THE HOWEY POLITICAL REPORT

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"QUOTE" OF THE WEEK

'He was the old grim reaper in that hospital ..."

- Attorney Eric Frey on convicted mass murderer Orville Lynn Majors, to the Kokomo Tribune

Technology trending toward Democrats?

Richard down by 1 point; Leucke up 19

By BRIAN A. HOWEY *in Indianapolis*

The Fort Wayne mayoral race between Republican Linda Buskirk and Graham Richard is a statistical dead heat and trending toward the Democrat, according to an HPR/TeleResearch Poll conducted earlier this week.

In South Bend, Democratic Mayor Steve Leucke has a comfortable 19 percent HPR/TeleResearch Poll lead and is forecast to win that election over Republican Steve Bradley.

In Indianapolis, WTHR reported Tuesday evening that Republican Sue Anne Gilroy and Democrat Bart Peterson are tied at 46 percent (See Horse Race, page 7).

With mayoral races in Fort Wayne, Evansville and Indianapolis all apparently in statistical dead heats and South Bend a lock for Democrats, the prospect that all four of Indiana's largest cities could end up in control of one party is a very real possibility. The most striking instance comes in Fort Wayne, where Graham Richard has overcome a double digit polling deficit a month ago to pull within 1 percentage point without any huge issue propelling him or damaging Republican Linda Buskirk. In conjures images of 1998 when the Democrats captured almost every contested Indiana House race and retook the lower chamber by a 53-47 edge.

The question less than two weeks from Election Day is whether history is repeating itself?

Evansville Republican candidate Russell Lloyd Jr. tells HPR that we may be seeing a repeat of the Democratic technological advantage that helped them win control of the Indiana House. "We're seeing them sending birthday cards to specific voters," Lloyd said. "They are pinpoint targeting

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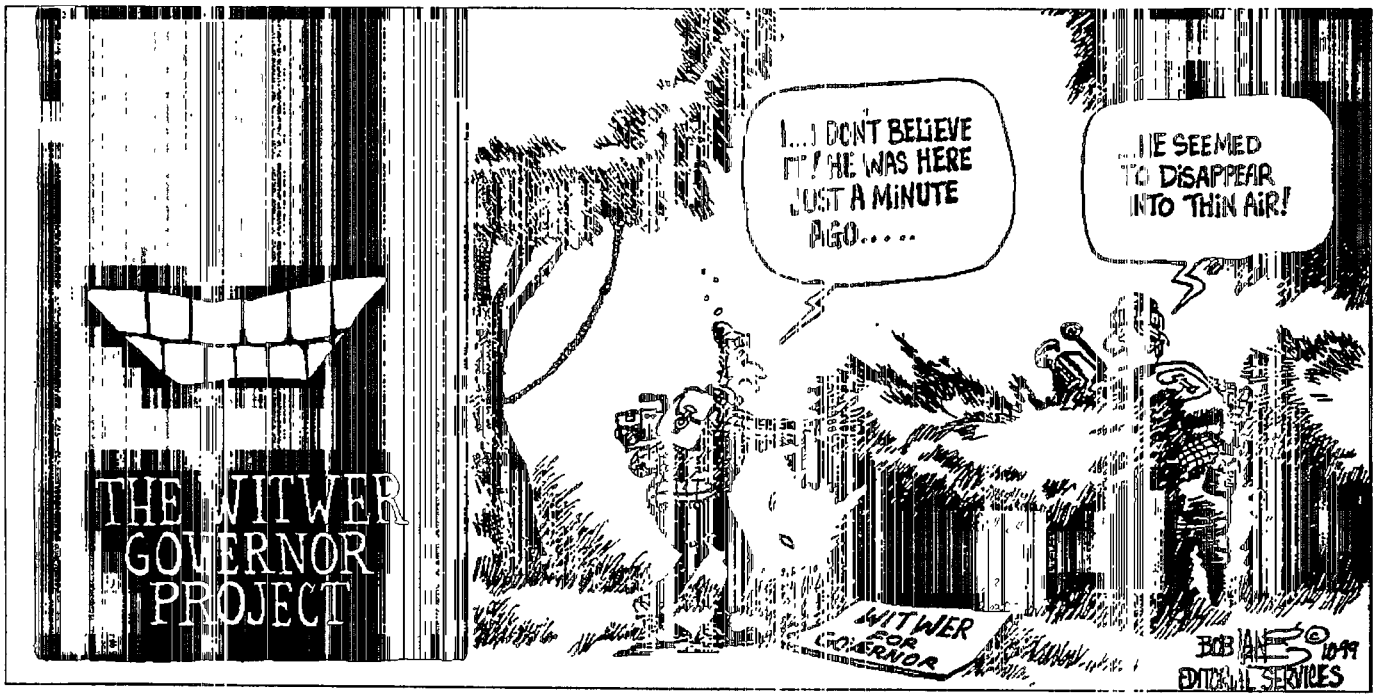
We're in Our Sixth Year!



TICKER TAPE

Elizabeth Dole probably won't get much support to be Gov. George W. Bush's veep nominee from the Indiana GOP delegation. Dole cancelled out of the $125-a-plate Indiana Republican Fall Dinner Tuesday night and sent U.S. Rep. Tillie Fowler in her place. WRTV's Norm Cox reported that top state Republicans "seemed a little miffed" at the 11th-hour cancellation as the 1,000 guests began arriving at the Indiana Convention Center. Channel 8 said Dole reported she was ill.

One in seven Hoosiers - 830,000 people - are without health insurance, a figure the Associated Press reported is "growing faster than the national rate." The

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Tech gap, *from page 1*

voters. We don't have the sophistication that they do."

Lloyd also pointed to party funding for Democrat Rick Borries. "Their party is spending big money and we're not. And it's not for a lack of asking," explained Lloyd, who said that Borries has received $33,000 from Indiana Democrats while his own campaign has received just $2,900 from the Indiana Republican State Central Committee.

Fort Wayne dead heat

The Fort Wayne poll included 570 likely voters with a 4.1 +/- margin of error. Buskirk has a 43-42 percent lead with 15 percent undecided. When TeleResearch conducted a poll for a Republican city council member two weeks ago, Richard was attracting 16 percent of the Republican vote. That had grown to 23 percent by early this week. Richard is also leading Buskirk among independents, 37-35 percent, with 28 percent undecided. Again, the trend is toward Richard with his margin there up 2 percent from the previous TeleResearch survey.

"This race is trending toward Richard," said Jeff Lewis, president of TeleResearch. The survey for HPR follows a *Journal Gazette* survey in late September that had Buskirk up 41-25 and a WTPA-TV poll two weeks ago that showed Buskirk with a 35-28 percent lead.

The HRP/TeleResearch poll included 41 percent male, 59 percent female. It had 43 percent Republican, 31 percent Democrat and 26 percent independents.

In the favorable/unfavorable category, the numbers between Buskirk and Richard are nearly identical. Buskirk has a 56 percent favorable/36 percent unfavorable rating with 8 percent undecided. Richard's fav/unfavs are 55/37.

It was a stormy week on the Fort Wayne mayoral front. As HPR forecast in its Oct. 14 edition, two FWPD officers were indicted on theft charges, a development that could hurt Buskirk. Then late last week, Allen County Republican Chairman Steve Shine attacked Richard on a $325,000 loan foreclosure for the Indiana Enterprise Center within the city in the mid-1980s. The *Journal Gazette* reported that "loan and court records indicate the money is still due, though uncollectible, Fort Wayne Mayor Paul Helmke

HPR Pre-Election Briefing Registration Info

Here is registration information for the four Howey Political Report Pre-Election Briefings:

Oct. 20 - South Bend Mariott, 123 N. St. Joseph St., 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., *Sponsors:* Baker & Daniels Law Office, Chamber of Commerce of St. Joseph County. *Local panelist:* Jack Colwell of the South Bend Tribune. *Reservation deadline:* Oct. 15. *Cost:* $18.

Oct. 21 - Greater Fort Wayne Area Chamber of Commerce, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. *Sponsor:* Baker & Daniels Law Office. *Local panelists:* John Okeson and Bob Lang. *Reservation deadline:* Oct. 15 *Cost:* $18.

Oct. 27 - Columbia Club, Indianapolis - 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. *Sponsors*: Baker & Daniels, NUVO Newsweekly, Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce. *Local panelist:* Ronald Gifford. *Reservation deadline:* Oct. 22. *Cost:* $18.

Oct. 28 - Metropolitan Evansville Chamber of Commerce - 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. *Sponsors:* Baker & Daniels, Southern Indiana Gas & Electric Company, American General Finance, MECC. *Local panelist:* Miriam Dant. *Reservation deadline:* Oct. 22. *Cost:* $18.

HPR '99 Pre-Election Briefing

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and City Attorney Tim McCaulay said."

But Andrew Downs of the Richard campaign questioned why the city never pursued the loan repayment. Richard responded, "I'm very proud of what we accomplished. I believe that the allegations, the half-truths and the politically motivated criticisms from my opponent's party chairman is a disappointing turn in this campaign."

While talk radio shows castigated Richard over the issue, the *Journal Gazette* lambasted Shine in a Sunday editorial. "Democrat Graham Richard presents himself as an experienced businessman who, as mayor, will lead Fort Wayne to more prosperity. Shine's effort to make some sort of scandal out of this falls flat."

The editorial continued, "Nevertheless, Shine raised a couple of legitimate questions. Did the city lose money on

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TICKER TAPE

Census Bureau reported that 14.4 percent had no coverage in 1998, compared to 10.6 percent in 1996 - a 35 percent increase.

Schererville Town Judge Daniel Dumezich appears to be assured of replacing retiring State Rep. Tim Fesko, the Times of Northwest Indiana reported. Dyer Republican Chairman Jim McShane declined to challenge Dumezich, telling the Times that the "fix is in." Dumezich is an attorney with the Chicago law firm of Mayer, Brown & Platt. McShane also said that behind the scenes maneuvering by Lake County GOP Chairman Roger Chaibai also prompted him to decide not to run. Dumezich denied that his looming appointment was preordained. "There was no grand conspiracy," he said.

When Gov. Frank O'Bannon arrives to dedicate Fort Wayne's Headwaters Park, it will mark his 36th trip to the city as governor (Fort Wayne News-Sentinel). O'Bannon has been in Evansville 19 times, South Bend 23 times, Lafayette 21 times, and Lake County 31 trips.

Talk about the difference a vowel makes. Woodburn voters will have a choice for mayor between a Richhart and a Reichhart. That's Republican Gary Richhart

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TICKER TAPE

and Democrat Clarence Reichhart. They are vying to see who will succeed nine-term mayor Herb Roemer (Journal Gazette).

Legendary basketball coach Marvin Wood died of cancer last week at age 71. Wood coached the famed Milan miracle team that won the 1954 Indiana boys basketball championship in an upset win over Muncie Central. Gene Hackman played the Wood character in the movie "Hoosiers." In 1990, the Republican Wood lost to State Rep. Craig Fry. He later won a Mishawaka City Council seat. "There has been no kinder, gentler man who ever left his community better through his coaching, teaching and humanitarian work," said long-time friend Max Eby.

Five supporters of Lake County Democratic Chairman Stephen Stiglich's East Chicago primary mayoral campaign have accused the city's police department of violating their constitutional rights (Times of Northwest Indiana). They were detained by ECPD as part of a vote fraud investigation. The ECPD is still investigating the case. The five include Christopher French, John Luellen, Randy Crawford, Earlean Johnson and Charles Smith. French is the half-brother of East Chicago Judge Lonnie Randolph. He was arrested for attempting to tamper

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Richard's project. Does Richard's company still owe money to the city?" Richard insisted he was cleared of all obligations when the IEC gave up the building the loan was financing.

On Monday, the *News-Sentinel* endorsed Buskirk.

Shine dismissed notions that the Democrats had a high-tech advantage over Buskirk and the GOP. "They are running an Evan Bayh style campaign by spending an inordinate amount of money. Richard has bought just about every available commercial slot between now and the election. But despite that barrage, the question is whether Linda can maintain her lead. I think she will."

If there is a technology gap, it isn't in the Allen County GOP, which got a jump on computer technology several years before either state party did. "We're on top of it," said Shine.

Leucke's lead is big

In South Bend, the HPR/Tele-Research Poll (341 likely voters, +/- 5.2 percent) has Leucke leading Bradley by a 51-32 percent margin with 17 percent undecided. Based on that information, HPR is forecasting Leucke.

While the two candidates evenly split the male vote, females preferred Leucke by a 60-20 percent margin. That may be due in part to a Bradley billboard campaign that reads: "My girlfriend said it's either her or South Bend. My girlfriend is gone. For me it's South Bend."

Said pollster Jeff Lewis, "Women hate that ad."

Bradley has also gone on the offensive against Leucke, calling attention to the mayor's conscientious objector status during the Vietnam War.

The HPR/TeleResearch Poll is consistent with a recent *South Bend Tribune* survey that had Leucke up by 14 percent.

As for fav/unfavs, Leucke had a 60/33 percent rating while Bradley's was 25/47 percent.

Gilroy-Peterson deadheat

In Indianapolis, internal tracking is showing the Gilroy-Peterson race to be a statistical dead heat.

Said one daily GOP campaign conference call observer, "There is a much greater degree of optimism."

Simultaneously, Peterson's campaign went through its hissy fit period, vehemently spinning the notion that Gilroy's TV ads were negative.

Gilroy has switched into an almost total tax mode, talking about The Peterson Plan in terms of "more programs" and higher taxes. Gilroy speaks to the camera on Peterson's "risky" plan and so does Mayor Stephen Goldsmith, who accuses the Democrat of "attacking the city budget" and supporting a risky plan that takes the city in the wrong direction.

It's a similar tactic Goldsmith used against Frank O'Bannon in September 1996 (38 tax increases) with disastrous results.

U.S. Sen. Evan Bayh responded for Peterson beginning Monday in a TV ad where Bayh looks into the camera and uses such key words as "best candidate," "bipartisan," "real plan without raising taxes" and ends with, "I know Bart Peterson will be a great mayor."

The Bayh-Goldsmith contrast mirrors the two campaigns: positive vs. negative. For vs. against. Bayh even looks sunnier than Goldsmith, who wears a dark sweater and seems to have a Nixonian 5-o'clock shadow.

Gilroy is relying on one of the most polarizing personalities - Goldsmith - to not only hold the GOP base that the mayor helped dismantle, but to attract independents. Quite a risky strategy in an election that could change the political realignment of the state.

Indy, Evansville polls

In the Oct. 28 edition of HPR, polling will be announced for the tight Evansville and Indianapolis mayoral races. ❖

Pence campaigin begins to take shape

By MARK SCHOEFF Jr.
The Howey Political Report

WASHINGTON-Radio talk show host Mike Pence has hired a Washington fundraiser and is beginning to shape his campaign for the open congressional seat in CD 2, which remains an amorphous political environment.

Pence traveled to Washington on Oct. 14-15 to meet with House Majority Leader Dick Armey (R-Texas), Sen. Richard Lugar, Reps. Dan Burton and John Hostettler, the National Republican Congressional Committee, political analysts, and political action committees. Although he is not a declared candidate, Pence said he will form an exploratory committee after the municipal elections on Nov. 2. An exploratory organization will enable Pence to begin raising money. He said he will make a decision on whether to formally enter the race in January.

Pence's statewide radio talk show airs on five stations in CD 2 He is one of the best-known figures in a GOP-leaning district that has a surfeit of potential candidates. Eight Republicans and five Democrats are considering entering the race to replace Rep. David McIntosh, who is running for governor. Pence could face primary challenges from two people with experience in political office - State Rep. Jeff Linder and former State Rep. Bill Frazier. Pence ran unsuccessfully for CD2 in 1988 and 1990, losing both times to former Rep. Phil Sharp.

On the Democratic side, Bob Rock Jr., Mike Wise and Ron Guyere are seriously considering a race, according to Ray Scheele, professor of political science at Ball State University and 2nd CD Democratic chairman. Anderson controller Lisa Julian and Melanie Fox, CD 2 vice chairman, also are mulling a run. Pence came away from his Washington meetings encouraged. "Clearly this a race that, after the primary, is going to be a top priority for the Republican party nationally," he said.

Joe Hogsett's withdrawal, the large, complicated field on each side, and recent congressional retirements, like Rep. John Edward Porter (R-Ill.), have diminished the chances that CD 2 will be the focus of national attention, Scheele said. The Democratic candidate will "have to demonstrate even more strength in terms of fundraising and electability because Joe's numbers were so strong." But a spokesman for the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee said he is confident about CD 2. The Democrats won 11 of 18 open seats in 1998. This year, the GOP is defending 16 open seats, the Democrats five. Republicans hold a five-vote majority in the House.

CONGRESS WATCH

"It's definitely on our radar," John Del Cecato, DCCC spokesman, said of CD 2. "This is the best open seat environment for the Democrats since 1958," when the party picked up 14 open seats.

The effort to win the House in 2000 took on a new dimension a few weeks ago when GOP presidential front-runner George W. Bush criticized the House GOP for its attempt to cut spending for a poverty program. Republicans are torn internally between Bush's "compassionate conservatism" and the sometimes hard-edged brand of the House leadership.

Although there are many elements that overlap between the two, Pence endorses Bush's approach. Pence said he has undergone a transformation since his 1990 campaign, when he was more bare-knuckled and pugnacious. In his radio and TV shows, he has tried to demonstrate that he "can disagree without being disagreeable. My ambition has been to have my own Christian values more consistently reflected in the way I've conducted myself in public life." ❖

TICKER TAPE

with a voting machine. The Times reported that "Lake County Sheriff John Buncich has maintained that numerous instances were discovered where people connected to the Stiglich campaign paid voters money in return for their absentee ballots, forged signatures on absentee ballot applications and collected completed ballots from voters without being authorized by the county election board. Although Buncich turned over the case file to the Lake County prosecutor's office months ago, so far no charges have been filed."

First Lady Judy O'Bannon returned from a two-week trip to three Russian cities. O'Bannon and State Rep. Phyllis Pond spoke to 15 goups in Moscow, St. Petersburg and Novgorod, offering guidance on how to work with businesses and the government.

Indiana Supreme Court Justice Theodore R. Boehm said there is growing concern that many judges will be quitting their jobs to rejoin the private sector. "Unless you want a court full of people who either need a job or who are old enough and financially secure enough to serve, something needs to be done," said Boehm (Associated Press). Boehm said that he took a substan-

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TICKER TAPE

tial pay cut to leave the Indiana law firm of Baker & Daniels to join the high court. The concern arises following Justice Myra Selby's decision to leave the high court in part because of low pay. Selby earned $118,000. Said Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard, "The level of salaries defines the pool of people willing to consider serving."

The City of Hobart will hire an outside auditor to review figures from the Lake County assessor's office to calculate the city's property values (Gary Post-Tribune). "Every year we've had to remind them to include the annexed portion of Ross Township in their figures," said Mayor Linda Buzinec.

Vanderburgh County Commissioner Bettye Lou Jerrel told local state legislators that the county is being penalized for being progressive (Evansville Courier & Press). The five-member legislative delegation met with commissioners to discuss legislative priorities for the upcoming Indiana General Assembly. "This is government at its best," said Jerrel. Commissioner Richard Mourdock expressed frustration with state mandates that have to be funded by the counties. He pointed to a Department of Corrections program where state prisoners are returned to counties during the final days of their

Indiana Racing Form

INDIANA MAYORAL RACES 1999

Anderson Mayoral: Republican: Dan Czarniecki. **Democrat:** Mayor Mark Lawler. **Independent:** Linda Haynes. **1995 Results:** Lawler (D) 9,411, Graham (R) 8,817. **1999 Forecast:** Lawler has a massive money lead over his opponents - $87,183 for the April 29 through Oct. 8 period. Czarieck raised $20,859. Haynes has raised $4,820. Ken de la Bastide wrote in the Anderson *Herald-Bulletin*, "If funding translates into votes ... Lawler will overwhelming win re-election. Gov. O'Bannon attended a Lawler fundraiser, but made no public appearance with the mayor under an Indiana State Police corruption probe. A flier both opposing campaigns deny distributing has recent *Herald-Bulletin* headlines on the corruption probe along with a header that reads, "Would you vote for this man?" Said Lawler, "It's slime politics. There is no legal disclaimer as required by state law. It's upsetting." The newspaper reported, "Lawler said it is not possible that someone in his own campaign produced the flier." In the Oct. 14 debate, the candidates were asked why they should be elected. Lawler mentioned five achievement awards for his administrtion. Czarniecki said, "Awards don't do it. I want a community that backs the government serving them. This community needs integrity. I know Anderson deserves better than it has today." A coalition of city unions declined to endorse any candidate. Czarniecki responded, "There was a lot of mistrust and concern about what was going on in the current administration." Lawler said he has never received the union endorsement, but he did pick up endorsements from the UAW, AFT and IBEW.. **General Status:** *Leans Lawler.*

HORSE RACE

Evansville Mayoral: Republican: County Councilman Russell Lloyd Jr.. **Democrat:** Rick Borries. **1995 Results:** McDonald (D) 19,162, Frary (R) 9,565. **1999 Forecast:** Borries out-raises Lloyd, $351,785 to $325,487 from April to Oct. 8. Borries had $21,441 cash on hand, compared to $9,960 for Lloyd, who said he's raised $50,000 more since the reporting deadline. Borries picked up $33,475 from the Indiana Democratic Party. Lloyd picked up the FOP endorsement. "This means a great deal to me personally," Lloyd said. Borries alleged that FOP President David Gulledge cast a tie-breaking vote and said he has a commitment from Lloyd to be the next chief. Gulledge told the *Courier & Press*, "Maybe it's a candidate coming unraveled." Lloyd told HPR that he now has "momentum." Lloyd said that riding night shifts of EPD in April and September have helped him understand public safety. "The No. 1 priority of my administration will be to get the drug dealers and drugs out of our neighborhoods and keep them out." He vowed to hire more police, increase training, provide more vehicles and institute community policing programs. Borries responded, noting that one issue Lloyd didn't address was pay. Lloyd ran a commercial alleging that Borries ignored a SAFE House study recommendation, saying, "Rick Borries, risking public safety - wasting tax dollars." The ad concluded with Lloyd saying, "Convicted felons and drug dealers should be locked up in jail, not let out on the streets. When I'm mayor, they will be." Borries bristled, telling the *Courier & Press*, "Name a specific felon I have released." Borries told the FOP, "I'm not the current mayor. I will be a different mayor. **General Status:** *Tossup.*

Elkhart Mayoral: Republican: Councilman Dave Miller. **Democrat:** Mayor James Perron. **1995 Results:** Perron (D) 5,017, McDowell (R) 4,869. **1999 Forecast:** Miller took on Perron's ethics during what the *South Bend Tribune* called "a spirited hour-long exchange." Said Miller, "I will be a mayor you can trust." Perron put the election in terms of a "referendum on the last four years of progress" and asked, "Who carries the best prospects for the future." Miller recalled a 1983 promise by Perron to raise the city's railroad tracks. "How many more campaigns are we going to have to wait until you follow through on that promise?" Miller asked. Perron replied, "One." **General Status:** *Likely Perron.*

Fort Wayne Mayoral: Republican: Linda Buskirk. **Democrat:** Graham Richard.

1995 Results: Helmke 21,909, Essex (D) 11,033, Kempf (L) 1,029. **1999 Forecast:** In what could be the stormiest political environment in Indiana during the last two weeks of the campaign, Buskirk and Richard debated Monday night. Richard went on the offensive, saying Buskirk has "not gotten the job done" on cutting red tape (*News-Sentinel*). Buskirk responded, "Words that scare every business person: I'm from the government, and I'm here to help" (*Journal Gazette*). Richard said he will try to consolidate the city and county "department by department." Buskirk said she will continue to annex to deliver a larger tax base. The *Journal Gazette's* take on the debate was this: "Paths, not goals, split candidates." Buskirk adocated creating a commission of business leaders to ferret out unnecessary regulation (Journal Gazette) . **General Status:** *TOSSUP.*

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:** WTHR released a poll (4.5 percent +/-) showing Gilroy and Peterson tied at 46 percent, with Horning at 5 percent and Gibson and 2 percent. Only 2 percent are undecided, which seems a little low (a WTHR poll last summer had only 4 percent undecided). Methodology was not explained by the station. Gilroy campaign appears to be in a more optimistic mode. Huge campaign obstacle: lists. For Peterson, a critical error may have been made in a TV commercial where he claimed to be a "tax cutter." Republicans seem ready to show that Peterson was part of the Bayh administration when cigarette and hospital tax increases were proposed. Mayor Goldsmith also tried to sell the "high taxer/big spender" notion in a TV ad. But Horse Race thinks it's going to be tough to sell folks on the notion that a Bayh protege is a big taxer. Goldsmith keeps finding ways to intervene in the political debate. The city spent $17,000 on a radio ad campaign telling listeners that their sewer bills may go up to $150 a month. Virtually every environmental group, the state and federal government deny increases that big. Gov. O'Bannon would never sign off on such taxes just prior to his 2000 re-election campaign. The *Indianapolis Star* called Goldsmith's radio ad campaign "childish." *NUVO Newsweekly's* cover story by HPR Publisher Brian Howey called the city's crack cocaine experience of the 1990s "the greatest social catastrophe in the city's history" - a statement that Gilroy and Prosecutor Scott Newman agreed with. The *NUVO* article then compared the Gilroy and Peterson crime/police programs. Horning began to run TV ads saying he will clean up the White River and end police roadblocks and profiling. There is much speculation on whether Horning's 3-percent rise in the poll is coming from Peterson or Gilroy. Both refused to share a forum stage with him a week ago following his cut-up antics during the first two televised debates. WISH-WFYI debate Wednesday night occurred after HPR's deadline. **General Status:** *Tossup.*

Kokomo Mayoral: Republican: Mayor Jim Trobaugh. **Democrat:** Councilman Mike Kennedy. **1995 Results**: Trobaugh 5,108, Lushin 4,713. **1999 Forecast:** Trobaugh out-raised Kennedy by a 5-1 margin, $49,867 to $9,249. The Kokomo Tribune reported that while Kennedy is planning for a "short media blitz," Trobaugh has been saturating local radio and print media for two weeks. Horse Race forecasts a Trobaugh victory. **Status:** *SOLID TROBAUGH.*

Mishawaka Mayoral: Republican: Robert C. Beutter. **Democrat:** Maurice VanBruaene. **1995 Results:** Beutter 5,521, Hall 2,572. **1999 Forecast:** Beutter has out-raised his opponent $113,611 to $6,013. VanBruaene promises a grassroots campaign, but it's hard to imagine Beutter losing. We forecast a Beutter victory. **General Status:** *SOLID BEUTTER.*

Muncie Mayoral: Republican: Mayor Dan Canan. **Democrat:** Ralph "Jigger" Smith Jr. **1995 Results:** Canan (R) 9,718, Carey (D) 6,521. **1999 Forecast:** In one of the most unusual exchanges in any race this year, Smith turned to Canan at a candidate forum and said, "I don't believe my opponent loves Muncie." Canan responded, "I find some of Mr. Smith's previous comments insulting. That is the most preposterous thing he ever said, and he has said some pretty preposterous things" (Muncie Star Press). Horse Race is forecasting a Canan victory. **General status:** *SOLID CANAN.*

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TICKER TAPE

sentences. State Sen. Greg Server said that was done to alleviate overcrowding in the state prison system. "That's going to be a hot button issue," said Server.

Vice President Al Gore said he may ask President Clinton not to campaign for him in 2000 (Washington Post). "I haven't made a decision yet," said Gore. "I may do that." The Post reported, "The vice president's ambivalence toward Clinton - the man once believed to be Gore's secret weapon in 2000 - underscored how dramatically the campaign dynamic has shifted this year and how uncertain Gore's own prospects are."

Marian Miller of Lafayette has been elected President of the National Federation of Republican Women.

Evansville-Vanderburgh School Supt. Phillip Schoffstall is predicting the Indiana General Assembly will make major changes in the ISTEP test (Evansville Courier & Press). "There is an outcry throughout the state," Schoffstall told the school board. "ISTEP is going to be adjusted by the legislature," he said, because public pressure is getting so intense that legislators cannot ignore it. Asked if the changes could affect the Class of 2000, the first class required to pass

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TICKER TAPE

the test, Schoffstall said, "If there are flaws in the exam, those flaws have been perpetuated on our children. It would be a terrible injustice to address that only in later years." Schoffstall is head of the Indiana Urban Schools Association.

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INDIANA 2000 RACES

Governor: Republican: U.S. Rep. David McIntosh, John R. Price. **Democrat:** Gov. Frank O'Bannon. **1996 results:** O'Bannon 1,107,342, Goldsmith 997,505, Dillon 35,261. **2000 Forecast:** The Excise Police sex allegations against Gene Honeycutt have now turned into a grand jury investigation and a full-fledged scandal. McIntosh called for the Indiana State Police to take over Excise, a proposal that didn't receive a lot of enthusiasm from the State Police Alliance at an event McIntosh had planned to speak to for several months. Said McIntosh, "When stunning allegations of corruption and abuse of power are discovered in law enforcement - when those responsible for enforcing the laws are themselves breaking them - Hoosiers' trust in government is shattered." Senior McIntosh campaign officials maintain the "scandal has legs. It's dominated news coverage for 10 days." McIntosh will begin linking the Excise scandale to other O'Bannon problems with the teachers retirement fund and the Muscatatuck Developmental Center, saying "there is clearly a pattern of abuse and someone is asleep at the wheel. Ultimately, the governor is in charge." Tom New, speaking for the O'Bannon campaign, said a previous proposal had already been made and rejected about combining ISP and Excise. "The congressman has spent the last six years in Washington or he would have known that had already been proposed," New said (WTHR). Price said it is too early to use the Excise scandal as a campaign issue (WTHR). McIntosh's appearance before the State Police Alliance also provided a forum of troopers saying they have to use their own cell phones because police radios don't reach the entire state. Gov. O'Bannon's recent $1,000-a-person fundraiser for Anderson Mayor Mark Lawler, who is under a corruption investigation, underscored the governor's sensitivity to ethics. The *Anderson Herald-Bulletin* wrote: "Reporters weren't allowed at the session, and the governor did not make himself available for interviews." Said Doug Davidoff of the Indiana Democrats, "This isn't the governor's event." On another troubled front for the governor, House Ways and Means Chairman B. Patrick Bauer will push for delaying the general reassessment in the upcoming legislative session. "It's not a complicated argument," said Bauer. "You either believe they (tax board) can do it right under this crunch ... or you don't think they can do it right. I think a lot of people and a lot of entities are saying, 'Don't do it" (Mike Smith, Associated Press). Senate President Pro Tem Bob Garton, the AP reported, "reacted coolly." **General Status:** *Leans O'Bannon.*

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