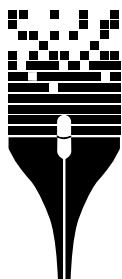


The Howey Political Report



Reed chastises Gov over education ad

McIntosh, O'Bannon spar over stats

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY** in Fort Wayne

The most acrimonious element of the 2000 gubernatorial race bubbled over Tuesday night when Gov. Frank O'Bannon and Republican challenger David McIntosh got into a tug-o-war over graduation statistics, with GOP Supt. Suellen Reed becoming the "o" in the middle.

By late Wednesday afternoon, Reed was demanding that the O'Bannon campaign pull a TV ad in which the governor quoted her. "It is unfortunate that the governor has chosen to place me in the middle of his controversy with Congressman McIntosh," Reed said. "I am disappointed and surprised that the governor would condone such an ad. I have always been honest and above board with political matters. This political maneuvering is inappropriate and not in the spirit of true bipartisanship that I've grown to accustomed to."

Reed also renewed her endorsement of McIntosh, saying, "I have previously and I renew my endorsement of Congressman McIntosh for the office of governor."

O'Bannon had been subtly mentioning Reed in the context of education improvements over the past year. But in the Sept. 22 Indianapolis gubernatorial debate, the governor invoked her name to seek cover from McIntosh's attacks.

On Oct. 5, when the three gubernatorial candidates met for a "debate" at the Indianapolis Children's Museum, a battle over statistics with Reed squarely in the middle erupted. Most of the press covered the "cute questions from the kids" aspect of the debate. But McIntosh charged that a third of the freshmen who entered high school in 1996 failed to get a diploma.

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“QUOTE” OF THE WEEK

“You want to bully some more? ”

- Gov. Frank O'Bannon, to David McIntosh after he had interrupted for the second time at the Oct. 10 Fort Wayne debate.

INSIDE FEATURES

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funny smell in 9th CD** p. 6

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BUSH-GORE TIED AGAIN:
The latest CNN/USA Today/Gallup three-day tracking (Oct. 8-10) has George W. Bush and Al Gore in a deadheat at 45 percent. CNN reported that in its survey of the Electoral College, Bush now leads in states with 205 votes, Gore leads in states with 185 votes. The latest CNN poll came following an absolutely wild week. Gore appeared to be on a roll following the first presidential debate, taking an 11-point lead - 51 to 40 percent - on Friday. But there was a 19-percent swing by Sunday, when the same pollster had Bush leading 50 to 42 percent. Gallup pollster Keating Holland maintained that the wild swings were normal; that people are changing their minds frequently.

BUSH LEADS IN INDIANA:
The latest WISH-TV/Vargus Poll released on Wednesday gave Bush a 45 to 33 percent lead over Gore in Indiana.

GOP HAVE MONEY LEAD:
National Republicans have a \$45 million to \$26 million lead over Democrats when it comes to fundraising, CNN reported.

HORNING WINS STRAW POLL: Thursday at an Indiana Kids' Election function at the Indianapolis Children's Museum,

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Reed, *from page 1*

After that appearance, O'Bannon said, "Well, all they've got to do is talk to Suellen Reed. Ninety percent graduation rate; a third of them didn't pass it as sophomores; ninety percent of them passed it. He's using two different things there that are not honest. And saying a third of our kids can't do the work - it's 90 percent, a record."

McIntosh insisted he was correct and vowed to clear up the Reed/O'Bannon "alliance" in Fort Wayne on Tuesday. The issue was further muddled on the night of the Children's Museum event when HPR gave Reed the McIntosh scenario - the number of freshmen entering school in 1996 compared to those who got a diploma in 2000. "That's wrong," Reed said and promised to give McIntosh the correct statistics. The McIntosh campaign characterized that statement as a "misquote," but HPR stands by the accuracy of the quote and the way it was explained to Reed. McIntosh and Reed acknowledged that she had misunderstood the scenario.

McIntosh came out swinging in the early moments of the debate carried live only on WANE-TV in Fort Wayne. "In

education last year, one out of three students in the class of 2000 didn't pass ISTEP or dropped out along the way," McIntosh said. "To me, that's not good enough. In the debate a few weeks ago, I asked Gov. O'Bannon, 'What do you say to those 28,000 students last year that didn't make it all the way through high school?' By the way, Governor, I checked with Supt. Suellen Reed on these numbers. Her website reports there were 83,500 students in the Class of 2000 who started school in 1996 as freshmen, but only 55,540 students passed ISTEP. The Governor hasn't answered my question - what does he say to those 28,000 kids?"

McIntosh proposed that he and O'Bannon call Supt. Reed after the debate. "I'm not calling her tonight," a frosted O'Bannon said after the debate. "He asked me if I would call her and I said that he should have called her a long time ago. When you actually ask what was said and what was done, where they pulled their figures together and Brian Howey's report (where) she said that those numbers are wrong ... we have record graduation rates."

HPR then asked, Governor, do you have any reason to dispute the 83,500

2000 Gubernatorial Race Polling Sequences

	HPR/TR 6/10-15	Star/13 8/24-27	WISH/Varg 9/9-10	SBT/WSBT 9/18	JMA 9/24-25	HPR/TR 9/30-10/1	WISH/Varg 10/10
O'Bannon	44	50	44	48	48	46	46
McIntosh	40	29	26	33	34	38	26
Horning	3	--	1	--	1	4	2
Others	--	--	--	2	--	--	--
Undecided	13	21	29	17	17	12	26

POLLWATCH: GOP Chair Mike McDaniel called Dr. Brian Vargus's WISH-TV poll methodology a "milk shake" that had pollsters across the country shaking their heads in disbelief. Now that should make for titillating conversation between McDaniel and Jim Shella on this week's edition of "Indiana Week in Review."

figure as far as the freshmen who entered in 1996 as opposed to those (55,540) who actually got their diploma? O'Bannon responded, "Well, those numbers could be right. I don't know, you'd have to ask Dr. Reed. I don't compare in that way, we don't know if they transfer out of school to a different school. They don't keep those numbers. I just know that the graduation rate was down in the 70s (percent) eight or 10 years ago and it's at almost 90 percent now. That's improvement. Dr. Reed deserves some of the credit for that, certainly. It's her job."

What Hoosier voters heard and saw were two angry candidates choosing a select list of statistics that framed the education debate in the classic "glass half full/half empty scenario."

O'Bannon is right: 89.4 percent of the Class of 2000 who entered school in the autumn of 1999 graduated, which is a state record. Reed confirmed McIntosh's 83,500/55,400 statistics that captured the full four-year picture.

Whether those different views change the minds of voters remains to be seen. The real loser, however, has to be Democrat Jerry McCullum, Reed's opponent, who has been hung out to dry by his own party's standard bearer.

Another major point of contention was McIntosh's hand written tax pledge (once again, breaking the debate format's prop rule), adorned with his signature and that of Libertarian Andrew Horning. McIntosh said in his opening remarks that "Gov. O'Bannon doesn't have a detailed plan to protect against reassessment. Gov. O'Bannon wouldn't sign the pledge. I hope, Governor, that you will reconsider and sign that pledge for us here tonight."

After the debate, WTHR-TV's Kevin Rader asked O'Bannon why he didn't sign McIntosh's tax pledge. "Reassessment is going to have shifts of all kinds," O'Bannon said. "And to promise something that would fool the people, I would never sign. I've had my plan on paper for everyone to see since last December. I won't guarantee individual homeowners that they won't pay more property tax. If you had an old home like we had on the Old North Side, it's going to go up. It's not honest with the people. You can't do it on a slogan." HPR asked O'Bannon, Are you confident the shelter allowance will stand up to constitutional muster? "I don't know," O'Bannon responded. "I'll certainly give the legislature a chance to look at that. I think it will, otherwise we wouldn't have proposed it." ❖

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Libertarian Andrew Horning received 40 percent of a 3-way straw poll. O'Bannon came in second with 33 percent. McIntosh trailed the pack with 25 percent. The poll was conducted after students comparison-shopped the presentations and answers from all three gubernatorial candidates, in person, side-by-side. It was one of only four joint appearances agreed to by the candidates during the campaign.

BRADLEY QUILTS, LEVELS CHARGES: 1999

Republican South Bend mayoral nominee Steve Bradley has resigned his job with St. Joseph County Prosecutor Christopher Toth, saying that "I have experienced first-hand the full measure of Christopher Toth's heavy-handed, ruthless and tyrannical treatment." Bradley said that Toth is "immature, unprepared, vindictive, vicious, politically motivated, power-hungry and prone to rage." Bradley said that Toth maintains a "Nixon-style hit list" and that he was assigned to "gather negative information against his political enemies. He required that I write letters to the editor and then seek out his political supporters to sign and submit them for publication in the South Bend Tribune." And Bradley said that he performed research on DNA evidence development for

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the McIntosh gubernatorial campaign while on the clock at the prosecutor's office. "I performed these tasks during normal working hours," Bradley said. "Shortly after handing these documents to Chris Toth, I was summoned to his office. He was on a conference call to the David McIntosh for governor committee. He informed them that his paralegal, Steve Bradley, had prepared the two documents that would be used to form the substance of McIntosh's Crime Program for his campaign." HPR had reported that Toth played a role in the development of McIntosh's crime package. Toth denied the allegations, telling the South Bend Tribune that they were "a figment of his imagination. I feel a little sorry for Mr. Bradley. He's got tremendous personal problems - and they've begun to cloud his judgment. My feelings are hurt. I feel back for my employees. They are remarkably committed and tremendously dedicated."

TAX CASUALTY: Pigeon Township Assessor Paul Hatfield of Vanderburgh County has resigned from a committee that is helping prepare a new Indiana property assessment manual, saying state officials "were using us for window dressing" (Susan Taylor, Evansville Courier & Press). Hatfield was critical of the

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Buyer prescription drug plan covers vets

By **MARK SCHOEFF JR.**

The Howey Political Report

WASHINGTON - Members of Congress worry about losing precious days on the campaign trail as the congressional session extends further into October. But for Rep. Steve Buyer (R-5th CD), being stuck in the capital might have given him momentum on a hotly contested issue - prescription drug coverage.

Buyer trumpeted provisions he wrote in the fiscal 2001 defense authorization bill that would guarantee lifetime health care coverage and a prescription drug benefit for veterans. The health care components of the \$309.9 billion legislation would cost \$60 billion over 10 years. The bill authorizes \$4.5 billion more spending than President Clinton requested. The legislation, which represents a House-Senate agreement, was approved Wednesday in the House by a vote of 382-31.

The bill headed to the White House while Buyer's opponent, Democrat Greg Goodnight, conducted a press tour of the 5th District advocating the Democratic prescription drug plan that would provide coverage through Medicare. Goodnight also has been highlighting the issue in his "message in a bottle" events.

But Buyer believes he has the advantage. "Steve Buyer is the only member of Congress to have authored and signed into law a prescription drug plan," he said. When he returns to the district, he will ask voters: Whom do you trust to modernize Medicare and prescription drug coverage? "Someone who talks about it or someone who just did it?" Buyer, a Persian Gulf veteran, is chairman of the Military Personnel Subcommittee of the House Armed Services Committee.

Goodnight refuses to give Buyer any quarter. In a statement issued by his campaign, Goodnight said Buyer's plan "falls far short of doing the right thing." Goodnight advocates a Democratic bill

that he says would extend Medicare benefits to more military medical facilities.

Under Buyer's plan, funding for veterans' health benefits would be removed from Pentagon discretionary spending accounts and placed into a trust fund. This means that the health programs

CONGRESS WATCH

would not have to compete for funding with other priorities

like readiness and construction. But it also requires creating a \$100-\$156 billion unfunded future liability to serve the 1.4 million Medicare-eligible retirees and their families.

"It was not easy for me to convince the Republican leadership to accept more debt," said Buyer.

Although Buyer might receive some near-term momentum, most polls show that the prescription drug issue favors Democrats. During a fundraising trip to Washington last week, Goodnight said prescription coverage resonates with voters more than any other issue. "Almost everybody knows somebody (who can't afford drugs), whether it be a parent or grandparent, and they know that it could affect them at some point."

Goodnight argues that Buyer is misguided not only on prescription drug coverage but on a range of issues - from family and medical leave to the patient's bill of rights to NAFTA. "He doesn't represent the people of this district."

Goodnight's pitch has fallen mostly on deaf ears in Washington. When he came to town last week, Democratic Whip David Bonior (D-Mich.) hosted a fundraiser for Goodnight that was attended by Hoosier Reps. Pete Visclosky (D-1st CD) and Baron Hill (D-9th CD). But with Buyer having won the district with more than 60 percent of the vote in each of his re-election contests since 1994, the

Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee has not targeted the race.

"I can't say that any doors have been opened," said Goodnight, a former president of United Steelworkers of America Local 2958 who is on leave from his job at Haynes International in Kokomo. "Everything we've had to do, we had to do it the hard way," he said wanly. "We've had to jump over hurdles and hurdles and hurdles."

One of those obstacles is fundraising, where Goodnight was holding his own through the June 30 filing, when he had \$235,000 cash on hand compared to Buyer's \$238,000. "He's doing exceptionally well," said Bob Peterson, 5th CD Democratic chairman. "He's raised substantially more money than past Democratic candidates." Peterson points to former Reps. Jim Jontz and Floyd Fithian to prove that Democrats can carry the district.

But for now, Buyer holds sway. "Unfortunately, it becomes a matter of past history to them," Peterson said of Washington political officials who make funding decisions. "There are people who come along and surprise the party leadership. It's a tough uphill fight for them."

Bush, Gore debate guns, environment

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY**
The Howey Political Report

Two elements of Wednesday night's presidential debate could reverberate through the Indiana political establishment. Both Democrat Al Gore and Republican George W. Bush gingerly walked through the gun control debate, an issue that carries a significant impact here, particularly in Southern Indiana. So delicate was that topic that they both ended up talking about the Golden Rule. Gore came out for photo licensing of new handgun sales; Bush opposed. Bush also emphasized enforcing current gun laws.

On the environment, Gore was asked if he really intended to make

But 5th CD Republican Chairman John Earnest said attention to local projects - such as rebuilding the Marion veterans administration, fixing a dam on Mississinewa Lake and funding the Hoosier Heartland corridor - fortifies Buyer. "This is the first congressman since Bud Ellis we've been able to get something out of."

Projects and constituent service notwithstanding, fundraising and advertising often prove to be the difference in crunch time. Goodnight has been up since Oct. 3 with a 10-day buy on Indianapolis TV. The ad claims Buyer raided the Social Security trust fund. Buyer went up on Oct. 9 with a 500-point buy in the Indianapolis market. The spot touted his efforts to protect Social Security.

Goodnight said he has more ads in the can but didn't reveal his strategy. Buyer plans to run 2000 points of advertising in each of the last two weeks of the campaign in the Indianapolis, South Bend and Lafayette markets.

"He's going to raise more money than he ever has in October," said Buyer chief of staff Mike Copher. "We can go up and stay up all the way through." ❖

"wrenching changes" in environmental policy. "I do," Gore said. "I really am strongly committed to clean water and clean air." Bush challenged him on global warming, saying that before acting, "we need to fully understand. I don't think we've got all the facts."

Bush added that the U.S. shouldn't "carry all the burdens" of the Kyoto Accords, noting that India and China were exempt. That part of the debate was key for Indiana and its role as a major manufacturing center.

In post-debate snap polls, ABC News had Bush winning, 46 to 30 percent; CNN/Gallup had Bush winning 49 to 36 percent. ❖

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State Board of Tax Commissioners, which set up a committee of four township and county assessors from across the state to review proposed assessment regulations. "We're not going to have any impact on this thing," Hatfield said Tuesday. Hatfield said he raised various questions when the committee first met in September. "I wasn't getting the answers to questions that I thought I should," he said. He said he also wanted results of studies that showed the impact a new assessment manual more closely based on fair market value will have on residential and commercial property owners. "They (the state) skirted that," he said.

I-69 GROUPS WITHDRAW: Four groups participating in the I-69 Issues Involvement Team have withdrawn, leaving only the Terre Haute Chamber of Commerce favoring the U.S. 41/I-70 route (Peter Ciancone, Terre Haute Tribune-Star). The withdrawing groups are Citizens for Appropriate Rural Roads, Daviess County Farm Bureau, Hoosier Environmental Council, and Sunshine Gardens Neighborhood Association. The groups cited what they called serious flaws in the way the study is being conducted.

BUSH BOMBS: Bush turned in an absolutely stupefying

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performance on Oct. 5 when a Wisconsin woman asked him the most basic question 481 days after he began his campaign: Why should she and a friend vote for him with the unprecedented prosperity over the last eight years? Bush began by saying, "Tell her to keep an open mind." Then Bush said, "No. Tell her government doesn't create wealth. Here's what I'd tell her - a fellow's got a pretty good record and he's done in office what he said he would." Bush followed that by saying, "I'm groping for the right answer, you can tell." That Bush performance in tandem with the cadaver-like Gore claiming to make trips he never did led many people HPR came in contact with over the weekend to comment (and particularly after the Dick Cheney/Joe Lieberman debate) that the wrong two men are at the top of their respective tickets.

MORE WOE FOR GOVERNOR: J. Murray Clark, the Republican candidate for lieutenant governor, criticized Gov. Frank O'Bannon Wednesday for what he called mismanagement of the Muscatatuck State Development Center (Terrence Bland, *South Bend Tribune*). The facility for the mentally disabled was stripped of its certification 18 months ago and lost two-thirds of its \$43.2 mil-

Indiana 2000 Racing Form

TRENDLINES: Here's a question for Indiana Democrats, Do you really, really want Hillary Clinton in the U.S. Senate? Wasn't Hillary at the root of almost all the Clintonian woes leading up to Monica Lewinsky scandal? The fact that Hoosier Democrats were lining up last weekend to give money to Hillary comes under the category of "better think about what you wish for." A Hillary Senate victory means an almost guaranteed run for the presidency between 2004 and 2012. That's something Evan Bayh can't be too happy about. And here's a question for Republicans: Do you really, really want Michael Bailey in the U.S. House?

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 poll released Tuesday by WISH-TV and Dr. Brian Vargus of the Indiana University Public Opinion Laboratory had O'Bannon leading McIntosh, 46 to 26 percent. Horning polled 2 percent, leaving a whopping 26 percent undecided. Here are a couple of other Fort Wayne debate elements we found

HORSE RACE

interesting. Horning established himself as a "buffer" or "tripartisan" between the Republicans and Democrats, at one point referring to himself as a "designated driver." Horning also has raised the issue of reapportionment and how the legislative districts will be laid out in 2001. O'Bannon has been invoking the names of Republicans - not only Supt. Reed, but also Sen. Lugar. O'Bannon cited a letter Lugar wrote talking about Indiana's great business climate. O'Bannon spent a significant amount of his opening statement talking about Lt. Gov. Joe Kernan's biography. And McIntosh, as he did in his first debate, talked about protecting 2nd Amendment rights. Outside of the debate, McIntosh raised the Ameritech issue, saying the O'Bannon administration hasn't been tough enough on the mega-phone company which has had performance problems. McIntosh took aim at Kernan, noting that the former South Bend mayor had said property taxes would not be used to pay for the College Football Hall of Fame. McIntosh on Wednesday said he wants to correct that mistake by being elected and cutting property taxes (Terrence Bland, *South Bend Tribune*). McIntosh said that because of the promise, South Bend citizens "are paying some of the highest property tax bills in the state." Andrew Roos, a Kernan representative, said McIntosh's comments were "just one more negative attack." McIntosh's campaign spokesman said Gov. Frank O'Bannon's "mismanagement" has cost the state about \$1 billion (Shannon Lohrmann, *Fort Wayne News Sentinel*). The Republicans have printed yellow laminated cards listing 19 problems afflicting the O'Bannon administration. They include a delay in prosecuting complaints against nursing home administrators; a miscalculated tax cut; money misspent from the Teachers' Retirement Fund; decertification of the Muscatatuck Developmental Center; and the death of 117 tons of fish in the White River between Anderson and Indianapolis. Thad Nation, O'Bannon's spokesman, said, "The real test of leadership is action you take when something goes wrong. **General Status:** *LEANS O'BANNON.*

U.S. Senate: Republican: U.S. Sen. Richard Lugar. **Democrat:** David L. Johnson. **Libertarian:** Paul Hager. **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:** The Nobel Peace Prize will be announced Friday morning. Lugar told HPR on Wednesday morning that he has been watching the process and noted that a French magazine was predicting the winner would be a South Korean. However, Lugar said the voting for the

honor took place in September, after the sinking of the Russian nuclear submarine Kursk, an event which may have heightened Scandanavian sensitivities to nuclear issues. **Status:** *Safe Lugar.*

Congressional District 2: Republican: Mike Pence. **Democrat:** Robert Rock Jr. **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:** Quayle is coming to Anderson to stump for Pence. Rock continues to hammer away at the David McIntosh voting record (psssst...Bob, you're running against Mike Pence). **Status:** *Likely Pence.*

Congressional District 3: Republican: Chris Chocola. **Democrat:** U.S. Rep. Tim Roemer. **Geography:** South Bend, Mishawaka, Elkhart, Northern Indiana. **1994 results:** Roemer 72,497, Burkett 58,787. **1996 Results:** Roemer 114,381, Zakas (R) 80,748, Taylor (L) 2,331. **1998 Results:** Roemer 84,625, Holtz 61,041. **2000 Forecast:** Roemer leads Republican Chris Chocola in the 3rd CD, 52 to 36 percent, according to a *South Bend Tribune*/WSBT-TV Poll released on Thursday. Pollster Del Ali of Research 2000 said Roemer has withstood Chocola's barrage of critical 30-second TV spots with 53 percent of voters still regarding the congressman favorably. Twenty-nine percent view him unfavorably. Ali said Chocola can still get into the race because there is still "room to grow" because one out of four voters still don't know him. Chocola was encouraged. "During the first week of October in 1990, Roemer was down by a margin of 19 to 22 points to John Hiler," Chocola said. "Being down 16 points shows that we are doing better than Roemer was at the same point in the campaign when he defeated Hiler. We feel that the Tribune's recent poll, along with those done by both sides, clearly show that our campaign has made tremendous progress and that Roemer knows he is in trouble." Roemer was pleased with the results. "It's certainly great news," he said. "It only motivates me to work all the harder." Meanwhile on the debate front, Roemer and Chocola will do it via satellite. "Congress is still in session, wrestling with appropriations and other matters. And Roemer insisted that if he had to be in Washington, isolated from the planned live audiences at scheduled debate sites in Elkhart and South Bend, Chocola also would have to be in a TV studio without an audience," wrote Jack Colwell of the South Bend Tribune. "We conceded absolutely everything," Chocola spokesman Nicholas Tyszka said. **Status:** *LIKELY ROEMER.*

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:** The Buyer campaign accused Goodnight of giving access to a *Chicago Tribune* reporter, "yet he is not available to give local journalists the time of day." Said Buyer, "In my conversations with reporters within Indiana's 5th CD, I hear a recurring theme - Greg Goodnight is not available to answer questions or discuss issues, just his press secretary." TV commercials aired by Goodnight accuse Buyer of voting to dip into Social Security funds to provide more of a tax cut for the wealthy than for average Americans have resulted in Buyer's campaign asking for the ad to be pulled and TV stations to refuse to air it (Dave Kitchell, *Logansport Pharos-Tribune*). Buyer's spokespersons said his vote on a tax cut has nothing to do with Social Security, which is funded through FICA taxes. Goodnight's ad says Buyer's vote was for a tax cut of \$46,000 for wealthy Americans and only 41cents a day for the average person. Goodnight is still calling for three debates, but none has been scheduled. **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)

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lion budget. Thad Nation, O'Bannon spokesman, denied Clark's charges and said O'Bannon was the first governor to try to overhaul the way the state hospital system works.

BUYER, GOODNIGHT CLASH AGAIN: Republican Steve Buyer, CD5 congressman, is accusing Greg Goodnight, his opponent, of false advertising, and Goodnight is accusing Buyer of "fuzzy math" (Marc B. Geller, Kokomo Tribune). The cause of the accusations is a Goodnight TV ad accusing Buyer of voting for "the Republican plan to raid Social Security to pay for huge tax cuts for the rich." Buyer claims the ad is "an outright falsehood." Both candidates are relying on statistics from the Congressional Budget Office to stake their claims.

AG'S OPINION IGNORED: Monroe County officials say they are going to ignore an opinion from the attorney general's office regarding the number of votes needed for a city or county council to approve an additional appropriation to a budget because they think they are right and the AG is wrong (Kurt Van der Dussen, Bloomington Herald-Times). It has been the custom for many years for a simple majority, usually a 4-3 vote, to approve such action. The new opinion specified that a

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three-fourths vote is needed. That would mean six votes in a seven-member body. Such opinions don't carry the legal force of a statute, but they carry some clout.

ANNEXATION BATTLE:

About 20 Clark County residents spoke Tuesday against a proposal that would almost double Jeffersonville's size by annexing their homes so the city could get part of the old Indiana Army Ammunition Plant (Gregory Hall, Louisville Courier-Journal). "We don't need you now, as far as I'm concerned," Landsberg Cove resident Bobby Hobbs said at a public hearing. The city is in a race with Charlestown to annex a Utica Township portion of the plant. Jeffersonville wants to take in 5,077 acres, an area in which 610 people live. Charlestown wants 2,188 acres, almost all of which are in the area Jeffersonville is after. The Jeffersonville City Council is expected to vote on the annexation at a special meeting Nov. 9. Charlestown's public hearing is scheduled for 7 p.m. Monday at its City Hall. Charlestown could vote on its annexation -- at the earliest -- 30 days after that hearing. ❖

81,381, Hager (L) 3,395. **2000 Forecast:** The Republican Congressional Campaign Committee observed this week, "Our incumbents in competitive races are all doing very well right now. In Indiana, John Hostettler has a 20-point lead. In Kentucky, Ernie Fletcher and Anne Northup have sizeable leads. In California, Brian Bilbray leads his opponent. In Washington George Nethercutt is pulling away from his opponent. In Arkansas, Jay Dickey has a good lead, and his opponent is now under a serious ethics cloud surrounding his personal finances that will likely put this race away. In Florida, new revelations released this morning about Clay Shaw's opponent should also put this race away. Simply put, if the election were held today, Republicans would pick up seats. We agreed with AFL-CIO political director Steve Rosenthal when he told the *Washington Post*, 'If you do the math race by race, it's difficult to see the Democrats winning the majority.'" Perry began running a second TV ad on Medicare late last week. "This ad highlights the need to modernize Medicare," Perry said. "Prescription drug prices have been rising at twice the rate of inflation over the last year - at the same time the pharmaceutical industry continues to enjoy enormous profits." The Rothenberg Political Report rates the 8th "Tossup/Tilt Republican." **Status:** *Tossup*.

Congressional District 9: Republican: Michael Bailey. **Democrat:** U.S. Rep. Baron Hill. **Libertarian:** Sara Cotham. **Geography:** Lawrenceburg, Rising Sun, Connersville, New Albany Jeffersonville, Madison, Nashville and SE Indiana. **1994 results:** Hamilton 91,459 (D), Leising (R) 84,315. **1996 Results:** Hamilton (D) 128,885, Leising (R) 97,747, Feeney (L) 2,315. **1998 Results:** Hill (D) 92,477, Leising (R) 87,278, Feeney (L) 2,397. **2000 Forecast:** Pallets with 300,000 *Bailey for Life* newspapers are arriving at newspapers across the 9th CD ready for insertion into general circulation. There's something that smells funny about this race. Democrats keep telling HPR that Hill is in OK shape. The fact that Gore is running stronger in Indiana than anyone ever predicted really, really should help Hill. Ditto with the current love for the incumbents and this being deep in O'Bannon country. Yet there have been plenty of flabbergasting surprises here this past decade - ranging from Bailey upset primary wins in 1992 and 2000, Jean Leising's late charge at Lee Hamilton in '94, and Hill erasing a 10-point lead in the final week of '98 to post a tiny 5,000 vote win - that lead us to keep a weary eye on this race. Bailey's September poll said he was 2 points down, yet none of the national parties have reacted in any frenetic way. Indiana GOP Chair Mike McDaniel noted that the other races Bailey's poll surveyed (presidential and senatorial) had results similar to recent statewide polls, yet McDaniel wasn't actively promoting a Bailey stunner. And at least one Southern Indiana political reporter we respect believes this district could be ripe for yet another stunning upset. We're officially keeping this race in Hill's corner because of a lack of credible scientific information and because our brain says to, but we're also keeping a close watch on this one because that's what our gut is telling us to do. **Status:** *LIKELY HILL*.

INDIANA HOUSE r a c e s

House District 19: Republican: Ron Johnson. **Democrat:** Rep. Bob Kuzman. **Geography:** Crown Point, south Lake County. **1994 results:** Conlon (R) 8,850, McCall (D) 5,280. **1996 Results:** Kuzman (D) 12,236, Sparks (R) 10,453. **1998 Results:** Kuzman 9,130, Gasparovic (R) 6,917. **2000 Forecast:** State Republicans believe this year may be the time for them to win back the seat held by Democrat Robert Kuzman since 1996 (Susan Erler, Times of Northwest Indiana). The Republican candidate in the southern Lake County district is Ron Johnson Jr., 38, a church pastor in his first run for public office. Until Kuzman won the seat, it had been held by Republicans for nearly a century. Kuzman said he expects the outcome to be the same this time. **Status:** *TOSSUP*.

House District 57: Republican: Mike Herndon. **Democrat:** J.D. Lux. **Geography:** Shelbyville, Shelby, Bartholomew and Rush counties. **1994 Results:** Linder (R) 12,626. **1996 Results:** Linder 13,730, Thayer (D) 6,704. **1998 Results:** Linder 12,741. **2000 Forecast:** Former vice president Dan Quayle came in and stumped for Herndon and Mike Pence. **Status:** *Tossup*.

- By Brian A. Howey ❖

It's time to register for the HPR Pre-Election 2000 Briefing Series

The second annual HPR Pre-Election Briefing Series will take place on Nov. 1 and Nov. 2 in Indianapolis and South Bend. The briefings will feature statewide polling and analysis by HPR's Brian Howey and Mark Schoeff Jr., TeleResearch Pollster Jeff Lewis, Ron Gifford of Baker & Daniels, and Jack Colwell of the *South Bend Tribune* and Susan Taylor of the *Evansville Courier & Press*. Join us for lunch and analysis of the fascinating 2000 election. Here are the details:

Indianapolis: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 1 at the Columbia Club. Sponsors include Baker & Daniels, DLZ, Vectren and National Graphics. Cost: \$20.

South Bend: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 2, at the Holiday Inn in downtown South Bend. Sponsors include Baker & Daniels, DLZ, the St. Joseph County Chamber of Commerce. Cost: \$15.

To register, call 317-254-0535 or 317-254-1533
or e-mail us at: brianhowey@earthlink.net

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