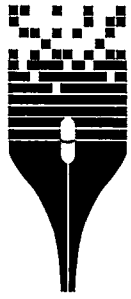
# THE HOWEY POLITICAL REPORT



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## "QUOTE" OF THE WEEK

"Air Force Two."

**- Dan Quayle after he was asked what he missed most about being vice president, in Fort Wayne.**

# Senate race debate sequence ends

## Price may have scored the kind of points needed

INDIANAPOLIS - The debate sequence in the Indiana Republican Senate race has concluded with no clear advantage to Paul Helmke, Peter Rusthoven or John Price on debate points.

That is, there were no flagrant goof-ups or factual faux pas. But if you look at what these three men needed to accomplish, Price with his tiny TV budget gained more than Helmke or Rusthoven.

Taking the debate sequence back to April 13 when the three appeared before the Indiana Christian Coalition, Price was clearly preaching to the choir and delivered what could be considered an ultra-conservative stance on issues ranging from Planned Parenthood funding to teenage pregnancy to the impeachment of the president.

The Christian Coalition debate was not widely seen, as only about 250 people attended and there was no television and little newspaper coverage. But Price won the straw poll, and news of that is making its way through the evangelical right's extensive e-mail, direct mail and word-of-mouth network.

During Sunday's WFYI-TV debate and Monday's WTHR-TV meeting that was also seen on WKJG-TV in Fort Wayne, all three candidates tried to pound home their basic themes. For Rusthoven, they are the need to make governmental decisions at the local level and his service to President Reagan. Helmke tried to capitalize on his stature as mayor of Fort Wayne, seeking a return of power from the federals to state and local government in a "limited" manner. Price's mantra was that of being a "compassionate conservative."

Price's debate strategy at first glance appeared to be a variation of an old Nixon strategy of "running to the right" in the primary and moving to the center during the general election. Price played the arch-conservative role to the hilt before the Christian Coalition, then struck the "compassionate" tone during the two TV debates,

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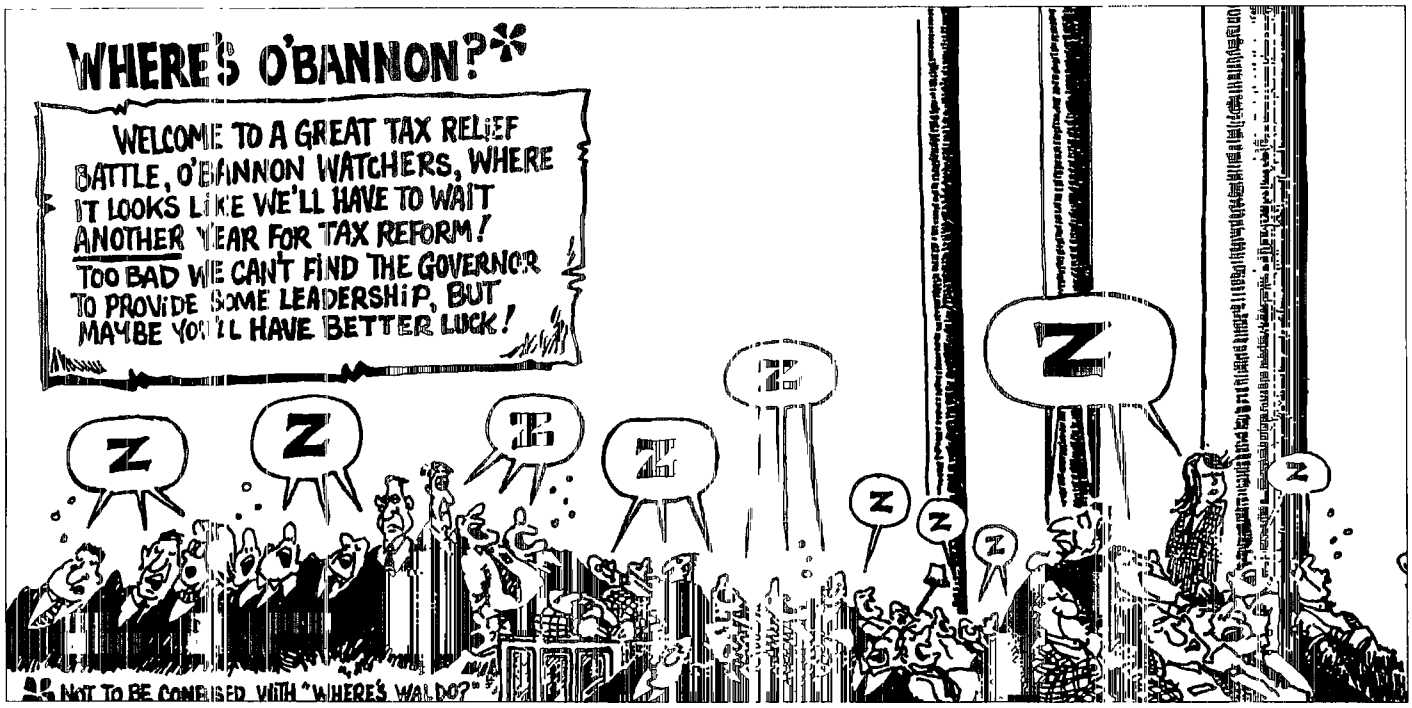
Bob Lang




# TICKER TAPE

**Evan Bayh had a cadre of senior associates at Sunday's WFYI-TV debate between Republican U.S. Senate candidates. Ann and Ed DeLaney and Les Miller all sat in the gallery. Also present was Brian Williams, who heads the Sycamore Institute, the Democratic think tank that sponsored the debate.**

**U.S. Rep. Dan Burton was running a TV ad in Indianapolis in which he says there is "still the need to cut taxes and regulation." Then he smiles and is seen wearing an Indiana Pacer's logo and Burton smiles and says, "Go Pacers." It was paid for by Burton's campaign committee and may be the**

*Continued on page 3*

## Senate, *from page 1*

using the phrase several times.

Price had a confident, matter-of-fact demeanor that may have soothed some moderate Republicans fearful that he would return the party to the inconoclastic ways of Sen. William Jenner, the Jesse Helms of his day. On the lone foreign policy question during the WFYI debate, the *South Bend Tribune's* Jack Colwell asked the contenders if they would be more like Dick Lugar or Helms. Last week before the Christian Coalition, Price was talking about making "pariah" nations out of countries like Mexico and Colombia. On WFYI, he first responded to the question by saying that he would "share office space with Sen. Lugar."

**He added, "There is no** question Dick Lugar is the Senate's leading foreign policy expert. As a very junior member, I would of course want to listen. But would I always be in his camp? Clearly I can't make those judgments."

Price did an excellent job of using props during the WTHR debate - something he has done since the earliest days of the race. When talk moved to a discussion on the flat tax, he produced a post-card tax form that Rep. Dick Armey has advocated. He brought out a dollar bill to make his point of the various stages of duplicate taxation, finally saying that either the Armey or Lugar flat tax plan would allow one generation of taxation. During the WFYI debate, he produced a full page clip of the *Wall Street Journal* that he said detailed the "high crimes and misdemeanors" of President Bill Clinton.

**Then there** were **his jabs** at Evan Bayh. Price took more shots at the Democrat than Rusthoven or Helmke combined. He talked about Bayh's $540,000 in PAC contributions, including $101,000 from "East Coast lawyers." Price ridiculed Bayh for wanting to be the "education governor" when the state stayed at a static 47th in national SAT scores. "He had eight years to do something about education."

Price accused Bayh of "sleeping in the Lincoln Bedroom," giving Clinton's Democratic convention keynote speech, and being his "best Hoosier friend." Price concluded of Bayh on Sunday night, "He will not vote to impeach Bill Clinton."

In contrast, Rusthoven and Helmke mixed it up over Clinton in a kinder, gentler fashion on WFYI. Helmke defended his introduction of Clinton to the U.S. Conference of Mayors like this: "I indicated I disagreed with him. I did give him a warm introduction. I don't think it's appropriate to spit on him at the White

# PLAY of the week

Peter Rusthoven, for going up on the air with a nice TV ad. Best part? The shot of him and President Reagan sharing a laugh. It shows how close he really was to the ultimate power and should help him with conservatives.

House. People are innocent until proven guilty."

Rusthoven countered that Helmke's introduction "was a bit more effusive" then he would have given. "He said he was honored to know him," Rusthoven said of Helmke. "I wouldn't have said that."

Then Rusthoven mentioned that Helmke had supported Clinton's "'93 tax hike."

When WTHR moderator John Stehr asked the trio "what separates you from the other candidates?" Price responded, "Because I can win. Put me in because I can beat Evan Bayh." That was a tactic attempting to defuse Price's biggest millstone: that while he might be able to mobilize a right wing confederacy in the primary, he can't win in the fall. No one challenged him. Rusthoven answered, "I am the best positive contrast to Evan Bayh." Then he followed that by saying that "my pledge is not to impeach Bill Clinton. I'll weigh the evidence."

**Helmke said, "I haven't just** been talking these issues, I've been doing these issues."

So, who scored the most points?

The *South Bend Tribune's* Colwell noted that the Mason-Dixon pollster conducting the Indiana surveys told him that in multiple Republican races like this one that have been waged in other states "the most conservative candidate always wins."

It will be the staunchest conservatives that Price has so actively and clandestinely courted beneath the watch of the mainstream political spectrum and news media that will be most likely to vote, the pollster maintained.

And Price was the only candidate to show up at the St. Joseph County 4-H Fairgrounds for last Saturday's gun and knife show. When a *South Bend Tribune* photographer tried to enter the complex to watch Price court the Second Amendment vote, he was barred from the building and was told that people there feared FBI or ATF infiltration.

**Price's apparent strategy** of hitting conservative buttons against Bill Clinton and Evan Bayh while describing himself as compassionate to make himself palatable to GOP moderates was artful.

There is little doubt that if Price wins the Republican nomination, his treatment of Evan Bayh will not be positive or respectful. The fangs will be bared and the race will be bloody and brutal and that's something Evan Bayh has never experienced from the likes of Rob Bowen, John Mutz and Linley Pearson.

Rusthoven commenced his statewide TV campaign Monday mornign with a heavy Indianapolis presence and a scheduled 407 ad buy. For instance, *Good Morning America* viewers on the ABC affiliate WRTV saw the ad run twice between 6:45 and 8 p.m. It was a "morning in America" type ad that included a great photo of Rusthoven and Reagan yukking it up.

Whether it will be enough to counter Price on the ground is the $64,000 question.

## Notice to our mail subscribers

**HPR will publish two more pre-primary election editions. The first will be a regular edition on April 30 that will give a full review of key legislative and congressional primaries. On Monday May 4 we will publish a special two-page fax edition with the latest campaign developments . For mail subscribers who would like to receive this Election Eve fax edition, please contact HPR at 317-254-1533 with a fax number where we can send this report.**

# TICKER TAPE

**first time a political candidate openly supported a professional sports team with campaign funds.**

**Gov. Frank O'Bannon does it again. He was shown on the front page of the South Bend Tribune wearing a jacket and baseball cap while scrapping weathered paint off windows as part of the "Christmas in April" program. O'Bannon was one of 2,000 volunteers who helped spruce up 42 homes of needy residents on the near Northwest side. And it was another example of how O'Bannon and his wife Judy have been able to present positive images of themselves while promoting charitable causes that is becoming a hallmark of his term in office.**

**Some Allen County Republicans are predicting that David Roach will win the 4th CD Democratic nomination over virtually unknown Democrats Mark Wehrle and Steven Hope. "People have heard of Roach before," said one source. The Fort Wayne Journal Gazette reported that in a voter's guide Allen County Democrats printed, Roach wasn't included because he has run for office as a Republican and Libertarian. "The beauty of our system is anyone can run for office," said Democratic Chairman Brian Stier. "That does not mean all candidates**

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## Primary Toss-Ups

1st - Lawson v. Ceperich, Katic

39th - Irsay v. Torr

## General Toss-Ups

34th - Vanleer v. Adams

46th - Tincher v. Lohr

53rd - Cherry or Higgins v. Wolf

54th - Saunders v. Hamilton

56th - Bodiker v. Paust or Dickson

97th - Mahern v. Schultz

## Open Seats

1st - Tabaczynski
9th - Alevizos
10th - Wilson
37th - Webber
49th - Warner
50th - Stephan
53rd -Gulling
73rd - Heeke

# 1998 Racing Form

## Good news for Republicans, Democrats, incumbents

There is good news for all!

A CNN/*USA Today*/Gallup poll shows that if the Congressional elections were held now, almost equal support would go to Republicans and Democrats. Most, 56 percent, said most members deserve to be re-elected. And good news for the GOP - 58 percent believe Congress has been a success since the Republicans took over in 1994. Speaker Newt Gingrich's approval/disapproval rating is now a balanced 45/46 percent. And Hoosier Democrats can take heart in a Mason-Dixon poll that shows that 79 percent of bipartisan registered voters won't let allegations against President Clinton affect their vote for any Democrat. Female said to the tune of 84 percent that it wouldn't impact their votes. That's good news for Gail Riecken, Baron Hill and Julia Carson.

HORSE RACE

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 or shows a candidate has momentum; **Likely** is 10 to 15 points; and **Solid** means watch out for a landslide.

### Senate Primary Race

**U.S. Senate: R Primary:** Fort Wayne Mayor Paul Helmke, Peter Rusthoven, John Price. **D Primary:** Evan Bayh. **HPR General Forecast:** Toss-Up v. Bayh. **1992 Results:** Coats 1,267,972, Hogsett 900,148. **1998 Forecast:** Dan Quayle met with Paul Helmke and Peter Rusthoven in Fort Wayne and sought to encourage the two, telling them that he was farther behind a Bayh in 1980 than they are now in the polls. We fully expect this race to go down to the wire. Of the three candidates, Helmke seems to be the one losing steam with little apparent grassroots support and not much money to go on TV. This race may come down to an act of God (i.e. the weather) and absentee balloting. A rainy, miserable day would favor John Price because his core of support appears more likely to go to the polls. Watch for Mason-Dixon poll at the end of the month. It will likely show a huge undecided bloc. It also should reflect the impact of Rusthoven's TV buy, which has been astute as far as time and exposure go in the Indianapolis market, but is somewhat small considering the task at hand. Also, note ballot order - Helmke, Price and Rusthoven (HPR - hey!) - that could hurt Rusthoven. Having said all that, don't be surprised if this race stays in the Toss-Up zone through the very end. **Primary Status:** Toss-Up

### Indiana House Primary Races

**House District 9: R Primary:** Bradley Allamong, Jeff Tucker. **D Primary:** Scott Pelath, Dennis Metheny. **Geography:** Michigan City, LaPorte County. **HPR General Forecast:** Pelath v. Allamong. **1994 results:** Alevizos (D) 11,202 (unopposed). **1996 Results:** Alevizos15,424 (unopposed). **1998 Forecast:** Metheny has a reputation for his cable access TV show but is widely dismissed by party regulars. We still see Pelath as the emerging Democrat. On the Republican side, Tucker is attempting to ride an anti annexation wave and may get some support, but Allamong's ties to the business community should allow him to prevail. **Primary Status:** Leans Pelath/Allamong.

**House District 22: R Primary:** Rep. Bill Ruppel, Wabash Commissioner Brian Haupert, Charles Tiede. **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:** Word in GOP circles is that Ruppel will do lge the bullet if for no other

reason than Tiede's entry in the race which made it a three-way affair. Had it been just Haupert vs. Ruppel, there would have been a different dynamic. **Primary Status:** *LEANS RUPPEL.*

House District 39: **R Primary:** Rep. Jerry Torr, Nancy Irsay. **D Primary:** Open. **Geography:** Lebanon, Zionsville, Carmel, Boone and Hamilton counties. **HPR General Forecast:** Toss-up. **1994 Results:** Willing (R) 15,974, unopposed. **1996 Results:** Torr 21,451, unopposed. **1998 Forecast:** This race continues to get the most media coverage. Indianapolis media reported Irsay's $66,000 finance report, including $63,000 of her own money, while Torr reports $51,000. WISH-TV featured this Irsay soundbite: "Some people can see something. I'm running to do something." That was followed by this bite from Torr, "I think public officials should be able to get broad-based support and getting money from others." That was probably not a wise thing to say in light of voter criticism of campaign finance methods. Irsay responded, saying, "I believe it's very important not to be beholden to any group other than the voters of this district." Torr, looking a bit bedraggled, also told WISH-TV that he was "campaigning full-time, living off savings." *Indianapolis Star* column by Larry McIntyre painted Irsay as a rich woman with personal assistants and parties in her pavilion. She is trying to dampen that by walking precincts in Lebanon. GOP oddsmakers are predicting that Torr will survive if for nothing else than he will probably have a better get-out-the-vote organization. But the intangible in this race is the extensive media coverage and a small turnout might help Irsay. **Primary Status:** Toss-Up.

House District 53: **R Primary:** Councilman Robert Cherry, Mark Higgins. **D Primary:** Sarah Wolf. **Geography:** Greenfield, Rushville, Hancock and Rush counties. **HPR General Forecast:** Cherry v. Wolf. **1994 Results:** Gulling (R) 13,945 unopposed. **1996 Results:** Gulling (R) 20,174 unopposed. **1998 Forecast:** Higgins and Cherry mixed it up in a debate in Fortville. Cherry said there is no state budget surplus. Higgins responded, "The state does have a surplus. Simply stated, the state is extracting more money from you than is necessary to meet state expenditures." Higgins said it is "not the function of government to enrich the bottom line." HPR wrongly reported last week that the Indiana Farm Bureau endorsed Cherry. It was a local Farm Bureau unit that did. Still view this race as a toss-up due to turnout factors: how small will the general turnout be compared to core support on the Christian right that Senate candidate John Price is attempting to get to the polls. If he succeeds, Higgins will benefit and this could be a close race. **Primary Status:** Toss-Up.

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:** Just as we predicted, The General will weigh in on behalf of Bales. Coach Bob Knight will appear with Bales at 7 p.m. April 29 in Bloomfield HS. Flier features photo of Knight with Bales. U.S. Rep. David McIntosh endorses Ellington. "He's the only real Republican in the primary," said McIntosh to a lively rally of 65 Ellington supporters at the Monroe County courthouse that included David Lohr and George Witwer (Steve Hinnefield, *Bloomington Herald-Times*). Bales responded, "I certainly would not want McIntosh to endorse me. I don't believe in his radical thinking and wanting to shut down government, that sort of thing. That's not my type of politics." In an April 14 debate, the two candidates mixed it up over taxes. Said Ellington, "At a time when we all agree the federal tax system is a disgrace, why does my opponent want to move Indiana in that direction?" Bales said, "If you think you can cut property taxes without raising other taxes, you're trying to deceive the public and you're not being honest." Bales has fund-raiser hosted by Carolyn Cook, Democratic chairman of the Indiana Women's Network PAC. Bales calls the I-69 extension to Evansville "an absolute waste of money." HPR still sees this race slipping away from Bales. Knight's town meeting on behalf of Bales should be one of the most memorable political gigs in legislative history. **Primary Status:** Leans Ellington.

House District 94: **R Primary:** Rep. Candy (Morris) Marendt. **D Primary:** Jeb Bardon, Ricky Hence, John Steinkamp.. **Geography:** NW Indianapolis. **HPR General Forecast:** Marendt v. Hence. **1994 Results:** Morris (Marendt) 7,838, Reasoner 5,537. **1996 Results:** Marendt

# TICKER TAPE

**are created equal. Dave Roach has never aligned himself with any particular party."**

**Former State Rep. Jon Padfield and his wife Laura have joined the board of directors of the Indiana Family Institute.**

**Secretary of State Sue Anne Gilroy, facing the very real possibility that she may not have an opponent this fall, is pushing the spending cap proposal long championed by Hudson Institute economist Bill Styring, who has pushed that issue with the likes of George Witwer and Stephen Goldsmith in the past. Speaking before the Indiana Republican platform committee, Gilroy stated, "I request that we include in our platform a call for legislation and a constitutional amendment to limit government spending to the rate of inflation and population growth or personal income growth. The spending cap could only be overridden by a 2/3 vote of the Indiana House and Senate."**

**Gov. O'Bannon's staff bristled at the notion of signing on to the spending cap proposal being promoted not only by Gilroy but by Eric Miller's new organization, Advance America. The administration maintained that Gilroy had signed the pledge before it**

*continued on page 6*

# TICKER TAPE

**was even presented to the governor for review. They then suggested he wouldn't have signed even if they had. Kevin Shaw Kellems of Gilroy's campaign called it a "big mistake" on O'Bannon's part and said legislative races will be waged on the issue.**

**Gov. O'Bannon is taking credit for a $30 million business deal that will allow Reilly Industries of Indianapolis to build a chemical plant in China. "We had not been expecting any touchdowns on this trip. We simply were lucky to be in the right place at the right time to help an Indiana company secure a foothold in China."**

**U.S. Rep. Mark Souder has called on the Clinton administration to uphold a ban on the federally funded needle exchange program. Souder said the failure to do so "would amount to an act of surrender in the War on Drugs." Souder was in Santiago, Chile, with Drug Czar Gen. Barry McCaffrey when he made the remarks. "That the president can even consider doing this at a time when Gen. McCaffrey is here in Chile with us discussing international cooperation in the drug war shows he's not committed to the battle."**

**Baron Hill will be the keynote speaker at the Floyd County**

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10,396, Hinman 9,586, Neal 422. **1998 Forecast:** Still see Hence as the man to beat in the Democratic primary after he picked up the party slating nod. But Bardon has been active in Democratic circles and could press Hence if turnout is tiny. **Primary Status:** Leans Hence.

## Indiana Congressional Primaries

### Congressional District 9:

**R Primary:** Jean Leising, Michael Bailey, Cecil Copley. **D Primary:** Baron Hill, Fred Holt. **Geography:** New Albany Jeffersonville, Madison, Nashville and SE Indiana. **HPR General Forecast:** Leising v. Hill. 1994 results: Hamilton 91,459, Leising 84,315. **1996 Results:** Hamilton 128,885, Leising 97,747, Feeney (L) 2,315. **1998 Forecast:** Leising campaign is wobbling down the primary homestretch and that really raises the possibility of a Michael Bailey repeat of 1992 - a stunning upset. Leising reports $36,147 raised from Jan. 1-March 31 FEC reporting period and has $17,249 cash on hand. These are small amounts for a campaign that accepts PAC money. Scott Boyce is the third campaign manager this year, replacing Dan Craig who lasted six weeks, and Margaret Menge, who was on board only a month. That kind of turnover only perpetuates the rap against Leising that she alienates key Republicans and has chronic staffing problems. Another problem is the Indiana Right-to-Life PAC voted to stay neutral in this race, even though it endorsed her in 1994. Bailey claims to have 500 volunteers distributing 250,000 (some 40,000 in a direct mail campaign ) of his campaign newspaper and in all candor, said, "It is doubtful that we will reach our goal of 500,000 newspapers distributed." He has also taken to campaigning in Wal-Mart parking lots, which isn't the most efficient way to meet people. Bailey notes that Leising has been unable to get the endorsement of the 9th CD Republican Chairman Max Middendorf, but 20 of the 21 county chairs have endorsed Leising. Leising has been well-received in Lincoln Day circuit and many question the "New Michael Bailey" that is attempting to erase memories of his 1992 campaign where he ran television ads of aborted fetuses. Local press is telling HPR that Bailey has a shot at winning the primary. Again, it is a similar scenario that Price is working in the U.S. Senate race: motivate a core of evangelicals, right-to-life, Second Amendment, anti-gambling and home schoolers to the polls. A small turnout or bad weather increases the chances of Bailey pulling off another upset. **Republican Primary Status:** Toss-Up.

### Congressional District 10:

**R Primary:** Virginia Blankenbaker, Gary Hofmeister, Marvin Scott, Jack Hartford, Jack Reynolds. **D Primary:** U.S. Rep. Julia Carson, Suzanne Fischman. **Geography:** Indianapolis. **HPR General Forecast:** Blankenbaker v. Carson. **1994 results:** Jacobs (D) 58,573, Scott 50,998. **1996 Results:** Carson 85,965 Blankenbaker 72,796, St. Angelo (L) 3,505 . **1998 Forecast:** Hofmeister running a heavy television buy, but Blankenbaker campaign seems sanguine. There are no plans for a TV campaign, with Blankenbaker believing her 25 point lead will hold up. She began running a 60-second radio advertisement this past week. Titled "Gutsy," it begins with the announcer saying, "Virginia Blankenbaker, strength through leadership." Blankenbaker then says, "Sometimes you have to fight for what you believe in. That's why as a state senator I wrote the law that shut down pornographic bookstores." Hofmeister is pressing Blankenbaker on the abortion issue. Campaign manager Mike Young contended that Blankenbaker's position on partial birth abortion in the *Indianapolis Star* "misled" voters into thinking she was pro-life. "Virginia should have stated her entire position on abortion - that she is not and never has been pro-life. Watch for Hofmeister to press this abortion stance in his TV campaign in the final weeks of the campaign. **Republican Primary status:** Leans Blankenbaker.

# HORSE RACE

*Brian A. Howey*

# COLUMNISTS ON INDIANA

**Sylvia Smith,** *Fort Wayne Journal Gazette* - Indiana Republicans have spoken: The next senator to be sworn in from the Hoosier state will be Evan Bayh. Republicans are seriously disengaged from the May 5 primary and the struggle among Paul Helmke, John Price and Peter Rusthoven. It's tempting to say GOP voters are bored with this campaign. But a more accurate analysis is they're fatalistic and practical. They look at Bayh's numnbers - his popularity, his name recognition, his money - and then they look at Helmke, Price and Rusthoven. Even lumped together as a group, the three don't begin to compete with Bayh. Someone will win the primary, of course. As of March 31, Bayh had $3.2 million in the bank. The three Republicans collectively had $130,966. If you subtract their debts, they've got $110,312. But Republicans, who haven't taken their checkbooks out for Helmke, Price or Rusthoven, are saying they really don't care who wins. ✍

**Charlie Cook,** *Roll Call* - Independent counsel Kenneth Starr's surprise announcement that he was nowhere near completing his investigation of President Clinton had nearly everyone in Washington scratching their heads last week. It had been reported, and commonly assumed, that a report to the House suggesting potentially impeachable offenses would be arriving on the Hill by the end of May. Then, it was thought, Congressional Republicans would be faced with a difficult decision about how to proceed. Had Starr sent such a report to the House next month, there would have been an ear-splitting clamor from the more partisan and conservative elements of the GOP in general, and the House Republican Conference in particular, for an immediate start to impeachment hearings. At the same time, moderates and pragmatists would have argued for a go-slow approach, not wanting to commit the party to the impeachment path in the absence of a bombshell "smoking gun" disclosure that might persuade a skeptical public (and at least some Congressional Democrats) that impeachment was a realistic possibility and something that should be seriously considered. Likewise, it's easy to imagine battles erupting in the Republican Conference beween Northeastern and Mid-Atlantic moderates representing potentially competitive districts, such as Reps. Nancy Johnson and Connie Morella on one side, and conservatives from safe Republican districts , such as Dan Burton and Majority Leader Dick Armey on the other. ✍

**Brian Howey,** *HPR* - It is hard to forget the long and perplexed faces of such Republican party leaders as John Sweezy of Marion County, delegates, and members of the news media. They were truly stunned when George Witwer won a GOP convention floor fight for the lieutenant governor's nomination in 1996. That June day was fascinating. Witwer used the political apparatus of U.S. Rep. Mark Souder to run the convention floor with vote counting and maneuvers that were worthy of an effort on a national scale. They were the only ones who knew what was really going on. Everyone else was clueless. The delegates that propelled Witwer to that nomination were the core of the state's social conservative movement - a loose confederation of Indiana Right to Life and other anti-abortion organizations, home schoolers, the Second Amendment movement, and the Indiana Christian Coalition. By winning the nomination for Witwer in 1996, they joined a small group of Midwestern states like Iowa and Minnesota where power was seized from reigning "moderates." There is a decent chance that May 5 will be the social conservative movement's Hoosier encore. Price could seize the Senate nomination. But the danger for Republicans - as they found out in Iowa and Minnesota - is that the social conservative movement peaks in the primaries and conventions, only to face disaster in November. ✍

# TICKER TAPE

**Democrats' annual Jefferson-Jackson Day Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Friday at the Robert E. Lee Inn.**

**The Indiana Democratic Editorial Association's summer convention in French Lick will feature tributes to retiring U.S. Rep. Lee Hamilton as well as a send-off for the fall campaign of Evan Bayh. Hamilton will be the keynote speaker for the state Jefferson-Jackson Day dinner in Indianapolis on May 9 at the Westin Hotel. "It is fitting that in this, the 150th year of the Democratic Party that we honor a great individual such as Lee Hamilton," said Chairman Joe Andrew. Tickets can be ordered by calling 1-800-223-3387 or 317-231-7100.**

**Dan Quayle spoke to 750 St. Joseph County Republicans in Mishawaka despite arriving three hours late due to mechanical problems on his plane in Virginia. Jack Colwell of the South Bend Tribune wrote, "He didn't start speaking until 9:07 p.m., almost two hours behind the original schedule, but Quayle's 21-minute address had enough zingers aimed at President Clinton and Vice President Gore to stave off the crowd's restlessness." Quayle said the "real architect" of today's robust economy was President Reagan. And even though the economy is good, he said, "America is in moral**

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# TICKER TAPE

decline."

**The IU College Democrats put out a press release for its Monroe County Sheriff debate on April 22. It opened by saying, "This town isn't big enough for all six of them."**

**Vanderburgh County Councilman Phil Hoy has officially jumped from the Republican to the Democratic Party. "It's good to be back home," said Hoy, the first Evansville politician to change parties while in office. He called 1996 Lincoln Day speeches by Steve Goldsmith, Rex Early and George Witwer "mean-spirited" and said they began his thoughts of switching parties.**

# Democrats vow to run a full ticket

SOUTH BEND - State Sen. Cleo Washington's entry into the race for state treasurer is the first move of what will be filling out the rest of the ticket. There had been speculation that Democrats might not run anyone against Secretary of State Sue Anne Gilroy, concentrating their resources instead on forging a majority in the 50/50 split Indiana House.

Washington had considered a run against Gilroy, but has opted for a race against Republican Allen County Treasurer Tim Berry "He will bring focus back to an office that has suffered under the erratic, wacky management of Joyce Brinkman for too long," said Democratic Chairman Joe Andrew.

Democrats describe the freshman African-American senator from South Bend as someone who understands the treasurer's office and duties and will be able to propose innovative programs and public policy. Washington is not up for re-election to the Senate in 1998

Reliable Democratic sources tell HPR that Gov. Frank O'Bannon, Chief of Staff Tom New, Andrew, Political Director Robin Winston, Executive Director Mike Harmless, Speaker John Gregg and others met about six weeks ago to plan how to proceed with filling out the Democratic ticket. The source told HPR, "We all got our marching orders. There is coordination."

"We are not going to give a race away."

The source sought to dispel rumors published in *Indiana Legislative Insight* that said there was a schism between the Bayh and O'Bannon wings of the party.

As for who will run against Gilroy, Democrats approached State Sen. Vi Simpson, but she turned the race down. Two other females are pondering a run at Gilroy, but Democrats are reluctant to identify them. The female mayors of Michigan City, Hobart and Greencastle have already publicly turned down a run for state office.

Winston had suggested to 9th CD Democrats last October that the party had consider pouring most of its resources into House races. It might also deprive Gilroy of the publicity she could use to propel her to the 2000 Republican gubernatorial nomination.

While that was under consideration, the consensus that has developed is that a strong, statewide ticket would be better for the party.

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