
The Howey Political Report



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“QUOTE” OF THE WEEK

“This is just the idle political hot spot of the day ...”

- Democratic gubernatorial candidate Joe Andrew, after Bren Simon left his ticket, to the *Fort Wayne Journal Gazette*

Rabbit Hunt: The Joe and Bren Saga

Indiana Democrats in thorough turmoil

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY** in Indianapolis

In Alan Schom’s book *Napoleon Bonaparte*, he writes of the mighty victor of Austerlitz, who ran roughshod over 85,000 Russians and Austrians and was rewarded with a royal hunt of a Corsican favorite: Rabbit. Master of the Hunt Berthier went to the considerable trouble of purchasing a thousand hares. As Napoleon, decked out in full hunting regalia, walked across the killing fields, the rabbits were released from cages on the two tree lines.

But instead of fleeing the intrepid Emperor, the freed rabbits “perversely turned straight for the hunters, coming at them in magnificent bounds.” At first, Napoleon and his party, not believing their eyes, “laughed at the comic absurdity of the whole thing. But laughter soon gave way to perplexity, and perplexity to concern” as the rabbits swarmed Napoleon, entwining themselves between his legs and jumping into his arms. The victor of Austerlitz “now ignominiously scurried off another battlefield, pursued by dozens of unarmed rabbits.”

A humiliated Berthier would later learn that the rabbits had been raised for pate, and believed Napoleon was there to give them their daily feed.

Such a scene might be ascribed to the Joe Andrew, the victor of French Lick, and his Democratic gubernatorial campaign. Not only did he lose his rich runningmate, Bren Simon, but he did so in the fashion of a woman scorned. It was the latest development in an autumnal 2003 political sequence that could be described as something akin to a Federico Fellini film, with one unrelenting and bizarre scene following another.

Andrew found out about the defection through the

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Covering 10 years of Indiana politics

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GALLUP HAS BUSH AT 56 PERCENT: A USA Today/Gallup/CNN poll of 1,004 adults, conducted over October 10-12 (+/- 3%), shows: 56% approve "of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president"; 40% disapprove; 4% have no opinion. 58% "approve of the way Donald Rumsfeld is handling his job as Secretary of Defense"; 36% disapprove; 6% have no opinion. 52% think President Bush "deserves to be reelected"; 45% think he does not; 3% have no opinion.

MOSES PRESSES KERNAN: "We are presently in a terrible position," said Rep. Win Moses Jr., D-Fort Wayne, of the vacuum in the Democratic gubernatorial race (Fort Wayne Journal Gazette). "The delay is detrimental. We have to have some decisions made by Kernan. Until he does, it lets the Republicans focus on themselves and raise money while we are still trying to figure out who our nominee is." But again Wednesday, Kernan spokeswoman Tina Noel said the governor had no comment on his future political plans.

KERNAN KEEPING 2004 OPTIONS OPEN: Gov. Joe Kernan has some advice for all the politicians trying to mine hints about his plans

news media. *Indianapolis Star* reporter Mary Beth Schneider (perhaps picking up on Monday's *Indianapolis Eye* story about a wavering Simon), richly set the scene of Simon sitting on her couch at her Carmel estate of Asherwood with four white Maltese dogs, spurning Andrew, claiming an "allegiance" to Gov. Joe Kernan, the reluctant, undeclared candidate.

As for Joe Andrew, the man who with "boldness" selected Simon for her checkbook, and then without a wink or a nod proclaimed her ready to be lieutenant governor or even governor, Simon would say that he was a "great guy, a terrific person. . . . I don't want to betray anybody. I don't want to hurt anyone."

But "hurt" wouldn't be the word for the damage Bren Simon has inflicted on the Joe Andrew campaign, though some would argue this week's bizarre events are mutual flagellation. Thought to be the frontrunning campaign prior to Gov. Frank O'Bannon's death, the Andrew campaign stands on the brink of destruction and a lack of credibility, and the Indiana Democratic Party has been overrun by pate rabbits, it's partisans searching through a forest of furry, floppy ears for the Governor Savior.

Shouting on the line

The "rumors" had been circulating intensely for a week or so in the Hoosier capital. There were reports that Republican operatives had tried to seed a story about a Simon family matter to the *Indianapolis Star*. Andrew, the sources said, was able to get the story spiked. The Democratic source, an ally of Andrew, said Republicans were trying to scare Simon out of the race, fearing her checkbook.

Writing for Monday's edition of the *Indianapolis Eye*, the author (Howey, not Schom) contacted Andrew campaign chairman Dennis Lee to talk about the rumors pointing to a Simon withdrawal. As Lee began to talk, shouts could be heard in the background, as if there was

an argument in progress. "No, there's no truth to that," said Lee. "Republicans are doing anything they can to stir that up."

But Lee acknowledged that Simon had been "ill this past week" and had canceled several campaign-related events. Other sources close to Andrew and Simon said that Simon had postponed a major fundraiser she was planning to host for Andrew, in part because of Gov. Joe Kernan's intentions for 2004 remaining undeclared. The sources said that Simon had planned to support a Kernan candidacy until he dropped out of the race last December.

That story, detailing Simon's refusal to meet with reporters to talk about basic issues, the strange Sept. 23 "samarai warrior" press conference where Andrew jumped in to answer some questions directed at Simon, the body guards, and the inevitable comparisons between Simon and lieutenant governor designate Kathy Davis, appeared in the *Eye* Monday evening, and were excerpted in Tuesday's *HPR Daily Wire*.

Schneider and the *Star* picked the story up Tuesday afternoon, with Simon granting the rare interview that has crippled the Andrew campaign.

There were other stories from reliable Democratic sources who said that comments Andrew had made about Simon's credibility as an LG had made their way back to her. The same sources said Simon raised the idea of leaving the ticket last Friday with Andrew, which were confirmed by the *Star*. Simon told other reporters that she began having second thoughts about her time away from her family and two businesses three weeks ago, a week after Gov. O'Bannon's funeral and as the speculation about Gov. Kernan's undetermined future intensified.

The Associated Press reported Andrew saying on Tuesday, "My last conversation with her was at a fundraiser I attended with her last night. I was surprised that she got out period, but I was surprised that she got out at this point.

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2004 Racing Form

Indiana 2004 Gubernatorial

Governor 2004: Republican: Mitch Daniels, Eric Miller, Petersburg Mayor Randy Harris, Bob Parker. **Democrat:** Joe Andrew, State Sen. Vi Simpson, Roy Graham. **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:** Daniels visits the historic Homer Capehart farm at Montgomery, home of the famed 1938 "Cornfield Conference" that revitalized the Indiana GOP. Anxious Democrats should expect to wait until after the municipal elections before they hear whether Gov. Kernan will run for 2004. While it is almost universal thinking that Democrats are hoping the governor changes his mind, many who are saying so publicly are privately imploring Kernan to run and save the party from chaos. Party operatives are also stressing the time sensitivity. Several of the operatives told Horse Race, "The governor is a smart guy; he gets it." Perhaps the most intriguing group of people to watch in the aftermath of the Andrew-Simon fiasco is Hoosier organized labor, many unions maxed out their contributions to Andrew and lavished him with endorsements, many early. With the Andrew campaign in disarray, the UAW and AFL-CIO (which rushed an endorsement for Andrew a couple of weeks ago) have to be stunned by this week's events. Said one prominent Democrat when asked what big labor might do next: "Schedule a meeting with the governor." **General Status:** *Leans Daniels*

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She had told me that we should all wait to see what Joe Kernan was going to do."

Andrew told the *Fort Wayne Journal Gazette*, "It's a surprising day. It clearly hasn't been fun. But I don't regret the bold move. She would have been great."

While Andrew declined to talk to HPR, Lee said late Tuesday afternoon, "Any time someone enters the political scene it's a very personal decision. Bren Simon found it difficult to balance being a mother, a grandmother and running two businesses."

Lee said that the Andrew campaign would take some time to "digest what's just happened," and added that "there's still 14 months to regroup and make this a successful campaign."

But even the most ardent Andrew supporters, such as St. Joseph County Democratic Chairman Butch Morgan, agreed that Tuesday's events were potentially devastating.

The juicy irony coming out of this "socialite meets politics" drama comes

under the heading: Better Be Careful What You Wish For. If the Republicans had tried to scare Simon out of the race to keep her checkbook away from Andrew, what has in reality occurred is the final scenario that could draw the reluctant governor back into the 2004 race (with, possibly, access to Simon's checkbook).

Andrew was reduced to saying on Wednesday, "Somebody named Joe is going to be governor. If he runs, I'm with him, I'm going to support him and I'm not going to run against him. If Joe Kernan is out, I'm in" (*Indianapolis Star*).

What were they thinking?

If the events of this week weren't bizarre enough, the thought of Joe Andrew's political skills not covering his bases for his political neophyte running mate are mind boggling.

Simon was off limits to the Indiana news media. Lee suggested on Monday that such questions and access might not even be appropriate for Simon then, saying, "Until the convention, we can say

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from his choice for lieutenant governor. "I can tell them not to waste their time," he said (Mike Smith, Associated Press). When it comes to 2004, Kernan still has all his options open. Kathy Davis' nomination was more widely viewed as a sign Kernan is serious about taking on the state's budget problems and troubled economy head-on. It does not preclude him from choosing someone else to join him on the ticket in 2004. That person could then spend more time campaigning and helping Kernan raise the millions of dollars likely needed to win. Kernan might not change his mind. He might devote all his time and energy running the state for the 15 months left in O'Bannon's second term and walk away. Kernan still won't say what he might do. "As I said before, this is not something we (he and his wife, Maggie) have had time to talk about," Kernan said.

REPORTER CALLS KERNAN 'AN ENIGMA': The governor has been an enigma. He has never gone into detail on why he dropped out of the race when he was the obvious front-runner (Steve Walsh, Post-Tribune). The Navy combat pilot and former POW said at the time that he decided in a prison camp in Hanoi that if he survived he would never again

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be pressured to do anything in his life that he didn't want to do. Like many Democrats, Lake County Surveyer George Van Til held out hope, remarking how much more vigorous and engaged Kernan appeared since he became governor. "It's almost electric," he said. There is no organized campaign to draft Kernan among area Democrats but all but the most partisan supporters of the current candidates have openly encouraged the governor to change his mind, said state Rep. Chet Dobis. "He knows the party faithful want him to run."

MARION COUNTY BALLOT COMPROMISE: Democrats and Republicans struck a deal in the case of Marion County's controversial Election Day ballot -- a move that should guarantee an election Nov. 4 (Indianapolis Star). After hours of closed-door meetings, both parties agreed to a modified ballot that could be produced in time for the election, Republican Marion County Clerk Doris Anne Sadler said. The optical-scan ballot will be similar to an absentee ballot approved by a Marion Superior Court last week. It will still group candidates by office, but a space will be added between each party's block of candidates and a party label will be added. "This is still not the ballot we asked for," said Marion County

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she's not even a candidate." This despite the fact that she had appeared at campaign events with Andrew and presumably was helping to raise money.

Her Sept. 23 press conference quote ("I could be governor of this state as well as run my business. I mean, it's not the same, but it's about teamwork and it's about appointing the right people to the right positions") was sophomoric.

There seemed to be little preparation for Simon by the Andrew campaign: Talking points; the stating of clear public policy reasons for bringing her on the ticket; conducting a series of one-on-one sitdown interviews with the Statehouse press corps to take the pressure off.

But if any of that occurred, it wasn't evident to those outside the Andrew campaign's inner circle.

Considering this was a former Indiana and Democratic National Chairman, this lack of attention to critical detail is strange. But Washington sources told HPR they aren't surprised. Andrew has a propensity for getting in a groove and staying there regardless of the change of circumstances. On Tuesday, Andrew summed up the Simon withdrawal by saying, "This is just the idle political hot spot of the day."

Another example of this came after the 2000 election. President Clinton, on the verge of becoming the titular head of the Democratic Party as he left the White House, signalled his intent to name Terry McAuliffe to replace Andrew as national chairman.

Andrew responded by calling a number of state party chairmen, lobbying them to retain the post. "Can you imagine that?" the Washington Democratic source said, "going up against the wishes of the president?" The source said that Clinton was not amused, and when McAuliffe appeared at the Democratic Leadership Council's National Conversation in Indianapolis in July 21, 2001 he dished Andrew before the hometown crowd. With Andrew listening in the wings,

Chairman McAuliffe reported he had done a "30-day review" of the DNC and the results were "devastating." McAuliffe observed, "The Republicans have 150 million names on their voters file. Ours? Zero. The Republicans have tens of millions of e-mail addresses compiled. How many do we have? 70,000." That was a payback.

The harshest light

As doubts about Simon simmered after the French Lick straw poll on Aug. 23, then came what turned out to be the cataclysmic event for the Andrew campaign: Gov. O'Bannon's death.

That created the harshest light on the Simon selection -- the "heartbeat away" scenario. It intensified after Gov. Kernan selected Kathy Davis to become lieutenant governor. As she was introduced on the Senate floor last week to thunderous applause and Kernan marveled about Davis's resume, one Democrat said, "But can she throw a great party?"

That was in reference to Simon's hosting of legendary parties at the sprawling Asherwood Estate in Carmel, or the family's other properties in Florida and the Dominican Republic, where her bash-es make social and gossip columns in New York City and Europe.

The Davis selection was universally hailed by Republicans and Democrats, in contrast to many Democrats doubting the wisdom of cashing in the "heartbeat away" office for the campaign finance carrot.

At other political events, Simon appeared uneasy and with bodyguards. When she participated in the Indiana Democratic Editorial Association golf outing on Aug. 21 at French Lick, Simon had bodyguards in golf carts both ahead and behind her cart in presidential style. A member of Gov. O'Bannon's staff tried to explain to Simon that with the governor present, there was ample security in place.

But as if Harvey, the 6-foot rabbit, stood nearby, Joe Andrew was steadfast in

his support for Simon's selection. He told a group in Vincennes on Oct. 2, "I'm more comfortable today than ever with my decision," the *Vincennes Sun-Commercial* reported. "She's going to be a great lieutenant governor and governor, if that situation were to occur."

Joe waiting for Joe

Indiana Democrats have to be wondering, "Now what?"

The campaign of State Sen. Vi Simpson is combating rumors that it is laying off staff and has yet to refute them. Campaign manager Mike Draper disputed that, telling HPR on Tuesday evening that the campaign is actually adding staff. The campaign had an event at the Loading Dock Pub that evening, with dozens of staff and volunteers singing.

But Simpson has essentially put her campaign on hold, telling the media that she will support Gov. Kernan if he enters the race, though she is announcing a prescription drug plan in Terre Haute today.

Andrew lamented the specter of Gov. Kernan's unknown plans. "Every phone call to raise money is 'tell me what Joe Kernan is going to do?' That places an extra burden on a candidate," Andrew told the *Fort Wayne Journal Gazette*. "These are unique circumstances that no one could have anticipated."

Andrew said he is unsure when he will name another lieutenant governor nominee. Instead, he will focus on promoting his ideas and raising money. But his efforts may come without the help of Simon. "I don't necessarily feel I have to put more money into this campaign because I've been generous," said Simon. Some observers wondered if Simon's presence on an Andrew ticket might have actually stunted fundraising. Donors are sometimes reluctant to give to rich candidates.

Andrew tried to put on a brave face: "I intend to be the governor of this state and deal with issues more complex than the ones I am dealing with today."

Daniels talks economy

With the Democratic Party in historic disarray, Hoosier Republicans enjoyed the drama and watched Mitch Daniels issue his second set of thoughts on the ailing state economy.

Drawing on discussions with thousands of Hoosiers over the past three months, Daniels on Monday outlined the direction the next governor must take toward "reversing Indiana's catastrophic decline in jobs, income, and hope for the future." Daniels released *Comeback 1.0* as a framework for rebuilding a strong state economy.

"We have been in dozens of towns already where no candidate for governor has been seen in years," Daniels said. "For all our differences and variety, one concern is universal. Everywhere we travel, the single most important thing on the minds of Hoosiers is our economic slippage, and everywhere one finds tremendous frustration with the passivity of state government as we have fallen farther and farther behind. State government can and must stop being an impediment to growth, and start being a catalyst,"

Stressing that "no credible plan can be neatly packaged and labeled complete," Daniels said this would be "a continual work in progress that constantly searches for and welcomes all good ideas."

Daniels told *HPR* that he hopes to "repopulate" Indiana government with new people and fresh ideas. "The *what* is not as important as the *who*," Daniels said.

Andrew campaign manager Joe Champion called the Daniels plan "all gas and no go."

Simpson's campaign spokesman Jeff Harris said it was "very vague. It's a lot of broad ideas but no basic policy."

And that may be the MO of the Daniels campaign -- broad themes that will rattle few existing agendas; invade little turf; while keeping Democratic rabbits spinning in their cages. ❖

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Democrat Chairman Ed Treacy. "This is our major effort to compromise." Four at-large Democratic candidates for City-County Council brought the original lawsuit last month and argued that candidates must be grouped by party rather than by office. A Superior Court judge agreed and ruled that Sadler must redesign the Election Day ballot. He allowed Sadler to keep the so-called office-block ballot -- with some modifications -- for absentee voters.

HILL GOING TO IRAQ: U.S. Rep. Baron Hill, D-Seymour, plans to fly to Iraq Friday to assess that country's recovery from a successful U.S. effort to oust Sadaam Hussein earlier this year (*Seymour Tribune*). Hill's plans for the four-day visit include talks with U.S. soldiers to determine their views on the efforts to rebuild the war-torn country, and taking a look at how well the Iraq Governing Council is handling its attempt to establish a provisional government and bring about democracy. Hill, who has served the district for five years, may have faced tougher chores Monday and Tuesday as he visited constituents throughout his district, which spans parts or all of 20 counties. "I'm torn about Iraq," Hill told members of the Jackson County sClergy

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Tuesday morning in Seymour. On the one side, Hill said, he does not want to see the United States bogged down in Iraq and does not want to see American soldiers die. "But we can't cut and run," Hill said. "We can't give that message to the terrorists."

BAYH DRAFTING IRAQ LOAN AMENDMENT: A handful of Democratic and Republican senators defied President Bush and sought agreement Wednesday on an amendment to make part of a \$20.3 billion Iraqi aid plan a loan (Associated Press). Lawmakers and aides said the senators involved included Evan Bayh, D-Ind.; Saxby Chambliss, R-Ga.; Susan Collins, R-Maine; Lindsey Graham, R-S.C.; Kay Bailey Hutchison, R-Texas; John Ensign, R-Nev.; and Olympia Snowe, R-Maine.

PENCE WORRIED OF 'FINANCIAL QUAGMIRE' IN IRAQ: Congressman Mike Pence took steps Wednesday to recast reconstruction funds for Iraq as a loan (Rick Yencer, Muncie Star Press). "I am not worried about a military quagmire, but a financial quagmire in Iraq," Pence said during a teleconference with reporters. Pence filed an amendment with the House Rules Committee to provide 50 percent of the proposed \$18.8-billion reconstruction

2003 Racing Form
2003 Indiana Mayoral Races

Anderson Mayoral: Republican: Kevin Smith. Democrat: Robert W. Rock.

Independent: Linda Haynes. **1995 Results:** Lawler (D) 9,411, Graham (R) 8,817. **1999 Results:** Lawler (D) 8,395, Czarniecki (R) 7,002 Haynes (I) 1,950. **2003 Forecast:** Rock and Smith debated on Tuesday. Smith was asked about switching from the Democratic Party to the Republican Party in 2001. "My philosophical views of society fit well with where I'm at," Smith said (Ken de la Bastide, *Anderson Herald-Bulletin*). "I believe in government that is frugal, honest and designed to stimulate the economy." Smith said he was invited to switch political parties. "I don't believe the Democratic Party in Anderson and Madison County is representative of the people or is in their best interests," he said. "For the past 16 years, Anderson has been stagnant. I'm tired of politics as usual." Rock said that had Smith won the 1999 Democratic Party primary for mayor against Lawler, he would be asking people now to vote Democratic. "You switched because you thought you would be running against Mark Lawler." Rock said to Smith. "Your whole campaign has been against Lawler." Smith said he has focused on the Lawler administration because Rock said he wants to continue the successes of the past. "I seek new ground in Anderson," Smith said. "There are barriers up to growth with one of the highest property tax rates in the state. I don't agree with the policies of the Lawler administration." Rock countered by stating that he, not Lawler, is running for mayor. "Why are we dwelling on the past?" asked Rock. "I want to continue the success of the past 16 years like Hoosier Park, the Technology Park and improvements to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. There have been failures that Mark Lawler has to deal with," Rock said. "Talking about the past does nothing to bring a vision for the future." **General Status:** *Tossup.*

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:** There's no love lost between Elkhart's mayoral candidates. Mayor Dave Miller and former mayor Jim Perron aren't buddies. These facts are no secret. That's why approximately 300 people packed Elkhart Memorial High School's auditorium Wednesday night to watch the two men debate for the first time during this campaign (Jeff Romig, *Elkhart Truth*). They wanted to witness the one-liners. They wanted to observe political rivals in action. They wanted to see them fight. If there had been an entrance fee, they would've gotten their money's worth. "Have you ever lied? Anytime? Ever?" Perron asked Miller during the cross-questioning period. "Not that I've ever been taken to court for," Miller shot back, referencing the defamation suit filed against Perron for ghostwriting a letter that appeared in the People's Forum section of *The Truth* in January 1994. Perron, however, wasn't without jabs. Miller opened the cross-questioning period by complimenting Perron on five accomplishments during his 16 years as mayor, including the creation of the Tolson Center and the Benham West revitalization effort. Then, the mayor asked Perron to name five of Miller's initiatives he liked. "Sorry, Dave," Perron responded quickly. **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:** Evansville's firefighters union Wednesday endorsed Weinzapfel for mayor, citing concerns about wages that festered. "The biggest issue has been parity in pay," said Ray Goff, co-chairman of the International Association of Firefighters Local 357 political action committee. Lloyd and Weinzapfel had some of the sharpest exchanges of the mayoral campaign Thursday, with Lloyd assailing his challenger as anti-business and Weinzapfel painting the incumbent as an ineffective leader (John Martin, *Evansville Courier & Press*). Lloyd told the television audience that Evansville is

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absolutely better off than when he took office four years ago. He cited Downtown construction and lower unemployment rates than other Indiana cities, and he attacked what he called Weinzapfel's "tax-and-spend liberalism." Weinzapfel shot back, saying Lloyd's administration hasn't done enough to keep jobs Downtown, has done "a poor job of maintaining our city streets" and wasted \$1.2 million on the shelved baseball stadium plan. **General Status:** *Leans Weinzapfel.*

Fort Wayne Mayoral: Republican: Linda Buskirk. **Democrat:** Mayor Graham Richard. **1995 Results:** Helmke 21,909, Essex (D) 11,033, Kempf (L) 1,029. **1999 Results:** Richard (D) 21,607, Buskirk (R) 21,531. **2003 Forecast:** As in the case of the 1987 mayoral race, a county prosecutor has entered the political equation. Marion County Prosecutor Carl Brizzi said Tuesday that Fort Wayne Mayor Graham Richard is "currently not a target of the investigation" his office is undertaking into possible misspending at a state agency (Dan Stockman and Niki Kelly, *Fort Wayne Journal Gazette*). "The mayor wants us to take into consideration that he is running for re-election and we can't give him any special consideration," Brizzi said. "This is an unfortunate misuse of the justice system." Richard said. "It's important to emphasize there isn't any factual basis for it." Brizzi, a Republican, said Democrat Richard's claims of political motivation for the investigation or the leaks are unfounded. "The only person flinging around unfounded allegations is (Richard)," Brizzi said. "I never even pretty much heard of him until last week." In 1987, Republican Allen County Prosecutor Steve Sims named Mayor Win Moses's brother a target in a homicide probe. Though he was never charged, the support for Moses collapsed and Paul Helmke won. Richard said there are good reasons not to release the returns, which are not public documents: The information Shine claims to seek would be shown on the already-public financial disclosure forms, and because he promised his family their lives would remain private despite his public position. "People say, 'Graham, you could lose the election over this' but I made a promise to my wife and family to try to keep them separate from this," Richard said. "I set up the ethics code. We have a disclosure system. There's a way for people to challenge something if they think there's a conflict, and no one has done that." **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:** Peterson may cover litigation costs for the Marion County Democratic Party. A new ballot design compromise means the election will be held as scheduled. **General Status:** *SAFE PETERSON.*

Jeffersonville Mayoral: Republican: Monty Snelling. **Democrat:** Councilman Rob Waiz. **1999 Results:** Galligan (D) 3,194, Cook (I) 640, Cooper (R) 619. **2003 Outlook:** Garner won the endorsement of two more unions representing city workers (*Louisville Courier-Journal*). The endorsements by Communications Workers of America Local 4703 and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 1861 give Garner a sweep of the four unions representing city employees. **General Status:** *Likely Waiz.*

Marion Mayoral: Republican: Councilman Wayne Seybold. **Democrat:** Mayor Bill Henry. **1999 Results:** Henry (D) 3,979, Mowery (R) 2,998. **2003 Forecast:** As manufacturing jobs further migrate from the American Midwest to other countries, the issue quickly is becoming one of the larger topics in both the elections here in Grant County and in the 2004 presidential election (Brett Corbin, *Marion Chronicle Tribune*). One of the undercurrents in the race for mayor of Marion seems to be which candidate can better replace the factory jobs that have been lost in Marion. Both candidates -- Democrat Bill Henry and Republican Wayne Seybold -- said the reports regarding the death of manufacturing have been greatly exaggerated. Neither has given up. "I think we're going to have to be as competitive as possible," Henry said. "We have to offer highly skilled and highly specialized manufacturing skills." Seybold said last week that he has not given up on manufacturing jobs coming to Marion. "There's still going to be a need for manufacturing that needs to be closer to the consumer," he said. "I've done ice shows in China, and I can tell you it's not an easy place to do business. There's a lot of small businesses that can't do business there." **General Status:** *TOSSUP.*

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aide in the form of a loan. Melina Fox, Pence's Democratic opponent in 2002, said she opposed military action against Iraq, maintaining President Bush did not have a clear-cut military objective. Fox, also vice chairman of the district's Democratic Party, has not decided whether to run again in 2004. "The daily casualties are proving my stance," Fox said. "We must make certain that Iraq is rebuilt and their oil money should be used to accomplish that."

HOSTETTLER SAYS U.S. MUST FINISH JOB IN IRAQ: The nation is coming to terms with the high cost of war and rebuilding the nation of Iraq, 8th District U.S. Rep. John Hostettler, R-Blairsville, said Tuesday (*Vincennes Sun-Commercial*). "We will be spending a lot more than originally perceived," Hostettler said. "But war and rebuilding a country are expensive endeavors." Though some Americans may question the amount of additional money President George Bush has requested for Iraq -- \$87 billion -- Hostettler wanted to remind his constituents that a majority of Americans believed going to war was justified last spring. "And it is justified, then the cost of it is justified, and the cost to rebuild Iraq is justified," he said. "We're not spending the money foolishly. If we cut

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and run now we'll leave the Iraqi people with unfinished business and a bad taste in their mouths about the United States."

BOSMA NOW BALKING AT EXTENDED SPECIAL SESSION: House Minority Leader Brian Bosma, R-Indianapolis, might have dashed any possibility of Bauer's proposal to have an extended special session next week to consider property tax legislation.

Lawmakers are to meet Monday to vote on Gov. Joe Kernan's nomination of Kathy Davis as lieutenant governor (Mike Smith, Associated Press). Bosma had expressed support Monday for extending the special session next week because House Republicans have advocated steps to provide immediate relief to homeowners hit hardest by the court-ordered reassessment. But he said Tuesday he "hadn't thought it through all the way," and that Bauer had expanded the list of proposals to be considered. Some, Bosma said, could have "profound public policy" and fiscal consequences. "When the legislature has moved too quickly on complicated matters there have been some serious problems," Bosma said. He pointed to a last-minute tax cut approved a few years ago that ended up costing the state about \$200 million more than anticipated.

CRODDY FILES FOR 7TH

COLUMNISTS ON INDIANA

Brian A. Howey, HPR - The notion that the Kathy Davis nomination for lieutenant governor signals that Gov. Kernan won't run is almost comical. Anyone who doesn't believe Davis can't evolve from a technocrat to a successful politician has never met her. I looked at the photo of Davis and Kernan in the Senate by *Indianapolis Eye* photographer Ellen Jackson and saw the potential of a marketable ticket. Just look at that photo. ❖

Leslie Stedman Weidenbener,

Louisville Courier-Journal - Political observers hoped that when Gov. Joe Kernan named his lieutenant governor nominee last week that he would signal whether he intended to run for a full term in the office next year. But they agreed instead that his pick of Kathy Davis, a former state budget director and current controller of Indianapolis, said less about his political future than his agenda for 15 months of the term he resumed after the death last month of Gov. Frank O'Bannon. House Republican Leader Brian Bosma said that when he asked Kernan what his choice means, the governor said only that he is "dealing with today's problems today and tomorrow's problems tomorrow." ❖

Mary Beth Schneider,

Indianapolis Star - Since being swept up in the maelstrom of events in the days before and after Gov. Frank O'Bannon's death, Kernan has had to build a new administration, including a new lieutenant governor. He hasn't had time to think about a decision he once thought was final. But if his words didn't shed any light on his political future, there were many Democrats hoping his actions would speak louder than words. A pick of, say, state Sen. Vi Simpson -- one of three Democrats running for governor -- would,

many thought, signal that Kernan was in and he'd just selected his running mate. But Thursday, Kernan's body English was as unenlightening as his statements. Some politicians looked at the selection of this person and saw only a 15-month pick. Her policy credentials are hefty, but her political credentials nonexistent. It's a solid choice to help Kernan get as much done as possible in the next 15 months, they said, but she's not a campaigner and won't become one. Nonsense, said others.

Maybe it's just because so many of them so badly want Kernan to run. But they look at Davis and see a political choice that might sound crazy but just might work in the 2004 election. "It's not a political decision. But because it's not a political decision, it becomes a political one," said Kip Tew, the former Marion County Democratic Party chairman who managed Kernan's lieutenant governor campaign in 2000. "It is so smart, it's good politics." ❖

Charlie Cook, National Journal -

The 2004 presidential election long has seemed likely to be at least competitive, with the nation evenly divided between the two major political parties, along with the high degree of partisan polarization, the enormous intensity of emotions within both ranks of partisans and the sluggish, if not downright weak, economy. But until very recently, the downward trend in President Bush's approval numbers was really more of a settling. His approval ratings' descent from stratospherically high levels to lower numbers was what one would expect, given the political and economic state of the nation. But since Labor Day, the decline looks more like a real drop than a settling, and the triple issues of the economy, the deficit and Iraq have become conjoined. ❖

Monday will be for Kathy Davis in Legislature

By BRIAN A. HOWEY

When the Indiana General Assembly convenes in special session on Monday, the business at hand will be solely to confirm Kathy Davis as lieutenant governor.

Gov. Joe Kernan decided on Wednesday that an extended session on solving the state's acute property tax dilemma won't happen after meeting with House Speaker B. Patrick Bauer and Senate President Pro Tempore Bob Garton.

"I had good conversations with both the speaker and president pro tempore this morning," said Kernan. "I told them that while I share many of the concerns that they and their members have voiced regarding the impact of reassessment on Hoosier homeowners, I believe we can wait until Organization Day, Nov. 18."

According to a list supplied by Bauer, some counties have increased their tax levies as much as 24.47 percent, the figure reported by Warrick County. Marion County's tax levy increased by 16.21 percent following reassessment (Jim Wensits, *South Bend Tribune*). "It's a huge problem," Bauer said of the projected \$75 million in extra property tax relief that the state would be responsible for.

The draft plan Speaker Bauer released Tuesday would apply a strict 5 percent cap on property tax increases that local governments use to finance general operating expenses. It also includes new or enhanced tax deductions for homeowners, including those with homes older than 50 years (Mike Smith, *Associated Press*). "It is not that complicated," Bauer said of his tax plan. "I think the average legislator could understand it in a couple of hours." Bauer's plan also includes four proposals House Republicans have advocated to help homeowners hit hard by reassessment. They include installment plans to pay property tax bills, waiving

late penalties for some taxpayers and extending assessment appeal filing deadlines. It would increase the homestead deduction from a maximum of \$35,000 to \$44,000 next year, then drop it down to \$39,500 in 2005 and \$35,000 in 2006. It would implement a new deduction of \$4,500 for homes between 50 and 100 years old, and those 100 years old or older would get a \$9,000 deduction.

But Kernan explained, "As I said earlier this month, we need more information to make decisions on these complex issues -- issues that require and deserve thoughtful debate and discussion. Oct. 20 is a day that should be reserved for confirming and celebrating the confirmation of Kathy Davis as Indiana's lieutenant governor."

By almost universal accounts, Davis can be expected to receive unanimous approval.

The reaction by Senate Finance Chairman Larry Borst, R-Greenwood, was typical. "The one thing about her is she is very fair," Borst told the *Associated Press*. "She understands there is a real world out there and you can't be draconian in your thoughts. You have to be levelheaded and listen to both sides, but then, she is nifty enough to do what she thinks is best."

State Sen. Vi Simpson observed that Davis is "very smart, savvy, experienced," and "always looking for a good challenge."

Republican State Sen. Ron Alting, told the *Lafayette Journal & Courier*, "What is really remarkable is that we have a governor and a lieutenant governor ... a team in there that can make decisions in the best interest of the people and not what's in the interest of their next political campaign. That's big. It would have been easy for him to pick a Democrat who is running for governor, but he didn't do that. We have a rare opportunity to do something great for the people of Indiana." ❖

TICKER T A P E

CD: Republican Bob Croddy has filed his candidacy for the 7th CD now held by U.S. Rep. Julia Carson. "For the past year, I've been traveling around Marion County talking to both Democrats and Republicans alike," Croddy said. "And I wouldn't be doing this unless I knew that the people of Indianapolis don't feel that they're being represented well and that I couldn't do a better job as their voice in Washington." Croddy is a financial consultant.

PENCE STRUGGLES WITH IRAQ AID BILL: U.S. Rep. Mike Pence says he might have to go against President Bush's wishes when it comes to giving Iraq billions of dollars (WISHTV). This week Congress is expected to debate the President's \$87 billion request to fund military operations and reconstruction in Iraq and Afghanistan. Pence says he hopes to meet with Bush before the vote because he believes without a doubt his constituents want part of the appropriations to be in the form of a loan. In an interview with News 8 Pence said, "When we put American fighting men and women in harms way we do it because it's in our interest to do it we pay for that, but when it comes to bricks and mortar, health clinics and schools those are the kinds of things that in these times of large deficits the American people would expect us to look to this oil rich nation as partner in future."

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