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"QUOTE" OF THE WEEK

President Clinton "has the values to lead America into the 21st century...."

- Then Gov. Evan Bayh, in his keynote address to the 1996 Democratic National Convention, as quoted in a Paul Helmke for Senate TV commercial

Helmke's morality ad is key indicator

A windsock in swirling environment

By BRIAN A. HOWEY

INDIANAPOLIS - Potentially, it was seen as one of the most devastating salvos a Republican could fire at Evan Bayh. It was one HPR has speculated on for *two years*.

There was Evan Bayh, with President Clinton at his side in Michigan City and Chicago during the Democratic National Convention, saying that his commander-in-chief "has the values to lead America into the 21st century."

Hoosier reporters knew that day that Indiana Republicans dubbed and archived those remarks and Bayh's keynote address in Chicago for use ... right now.

"Values?" asks GOP Senate candidate Paul Helmke with the ad ending with, "Send Dick Lugar a Republican partner" and a photo of both Republicans.

With Helmke pulling from a 56-31 point deficit in late September to a 54-36 margin now, and with the ad running in the South Bend and Indianapolis TV markets, it was one of the few signs that the Helmke campaign was moving in the right direction. It prompted Bayh campaign manager Tom Sugar to denounce it as a "negative, mud-slinging attack." Which it isn't. President Clinton has made his own morality fair game. Bayh helped launch his second term.

It was the most conspicuous fare in a week where Hoosier political operatives tried to gauge what can only be described as a swirling environment. Look at the polls:

■ The *Washington Post* (Oct. 8-10 of "adults" +/-3 percent) had Democrats leading the Congressional generic by 5 percent among likely voters. Clinton's job approval was 67 percent.

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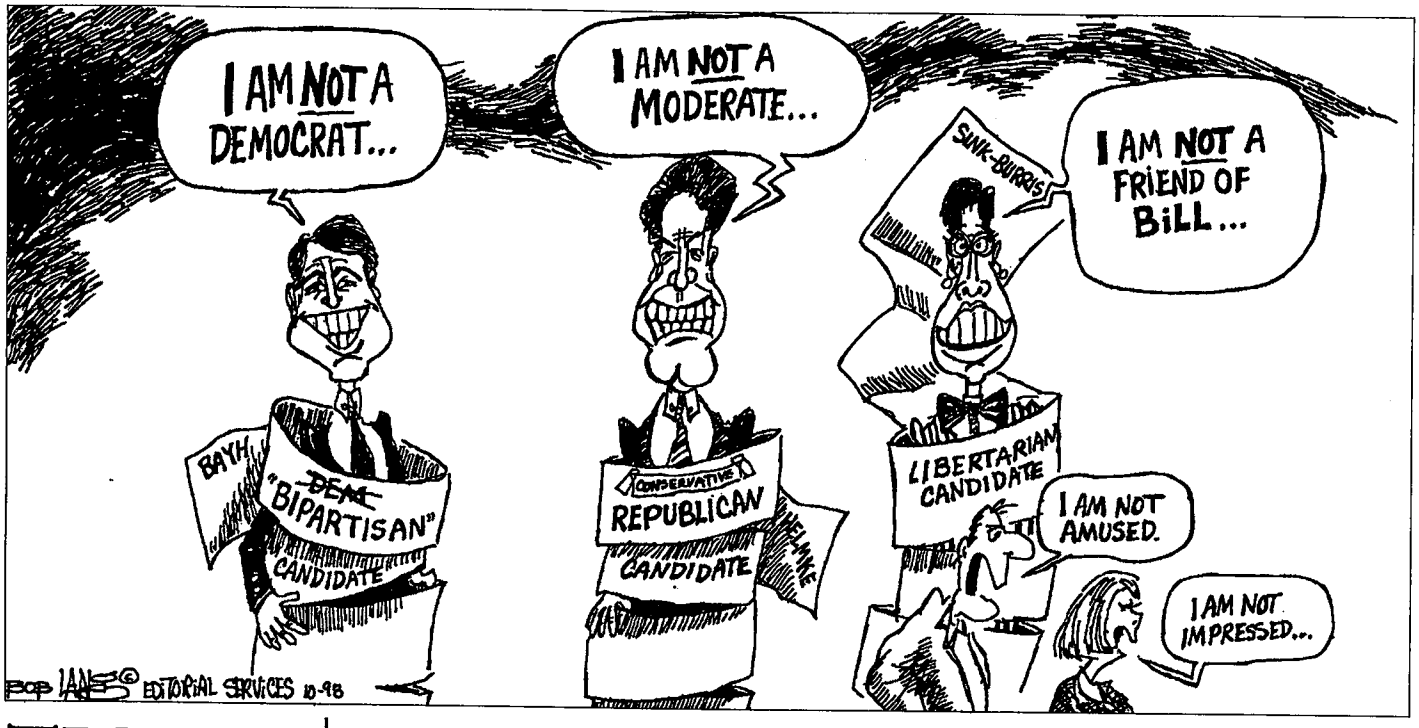
BOB LANG



TICKER TAPE

The Starr Report is No. 1 on the New York Times' non-fiction bestseller list.

US Rep. Lee Hamilton voted for the Republican impeachment resolution because "I do not want to cut the whole process off now," he said on ABC's "Good Morning America" last week. The man who hopes to succeed him, 9th CD Democratic nominee Baron Hill, however, would have voted for the Democratic approach, but not the Republican one. "I am disappointed in the president and believe he should be held accountable for his behavior...The impeachment inquiry should go forward. I do have a problem with the

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Swirling, *from page 1*

■ *Newsweek* (Oct. 8-9, +/- 4 percent) had Republicans leading the Congressional generic by 49-41 percent among likey voters. Clinton's job approval was at 58 percent.

■ Fox News had the Republicans with a 9-point edge (Oct. 7-8, +/-3). Clinton's approval rating was 65 percent.

■ Closer to home, an Oct. 2 Ohio poll had Republicans leading the Congressional generic 46-35 percent.

Late last week, there was widespread talk of a backlash against Republicans over the handling of the impeachment proceedings. But two Hoosier Democrats - the outspoken Rep. Tim Roemer and statesman Rep. Lee Hamilton - were two of the 31 Democrats who defected. They know their constituents. All of this data - with the exception of the *Post's* polling - reveals that the Clinton scandal has legs here in Indiana - probably to the benefit of Republicans in what 10th CD challenger Gary Hof-meister calls a "referendum on our moral compass."

IU pollster Brian Vargus told the *Lafayette Journal and Courier*, "A year ago, people disengaged from the political process - people felt it was not relevant to their lives." Today, Vargus said, people have "re-engaged" either due to outrage at Clinton or outrage at the GOP's handling of the Starr Report.

Helmke's Bayh/Clinton/Morality ad should have been a decisive blow that could have given him momentum in this race in what might have been the ultimate Indiana upset. Helmke failed to engage Bayh in late spring and early summer to bring the polling gap into a zone to capture momentum. He was unable to bloody Bayh sufficiently over Clinton in the two televised debates.

Now Helmke's aggressive ad could be a windsock as to whether President Clinton and those associated with him will pay a price for the Big Lewinsky. If Helmke's numbers spike up in the next round of polls, it will be a key indicator that the issue has legs in Indiana. That would be the best news for CD candidates Gary Hofmeister, Jean Leising and John Hostettler and the state ticket. ❖

Burton, McIntosh scandal investigations will continue to hound President Clinton

By Mark Schoeff Jr.
Howey Political Report

WASHINGTON - An impeachment inquiry focused on President Clinton's alleged attempt to cover up an affair with a former White House intern is only one of several scandals facing the White House.

Two other investigations, headed by Hoosier congressmen, made noise last week. The question is whether the House Judiciary Committee will make them part of its impeachment proceedings or will simply listen and continue to concentrate on Lewinsky.

The House Government Reform and Oversight Committee, chaired by Rep. Dan Burton (R-CD 6), issued an interim report on its campaign finance probe that said the Democratic National Committee had failed to return $1.8 million in illegal and suspect campaign contributions from foreign sources. He will forward the interim report to the Justice Department and the Federal Election Commission. The DNC said it has returned all illegal and inappropriate contributions. Democrats called the report flaccid and blasted Burton for wasting taxpayer money on the investigation.

Separately, a report from the House Government Reform and Oversight Subcommittee, headed by Rep. David McIntosh (R-CD 4), accused White House aides of using lists from a White House database to augment DNC fund-raising efforts. Such a conversion constitutes "theft of government property," according to the McIntosh document.

Both reports were issued because of a requirement for committees to report about their activities at the end of a Congress. Neither report argues that the president committed impeachable offenses. But under the impeachment inquiry resolution approved last week by the House, the Judiciary Committee is not limited to the Lewinsky affair in its investigation. Burton has given the report to Judiciary Committee Chairman Henry Hyde (R-Ill), said Burton spokesman John Williams.

CONGRESS WATCH

The committee, its freedom of action notwithstanding, may ignore both Burton and McIntosh. More evidence of impeachable offenses may come from other investigations being conducted by Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr or by other House panels. One, chaired by California Democratic Rep. Chris Cox, is exploring whether the United States gave China sensitive satellite technology after Chinese campaign contributions to the Democratic Party.

"The committee's eyes are more on Starr or Cox," than the Burton and McIntosh probes, said Mike Copher, spokesman for Rep. Steve Buyer (R-CD 5), a member of the Judiciary Committee.

Curtis Gans, director of the Committee for the Study of the American Electorate, said, "As far as I can see, there is nothing serious in the campaign finance inquiry affecting the president or vice president."

One prominent Republican political analyst said the impeachment inquiry is unlikely to go beyond the allegations of perjury, obstruction of justice and witness tampering connected to the Lewinsky affair. "Republicans have excessively high hopes for these other scandals," said William Kristol, editor of the *Weekly Standard*, a conservative magazine. "Lewinsky is the scandal in which the president is clearly and personally involved. If they don't have the nerve to

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open-ended Republican proposal. I feel that this inquiry needs to have a specific end date in sight," Hill said in a statement. This split may be highlighted when Hamilton appears with Hill over the course of six or seven days during the last two weeks of the campaign. But the Hill organization is approaching the difference of opinion with equanimity. "We don't want (the impeachment inquiry) to overshadow our issues," said Michele Muller, Hill*s press secretary. "Lee is an independent thinker. We'll stress that Lee can speak his own mind and we respect that and can come together in the end."
Hill and Hamilton will be going door-to-door in the district and participating in more high profile events, Muller said. Hill will focus on Social Security and health care.

Brad Allamong, the Republican nominee for HD9, was charged with leaving the scene of an accident after the car he was driving struck a tree. Allamong told police he had two beers earlier in the evening and attributed the accident to fatigue. HPR had been tracking HD9 until two weeks ago and is forecasting an easy win by Democrat Scott Pelath.

The number of home schoolers in Indiana has

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jumped from 2,553 five years ago to 9,940 now, according to Karen Lane of the Indiana Department of Education (Laura Emerson, Fort Wayne Journal Gazette). The Education Research Institute estimates there are now 1.5 million students home-schooled nationwide, up from 300,000 in 1990.

Republican Senate primary runnerup John R. Price is leading a movement to challenge the constitutionality of Indiana's seatbelt enforcement law. "When you watch those World War II movies and see the Nazi officer walking up to a person who's just walking along, and saying, 'Let me see your papers!' it's the same thing," said Price. The Hamilton County attorney believes a Hendricks County judge will rule Nov. 10 that the seatbelt law is unconstitutional.

The Indiana Christian Coalition is characterizing the looming legislative battle over homosexual adoptions by saying, "One of the most critical battles for the preservation of the family has begun." Jim Quinn of the ICC stated, "Gay activists are mobilizing across Indiana to defeat legislation which would prohibit homosexual couples from adopting children. One of the keys to passage of this legislation is vocal public support for a prohibition of

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Scandals, *from page 3*

impeach the president for that, then I don't think they're going to impeach him for anything."

Another capital sage agreed that campaign finance probably won't reach the level of congressional action that the Lewinsky affair has achieved. But trying to predict the future is perilous in this volatile political year. "Nobody has the foggiest idea what's going to happen until after the election," said *Washington Post* political columnist E.J. Dionne Jr. "If the GOP does well, they could be emboldened to push this in many different directions. If the Democrats do well, it will give them pause. I don't think the future is knowable."

A home state colleague is calling for the Burton campaign finance findings to be incorporated into the Judiciary Committee impeachment inquiry. "Through his special orders and floor statements," Rep. Mark Souder (R-CD 4) has "been reinforcing the importance of looking at all the matters under investigation," said Souder spokeswoman Angela Flood.

Burton will forge ahead with his investigation in the next Congress. "They're going to try to run the clock out on every investigation," Burton said on CNN's Late Edition. "We should get to the bottom of this for the American people."

Burton is pushing Attorney General Janet Reno to appoint an independent counsel to investigate campaign finance. More than 120 witnesses that the Burton panel has tried to question have asserted their Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination or have fled the country. A day after Burton issued his interim report, the DNC turned over 10 boxes of documents that he had subpoenaed more than a year ago.

"The campaign finance investigation has much greater ramifications than Monica Lewinsky for the country because we may have compromised our national security," said Williams. He also criticized the Justice Department. "They have no intention of following this trail into the White House."

The Burton committee passed a resolution citing Reno for contempt of Congress for refusing to turn over a memo from the FBI director and the head of the Justice campaign finance investigation calling for the appointment of an independent counsel. The contempt citation may come up if the House comes back into session after the election, Williams said.

A federal judge last week dealt a blow to the Burton investigation. In his ruling, U.S. District Judge Paul Friedman said soft-money contributions to political parties from foreign sources are legal. Soft-money cannot be spent on activities that directly support a candidate. It can be used for get-out-the-vote or issue ads. Williams said Burton "emphatically disagrees with the ruling and hopes it will be appealed to the Supreme Court."

> 'Nobody has the foggiest idea what's going to happen until after the election. If the GOP does well, they will be emboldened....
>
> - E.J. Dionne

For now, the campaign inquiry is being blocked out of media coverage by the Lewinsky colossus. "It's all Monica all day and all night," Williams said. "That doesn't rule out the fact that other important investigations are ongoing."

The McIntosh report deserves attention, too, said McIntosh spokesman Chris Jones. "There are still significant questions about presidential involvement with the design and implementation of the database for DNC fund-raising," he said.

Clinton is unlikely to avoid campaign questions during the rest of his term. "The campaign finance scandal will putter along throughout the life of this administration," said Dionne.❖

COLUMNISTS ON INDIANA

Dave Kitchell, *Logansport Pharos-Tribune*- Just when we started thinking about that dark period when Richard Nixon exited 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, an idea that went out shortly after he did is resurfacing. Reinstating the military draft is an idea that has been raised by Rep. Steve Buyer, who chairs the House National Security Subcommittee on Military Personnel. According to Buyer's office, Buyer was quoted as saying the draft, which has not been used since the end of the Vietnam War, may be a good idea. "A lot of young people are escaping their civic responsibilies," Buyer said. "There are benefits to a draft." Buyer asked the obvious rhetorical question: Have we reached the point where we can no longer fill the ranks with the all-volunteer force? Buyer's opponent in the Nov. 3 election, Logansport Democrat David Steele said he would not support reinstating the draft. "I was disturbed to hear Mr. Buyer hint that reinstating the draft might be the way to address shortfalls in military recruiting. Common sense would dictate that we look at increasing compensation and benefits for military personnel - which have consistently lagged behind the private sector."❖

Gary Gerard, *Warsaw Times-Union* - Lots of people I have talked to about the Bill Clinton sex scandal want to know who these pollsters are polling. They find it difficult to believe that 60-some percent of Americans think Clinton is doing a good job. I've been thinking a lot about that and I have come to some conclusions. I think most of the people I talk to about things are fairly well informed about the issues. That, however, is not the case with most Americans. Believe it or not, the public is pretty clueless when it comes to the Clinton scandals. And the White House is playing on that scandal illiteracy. ❖

Jim Walker, *Greenfield Daily Reporter* - It's wrong to vote for a party. Elections are about picking the right person. See, I don't think there's a good political party. Most are at their worst when they become truly partisan - fighting a war with each other that leaves the American people as victims in the middle. While being a liberal - which often just means "open-minded" - has its good points, many people take it far beyond the realm of reason. Example: I'm for equal rights for all people no matter what their race, gender, or sexual orientation might be. But I'm against affirmative action. I'm against quotas and special rights for anybody. ❖

Morton Kondracke, *Roll Call* - Everyone who hoped, feared or predicted that the Monica Lewinsky case would dominate the November election campaign may be proved wrong. In a sense it's unfortunate. The outcome of the elections may well determine Clinton's fate in the impeachment process, but there's no sign that either Democrats or Republicans plan to make it the central issue of their campaigning over the next three weeks. Republicans, if they score big gains - the expectations-game standard is now at 15 House seats and five Senate seats - may well declare they have a mandate to impeach Clinton, but they don't plan to openly seek one on the hustings. And Democrats, understandably, seem eager to get back to their standard issues of education, Social Security, health care and the environment, rather than make the election about Clinton.❖

TICKER TAPE

homosexual adoptions."

Former Indiana Republican Chairman Gordon Durnil sent an e-mail in which he recalled the great war photo coverage of the century, including WWII photos on the EXTRA editions of his paper route. "Those photos of Haitians drowning on boats as they sought freedom caused concern and we sent troops. The photos of starving people in Somalia bothered us and we sent troops. Now it's photos of Albanians being forced to hide on cold mountain tops in Kosovo that are to move us to action. On Oct. 7th, on the front page of the Indianapolis Star, we saw one of those photos - in color. It showed three refugees in a tent - sleeping on straw - one talking into a cell phone." Durnil then asked, "Have I lived too long?"

Hoosier astronaut David Wolf is featured in public service announcements urging people to vote.

U.S. Sen. Richard Lugar reacted to President Clinton's veto of the Agriculture Appropriations Bill by saying, "This veto makes no sense to American agriculture and it was totally irresponsible. It is a high stakes game of poker being played by the president because of his political troubles. This is

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Indiana Racing Form

TOSS-UPS (5)

30TH - BURKHARDT V. HERRELL

46TH - LOHR V. TINCHER

56TH - PAUST V. BODIKER

94TH - MARENDT V. BARDON

97TH - SCHULTZ V. MAHERN

LEANS R (5)

24TH - McCLAIN V. FINCHER

26TH - SCHOLER V. CLAPPER

53RD - CHERRY V. WOLF V. MILLER

54TH - HAMILTON V. SAUNDERS

60TH - ELLINGTON V. WELCH

LEANS D (3)

19TH - KUZMAN V. GASPAROVIC

34TH - VANLEER V. ADAMS

80TH - BECKER V. GIA QUINTA

Generic numbers come in a very different climate

HORSE RACE

The latest spate of Congressional generic polls (see pages 1 and 2) seem to refute a backlash against Republicans and several show the GOP up 8 to 11 percent, which was far greater than in 1994. Yet no one is talking about huge Republican pickups. Our key Capitol Hill GOP source says Republicans are looking at an 8- to 12-seat pickup. "It will be a fairly status quo election. There's not a lot of volatility," our source said, adding that in 1994 the approval rating of Congress was about 19 percent at this point, compared with current numbers in the upper 40s to low 60s. "It is a very different political environment."

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, say, 9 percent; **Likely** is about 10 to 15 points and a good gut feeling, and **Solid** means watch out for a landslide.

INDIANA CONGRESSIONAL RACES

Congressional District 8: Republican: U.S. Rep. John Hostettler. **Democrat:** Evansville Councilwoman Gail Riecken. **Libertarian:** Paul Hager. **Geography:** Evansville, Bloomington, Vincennes and SW Indiana. **1994 results:** Hostettler 93,529, McCloskey 84,857. **1996 Results:** Hostettler 109,582, Weinzapfel (D) 106,134, Hager (L) 3,799. **1998 Forecast:** Hostettler seems nervous - possibly due to the absence of Curt Smith from his staff - and uncharacteristically aggressive. He spent some of his ad budget responding to a League of Conservation Voter attack ad two weeks ago. His ads attack Riecken's support of a gay rights bill, coming just before the Wyoming murder of a gay college student that has drawn national attention. Riecken's response was weak: that she personally supports the legislation but would have voted against it to reflect the district's desires. Clinton scandal threat seems to be receding a bit for Riecken. Hostettler's Christian base will certainly be invigorated, but Democratic vote suppression may be mitigated. Democrats in the 8th CD aren't as demoralized as they were two weeks ago. We still think this race will be decided by 3,000 votes or fewer. **Status:** *Toss-Up.*

Congressional District 9: Republican: Jean Leising. **Democrat:** Baron Hill. **Libertarian:** Diane L. Feeney. **Geography:** New Albany Jeffersonville, Madison, Nashville and SE Indiana. **1994 results:** Hamilton 91,459, Leising 84,315. 1996 Results: Hamilton 128,885, Leising 97,747, Feeney (L) 2,315. **1998 Forecast:** Leising went up on TVon Monday. Hill has had a two-week lead of heavy advertising. Hill has out-raised Leising $800,000 to $500,000, although Leising has benefitted from NRCC ads. NRCC sees the 9th as one of its best chances for a pickup. In a debate last Thursday, Hill says he would have supported the Democratic impeachment plan limiting the scope. Leising would support the victorious GOP approach. Richard Benedetto in *USA Today* reports that local Democrats don't see President Clinton's actions as impeachable, but "local Republicans want to see Clinton punished." *Indiana Legislative Insight's* Ed Fiegenbaum tells Benedetto, "This election is Hill's to lose, but Leising is gaining ground." Past polls show Leising with a lead, but a lot has happened since then. We see this one going to the wire and too close to call now. **Status:** *Toss-Up.*

Congressional District 10: Republican: Gary Hofmeister. **Democrat:** U.S. Rep. Julia Carson. **Libertarian:** Fred C. Peterson. **Geography:** Indianapolis. **1994 results:** Jacobs (D) 58,573, Scott 50,998. **1996 Results:** Carson 90,869, Blankenbaker 69,248, St. Angelo (L) 3,505. **1998 Forecast:** RNC Chairman Nicholson stumps for Hofmeister. Both Hofmeister and

Carson up on TV. Both fear the other side will get nasty. A national Republican insider's view is that Hofmeister must rely on the Marion County organization to pull out the vote. But it does better in the outlying 6th CD than in the 10th. Here's a chance for Sheriff Cottey to turn on the jets and pull out an election for Hofmeister. Evan Bayh, meanwhile, will do what he can to aid Carson in turning out the Democratic base. Brian Howey in *NUVO Newsweekly* reports that Carson has voted to the left of Andy Jacobs (90 percent ADA compared to Jacob's 85 percent in 1992; while the ACU rated Carson at 9 percent; compared to 20 percent for Jacobs). Hofmeister compared himself to U.S. Rep. Steve Largent, who got a 10 percent from the ADA and 100 percent from the ACU. The *NUVO* story states, "One thing is clear when it comes to the political spectrum. The voters of the 10th CD are going to have a choice between two candidates who have a huge ideological gulf between them - perhaps the largest in modern times." Rumor is that Viginia Blankenbaker may endorse Carson. Still see this race as too close to call. **Status:** *Toss-Up.*

INDIANA HOUSE RACES

House District 19: Republican: Nick Gasparovic. **Democrat:** Rep. Bob Kuzman. Geography: Crown Point, south Lake County. **1994 results:** Conlon (R) 8,850, McCall (D) 5,280. **1996 Results:** Kuzman (D) 12,236, Sparks (R) 10,453. **1998 Forecast:** All indications are that Kuzman will win easily. It didn't hurt that LG Joe Kernan went to Lake County and announced the expansions of four NW Indiana companies that will lead to the training of 2,258 workers. Gasparovic is pounding away on property taxes, which resonates in that district. Former Commissioner Ernie Niemeyer stumps for Gasparovic. **Status:** *Likely D.*

House District 24: Republican: Rep. Rick McClain. **Democrat:** Logansport Councilman Mike Fincher. **Geography:** Logansport, Cass, Carroll counties. **1994 Results:** McClain 10,421, Frantz 7,686. **1996 Results:** McClain 15,538 (unopposed) . **1998 Forecast:** Former rep Nelson Becker notes that Fincher has maintained the highest profile for a Democrat in this seat in years. Dems think they have a shot. **Status:** *Leans R.*

House District 30: Republican: Rep. Karen Burkhardt. **Democrat:** Ron Herrell. **Geography:** Kokomo, Howard County.**1994 Results:** Padfield (R) 8,589, Howard 7,363. **1996 Results:** Padfield 10,775, Herrell 9,660. **1998 Forecast:** Democrats say they have a good chance to pick this seat off. Burkhardt drops first in a series of direct mail. **Status:** *Toss-Up.*

House District 34: Republican: James Vanleer. **Democrat:** Rep. Tiny Adams. **Geography:** Muncie, Delaware County. **1994 Results:** Vanleer 8,491, Elliott 7,522. **1996 Results:** Adams 9,630, Vanleer 9,241. **1998 Forecast:** Democratic tracking indicates Adams has a good lead. Both are running radio. Republicans say Vanleer is where he was this time in 1994 - behind but moving up. Vanleer rally at Roberts Hotel brought out 100 last Saturday with what Republicans say was "racially mixed." **Status:** *Leans D.*

House District 46: Republican: David Lohr. **Democrat:** Rep. Vern Tincher. **Geography:** Vigo, Greene, Brown, Monroe, Sullivan counties. **1994 Results:** Lohr 8,160, Tincher 8,034. **1996 Results:** Tincher 9,858, Lohr 9,759, Minx 531. **1998 Forecast:** Some independent observers believe Lohr may have overburdened himself by taking over as chair of the Vigo County party. Dems say their tracking shows Tincher with "a win, going away." Republicans call it neck and neck. So do we. **Status:** *Toss-Up.*

House District 53: Republican: Councilman Robert Cherry. **Democrat:** Sarah Wolf. **Libertarian:** Phil Miller. **Geography:** Greenfield, Rushville, Hancock and Rush counties.**1994 Results:** Gulling (R) 13,945 unopposed. **1996 Results:** Gulling (R) 20,174 unopposed. **1998 Forecast:** Cherry denounces Wolf's negative push calls and ads. Despite Cherry's negatives, he still looks to be ahead. **Status:** *Leans R.*

House District 54: Republican: Rep. Tom Saunders. **Democrat:** Donnie Hamilton. **Geography:** New Castle, Henry County. **1994 Results:** Kinser (D) 9,176, Razor (R) 7,853. **1996 Results:** Saunders 11,298, Copenhaver 10,221. **1998 Forecast:** LG Joe Kernan stumps for Hamilton at the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame, citing his experience as an educator. "Gov. O'Bannon has made it clear that as we enter the 1999 session, that his priority and the

TICKER TAPE

one of the disturbing aspects of the impeachment process, and it is complicating some really tough problems in the country." Lugar charged that Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle pressured Clinton to veto the bill, and because of the looming impeachment, the president "felt compelled to do it."

Indiana exports reached an all time high in the second quarter of 1998, despite the economic turmoil overseas. State exports posted sales of $3.59 billion - $125 million more than the first quarter. For the first half of the year, Indiana totaled $7.1 billion in sales. "The troubles in the global environment are still of concern to Indiana and should not be overlooked," said LG Joe Kernan. "But the first six months of 1998 have been promising ones for Hoosiers. The long-term picture has been pleasing, too, with Indiana's exports consistently outperforming the nation over the last decade."

Indiana's August unemployment rate was 2.5 percent. That compares to 4.5 percent nationally, 4.1 percent in Illinois, 3.9 in Ohio, 3.2 in Michigan and 4.0 in Kentucky. There are now 3,019,400 Hoosiers working.

Gov. Frank O'Bannon has appointed outgoing State Sen. Michael Gery as his executive assistant for leg-

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TICKER TAPE

islative affairs. Gery served in the Senate since 1974.

The Indiana Democratic state ticket barnstormed on the first of four weekend bus tours last Saturday that included stops in Columbus, Jeffersonville, Bedford, Vincennes and Evansville.

Democratic state auditor candidate Bob Hill criticized his opponent, Connie Nass, for not debating him. He said a debate had been scheduled for Oct. 13 at Ball State. This concludes the "debate over debate" sequence in this year's election cycle, as Hoosiers from all over the state and from all walks of life expressed outrage and sadness over the lack of an auditors debate. ❖

priority of the state is education," Kernan said., urging people to "elect an educator" to the General Assembly. We still see Saunders in relatively good shape. **Status:** *Leans R.*

House District 56: Republican: Ken Paust **Democrat:** Rep. Richard Bodiker. Geography: Richmond, Wayne County. **1994 Results:** Bodiker 7,142, Hamm 7,087. **1996 Results:** Bodiker 10,772, Hamm 8,159. **1998 Forecast:** Democrats say tracking shows Bodiker will win. Republicans say Paust is within margin of error. **Status:** *Toss-Up.*

House District 60: Republican: Jeff Ellington. **Democrat:** Peggy Welch. **Geography:** Bloomington, Bloomfield, Lawrence. Greene and Monroe Counties. **1994 results:** Bales 11,825, Anderson 5,210. **1996 Results:** Bales 15,743, Germann (L) 1,931. **1998 Forecast:** Ellington refuses to debate Welch before Chamber, but will do joint appearances with her on public radio and TV. Democrats committing resources. Rep. Pat Bauer will be in for Welch this week and Speaker Gregg next week. Steve Hinnefield of the *Bloomington Herald-Times* observes: "Ellington appears to be playing to protect a lead." **Status:** *Leans R.*

House District 80: Republican: John Becker. **Democrat:** Rep. Ben GiaQuinta. **Geography:** Southern Fort Wayne. **1994 Results:** Becker 5,206, GiaQuinta 5,199. **1996 Results:** GiaQuinta 7,707, Becker 6,365. **1998 Forecast:** Democrats insist GiaQuinta is well ahead.. Hard to see how Becker pulls this out without help from the national dynamic. GiaQuinta's biggest worry is turning out the vote. **Status:** *Leans D.*

House District 94: Republican: Rep. Candy Marendt. **Democrat:** Jeb Bardon. **Libertarian:** Michael A. Neal. **Geography:** NW Indianapolis. **1994 Results:** Morris 7,838, Reasoner 5,537. **1996 Results:** Marendt 10,396, Hinman 9,586, Neal 422. **1998 Forecast:** Both Bardon and Marendt doing aggressive door-to-door. Dems say their tracking shows Bardon doing well, but won't say he's leading. Still Marendt's race to lose. **Status:** *Toss-Up.*

House District 97: Republican: Ray Schultz. **Democrat:** Rep. Ed Mahern. **Geography:** Southern Indianapolis. **1994 Results:** Heffley 4,782, Cantwell 4,037. **1996 Results:** Mahern 6,368, Heffley 5,372. **1998 Forecast:** Gov. O'Bannon joined Mahern in announcing a $20 million grant to help prevent child abuse and neglect. Mahern believes he will win by about 1,000 votes if there is not much of a Republican tide. "If it's anything like 1994, I'm in trouble," he said. Democrat tracking shows that Schultz's negatives have doubled and observed, "His direct mail must not be on message." Schultz running radio and working hard on grass roots and say momentum is going his way. **Status:** *Toss-Up.*

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