

THE HOWEY POLITICAL REPORT



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“QUOTE” OF THE WEEK

“They’re very lengthy sessions. The governor’s ability to sit and listen often exceeds my ability to talk....”

- Indianapolis Mayor Stephen Goldsmith, describing meetings with Texas Gov. George W. Bush, to the Washington Post

Gauging O’Bannon, GOP at mid-point

Clues for 2000 issues are emerging

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY**

INDIANAPOLIS - It’s way too early to determine what kind of impact the 1999 Indiana General Assembly session - which just reached its midway point - will have on the 2000 elections.

But there are clues and emerging themes that may be heard in legislative caucuses and the gubernatorial campaigns that are beginning to take shape.

The really defining moments will come in late April or, perhaps, May or June. That’s when the budget will be formulated that will include dramatic decisions on full-day kindergarten and tax cuts.

Until then, here are the snippets to ponder:

■ **Gov. Frank O’Bannon** appears to be staking his future on tax cuts that don’t meet the expectations of Republicans, and full-day kindergarten, which some observers believe is headed for trouble in the Senate where some Republicans will argue that it isn’t worth the \$111 million annual expenditure.

On full-day kindergarten, O’Bannon will find an ally in Republican Supt. of Instruction Suellen Reed, who will most likely be on the 2000 ballot. Both Reed and O’Bannon forces will present the Senate with a plethora of studies from Crawfordsville, Evansville and northern Indiana’s Oregon-Davis School Corp. that show FDK students out-perform their half-day counterparts in developmental growth.

As the *Indianapolis Star’s* Mary Beth Schneider reported last Sunday, O’Bannon hasn’t drawn a line in the sand on full-day kindergarten. O’Bannon has said he will

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Hoosiers are buying generators like crazy as a precursor to the Y2K situation. Indiana Engine and Equipment in Dunlap says it's sold more generators since November than it did in the preceding eight years (Ryan Miller, Elkhart Truth). The Truth reported "bulk food, kerosene heaters, water pumps, grain mills, gold coins and even guns have been flying off area shelves as people begin to prepare for the unknown." Topeka Seed and Stove reports a run on wood-burning stoves by the store's non-Amish customers. And Dick Tarman of Tarman's Coin and Jewelry Exchange is reporting a run on pre-1932 silver dollars, gold Krugerrands and silver

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veto a budget without major tax cut, but when asked about a budget without full-day kindergarten the governor replied, "That's a good question." It was a surprising display of politically sensitive candor.

On Tuesday, O'Bannon spokesman Phil Bremen said the governor had not changed his stance on that issue, but added, "I would not construe that to mean anything other than a very vigorous campaign for full-day kindergarten. It continues to be his No.1 priority."

Is O'Bannon damaged politically for 2000 without full-day kindergarten? Possibly, since he declared it his top priority. It might open him up to "lack of leadership" charges that have already been venting in U.S. Rep. David McIntosh's camp. How that plays out politically isn't that simple. If Senate Republicans sabotage FDK, O'Bannon has a whipping boy he can exploit - an issue that could resonate with single head of household females - the so-called soccer mom gender gap - the GOP would love to attract.

■ Governor's Fall-Back:

O'Bannon has a huge fall-back position in his ingenious proposal to merge Ivy Tech and Vincennes University into the nation's 44th community college system. Already approved by the Commission on

Higher Education, the move that could attract tens of thousands of adult Hoosiers into classrooms could become O'Bannon's greatest gubernatorial legacy.

Bremen noted that every part of O'Bannon's legislative package - except for campaign finance reform - has passed at least one House so far. "That's a super record," Bremen said.

■ The Graduation Qualifying

Exam: Last week, Rep. McIntosh's strategists pointed to the fact that less than 46 percent of the Class of 2000 had passed the GQE, prompting HPR to speculate on a political populist uprising when scores of families find out their kids won't get a high school diploma. Actually, new numbers released from Supt. Reed's office reveal that 33 percent have not passed, with juniors having three more chances to qualify. Terry Spradlin of DOE believes the numbers of those not meeting criteria for graduation will be close to the current 13 percent. The most intriguing political gaffe of the session may have been by House Democrats when Rep. Paul Robertson urged the scrapping of the GQE in the face of the embarrassing numbers. The McIntosh strategists saw that move as a white flag in the face of the ISTA's efforts to steer away from greater

accountability standards for teachers.

■ **Tax cuts:** This, too, is a tricky one. The Republican House caucus used tax cuts as its Campaign '98 trump card, and it didn't work. Gov. O'Bannon is pushing for a 35-percent phase-out of the inventory tax at a cost of \$96 million annually, compared with one GOP plan that would raise that to \$315 million. O'Bannon is also seeking the removal of 80 percent of the welfare costs from property tax rolls.

A study - "State Income Tax Burdens on Low-Income Families in 1998" - released by the Indiana Coalition on Housing and which received prominent news play in newspapers and TV stations across the state last week, showed Indiana has one of the most regressive income tax systems in the nation. A backdrop to this is a National Taxpayer Union Foundation TV ad campaign calling on O'Bannon to return a good chunk of the \$2.7 billion surplus to taxpayers.

How does all of this play out in 2000? It's way too early to tell if that issue will have any impact on this session.

However, Republicans ranging from McIntosh (recently) to Senate Finance Chairman Larry Borst (last December) bring up the "lack of leadership" charge with regard to O'Bannon, saying he failed to initiate a Doc Bowen-style tax overhaul during his first legislative session when his political capital was at its highest. McIntosh's strategists even compared how Bowen used his extensive legislative resume to capitalize on the 1973 tax overhaul while O'Bannon failed to do the same the session following his election.

Despite those apparent raps on O'Bannon when it comes to taxes, the governor seems to have his thickest teflon coating on this issue. When Republicans have attacked O'Bannon on taxes, the results have been unmitigated disasters. There was Mayor Stephen Goldsmith's infamous "33 tax increases/never met a tax he didn't hike" that helped lead to his

1996 gubernatorial defeat. There was Secretary of State Sue Anne Gilroy's October 1998 TV ad barb tossed at the governor for "missing in action" on taxes. To which the mid-term governor responded with his own \$200,000 ad campaign saying he had pushed through a \$600 million tax cut in 1997. Gilroy's re-election numbers were held to 55 percent (losing 21 counties) while O'Bannon's tactic forged a stunning 53-47 House advantage.

In the final analysis, there are openings that can be exploited against O'Bannon on taxes. The GOP just hasn't found the right method or person to do it.

■ **Republican Cultural War:** If there was a defining moment on where the political/social pendulum is swinging this session, it occurred two weeks ago when GOP Sen. John Waterman left the Senate floor and his colleagues silently stood by while Lt. Gov. Joe Kernan and the Democrats killed his gay adoption ban bill. Perhaps they remembered the words of party patriarch - U.S. Sen. Richard Lugar - wondering in the *New York Times* last summer about what was to be gained by a party attacking any kind of minority.

A second development was when a *Johnson County Daily Journal* editorial criticized State Rep. Woody Burton for being too obsessed with sexual issues and moral legislation.

These developments came on the heels of the nation's rejection of President Clinton's impeachment and judgment of his sexual antics. And it was closely followed by a *New York Times* analysis last Sunday (reprinted on the front page of the *Indianapolis Star*) where "influential leaders" of the religious right "are saying the best way to change America is not through politics. Instead, they want to build a conservative base through the schooling of children at home or by working to change the hearts and minds of people through Christian preaching and the example of biblically inspired good acts works." ❖

TICKER T A P E

American Eagle coins. Indianapolis area merchants report similar runs on generators.

The cash value of Indiana's 1998 corn and soybean crop was down about \$500 million (Evansville Courier & Press). Despite planting 10,000 fewer acres of corn, Hoosier farmers produced 58.9 million more bushels than 1997. The total value of corn and soybeans fell from \$3.82 billion in 1997 to \$3.28 billion in 1998 - a 14 percent drop. "This really highlights the crisis we have going on with low commodity prices," said Ralph Gann, state statistician based at Purdue University.

Top corn producing counties in Indiana were Jasper (21.2 million bushels), White, LaPorte, Clinton, Montgomery, Benton, Newton, Carroll, Pulaski and Madison.

Top soybean producing counties were Montgomery (5.4 million bushels), Benton, Clinton, White, Jasper, Madison, Boone, Tippecanoe, Allen and Rush counties.

South Bend area higher educators are seeking more information on the proposed merger of Vincennes University and Ivy Tech. "This is such a sea change for Indiana," said Kenneth L. Perrin, chancellor of IUSB

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(Margaret Fosmoe, South Bend Tribune). Perrin didn't expect the merger to adversely impact IUSB. Said Brother Richard Gilman, president of Holy Cross College in South Bend, "This is putting money in the back end when the damage already has been done." Gilman believes the historical ISTEP scores should prompt the state to invest more money in K-12 education. But Stan Jones, Indiana's commissioner for higher education, said, "If we were at the national average, we'd have an additional 30,000 adults in college." Jones believes that 80,000 additional Hoosiers might attend the community college campuses. The Tribune reported that 10 years ago Indiana ranked 40th in the number of high school seniors who went on to college. Indiana now ranks 22nd in the nation. But in 22- to 49-year-olds, Indiana's college enrollment is 30 percent below the national average.

The Bloomington Herald-Times' unscientific call-in phone poll monitored reaction after the ABC Monica Lewinsky interview last Wednesday. Of 133 respondents, 20 percent said "Yes, I feel sorry for her"; 49 percent said "Yes, I dislike her more"; 27 percent reported no change in their opinion; and 2 percent had no opinion.

Former South Bend mayoral

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Gov. Bush turns to Goldsmith

Indianapolis Mayor Advises GOP Front-Runner on Domestic Policies

By **MARK SCHOEFF Jr.** in Washington and **BRIAN A. HOWEY** in Indianapolis

The future of Stephen Goldsmith is now becoming clear. He is likely to stay mayor of Indianapolis through his term, then work with Texas Gov. George W. Bush to win the 2000 presidential campaign. Goldsmith then becomes a domestic policy czar - probably at HUD.

The *Indianapolis Star*, the *Weekly Standard* and Robert Novak have confirmed that Indianapolis Mayor Goldsmith is serving as a domestic policy adviser to Gov. Bush, a potential GOP presidential candidate who this week formed an exploratory committee. This comes following weeks of speculation that Goldsmith might resign, and his lack of endorsement of Dan Quayle, his wife's cousin.

At a January National Press Club speech in Washington, the Indy mayor articulated his take on "compassionate conservatism," a term coined by Bush. "Republicans have an obligation to help those who are in difficult straits," he said. The goal is to figure out how to "use Republican principles to help those folks."

As **informal Bush sounding board**, Goldsmith won't be a redoubt of fiery right-wing conservatism. For instance, he does not believe, as some on the right do, that community groups and churches alone should provide for the poor. "Community and faith-based organizations can be strengthened through efficient, sensitive relationships with government," he said at the Press Club. "When we do that, they can reach out."

A new century calls for a new kind of politics, Goldsmith said. The most successful mayors have been the ones who do not hew to party dogma. Democratic mayors "realize that they have to cut taxes and privatize services to attract capital into their cities," Goldsmith said. "We have

Republican mayors who recognize that the marketplace alone doesn't quite work for many people in their communities."

Goldsmith will probably encourage Bush to adopt a domestic agenda centered on reducing the role of government in meeting local challenges. "The tough problems need to be solved with decentralized systems," Goldsmith said. "The solutions that are going to be necessary cannot come from Washington. They cannot come from the statehouse. In fact, they cannot even come from local mayors. What we need is a community response."

But the two-term mayor was coy on whether he would seek a Cabinet position in a Republican administration. "I enjoy changing government systems to produce public value," he said. "It will be intriguing to see whether such an opportunity presents itself in the future."

The *Washington Post's* Dan Balz credits former Indiana Republican Chair Al Hubbard with spearheading Bush's policy adviser recruitment which began with Goldsmith. Hubbard got Goldsmith and Bush together at an Indy country club during the Midwest Republican Leadership conference in 1997. Balz quoted Goldsmith after a meeting with Bush: "They're very lengthy sessions. The governor's ability to sit and listen often exceeds my ability to talk."

Goldsmith has a high national profile with his efforts to reform Indianapolis government. He claims the city has saved more than \$400 million since 1991 by introducing competition in the delivery of city services. On Sunday during ABC's This Week, columnist George Will was trumpeting Goldsmith as the best domestic policy talent in the nation. All Goldsmith needs to do is watch his administration pass the State Board of Accounts audit now under way and he may have a key seat in Washington. ❖

COLUMNISTS ON INDIANA

Derrick DePledge, *Fort Wayne News-Sentinel* - In a letter addressed to "Knight Ridder" - not a person, but the parent company of the *News-Sentinel* - (U.S. Rep. Dan) Burton asked for up to \$5,000 for Hoosier PAC, a "new organization dedicated to furthering the conservative principles you and I share." He also threw a few punches at the media. "I believe in my heart that when conservatism is debated against liberalism, we conservatives win every time," Burton wrote. "Unfortunately, conservatives don't have the luxury of fighting on a level playing field. The liberal media is so biased it is almost funny." We're laughing so hard we can't find our checkbook. ❖

David Broder, *Washington Post* - The Bush-Buchanan dichotomy is so perfect, in fact, that it poses a serious problem for the other eight to 10 people who will make up the likely Republican field. Some, such as Steve Forbes, can finance their own campaign. Others, such as Lamar Alexander and perhaps Dan Quayle, have already established networks of supporters. Elizabeth Dole likely has the potential to mobilize many women, not all of them Republican activists. ❖

Ben Smith, *Fort Wayne Journal Gazette* - Well, it was all-comers pretty much from 1911, when Crawfordsville won the first state title, until 1998. Lore has grown up around it like ivy. James Naismith himself used to say the sport was born in Massachusetts but grew up in Indiana. You mess with it at your own peril, in other words. We've not only messed with it, we've reached down its throat and turned it inside-out. Now we're charged with making the end result look pretty, a perhaps hopeless task. Getting rid

of the overlap between girls and boys is a start, certainly. So is combining regionals. So would getting rid of the Tournament of Champions - a horrendously lame idea. Yet all these amount to mere tinkering, and mere tinkering won't do here. There needs to be some form of radical overhaul, before basketball tournaments lose statewide attention for good. One way you do that is by returning, on a permanent basis, to tournament sites that will give you maximum exposure. When tradition-rich places such as Anderson and Muncie Central and Marion no longer have sectionals, you remove your product from its brightest spotlights. ❖

Jack Colwell, *South Bend Tribune* - In a little-noted speech on Feb. 18 at Indiana University in Bloomington, Sen. Richard G. Lugar warned of the danger of nuclear devastation in a U.S. city. Lugar's speech drew scant notice because the news media was still more interested in Monica than missiles. ❖

Larry Lough, *Muncie Star Press* - Research done in recent months on citizens' interaction with public employees in Indiana led to two clear conclusions: 1. Nearly all employees of state and local government offices want to provide good service to the public. 2. Few employees of state and local government fully understand their obligation to make meetings and records accessible to all citizens. As elected officials and appointed employees of government come and go with the shifting of political winds, education about the public's right to information takes a back seat to other aspects of training. As a result, citizens often hit a brick wall in their attempts to obtain records, or even get into certain meetings. ❖

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candidate and television personality Ben Johnson tells Jack Colwell of the *South Bend Tribune* from his White House post of assistant to President Clinton: "This is the most diverse administration in the history of America. It looks like America."

Former President George Bush is the keynote speaker at the Indiana State Republican Spring Dinner on March 31 at the Indiana Convention Center.

Gray Communications Systems Inc., of Atlanta, Ga., has purchased the Goshen News from the locally held News Printing Co. Inc.

A Bernardin, Lochmueller & Associates study recommends against making the 130-mile U.S. 31 corridor between South Bend and I-465 a toll road. The firm said tolls would fall \$50 million to \$150 million below annual costs. The study estimates toll road construction costs running between \$904 million and \$1.4 billion.

The *Evansville Courier & Press* reports that the city's riverfront Pagoda - off limits for after-hour functions and private parties - is the target of legislation by Sen. Greg Server and Rep. Dennis Avery. When Server's daughter couldn't rent the

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facility for her wedding, Server drafted the legislation. "I don't care what (the convention board) wants. I think the community is behind opening up the Pagoda," Server said of the building remodeled with public money. The Courier & Press reported that the Evansville Visitors and Convention Bureau is concerned the facility to attract business away from hotels and banquet halls.

Indiana House Democrats announced a deal with retail lobbyists to restrict tobacco advertising and sales. It would impose fines on merchants selling tobacco to minors, restrict billboard advertising, and restrict vending machines to bars and casinos. The Associated Press reported that a Senate bill restricting tobacco vending machines died on a 25-25 vote, with Lt. Gov. Joe Kernan absent.

The town of Shippshewana in the heart of the Elkhart-LaGrange counties Amish community will remain dry. The LaGrange County Alcoholic Beverage Commission voted 2-1 against an application for a liquor license last week.

New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani will be the keynote speaker for the May 3 Allen County Republican Lincoln Day Dinner at the Grand Wayne Center. The Kosciusko County

Indiana Racing Form

INDIANA GOVERNORS RACE 2000

Governor: Republican: U.S. Rep. David McIntosh, Fort Wayne Mayor Paul Helmke, George Witwer, John Price. **Democrat:** Gov. Frank O'Bannon. **1996 results:** O'Bannon 1,107,342, Goldsmith 997,505, Dillon 35,261. **2000 Forecast:** McIntosh has \$908,231 cash on hand and Common Cause ranks his congressional campaign one of the wealthiest in the nation. Said his 1998 opponent, New Castle Mayor Sherman Boles, "I think McIntosh has an unlimited supply of money" (*Muncie Star Press*). Greg Zoeller, working on behalf of Hoosiers for Witwer, responded to HPR's March 4 analysis (*Why McIntosh Will Run for Gov in 2000*): "Your piece on the likelihood of Congressman David McIntosh" running in 2000 "should add to the drum-beat of wanting him to get in the race. Most of my strategy is based on this scenario. The preoccupation of 'We Want Dave' will keep most other potential candidates out of the race. While I agree that a seated congressman is nearly always one of the strongest candidates to run against an incumbent governor, the question I would raise is this: What if Congressman McIntosh keeps everyone else in check while Witwer is out raising funds five days a week and finally decides not to run?" McIntosh and Witwer are expected to appear jointly at the Floyd County Lincoln Day Dinner at the Robert E. Lee Ballroom in New Albany on April 18. Witwer is speaking at LDs in Dubois, Vigo, Newton, Hendricks, Dearborn and Ripley counties during March and April. McIntosh is speaking at LDs in Bartholomew, Clinton and Whitley counties during the same time span. Price clarifies with Horse Race his role on Gov. Otis Bowen's patronage committee. Price said he served on the committee, but did not head it. O'Bannon's top aides are warning of GOP plans - particularly in the Senate - to sabotage full-day kindergarten in an effort to embarrass the governor. The *Evansville Courier & Press* in Tuesday's editions quoted Sen. President Pro tem Bob Garton: "Several months ago I supported full-day kindergarten. (But) I think there are more votes against it than when we started." Garton said there are currently under-funded programs such as PrimeTime. "We need to fund those first." **Status:** *Leans Democratic.*

HORSE RACE

INDIANA MAYORAL RACES 1999

Evansville Mayoral: Republican: County Commissioner Russell Lloyd Jr., David Woll. **Democrat:** Rick Borries, City Councilwoman Gail Riecken, County Councilman Phil Hoy, Lawrence Hall. **1995 Results:** McDonald 19,162, Frary 9,565. **1999 Forecast:** State Chair Mike McDaniel tells the Vanderburgh County Lincoln Day Dinner that the race is a "tossup" (*Evansville Courier & Press*). Said McDaniel, "Let's make sure that opportunity is realized." Lloyd tells the 250 Republicans that he supports the I-69 extension to Indianapolis. Woll was denied an opportunity to speak. Lloyd refuses to commit to a one-on-one debate with Woll. *Courier & Press* featured Woll as a marathon runner and a reporter jogged with him through precincts recently. The newspaper quoted one woman asking him, "Are you a Christian?" Woll replied, "I'm Jewish." Leaders of Evansville's Commission on the Social Status of African-American Males tell the mayoral candidates, "If you want our vote, then you've got to help us," said Chairman Bobby Gold. "We are in a crisis and we need to do something right away." Said Rev. Adrian Brooks, the vice chair, "The black vote is critical in a city election." Hall, a former KKK member, was not invited to the forum. **Status:** *Toss Up.*

Fort Wayne Mayoral: Republican: Allen County Sheriff Joe Squadrito, Linda Buskirk. **Democrat:** Graham Richard, Agnes Hopkins, David Roach. **1995 Results:** Helmke 21,909, Essex (D) 11,033, Kempf (L) 1,029. **1999 Forecast:** Buskirk becomes the first candidate to air TV ads, 30-second spots running during TV newscasts. *News-Sentinel* reports Buskirk has

raised \$45,000, far less than Squadrito, but more than the \$7,000 she reported in January. Squadrito tells the *Journal Gazette* he has plans to run TV prior to the primary. Status of Buskirk-Squadrito debate at the Allen County Republican Lincoln Day dinner is uncertain, depending on whether New York City Mayor Giuliani will be the keynote speaker. All five candidates agree to an April 15 WPTA-TV debate. Buskirk said she favors Rs and Ds to debate separately, but Squadrito prefers the group format. Richard says he is in the process of deciding his ad campaign. Buskirk announces her anti-crime package, which includes making the public safety director's post full-time, an office Squadrito has already vowed to abolish. Buskirk also criticized Squadrito for "heavy-handed" tactics the former sheriff used in dispatching patrols on Fort Wayne's southeast side. She said the deputies behaved "like soldiers, drawing down" people. Buskirk said it hindered race relations. *News-Sentinel* says that Squadrito's strategy throughout his campaign is to ignore Buskirk and her issues. **Status:** *Leans Squadrito.*

Gary Mayoral: Republican: None. **Democrat:** Mayor Scott King, State Rep.

Vernon Smith, Calumet Township Assessor Booker Blumenberg Jr. **1995 Results:** King (D) 23,588, Williams (I) 5,482, Boswell (R) 1,108, McCraney (I) 96. **1999 Forecast:** King continues to look like a safe bet to win the Democratic primary. But King is still fighting with his Democratic city council, vowing to veto a \$750,000 appropriation for a Midtown fire station because it was "completely illegal." King told the *Post-Tribune*, "They should know that very clearly the laws say there can not be an appropriation of funds unless it's sponsored by the mayor. It's such a basic proposition and if they didn't know it, it is indeed a sad commentary." King is also making another request to use \$1.5 million in casino revenues to purchase new take-home police cars. The council killed a similar request seven months ago. "It's the same request that was buried before," King said. **Status:** *Leans King.*

Indianapolis Mayoral: Republican: Secretary of State Sue Anne Gilroy, Robert

L. Parker. **Democrat:** Bart Peterson, Jocelyn Tandy-Adande. **Our Party:** Rev. John Gibson. **Libertarian:** Andrew Horning. **1995 Results:** Goldsmith (R) 64,209, Jimison (D) 39,539, Dillon (L) 7,175. **1999 Forecast:** Horning enters the race and declares that dealing with violent crime will be his top priority. Parker hires Keith Shallenberger to manage his campaign, which he promises will be fully funded. A key Parker ally and, apparently, spokesman is Councilor Ron Franklin, who was convicted on felony gun charges last year and faces cocaine possession charges this spring. Franklin recently announced plans to seek re-election. When HPR asked Gilroy whether she would ask Franklin to resign, she responded that she supported the slated at-large council candidates who are running. Period. Franklin is an unslated candidate. Franklin faxed out a paper last week predicting that Parker would defeat Gilroy. Knowledgeable HPR sources say the reason Marion County Sheriff Jack Cottey was so frosted at Gilroy for her public opposition to his department's gun sales exposed on ABC's *20/20* was that it was a calculated campaign move on her part, not an off-the-cuff comment on WIBC the morning after Chris Wallace's story aired. The same sources say Gilroy has all but abandoned Indiana General Assembly legislation that she initiated that would make sheriff gun auctions illegal. Peterson contests Gilroy's contention in the March 4 edition of *NUVO Newsweekly* that Mayor Goldsmith had hired 180 additional police officers. Peterson's campaign - citing an IPD Interdepartment Communication from Jason Fenwick dated March 26, 1998 - had 1992 sworn officer levels at 979 and 1998 levels at 1,027. That's only 48 additional police officers. In Gilroy's *Crusade2K* E-News, the Republican candidate "praised the Goldsmith record of 180,000 new jobs created in the last seven years, the lowest unemployment in 40 years, no property tax hike, four tax cuts, and the city budget the same size that it was seven years ago." **Status:** *Toss-Up.*

Kendallville Mayoral: Republican: Wilma Suzanne Handshoe, Councilman

Bradley Kline, Jeff H. Smith. **Democrat:** Mayor Larry McGahen. **1995 Results:** McGahen (D) 1,162, Smith (R) 1,065. **1999 Forecast:** This is a potential rematch in the making if Smith can win the Republican nomination. He lost to McGahen by only 98 votes in 1995. **Status:** *TOSS-UP.*

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Council by a 4-2 vote rejected a CEDIT initiative as 100 people applauded and cheered. Warsaw Mayor Erne Wiggins wanted to use the .4 percent tax to pay for a new sewer system. The Fort Wayne Journal Gazette quoted one 26-year-old resident saying, "I believe if we raise taxes, then you are stealing more of my money."

The Lafayette Journal and Courier reports that "Monica's Story" is "selling moderately well" but is not as "hot as the Starr Report was, or John Grisham's new book, 'The Testament.'"

Muncie will be featured in a PBS documentary "The First Measured Century: The Other Way of Looking at American History." The week-long documentary will air in 2000 and will be hosted by Ben Wattenberg. Muncie was chosen because of the 1929 study by Robert and Helen Lynd on "Middletown."

U.S. Rep. Mark Souder told the Washington Times, "If we're going to have a Democratic agenda, what's the point of having Republicans control Congress?" The Times story dealt with new leadership tests facing House Speaker Dennis Hastert within the GOP. "It's not so much capturing Denny's mind or his attention, because Denny has been around and has

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positions on these things. The real question is how he is going to choose to run the conference and deal with the slim majority."

U.S. Rep. Dan Burton "applauded" the acquittal of Marine aviator Capt. Richard Ashby in a trial over the deaths of 20 people in an Italian ski gondola. "I am very pleased that Capt. Ashby was not made a political scapegoat in this trial," Burton said. Burton called on the Department of Defense to expedite reparations to family members killed in the crash. "Without prompt action these families will continue to suffer unnecessarily." ❖

Quayle leads Arizona poll; Lugar won't endorse

It was an interesting several weeks for former Vice President Dan Quayle. He saw his cousin's husband (Mayor Goldsmith) emerge as a key adviser to Texas Gov. George W. Bush; came in first in an Arizona poll; came in third in a Hamilton County straw poll; and failed to get the endorsement of U.S. Sen. Richard Lugar.

■ An Arizona Chamber Info Poll released March 4 had Quayle leading in the state with 26.8 percent, compared to 24.7 percent for Arizona Sen. John McCain, 12.2 percent for Bush, and 8.7 percent for Elizabeth Dole. The Arizona primary occurs shortly after Iowa and New Hampshire.

■ Lugar told the *Indianapolis Star* he would make no endorsement. "I mean no disrespect to any of these candidates," said Lugar, who denied any animosity left over from 1995 when Quayle refrained from endorsing him.

■ Vice President Al Gore and Quayle had what the *Washington Post* called "dueling Manhattan dinners" on

March 4 and raised \$1.7 million combined for their presidential campaigns. "New Hampshire and Iowa, with their quaint coffee shops and homey state fairs, remain de rigueur photo stops on the presidential campaign circuit. But when it comes to the money needed to underwrite those races, New York is the campaign cash capital," the *Post* reported.

■ Quayle launched his official website: www.quayle.org. The *National Journal* observed, "Quayle's site is pretty good. In fact, it's got a lot going for it. It's deep in content. It shows some inventive ideas." CNN called it "polished."

■ Appearing on ABC's *Good Morning America* on March 8, Quayle observed, "Al Gore never once, to our knowledge, went into the Oval Office by himself and said, 'What is going on? You have to tell the truth...'" Al Gore was totally silent. That is blind loyalty."

Reuters reported that Quayle received "multiple standing ovations" during his appearance on Feb. 28 before California Republicans. ❖



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