

The Howey Political Report



Bush, O'Bannon, Lugar eye blow-outs

But whose coattails extend to House?

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY** in Indianapolis

In what is looking more and more like the "Year of the Incumbent," Gov. Frank O'Bannon, U.S. Sen. Richard Lugar and Supt. of Public Instruction Suellen Reed are poised to roll up big victories in next Tuesday's election, according to the latest HPR/TeleResearch Poll. So are Republican Presidential nominee George W. Bush and GOP attorney general candidate Steve Carter.

The critical question at this late juncture comes down to political wardrobe: Whose coattails (if any) could extend down to about a half dozen Indiana House races to decide control and 2001 reapportionment there?

HPR/TeleResearch conducted its polling of 911 likely voters on Oct. 28-29 with a 3.2 percent margin of error. Its gender breakdown was 41/59 male/female, 38 percent Republican, 34 percent Democrat and 28 percent independent:

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"QUOTE" OF THE WEEK

"One of McIntosh's biggest problems is that most people don't know how much property tax they pay..."

- TeleResearch Pollster Jeff Lewis

<u>President</u>	<u>Governor</u>	<u>U.S. Senate</u>
Bush (R) 53	O'Bannon (D) 52	Lugar (R) 64
Gore (D) 39	McIntosh (R) 37	Johnson (D) 22
Undecided 8	Horning (L) 3	Hager (L) 2
	Undecided 8	Undec. 12

<u>Attorney General</u>	<u>Supt of Instruction</u>
Carter (R) 40	Reed (R) 43
Freeman-Wilson (D) 30	McCullum (D) 28
Harshey (L) 4	Goldstein (L) 4
Undecided 26	Undecided 25

During the Bayh-O'Bannon era of Democratic resur-

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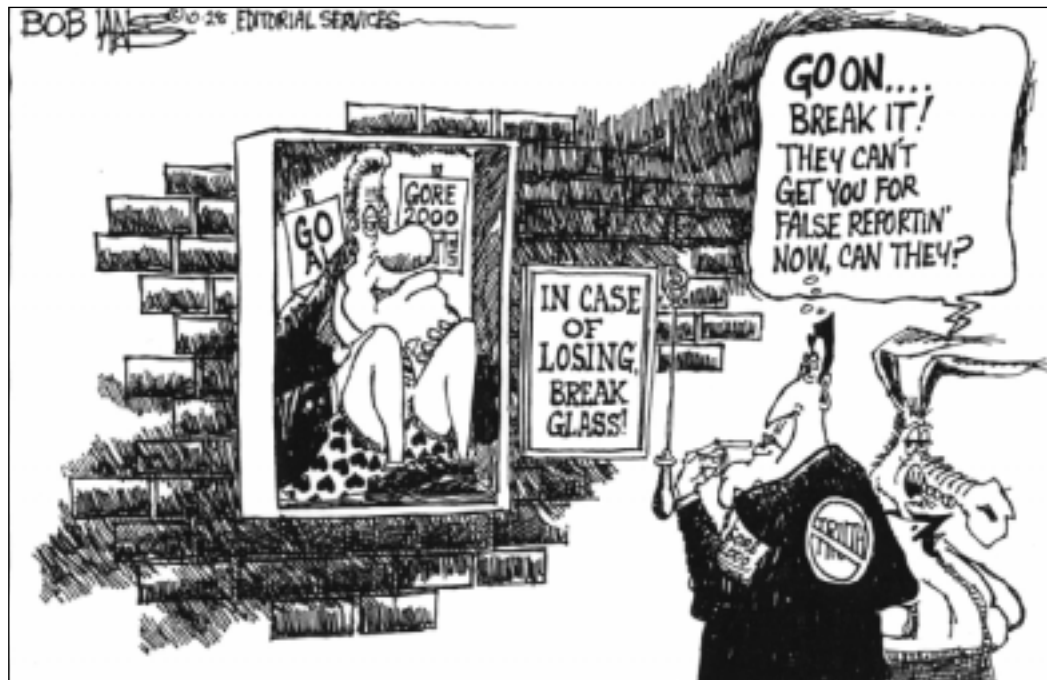
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BUSH BARELY WINS VIGO COUNTY BELLWETHER POLL: An Indiana State University poll in Vigo County gives Republican presidential candidate George W. Bush a narrow lead. Vigo County has voted for the winning presidential candidate in all but two elections in the 20th century and in one of those, favorite son Eugene Debs was on the ballot. Bush won the ISU poll 44 to 42 percent over Democrat Al Gore, with 10 percent undecided (Max Jones, Terre Haute Tribune-Star). In another way of predicting the presidential winner, the Republican usually prevails when the American League pennant winner prevails in the World Series. The New York Yankees won the MLB title last week. In more conventional (if not controversial) polling, Bush leads Gore in the MSNBC tracking, 44 to 43 percent. Bush also held on to a significant lead in a CNN/USA Today/Gallup poll released on Sunday, 49 to 43 percent. Green Party nominee Ralph Nader had 3 percent. CNN reported, "In the past, the poll has shown Bush with at least 48 percent of support for five consecutive days, and Gore with no more than 43 percent during that same length of time. That stability indicates that Bush has

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gence, the victorious governor always brought in between three and six House seats with him. In 1996, O'Bannon's upset of Stephen Goldsmith brought along six Democrats to take the House from a 56-44 advantage to a 50/50 split. In 1998, Evan Bayh's Senate win helped bring along another six Democrats. But Lugar had coattails somewhere in the 1994 GOP tsunami, sweeping in Secretary of State Sue Anne Gilroy and Treasurer Joyce Brinkman while fracturing what had been a 55-45 Democratic advantage into a 56-44 Republican House.

What is clear in the HPR/ Tele-Research Poll is that Indiana voters appear to be inclined to vote both Republican and for incumbents. Voters will support Bush and Lugar, step out to elect O'Bannon, then go with Republicans Carter and Reed. Whether they extend that Republican trending to Congressional and legislative races is the object of current speculation.

There was a similar dynamic in place in 1988, when Hoosiers gave the Bush/Quayle ticket a 400,000 vote plurality, as well as a 400,000 boost for Bayh,

who also pulled in a Democratic House.

There are clues in the HPR/ TeleResearch Poll as to how that trending will go. Gov. O'Bannon is getting 25 percent of the Republican vote, compared to 22 percent in 1996 against Goldsmith. McIntosh is pulling 8 percent of the Democratic vote.

O'Bannon is leading McIntosh with independent voters, 49 to 26 percent. In all three HPR/TeleResearch polls in 2000, O'Bannon has maintained at least a 20-percent lead in that group. O'Bannon also leads McIntosh 53 to 33 percent among female voters and the biggest bloc of undecideds are women (15 percent). However, Bush leads Gore among Hoosier women, 51 to 41 percent.

Presidential trending

TeleResearch pollster Jeff Lewis noted that Gore is running a little better in Central Indiana than he is in Northern and Southern Indiana, which could be a nominal benefit to Congressional Republican candidates Chris Chocoma (3rd CD), John Hostettler (8thCD) and Michael Bailey (9th CD). Said Lewis, "A month ago when Bush led by only 50 to 42 percent, that reflected Gore's better numbers

2000 Gubernatorial Race Polling Sequences

	HPR/TR 6/10-15	Star/13 8/24-27	WISH 9/9-10	SBT/22 9/18	JMA 9/24-25	HPR/TR 9/30-10/1	WISH 10/10	SBT/22 10/12	Star/13 10/26-28	HPR/TR 10/28-29
O'Bannon	44	50	44	48	48	46	46	49	49	52
McIntosh	40	29	26	33	34	38	26	34	33	37
Horning	3	--	1	--	1	4	2	2	2	3
Others	--	--	--	2	--	--	--	--	--	--
Undecided	13	21	29	17	17	12	26	15	16	8

POLLWATCH: Our trending of the Indiana governor's race shows Gov. O'Bannon finally breaking across the 50 percent threshold while David McIntosh clearly never got the traction he needed on property taxes. Our polling sequences between mid-June and late September missed the hey-day of the O'Bannon gas tax suspension. Trending in the final two polls clearly favored O'Bannon, but the last set of numbers show he is poised for a resounding win in his last campaign. ❖

nationally. And this set of numbers identify Gore's decline nationally." If Bush pulls off a 58-42 percent win, that would give him about a 320,000 plurality (based on 20,000 each percentage point). The Indiana Democratic campaign scenario was positioned on Gore taking 40 percent.

Lugar, however, is poised to win by as much as 800,000 votes and setting an Indiana record for a Senate candidate.

Gubernatorial/House scenario

Our forecast in the governor's race is an O'Bannon win around 55 to 42 percent over McIntosh, or about a 260,000 vote plurality.

How the O'Bannon cross-current that interrupts the Bush/Lugar pattern, then resumes with Carter/Reed, makes forecasting the Indiana House races down the ballot very tricky.

Currently, HPR lists four pure tossup races, with three of those seats held by Democrats. There are four Republican seats in the "Leans R" category and five Democratic seats that "Lean D." Any of

those nine seats could be susceptible to any late wave (remember 1980 when all the undecideds broke toward Ronald Reagan and the GOP in the final week-end?). That kind of scenario is not out of the question.

Our best guess six days out is that Republicans pick up two seats, with the top prospects coming out of HD19 (Kuzman-Johnson) in Crown Point, HD30 (Herrell-Burkhardt) in Kokomo, and possibly HD64 (Frenz-Holcomb) in the Vincennes area. A couple of less probable GOP pickups would be HD68 (Leising-Bischoff) in Southeastern Indiana, and HD78 (Weinzapfel-Hostettler), where the congressman's ground troops could help his older brother.

Reliable Democratic sources have told HPR that congressional and legislative trending has been stable going into the final week when in a more volatile situation they would have begun fluctuating. That's good news for Democrats like U.S. Rep. Baron Hill, Frenz, Weinzapfel,

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built a solid advantage over his rival in the post-debate phase of the campaign." In the ABC News/Washington Post Poll, Bush led 47 to 46. Newsweek has Bush up 49 to 41 percent. A CNN Electoral College analysis gives Bush 209 votes, Gore 171 with 158 listed as tossups. Tossup states include Michigan, Wisconsin, Missouri, Iowa, Arkansas, Oregon, Washington, Minnesota Tennessee, Pennsylvania, Florida, West Virginia, Maine and New Mexico.

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PRESIDENTIAL RACE NARROWS (SUPRISE!):

Republican George W. Bush and Democrat Al Gore are tied at 47 percent in the latest ABC News daily tracking poll. The Washington Post daily tracking poll has Bush leading 47 to 46 percent. The Reuters/MSNBC/Zogby tracking poll has Bush leading 45 to 42 percent. CNN/USA Today/Gallup has Bush leading 47 to 44 percent. In CNN's latest Electoral College analysis, Bush leads 214 to 171. Bush appeared on NBC's Tonight Show with Jay Leno Monday and after Leno put on a George Bush mask, Bush put on an Al Gore mask and said, "This is more scary." And in one of the quirkiest ways to historically measure the presidential race, ABC's Monday Night Football observed that in the Washington Redskins' final home game before elections dating back to FDR's win over Hoosier Wendell Willkie in 1940, if they win the incumbent party retains control of the White House. If the Redskins lose, the incumbent party loses. Tennessee defeated the Redskins, 27-21 last night, apparently assuring a Bush victory next Tuesday.

McCLOSKEY SEES DECENT TURNOUT: Former congressman and current Monroe County Democratic Chairman Frank McCloskey believes voter interest is

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Poll, from page 3

Bischoff and Kuzman, and ominous for 8th CD challenger Paul Perry.

U.S. Rep. Tim Roemer is facing a different atmosphere in Michiana, where a *South Bend Tribune*/WSBT Poll released on Monday showed him with a 48-41 lead, halved since a similar poll a month ago. His opponent, Chris Chocola, clearly has the momentum and is benefitting from a lot of Bush gross rating points in the South Bend TV market aimed at Southwestern Lower Michigan, a presidential battleground state. The key question in the 3rd CD is whether Chocola has enough time to peak on Election Day. The element that could save Roemer is the overall lack of a "throw the bums out" mentality.

What happened to McIntosh?

Last week, McIntosh was telling us that his internal polling was showing him pulling within single digits. That failed to square with anything else we've seen.

What happened?

First of all, McIntosh was still trying to pull in his base in September and October, thus the debate rhetoric on 2nd Amendment and partial birth abortion. Not only is McIntosh failing to secure his GOP base, but he alienated females and independents. Lewis noted, "McIntosh's change in strategy - going negative - backfired on him. There is no evidence that works in Indiana any more."

Another problem for McIntosh is that his property tax message never sank in with voters. Lewis observed, "One of McIntosh's biggest problems is that most people don't know how much property tax they pay. It's hidden in your mortgage payment. It's like when folks buy a car; the big thing they want to know about is the monthly payment. There was no compelling reason to change."

Gifford's analysis

Ron Gifford heads up governmental affairs for Baker & Daniels Law Offices.

David McIntosh is an astute politician. Assuming that the McIntosh campaign's internal polling is consistent with the TeleResearch poll, I think McIntosh has concluded that there is nothing he can do to move these numbers sufficiently. The only way he wins this election, then, is on the coattails of George W. Bush (which seems unlikely). Even if McIntosh unleashed a barrage of negative attack ads against O'Bannon, McIntosh wouldn't close the gap, but he'd leave voters with a bad taste about him. So McIntosh's declaration that he won't run negative ads can be seen as part of his strategy to lay the foundation for another run for governor. He's not giving up, but he's staying on TV with feel-good spots that don't burn bridges with the electorate. In my opinion, the current ad featuring Ruthie McIntosh talking about her husband is actually the first Republican ad in the 2004 governor's race. ❖

The art of staying positive

By MARK SCHOEFF Jr.

The Howey Political Report

WASHINGTON - In the final days of the campaign crucible, candidates often go negative. It's almost a political certainty, and it's happening in several Hoosier districts. But the definition of negative is malleable.

In the 2nd CD, Republican Mike

Pence has launched an ad about negative ads. "Folks want to know what you're for. They don't want to know who you're against," Pence says in the spot, which went up on Indianapolis network television on Oct. 29. Pence pledges to run a "positive, issue oriented campaign."

The ad effectively responds to a spot put up by independent candidate Bill

Frazier that criticizes Pence for supporting the NAFTA trade agreement. Frazier uses the Pence logo and Pence audio from a debate. He's up on Indianapolis networks with a strong buy, reported by HPR Daily Wire to be about \$110,000.

But Frazier disputes the notion that his spot is negative. "This is not a negative ad. He said it. It's not me calling him a name or saying something that is absolutely untrue. I've got debate tapes I can play over and over again."

In Frazier's view, he is speaking for workers who have lost their jobs due to trade agreements. "If you lose and \$18 an hour job, it's more than 'a little bump in the road'," Frazier said, using a Pence phrase from one of the debates.

Pence doesn't have a problem with his opponents taking issue with him on an issue but he said, "I have no intention of following them into that process. We're not in this campaign to talk about what's wrong with our opponents' ideas."

By his own admission, Pence ran harsh, negative campaigns for the 2nd CD seat in 1988 and 1990 against Democrat Phil Sharp. Pence's approach this time, declared at the outset of his campaign, is giving him serenity. "The peace in my heart has to do with the fact that we're seven days away from doing what we said we would do."

In the 3rd CD, Republican challenger Chris Chocola is going on the offensive against an ad put up this week by incumbent Democratic Rep. Tim Roemer. The Roemer spot says that Chocola wants to privatize Social Security. Chocola says his words were distorted.

"That's the worst kind of negative campaigning, when you take comments out of context and use them to scare our seniors," said Chocola. But a Roemer spokesman said that the ad, based on a Chocola quote in the Elkhart Truth, is correct. As read to HPR, Chocola told the Truth: "Eventually I would like to see the entire (Social Security) system priva-

tized." Chris Mehl, Roemer's spokesman, told the Chocola campaign to "put up or shut up. Tell us where we made a mistake." In a recent HPR interview, Roemer criticized the tone of the campaign, which has seen the candidates spend nearly \$1 million combined, most of it on TV. "My opponent has been attacking me. He's

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been generally negative and mud slinging. He may be the only Republican candidate in the county to attack a Democrat for spending time with his family." But Chocola says he's sticking to the facts. "Everything we have talked about in our campaign has been factual, documented and absolutely true. Roemer is having a tough time with the thought that he can have an opponent who has the resources to tell the truth about his record."

It's no surprise that the pitched battle in the 8th CD is producing accusations of negative campaigning. Last week, Democratic challenger Paul Perry called reporters personally to rebut a Hostettler ad that says Perry lied in his own spot when he claimed that Hostettler voted twice for congressional pay increases.

"This is an incredible and misleading personal attack," said Perry. "It's hard for the average voter to know what to believe." The Perry ad is entitled "trust" and also tweaks Hostettler for allegedly accepting PAC money funneled through the Posey County Republican Party.

The Hostettler spot opens with the line: "Why is Paul Perry lying?" The video shows a newspaper clip stating that Hostettler voted against a pay raise. Perry cites Hostettler votes in favor of 1999 and 2000 appropriations bills that contained congressional pay increases. The Hostettler campaign said that he voted against a cost of living increase each year. But the motion passed and was included in the final appropriations bills, which Hostettler supported. ❖

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high in next week's election. "Intuitively I would say — and this is so subjective — it's higher than average," said McCloskey (Kurt Van der Dussen, Bloomington Herald-Times). "There is definite interest. I think it will be more than average." Monroe Republican chairwoman Pat Salzmann agreed. "I think the turnout is going to be good if the weather holds out," she said.

LAZIO LEADS HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON: In a "national" race with all sorts of Indiana implications, Republican New York Senate nominee Rick Lazio took a 47 to 45 percent lead over First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton in an MSNBC Poll released on Sunday. Both Lazio and Clinton have been combing the Hoosier donor lists for money (several members of the Indiana Democratic Club told HPR last week they had received Lazio fundraising letters). A Clinton Senate victory has the potential of severely challenging a potential presidential run by U.S. Sen. Evan Bayh, who would be a leading contender in 2004 if Gore loses next week.

PRESIDENT CLINTON WATCHES INDIANA SENATE DEBATE: When U.S. Sen. Richard Lugar went to the

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White House last Wednesday to meet with Jordan King Abdullah and President Clinton for a trade agreement signing ceremony, Clinton told Lugar, "I was watching that debate of yours. You were really going at it. It was terrific" (South Bend Tribune). The President was referring to the final debate with Democrat David Johnson in Elkhart that was rebroadcast by C-SPAN. When the four-term senator left the White House, Clinton told him that he was "debating like it was a first term."

INDIANA DEMOCRATS BARNSTORM THE STATE: Gov. Frank O'Bannon was greeted by chants of "four more years" when the State Democratic bus tour hit Evansville (John Lucas, Evansville Courier & Press). The tour also included stops in Vincennes, Terre Haute, Ferdinand and New Albany. 1999 Evansville mayoral nominee Rick Borries reminded the crowd of about 100 people that a difference of 1 percent would have made Richard Nixon president in 1960, and that two more votes per precinct would have made him mayor in 1999. Paul Perry, the 8th CD nominee, told the crowd, "This is a very, very close election." Democratic State Chair

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:** Four more years. The governor leads in our final poll, 52 to 37 percent and in today's Indianapolis Sta/WTHR poll, 49 to 33. McIntosh could never get the property tax premise to work and Republicans bailed on him. The McIntosh campaign had trouble staying on message and getting the facts down. O'Bannon has received the endorsements of four Indiana or regional newspapers in recent days - the *Evansville Courier & Press* and *Fort Wayne Journal Gazette* last Sunday; and from the *Louisville Courier-Journal* and the *Fort Wayne News-Sentinel* on Thursday. **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:** HPR/TeleResearch has Lugar leading 64 to 22 percent. This race was over a long time ago. Despite William Safire's pondering, Lugar's staff insists he is not interested in becoming Secretary of State. **Status:** *Safe Lugar.*

Attorney General: Republican: Steven Carter. **Democrat:** Karen Freeman-Wilson. **Libertarian:** Sean Harshey. **2000 Forecast:** HPR/TeleResearch Poll has Carter leading 40 to 30 percent. Carter narrowly lost to Jeff Modisett in 1996, has the same last name as a former AG and is running against a political unknown with a hyphenated name. Having said all that, this U.S. Chamber of Commerce assault ad on Freeman-Wilson is a gutter wallower. If Christopher LaMothe envisions himself as a gubernatorial candidate, he would have made sure that ad was pulled. Carter didn't even need it. **Status:** *LIKELY CARTER.*

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 (R) 93,592, Hogsett (D) 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:** We expect Pence to win his first term in his third try (like Phil Sharp and John Brademas). This is a candidate who truly seems to be at peace with himself. Frazier is stroking the NAFTA and GATT issues - ones no one else seems to be talking about. **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:** A *South Bend Tribune*/WSBT Poll shows this race narrowing with Roemer ahead 48 to 41 percent with 11 percent undecided. Pollster Del Ali sees a probable range of a 52-48 percent Roemer win to a McCloskey Scenario (winner decided in wee hours of the morning). Chocola may be benefitting from last week's Bush visit to South Bend and his TV ads aimed at Southwestern Lower Michigan. Clearly this race is tightening and that's why we've moved it into the tossup zone. However, the incumbency dynamic favors Roemer. **Status:** *TOSSUP.*

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**

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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:** We believe Buyer will return after a fiesty challenge from Goodnight, who might find Buyer more vulnerable in 2002.

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:** Perry and Hostettler trade shots over a Congressional pay raise. "It calls into question whether Paul Perry is qualified to be a congressman because he doesn't understand the legislative process," said Rob Krieg, a Hostettler campaign spokesman. "Trying to attack character and integrity is a last ditch effort of desperation." But Perry is incensed that he's the one being called a liar. "To see (the race) degenerate into a mud-slinging event is extremely disappointing to me. I understand why good people don't get into this process, and that's a sad commentary." **Status:** *Leans Hostettler.*

Congressional District 9: Republican: Michael Bailey. **Democrat:** U.S. Rep. Baron Hill. **Libertarian:** Sara CothamChambers. **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:** The quirky nature of this district had our INTEREST up, but none of the other tell-tale signs that Hill is in trouble have emerged. While Bush will run well in the 9th, the incumbency template favors Hill. We think he'll win, but.... **Status:** *LEANS HILL.*

INDIANA HOUSE r aces

House District 4: Republican: Rep. Ralph Ayres. **Democrat:** Mike Bucko.

Geography: Porter, LaPorte counties. **1994 Results:** Ayres (R) 14,672. **1996 Results:** Ayres 20,986. **1998 Results:** Ayres 14,207. **2000 Forecast:** Bucko has been a decent candidate, but Ayres will benefit from a kind year for incumbents. **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 has been in a real dogfight, maintaining a narrow \$93,646 to \$90,014 over Johnson. The Republican has benefitted from Bush TV earlier this fall in the Chicago market, but the southern part of Lake County is changing as Democrats migrate south from Chicago, Hammond and East Chicago. Johnson has waged an energetic campaign and has a real shot at regaining this long-time GOP seat. **Status:** *Tossup.*

House District 24: Republican: Rep. Rick McClain. **Democrat:** Bob Sabatini.

Geography: Logansport, Cass, Carroll, Miami counties. **1994 results:** McClain 10,421, Frantz (D) 7,686. **1996 Results:** McClain 15,538. **1998 Results:** McClain 10,281, Fincher (D) 7,345. **2000 Forecast:** McClain had raised \$147,483, according to the pre-election fund-raising report filed Oct. 15. Democrat Bob Sabatini reported raising \$103,828 (Dave Kitchell, *Logansport Pharos-Tribune*). Sabatini goes negative, prompting Sen. Weatherwax to predict it will backfire (Dave Kitchell, *Logansport Pharos-Tribune*) Gregg and Mannweiler both stumped here last week, but we forecast a McClain re-election. **Status:** *LEANS McCLAIN.*

House District 25: Republican: Donald J. Lehe. **Democrat:** Claire Leuck.

Geography: Newton, Benton, White, Carroll and Warren counties. **1994 Results:** Leuck (D) 10,274, Boots (R) 6,940. **1996 Results:** Leuck 13,159, Boots (R) 9,105. **1998 Results:** Leuck 12,004, Conrad (R) 6,960. **2000 Forecast:** Yes, yes this is a Republican district and Lehe's family has a long history here and he out-raised her \$102,557 to \$100,141. But Leuck has proved popular (see how she withstood the '94 Republican Tsunami). Given the comfort level

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Robin Winston acknowledged that Gore will not carry Indiana, but said, "It's closer than people think. We're not going to get blown out like people thought." Winston said Bush will carry Indiana by less than 10 percent.

BIPARTISAN LEGISLATIVE EFFORT POSSIBLE: Republicans and Democrats in Lake County are trying to build an alliance that would result in a northern Indiana coalition in the Indiana General Assembly (Rich Bird, Times of Northwest Indiana). Democratic Party Chairman Stephen Stiglich and Roger Chiabai, his Republican counterpart, want the chairs of both parties in 11 other northern Indiana counties to join them in an organization to influence the legislature the way the Marion County delegation does. Marion County has 23 senators and representatives and Chiabai said he wants to see Lake County combine its 16 legislators with 12 each in Allen and St. Joseph counties along with those in other northern Indiana counties. The 11 counties would have 30 House and 17 Senate districts.

DEMOCRATS OUTSPENDING GOP IN INDIANA HOUSE: The Indianapolis Star reported this morning that Indiana

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Democrats have outspent House Republicans by \$450,000. In 12 key races, the Democrats have a \$1.212 million to \$1.003 million fundraising margin. The Star reported that the ISTA has given \$810,000 to House candidates, compared to \$435,000 spent by the Indiana Manufacturers Association and the Indiana Chamber of Commerce. The Opportunity Project, George Witwer's group, is expected to contribute about \$100,000 to Republican candidates.

YOUNG VOTERS NOT INSPIRED: An August poll conducted by the Kaiser Family Foundation and MTV found that 64 percent of all adults said they intend to vote Nov. 7, but only 46 percent of those younger than 25 said they will (Jack Meunier, Bloomington Herald-Times). Of more immediate concern are classes, school work, jobs, plans for weekend parties "It's not really a young people's election," said Shannon Peterson, an IU freshman. "What are the issues? Less taxes? We don't really own anything yet. It's hard for us to think about health care and Social Security." She said she isn't sure what issue would motivate her.



of incumbents, we believe she'll return. **Status:** *LEANS LEUCK.*

House District 30: Republican: Karen Buyer Burkhardt. **Democrat:** State Rep. Ron Herrell. **Geography:** Kokomo, Howard County. **1994 Results:** Padfield (R) 8,589, Howard 7,363. **1996 Results:** Padfield 10,775, Herrell 9,660. **1998 Results:** Herrell 7,711, Burkhardt (R) 7,520. **2000 Forecast:** Burkhardt out-raised Herrell \$114,531 to \$105,615. This may be the best chance for a GOP pickup where the Republican will run stronger in a presidential year. Plus, Congressman Buyer appears to be running well in Kokomo. **Status:** *Tossup.*

House District 32: Republican: State Rep. Eric Turner. **Democrat:** Bart Herriman. **Geography:** Madison, Grant and Miami counties. **1994 results:** Turner (R) 9,496, Beck (D) 7,722. **1996 Results:** Turner 13,188, Stanley (D) 8,981. **1998 Results:** Turner 10,006, Schmidt (D) 6,607. **2000 Forecast:** We expect Turner to turn back an energetic challenge by Herriman. **Status:** *Leans Turner.*

House District 34: Republican: Kaye Whitehead. **Democrat:** Rep. Tiny Adams. **Geography:** Muncie, Delaware County. **1994 Results:** Vanleer 8,491, Elliott 7,522. **1996 Results:** Adams 9,630, Vanleer 9,241. **1998 Results:** Adams 8,180, Vanleer (R), 5,466. **2000 Forecast:** We haven't had this race on the radar all year. Whitehead's \$66,417 to \$63,350 is surprising and impressive, but we believe Adams will prevail. **Status:** *LIKELY ADAMS.*

House District 52: Republican: Ken Wonderly. **Democrat:** Rep. Dale Sturtz. **Geography:** LaGrange, Noble counties. **1994 Results:** Sturtz (D) 6,837, LeCount (R) 5,789. **1996 Results:** Sturtz 10,049, Hanneman (R) 6,258. **1998 Results:** Sturtz 6,677, Wonderly 6,385. **2000 Forecast:** Sturtz out-raised Wonderly \$113,665 to \$52,156. 'Nuff said. The former sheriff and all-around nice guy returns. **Status:** *LIKELY STURTZ.*

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:** Lux had a huge money advantage, \$112,709 to \$69,520. But Herndon is a former Shelby County sheriff and we sense this is a pure... **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:** Welch out-raised Shean \$103,890 to \$83,476 (thanks to the Indiana Chamber, which blew this seat for the GOP in 1998). We expect Welch to win re-election. **Status:** *LIKELY WELCH.*

House District 64: Republican: Eric Holcomb. **Democrat:** Rep. John Frenz. **Geography:** Knox, Pike, Davies and Gibson counties. **1994 results:** McConnell (D) 10,741, Marshall (R) 7,672. **1996 Results:** Frenz (D) 11,414, Krieg (R) 9,853. **1998 Results:** Frenz (D) 12,623. **2000 Forecast:** Frenz prevailed in the money wars, \$167,546 to \$107,379 and is really hustling. But with Congressman Hostettler poised for his most comfortable victory, we're watching to see if it's his or Gov. O'Bannon's coattails that will pull out a winner. **Status:** *Tossup.*

House District 68: Republican: Jean Leising. **Democrat:** Rep. Bob Bischoff. **Geography:** Lawrenceburg. **1994 results:** Bischoff 9,427, Ketcham (R) 8,993. **1996 Results:** Bischoff (D) 12,088, Fehrman (R) 8,968. **1998 Results:** Bischoff 11,881, Kristoff (L) 1,742. **2000 Forecast:** Bischoff out-raised Leising \$107,061 to \$84,230. If more people had wanted Jean back in Indy, she would have been closer in the money wars. **Status:** *LEANS BISCHOFF.*

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:** Democrats insist Weinzapfel is OK, as the governor is running strong here. But we still wonder if the Congressman will pull his older bro' in. **Status:** *LEANS WEINZAPFEL.*

House District 89: Republican: State Rep. Larry Buell. **Democrat:** Brian Sims. **Geography:** SW Indianapolis, Irvington, Beech Grove. **1994 Results:** Buell (R) 9,583, Feeny (D) 5,770. **1996 Results:** Buell 11,281, Osborn (D) 7,872. **1998 Results:** Buell 8,235, Jeffers (D) 5,761, Hubertz (L) 230. **2000 Forecast:** Sources from both parties indicate that Buell may have turned the corner on this one. However, Democrats say O'Bannon will carry Marion County and we're going to be watching his coattails on this race. **Status:** *LEANS BUELL.* ❖

Why?

Prognosticating the 2000 Election is one thing.

Telling you “why” it all happened is the logical next step.

To book HPR Publisher Brian A. Howey before your organization,
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