

The Howey Political Report



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Brian A. Howey, publisher

Mark Schoeff Jr., Washington writer

Jack E. Howey, editor

The Howey Political Report Office: 317-254-1533
PO Box 40265 Fax: 317-466-0993
Indianapolis, IN 46240-0265 Mobile: 317-506-0883

brianhowey@earthlink.net
www.howeypolitics.com

Washington office: 202-775-3242;
Business Office: 317-254-0535.

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“QUOTE” OF THE WEEK

“I’m not going to say anything bad about anybody...” - Supt. of Public Instruction Suellen Reed, after appearing with Gov. Frank O’Bannon at an Education Roundtable, on WTHR-TV

Year of Incumbent poised in Indiana

Bloody 8th CD out of ‘tossup’ zone

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY** in *Evansville*

To the untrained eye, it might look like the pot is boiling. Driving down State Road 135 to Nashville on Monday and then out west on State Road 46 toward Bloomington the next day, it was impressive to see the number of yard signs for 9th CD Republican Micahael Bailey.

“Gun Owners for Bailey” some of them read. “Abolish Property Taxes” others said. One Democratic legislator told HPR, “If you based it on yard signs, you’d could say Bailey is leading.”

But! And that’s a big but...there is nothing else tangible that says that U.S. Rep. Baron Hill is in any kind of trouble. His top campaign gun sent over from the DCCC - John Williams - has left Indiana to assist in a barn-burner congressional race in Kentucky. The latest FEC report showed Bailey with only \$2,838 cash on hand as of Sept. 30 (his 300,000 newspaper inserts have been paid for), compared with \$638,715 that Hill had on hand on June 30.

While we said last week that our brains tell us Hill is in no trouble but our gut keeps reminding us of all the quirky upsets (and near shockers) in 1992, 1994, 1998 and in the 2000 GOP primary, there is nothing else that signals that kind of repeat.

The overall template going into the final two weeks of the campaign is that this is truly the “Year of the Incumbent.”

To get a good feel for that, look no farther than the “Bloody 8th.” Numerous Republican, Democratic and journalistic sources in the 8th CD that we’ve come in contact with in Evansville, Bloomington and Sullivan are telling

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McINTOSH, HORNING FAVOR AN INDIANA DEBATE COMMISSION: With virtually no one - other than the O'Bannon campaign - happy with this year's gubernatorial debate format, Republican David McIntosh and Libertarian Andrew Horning endorsed the concept of an Indiana Debate Commission. The commission proposed by The Howey Political Report would be modeled on the national commission and would establish formats and debates for the 2004 election and beyond. The national commission used three different 90-minute formats - podiums, table conversation and Tuesday's town meeting. McIntosh said of an Indiana commission, "Yeah, I think that would be a good idea, and I'd be willing to do that as an incumbent as well as challenger candidate. My experience is where anybody has been a host they control the debate and come up with a fair set of rules. This time, we were all confronted with 'take it or leave it.' So that commission would help." Horning said, Absolutely," when the debate commission idea was brought up. "But I want to qualify it. I want to make sure it's not bipartisan. It's been a very destructive thing. That's how Libertarians get kicked out of stuff." Did the debates help?

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Bob Lang



Incumbents, from page 1

HPR they expect U.S. Rep. John Hostettler to win by a comfortable margin - more than his 11,000 vote upset in 1994 and his 10,000-vote victory in 1998. Said one media source, "I'm fairly convinced that Hostettler is going to beat Perry by an even wider margin that he beat Reicken. Perry just doesn't have the troops on the ground. His union support seems to be working for John Gregg and helping Gregg stack the (Indiana) House." It was for that reason that Democratic National Chairman Joe Andrew came to Bloomington last week to try and stoke up the party base for Perry.

Since there has not been any independent polling, much of this is based on anecdotal evidence.

The *Rothenberg Political Report* has moved the 8th CD into its "tossup/tilts Republican" category. And for the first time in the history of HPR's Horse Race, we're moving the 8th CD out of the "tossup" zone and into the "leans" Republican category.

At this point we also don't see any of Indiana's other top incumbents - Gov. Frank O'Bannon, U.S. Sen. Richard

Lugar, and U.S. Reps. Tim Roemer in the 3rd CD and Steve Buyer in the 5th CD - in trouble. Nor do we see the Indiana House primed for a GOP takeover.

We entered the week seeing some of the basic assumptions - security and prosperity - that underpinned safe incumbency notions under challenge, teetering. But President Clinton's emergency foray into the Middle East does not appear to have backfired, the gubernatorial and presidential debates have not altered the status quo in any significant way, and while Wall Street has endured some wild swings with the Dow going under 10,000 for the first time in six months, the American public seems to be committed for the long haul.

Nor do we see issues like the RU-486 approval changing the dynamic in any of the federal races - something that prompted much speculation earlier this month. The pro-life networks were already fired up for Hostettler and Mike Pence in the open 2nd CD, and George W. Bush's backtracking on limiting the abortion drug does not appear to have created a big backlash in the critical undecided bloc - female independents.



Spending spigot open in Congress

By **MARK SCHOEFF JR.**

The Howey Political Report

WASHINGTON - As a desultory Congress continues its interminable session, a budget surplus is generating increased spending and Hoosier incumbents don't seem too concerned about missing time on the campaign trail.

The original target date of adjournment was Oct. 6. Now it looks as if Congress will break late next week, after passing the remaining five - of 13 - annual appropriations bills.

"It is trudging along at a slow and torturous pace," said Rep. Tim Roemer (D-3rd CD). "I'm not sure I remember a time when it has dragged like this." Nonetheless, frequent breaks in the Capitol Hill schedule allow time to get home to campaign, he said.

While members remain in the capital, they're bringing home the bacon. In an era of budget surpluses, spending for fiscal 2001 will probably exceed the 1997 budget caps by about \$100 billion, according to Congressional Quarterly.

Two approaches to appropriations bills have evolved, said Rep. Mark Souder (R-4th CD). Members are "either angry and disgusted and vote 'no' or they are angry and disgusted and get what they can for their taxpayers." Souder puts himself in the latter category. "The money is going to be spent. It's going to move to one place or another."

Roemer wants the money to move mostly into debt reduction, his top priority. He's concerned that the surplus could disappear if the United States must respond to a foreign crisis. He also favors "modest tax cuts," prescription drug coverage and education spending. "Neither the big tax cutters nor the big social spenders should prevail," he said.

Amorphous Numbers

When congressional Republicans

and the White House began this year's budget negotiations, they agreed to dedicate 90 percent of the projected surplus, or \$268 billion, to pay down the national debt and shore up Social Security and Medicare. Of the remaining \$70 billion, about \$30 billion will be spent to restore Medicare cuts imposed by the 1997 bud-

CONGRESS get agreement
WATCH and to fund a
health care
program for
veterans. That

leaves about \$40 billion for discretionary spending and tax cuts.

But in Washington, budget figures tend to change. "We thought we had this 90 percent agreement, but that's a relatively meaningless number because it's fluid," said Souder, expressing frustration with the Clinton administration.

Republicans are trying to put Clinton in a box on the budget. "What the Republicans are doing is plugging up the appropriations bills to reduce the ability of the administration to create entitlements," Souder said. They want to hold down spending levels President Clinton has proposed for school construction and Medicare prescription coverage, both of which would have an impact over the course of many fiscal years.

Souder is adamant about devoting at least \$12 billion during fiscal 2001 for tax cuts. But he considers that number paltry. Almost half of the tax break would go to small businesses to cushion the impact of raising the minimum wage. Progress on marriage penalty, inheritance and capital gains taxes would likely come in the form of flaccid gimmicks.

Tax cuts are needed to ensure prosperity, said Souder. "The reason we have a surplus is because of the good economy," he said. "What we should be obsessed with is not how do you spend the money,

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McIntosh said, "They did help. There was some quibbling about the format where I wished we had more questions. But they let each of us talk about our vision. I always liked debates; I wish we had more."

FINAL PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE SEEN AS A DRAW: CNN reported that registered voters who watched Tuesday night's third and final presidential debate of the fall campaign in St. Louis were split almost evenly over which candidate did a better job, with 46 percent choosing Democratic Vice President Al Gore and 44 percent picking Republican Texas Gov. George W. Bush. An ABC News snap poll yielded similar results, with the candidates tied at 41 percent each on the "who won the debate" question. CNN reported that "Bush was seen as more likeable and more believable; Gore was viewed as the candidate who expressed himself more clearly. Debate watchers also said Bush answered questions more directly than Gore, and felt that Gore was on the attack more than Bush." Gore told ABC's Good Morning America that the three debates were like "Goldilocks" with the final debate "just right."

HOOSIERS BACKED BUSH: A WTHR-TV viewer poll in Central Indiana released on

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Wednesday revealed that 49 percent felt Bush won the final debate and 31 percent said Gore did. The poll also showed that 17 percent said the debate changed their minds.

HERALD-TIMES URGES REJECTION OF ELECTORAL COLLEGE: CNN's survey of current state polling and the Electoral College shows that Bush leads in 23 states (including Indiana) with 205 votes and Gore leads in 12 states with 175 votes. The specter of one of the candidates winning the popular vote but losing in the Electoral College prompted the Bloomington Herald-Times to editorially urge the popular vote winner to ascend to the White House. "With the current general tarnish on politics in this country, that sort of system breakdown would be intolerable," the Herald-Times opined. "The winner would be viewed as illegitimate by a substantial portion of the populace, even if he won by the rules. Like (President Benjamin) Harrison in 1888, he could be a lame duck from day one of his term." The editorial stated, "Electoral College votes are not graven in stone. Each state's are supposed to go en bloc to the candidate who wins the state. But to prevent a national crisis, there is nothing in the Constitution to prohibit the losing candidate from urging a neces-

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Sen. Lugar talks about the Soviet nuke stockpile

Last Thursday - the day before U.S. Sen. Richard Lugar found out he would not get the Nobel Peace Prize, HPR Publisher Brian A. Howey talked with Lugar about the Nunn-Lugar Act.

HOWEY: Put the Nunn-Lugar Act into perspective and tell us what is actually happening in the former Soviet Union.

LUGAR: Essentially the whole idea is almost counter-intuitive. Namely, that after the Cold War, the better part of 40 years of Mutually Assured Destruction - that Russia or the remnants of the former Soviet Union, would agree to allow American contractors with American funds to come in and literally dismantle the warheads from the missiles, destroy the missiles and then commence to destroy the bombers that could have conveyed nuclear weapons over our country. And now, we're into the submarine situation in a big way, including the Typhoons, the largest ones they have. In the current appropriations just OK'd in the conference committee, we are finally into the biological weapon prevention, the first monies for that to support 12 collaborative research projects. We've identified 13 sites there where these weapons are being produced. We're still arguing with the House of Representatives over monies to start destroying the chemical weapons. The fact that nuclear fuel is involved means many are unstable. No one knows precisely at what point a blow-up would occur that would kill a lot of Russians in an accident of that sort. Or maintainance, which we saw with the submarine incident this summer - the Kursk. Now on our side there were of course those who said we shouldn't spend a dime to try and help the Russians clean up the mess they've made. They've built all of these weapons and now they're stuck with them and they've got to buy their way out of it. That's one way of looking at things and some people still look at it like that in terms of the chemical weapons. It's one of these extra-

ordinary windows of historical opportunity that has remained open during the eight going on nine years of the Nunn-Lugar program. I've tried to foster that as has Nunn on our trips to Russia, not only to see the people in Moscow who come and go - the political changes have been

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legion throughout that period of time - but actually at the sites of embattled

people there who are in deep trouble and are grateful we've had sort of the hands-on missionary effort. In fact, the program has kept going on throughout all the ups and downs of the politics in the relationship with the Russians because, in large part, it makes great common sense. From our standpoint in the United States, we now know that 5,014 nuclear warheads are no longer available to be shot at us. During the debates, any single one of them could obliterate the entire city of Indianapolis or Evansville or Fort Wayne. That is still too awesome for most of us to comprehend, including myself. It really comes home to you when you go into the bunker of one of these missile sites in the Ukraine and you see the maps of the United States and where these are supposed to land and even in some cases pictures of cities or situations that might be obliterated. The Russians had a very good ideas of where the targeting was. Even if we were oblivious of it, it doesn't mean we weren't in as much danger as we thought. And the problem is the danger continues with the remainder because even though they've changed the altitude and adjustments those could be changed in a hurry. They're available. We have at least , if we are thoughtful of it, an opportunity to keep moving.

HOWEY: I've described the Nunn-Lugar Act as one of the greatest

Congressional level achievements in the history of the nation. Are you aware of any other time in history where a former enemy has been invited in by a country in a time of peace and destroyed an arsenal. Or is this totally unique.

LUGAR: No, I think it's totally unique. There's never been an arsenal created like the one the Soviet Union created. We certainly had a very, very large stockpile of the same sorts of weapons at the end of the Cold War, but the levels we had never reached the levels that the Soviet Union had built. Of course, no one The nuclear age is an entirely different situation. If you had axes or cannons you could safely put those in a bunker. But with nuclear weapons with unstable fuels, you have a very different kind of situation. This is really the first time this awesome kind of power that could have destroyed the world was at least in the hands of two countries. It is a unique situation. Prompted by your visit with Andy Fisher, I had my staff look at Congressional initiatives of the past - historically - leaving aside whether they had to do with war or peace....

HOWEY: You're right on to my next question, go ahead....

LUGAR: When Nunn and I were honored at Harvard a couple of years ago, they made the point of saying this was historically the greatest Congressional initiative at least in living memory. Two things that came on the historical horizon were the College Land Grant Act of 1862. In that case, it was authored by Rep. Justin Morrell of Vermont and was clearly a Congressional initiative. And, of course, many would say the Civil Rights Act of 1964 was primarily a Congressional initiative, although both Presidents Kennedy and Johnson ultimately worked for its passage. In the case of the Nunn-Lugar Act, nobody worked for its passage. The Bush administration was kind of tone deaf really throughout that period until we took Gen. Burns over there to see what was going on. Then they became more active.

I gather that was probably true of the Land Grant Act of 1862, although the Civil Rights thing really had all sorts of hand marks, primarily Congressional, in 1964.

HOWEY: The Land Grant Act created all sorts of great universities?

LUGAR: Yes.

HOWEY: I was thinking of the Marshall Plan, although that was probably the Truman administration, and Lend-Lease.

LUGAR: It came from initially Gen. Marshall's speech at a commencement at Yale, I believe.

HOWEY: Lend-Lease?

LUGAR: That was Franklin Roosevelt's initiative. Over great Congressional opposition if I remember right.

HOWEY: I wanted to put this into context and you drove right ahead. What does this (Nobel Peace Prize nomination) mean to you personally?

LUGAR: Obviously it was a total surprise. I have known David Hamburg from the Carnegie Foundation and Bill Potter from Monterey, the former Swedish ambassador who tracked down information from Iraq. They formulated the nomination and then collected the remarkable number of seconding letters from the former prime minister of Japan and the foreign minister of Singapore. Both Defense Secretary Bill Cohen and former secretary Bill Perry wrote really remarkable testimonies. I'm very honored and excited and deeply touched. The work continues on. There will be \$340 million available for the coming year. If I'm successful in the re-election this November, my hope is to go to Russia at some time in December. I really want to keep the momentum going. The general who oversees the rocket forces would like to accompany me. What happens is that each year I go over there, it's like peeling the layers off an onion. Russians really want to show more because they really have no honest broker to talk to. They have no money and the

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sary number of his Electoral College electors to follow the national mandate set by the popular vote and vote for that person. We urge both Vice President Gore and Gov. Bush to address this possibility and pledge in advance to follow that course."

REPUBLICITARIANS: The Republican and Democratic candidates for governor have been sniping viciously at each other in TV debates and campaign ads, but the Republicans and Libertarian candidates find themselves occasionally working together (Shannon Lohrmann, Fort Wayne News-Sentinel). Republican David McIntosh and Libertarian Andrew Horning were on the same side in the negotiations over debate format. Libertarian campaign manager Sam Goldstein said there was no formal coalition with the Republicans, but found they had similar goals. Brian Vargus of the IUPUI Public Opinion Laboratory was not surprised by the cooperation. "Look at the philosophy and votes," he said. "McIntosh is very Libertarian in some of his proposals and overlaps with Horning." Both parties are considered conservative.

ANDREW REACTS TO DEATH OF GOV. CARNAHAN: Democratic National Chairman Joe Andrew

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released this statement on the death of Missouri Gov. Mel Carnahan Monday night. "We extend our sympathy to the Carnahan family and staff in the loss of Gov. Carnahan and his son, Randy, and to the family and friends of Chris Sifford. The entire Democratic Party is heartbroken by this unimaginable tragedy. This should remind us of the sacrifices from individuals who believe deeply in politics as a way to work for the public good." Andrew added, "Gov. Carnahan, in 40 years of serving the citizens of his state, was a leader in Missouri, in our party and in our country. He was on his way to becoming a national leader in the U.S. Senate. It was my honor and pleasure to work with Gov. Carnahan, not only for his dedication to the issues which define our party, but for his sense of humor and his unwavering commitment to the ideals and nobility of public service."

QUAYLE BOOSTS MCINTOSH: Former Vice President Dan Quayle was in Indianapolis last Wednesday to support Republican Congressman David McIntosh in his campaign for governor (Terry Burns, Times of Northwest Indiana). McIntosh served under Quayle in the White House as his deputy legal counsel and executive director of Quayle's Council

Indiana 2000 Racing Form

TRENDLINES: The debate sequences in Indiana have for the most part passed and we don't see any of them being particularly decisive in any of the races, particularly with the governor's race. David McIntosh spent his final debate in Evansville emphatically saying he will support the I-69 new terrain route. McIntosh also used the Evansville debate to try and fire up the ground organization of U.S. Rep. John Hostettler, again mentioning his support for the 2nd Amendment and against partial birth abortion.

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:** WTHR-TV caught images Tuesday that had to have the McIntosh gubernatorial campaign and Hoosier Republican leaders shaking their heads. Republican Supt. of Public Instruction Suellen Reed appeared with Gov. Frank O'Bannon at Tuesday's Education Roundtable. The two sat next to each other and Reed was seen talking with the governor in an emotional fashion. The

HORSE RACE

Republican and Democrat had mixed it up last week during the final gubernatorial debate sequence when McIntosh and O'Bannon disagreed on Indiana's graduation rates. At the behest of the McIntosh campaign, Reed released a statement asking O'Bannon to pull a campaign ad that had quoted Reed and contradicted a position of the McIntosh campaign. Reed told WTHR-TV, "I'm not going to say anything bad about anybody." O'Bannon said, "We leave politics outside the room." O'Bannon and McIntosh say they support putting the entire state on Daylight Saving Time. Now a coalition of high-tech business leaders say they want the General Assembly to confront the issue during the 2001 session (Peter Schnitzler, *Indianapolis Business Journal*). Brian Williams, executive director of TechNet Indiana, the research and lobbying group, said, "I don't think there is any other issue where the benefits are so clear and the downside is almost non-existent." House Speaker John Gregg said, "The time issue takes precedence, even over basketball, but this might be the one group that can get it out of committee and onto the floor." Advocates say the change saves energy and prevents crime and traffic accidents. Farmers oppose the loss of an hour every morning. "Whoever sponsors it will be a lightning rod," Gregg said. The high tech people will focus on their assertion that being out of sync with the rest of the nation is a main reason Indianapolis has trouble landing direct flights to other major cities. Bo "10" Derek hosted an event for David McIntosh at the Midtown Grill in Broad Ripple earlier this week. It cost \$5,000 to sit at her table and \$1,000 to be seated nearby. **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:** Johnson picks up endorsements from the ISTA and Indiana State Lodge of the FOP. On CNN's Larry King Live Thursday night Lugar was asked if the U.S. should openly take sides with Israel. "I think we have to be clear we're an ally with Israel," Lugar said, adding, "The world is a dangerous place not just for Israelis, but for Americans. We lost a lot of ground in the oil market today." **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:** An Oct. 11-12 Wilson Research Strategies Poll of 350 likely voters in the 2nd CD shows Republican Mike Pence leading Democrat Bob Rock, 45.7 percent to 16.9 percent. Independent Bill Frazier polled 12.6 percent and there were 24.9 percent undecided. **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:** When Roemer and Chocola, met in the last of their two debates they were about as far apart as people can get on the issues (Terrence Bland, *South Bend Tribune*). The only issue on which the two found common ground was support of taking military action if it is proved the attack on the U.S. destroyer Cole was an act sponsored by a foreign government. Chocola said Roemer opposed campaign finance reform, while he supports it. They also differed on how to keep Social Security solvent, and what to do with the government's surplus. **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:** Buyer launched a TV ad campaign taking Goodnight to task for "scaring" senior citizens about Social Security. Goodnight received the endorsement of the National Farmers Union. **Status:** *Likely Buyer.*

Congressional District 8: Republican: U.S. Rep. John Hostettler. **Democrat:** Dr. Paul Perry. **Libertarian:** Tom Tindel. **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:** The Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee filed a complaint with the Federal Election Commission against Hostettler for accepting what it called "illegal campaign contributions." The *Evansville Courier & Press* reported on Sunday that the Hostettler campaign accepted a \$1,000 contribution to "John Hostettler Posey County Republicans" last March 28. Less than three weeks later a check for that amount from that committee landed in Hostettler's campaign chest. "John Hostettler likes to talk about his opposition to PAC contributions, but he's clearly found a way to illegally funnel special interest cash into his campaign coffers," said John Del Cecato of the DCCC. "In doing so, Hostettler has broken federal law and betrayed his constituents' trust. The people of Indiana deserve better." Hostettler responded in a written statement to a complaint filed by the DCCC, calling it "baseless" and saying that his opponent, Democrat Paul Perry, was far behind in the race "with no issue to close the gap" (Tim Starks, *Evansville Courier & Press*). "Unfortunately, to try to change his dismal standing in the polls, Mr. Perry and his liberal allies at the DCCC have decided to resort to political smear tactics." The suit alleges that Hostettler illegally moved \$1,000 of political action committee from a Posey County committee and into his campaign. Hostettler long has made an issue of not accepting PAC contributions (Tim Starks, *Evansville Courier & Press*). Jim Kohlmeyer, chairman of the Posey County committee, said "it's perfectly legal, they donate to us and we can donate...to John Hostettler." He also said Hostettler would have no way of knowing the money came from a PAC. Hostettler has a website that warns potential donors not to send money if they represent a Political Action Committee. All three men running for Indiana's 8th Congressional District seat firmly established themselves as anti-abortion candidates during a televised debate Sunday (Susan Taylor, *Evansville Courier & Press*). Only Libertarian Tom Tindle said the government

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on Competitiveness.

EVANSVILLE MAYOR WANTS LOBBYIST: Mayor Russ Lloyd Jr. of Evansville wants the city to hire a lobbyist to represent the city at the Statehouse (Jessica Wehrman, *Evansville Courier & Press*). Lloyd said a lobbyist would help the city get state funds and give it a voice in property tax reform. "We're a little bit out of sight, out of mind," Lloyd said of Evansville's location. It is the largest city in Indiana without a lobbyist.

NEW DAY IN INDY: Indianapolis City-County Council President Beurt SerVaas was quick to declare that a recent Republican override of Mayor Bart Peterson's first veto on the 2001 city budget had occurred. The vote was along party lines, 15 to 14. Council Democrats were quick to point out that it takes 20 votes to override the mayor. "We understand you're so used to having your way," said Democratic Councilman Monroe Gray.

GOP TOPS IN MONEY: Republicans regularly best Democrats in political fundraising, but the top individual donors so far in this election cycle are hoping to reverse that trend, the non-partisan Center for Responsive Politics reported today in a new study of campaign finance figures. Six of the

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top 10 individual donors gave all of their contributions to Democrats in the first 18 months of this election cycle, the Center reports in "Who's Paying for This Election: A Mid-October Snapshot of Campaign Funding in the 2000 Elections." The online version of the report is available here: <http://www.opensecrets.org/pubs/whospay00/index.htm>

PACERS ACADEMY: Indianapolis Mayor Bart Peterson, Pacers Sports & Entertainment President Donnie Walsh and Indianapolis Public Schools Superintendent Duncan P. Pritchett Jr. announced that the Indiana Pacers would sponsor one of the new IPS alternative schools at Union Station. The new Pacers Academy will be a sports academy for at-risk middle school students and will target students who have had problems with attendance, academic achievement and appropriate behaviors. Students will receive mentoring from community role models to develop values, leadership skills and motivation to continue their education. ❖

should have no laws either for or against abortion. Perry said he is against abortion and RU-486, or the so-called "morning after pill" because of "moral and personal" beliefs. Perry is a Roman Catholic. Hostettler said the 14th amendment to the U.S. Constitution obliges the federal government to protect the life of the unborn. "I will vote to stop the use of RU-486," he said. The candidates covered a myriad of issues during the hour-long debate hosted by public television WNIN-Ch. 9. Doctors and other health-care professionals contributed 63 percent of the individual donations going to Perry, a *Courier & Press* analysis shows. Those numbers, based on FEC records through June, include the spouses of doctors and total \$274,000, out of \$431,000 Perry has received from individuals. That figure amazed Larry Makinson, executive director of the Center for Responsive Politics, a campaign finance watchdog group. "When I saw that, I thought it was a mistake," he said. "Never in my 10 years of tracking campaign contributions have I seen a candidate get this much money from one industry." **Status:** *LEANS HOSTETTLER.*

INDIANA HOUSE races

House District 15: Republican: State Rep. Dan Dumezich. **Democrat:** Kevin J. Duda. **Geography:** Schereville, Merrillville, Lake County. **1994 results:** Fesko (R) 9,159, Savage (D) 3,743. **1996 Results:** Fesko (R) 15,134. **1998 Results:** Fesko (R) 9,914, Blacklund (L) 986. **2000 Forecast:** Dumezich tells HPR that he's in good shape to win his first term after being appointed to this seat. **Status:** *Leans R.*

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:** Kuzman and Johnson don't agree on much and the abortion issue has fueled heat between the two (Susan Erler, *Times of Northwest Indiana*). A bill that would have required abortion clinics to meet standards similar to those imposed on out-patient surgical centers was passed by the Senate but didn't make it out of the Public Policy Committee Kuzman chairs. **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.*

House District 60: Republican: John Shean. **Democrat:** 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:** State government should concentrate on holding the line on taxes and improving education, Welch and Shean agree (Steve Hinnefeld, *Bloomington Herald-Times*). The district includes parts of Monroe, Greene and Lawrence counties. Both candidates say they have records of working to solve community problems. Shean said he favors state-funded full-day kindergarten and tax credits for private school tuition. Welch said she has voted for charter school legislation, opposes vouchers, but supports giving parents more choices in the public school system. **Status:** *Leans Welch.*

House District 76: Republican: Dan Hostettler. **Democrat:** Rep. Jonathon Weinzapfel. **Geography:** Posey, Vanderburgh counties. **1994 results:** Lutz (D) 14,474. **1996 Results:** Lutz (D) 13,981, Harry (R) 7,530. **1998 Results:** Lutz 13,051, Germann (L) 1,303. **2000 Forecast:** While O'Bannon has tracked well in this district, this is Weinzapfel's first election since being appointed to this seat. He's got decent name ID after his 1996 run for the 8th CD and his family is well-known. His opponent is the congressman's brother. With Congressman Hostettler presumably in the best shape he's ever been in, there is great speculation that his brother may be able to benefit from what is widely perceived as the best ground organization in the state. Hostettler and Weinzapfel both appeared at the Central Labor Council AFL-CIO earlier this week. Hostettler has been a union member since he was 17, but told the *Courier & Press*, "I think it's obvious tonight that I must be a foe." Weinzapfel told HPR prior to the Evansville gubernatorial debate last week that the race will be tight but he believes he will prevail. We're keeping an eye on this one. **Status:** *TOSSUP.* ❖



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Congress, *from page 3*

but how do you keep the growth up."

Incumbent Stories

Although incumbents have been stuck in Washington voting on appropriations bills, that work gives them vignettes for the campaign trail. "I've been able to get more of your money back in projects than my predecessors combined and at the same time we've balanced the budget and cut taxes," Souder says in his ads and speeches.

In the 5th CD, Rep. Steve Buyer is able to blunt his opponent's offensives on Medicare prescription coverage by pointing to the veterans health care and prescription drug package that he wrote and Congress passed last week. "When I get back, I can talk about the positive things

we're doing," he said.

Of course, votes on appropriations bills also provide fodder for attacks. In the 8th CD, incumbent GOP Rep. John Hostettler came under fire for opposing a bill to fund federal agriculture programs. He said the measure cost too much.

The risk in increasing spending is that it will demoralize the conservative base. But that shouldn't be a problem for Hostettler because he consistently votes "no," even if it takes money out of the hands of constituents. "He's explaining it in his own eccentric conservative way. His base understands that and they send him there to fight," said Souder.

Republicans in open seats can't bring home projects nor can they cast votes against spending. But they'll only have a problem motivating their conservative base if it is critical of the GOP-majority Congress. That doesn't

appear to be the case in the 2nd CD.

"Never at any debate did a question about the 106th Congress come up," said Mike Pence, the Republican candidate competing for the seat being vacated by Republican Rep. David McIntosh. "The budget negotiations at the moment are off the radar screen."

Roemer believes that people are watching but not necessarily tuned into the budget details. "They're paying attention to the mood and how we talk in a civil way about bipartisanship."

But if Congress passes major reforms, such as Medicare prescription coverage, in its waning days, it could hurt the GOP. "If anything emerges, one would expect Democrats to be helped as a group," said Larry Sabato, political science professor at the University of Virginia. ❖