THE HOWEY POLITICAL REPORT

The Weekly Briefing On Indiana Politics

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"QUOTE" OF THE WEEK

"Dan's shortfall is he's afraid to admit when he needs help. If Dan cannot respond to these attacks, there is a chance he could lose the next election..."'

- State Rep. Woody Burt n, in a letter raising money for his brother, U.S. Rep. Dan Burt n.

Larry Conrad, where have you gone?

Is the ol' Hoosier stemwinder a thing of the past?

Special Report

Congressman Ray Madden and Larry Conrad were together one day in Washington working on a project. It was a hot and sultry afternoon, sapping their energy to the point where Madden nodded off.

Conrad, too, began to get drowsy and soon he was sawing wood. But a bump somewhere on the premises woke both these Hoosier Democrats up. "There's a thief in the house!" Conrad blurted out.

Madden responded, "Larry, there might be a thief in the Senate, but not in the House."

That was the way Conrad introduced Madden at the 1971 Democratic Jefferson-Jackson Dinner in Indianapolis and it was one of those rare moments where two of the finest orators in the state found themselves together on the dais.

Madden, the crusty old rep from Lake County, took to the podium and looked in Conrad's direction. "Larry, my God, that was the second finest introduction I ever had. The only better one occurred when the emcee took ill and I had to introduce myself."

What followed was a Madden stemwinder in the old stump style fashion - a dash of fire and brimstone that came in an era of Nixon & Agnew, Vietnam, moratoriums, campus takeovers, and the SDS.

The times seemed to call for the dramatic speaker.

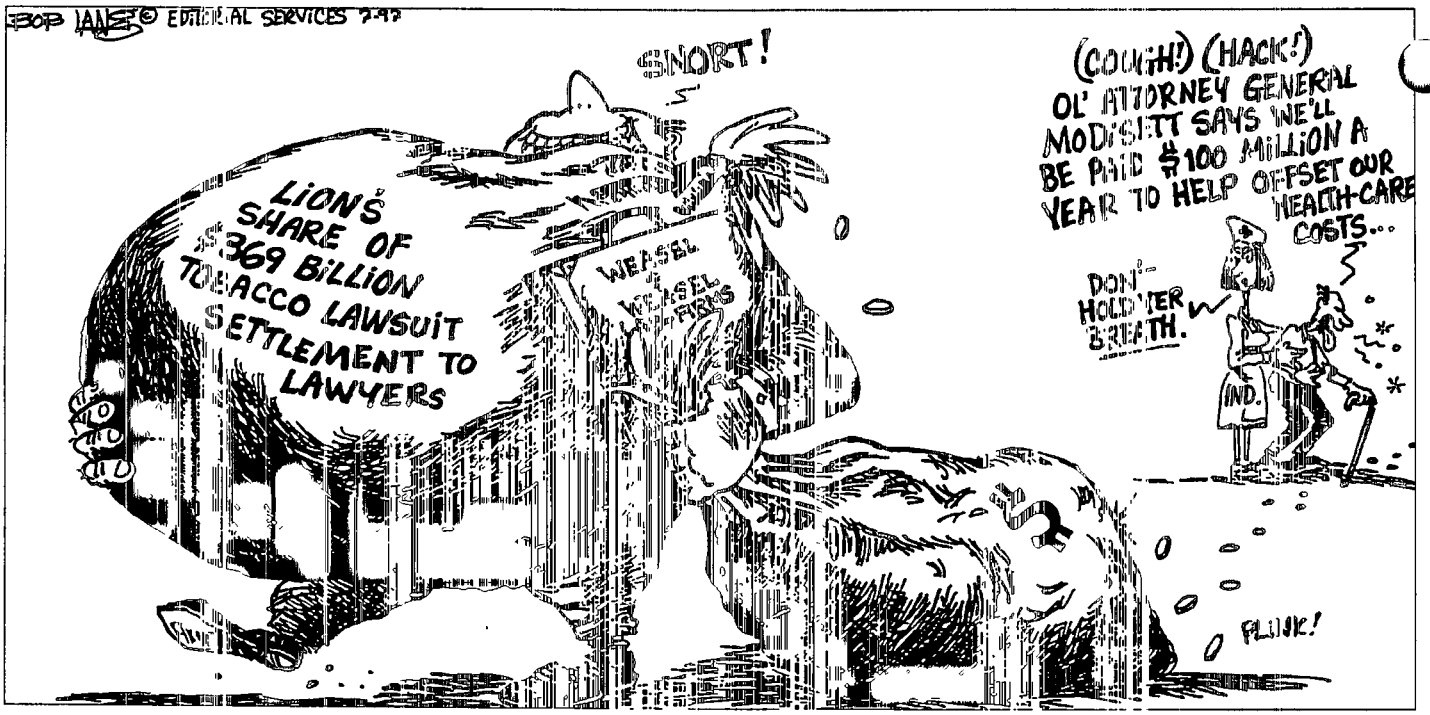
And the times have changed.

TV and radio commentator Mike Pence remembered being summoned to Keith Bulen's Southport "Bat Cave" prior to his first challenge to Rep. Phil Sharp back in 1988. The dark, murky basement office had walls full of memorabilia with only a desk lamp as the sole point of illumination. It was enough, however, to faintly light a framed front page of the *New York Times* with a picture of Ronald and Nancy Reagan at the '76 Republican national convention and a

continued on page 2

INSIDE FEATURES

- **Play of the Week: Lugar slugging nukes** **page 2**
- **Ticker Tape: O'Bannon plays to the choir** **page 3**
- **Columnists: Marcus, Hammer, Schneider** **page 6**
- **Horse Race: Bayh dreams; Helmke's coming** **page 7**
- **Perhaps We Wander: Okeson on juvenile crime** **page 8**



TICKER TAPE

PLAY OF THE WEEK: U.S. Sen. Richard Lugar won full funding for the 1998 National Defense Authorization bill. The bill would fully fund the Nunn-Lugar program that is dismantling old Soviet nuclear warheads and working to insure safe storage of nuclear material from power plants. Since the Nunn-Lugar program started, the U.S. has helped deactivate 4,500 warheads, destroy 99 ICBMs, eliminate 140 ICBM missile silos, destroy 20 bombers, eliminate 64 submarine-launched ballistic missiles and sealed 62 nuclear test tunnels in the former Soviet Union.

Indiana State Police Supt. Melvin Carraway and Gov.

Continued on page 3

sign in the background lampooning Bulen himself.

"Why do you want to run for Congress?" Bulen asked of Pence.

Pence began, "Well, I've won several awards for public speaking...."

Whereupon Bulen quickly snapped, "What the hell does public speaking have to do with winning elections?"

It was an on-target - albeit sad - remark. Pence lost twice to Phil Sharp. "Why give speeches when a 12-second soundbite will do," laments Pence, who is an excellent communicator.

It used to be that on the Fourth of July, communities across Indiana would have parades and oratory. Between the Civil War and World War I, such speeches could last for hours.

Today, there is little or no oratory on the Fourth of July. New Harmony is the only Hoosier community that has continued the tradition. In some Midwestern places, like Green Bay, Wis., efforts have been taken to make sure that politicians don't speak there on the Fourth of July.

And it isn't just the Fourth of July in question. Good to great public speakers in Indiana politics are few and far between. There hasn't been a Hoosier governor in recent memory who was known for his oratorical skills. Indiana governors from Matt Welch to Frank O'Bannon have been good at politicking and feeling at home with their constituents, but none of them has been a particularly great speaker.

A classic example of the gubernatorial appeal occurred at a Christmas party last December when Rex Early came face to face with O'Bannon for the first time since the election. Early congratulated O'Bannon, who responded with this simple remark: "It come out good."

None of the last five U.S. Senators - Birch Bayh, Vance Hartke, Richard Lugar, Dan Quayle or Dan Coats - has particularly distinguished himself on the stump. There has been plenty of substance among those five men, but none of them has had the ability to electrify an audience. Nor has the Indiana legislature been a recent haven for gilded tongued orators, once you get beyond House Speaker John Gregg and Republican Rep. Bruce Munson, who will soon retire.

In order to preserve a bit of our great oratorical heritage - Indiana raised the man who gave the greatest speech of all time, Abraham Lincoln and his "Gettysburg Address" as well as Wendell Willkie who gave a hellava stem-winder in Elwood back in 1940 - HPR walks through the best (and worst) public speakers, with the mun-

continued on page 3

dane thrown in between.

The Best

There are five who make this list including:

■ Larry Conrad, the former Democratic secretary of state and political operative. He had the unique combination of intellect, passion, historical perspective and humor that he brought together in a great extemporaneous style. Conrad could speak with almost evangelical fervor. Modern day reporters remember Conrad's nominating speech at the 1986 Indiana Democratic convention of Evan Bayh for secretary of state. "If not him, then who?" Conrad bellowed. "If not now, then when?" It was prophetic and dramatic. But Conrad's career echoes Bulen's sentiments. He lost his race for governor, albeit to the popular Doc Bowen.

■ **Bill Hudnut** is probably the top Republican modern speaker. The 16-year mayor of Indianapolis had the ability to fire up a crowd at any moment. He exuded overpowering confidence, enthusiasm and emotion. He was forceful, jolly (unafraid to march in a parade wearing a leprechaun suit over his 6-foot-5 frame) and could whip up a crowd as quick as anyone. Hudnut lost a 1990 race for secretary of state in what would have been a springboard for a 1992 gubernatorial run and has been in political nowheresville ever since.

■ **Ivan Lebamoff** was the Democratic mayor of Fort Wayne from 1971 to 1975. His speaking signature was his ability to rally the crowd, hit the issues and demonize opponents with passion and fervor. Lebamoff could turn a phrase with the best of them. He was a controversial mayor who by his nature made many enemies. He once locked a *Journal Gazette* reporter in a closet while conducting a meeting. It was funny at first, but as those in the room became more uncomfortable, Lebamoff did not flinch. Another time he talked a reporter into taking a plane ride, then had the plane circle the city so the reporter missed an important meeting. Lebamoff lost a bitter re-election battle to former IU football player Robert Armstrong in a donnybrook of an election because the Democrat had alienated so many people and because of his ties with the family liquor store business. It prompted this classic quote from GOP pollster Bob Teeter, who said, "People can have a martini in their hand and a cooler full of beer at their side but they don't want their mayor in the liquor business."

■ The late **Congressman Ray Madden** for not only heading a Lake County political machine for decades, but for his classic stump style and capacity for the stemwinder.

■ Former **Attorney General Pam Carter** is an excellent public speaker. Her speeches are driven by a sturdy voice that beams with clarity, history and vision. It comes with evangelistic fervor placed perfectly in a political context. Her speech on the lawn of the Gary City Hall last summer in which she recounting marching with Martin Luther King was fabulous oratory.

■ **John Gregg** - It's hard to recall a time when the Speaker of the House has spoken and not left his audience amused. He is pure Southern Indiana Butternut Hoosier, folksy, always talking about his tiny hometown of Sandborn, always nudging the funny bone. A classic example was Bill Schreiber's funeral service, when he recounting telling strategist on election night, "We won. I'm going to be speaker of the House!" And Schreiber responded, "John, what you have to understand is with every herd of thoroughbreds, you're also going to get a few cows."

The Congressional Class

■ **U.S. Rep. Lee Hamilton** gets top marks from the Congressional delegation and those yearning for it. Hamilton comes off as a benevolent but strict college professor who has an affinity for reaching his generally conservative audiences. His 1994 IDEA speech at French Lick was one of the best wake-up calls ever made to a political party.

■ **Baron Hill** may be the best natural speaker we've produced for the coming generation. His deep baritone voice and his thoughtful connection of prose to the issues at hand always make him interesting. He quoted Aristotle at Schreiber's funeral. Has the capacity to wow a labor rally.

■ **Rep. Charlie Halleck** was the former

continued on page 4

TICKER TAPE

Frank O'Bannon attended a Sunday morning service before the 76th Original General Missionary Baptist State Convention in Gary. Carraway soloed on "To God Be the Glory" and O'Bannon addressed the convention, earning a number of "amens" and applause as he called for more social spending. "The message was the song and the dance," O'Bannon said. "The song is what comes out of the Bible. The dance is up to us."

O'Bannon stumped the state unveiling his plans for 500 new police officers in Indiana. In Evansville, the governor said, "Hopefully we will be able to use some funds to take officers off of desk jobs and allow them to focus on community policing. We could replace those jobs with civilians to put more police on the streets" (Dave Hosick, Evansville Courier).

State Rep. Woody Burton sent a fundraising letter out on behalf of his brother, U.S. Rep. Dan Burton, saying the 6th District congressman is "under attack by liberal Democratic activists" and the "liberal media. If Dan cannot respond to these attacks, there is a chance he could lose the next election." Burton's district is described by the Almanac of American Politics as the second most Republican district

continued on page 5

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Special Report

"T"

House Minority Leader who enchanted Capitol Hill with his weekly assault on the English language and the funny bone via the "Ev and Charlie Show" with Sen. Everett Dirksen. I caught him in Warsaw not long before he died and at one time he declared, "We ran more lettuce up the Hill than you'd believe" and told his audience, "I'd do anything short of murder for Turkey Creek Township."

■ **U.S. Rep. David McIntosh** is learning that less is more. He is not a natural speaker but can speak adroitly to the choir. He has found his stride not trying to be an orator, but to let his cutting-edge conservatism carry him to his audience. In his 1994 race against Joe Hogsett, he came up with a classic stumper: "You just pulled a Bill Clinton" that carried his message with devastating results to the Democrat.

■ **Peter Rusthoven** was a political unknown prior to hitting the Lincoln Day circuit in search of a Senate nomination and has immediately made a reputation in GOP circles for being articulate, intellectual with a dash of humor, compassion and wit. More Hoosiers will be discovering him in the near future.

■ Former **Congressman Andy Jacobs** always delivered a thoughtful, albeit wry look at America and the issues at hand.

■ Former **Congressman John Myers** was a pretty good stump speaker with an attitude. Wasn't afraid to sling darts at his detractors and evolved passion.

■ **U.S. Sen. Dan Coats** is a forceful, substantive and logical speaker, but always seems so businesslike. Meet him in person and the that's when you find the compassion. HPR still thinks he could have beaten Evan Bayh.

■ Former **Congressman John Brademas** was very articulate, but always spoke on a high plane. That's a Rhodes Scholar for you, although Bill Clinton figured out how to connect.

■ Former **U.S. Sen. Birch Bayh** performed the "aw shucks" Shirkieville shuffle with sleeves rolled up, coat over his shoulder on a finger with the best of them. But he could ramble on to eternity. Might make a good spokesman for Ben & Jerry's.

■ **U.S. Sen. Richard Lugar,** another Rhodes Scholar, is classic substance over style. Was derided on presidential campaign trail for being "boring" and Lugar artfully responded that the White House "isn't entertainment hour." But sadly, senator, it really is.

Vice Presidential class

Dan Quayle was a disaster in '88 and pretty good in '92. Needs a good speech writer to blend his thoughts better. Gets bad marks when trying to explain Bobby Knight's offense is defense (or was that defense is offense?), but gets generational points for igniting the "family values" debate, a term now firmly imbedded in our political lexicon. He's the one Hoosier who can get on Larry King or the Today Show when he writes a book.

The gubernatorial class

■ **Gov. Bob Orr** may be the best of the class with a good extemporaneous style, conversational and philosophical. He could use humor effectively, was comfortable at the rostrum.

■ **Gov. Frank O'Bannon** was born on the sunny side of the Ohio River. While he causes nightmares for his strategists and sometimes seems shaky, O'Bannon is downhome folksy, unpretentious, and ultimately, effective. Survived debates with Goldsmith better than anyone dreamed. We like when he talks about "my good friend, Evan Baahhhh."

■ **Lt. Gov. Joe Kernan's** reputation as a speaker could be the diamond in the rough in Indiana politics. Not many know about his effectiveness. His two biggest speeches, at the Indiana Democratic convention and at the inaugural, were excellent in both style and content.

■ **Gov. Doc Bowen** was the voice of moral authority and common sense, but always delivered in a bland, professorial style.

■ Candidate **Rex Early** is another capable of committing assault and battery on the King's English. But south of U.S. 40 and at any Hog Nuts party, he'll have people in stitches and saying "amen" or something like that.

■ **Stephen Goldsmith** has incredible intellect and always has something interesting to say. But it comes out ... binary. He always seems to be in a hurry and he even tells people so. Slow down, mayor. Give us 45 minutes some time, and try using the pause for emphasis.

continued on page 5

■ **Gov. Evan Bayh,** when he appeared before the House Democrats to quell an insurrection over prevailing wage in 1995, used spicy language that one party member said, "Looked like he had practiced in front of a mirror." Common adjective used by friends and foes alike is "plastic." Bayh's emphatic speech points always reminded HPR of Otter defending Delta House before Dean Wormer's kangeroo court in the movie "Animal House": *"We're not going stand for criticism on the United States of America!"* Democratic convention keynote was viewed as a dud, but speech he gave with President Clinton in Michigan City 24 hours before ("He is an honest president") could cause him agony in '98. Undefeated and hugely popular.

■ **Gov. Matt Welch,** wooden.

■ **Gov. Roger Branigan,** awful.

■ **Gov. Edgar Whitcomb,** nice to look at, but once he spoke, you questioned his literacy.

Statehouse Class

■ **State Rep. Bruce Munson,** the Republican from Muncie, is one of the most entertaining speakers in the state. Period. He performed along with Ann DeLaney at a roast for Rex Early in the Spring of 1996 and had the audience rolling. Munson said he and Early were on the campaign trail at one point and Early mentioned something about coming from "Bumf**k, Egypt." When Munson reminded Early that the phrase might not be appropriate, Early responded, "Don't worry. We don't have any Egyptians here."

■ **Secretary of State Sue Anne Gilroy,** like Rusthoven, was warmly received on the GOP Lincoln Day circuit this past winter and spring. Gilroy has an affinity for personally connecting with her audiences, and relies on life experiences to accent her points. She has also successfully attempted to become a "voice" for the Republican Party.

■ **Clerk of Court John Okeson** is perhaps the most underrated public speaker and hasn't had a lot of exposure outside of bar association and Rotary Club meetings. But whenever HPR has heard him speak, such as the 1996 Allen County Lincoln Day dinner, Okeson has shone. He is clever, to the point, has a good voice and gets directly at issues. He would have made an excellent lieutenant governor candidate.

Party people

GOP **Chairman Mike McDaniel** and Democrat **Chairman Joe Andrew** are both good public speakers. McDaniel is more easy-going and is great with a quip. His joke at last November's Bob Dole rally ("Two Huangs don't make a right") was funny. McDaniel said in all candor a few seconds later, "I've been waiting all week to use that." Democratic Chairman Joe Andrew has been more of a "rah-rah" kind of speaker, but we get that impression mostly because we've seen him in more rally settings where he uses volume and excitement to fire up crowds, which he usually does.

Worst Speakers

■ Former Bloomington mayor and **Congressman Frank McCloskey,** the father of the 723-word sentence delivered in monotone. Won at least eight general elections.

■ **U.S. Rep. John Hostettler,** the nice young man who speaks like an empty suit until you get him under a church tent. Author of the 23-word sentence. Won two general elections.

■ **U.S. Rep. Tim Roemer** tried volume for emphasis in his 1990 campaign, prompting one Democrat to ask, "Why is this man yelling at me?" Has won three general elections.

■ **Keith Bulen,** who lived up to his question for the need to communicate with a rambling, weird speech at a roast for former Allen County GOP Chairman Orvas Beers. It followed a speech given by Lebamoff for utter contrast. Helped begin the 20-year Hoosier Republican political dynasty and was The Great Communicator's political director.

■ **Rob Bowen,** Bayh's first victim, was mercifully kept on his Marshall County bench.

■ **Linley Pearson,** didn't have a bad voice; brain was in neutral.

TICKER TAPE

in the nation. Indiana Democratic Party Executive Director Mike Harmless called the Burton letter "an embarrassment for every Hoosier."

Former Vice President Dan Quayle spoke at an Ohio Senate Republican Caucus fundraiser last week and said, "I probably shouldn't say this, because it'll probably get me in a little bit of trouble, but it appears that the only person today that's willing to stand up to Bill Clinton is Paula Jones" (Associated Press). Quayle also said he would make a decision on running for president in 1999.

State Sen. Rose Ann Antich won a lawsuit that holds the City of Gary responsible for the 1994 death of her husband, Joseph, who died of a heart attack. Four calls were placed to the Gary 911 system made from the campaign office of Lake County Sheriff John Buncich. A private amublance was finally summoned an hour after the first call was made and Antich died shortly afterward at The Methodist Hospitals in Merrillville. Tapes of the 911 calls could not be found. The city argued that it had immunity for using an emergency communications system (Munster Times).

Evansville Mayor Frank

continued on page 6

TICKER TAPE

McDonald will not endorse an anti-poverty strategy that social workers spent three years developing (Teresa Kramer, Evansville Courier). "I didn't think it was a document that was written fairly," McDonald said. "It was written with a tremendous bias against what has been happening, what the city has been doing." The strategy ended with this statement: "The largest obstacle to meeting such needs is the lack of will to apply the funds where they are most needed." McDonald responded that he has to meet the needs of the entire city, not just poverty, and that the city is already directing federal block grants to poor neighborhoods.

Kosciusko County Prosecutor Dave Kolbe has introduced a policy where third time DUI offenders will have their cars seized. "I know this is going to be controversial, but we plan to do this under the state's seizure law," said Kolbe (Stacey Creasy, South Bend Tribune). "What could be more closely connected than a drunk driver and his car. We have people who have lost their licenses for 10 years or a lifetime and still get behind the wheel and drink and drive."

More than 100 Indiana busi-

continued on page 7

COLUMNISTS ON INDIANA

Morton Marcus, *Indianapolis Business Journal* - Indiana makes no attempt to anticipate growth or to reduce the costs growth imposes on us. Hoosiers do not widen roads before they become congested. We construct schools after the need becomes a crisis in one district while we close schools in areas where young middle class families no longer choose to live. And we fear that any attempt to guide development is but another step on the slope of limiting liberty, cultivating collectivism and hastening the dissolution of capitalism. The urban sprawl of Lafayette and Bloomington are matched by the continuing suburbanization of Frankfort and Goshen. Marion's concern for its downtown is similar to the unresolved problems of Muncie and Anderson. But no effort is made to recognize that we have a statewide issue to address. Perhaps with Paul Helmke, mayor of Fort Wayne, serving as president of the U.S. Confer-ence of Mayors, Indiana might be made aware of its urban nature. But I believe that both Bill Hudnut and Dick Lugar of Indianapolis held that position earlier without any beneficial effect on our deluded state. Or am I deluded? Despite the economic and social importance of our cities, Hoosiers continue to neglect them. Maybe our citizens believe that the era of cities is over. If they are right, then should we be seeking less costly ways to speed their demise?

Steve Hammer, *NUVO Newsweekly* - It's time the media gave Mike Tyson a break. It's time they shut up about the biting incident. The media have had it in for Tyson ever since he went to prison, and it's time they give it a rest. It's getting tiresome. A chunk of Holyfield's ear is gone. Big deal. Other boxers have suffered much worse. In the grand scheme of things, two inches of a millionaire's ear won't count for much.

Mary Beth Schneider *Indianapolis Star* - (Indiana Democratic Chairman Joe) Andrew notes his party raised it's $4.8 million in a state that has 5.5 million residents. In California, with 30 million residents, the state Democratic Party raised $6.6 million. In New York, with its 26 million residents, the state Democratic Party raised $7 million. Did he get a gold watch for this fund-raising bonanza? "No," Andrew says. "Nor have I gotten a subpoena." In fact, the campaign finance report that documents the Democrats' success also prompted me to ask Andrew if Democrats were money laundering. The report shows Indiana Democrats gave $50,000 to their Colorado counterparts, who gave them $100,000; $25,000 to the Minnesota Democrats, who contributed $50,000 to the Hoosiers; and $30,000 to the Iowa party, which sent $60,000 here. Andrew describes it as a perfectly legal tit-for-tat.

Mike Smith, *Associated Press* - A happy family or a caucus in turmoil? It was simply a family affair, like a little squabble over politics at the dinner table. That was the word from many Indiana House Republicans after the apparent coup attempt on leader Paul Mannweiler was squashed during a private, four-hour meeting last week. The fact is, Mannweiler and Bosma were put on the spot in an unprecedented fashion, forced in a non-election year to defend their leadership posts. Mannweiler put on a happy face after he was overwhelmingly affirmed as leader, calling the incident a "blip." In other words, no harm, no foul. No hard feelings. It's not that simple. Rep. Jerry Bales, a maverick Republican from Bloomington who rarely attends caucus meetings, said he did so last week at Mannweiler's request. It was more than an "issues" meeting, he said. "They tried to kill the king and they didn't get the job done," said Bales. "There is going to be resentment until probably after the next election when everyone comes up for a vote again."

Bayh pondering FOB and the toll road? Helmke to file soon

HORSE RACE

TRENDLINE: The Senate candidacy of Paul Helmke is missing in action.

■ ■ ■

■ **INDIANA SENATE:** Imagine Evan Bayh's head lying on his pillow late into the night, pondering the events of this past week: *"The espionage element is added to the Fundraising Scandal. But! Nobody seems to give a dang! And what is going on with that Indiana Toll Road thing? That is my mental millstone. Highway scandals really killed George Craig."*

Meanwhile on the Republican side, Fort Wayne Mayor Paul Helmke said he was going to announce his candidacy after the Fourth of July. His brother, Mark, said on Monday that the mayor will be "proceeding with filing a candidacy within the next couple of weeks." Helmke did release an extremely slick production of the 1996 City of Fort Wayne Annual Report. Its theme is "Fort Wayne Doors Open Through Citizen Participation." By a picture of a confident Paul Helmke is the headline, "It takes strong leadership to build a healthy city and keep it that way." Other things: the housing market is the seventh most affordable in the U.S.; retaining 5,000 jobs and creating 409 new ones; citizen participation in neighborhoods; the seventh lowest crime rate in the nation; and a 30-year low in property taxes. All would be themes in a Helmke senatorial candidacy.

Peter Rusthoven brought in $100,000 by the June 30 FEC report. Rusthoven has brought on State Rep. Matt Whetstone to manage his campaign. Whetstone, who had been on the Senate Republican staff as well as a Brownsburg City Councilman, replaced Sam Turpin in 1996. He is seen as the young breed of political operatives that appear to be prevalent in the fledgling Rusthoven campaign.

Rusthoven supporters have also taken issue with HPR's observation that the plethora of endorsements from district and county GOP officials is meaningless, as evidenced by the same thing Rex Early had in his race for governor in 1996. The spin is that many of these county officials remembered the days when Early bailed out the party financially and have been loyal ever since. There is no past loyalty for Rusthoven; these party leaders simply liked his message and the way it was delivered this past winter and spring.

As for polling, the Rusthoven camp says it is meaningless to poll now. The campaign is concentrating on its fund-raising and will push for its big name ID gains next winter and spring. Still, Race Horse is reluctant to annoit a front-runner. If Helmke does get in as anticipated, there will be a real race to position between August and March. Early returns will be revealed in fund-raising. If Rusthoven or Helmke can get a decisive edge in fund-raising, there's your winner.

■ **8TH CD DEMOCRATS:** Scratch Evansville Mayor Frank McDonald off the list for the Democrats. Sources say McDonald is not interested.

Meanwhile, to show how intense this race is going to be run, U.S. Rep. John Hostettler found his office besieged by a group called the Evansville Breast Cancer Alliance which asked the Republican congressman to vote for the Breast Cancer Patient Protection Act. One of the women who spoke was Harriet Kimmel, a retired labor leader.

Said Hostettler spokesman Michael Jahr, "They at least could have made us aware of their concerns first. This has a little of a political ring to it" (Roberta Heiman, Evansville Courier). Jahr added that Hostettler's mother is a breast cancer survivor. "This is a disease that has struck very close," Jahr said.

TICKER TAPE

nesses, representing 1,500 available jobs, were set to be at U.S. Rep. David McIntosh's Job Fair on Monday. McIntosh had sent letters of personal invitation to workers of Borg-Warner in Muncie, Jay Garment of Portland, Brooks Foods in Mt. Summit and Swayne Robinson in Richmond to come to the fair to seek jobs from other companies in the 2nd CD. "I'm proud of the entire east-central Indiana community for coming together to help our neighbors," said McIntosh.

The AFL-CIO has launched another advertising blitz against U.S. Rep. John Hostettler for his support for the Republican tax cut plan (Gerard Shields, Evansville Courier). The national union spent $500,000 for two days of radio and TV advertisements targeting 23 congressmen. "Two-thirds of the tax cuts in these bills go to the wealthiest Americans," said AFL-CIO President John Sweeney.

U.S. Rep. Lee Hamilton has come out in support of normal trade relations for China. "The United States could not isolate China even if we wanted to. China is too big, and too important. We can disengage China, but no one would follow us and we would only hurt our interests. If we treat China as an enemy, it will become one," Hamilton said.

continued on page 8

TICKER TAPE

The East Chicago riverboat casino that has plenty of roots in the Lake County Democratic organization as well as friends of Gov. Bayh (like Mike Pannos) has had to lay off 100 of its 1,500 employees. "All the boats are doing very well. Overall the numbers are up," said Thomas McDermott, president of the Northwest Indiana Forum. "The traffic congestion on the roads leading to the boats is hurting everyone and in the summer months, revenues are down because there are more entities competing for the leisure dollar" (Amanda Beeler and Robin Bieson, Munster Times).

PERHAPS... WE WANDER

By Brian Howey

INDIANAPOLIS - Those interested in both the bottom line and Indiana's beacon of the future - our children - should get a copy of the Hudson Institute's "Indiana Juvenile Crime Forum Proceedings" by Clerk of Courts John Okeson, Edmund McGarrell and Gregory Brinker.

Throughout a series of hearings, Hoosier city and county leaders from all parts of the state said the same thing: they lack resources to pursue juvenile justice solutions. "Many local officials seemed resigned to the fact that while more money would be helpful, additional local revenue may not be available," wrote Okeson in the report's foreward. "This is because residents in many communities are simply unwilling to spend more money on local government (whether it is juvenile justice, picking up garbage, or opening public swimming pools."

Two things leap out of this report. Some of the young chicks from the post-Bush Republican dogma ("Read my lips, no new taxes") have come back home in Indiana to roost. And for whom? Scores of Republican county and city officials who are trying to cope with the wave of juvenile delinquents stumbling out of the tens of thousands of dysfunctional families. Indiana is failing to change its institutions to deal with the modern realities of today's families. Indianapolis can get stadiums built; its key philantropists are throwing tens of millions of dollars at the arts, all while the city is going through a crack epidemic and scores of vulnerable kids are aimlessly wandering the streets or cowering in their hot, steamy living rooms.

Okeson and the Hudson authors recommend increasing the use of aftercare programs, reasoning that a 10-day stay in a hospital can't reverse 14 or 16 years of bad parenting. Now, the kids simply go back to their dingbat parents.

Family values ... five years and counting from the great state of Indiana.

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