THE HOWEY POLITICAL REPORT

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Cottey attempts Indy power play

As L. Keith Bulen spins in his grave

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY** *in Indianapolis*

A powerful, long-time Republican Party county chairman is investigated on child molestation charges involving a relative. The probe is leaked to the media from the investigating agency - the sheriff's department. Within hours, the sheriff, the lameduck mayor, the presumed mayoral nominee are all on the same page, saying the chair must go.

But the script deviates.

The powerful chair is cleared of the charges by an outside prosecutor with a good reputation. After a buffer period of a few months, the chair returns to power, only to find himself under fire from the sheriff, the mayor, and numerous allies of the sheriff, who announce in a very public way just days before the traditional Labor Day campaign kickoff that they are withholding patronage funds to the county central committee. But their motivation isn't to protect the one unifying force - the mayoral nominee - from the party's embattled chairman. It's nothing less than a power play over who gets to be the next chair and the next sheriff. They simply can't help themselves.

That almost sounds like a sordid spin-off from a Spencer Tracy flick like *The Last Hurrah.*

But this is the real-life drama surrounding Marion County Republican Chairman John Sweezy. The embattled chairman is so detached from reality that he tells the *Indianapolis Star* that, "They have accused me of damn near everything but losing an election. And they can't do that."

The problem is that Sweezy's organization has lost a series of elections and slatings which reached an embarrass-

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"QUOTE" OF THE WEEK

'Littleton was a wake-up call to the nation that violence is not restricted to inner cities....'

- Tom Knarr, assistant superintendent of Hammond Community Schools, to the Times of Northwest Indiana

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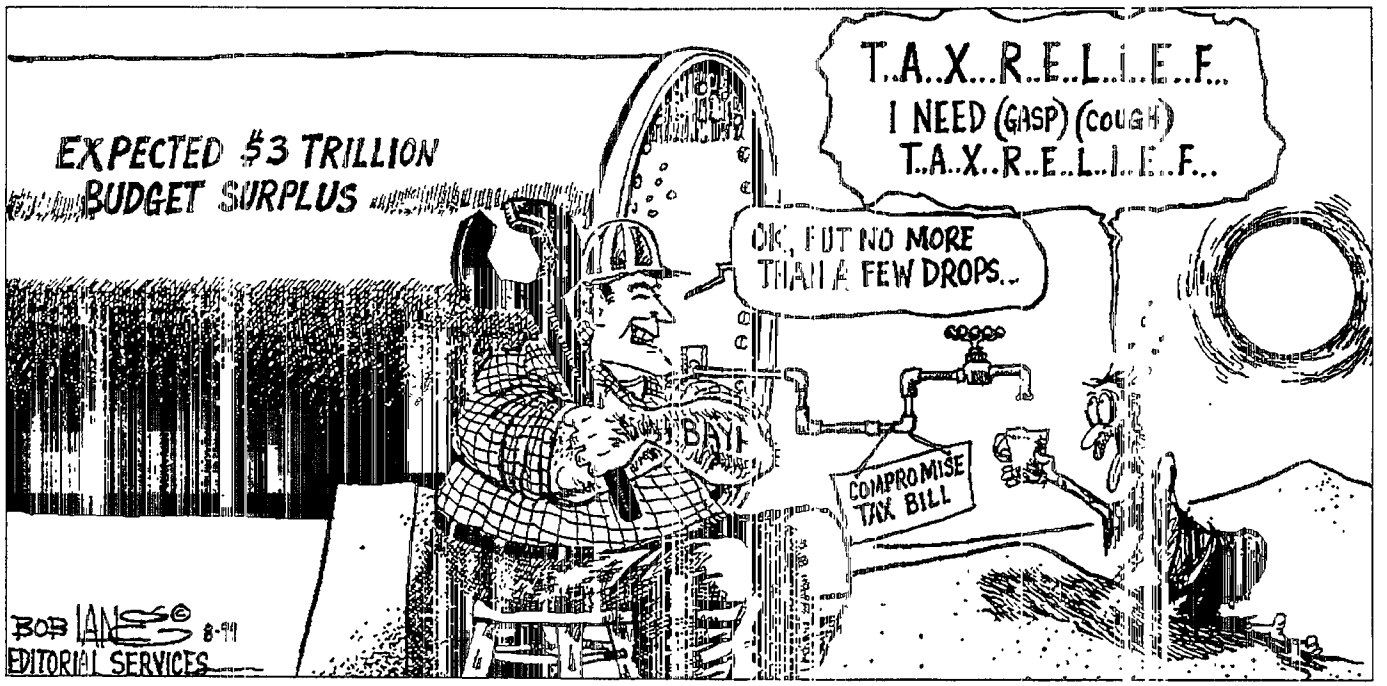
Beginning Our Sixth Year!



TICKER TAPE

As Indiana school children returned to school this month, numerous districts have implemented new safety plans and hired additional security in the wake of the Littleton, Colorado, massacre. The Times of Northwest Indiana reported that Hammond's new emergency plan weighs 10 pounds and the district spent $10,000 on cell phones and another $189,000 on security officers. East Chicago schools expect to spend $130,000 on security personnel. In Porter County, Portage, Boone Township, East Porter County and Valparaiso schools were adding full-time security officers. Lake Station spent $19,000 to upgrade remote control locks and

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Sweezy, *from page 1*

ing low point in 1996 when Stephen Goldsmith's gubernatorial campaign astounded the world by losing not only the election but Marion County.

The Marion County GOP organization has become so calcified and fossilized that the Gilroy mayoral campaign has literally had to build an apparatus around it headed by State Rep. Mike Murphy and Lesa Dietrick, with three additional offices that direct north and south county volunteers and another for finances. The central committee is the scene of outdated walking lists and daytime soap operas on the TV set.

Gilroy campaign officials are astounded at the timing of Sheriff Jack Cottey's power play this close to Labor Day. For the second time this year, Cottey's play for power has set up a potential embarrassing situation for Gilroy. The first occurred last February when the sheriff publicly rebuked Gilroy's stance on sheriff gun sales following an ABC News *20/20* expose of Cottey's department. Now they watch as Cottey relentlessly seeks to secure power.

"Whoever the chair of the Marion County Republican organization is now or in the future is not going to have an impact on this race," said Gilroy campaign spokesman Carn Carter.

Sources sympathetic to Gilroy acknowledge that Cottey and Lawrence Mayor Tom Schneider - who hopes to succeed Cottey as sheriff in three years - are attempting to secure power. The reason for the urgency on their part is due to Sweezy's reassertion of power after a leave of absence throughout most of the summer. When State Sen. Pat Miller took over the party's day-to-day operations during the Sweezy investigation, many felt that the leave of absence would extend beyond the mayoral election.

Both Cottey and Schneider have been extremely helpful to the campaign most of the time, campaign sources say. The threats of Cottey, Schneider and State Sen. Larry Borst to withhold funds from the county organization represent only a "minor financial hiccup" to the Gilroy campaign, one knowledgable source said. The Gilroy campaign has already budgeted and paid for most of the fall campaign and is not dependent on funds from the townships coming into the central committee.

The worries by Gilroy operatives come with the chain of command, where precinct officials are picking up the phone to ward chairs asking who's in charge. The Gilroy campaign has expressed great faith that Murphy and Dietrick will be able to assure that the chain of command will be orderly and efficient heading into Election Day.

But one Gilroy ally conjured images of legendary Marion County Chair L. Keith Bulen, who was able to subjugate those leading fiefdoms into common goals with unparalleled success. It is a history lesson that Sheriff Cottey has apparently never learned.

Split personality

Nor have many other stalwarts in the party. In fact, many leading operatives in the Marion County GOP seem to have split personalities when it comes to fratricide. When Sweezy declared last February in the *Indianapolis Star* that "no one has asked me to resign," HPR Publisher Brian Howey wrote an article in *NUVO Newsweekly* under the headline: "Sweezy should resign." That set off a torrent of e-mails from party operatives - many influential members agreeing with the main assessment but acknowledging that it was useless to do so because Sweezy was so entrenched.

Others appeared to rally around the embattled chair, including some who are now helping Gilroy manage the grassroots organization that had to be created in place of the party organization because it was so inefficient. A couple of influential operatives wrote e-mails lauding the article to the publisher while at the same time writing messages to Gordon Durnil that were sharply critical of the article (which he forwarded).

Gilroy's Goldsmith luggage

The other tantilizingly brazen stance in all of this is Mayor Goldsmith's, described by the *Indianapolis Star* as "hand-picking Gilroy to succeed him."

Goldsmith understated about the Sweezy controversy in Sunday's *Star*, saying, "It could reach a point where it's distracting ... and quite debilitating to the party."

What Goldsmith isn't talking about is his own administration dragging out the final audit exit interview with the Indiana State Board of Accounts, which was supposed to take place Aug. 25 after numerous delays. That ensures that any bad news from the audit will hit the press after the Labor Day campaign kickoff. The prospect of Gilroy being saddled with internecine party warfare and a prickly audit report by the SBA could ensure a clunky start of her fall campaign in a race that virtually everyone predicts will be a close donnybrook with Democrat Bart Peterson.

Golden parachute?

Over the weekend, Goldsmith was telling the *Star*, "The future looks pretty intense. Any number of things could happen after the election."

Several influential Republican sources told HPR on Tuesday that a deal is being attempted to create a golden parachute for Sweezy - one that would reward him for 27 years of service and provide him with a car and severance package. Some expected the deal might be worked out within a week.

But other sources say that Sweezy has been embarrassed so badly by Cottey over leaking the investigation to the press (Prosecutor Scott Newman insisted that the molestation probe leaks did not come from his office), and now this late summer power play that he will never go quietly and turn power over to Cottey.

Sen. Borst prophetically told the *Star* on Tuesday, "I predicted the leadership situation would be concluded soon. Within a week. Either that or it will be a source of controversy day after day."

Meanwhile, that whirring sound Republicans may be hearing is probably that of L. Keith Bulen, rapidly spinning.

TICKER TAPE

audio/visual communications. Anderson Mayor Mark Lawler has ordered an increased presence of city police, using 25 officers that will be assigned randomly in selected school zones (Anderson Herald-Bulletin). Fort Wayne Community Schools is updating all school surveillance systems (Journal-Gazette). All middle schools will have hand-held metal detectors. All FWCS employees will wear identification badges. The district has also hired five more professional conflict mediators, for a total of 13. East Allen Schools and DeKalb High School have hired full-time security officers. Southwest Allen Schools has started to teach conflict resolution skills in all grades. The Journal Gazette quoted Russell Skiba, associate professor of counseling and educational psychology and director of the Insitute of Child Study as saying Indiana schools "will turn to fairly reactive approaches."

Texas Gov. George W. Bush won the Indiana Republicans' on-line straw poll with 35 percent of the vote, followed by 23 percent for Pat Buchanan, 22 percent for Elizabeth Dole, 9 percent for Dan Quayle, 4 percent for Steve Forbes, 3 percent for John McCain, and 1 percent for Gary Bauer, Orrin Hatch and Alan Keyes. GOP Chairman Mike

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TICKER TAPE

McDaniel told the Indianapolis Star that he had hoped to attract about 2,000 people to the www.indgop.org website, but 6,290 responded.

Former Hudson Institute analyst Carol D'Amico is said to be seriously considering a run for Superintendent of Public Instruction as a Republican. If she runs, it would be the second consecutive GOP challenge to incumbent Suellen Reed, who fended off a challenge from former State Rep. David Lohr in 1996.

Indiana Republican Chairman Mike McDaniel tried to talk out-going Fort Wayne Mayor Paul Helmke into challenging State Rep. Ben GiaQuinta. But Helmke dashed that idea, telling the Journal Gazette, "I have no interest in running for the state legislature. The only thing I was thinking about for next year was running for governor and I've already announced I'm not doing that." McDaniel's pitch to Helmke was that a run at GiaQuinta could help the GOP clinch control of the Indiana House, and that a grateful party would be willing to pay dividends to Helmke down the road.

A Monroe County jury has acquitted former Monroe County Sheriff Randy Williamson on three counts of theft for improperly using money from jail funds to

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John R. Price setting the issues

Republican gubernatorial candidate pushing for gambling tax hike

GREENCASTLE - Not many pundits and pros are giving Republican gubernatorial nominee John R. Price much of a chance to win his party's 2000 nomination. But Price is earning an impressive array of earned media and says message will beat money.

HPR: You've established an innovative threshhold thus far in this race.

Price: I'm trying to get the issues to the level where people start talking about the governor's race and I think it's happened.

HPR: Your earned media is impressive from your college tuition program, to tax cuts for seniors, to raising the casino tax from 20 to 35 percent. Are you surprised?

Price: To be honest, I really am. I've run before and I've gotten a little, but in this race we're getting four and five times what I've had before.

HPR: Is that resulting in an increase in money?

Price: Yes, and also an increase in volunteers, and in people who sign up on our website, in letters, and receptivity in the organization. Let's face it, when people think you're a serious candidate and read about you in their local papers they're more serious about talking to you.

HPR: Where do you stand financially? That was really an issue in your Senate race, the lack of money.

Price: We're doing fine. If I had to pay all my outstanding bills today we'd still have a cash balance. We will not be raising the kind of dollars David (McIntosh) is going to raise. As a matter of fact, there's a fundraising event David is having on the 31st at the Colts Complex where he is soliciting people to give him $25,000 to be a co-host, and there are 10 of those, so there's $250,000; and then $5,000 to be a committee member and there are 43 of those, including Jim Purucker, the gambling lobbyist. Then it's $5,000 if you want your picture taken with David and a dinner on the 31st, and $1,000 if you don't want the picture, just the dinner. And then there's a PAC meeting before the event and the word on the street is there will be a couple hundred thousand dollars coming from that. So I think their plan is to raise about $1 million that night. The invitation makes it clear they've got about half of that in place. So it will be a really big event in terms of fundraising. Frankly I think it's a politically strategic error because there will be a lot of people out in the state who think if you give $25,000 to somebody you might expect something for it.

HPR INTERVIEW

HPR: So McIntosh will out-raise you. Do you belive ideas can counter money?

Price: The message always beats the money and I give you as my source for that a new book by Dick Morris. While I do not commend him for his moral life he is a good political strategist and his book *The New Prince* is about how the message beats the money and he gives countless examples. Of course we had O'Bannon and Goldsmith prove that. Frankly, if I had been on McIntosh's advisory team I would have advised against trying to raise it in a big huge sum because in Greene County, Monroe County, Brown County, they're not going to think selling the governor's office for campaign contributions is a smart idea.

HPR: So you think the gambling issue is a hot button and because Purucker is there means he's ceded that territory.

Price: What I said today was that I didn't think Gov. O'Bannon or McIntosh would be fighting to increase taxes on riverboat casinos because people who

have given them contributions won't be favorable to that.

HPR: So you want to raise the tax on riverboat casinos from 20 percent to 35 percent. What will that do for taxpayers?

Price: That gives us $229 million a year. That, by the way, was based on what they used to take in, which was $1.5 billion. But based on the July figures, which are the highest on record where we have $141 million in one month from the nine casinos, that translates to $1.7 billion for the whole year.

HPR: You contend that most of that money leaves the state.

Price: Most of it, by their own figures. They put out a press release today saying they put $300 million into the 12,300 people they employ, wages and benefits, total, annual. So let's start with a benchline of $1.7 billion. Approximately $1.4 million goes to cover the mortgages on the riverboats. Then they pay the state about $305 million. Now by the time you take all those numbers and subtract them from $1.7 billion you've still got a huge sum of money there and most of that goes to Las Vegas or Atlantic City. So the question is we've granted these nine very valuable licenses to do what nobody else can do in this state. My point is they don't pay enough. Since we've got a lot of people who really need property tax relief, by increasing the gaming tax by another $229 million plus cutting state spending by about $187 million or 4 percent - all of that together would give us our scholarship program, no property tax for seniors, and a 20-percent tax cut across the board for regular citizens.

HPR: Gov. O'Bannon has said he will freeze any expansion in gambling. Do you agree?

Price: I would. We've got a lot of it now. Let's freeze it.

HPR: Would you roll it back?

Price: I don't think that's possible. But let's tax it a little bit more.

HPR: Govs. Bayh and O'Bannon have been proud of the large surpluses. What kind of surpluses could we expect from a Gov. Price?

Price: Somewhere between $500 million and a billion. A 5-percent holdback under most people's estimates is appropriate.

HPR: The Democrats are already painting McIntosh as an extremist. Do you see him that way? Do you fear they may try to paint you that way?

Price: I don't think David's an extremist. I don't think the label extremist works anymore.

HPR: Assess Gov. O'Bannon's political state now and how you think he'll emerge in 2000.

Price: He's probably stuck in concrete. He can't go back and redo the '99 legislative session, which was a disaster for his administration. He went into it with 60 percent support - some said 70 percent. He came out of it with his major proposal not being well thought out, not being well supported and rejected by both parties. The AUL and the banking changes slipped through his fingers. He allowed himself to be bullied into not doing a special session. Everybody likes Frank O'Bannon. I like Frank O'Bannon, but that does not translate into leadership. Full-day kindergarten is not going to do it.

HPR: But Gov. O'Bannon will come back and point to his community college program, Fresh Start and other programs. He'll point to a consistent thread.

Price: The community college and Fresh Start are fine, but they still don't address the problems that we have like 74 percent of our 10th graders flunk the ISTEP exam. We're not doing something right.

HPR: Can you beat McIntosh?

Price: I will beat him. It will happen in such a way that people will say afterward, "I understood that," but ahead of time people will say, "Nah, there's no way." Since 1992 there have been 16 House members who have run for governor. Three of them were elected. Of the 13 who lost, nine lost in primaries.❖

TICKER TAPE

pay legal fees. Asked if he was surprised, Williamson said no, "I didn't do anything wrong" (WRTV). One alternate juror was State Sen. Vi Simpson, who told the Bloomington Herald-Times, "It is time to revist the statutes governing the bookkeeping and accounting practices of the sheriff's office." Simpson said the current statutes have been "interpreted in different ways by different people. That indicates to me that the statute needs some clarity."

Blackford County Sheriff Paul Whitesell is currently living in Delaware County, and that has Blackford officials scurrying to see if he still qualifies as sheriff. Whitesell said he sold his house in Hartford City on July 1 and moved to Eaton in Delaware County. "We hoped we would be in our new house before the end of the summer but because of problems with contractors, that was just not possible," Whitesell told the Muncie Star Press. Blackford Commissioner Larry Hile said, "I don't recall that he came before the commissioners to let us know he was moving." Said County Council President John Rains, "I had heard rumors. But I had not been told and he has not come before the council to report he was moving out of the county." Councilman David

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TICKER TAPE

Montgomery added, "We could be in a bad situation if he's not legally our sheriff and he is out there making arrests." John Cady of the Indiana Sheriffs Association said the statute would have to be challenged before a decision would be made."

New Castle Mayor Sherman Boles delivered his fifth consecutive decrease in the city's tax rate.

Vanderburgh County Commissioner Bettye Lou Jerrel has been critical of the SAFE House in Evansville and recently voted to have the facility come under control of Sheriff Brad Ellsworth. But Jerrel's son, John, recently failed a random drug test as part of a sentence for misdemeanor counts of conversion for taking county equipment while foreman at the county garage and trading it for methamphetamine (Evansville Courier & Press). Said Commissioner Jerrel, "I cannot get sidetracked by other issues. John has his problems he has to deal with and I have mine."

The St. Joseph County Council voted 6-3 last week approving a non-binding resolution to oppose a casino in the county. "The bottom line is that we don't need a casino in this county," said Councilman Frank Canarecci (South Bend Tribune). Said Richard Pfeil,

COLUMNISTS ON INDIANA

Alan Julian, *Evansville Courier & Press* - It never ceases to amaze me how events can unfold in the strangest ways. Let's consider for a moment some of the news out of Bloomington, Ind., this summer - especially as it relates to Interstate 69. Earlier this summer the new-terrain route got a big boost from a coalition of 22 Indiana mayors. In a very public letter to Gov. Frank O'Bannon, the mayors said the highway should take a direct route that passes roughly from Indianapolis to Bloomington to Evansville. The mayors, who collectively represent some 1.4 million Hoosiers, include Steve Goldsmith of Indianapolis, Evansville's Frank McDonald II, Bloomington's John Fernandez and those of most other cities along or near the direct route. This is when things started to get interesting in Bloomington. Fernandez, a Democrat, immediately came under fire from Bloomington-area environmentalists who oppose the new terrain route. But then, another group rushed to Fernandez's defense. Members of the South Central Indiana Building Trades Council said Fernandez was being unfairly criticized by environmentalists. Then an untimely event happened in Bloomington. General Electric announced it might shift high-paying factory jobs from Bloomington to Mexico. This, no doubt, has caused a lot of interesting conversation among labor leaders. Some fear the new I-69 might only speed up the exodus of U.S. jobs because it will eventually become a trade corridor linking Canada to Mexico. Others argue that the threatened loss of GE jobs only underscores the need for I-69 and the economic development it will bring. It'll probably take a long time to sort these events out. But, to me, one thing is clear: Building coalitions can be every bit as complex as building highways. ❖

Kevin Leininger, *Fort Wayne News-Sentinel* - Embarrassed by a series of recent blunders by his staff, Allen County Prosecutor Robert Gevers is on the right track in requiring some of his attorneys to receive remedial instruction. Shielding the public from those who would prey upon it is too important a job to accept anything less than excellence. Whether this back-to-school edict improves the quality of justice in Allen County or merely provides political cover for an elected prosecutor, however, is largely up to Gevers. The truth is that the two most highly publicized mistakes should not have been made by first-year law students. Perhaps the mistakes that caused a judge to dismiss the most serious charges against the driver who ran down and killed a South Side High School student could be dismissed as mere incompetence, but the withholding of evidence -- which resulted in dismissal of charges against a man accused of shooting somebody to death -- indicates something else ❖

Larry Riley, *Muncie Star Press* - Want to know why no lawmakers want to take on rampant video gambling in Indiana? In the words of one local representative, the Legislature doesn't "have the stomach" to address the issue. No guts, huh? Figure out the most likely reason: A.) Legislators just don't think that thousands of unregulated video gambling machines scattered around various Indiana counties constitute much of a problem; B.) Legislators are so wrapped up in tax reform and educational initiatives in Indiana that they have no time to think about huge, unreported profits from gambling machines; C.) Money from the video gambling industry winds up in their pockets. ❖

Indiana Racing Form

INDIANA MAYORAL RACES 1999

Anderson Mayoral: Republican: Lani Czarniecki. **Democrat:** Mayor Mark Lawler. **Independent:** Linda Haynes. 1995 Results: Lawler (D) 9,411, Graham (R) 8,817. **1999 Forecast:** Word in political circles is there will be no action on the Lawler corruption probe until after the election. Czarniecki's campaign appears to have stalled. Haynes is making more waves, calling for outside police and fire chiefs and a code of ethics. We think Lawler is in better shape than he was at the beginning of the summer. **General Status:** *LEANS LAWLER.*

Elkhart Mayoral: Republican: Councilman Dave Miller. **Democrat:** Mayor James Perron. **1995 Results:** Perron (D) 5,017, McDowell (R) 4,869. **1999 Forecast:** Appeals court ruling on Perron's ghost-written letter to the *Elkhart Truth* about the FOP president stuns him, and he vows to take the case to the Supreme Court. We still think he's in OK shape. **General Status:** *Likely Perron.*

Evansville Mayoral: Republican: County Councilman Russell Lloyd Jr.. **Democrat:** Rick Borries. **1995 Results:** McDonald (D) 19,162, Frary (R) 9,565. **1999 Forecast:** "Bunny" the elderly elephant is in peril and believe it or not, that could become an issue. Borries commits to $10 million for the zoo, compared to a $30 million master plan. Lloyd has not taken a position. At least three debates set for the fall. Neither candidate will commit to naming a new police chief. **General Status:** *Tossup.*

Fort Wayne Mayoral: Republican: Linda Buskirk. **Democrat:** Graham Richard. **1995 Results:** Helmke 21,909, Essex (D) 11,033, Kempf (L) 1,029. **1999 Forecast:** Richard goes on the attack via the Helmke administration, charging the incumbent mayor for not acting quickly enough to fill depleted FWPD ranks and for using the Helmke law firm to do city legal work. Richard told the *Journal Gazette* that Buskirk is using Helmke administration successess and added, "It cuts both ways." Republicans expect a $250,000 blitz from Richard this fall. **General Status:** *Leans Buskirk.*

Indianapolis Mayoral: Republican: Secretary of State Sue Anne Gilroy. **Democrat:** Bart Peterson. **Our Party:** Rev. John Gibson. **Libertarian:** Andrew Horning. **1995 Results:** Goldsmith (R) 64,209, Jimison (D) 39,539, Dillon (L) 7,175. **1999 Forecast:** Anxiety grips Gilroy camp due to Cottey's power play and Goldsmith's foot dragging on the audit. Gilroy begins TV ad targeting school discipline. Peterson film crew tapes outside Secretary of State's office prompting Gilroy's camp to charge that a negative campaign is near. Three debates are set for October. This will be a barnburner. **General Status:** *Tossup.*

INDIANA 2000 RACES

Governor: Republican: U.S. Rep. David McIntosh, George Witwer, John Price. **Democrat:** Gov. Frank O'Bannon. **1996 results:** O'Bannon 1,107,342. Goldsmith 997,505, Dillon 35,261. **2000 Forecast:** Price goes on a four-day, 16-city media blitz promoting his "Hoosier Hope For Property Taxpayers." McIntosh gears up for his first multi-city fly-around as a candidate and his $1 million fundraiser at the Colts complex. The governor heads to French Lick for "Camp O'Bannon" and tributes to Larry and Mary Lou Conrad. **General Status:** *Leans O'Bannon.*

U.S. Senate: Republican: U.S. Sen. Richard Lugar. **Democrat:** David L. Johnson. **1994 results:** Lugar (R) 1,039,625, Jontz (D) 470,799, Bourland (L) 17,343, Barton (A) 15,801. **2000 Forecast:** Johnson had $120,068 cash on hand as of June 30, compared to $1.5 million for Lugar. Observes the *Cook Political Report*, "There are no signs that Lugar is vulnerable. Johnson is a smart, attractive candidate, but he has a lot to prove before Lugar is in

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HORSE RACE

TICKER TAPE

chairman of Michiana Against Casinos, "This is not about a casino in Las Vegas. This is here, where we live. A casino in the middle of where we work will change the face of our community."

Former U.S. Sen. Dan Coats is teaming up with his old campaign manager - Brose McVey - to give the McVey Group access to top federal lobbying talent. Coats joined the law firm of Verner Liipfert Bernhard McPherson and Hand. It is the same law firm where former Senate majority leaders Bob Dole and George Michell now practice law. "This relationship with Verner Liipfert will give our clients the best representation on matters federal and international issues available," McVey said.

Four abortion clinics and practioners have sued Indiana for violating its own constitution by not providing Medicaid funding for abortions. Said Dr. Ulrich G. Klopfer of the Women's Pavilion in South Bend, "It's discriminating against one segment of the population. It doesn't make any sense to force them to have additional children they can't afford to have," Klopfer told the South Bend Tribune. Other plaintiffs in the suit include the Clinic for Women in Indianapolis, the Women's Pavilion and Dr. Martin Haskell.

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TICKER TAPE

Rumors are rampant in school circles that Indiana is poised to lose a Congressional seat after the 2000 Census. That has prompted Morton Marcus, director of the Indiana Business Research Center, to press lawmakers for as complete a census count as possible. "I am concerned that Indiana have the most complete count that we can possibly have for strictly competitive reasons," Marcus told state lawmakers last week (Associated Press). One of the biggest concerns is accurately counting the state's rapidly growing Hispanic popula-

any danger." **Status:** *Safe Lugar.*

Congressional District 2: Republican: Mike Pence, State Rep. Jeff Linder, Andrew Phipps, Brad Steele, Fred Wenger, Bill Fraizer, Luke Messner. **Democrat:** Joe Hogsett, State Rep. Tiny Adams, State Sen. Tim Lanane, Troy Liggett, J.D. Lux. **Geography:** Muncie, Anderson, Richmond, Shelbyville, Columbus and East Central Indiana. **1994 results:** McIntosh 93,592, Hogsett 78,241. 1996 Results: McIntosh 122,288, Carmichael (D) 83,478, Zimmerman (L) 4,662. **1998 Results:** McIntosh (R) 99,584, Boles (D) 62,426, Federle (L) 2,236. **2000 Forecast:** Lutz is out on the GOP side and McIntosh Washington aide Luke Messer is considering a run. Sources say Hogsett and Adams are signaling they won't run, but Hogsett is officially mum. If Hogsett is out, look for a consensus to develop around Sen. Lanane, who will announce a decision by Labor Day. **General Status:** *Leans R.*

Congressional District 8: Republican: U.S. Rep. John Hostettler. **Democrat:** John Hamilton, Dr. Paul Perry. **Libertarian:** Paul Hager. **Geography:** Evansville, Bloomington, Vincennes and SW Indiana. **1994 results:** Hostettler (R) 93,529, McCloskey (D) 84,857. **1996 Results:** Hostettler (R) 109,582, Weinzapfel (D) 106,134, Hager (L) 3,799. 1998 Results: Hostettler (R) 92,227, Riecken (D) 81,381, Hager (L) 3,395. **2000 Forecast:** Hostettler reports $102,844 cash on hand as of June 30. Hostettler returns to district to press for the $792 billion GOP tax cut plan. "Instead of substantive tax relief, Clinton's budget calls for more spending," Hostettler said as he worked to drum up 8th CD support (*Courier & Press*). On the D side, Hamilton raises $124,000 and Perry $72,529. Perry declares himself a Blue Dog Democrat and will accentuate his ties to the Right to Life movement in Evansville. Observes the *Cook Political Report*, "The marginal nature of this seat and the fact that Hostettler has never won by more than 52 percent of the vote certainly makes this race worth watching. But Democrats have their own problems here as it looks like there will be an expensive, hotly contested primary battle. Plus, Hostettler, facing his fourth election, is battle tested and certainly prepared for a tough fight." Cook has it "Leans Republican." We have it ... **General Status:** *Toss-Up.*

Congressional District 9: Republican: Kevin Shaw Kellems, Michael Bailey. **Democrat:** U.S. Rep. Baron Hill. **Geography:** New Albany, Jefferson-ville, Madison, [illegible] amilton, 91,459 (D), Leising (R) 84,315. **1996** [illegible] Feeney (L) 2,315. **1998 Results:** Hill (D) [illegible] 97. **2000 Forecast:** Hill has $20[illegible],372 to $19,298 cash on hand advantage over Kellems as of June 30. **General Status:** *Leans D.*

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