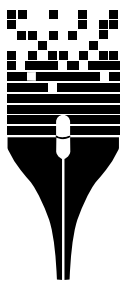


# The Howey Political Report



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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: 317-968-0487  
Indianapolis, IN 46240-0265      Mobile: 317-506-0883

**brianhowey@howeypolitics.com**  
**www.howeypolitics.com**

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

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## “QUOTE” OF THE WEEK

“We would definitely consider Mitch as a lieutenant governor candidate. It would be a good first office for him.”

- Jason Beal, David McIntosh’s campaign manager, to the *South Bend Tribune*

## Daniels eclipsing GOP’s senators

Clark withdraws; McIntosh defiant

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY** in *Indianapolis*

The look on Murray Clark’s face was something akin to Bogie standing on that Paris train platform in the rain, holding that devastating letter from Ingrid Bergman.

When the senator spoke, withdrawing from the 2004 Indiana gubernatorial race, his words were optimistic, though he refused to betray his deep emotions when he described himself as “bittersweet.”

“I believe Mitch is the right person to lead the party,” said Clark, who agreed to take on the role as Mitch Daniels’ campaign chairman. “To me, it was never about the position, but moving the state forward.”

It was a seismic development for the emerging Daniels campaign. He was driving back on Saturday, huddling with Clark for three hours on Sunday, and filing an exploratory committee on Monday with the exhortation, “It’s time, let’s go.”

That Clark was the first to withdraw wasn’t necessarily a surprise. He would have been the second choice of many big Daniels supporters, and visa versa.

Clark’s decision was expected to lead to a further consolidation in the field, with State Sen. Luke Kenley openly toying with a withdrawal. He told Mike Smith of the *Associated Press* on May 30, “Everything is contingent on whether (Daniels) announces or not. I think Republicans have a problem if we get too much of a loaded primary field, and candidates have a responsibility to think about that.”

## Indiana’s Republican senators

This week’s developments beg the question, what has

## INSIDE F E A T U R E S

- Ticker: A plethora of Bush polls** p. 2
- Bush & WMD: Howey, Lugar, Pence** p. 3
- Horse Race 03: Lushin leads Kokomo**
- recount; Pabey gets records** p. 6
- Columnists: Smith, Krull** p. 8
- Bayh says ideologues killing bill** p. 9

# TICKER

## T A P E

**FOX NEWS POLL HAS BUSH AT 66 PERCENT:** A Fox News poll of 900 registered voters, conducted over June 3-4 (+/- 3%), shows 66% approve "of the job George W. Bush is doing as president"; 26% disapprove; 8% don't know.

**ZOGBY POLL AT 58 PERCENT:** A Zogby International poll of 1,012 likely voters, conducted June 6-10 (+/- 3.2%), shows: 27% believe President Bush is doing an excellent job as president; 31% believe he is doing a good job; 22% believe he is doing a fair job; 9% believe he is doing a poor job; 9% were not sure.

**QUINNIPIAC POLL HAS BUSH AT 57 PERCENT:** A Quinnipiac University poll of 865 registered voters, conducted over June 4-9 (+/- 3.3%), shows: 57% approve "of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as President"; 35% disapprove; 8% don't know.

**BUSH AT 66 PERCENT IN NPR POLL:** A National Public Radio poll of 723 likely voters conducted by Public Opinion Strategies and Greenberg Quinlan Rosner Research over May 27-29 (+/- 3.64%), shows: 44% "strongly approve of the job George W. Bush is doing as President"; 22% said "somewhat approve";

*Continued on page 3*

happened to Indiana's Republican senators and their quest for the governorship?

Between the World Wars, the breeding ground for Indiana's chief executives was the American Legion. During the Cold War era and extending into the 1990s, it was more often than not the Indiana Senate, with Govs. Henry Schricker, Matt Welsh, Edgar Whitcomb, Robert Orr and Frank O'Bannon gaining their statewide momentum there, along with nominees Wayne Townsend and John Mutz and now candidate Vi Simpson. Sen. Robert Garton tried a run for governor in 1996.

The Senate gave Clark enough of a platform to make the Republican ticket in 2000, based in significant part on his fundraising abilities. But due to the leadership stranglehold of Senate President Robert Garton and Finance Chairman Larry Borst since 1980, an entire generation of Hoosier Republican senators have been thwarted, condensed, and deprived of political oxygen.

Clark made a name for himself on legislation impacting families, and Kenley has been on the finance track, but virtually any time either of them have tried to forge a statewide public policy reputation, Garton and Borst have cut them off at their knees (an exception being Kenley's school funding formula last winter which was not well received). Clark has struggled to get his spending cap bills even heard in Borst's committee. Both have felt the stifling repercussions for even suggesting regime change.

Garton has complained to other Republicans that this mid-level in the Senate of which Clark and Kenley reside hasn't produced a politician capable of going to the next level. One Republican told HPR that he responded to Garton, "Well, you don't give them the latitude to even try."

It's created the political situation where the financial wing of the Republican Party never really considered either Clark or Kenley as ready for prime-time in 2004. The object of love and

affection for the past two years has been solely MB Director Mitch Daniels.

It's like a major league baseball franchise which has failed to develop its farm league program, relying instead of paying big bucks for free agents from Washington, D.C.

Should he decide to stay involved, Clark is young enough that he will have another crack at the governorship over the next couple decades. He insisted there was no deal in his dropping out. "I did not ask for anything," Clark said.

WISH-TV's Jim Shella had asked him about either repeating as the LG nominee or as Senate president, which Clark attempted an insurgency last summer.

## Daniels and the Senate

The question begged deliberation on how a Gov. Daniels, who has promised boldness over incrementalism, would fare with Garton and Borst holding so much power in the Senate.

At a pre-election breakfast in 1996, GOP sources told HPR that Borst and other legislators were humored by Stephen Goldsmith's blood in the water. Goldsmith would have been an activist governor and many believed he would have clashed with Garton and Borst, the poster boy twins of incrementalism. A similar scenario in 2005 begs the same questions. Daniels reportedly has decent relationships with both Senate powerhouses and Borst was an early recipient of the news he would run for governor. How either squares with a power shift is up for debate. So would the ascension of Clark (leadership) and Kenley (finance) once the Old Guard's fingers are pruned from the sword.

## David McIntosh

If there's pressure to get out of the governor's race, the 2000 nominee isn't feeling it. "I haven't heard anything from anyone," said McIntosh campaign manager Jason Beal. "Mitch did not even tell us

# Indiana 2004 Gubernatorial

**Governor 2004: Republican:** Mitch Daniels, David McIntosh, Sen. Luke Kenley, Eric Miller, Petersburg Mayor Randy Harris. **Democrat:** Joe Andrew, State Sen. Vi Simpson. **1996 Results:** O'Bannon (D) 1,075,342, Goldsmith (R) 997,505, Dillon (L) 35,261. **2000**

**Results:** O'Bannon (D) 1,230,345, McIntosh (R) 906,492, Horning (L) 38,686. **2004 Forecast:** Eric Holcomb will be political director for the Daniels campaign. Holcomb, a former aide to U.S. Rep.

John Hostettler who unsuccessfully sought to unseat Democrat Rep. John Frenz in 2000, first met Daniels a little over a year ago at a seminar hosted by Sen. Lugar. "I was really impressed with him," Holcomb said (Gayle Robbins, *Vincennes Sun-Commercial*). "He's the same type of man John Hostettler is and I had that same instant respect for Daniels I had when I first met the Congressman." Indiana Democrats pick up on an HPR idea floated last winter: Use the annual IDEA convention at French Lick for an Andrew/Simpson straw poll on Aug. 23. That may be when a true "front-runner" emerges. Simpson picked up her second labor endorsement in a week, from the United Transportation Union, the largest rail union in North America. Andrew's campaign downplayed last week's Gary Teamster endorsement of Simpson, saying that local was actually headquartered in Illinois. As for the 28 or so labor endorsements Andrew says he has, the campaign is referring reporters to Ben Ramsey of the Building Trades Council. David Bear, speaking for the Andrew campaign, said it is difficult to add up the various building trades and UAW CAP councils, since they all have differing endorsement rules. James Wensits of the *South Bend Tribune* reported that Daniels plans to have his headquarters located not in state GOP headquarters, or in an office in a building, but in a mobile RV. In this day of cell and satellite phones and computer linkups, it promises to be the first truly 21st Century campaign, with HQ in, say, Angola or Rising Sun or Vevay at any given moment. Great concept. Horse Race would take it a step further. Perhaps the Democratic nominee can also set up a mobile HQ, and a series of mobile debates could be held ... at Hoosier race tracks. The candidates could debate at tracks in Winchester, Bunker Hill, Indianapolis Raceway Park, U.S. 30 Dragstrip, etc., and then the mobile campaign HQs could top it off with drag races. **General Status:** *Tossup.* ❖

he would announce, which would be a normal courtesy. I would suspect for David to get pressure, he'd have to get phone calls."

Beal told the *South Bend Tribune*, "We would definitely consider Mitch as a lieutenant governor candidate. It would be a good first office for him."

"I wasn't surprised Clark got out of the race," Beal said. "I was surprised at the timing. From my perspective, it underscores the point I've tried to make repeatedly, they're running an Indianapolis-centric campaign. We will be going out to win the small and mid-sized cities."

Beal said that McIntosh is in the process of putting together a "Reaganesque" economic development plan that will be unveiled by September. He said it would include "performance-based bud-

geting," management by results, accountability built into the process, a line item veto, and a competitiveness council.

"David will strive to make Indiana the low tax, low regulation, business-friendly state in the Midwest," Beal said.

## Eric Miller

"It doesn't affect at all what we're doing," Eric Miller said in the wake of Sen. Clark's withdrawal (Matthew Tully, *Indianapolis Star*). "I've said all along that we're in the race to stay."

The Miller campaign was sending out its bumper stickers to its "brigades" and was sending e-mails to supporters on Tuesday urging them to participate in an on-line unscientific poll on WRTV. Miller said he was leading with 42 percent. ❖

## TICKER T A P E

10% said "somewhat disapprove"; 21% said "strongly disapprove"; 3% don't know. 46% would vote for George W. Bush; 4% lean toward Bush; 27% would vote for the Democratic nominee; 8% lean toward the Democrat; 13% were undecided, 1% would vote for another candidate.

**CNN POLL RATES BUSH VS. CLINTON:** Forty-nine percent said Republican Bush and 46 percent said Clinton when asked under which president the country was better off, according to a CNN-USA Today-Gallup poll released Wednesday. Clinton appears to be regaining favor with the public, according to the new poll. More than half, 54 percent, said they have a favorable view of him, while 45 percent have an unfavorable view." The AP adds, "Two-thirds in the Gallup poll said they have a favorable view of Bush, reflecting the continued positive feelings about him personally. Bush's job approval in the Gallup poll was 62 percent. When Bush is matched against an unnamed Democratic nominee or against several of the leading Democrats in the race, he holds leads ranging from 13 points against Connecticut Sen. Joe Lieberman to 15 points against an unnamed Democrat to slightly more

*continued on page 4*

# TICKER T A P E

against Missouri Rep. Dick Gephardt or Massachusetts Sen. John Kerry, according to polls released this week.

## LUGAR TALKS OF RECONSTRUCTING IRAQ: U.S. Sen.

Richard Lugar made this statement prior to Wednesday's Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearing on the reconstruction of Iraq: "The ramifications of U.S. policies in Iraq go far beyond the Iraqi people or Iraqi territory. Nations throughout the Middle East, including regimes that have supported terrorists, are assessing how U.S. and Coalition reconstruction of Iraq will affect their own interests," Lugar said. "An American presence in Iraq that is devoted to achieving democracy and a healthy economy puts enormous pressure on states in the region to undertake reform. The achievement of democracy and a sound economy in Iraq could dispel growing anti-Americanism and dampen Islamic extremism and terrorism. It could raise expectations in the region for general economic growth, personal freedom, and women's rights. By improving U.S. credibility and underscoring the benefits of participation in the global community, success in Iraq could also provide added impetus for a permanent diplomatic resolution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. But these opportunities will

*continued on page 5*

# PERHAPS... W E W A N D E R

By Brian Howey

## Bush and WMD

*"Intelligence gathered by this and other governments leaves no doubt that the Iraqi regime continues to possess and conceal some of the most lethal weapons ever devised."* – **President George W. Bush, March 17, 2003**

When it comes to the pretext it used for the invasion of Iraq, there is a deeply troubling and growing controversy .

But first, my own orientation on this matter. I voted for President George W. Bush in 2000. I bought into his centrist 2000 campaign and believed he would create an administration of moderation.

Then came Sept. 11, 2001. As with most Americans, within a few hours and over the next four months, Bush was transformed into a true statesman. He handled the crisis with a steady hand, an assuring voice, and in a decisive manner. He laid out what was at stake, how long it might take, vowed to give the enemy no quarter, and used his power wisely.

In 2002, there was the steady drumbeat leading up the invasion of Iraq. I was skeptical, but by late January 2003, decided to support the war, not only because of his warnings of Iraq's possession of weapons of mass destruction, but because Saddam presided over one of the worst genocidal regimes since World War II.

But the overriding, compelling case against Saddam wasn't genocide, but weapons of mass destruction. And, in President Bush's own words, there was little doubt that Saddam had at his disposal one of the worst arsenals in the history of mankind. "Right now, Iraq is expanding and improving facilities that were used for the production of biological weapons," Bush told the United Nations on Sept. 12, 2002.

"Iraq has stockpiled biological and chemical weapons, and is rebuilding the

facilities used to make more of those weapons," Bush said in an Oct. 5, 2002, radio address. Two days later in Cincinnati, Bush said, "The Iraqi regime possesses and produces chemical and biological weapons. It is seeking nuclear weapons. The evidence indicates that Iraq is reconstituting its nuclear weapons program. Satellite photographs reveal that Iraq is rebuilding facilities at sites that have been part of its nuclear program in the past."

**In his State of the Union Address** on Jan. 28, the speech in which I found Bush most compelling, he said, "Our intelligence officials estimate that Saddam Hussein had the materials to produce as much as 500 tons of sarin, mustard and VX nerve agent."

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld repeatedly claimed that he knew "where they are; they're in the areas around Tikrit and Baghdad."

Last weekend, national security adviser Condoleezza Rice said that CIA Director George Tenet believed Iraq had weapons of mass destruction and "the president gets his intelligence from the director of Central Intelligence." She called the current cascading doubts "revisionist history."

**This voice from** the American heartland, which supported President Bush, has one simple message to send to the White House: I hope so.

What I'm struggling with is this: If there was so much satellite intelligence and Special Forces on the ground before the war, how could we have missed the comings and goings of these production centers? There had to be more lenses, eyes, ears, sensors and human assets trained on Iraq over the past year than on any country in the history of mankind. In the war's aftermath, it's stunning that not a single scientist or technician has been

found who can say, "I will tell you where the labs are." Even more troubling, if there were caches of biological weapons that we knew about before the war, why weren't they a top priority to protect in the aftermath, like the oil fields?

If these people, facilities and weapons can't be found, Americans are faced with two equally troubling dilemmas: Either there has been an epic breakdown of our intelligence capabilities, or the information the CIA produced and analyzed was misused as a pretext for war.

If it's the first, then President Bush needs to move quickly and decisively to reconstruct our intelligence services that were already under fire for not connecting the Sept. 11 dots. If Tenet at the CIA really believed that all this existed and time proves it didn't, that is a breakdown of historic magnitude.

But even worse, if the Bush administration took inconclusive intelligence reports to create the emphatic case that the WMD scenario existed, posed an "imminent threat" that necessitated a "pre-emptive strike" then he should either resign or be voted out of office in 2004.

The problem with President Bush and his administration taking what *U.S. News and World Report* calls "thin gruel" and making it into a beyond-no-doubt scenario is why should we believe him if a crisis arises in North Korea or Iran or Syria. We're talking about basic credibility here.

Right now President Bush has Stealth credibility. We want to believe the WMD were there; we are thankful they weren't used on our troops or the Iraqi people; we hope for the sake of American honor that the keys of Saddam's Pandora's Box will soon be revealed.

But if it all turns out to be a lie, then it is deception of such a colossal degree that it should render the Bush government the disgrace of history.

## Sen. Richard Lugar

Suggestions that the Bush adminis-

tration oversold or exaggerated the scope of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq are "nonsense" and "totally naive," Sen. Richard Lugar said Monday (Sylvia Smith, *Fort Wayne Journal Gazette*). Just because evidence of biological or chemical weapons hasn't been found doesn't mean the weapons didn't exist at one time, he said at a breakfast meeting with reporters. "I am absolutely convinced that with time, we'll find out they did have a weapons program," Lugar said. "It seems to me it would be very hard for somebody in Congress to argue with a straight face that he or she was deceived. Anybody who was sitting there throughout the last two years heard all of the arguments, had an opportunity to read all the intelligence . . . To dredge all this up as somehow a national scandal or we're being beguiled is nonsense unless people are totally naive."

## Rep. Mike Pence

Speaking from the House floor on Tuesday, Pence said, "Those who would say that Saddam Hussein willingly destroyed his enormous cache of weapons of mass destruction in the five years since he expelled weapons inspectors from Iraq, are ignoring common sense and history. The truth is . . ., we have to believe the worst of George W. Bush and the best of Saddam Hussein to believe that there was not an extraordinary program of biological, chemical, and even a nascent program for nuclear weapons of mass destruction being developed within the nation of Iraq, and the capital of Baghdad.

"I remain confident, as the President said yesterday, that we will not only continue to find evidence of a program, the mobile labs, the biological and chemical suits, and the syringes that were found with antidotes for chemical deployments, but the day will come in the very near future, I am confident, that U.S. and coalition forces will find the elusive evidence of a program of weapons of mass destruction." ❖

# TICKER T A P E

not be realized if we fail in Iraq. In the worst case, an ineffective or unsuccessful reconstruction effort in Iraq could lead to sustained civil unrest or even open civil war between ethnic or religious factions. In that event, Middle East states might become more repressive and entrenched, their populations more divided and extremist. Anti-American sentiments, already festering, could spread, leading to an increased threat of terrorism. As we work to reconstruct Iraq, we must prepare for unintended consequences of our efforts."

**HALL WON'T SEE JAIL TIME:** Gary city clerk employees whose wallets were plundered by the Katie Hall administration will get no restitution nor any satisfaction in seeing her go to prison (Times of Northwest Indiana). U.S. District Court Judge Rudy Lozano swallowed hard Wednesday and accepted a deal in which Katie Hall will remain free subject only to six months of home detention and regularly calling in to her probation officer for the next five years. "I rejected (the plea agreement) at first," the judge said. "I'm deeply concerned with the public perception that elected officials are above the law and only get slapped on the wrist." Nevertheless, he said he was convinced by a person-

*continued on page 6*

**TICKER**  
T A P E

al appeal from U.S. Attorney Joseph Van Bokkelen the compromise immediately removed her from office and she would cooperate in his larger effort to attack public corruption. "I believe, reluctantly, the plea should be granted," the judge said.

ARMY LETTER TO BUYER REVEALED: Indiana Rep. Steve Buyer took a leave of absence from Congress in March to serve in the Iraq war because he said he had "unique skill and experience" that the military needed (Maureen Groppe, Lafayette Journal & Courier). The U.S. Army, however, told Buyer nearly two weeks later that there were others who could fill the same slot, according to the letter the Army sent Buyer that was obtained by Gannett News Service. The Army rejected Buyer's offer to serve, because "we are able to meet the need without your participation," and "we are concerned that your presence would put in jeopardy the safety of those serving around you," according to the March 31 letter signed by Army Secretary Thomas White. That's a slightly different picture than what Buyer painted when he first announced he was being activated, then later said he would not be going. When Buyer announced March 20 he was taking an indefinite, paid leave from Congress to

**2003 Racing Form**

**East Chicago Mayoral: Republican:** None. **Democrat:** Mayor Robert Pastrick.

**1999 Primary Results:** Pastrick 5,772, Stephen Stiglich 3,790. **1999 General Results:** Pastrick (D) 3,027, Acost (R) 629. **2003 Forecast:** Pabey will be allowed access to key election materials needed in his recount bid (Michael Puente, *Post-Tribune*). At an emergency hearing Thursday afternoon, Lake Superior Court Judge John Pera approved an order granting Pabey access to the documents. Specifically, Pabey will receive copies of post-primary poll books showing who voted in the primary for mayor, applications for absentee ballots and the final log of applications for absentee ballots showing all those who ended up submitting ballots. Represented by attorneys Carmen Fernandez and Nathaniel Ruff, Pabey was being prevented from obtaining the materials by former Lake County Election Board attorney J. Justin Murphy, who sought a protective order. Along with Mayor Robert Pastrick,

**HORSE R A C E**

the election board is named as a defendant in Pabey's recount petition and election challenge. Any recount must be completed by June 27, according to state statute. Pabey also alleges fraud in the collection of absentee ballots. He is asking the court to either throw out the absentee ballots and declare him the winner, or order a new election between only Pabey and Pastrick.

**General Status:** *Solid Pastrick.*  
**Elkhart Mayoral: Republican:** Mayor Dave Miller. **Democrat:** James Perron. **1995 Results:** Perron (D) 5,017, McDowell (R) 4,869. **1999 Results:** Miller (R) 4,959, Perron (D) 3,902. **2003 Forecast:** Elkhart mayoral candidate Jim Perron said the city's effort to gain a certified technology park designation for Bayer Corp.'s former main building is threatened by certain conditions the pharmaceutical giant has placed on the sale of the property (Terry Mark, *Elkhart Truth*). Perron said city officials should push Bayer and its real estate agent to withdraw the \$1 offer for the million-square-foot building and remove constraints that would ban rival pharmaceutical companies from using the site. Perron, a Democrat running against incumbent Dave Miller in November, said he met recently with a technology official from Notre Dame and was told that certain conditions were "unacceptable" and would be a barrier for any university being involved. Miller said Perron's comments were irresponsible and might harm the city's chance of finding a new company to locate there. "We are optimistic that a solution is in the making that will add life and opportunity to Elkhart," he said. **General Status:** *Leans Miller*

**Evansville Mayoral: Republican:** Mayor Russell Lloyd Jr.. **Democrat:** State Rep. Jonathon Weinzapfel. **1995 Results:** McDonald (D) 19,162, Frary (R) 9,565. **1999 Results:** Lloyd (R) 15,980, Borries (D) 15,461. **2003 Forecast:** Bill Stuart joins Weinzapfel's campaign. Evansville Democrats, expecting a costly and tough city election this year, will set up a political action committee to raise money for council candidates and to finance get-out-the-vote efforts and campaign advertising (*Evansville Courier & Press*). Keith Rounder, a lawyer, will be the coordinator for the Evansville City Campaign Committee. Documents establishing the committee will be filed soon, officials said. The move shifts much of the city election fundraising and campaign coordination from the Democratic Central Committee to the new PAC and the campaign of the Democratic mayoral candidate, state Rep. Jonathan Weinzapfel. Democrats are seeking to unseat first-term Republican Mayor Russ Lloyd Jr. Leaders in both parties have said each may need to raise \$750,000 for the campaign. **General Status:** *TOSSUP.*

**Indianapolis Mayoral: Republican:** Treasurer Greg Jordan. **Democrat:** Mayor Bart Peterson. **1995 Results:** Goldsmith (R) 64,209, Jimison (D) 39,539, Dillon (L) 7,175. **1999 Results:** Peterson (D) 102,870, Gilroy (R) 83,044, Horning (L) 7,772, Gibson (OP) 2,145. **2003 Forecast:** With the city mired in deadlocked contract talks with the Indianapolis police union and crime rising in the townships, Republican mayoral nominee Greg Jordan says he is open to exploring a merger of IPD and the Marion County Sheriff (Howey, *Indianapolis Eye*). And in the face of expenses mandated by the state and federal governments, Jordan refused to take a pledge not to raise taxes, as Mayor Peterson did in 1999. "If it can be proven that the consolida-

tion of the two forces is in the best interests of the community and keeping taxes down, I'm open to discussing it," Jordan said in an *Indianapolis Eye* interview. "People expect their leaders to solve problems," Jordan said. "There may be other ways to do things than we are doing now." In Jordan's view, "government is too complicated" and he noted that "Republicans like simpler, smaller government." In the Peterson administration, Jordan said "the number of employees has increased, and we don't need to keep getting bigger and bigger." When faced with the myriad issues confronting Indianapolis — keeping the Colts, modernizing its broken down justice system, solving the billion-dollar combined sewer overflow problem, executing an economic development strategy, along with Indianapolis Public Schools' need for \$550 million more for capital improvements on top of a \$250-million bond issue floated two years ago — Jordan acknowledged a tax increase may be inevitable. His preference would be to "reduce duplication" in the county's layers of government. "At some point, we may have to consider raising taxes," Jordan said. "If it comes to that, we would do everything we need to do to let people know why we're raising taxes." It will be interesting to see if Jordan's comments on mergers and taxes will give Peterson some political latitude on both topics. **General Status:** *Likely Peterson.*

**Kokomo Mayoral:** **Republican:** Matthew McKillip. **Democrat:** Councilman Andrew Castner or Trustee Jean Lushin. **1999 Results:** Trobaugh (R) 5,606, Kennedy (D) 3,581. **2003 Forecast:** In a surprise turn of events, Kokomo Democrat Jean Lushin won the Democratic primary for mayor by two votes, 1,364 to 1,362, with eight more votes added to the contenders' tallies than were counted election night (Katherine Lewis, *Kokomo Tribune*). In the May 6 primary, Councilman Andy Castner bested Lushin, the Center Township trustee, by two votes, 1,360 to 1,358. It will be up to Superior I Judge Dennis Parry to decide at a hearing scheduled for next Wednesday if ballots challenged by both sides should be included in the final vote count. Castner leaned against the east wall of the recount room and did not say anything once the recount was completed. After two days of counting the ballots, the recount commission found Castner picked up two votes, bringing his final total to 1,362. However, Lushin gained six votes, to bring his total to 1,364. Another vote also was added to candidate Roland Ellis' total, for a grand total of nine votes. "This is the first time Larry and I could think of a recount where the person who won the election did not win the recount," said James Masters, Lushin's attorney. "It's ironic that a computer system that is so sophisticated could overlook eight ballots and counting by hand would still be the best way to determine who won the election." Lushin, who is on vacation, told the *Tribune* via telephone that the victory proves the system works. But, he added, the election is far from over. "It's still too early to call," he said. "We will just have to wait and see what the judge says on.... But it just goes to show you that one vote can be meaningful." **General Status:** *TOSSUP.*

**Michigan City Mayoral:** **Republican:** Open. **Democrat:** City Controller Chuck Oberlie. **1999 Results:** Brillson (D) 3,749, Kniola (R) 3,217. **2003 Forecast:** Oberlie, winner of the mayoral primary race, was chosen to take over as mayor when Sheila Brillson retires on July 1 (Chris Jacobs, *Michigan City News-Dispatch*). Democratic chairman Dr. Vidya Kora said Oberlie was the only person who applied, but it wasn't a surprise to the party. "We had an intense primary, but because we have already had the primary, it made sense to pick the candidate that was chosen then," Kora said. Joie Winski, who was Oberlie's biggest opponent in the primary, nominated him to fill the position. "It is now time to unite and put our differences aside," Winski said. **General status:** *SAFE OBERLIE.*

**Muncie Mayoral:** **Republican:** Mayor Dan Canan. **Democrat:** Dennis Tyler. **1995 Results:** Canan (R) 9,718, Carey (D) 6,521. **1999 Results:** Canan (R) 7,973, Smith (D) 5,611. **2003 Forecast:** We don't see how Mayor Canan gets hurt by the Martin Luther King Boulevard controversy. Here's why: Tyler supported the change and urged Council Democrats in the majority to vote for the change, but only two of them did. The *Muncie Star Press* reported on Sunday that councilors were inundated with phone calls against the name change. Canan has received some African-American support. It appears to us that it's the Democrat who stand to lose support with many black voters. **General status:** *Likely Canan.*



# TICKER

## T A P E

serve as a reservist in the war, his office explained that "a need was identified, of which congressman Buyer has the unique skill and experience to meet the requirements within the theatre of operation." When the Monticello Republican announced on March 31 that he had not been activated and was returning to Congress, Buyer cited only the security concerns as the reason for the Army's decision. Buyer declined to be interviewed about the letter. Spokeswoman Laura Zuckerman said, "the language in the letter speaks for itself."

**ANDERSON DEMOCRAT ARRESTED FOR VOTE FRAUD:** A longtime worker with the Madison County Democratic Party has been arrested on eight counts of voter fraud by the Indiana State Police (Ken de la Bastide, *Anderson Herald-Bulletin*). Mikeal Vaughn, 27, was arrested by ISP Detective Keith O'Donnell at 9:20 a.m. Tuesday at his residence following a monthlong investigation into allegations of voter fraud before the May primary. Vaughn was released from the Madison County Detention Center after posting a \$5,000 bond. The eight counts are all Class D felonies. If there's a conviction, each carries a possible sentence of 18 months to three years and a

*continued on page 8*

# TICKER T A P E

possible fine of up to \$10,000 on each count. The charges allege that Vaughn delivered Democratic Party ballots to three people who wanted to vote in the Republican Party primary.

**KITTLE SAYS O'BANNON ACTED TOO LATE:** In response to Gov. Frank O'Bannon kicking off his statewide tour of commerce offices, Indiana Republican Party Chairman, Jim Kittle, Jr. today applauded the governor for finally taking an interest in growing Indiana's economy. "For 14 years Frank O'Bannon sat back and watched our state fall to DEAD LAST in the nation in job growth while ranking #1 in the nation in job loss," said Kittle. "It's nice to see these statistics have finally gotten his attention." In 1988, the year before Frank O'Bannon took office as Lieutenant Governor and head of the Department of Commerce, Indiana ranked 6th in the United States in job growth. Fourteen years later, Indiana ranks 50th. Since 1999, unemployment has increased 50% in Jefferson County. "It took O'Bannon more than a decade to craft an economic development package," said Kittle, "and he only did so after more than 130,000 Hoosiers had lost their jobs. Frank O'Bannon acted too late."

**STATE ERROR FOUND ON TAX BILLS:** Marion County brought the mailing of property tax bills to a screeching

# COLUMNISTS ON INDIANA

**Sylvia Smith, Fort Wayne Journal**

*Gazette* - Sen. Evan Bayh's initial support for and ultimate vote against the \$350 billion tax-cut bill merits some sorting out. The most cynical interpretation is that Bayh wanted something, perhaps from the Bush administration, so he voted "yes" the first time around as a way to guarantee another Democrat's support but was off the hook for the final vote. Sen. Zell Miller, D-Ga., said all along he'd vote for the bill, but Sen. Ben Nelson, D-Neb., was on again, off again. It's entirely likely, and fits a typical Washington scenario, that Nelson said he needed political cover, that he couldn't be the Democratic vote that ensured the Republicans' tax-cut success. Enter Bayh. What might he want that the Bush administration could provide? The first thing that comes to mind is for the Bushies to stay out of the '04 Indiana Senate campaign. But nobody's rushing to get into that race. How about something cushy for Indiana? If Bayh has been angling for some federal plum, it's being done under deep cover. So this scenario suffers from not only being excessively sneering but also not strongly credible. Try this one on for size, Goldilocks: Bayh honestly believes that cutting taxes is the best thing government can do to improve the economy and people's lives, irrespective of the federal debt the tax cuts create. So when the package came along, he was an early advocate. In fact, Bayh all but endorsed Bush's original tax-cut proposal in January. He said it suffered from not being sufficiently geared toward middle-class taxpayers but that he didn't object - as many Democrats did - to the concept of lifting the taxes on dividends. In this picture, we take his statements at face value: He wanted tax cuts, he opposed the idea of having cuts come and go, he supported the initial bill (gimmicks and all) in the hope that somehow they'd disappear in the House-Senate compromise bill, and then

he voted "no" when they didn't. The problem with this is its naivete. Both the original House (\$550 billion) and Senate (\$350 billion) bills included tax cuts that went into effect before the 2004 elections and then resumed right after. In other words, they were founded on gimmicks. ❖

**John Krull, Indianapolis Eye** - A few days ago, the Indiana Civil Liberties Union filed another suit to ease jail overcrowding, this one in Monroe County. The facts prompting the suit have a distressing and tiresome familiarity. As in Marion and all too many other counties, the jail constantly exceeds its population cap. Prisoners sleep on mattresses on the floor. They often are assaulted. They lack access to medical treatment and even toilets. The staff is overworked. The tensions are high. It's a tragedy or a disaster waiting to happen. And the worst thing: Everyone involved, from the mayor's office down to the guy who sweeps the floors in the building, knows it's a huge, huge problem. But no one wants to do anything about it. Building a new jail presents political challenges too great for public officials to accept, so they let the problem fester and grow worse until the ICLU files suit. Then the suit gives the politicians the excuse to do what they should have done in the first place. What citizens pay taxes to have them do. Solve the problem. The pattern is always the same. The realist in me argues that simply is the way the political game is played. In most cases, solving jail overcrowding requires either the political will to raise taxes or the creativeness to rethink conventional wisdom when it comes to crime and punishment. And politicians, by and large, become brave or innovative only when they're forced to be. For them, it's just so much easier to pass the buck, let someone else who doesn't have to face the voters take the hit. ❖



## Bayh says ideologues killing service bill

By **MARK SCHOEFF Jr.**

*The Howey Political Report*

WASHINGTON—Democratic Sen. Evan Bayh says almost everyone supports the Americorps concept. He asserts that a small but influential ideological opposition has halted efforts to expand the volunteer program.

Last week, Bayh introduced a bill to increase Americorps participation nationwide to 175,000 from 50,000 over the next five years. "We know we have arrived at a critical juncture in the cause of expanding national service," he said at a Capitol Hill press conference on June 5 that included bill co-authors Sens. John McCain (R-Ariz.) and Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.). "We had a tremendous upwell of patriotism following Sept. 11. We're at risk of missing the moment if we don't act. Frankly, what is called for here is leadership."

**Bayh urged President Bush** to do more. Bush has not resisted a "small ideological core in opposition to this notion of national service. My sense is that the president doesn't share that ideological opposition. There's been a reluctance to expend a small amount of political capital to overcome it."

But the indication from a conservative Indiana congressman is that the opposition is to one of Bayh's legislative partners, not to Americorps. "If it's going to happen, it's not going to be a McCain vehicle," said Seth Becker, press secretary for GOP Rep. Mark Souder. "A bill like this could be passed. It's going to be done by someone seen as a supporter of the (Bush) administration. It could be a Frist-Bayh bill. There's going to have to be someone carrying this bill who is trusted by the White House and conservatives." Becker said that McCain rubs the right wing wrong by grandstanding against Bush at press conferences rather than working behind the scenes to craft bills.

McCain said on June 5 that he was not blaming the Bush administration but rather congressional lassitude for the demise of a similar McCain-Bayh Americorps bill in 2001. The new version would increase the amount of money each volunteer receives for college tuition or to pay back college loans from \$4,725 to \$5,250. In addition to money for college, volunteers receive a \$10,000 stipend for 1,700 hours of work each year.

**AmeriCorps, directed** by former Hudson Institute president Leslie Lenkowsky, has come under criticism recently for poor financial and organizational management. A May 22 report in the *Washington Post* indicated that AmeriCorps would only be able to fund 25,000 of the 50,000 openings for the current fiscal year. A Bayh aide said Americorps financing in Indiana could be cut by 38 percent, reducing the number of Hoosier volunteers from 500 to about 300.

Americorps downsizing could halt a tutoring program sponsored by the Mary Rigg Neighborhood Center that serves about 2,700 students in a community middle school established in the former Washington High School building. "Every year that we've had tutors in the classroom, math scores have increased," said Robert Burgbacher, executive director of the center. "In the years we've had Americorps, we've seen so many good things happen." The center utilizes about 90 Americorps volunteers during the summer and 40 during the school year.

**Another Indianapolis** organization, Horizon House, depends on Americorps volunteers to help hundreds of clients each day in its employment center. "If we didn't have Americorps, we wouldn't be able to provide the level or quality of service that we do at Horizon House," said Chris Maples, the organization's Americorps director. Horizon has added 4,000 clients in the last year. ❖

## TICKER T A P E

halt Wednesday because of an apparent mistake by state officials in how they figured a tax break for homeowners across the state (*Indianapolis Star*). Fixing the foul-up will either reduce homeowners' taxes or soften the blow of higher bills - in some cases by hundreds of dollars per household, according to local assessors. Hundreds of thousands of tax bills in Marion and seven other Indiana counties -- including Hamilton -- will have to be refigured. The state's 84 other counties have not sent out their bills. Marion County already has billed about 150,000 homeowners whose property taxes are paid through mortgage escrow accounts. About 200,000 more bills have been mailed directly to taxpayers. "This is one more potential confusion for taxpayers, and that really has me concerned," said Marion County Treasurer Greg Jordan, a Republican running for mayor of Indianapolis. The problem came to light as Marion County officials complained to Gov. Frank O'Bannon's administration that the homestead tax credit wasn't delivering the level of property tax relief state lawmakers promised when overhauling Indiana's tax system. "We are looking at the calculation of the homestead credit as a result of various officials bringing up questions," said Beth Henkel, commissioner of the state's Department of Local Government Finance. "It seems like there's a basis for concern." ❖