THE HOWEY POLITICAL REPORT

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Bayh set to return to campaign trail

It's going on six years since he was in an election

HPR Forecast: Evan Bayh officially ends a six-year hiatus as a political candidate when he declares on Thursday, Feb. 19, for the U.S. Senate seat his father lost in 1980. For the first time since 1988, Bayh's mission will be to define himself for the next generation.

■ ■ ■

EVANSVILLE - Evan Bayh was bristling. He had just returned to his car from a morning TV interview in September 1988 during his first campaign for governor. The Evansville reporter had pretty much stuck to the issues during much of the taping, but then unloaded this question: "Why do you think people see you as being perfect?"

Bayh was gracious. "Well, sometimes when I get up in the morning and dress in the dark, I put two different shades of socks on," Bayh said smiling. "I make mistakes just like everybody else."

A few minutes later as the car pulled away from the TV station, Bayh was fuming. "Why do they always say I'm perfect?" he said to his driver that day, Fred P'Pool. "I should have told her I listen to Muzak."

It didn't matter the TV reporter had asked a goofy question that day - a day during his first gubernatorial campaign that ended more than 12 hours later with Evan, Susan and Birch Bayh pumping hundreds of hands at a labor rally.

Electorally speaking, Evan Bayh is perfect in his own right. His 62-37 percent win over Linley Pearson in 1992 is a record gubernatorial landslide. His 1986 and 1988 campaigns of secretary of state and governor effectively dismantled the Indiana Republican machine that had dominated Hoosier politics for 20 years.

But there is family honor at stake. He managed Sen. Birch Bayh's ill-fated 1980 campaign against Dan Quayle, the only election a Bayh has lost - ever. It is this seat that Bayh now seeks to reclaim

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"QUOTE" OF THE WEEK

"I thought about seeing if Bales and Stephan would want to run as independents and then we could form our own caucus...."

- State Rep. T m Alevizos, D- Michigan City, n his contemplation of running for re-election as an independent.

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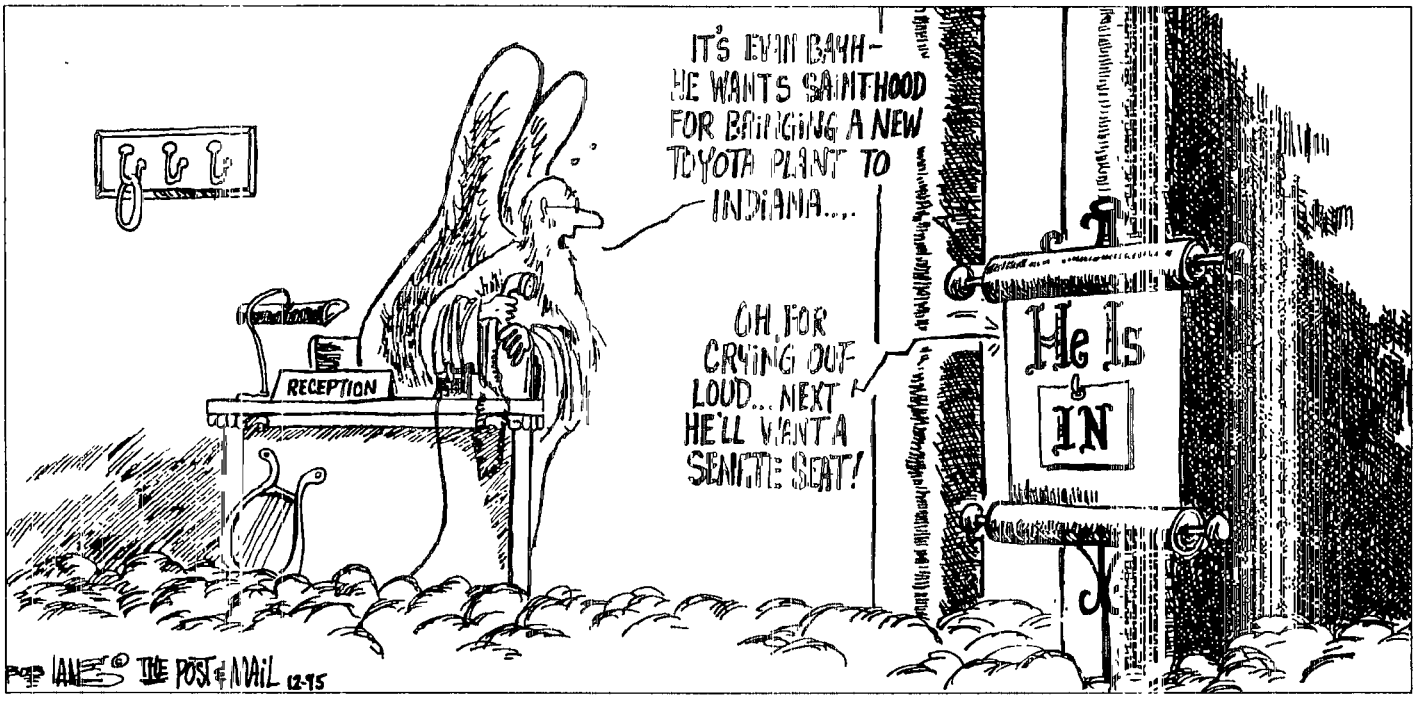
Bob Lang



TICKER TAPE

PLAY OF THE WEEK: Evansville Republicans and Democrats get the nod for saving the annual Hasenpfeffer. It's the annual German dinner where Republicans and Democrats gather each year to eat Hasenpfeffer, or spicy rabbit. The event was in doubt when the traditional site, the basement of the Sterling Rathskeller, a German-style beer hall, closed. It will be moved to the Germania Maennerchor, a place also described by the Evansville Courier as "steeped in German tradition." The event will take place at noon Feb. 21. Another long-standing tradition will stand: no political speeches.

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Evan Bayh, *from page 1*

for his family and Indiana Democrats.

What will the first Bayh candidacy in six years look and sound like? As of this writing, his announcement speech is, in campaign spokesman Tom Sugar's words, "still in the works." But there are the obvious themes: no new taxes; mold-breaking welfare reform; government, as he put it in his 1996 State of the State address, that is "lean, accountable and innovative; government that creates solutions, not problems."

He will talk about the $1.8 billion surplus he left behind, the record auto excise tax cut, his executive order eliminating 379 fees and cutting 325 more. There will be programs like the EDGE Initiative that attracted 11,000 "good-paying" jobs, nearly $2 billion in investments with an added $348 million in payroll in two years. Bayh's campaign can feature mega economic developmental deals with United Airlines in Indianapolis, Chrysler in Kokomo and Toyota in Princeton.

He will talk about the more than 30 percent increase in education funding. His TV ads could show the first bright, eager faces of the 21st Century scholars - the kids who agreed to stay off dope and in school who are now getting their college tuition paid.

And Evan Bayh can talk tough, like when he ended the prison furlough system after Alan Matheney bludgeoned his ex-wife in Mishawaka during the first days of his governorship, or the 50 state troopers he sent into Gary to stem a skyrocketing homicide rate. He will talk about "three strikes and you're out" life sentences of habitual felons, a more than 45 percent increase in prison space, and Zachary's Law that can alert neighborhoods to child molesters.

That is the Bayh record. There has probably been no Democratic candidate in the history of Hoosier politics of this caliber of pedigree or experience better prepared to ascend to Washington than Evan Bayh.

That is the Bayh record. Fresh in their minds is Joe Hogsett's 1992 Senate campaign when Sen. Dan Coats "defined" him as an office jumper in April. With $2.924 million cash on hand, expect Bayh to move swiftly and decisively to create not only his own perceptions, but those of his opponent.

How to deal with Clinton

The key challenge facing Evan Bayh will be how to deal with the scandals bubbling around President Clinton, as well as how he will

define himself as a U.S. senator. The situation surrounding Clinton is so murky at this writing that it is impossible to know what impact it will have in the fall. A protracted impeachment proceeding that would force Americans to turn the 1998 elections into a referendum is a dangerous situation for Bayh. Yet he has withstood the national dynamic before, winning his 1988 gubernatorial race with Dan Quayle on the national GOP ticket.

No new taxes is fine, but it hardly presents an argument for the future.

"The content of his announcement will be interesting," said Kevin Shaw Kellems, a longtime aide to U.S. Sen. Lugar and now a Republican political consultant. "He hasn't been before the voters in six years, so they will be taking a fresh look. He has the opportunity to define himself."

Kellems sees Bayh's strengths as a man with a clean-cut image, a serious-minded public servant, with a nice family.

The mission Bayh will have to accomplish is to break out of his past executive mode and speak effectively and extemporaneously on a variety of international, national, state and local topics. "It's much harder when you have to vote every day on a myriad of issues," Kellems said. "You can't hide behind process and the cloak of safety that executive has."

Republicans eagerly point out that popular Govs. Nelson of Nebraska and Weld of Massachusetts failed to effectively talk about the larger picture in their unsuccessful Senate races in 1996.

Where is Evan Bayh?

When he announces, Bayh will have a huge advantage and a Republican opponent who is yet to emerge.

One of the GOP contenders, Peter Rusthoven, is prepared to move quickly - but with little money - to press Evan Bayh. "Where is Evan Bayh?" Rusthoven asks. "Where is Evan Bayh on the character issue? People are talking about annointing a U.S. senator when no one knows where he stands on any issue of substance."

In a press release, Rusthoven notes that Bayh "is a close personal and political friend of Bill Clinton, who has said Evan Bayh embodies the kind of America he wants to lead us toward. Indiana's Senate race will present a stark contrast between the Clinton-Bayh agenda and the Reagan-Rusthoven vision of America, with the whole country watching to see the choice Hoosiers make."

That contrasts with Fort Wayne Mayor Paul Helmke, who commented to CNN on the White House lawn at the apex of the Monica Lewinsky scandal, "We all are the subject of rumors; we all are the subject of innuendo."

A deeper Evan Bayh

On Feb. 19, Evan Bayh will have wife Susan and twin 2-year-old sons Nick and Beau out on the campaign trail. Those close to him say the twins and a year of domestic tranquility have given Evan Bayh a deeper, more sensitive quality. "Any time your family grows, it impacts parents," said Indiana Democratic Executive Director Mike Harmless. "His vision of the future becomes their vision of the future."

Bayh's Indiana Elections

1986 Secretary of State	
Evan Bayh	828,494
Rob Bowen	704,952
1988 Governor	
Evan Bayh	1,138,574
John Mutz	1,002,207
1992 Governor	
Evan Bayh	1,382,151
Linley Pearson	822,533

It will take a perfect campaign

Can Evan Bayh be defeated?

Of course. Anyone can lose.

He will have to make the transition from a state to a national politician. There are things beyond his control - the Clinton or Indiana Toll Road scandals, or a military debacle in Iraq - that could impact the race.

Yet there has never been a candidate better prepared to try for the Senate from Indiana. To defeat him next November, a Republican will have to run a perfect campaign. ✍

TICKER TAPE

Republican Senate candidate Peter Rusthoven officially announced his candidacy on Wednesday, after this HPR edition's deadline.

Doug Hess officially announced his candidacy for the 7th CD against fellow Republican Rep. Ed Pease. Hess said in his announcement, "I'm not sure he supports traditional family values. Today, he is co-signing a letter urging the president to support legislation to end the marriage tax penalty. That's nice, but I am disturbed that he can't utter the words 'traditional family values' any more than President Clinton can. Why is Pease hiding from the issues?"

In announcing his intention to seek re-election, Rep. Pease said this: "A life seemingly lived in airplanes to and from Washington, and automobiles across the 7th District remind me daily how fortunate I am to represent the people of Indiana - people who care about their families, their communities and their country, who don't ask much from their government, and who still retain a love for this nation and its proud heritage and traditions."

U.S. Rep. Tim Roemer, in announcing his re-election bid in South Bend, said he expects

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House Racing Form

Alevizos may go independent; Warner to retire

Speaker John Gregg has threatened to close down the legislature by Feb. 27. WRTV's Norm Cox declared Tuesday night that the tax cut was all but dead. Finger pointing to commence shortly.

State Rep. Tom Alevizos tells HPR he is considering a run as an independent. "It would be interesting to come back here with no strings attached to a caucus," Alevizos said.

HORSE RACE

Meanwhile, 28-year veteran State Rep. Phil Warner, battling cancer, confirmed he will not seek re-election. Watch for Goshen attorney John Ulmer to maintain the 49th District for the GOP.

In our status report, **Toss-Up** means the race is within a statistical margin of error or we're on to something; **Leans** is just outside the margin of error and up to 9 percent; **Likely** is 10 to 15 points; and **Solid** means watch out for a landslide.

House District 9: **R Primary:** Open. **D Primary:** Scott Pelath, Dennis Matheny. **Geography:** Michigan City, LaPorte County. **HPR General Forecast:** Pelath v. Alevizos. **1994 results:** Alevizos (D) 11,202 (unopposed). **1996 Results:** Alevizos 15,424 (unopposed). **1998 Forecast:** Alevizos is now considering a run for re-election as an independent. He tells HPR that he is concerned the Democrats in Scott Pelath don't have "someone qualified for my spot." Of Pelath, Alevizos said, "He's never held a real job. He's raised most of his money out of town. He's unabashedly associated with Shaw Friedman. How many elections have Friedman's people won?" And Alevizos added, "John Gregg doesn't realize how he stands to lose a safe seat." This is shaping up to be a race between a ballot veteran incumbent against a Democratic organization. **Status:** Leans D.

House District 10: **R Primary:** John Cannon. **D Primary:** Chuck Moseley. **Geography:** Porter County. **HPR General Forecast:** Cannon v. Moseley. **1994 results:** Wilson (D) 9,701 (unopposed). **1996 Results:** Wilson 15,672 (unopposed). **1998 Forecast:** Popular Rep. Esther Wilson retires. Dems coalesce around water company employee Moseley. Cannon has Portage union ties. O'Bannon carried the district in '96 with 63 percent. **Status:** Solid D.

House District 19: **R Primary:** Nick Gasparovic. **D Primary:** Rep. Bob Kuzman. **Geography:** Crown Point, south Lake County. **HPR General Forecast:** Kuzman v. Gasparovic. **1994 results:** Conlon (R) 8,850, McCall (D) 5,280. **1996 Results:** Kuzman (D) 12,236, Sparks (R) 10,453. **1998 Forecast:** Freshman Democrat Bob Kuzman won a tough battle for an open seat in 1996 and immediately established himself as a rising star. Republicans consider this seat in their top three priorities. Nick Gasparovic, who lives near Crown Point, will soon retire as a Prudential insurance agent. Kuzman will be tough to defeat. **Status:** Leans D.

House District 20: **R Primary:** Rep. Mary Kay Budak. **D Primary:** Donna Kavanagh v. Tony Underly. **Geography:** LaPorte and St. Joseph counties. **HPR General Forecast:** Budak vs. Kavanaugh. **1994 Results:** Budak 12,688 (unopposed). **1996 Results:** Budak 12,672, Underly 8,313. **1998 Forecast:** Dems believe Budak is vulnerable representing two Democratic counties. Kavanagh of Long Beach is an actress and an independent film-maker with good labor ties. Underly is from St. Joseph County. HPR expects Kavanagh to emerge and give Budak an interesting race. **Status:** Toss-Up.

House District 22: **R Primary:** Rep. Bill Ruppel v. Wabash County Commission Chairman Brian Haupert. **D Primary:** Open. **Geography:** Wabash, Marshall, Kosciusko counties. **HPR General Forecast:** Ruppel. **1994 Results:** Ruppel 10,954 (unopposed) **1996 Results:** Ruppel 13,714 (unopposed). **1998 Forecast:** Desert Storm veteran Haupert is challenging Ruppel because he believes the legislature "isn't listening to what the majority of Hoosiers want." Republicans consider Haupert a credible challenge. Democrats have no chance of winning this seat in the fall. **Status:** Leans Ruppel.

House District 24: **R Primary:** Rep. Rick McClain. **D Primary:** Logansport Councilman Mike Fincher. **Geography:** Cass, Carroll counties. **HPR General Forecast:** McClain v. Fincher. **1994 Results:** McClain 10,421, Frantz 7,686. **1996 Results:** McClain 15,538 (unopposed). **1998 Forecast:** GOP sees 24th as bedrock conversative, but Democrats note that AG Modisett carried this district in 1996. They think Fincher can give

Open Seats

1st - Ron Tabaczynski
10th - Esther Wilson
37th - Rolland Webber
49th - Phil Warner
50th - Dan Stephan
73rd - Dennis Heeke

Wavering

9th - Tom Alevizos

Rematches

34th - Vanleer v. Adams

46th - Lohr v. Tincher

80th - Becker v. GiaQuinta

67th - Goble v. Duncan

94th - Hinman v. Marendt

Off the Hit List

33rd Ron Liggett
37th - Scott Mellinger
52nd - Dale Sturtz

McClain a run and will ante up. Republicans think Dems are crazy. **Status**: Leans R.

House District 25: **R Primary**: Kyle Conrad. **D Primary:** Rep. Claire Leuck. **Geography:** Newton, Benton, Warren, White and Carroll counties. **HPR General Forecast**: Conrad v. Leuck. **1994 Results:** Leuck 10,274, Boots 6,940. **1996 Results**: Leuck 13,159, Boots 9,105. **1998 Forecast:** Republicans will target Leuck in what is a 55/45 GOP district with Conrad, the Newton County Clerk. Leuck, however, is mighty popular and will be tough to unseat. **Status:** Leans D.

House District 30: **R Primary**: Rep. Karen Burkhart. **D Primary:** Ron Herrell,, Jim Brannon, Mildred Bertram. **Geography:** Kokomo, Howard County. **HPR General Forecast:** Burkhart v. Herrell. **1994 Results:** Padfield (R) 8,589, Howard 7,363. **1996 Results:** Padfield 10,775, Herrell 9,660. **1998 Forecast:** Karen Buyer Burkhart fitting in well with Republican caucus. Democrats taking a long look at this seat include '96 nominee Ron Herrell, '95 mayoral candidate Jim Brannon who finished third, and perennial Millie. Herrell might have an edge in the primary, but will voters remember he went elk hunting in October 1996 instead of campaigning? This had been a Democratic seat, but Kokomo is voting Republican. **Status:** Leans R.

House District 34: **R Primary**: James Vanleer. **D Primary:** Rep. Tiny Adams. **Geography:** Muncie, Delaware County. **HPR General Forecast**: Vanleer v. Adams. **1994 Results:** Vanleer 8,491, Elliott 7,522. **1996 Results:** Adams 9,630, Vanleer 9,241. **1998 Forecast:** This has been the most active House race thus far. Both candidates are engaging each other or are attempting to place the race in context. In announcing his re-election campaign last week, Rep. Adams cast his rematch with former Rep. Vanleer as a referendum on working people's interest. "We need to keep control of the House," Adams said. He added that if Republicans return to control, labor gains like the worker's comp reforms last year will be lost. Tom Douthitt, vice president of United Auto Workers 287, will be Adams' campaign chairman. **Status:** Toss-Up.

House District 35: **R Primary**: Rep. Bruce Munson. **D Primary:** Open. **Geography:** Muncie, Delaware County. **HPR General Forecast:** Munson vs. open. **1994 Results:** Munson 9,505, Eddy 7,694. **1996 Results:** Munson 10,827, Errington 9,493. **1998 Forecast:** Still waiting for a Democratic challenger to emerge from the Ball State campus. Democrats say they will have some surprises at filing deadline on Feb. 20. This might be the scene of one of them. **Status:** Leans R.

House District 36: **R Primary:** Rep. Jack Lutz. **D Primary:** Robert Breese, Paul Schrenker, Billy Brogdon. **Geography:** Anderson, Elwood, Madison County. HPR **General Forecast:** Lutz v. Brogdon. **1994 Results:** Lutz 12,033, Hosler 7,551. **1996 Results:** Lutz 13.044, Cunningham 11,070. **1998 Forecast:** Here's a new race on the list. Brogdon, an Elwood city councilman, is the nephew of a former Madison County sheriff. Schrenker, an Anderson insurance agent, used to be a county judge. Democrat Pat Cunningham was outspent 2 to 1 but came within 2,000 votes in 1996. We'll keep an eye on this one. **Status:** Leans R.

House District 46: **R Primary**: David Lohr. **D Primary:** Rep. Vern Tincher. **Geography:** Vigo, Greene, Sullivan counties. **HPR General Forecast:** Lohr v. Tincher. **1994 Results**: Lohr 8,160, Tincher 8,034. **1996 Results:** Tincher 9,858, Lohr 9,759, Minx 531. **1998 Forecast:** Republican leadership and 25 colleagues joined former Republican Rep. David Lohr for his announcement, signaling GOP solidarity after he challenged Supt. Suellen Reed. Both Lohr and Tincher have bad favorable/unfavorable ratings and the 1996 race was not only a real donnybrook, but ended in a recount. Tincher has proposed spending limits and reviewing campaign advertisements. **Status**: Toss-Up.

House District 50: **R Primary**: Dr. Gary Dillon, Scott Darley, Rodney Putt, Mary Blanford, Kent Maxwell. **D Primary:** Jerry Schwartz. **Geography:** Huntington and Whitley counties. **HPR General Forecast:** Maxwell vs. Schwartz. **1994 Results:** Stephan (R) 13,418, Yingst 5,392. **1996 Results:** Stephan 15,856, B. Yingst 5,855. **1998 Forecast**: A crowd gathers and jostles. Watch Dr. Dillon. He may end up in the other party. Huntington school teacher Jerry Schwartz enters the Democratic primary. He lost a 1994 Senate race against Potch Wheeler with 46 percent of the vote, but won Huntington County 51-49 percent. Huntington County Councilman Kent Maxwell enters the Republican race with a ballot-tested base there, making him the man to beat. **Status:** Leans R.

House District 54: **R Primary:** Rep. Tom Saunders. **D Primary:** Donnie Hamilton. **Geography:** Henry County. **HPR General Forecast:** Saunders v. Hamilton. **1994 Results:** Kinser (D) 9,176, Razor (R) 7,853. **1996 Results:** Saunders 11,298, Copenhaver 10,221. **1998 Forecast:** Most conspicuous incumbent loss for Ds in 1996. Hamilton is a New Castle HS teacher and author of Hoosier Temples. Uncle was a two-term Henry

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TICKER TAPE

only "minimal effect" on his race for re-election from the scandal involving President Clinton (Jack Colwell, South Bend Tribune). Of his constituents, Roemer said, "They'll judge the president once they get the facts."

Former State Sen. Jean Leising made her official announcement for the 9th CD seat in Indianapolis, Louisville, Cincinnati and Evansville. Her Indianapolis appearance at the Statehouse covered by WRTV showed Leising standing alone behind a podium in an empty room.

Two candidates have entered the 6th CD race. George Holland, a Republican from Rushville (which is outside the 6th), will challenge Rep. Dan Burton in the primary as a "reform populist." Democrat Bob Kern has also announced he will run.

Shelburn Clerk-Treasurer Jay Southwood has endorsed Democrat Gail Riecken in the 8th CD. Southwood had previously said he was going to run against Riecken. "Although I have decided not to run for Congress in 1998, I am pleased that the party has a first rate candidate in Gail Riecken. In the six months or so she has been running, she has shown herself to be a strong voice for

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TICKER TAPE

working families."

10th CD candidate Gary Hofmeister has begun running two radio ads, the first of the 1998 Hoosier political season. He also received the endorsement of Eagle Forum founder Phyllis Schlafly."This is a big boast to my campaign and I'm honored that someone of Phyllis' stature is endorsing me," Hofmeister said.

10th CD Republican sources believe 1994 nominee Marvin Scott will enter the primary. Also, the Marion County GOP organization will not slate prior to the primary. In 1996, the GOP slated former Indianapolis Mayor Bill Hudnut, who was then defeated in the primary by former State Sen. Virginia Blankenbaker. The 1996 nominee Blankenbaker announced her candidacy in late January.

The Indiana House Democratic Caucus has hired political consulting firm Geddings Communications, based near Washington, D.C. Geddings helped Michigan Democrats regain control of the House there with 10 targeted races in 1996."We'll make sure every Indiana voter knows about the Democratic plan to give them a $100 budget surplus refund. And we'll be on every TV in the state describing Indiana House

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County sheriff. Dems want to test Saunders. Even popular Kinser didn't win by big margins. **Status:** Toss-Up.

House District 56: **R Primary:** Dick Hamm, Ken Paust, Chris Dickson. **D Primary:** Rep. Richard Bodiker. **Geography:** Richmond, Wayne County. **HPR General Forecast:** Bodiker v. Paust. **1994 Results:** Bodiker 7,142, Hamm 7,087. **1996 Results:** Bodiker 10,772, Hamm 8,159. **1998 Forecast:** Rumors Bodiker might not run appear false. Councilman Ken Paust a slight favorite. He's married to the county chairwoman. Dickson, a Richmond cable and radio broadcaster with ties to the Christian Coalition, tells HPR he likes his "third-place status." Dickson claims to have a load of surprises. **Status:** Leans D.

House District 60: **R Primary:** Rep. Jerry Bales v. Jeff Ellington. **D Primary:** Open. **Geography:** Bloomington, Monroe County. **HPR General Forecast:** Bales. **1994 results:** Bales 11,825, Anderson 5,210. **1996 Results:** Bales 15,743, Germann (L) 1,931. **1998 Forecast:** Growing feeling in Statehouse that Bales is in for a tough race. He's going to need Democratic votes to persevere in the primary. But there is going to be an intense Democratic sheriff primary in Monroe County, where a well-publicized controversy makes that office a top priority with voters. So Bales may not be able to count on Dems and Independents to withstand nothing less than a full frontal assault from the Monroe GOP organization. But how's this for a counter: IU Coach Bob Knight authors a ringing endorsement of his ol' buddy Bales that drops a couple of weeks before the election? HPR finds an Alevizos/Bales independent caucus strangely amusing. **Status:** Leans Bales.

HORSE RACE

House District 67: **R Primary:** Rep. Cleo Duncan. **D Primary:** Ed Goble **Geography:** Decatur, Ripley, Switzerland counties. **HPR General Forecast:** Duncan v. Goble. **1994 Results:** Duncan 9,672, Goble 9,369. **1996 Results:** Duncan 12,598, Kellerman 9,474. **1998 Forecast:** Duncan swept in over Goble in the '94 Revolution then effectively staved off a credible challenge in '96. Goble seeks a rematch, but Duncan cuts into his Greensburg base. Mike Jones, 9th CD chairman, is considering a Democratic run. **Status:** Leans R.

House District 73: **R Primary:** Open. **D Primary:** Tom Birk, Denny Oxley. **Geography:** Jasper and Southwestern Indiana. **HPR General Forecast:** Birk. **1994 Results:** Heeke (D) 9,629, Goodness 8,241. **1996 Results:** Heeke 12,371, Goodness 8,847. **1998 Forecast:** Birk and Oxley are running a spirited race against each other. Locals had figured Birk was the frontrunner having run twice before. But Oxley, president of the Crawford County Classroom Teachers Association, will have some labor support. **Status:** Solid D.

House District 80: **R Primary:** John Becker. **D Primary:** Rep. Ben GiaQuinta. **Geography:** Southern Fort Wayne. **HPR General Forecast:** Becker v. GiaQuinta. **1994 Results:** Becker 5,206 GiaQuinta 5,199. **1996 Results:** GiaQuinta 7,707, Becker 6,365. **1998 Forecast:** This is a second rematch and will be fully funded by each side. Democrats are confident they can keep the seat. **Status:** Leans D.

House District 94: **R Primary:** Rep. Candy (Morris) Marendt. **D Primary:** Martin Hinman. **Geography:** NW Indianapolis. **HPR General Forecast:** Marendt v. Hinman. **1994 Results:** Morris (Marendt) 7,838, Reasoner 5,537. **1996 Results:** Marendt 10,396, Hinman 9,586, Neal 422. **1998 Forecast:** Democrats still searching for a candidate other than Hinman. Marendt narrowly won in 1996. She didn't really muster a vibrant campaign in her northwest Indianapolis district because she had never had to before. Another Democrat, Jose Evans, who works at the Dept. of Commerce, is considering. Republicans ready to spend $200,000 or more to protect this seat while Hinman wants to repeat his '96 campaign, which did not accept contributions. Bill Clinton carried Pike Township portion of the district by 1,500 votes in '96. **Status:** Leans R.

House District 97: **R Primary:** Ray Schultz. **D Primary:** Rep. Ed Mahern. **Geography:** Southern Indianapolis. **HPR General Forecast:** Schultz v. Mahern. **1994 Results:** Heffley 4,782, Cantwell 4,037. **1996 Results:** Mahern 6,368, Heffley 5,372. **1998 Forecast:** Democratic Rep. Ed Mahern recaptured this seat for the Dems in 1996 following the '94 GOP tsunami. He is expected to get a vigorous challenge from Republican Ray Schultz, a former Manual High School football coach with a stadium named after him. That seat will sway with who can get the 10th CD vote out. **Status:** Leans D.

House District 100: **R Primary:** Jeff Parmelee. **D Primary:** Rep. John Day. **Geography:** Indianapolis. **HPR General Forecast:** Parmelee V Day **1994 Results:** Womacks 3,696, Day 3,818. **1996 Results:** Day 6,344, Womacks 4,331, Bogan 260. **1998 Forecast:** Another Indianapolis district that has changed hands twice in the last two cycles. Day returned in 1996 and could face unknown Parmelee. **Status:** Leans D.

✍ *Brian A. Howey*

COLUMNISTS ON INDIANA

Dave Penticuff, *Muncie Star Press* - In these troubled days of tabloid journalism, truth is a precious commodity. So much so that many involved in all sides of the scandal appear to be hoarding it. Provable details of the sordid story involving President Clinton and the young woman have been in short supply the past week and a half. Rather than serving to slow the growth of the story, like cutting oxygen to a flame, the opposite occurred. Lack of comment, beyond blanket denials and cryptic legalese, from the people who really know what's going on has not stopped people who really don't know what's going on from commenting. The same talking-head speculation, which even in the first hours the story broke included wacky and premature talk of presidential impeachment and resignation, combined with unchecked rumors and fed on itself. Given the additional cable channels most televison viewers have, the frenzy sickened many in the general populace. The result has been rejection of the story by many and the greatest surge in popularity from Bill Clinton in the history of his presidency. Apparently, you can free the oppressed as president or you can find yourself accused of committing adultery in the West Wing and get an equal bump in the polls.

Mike Dorning, *Chicago Tribune* - Young and soft-eyed but rigorously ideological, Hoosier Rep. David McIntosh continues to make his mark on the conservative movement. One of the field lieutenants of House GOP Speaker Newt Gingrich's 1994 Republican Revolution, McIntosh entered with the GOP sweep and right away took a lead in the "Contract With America's" regulatory rollbacks. Now McIntosh has taken over leadership of the Conservative Action Team, a congressional caucus of roughly 30 firebrand conservatives who last year at times proved inconveniently independent of their Republican party leaders. Capitol Hill's conventional wisdom has the group's influence waning. But McIntosh is viewed by Republican leaders as "reasonable" - a man far easier to sit down and negotiate with than such erractic predecessors in that post as Vince Foster murder conspiracy theorist Dan Burton and Rep. Ernest Istook. Look for McIntosh and his caucus to press Republican leaders hard to make elimination of the marriage tax penalty a top priority. Look also for an effort to move the abortion debate further to the right with a proposed federal requirement that teenagers obtain parental consent when they travel between states for an abortion.

Robert Novak, *Chicago Sun-Times* - When hearings on conduit contributions of foreign money to President Clinton's 1996 re-election campaign began on Oct. 9, the ranking Democrat on the House Government Reform and Oversight Committee - Rep. Henry Waxman - was dismissive. Waxman said "nothing" in the deposition by Manlin Foung a few days earlier "adds to the knowledge" of what Senate hearings already had revealed. But the Jan. 28 indictment of her brother, Clinton friend Yah Lin "Charlie" Trie, drew heavily on the House investigation. Federal prosecutors learned of Foung's existence through groundwork by the House committee's Republican chairman, Rep. Dan Burton of Indiana. That fact contradicts the caricature of Burton, who has been under studied assault by the White House and Democras as an extremist.

Dave Benner, *Indianapolis Star* - The media have not shaped (Coach) Knight's image - and by extension IU's image - any more than Knight has. The difference between acceptable and unacceptable behavior may be "eminently clear to the university and the coach" as Brand and Walda insist. But it is eminently muddled to America and, I might add, to an increasing number of alumni who believe it is the responsibility of the university's leadership - and not the media - to demand the highest standards of behavior from its most identifiable representative.

TICKER TAPE

Demcorats' plan to improve education with common sense solutions," said Kevin Geddings.

The Indiana Judicial Nomination Commission nominated Bartholomew Circuit Court Judge Stephen R. Heimann, Evansville attorney Melissa Sue Mattingly, and Bloomington attorney Susan Huber Nelson for the open seat on the Indiana Court of Appeals. Not making the cut was Southern Indiana DA Judy Stewart. Credible Democratic sources had told HPR that Stewart was being considered for the Appeals nomination so that Attorney General Jeff Modisett could be appointed to the Southern DA post.

Miami County Republican Chairman Chris Herrell has resigned. He bought a house in Fulton County.

Former Vice President Dan Quayle will be hosting a fundraiser in Nashville, Tenn., in March, "smack in the middle of Lamar Alexander territory" (Knoxville News-Sentinel). The event is being organized by his sister-in-law, Nancy Northcott. Quayle will attend the Louisiana Republican Convention in early March along with Sen. Fred Thompson and Oliver North. Quayle's presidential campaign has also hired Gary Geipel as its Midwest field

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director. Geipel had been with the Hudson Institute.

House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Pat Bauer and Senate Finance Chairman Larry Borst are trading names and insults over the $100 rebate v. property tax cut debate. Both have ambushed each other's plans. On Monday, Borst explained, "I'm meeting with the governor this afternoon at 2:30. He's the key player. I doubt Pat Bauer is the key." Bauer, author of the $100 rebate plan, called the Senate plan - which 11 Democrats voted for - "a gimmick."

PERHAPS... WE WANDER

By Brian Howey

Hoosier Democrats in disbelief

MICHIGAN CITY - Former LaPorte County Democratic Chairman Shaw Friedman had the tone of mild incredulity in his voice: George Stephanopolous had suggested President Clinton might be impeached if he is found to have perjured himself.

"Could you believe that?" Friedman asked.

Hoosier Democrats had a similar reaction. They couldn't understand how Stephanopolous, who had been with the Clinton presidential campaigns from the earliest days and then served in a senior role in the first administration, could turn on him now. Of course Stephanopolous is currently an ABC News analyst and gets to shoot the breeze with Cokie Roberts, Sam Donaldson, George Will and Bill Kristol every Sunday.

HPR's Washington sources say Congressional Democrats are "uneasy" at best and "paranoid" over the allegations against the president and his refusal to talk about them.

But in a bizarre twist, the American people have propoelled Clinton to his highest approval ever. A *Wall Street Journal*-NBC poll on Feb. 7 showed President Clinton's approval rating to be an astounding 79 percent; 15 percent disapproved and 6 percent were unsure.

Most Hoosier Democrats point to Clinton's emphatic denial of any sexual relationship with intern Monica Lewinsky. He couldn't be lying, they said, just as many Indiana Republicans believed in President Nixon 20 years before.

Some, like U.S. Rep. Tim Roemer, are more cautious. "They'll judge the president once they get the facts," Roemer said of his constituents at his re-election announcemen (Jack Colwell, *South Bend Tribune*). But Roemer was whistling past the graveyard when he said that he expected only "minimal effect" from the scandal on his '98 campaign.

Everyone seemed to hold their breath when President Clinton resolutely declared he would "never" resign. Just as they did as Clinton looked wistful and bit his lip when CNN's Wolf Blitzer asked him if there was anything he wanted to say to Lewinsky. "That's good," Clinton said of Blitzer's sly question, followed by a blast of relief laughter.

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