BY EVENTS: Bloomington delegates are charged up by the events at the Democratic National Convention (Steve Hinnefeld, Bloomington Herald Times). Bloomington Mayor John Fernandez said, "I think people understand it's going to be a very close election, but they're confident the vice president can win." Fernandez said delegates were "electrified" by President Clinton's speech Monday.

ANDREW SEES INTERNET AS WAVE OF FUTURE: In an exclusive interview with PoliticsOnline, DNC Chairman Joe Andrew explained

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of the worldwide web, "I'm convinced as an intellectual property lawyer and someone who owns seven technology firms that obviously this new communication and organizational tool is the future of political parties in and of itself."

FREEMAN-WILSON SPEAKS: Indiana Attorney General Karen Freeman-Wilson spoke to the Democratic National Convention and got a significant amount of coverage on Indiana TV stations during their newcasts Wednesday night. Freeman-Wilson, who was appointed to her post earlier this year, said, "I hope that this nation's children will see me and understand that whatever dreams they may have, that in this great land called America, dreams do come true."

NO NEW RULE FOR CASINOS: The Indiana Lobby Registration Commission has decided it is not necessary to write a rule prohibiting casinos from allowing legislators to borrow money to gamble (Tim Starks, *Evansville Courier & Press*). Instead, Sarah Nagy, executive director of the commission, said that during future audits she would ask casinos with registered lobbyists whether state legislators were borrowing money or getting other benefits.

Bush, from page 5

the same issues that I'm campaigning on in the state," he said, citing education, health care and the environment.

Bayh played a large role in highlighting New Democrat issues. He moderated a panel on education from the convention podium and hosted a Democratic Leadership Council event on education. Bayh, who spoke before the New York, California and Kentucky delegations, said that Democrats must demonstrate that they "have the candidates and ideas to keep the economy growing. We are the

best stewards for enduring values like opportunities for children, security for the elderly and caring for the sick."

Chaim Julian, an IU graduate student and first-time delegate, said Democrats would prevail with an issue focus. "We're right on the issues - health care, environment, education. We have the advantage over the Republicans."

Fall strategy aside, conventions are mostly about energizing the faithful. "I'm absolutely thrilled," said Julian. "It's been so exciting. I feel like I'm part of history."

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COLUMNISTS ON INDIANA

Jack Colwell, *South Bend Tribune* - The Democratic National Convention is over. Questions remain.

Q. Al Gore gave the most important speech of his life. Was it the home run he needed? **A.** No. I'd say he hit a triple. He's on third. He can't score unless somebody else hits him in, maybe through some unexpected event, or the Bush team makes a crucial error.

Q. Well, you said after the Republican convention that Bush hit a homer, though not a grand slam. Does that mean Bush gave a better speech. **A.** Yes. Democrats could argue, and will, that Gore's speech had more substance in terms of exactly what he would do. And they're right. Gore, still having troubles with the party's liberal base, with the perception of his personality and with a need just to prove he really is his "own man," had a lot he needed to do in his speech. He raced through it, doing much but not all.

Q. OK. What did Bush do better? **A.** George W. Bush, with his conservative base solid, had less to do. His goals: Looking and sounding presidential and staying ahead in the personality contest. He did that.

Q. So, is Al Gore going to be a

loser? **A.** I didn't say that. There will be some other times at bat, in the debates and elsewhere in two and a half months of campaigning.

Q. Will Gore get that post-convention "bounce" in the polls, like Bush did after the successful Republican convention. **A.** Yes. He should. ❖

Dave Kitchell, *Logansport Pharos-Tribune* - For those who think Gore can't win, there are three words that come to mind: "Dewey Defeats Truman." Sometimes the obvious doesn't happen, even on Election Day evening after the polls are closed. The good news for Evan Bayh is that by the time he probably will be considered for this job again, he'll still be younger than either Dick Cheney or Lieberman, who are older than both presidential candidates. The bad news is that the curse of William Henry Harrison and Benjamin Harrison, Indiana's only White House residents (neither of whom was born in the state), lives on. Indiana went without a president in the 20th century, and the prospects for the 21st century aren't off to a good start. ❖

Indiana 2000 Racing Form

GOVERNOR, congressional races

Governor: Republican: U.S. Rep. David McIntosh. **Democrat:** Gov. Frank O'Bannon. **Libertarian:** Andrew Horning. **1996 Results:** O'Bannon 1,107,342, Goldsmith 997,505, Dillon 35,261. **2000 Forecast:** A WTHR-TV poll (500 likely Central Indiana voters, +/-4.5 percent) has Gov. Frank O'Bannon leading Republican David McIntosh 53 to 42 percent. McIntosh scheduled a press conference for Monday afternoon at Butler University's Hinkle Fieldhouse to come out and support one-class high school basketball. "There's no downside to that," said TeleResearch pollster Jeff Lewis, who did a 1999 survey showing that nearly 75 percent of Hoosiers want to return to a one-class system. Horning began his TV advertising campaign with a 30-second spot showing on ABC's "This Week" Sunday in the Indianapolis market. It is Horning's attempt to solve the political "chicken and egg" dilemma: He has to show he can get on TV to raise money so he can do more TV. The *Columbus Republic* editorialized on David McIntosh's missed votes in Congress, saying, "Yo, David, go to work. Incredibly, the 2nd District Democratic Committee has created a website tracking McIntosh's dubious voting records. It lists the key votes he has missed, notes that he has the third worst voting attendance record in the House, and suggests he refund taxpayers \$52,640 for his non-performance. Despite the controversy his absences have created, McIntosh plows ahead back home to Indiana trying to build support in his campaign for governor. It is a very curious strategy. As noted in this space in June, a similar strategy did not work for Joe Hogsett and Sue Anne Gilroy, elected officials who ambitiously had sights set on higher political aspirations. Too ambitious and too high." O'Bannon has begun running a new TV ad aimed at senior citizens, highlighting his initiative to lower prescription drug prices. At the end of the commercial, a senior woman winks at the camera and says, "If you ask me, Frank O'Bannon's a great governor and a nice looking young man." **General Status:** *Leans O'Bannon.*

U.S. Senate: Republican: U.S. Sen. Richard Lugar. **Democrat:** David L. Johnson. **1988 results:** Lugar (R) 1,430,525, Wickes (D) 668,778. **1994 results:** Lugar (R) 1,039,625, Jontz (D) 470,799, Bourland (L) 17,343, Barton (A) 15,801. **2000 Forecast:** McLaughlin poll had U.S. Sen. Richard Lugar leading Democrat David Johnson, 71 to 12 percent. The poll of 800 likely voters was conducted by John McLaughlin & Associates, a New York firm with close ties to the Republican Party. Michael Pannos, former state Democratic Party chairman, said, "You've got to consider the source" (Terry Burns, *Times of Northwest Indiana*). The poll had a margin of error of +/- 3.4 percent. "There is no way David Johnson is only at 11 percent in the polls," Indiana Democratic Chairman Robin Winston said in Los Angeles on Tuesday. "Our voter file hard base is 34 percent. They have to quit polling Hamilton County." Winston dismissed the GOP poll. "If they want to use that as the basis of their strategy, I welcome it. Bush is going to be strong in Indiana. It's a competitive state for us. The election is 2 1/2 months away and anything can happen." David Johnson was hoping to catch a wave in Los Angeles. He was a regular at Democratic Senatorial Committee events at the Democratic convention. The agenda hasn't included fund-raisers, but has given Johnson exposure that could bring in money later. "I've talked to Sen. (Robert) Torricelli (D-NJ). There is a great deal of interest in this race," said Johnson. Torricelli is chairman of the DSCC. Johnson said the convention is producing momentum for issues on which Lugar is vulnerable. "People are really fired up talking about education and prescription drug benefits." Other areas Johnson will concentrate on include the patients' bill of rights, targeted tax cuts and paying down the debt. Johnson, who said he would go up on television "sooner rather than later," has raised more than half of his \$2.5-\$3 million goal. "Our campaign is just beginning. I think our ticket over the next six weeks is going to put our campaign on the map." **Status:** *Safe Lugar.*

Congressional District 2: Republican: Mike Pence. **Democrat:** Robert Rock Jr.

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NEWS AND VIEWS FROM LOS ANGELES: Bob Pastrick, the East Chicago mayor, was in Los Angeles 40 years ago when conventions nominated presidential candidates and the opponents were John Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson (Jack Colwell, *South Bend Tribune*). "It was the most exciting convention I've ever seen," Pastrick said, and he's been at all but one since 1956. Third District U.S. Rep Tim Roemer had planned to stay home for a family gathering, but was offered an opportunity to speak at the convention. He opted for the family gathering. National Democratic Chairman Joe Andrew of Indiana joked with the Indiana Delegation that he had ordered the 14-foot fence topped with razor wire around the delegation hotel because he "was very worried about the safety of the demonstrators." Indiana delegates were primed for Gore's Thursday speech (Molly Cummins, *Fort Wayne News-Sentinel*).

CLINTON TURNS TO REAGANISM: In a primetime network televised speech Monday night, President Bill Clinton once again reminded Americans and Republicans why he has outlasted George H.W. Bush, Dan Quayle, Newt Gingrich, Kenneth Starr and Bob Dole. "Are we better off today than we were eight years ago?" Clinton asked

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an emotional Democratic National Convention crowd at the Staples Center in Los Angeles. "You bet we are! Yes we are!" Clinton came perfect circle from his 1996 acceptance speech in Chicago, declaring, "We built our bridge to the 21st Century, we crossed it together and we are not going back." Clinton did his best to turn the 2000 election into one about the pocketbook - something that has eluded Al Gore to this point. He talked about record low unemployment for women, African-Americans and Hispanics, 20 million new jobs, an end to budget deficits and, by 2009, the national debt, before quoting President Harry S Truman: "If you want to live like a Republican, you better vote for the Democrats." When it came time to acknowledge Hillary Clinton, the president looked skyward, bit his lower lip and said, "She will always be there for the families of New York and America." And Clinton called Gore "a profoundly good man." ABC's Sam Donaldson observed afterward that it was "as good a political speech as I've ever heard a politician give." Whether it upstages Gore or is a hand-off to the vice president turning this election into a referendum on the American wallet remains to be seen. ❖

Independent: Bill Frazier. **Geography:** Muncie, Anderson, Richmond, Shelbyville, Columbus and East Central Indiana. **1994 Results:** McIntosh 93,592, Hogsett 78,241. **1996 Results:** McIntosh 122,288, Carmichael (D) 83,478, Zimmerman (L) 4,662. **1998 Results:** McIntosh (R) 99,584, Boles (D) 62,426, Federle (L) 2,236. **2000 Forecast:** Republican Mike Pence is calling for six debates and has asked newspapers in Anderson, Muncie, New Castle, Richmond, Shelbyville and Columbus to organize them (Ken de la Bastide, *Anderson Herald Bulletin*). Pence's campaign chairman said the intent is to have independent Bill Frazier take part, as well as Rock. His campaign manager said he has no objection to six debates. Gov. O'Bannon attended a fund-raiser in Anderson Tuesday for Rock's campaign and used the opportunity to criticize McIntosh for what he called making promises he won't be able to keep (Ken de la Bastide, *Anderson Herald Bulletin*). About 100 persons attended the event. McIntosh has promised a 25-percent cut in property taxes. O'Bannon says it can't be done. **Status:** *Leans Pence.*

Congressional District 5: Republican: U.S. Rep. Steve Buyer. **Democrat:** Greg Goodnight. **Libertarian:** Scott Benson. **Geography:** Kokomo, Marion, Peru, Monticello, Lowell, Northern Indiana. 1994 results: Buyer 108,575, Beatty 43,619, Alfred (L) 3,328. **1996 Results:** Buyer 133,604, Clark (D) 67,125, Lehman (L) 5,255. **1998 Results:** Buyer (R) 101,567, Steele 58,504 (D), Waters (L) 2,317. **2000 Forecast:** Buyer and Greg Goodnight, his Democratic opponent, appeared before the Kokomo Rotary Club Tuesday (David A. Kasey, *Kokomo Tribune*). Each was given time to talk. Goodnight painted himself as the workingman's candidate with a grassroots approach to government. Buyer said he's a survivor of the wars with the Clinton administration. Then the comments turned to Buyer's absence for rollcall votes and his stance on term limits. Buyer defended his 95-percent voting record and said he did and does support term limits. Buyer said the major differences between the two candidates is their stance on Social Security. Goodnight, he said, supports the government investing Social Security funds in the stock market. He doesn't. So far, only one true debate has been planned, but no time or date have been set. Representatives of the Defense Intelligence Agency visited Grissom Air Reserve Base this week at the invitation of Buyer with the idea of relocating the agency's Joint Reserve Intelligence Center to the base (Missy St. Clair, *Peru Tribune*). The purpose of Monday's visit was the evaluate the feasibility of such a move, which would bring 60 to 80 additional Reserve personnel to Grissom on a regular basis, with the possibility of the expansion being several hundred personnel. The Reserve personnel who would use the center now must drive to either north of Chicago or to Dayton, Ohio. **Status:** *Likely Buyer.*

Congressional District 8: Republican: U.S. Rep. John Hostettler. **Democrat:** Dr. Paul Perry. **Geography:** Evansville, Bloomington, Vincennes and SW Indiana. **1994 results:** Hostettler (R) 93,529, McCloskey (D) 84,857. **1996 Results:** Hostettler (R) 109,582, Weinzapfel (D) 106,134, Hager (L) 3,799. **1998 Results:** Hostettler (R) 92,227, Riecken (D) 81,381, Hager (L) 3,395. **2000 Forecast:** A non-partisan voter education group based in Bloomington, Grassroots United of Indiana, is trying to organize a one-hour debate in Bloomington Sept. 9 (Katherine Ratchet, *Evansville Courier & Press*). Incumbent Rep. John Hostettler has accepted the invitation. His Democratic opponents, Paul Perry, is expected to accept. The two campaigns previously agreed on another debate in Evansville in October. In the Bloomington debate, the candidates will field questions from both a moderator and audience members. **Status:** *Tossup.*

INDIANA HOUSE races

House District 60: Republican: John Shean. **Democrat:** State Rep. Peggy Welch. **Geography:** Bloomington, Bloomfield, Lawrence. Greene and Monroe Counties. **1994 results:** Bales 11,825, Anderson 5,210. **1996 Results:** Bales 15,743, Germann (L) 1,931. **1998 Results:** Welch 10,172, Ellington 8,987. **2000 Forecast:** Welch and Shean chose the smallest precinct in the district to talk about the issues (Carol Johnson, *Bloomington Herald-Times*). Democrat Welch is a first-term legislator from Bloomington and her opponent is an Ellettsville attorney seeking office for the first time. The meeting was at Springville in heavily Republican Perry Twp., which received \$134,000 in Build Indiana money for refurbishing the gymnasium and building a new shelter house. Welch was instrumental in getting the money. Education, tax reform and jobs were the common themes for the meeting. **Status:** *Tossup.*

- By Brian A. Howey ❖

Who do these national news organizations call when they want a reliable source on Indiana politics?

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Cook Political Report

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