

The Howey Political Report



The Howey Political Report is published by NewsLink Inc. Founded in 1994, The Howey Political Report is an independent, non-partisan newsletter analyzing the political process in Indiana.

Brian A. Howey, publisher

Mark Schoeff Jr., Washington writer

Jack E. Howey, editor

The Howey Political Report Office: 317-254-1533
PO Box 40265 Fax: 317-466-0993
Indianapolis, IN 46240-0265 Mobile: 317-506-0883

brianhowey@howeypolitics.com
www.howeypolitics.com

Washington office: 202-775-3242;
Business Office: 317-254-0535.

Subscriptions: \$250 annually via e-mail or fax; \$450 annually including the HPR Daily Wire. Call 317-254-1533 or 254-0535.

© 2001, The Howey Political Report. All rights reserved. Photocopying, Internet forwarding, faxing or reproducing in any form, in whole or in part, is a violation of federal law and is **strictly prohibited** without consent of the publisher.

“QUOTE” OF THE WEEK

“I just finished icing down my arm...”

- President George W. Bush, speaking

Wednesday morning after throwing a strike before the World Series at Yankee Stadium Tuesday

‘Battle of Anthrax’ views from DC/home

Essays from Howey, Schoeff & Curry

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

The list of Indiana’s best and brightest in government now taking Cipro is getting longer: Dick Lugar, Mike Pence, Mitch Daniels, Marty Morris, Bill Smith, Andy Fisher and, now, David McIntosh.

U.S. Rep. Julia Carson’s Longworth Building office has joined the list that includes Sen. Lugar, and Reps. Pence and Mark Souder as those shut down due to the Battle of Anthrax. Carson’s staff might join the Cipro list as well.

Last Thursday, the case of OMB Director Mitch Daniels might have been a precursor of things to come. He flew in from Washington, arrived at his Geist Reservoir home, only to learn that his wife, Cheri, had discovered a piece of mail with what has now become familiar tormenting words - *a white, powdery substance*. The Secret Service, a hazardous materials team, FBI and local authorities all rushed to the Daniels’ home. The FBI confiscated the mail, checked out the mailbox and detoxified the house, all while Cheri, her teen-aged daughter and aunt went to Methodist Hospital for a series of tests.

On Tuesday of this week, Americans woke up to the news that a New York nurse had contracted inhalation anthrax and died on Wednesday. Then NBC News reported - that anthrax had been discovered at a U.S. Postal repair facility on the west side of Indianapolis.

HPR described the Battle of Anthrax as “the second airliner” a week earlier. We were amazed when we saw the first World Trade Center tower ablaze. We were sickened when we watched United Airlines Flight 175 hit the South Tower because we knew it was terrorism. Now we’ve

continued on page 2

INSIDE F E A T U R E S

Ticker: Rep. Bodiker to retire	p. 2
Schoeff: Conflict over fast-track	p. 4
Curry: Only in America	p. 5
Horse Race: Mayors want tax plan	p. 7
Columnists: Smith, Gerard	p. 8

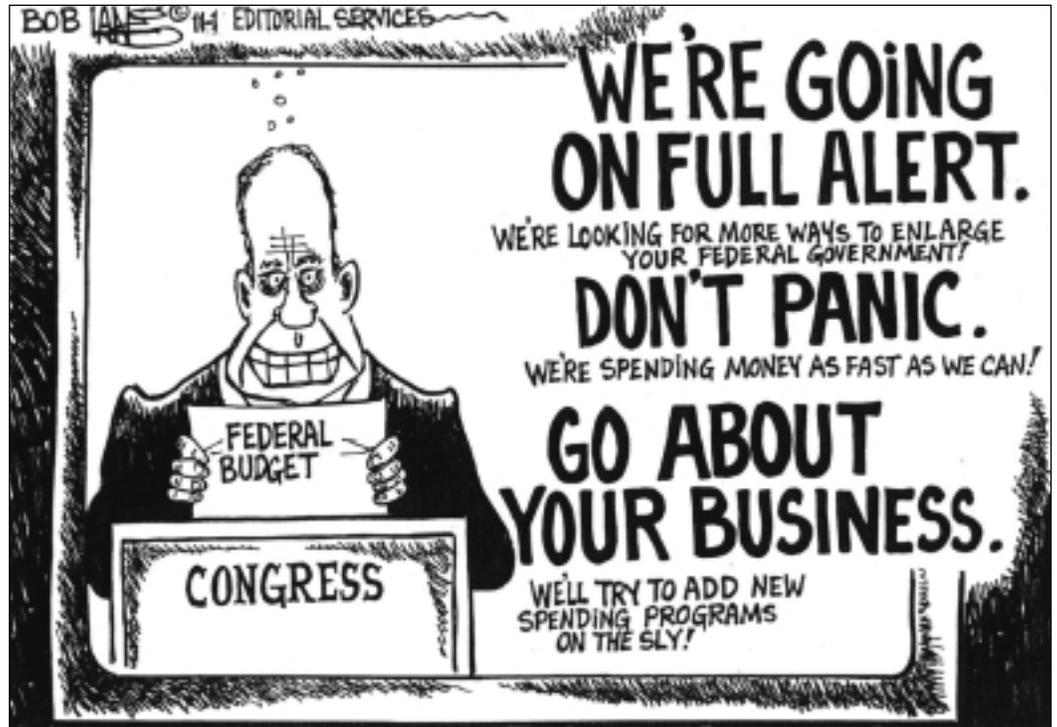
TICKER T A P E

BODIKER TO RETIRE: State Rep. Richard Bodiker, D-Richmond, won't seek re-election in 2002 (Rick Yencer, Muncie Star Press). "It's time to take a rest and decide what I want to do in the future," said Bodiker, who is 65. "It's difficult every 2 years to raise money and run for re-election." Bodiker has held the House District 56 seat in Wayne County since 1987. Republican Richard Hamm of Richmond, who Bodiker defeated twice, has already declared his intentions to run.

STEELE TO CHALLENGE LUTZ: Former congressional candidate Brad Steele is planning to challenge State Rep. Jack Lutz, R-Anderson, in HD35 (Yencer, Muncie Star Press) in next May's Republican primary. Steele is a Muncie attorney. Lutz, who represents House District 36, was drawn into District 35. Steele plans to make a formal announcement next week.

BAYH, McCAIN TO RENEW CALL FOR NATIONAL SERVICE: U.S. Sens. Evan Bayh and John McCain are expected to seek a larger commitment for national service at a press conference next week. The two will introduce The Call to Service Act of 2001, a bill which will harness the newfound spirit of national unity

Continued on page 3



Terror, *from page 1*

learned that the terror delivery system isn't a jumbo jet, but something as innocuous as our mail.

I was sitting in a Broad Ripple pub along with a dozen other people, keeping one eye and ear on the news, when that NBC report aired. There was a pregnant pause when the word "Indianapolis" was heard in that context. Then a buzz. But no panic. Hoosiers seemed to be following the lead of Daniels, who was interviewed by WTHR-TV in a baseball cap at his home, doing his long-neglected yard work last Thursday. "I'm not worried and I don't think people should be unduly worried," Daniels said. "I think we should be worried about some of our fellow workers. Postal workers, for example, who may be in the delivery channel for this." Daniels then repeated the current White House credo these days, which is, "If you're not at war, you're at work."

The day of the NBC report, Hoosiers began receiving a card from the U.S. Postal Service, titled, "What should make me suspect a piece of mail?" A day

later, Gov. O'Bannon and Mayor Peterson got confirmation from something they learned in the news media: the spores had arrived. O'Bannon explained, "At this level of exposure anthrax is not a threat to human health in Indiana. It did not handle any Indiana mail, so there is absolutely no reason for Hoosiers to be alarmed."

As Hoosiers watched their leaders begin personal battles with anthrax (fought with antibiotics), their offices closed, the U.S. Supreme Court moved, the Postal system under siege, they had to deal with the vague warning on Monday from Attorney General John Ashcroft: a new wave of terrorism is coming. The 18,000 law enforcement agencies need to be on "heightened alert," though most had been that way since the first warning went out on Oct. 11.

ABC News reported on Wednesday, "The threats are credible enough that we believe that if an attack does not happen in the given time frame, then it is probably because of the enhanced law enforcement, not because an attack was not attempted or planned," quoting an unnamed federal official. "We find this threat information to be very real and very

credible."

Lugar, appearing on CNN's *Larry King Live* a few hours after the Ashcroft announcement, said, "I presume the attorney general at the time of the briefing figured this would be intercepted by most news organizations. It's best to inform the American people if there is a serious threat."

Earlier in the day, O'Bannon was one of 40 governors who participated in a conference call with Homeland Czar Tom Ridge to talk about the warning.

Hoosiers in stride

The day the Daniels news broke, Indiana was under what the National Weather Service rarely describes as a "high risk" of tornadoes. Late that afternoon, the skies grew dark and foreboding, and a series of twisters struck LaPorte and St. Joseph Counties, killing one woman.

Hoosiers seem to be taking the "fear factor" in stride, as they do a tornado warning. We haven't seen any panic since the afternoon of Sept. 11 when people rushed to gas stations.

They are looking to their leaders to set the tone, and what they've heard from people such as Lugar, Daniels and Pence is a mixture of calm and defiance. Pence told Indiana reporters on Saturday, "I am here to announce that another attack on our national government has failed. As Christian believers, we begin our remarks giving thanks to God who protected our family and our staff from this unseen menace. In our family, we often say that the safest place in the world is in the center of God's will and we believe that we had his protection."

Hoosiers watched as President Bush confidently took the mount at Yankee Stadium Tuesday night and whipped in a perfect strike while New Yorkers - *those arrogant, vulgar, dominating New Yorkers* - gave him the standing O. It was yet another act of a president who instills confidence.

The Hoosier folks I know and who I've conversed with are concerned, but they're not freaking out. For one thing, no one is opening up an envelop (or just touching one) and dropping dead of a cyanide overdose. Hoosiers know this stuff can be treated, if caught. They are getting to know the symptoms. And they're ... well ... they're just pissed.

Many of them have put an American flag decal on their car or truck and they're waiting for the government to step up and take care of this mess. They know that these things take time. I've heard many Hoosiers say, "We've spent billions of dollars on the military. Now it's time to use it."

Economic concerns

The more pressing concern is coming with the economy. Bethlehem Steel's bankruptcy and possible demise could devastate Porter County's tax base. United Airlines underwent a shakeup after its management warned it could collapse next year, a potentially profound economic blow to Marion and Hendricks counties.

At the Indiana Fiscal Policy Institute annual meeting on Monday, Pat Kiely of the Indiana Manufacturer's Association noted the 37,000 production jobs lost since January 2000, with another 137 lay-off notices issued by companies (as required by law) and 93 of those permnent, representing 11,499 jobs. "Those jobs are not coming back," Kiely said. Hoosiers watched a TV battle aimed at Pence and U.S. Rep. Baron Hill over fast-track authority fought between labor and business concerns.

As 2001 comes to a close, we've been buffeted by tornadoes, spores and lay-offs. The attitude here in the heartland is one of hunkering down for winter, just as we did in 1941. We're preparing for some pain. We know we may lose some of our sons. The Clinton days now seem like the Coolidge days. We're only halfway through fall, and we're already anticipating spring. ❖

TICKER

T A P E

and purpose to dramatically expand the opportunities for Americans to serve their country as volunteers, in the armed forces, and in homeland defense. McCain and Bayh hope the energy and resolve of the American people can be used to help meet the many new challenges facing our nation. Their bill includes provisions to increase the number of citizen volunteer opportunities, add a new civil defense component to the mission of the Corporation for National Service, and modernize military recruiting and benefits.

MAJOR CALLS WAR A FIGHT FOR PUBLIC OPINION AT DEPAUW: The U.S.-led campaign against terrorism will increasingly become a battle over world public opinion, former British Prime Minister John Major said Monday night at DePauw University (Associated Press). Major told students and faculty that he fears Osama bin Laden and his al-Qaida terrorist network will increasingly try to convince the Muslim world that the U.S. campaign is directed not at terrorism, but at Islam. "Now this ploy may seem absurd to us this evening," Major said in a lecture to an audience of several hundred. "It may seem absurd to the well-informed. It may not be so absurd outside

continued on page 4

TICKER

T A P E

the mosques in the Middle East. . . . It may not be so absurd to people who are dispossessed, who are hungry, who are ill-educated, who hear these voices of hate pouring out with their bile against the Western democracies."

NEWPORT NEIGHBORS TO GET VX GAS WARNING RADIOS: Firefighters are preparing to distribute 3,517 specialized radios to warn families of any emergencies at the Newport Chemical Depot (Associated Press). The radios will be given to residents of Parke, Vermillion and Fountain counties who live within five miles of the depot, which houses VX, a deadly nerve agent. The radios will allow authorities to transmit within seconds six different messages warning residents of emergencies, such as a train accident, tornado or earthquake, said Faye Coomer, Parke County's deputy director of emergency management.

NYT-CBS POLL SHOWS AMERICAN WAR CONFIDENCE IS ERODING: Americans for the first time are raising doubts about whether the nation can accomplish its objectives in fighting terrorism at home and abroad, including capturing or killing Osama bin Laden, saving the international alliance from unraveling and protecting people from future attacks, the lat-

continued on page 5

Conflict returns to Washington

By MARK SCHOEFF JR.

WASHINGTON - -Six degrees of separation in Washington is now based on Cipro. Everyone seems to know someone -- or know someone who knows someone -- who is taking the antibiotic to stave off a potential anthrax infection.

But the political health of the capital can be gauged in something less tangible--conflict. In contrast to the fox-hole bonding that enveloped Washington in the immediate aftermath of Sept. 11, Capitol Hill is settling into familiar patterns of Republican and Democratic rivalry and general political battle.

"I think it's some good, healthy, collegial head banging, which I find stimulating," said Rep. Mike Pence (R-2nd CD), whose office tested positive for anthrax last week.

One issue that serves as a touchstone for the return to politics as we know it is the debate over fast track trade authority. Under fast track, the president can negotiate trade pacts that Congress can approve or reject but not amend. Advocates assert that foreign countries don't want to see a gut-wrenching agreement on eliminating tariffs and other trade barriers picked apart by Congress.

But as the Bush administration prepares for a World Trade Organization meeting next week in Doha, Qatar, some Democrats have taken exception to what they feel is an attempt by Republicans to wrap the fast-track issue into the campaign against terrorism. U.S. Trade Representative Robert Zoellick has argued that increasing global commerce through trade will raise standards of living around the world and help to combat the terrorist mindset. But Democrats -- and some Republicans -- believe that fast track will harm labor and the environment.

Rep. Tim Roemer (D-3rd CD) is undecided on fast track, which could come up for debate this month. As a member of the House Select Committee on Intelligence, he has been deeply

involved in the U.S. response to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and a strong supporter of President Bush in that area. But Roemer bristles at any attempt to make the fast track vote a referendum on patriotism. "I'm not sure that quite sells," he said in a recent *HPR* interview. "I have some concerns about Indiana's manufacturing sector and job security at a time when we're seeing layoffs around the country."

The politics of fast track remains the same post-Sept. 11. For Rep. Baron Hill (D-9th CD), that means that both the AFL-CIO (against fast track) and the Business Roundtable (in favor of fast track) have been running television ads

in his district. Hill, who voted in favor of extending permanent normal trade relations to China last year, is undecided on fast track. "He has supported the fast track idea in the past. He has not come to a conclusion on this specific piece of legislation. He wants to take a look at labor and environmental standards," said Hill spokesman Scott Downes.

Pence is a strong advocate of fast track and believes that it has 190 votes in the House so far. "There are a whole lot of people who wear the noble blue collar to work each day who are profoundly aware of the importance of foreign markets to their jobs," Pence said in an *HPR* interview. But the fight against terrorism can seep into any policy debate - for instance, when a topic is framed in terms of rallying around Bush. "The issue is: Do we want to trust the president?" Pence said.

But the important development is that there are issues to debate. "The fact that things are coming to the floor expeditiously is the real evidence of bipartisanship and comity," said Pence. ❖

CONGRESS WATCH

Returning Home: Only in America

By MARK CURRY

WASHINGTON - Only in America.

After nearly ten consecutive years of living overseas, our family was ecstatic when my wife accepted a posting at Department of State offices in Washington, DC, to begin the first week of September. We were looking forward to living at least two years, and hopefully many more, in our own country for a change.

No more armed guards on 24-hour patrol outside our house. No more worries about embassy security alerts. No more nervous glances in the rear-view mirrors while waiting at traffic lights. Our sons would have sidewalks and public schools and an entire first-world city of libraries, museums, monuments and attractions to explore, without the myriad fears we had faced in Korea, Brazil and Jamaica.

In August we moved to a suburb of Washington, and for six weeks we were at home in the United States.

"Only in America," we would say as we cruised the aisles of the local supermarket, marvelling at something as simple as a tub of whipped cream cheese. "Only in America," as we visited the Lincoln Memorial, where I was struck by the diversity and behavior of passersby. "Only in America," during a carefree picnic at a city park crossed with paved paths and dotted with hundreds of thousands of dollars of playground equipment, all free and open to anyone.

Our children began to pick up the mantra as we explored and celebrated our culture - during a visit to see the White House, at the open house for their new school, signing up for their first library cards, strolling through department stores, watching our community Labor Day parade.

And, while we openly discussed many of the problems in our society - the shame of the homeless, the concerns about crime, the petty disputes that tie up and even waste public resources - our

children agreed: "Only in America" was mostly wonderful, and true.

And then, as we all know, the entire world became strange.

As the twin towers crumbled 9/11, I pondered why someone would commit such an unthinkable act. I listen to the radio, read the papers and web sites, and watch late-night news analysis hoping to find clues. I cringe at reports that some celebrate the god-awful destruction. I am bewildered by those, particularly the Americans, who imply that we had it coming, for we are a caring and sharing people: I know this to be true, for I have seen it. While we are far from perfect, most of us are working to help, to repair, to build, to plant, to improve the lives around us. This trait is not peculiar to or found throughout America, but there is a lot more of it in the people here than in the countries I visited.

I've seen first hand the appalling lack of education in South America, but I guess I had no idea there was so much ignorance and hate in other parts of the world - my experience is that most people abhor violence. I had no clue that so many people would invest in our destruction because of notions rooted in spiteful half-truths, for my experience is that people admire at least some aspect - if not most - of our culture.

It is impossible to explain the implications of this new life we've all entered. For myself, I'm thinking maybe we won't stay in Washington as long as we had first hoped, maybe we should take another overseas tour and then retire back home near our friends and families in Indiana.

All the while I keep thinking to myself, as if in wonder, "Only in America." ❖

Mark Curry is a Washington correspondent for HPR.

TICKER T A P E

est New York Times/CBS News poll shows (Richard Berke, New York Times). Despite threats about anthrax unfolding virtually every day and little discernible progress in the air campaign against the Taliban, Americans are still offering President Bush their overwhelming approval. Bush's job approval rating, which soared after Sept. 11, stands firm at 87 percent. And Congress has an approval rating of 67 percent, the highest since the Times/CBS News Poll began asking about it in the 1970's. Even so, after six weeks in which people were not inclined to critique aspects of the government's response, there are stirrings of discontent that extend both to how the nation is responding to domestic terrorism and to how it is handling the war. The public is questioning whether the government is doing enough to forestall what it increasingly expects to be another terrorist attack in this country within months. Fifty-three percent say another attack is very likely, up from 46 percent two weeks ago and 36 percent two weeks before that. Most people say they expect the attack to be in the form of bioterrorism.

COMPANIES STUDYING TAX PLAN: Reactions vary to Gov. O'Bannon's plan for

continued on page 6

TICKER
T A P E

tax restructuring. Not all small businesses see it as "a fair and reasonable solution for everyone" (Peter Schnitzler, Indianapolis Business Journal). Edward J. Bowman, Indiana director of the National Federation of Independent Business, said the plan includes "a tremendous shift of tax liability from large corporations to small ones. If you really want to solve this problem, you don't shift the burden from one business to another. You shift it to the tax base generally. "This is a bold, far-reaching plan," said Kevin Brinegar, Indiana Chamber of Commerce vice president. "This is a \$2.6 billion-a-year rearranging of the tax code." Robert Kraft of the Indiana Farm Bureau said Indiana farmers are likely to support the plan because of its promise to rein in a property tax increase. High tech businesses are on the fence waiting to see whether cuts will be necessary to the state's \$50 million 21st Century Research & Technology Fund. Morton Marcus, director of the Indiana Business Research Center, said the plan "is a solid proposal. I think the basic structure is there." But he questioned whether reducing property taxes should be paramount. Chuck Martindale, acting president of Indiana Small Business Development Corp., said he doesn't think

Indiana 2002, 2004 Racing Form

TRENDLINE: Republican and Democratic big city mayors appeared outside a near north side Indianapolis home on Wednesday pressing for the legislature to act on tax restructuring in 2002. "We don't want to see it delayed until 2003 or 2004 when we're in a crisis mode," said Indianapolis Mayor Bart Peterson, a Democrat. Republican Evansville Mayor Russell Lloyd Jr. said Vanderburgh County was going to see property tax rates increase by 30 percent. "It still hasn't resonated with the public," Lloyd said. Republican Lafayette Mayor Dave Heath added, "We want to make sure our legislators are aware that these issues cannot be put off until 2003. This is a bipartisan issue." Lloyd said he had talked to Sens. Murray Clark, Luke Kenley and Gregg Server and added, "They seem to understand. I have not talked with Sen. Borst." Bottom line on all of this: Sen. Borst and Rep. B. Patrick Bauer are going to be under considerable pressure to resolve the issue in 2002.

Governor 2004: Republican: David McIntosh, Sen. Murray Clark, Sen. Luke Kenley, Randall Tobias, Paul Helmke, Eric Miller. **Democrat:** Lt. Gov. Joe Kernan. **1996 Results:** O'Bannon (D) 1,075,342, Goldsmith (R) 997,505, Dillon (L) 35,261. **2000 Results:** O'Bannon (D) 1,230,345, McIntosh (R) 906,492, Horning (L) 38,686. **2004 Forecast:** Joe Kernan's tax plan, while attracting some of the inevitable criticism, appears to be holding up relatively well as a "starting point." House Minority Leader Brian Bosma was calling it "the good, the bad and the ugly." Kernan's recent appearances seem to find audiences receptive to what he has to say and he's proven to be good-natured on the stump. As we wrote last week, the key will be how effectively he and Gov. O'Bannon sell this plan. Some are speculating that Kernan will be in a considerable compromise mode in order to achieve some success, which ultimately will bolster his political standing. On the GOP side, OMB Director Mitch Daniels is keeping a high profile in Indiana, availing himself of the local media. He gives the keynote address next Monday night at the annual Allen County Republican Bean Dinner in Fort Wayne. **Status:** *Leans D.*

HORSE RACE

Secretary of State 2002: Republican: Mike Delph, Deputy Secretary of State Todd Rokita, Richard Mourdock, Dr. John McGoff, Paul Helmke. **Democrat:** Bloomington Mayor John Fernandez. **Libertarian:** Paul Hager. **1994 Results:** Gilroy (R) 902,100, Jeffers (D) 542,539, Dillon (L) 32,483, Knight (A) 13,948. **1998 Results:** Gilroy 828,557, Little (D) 652,565, Dillon (L) 51,775. **2002 Forecast:** McGoff, twice elected Marion County coroner, attended a reception in his honor hosted by the Elkhart Emergency Physicians Group on Oct. 24. The event coincided with severe storms, which battered the surrounding area and resulted in four tornadoes, some just a few miles from the evening's event. "The sky was very dark and at one point the rain was coming down sideways," commented Dr. McGoff. A state of emergency was declared in neighboring St. Joseph County so that only emergency vehicles were allowed on the roads. Despite the weather, more than 20 people turned out and added a nice bundle of contributions to Dr. McGoff's campaign. The events co-hosts included former Gov. Otis Bowen, State Sens. Marvin Riegsecker and Joe Zakas, State Reps. John Ulmer and Richard Mangus, Mayor David Miller of Elkhart and Tim Neese, president of the Elkhart City Council. "I continue to be encouraged by the progress we are making around the state and the level of support from people outside central Indiana," McGoff said. **Status:** *Tossup.*

Congressional District 2: Republican: Chris Chocola. **Democrat:** Jill Long Thompson, Mark Meissner, State Sen. William Alexa, Kathy Cekanski Farrand. **Geography:** South Bend, Michigan City, Mishawaka, Elkhart, Kokomo, Plymouth, Logansport; LaPorte, St. Joseph, Starke, Marshall, Pulaski, Fulton, Cass, Carroll and parts of Howard, Porter, Elkhart and

White counties. **Media Market:** South Bend-Elkhart, Indianapolis, Lafayette, Chicago. **2000 Result:** Roemer (D) 107,076, Chocoma (R) 98,367. **2002 Forecast:** Former U.S. Sen. Birch Bayh will stump for JLT in Michigan City, South Bend, Elkhart and Kokomo on Friday in a whirlwind tour. Thompson expects the Bayh appearances to energize her support. **Status:** *Leans JLT.*

Congressional District 4: Republican: U.S. Rep. Steve Buyer, U.S. Rep. Brian Kerns, State Sen. Mike Young. **Democrat:** Open. **Geography:** Tippecanoe, Clinton, Boone, Montgomery, Hendricks, Morgan, Lawrence and parts of Marion, Johnson, Monroe, Fountain and White counties. **Media Market:** Lafayette, Indianapolis, Terre Haute, Evansville, Louisville. **2000 Results: Old 5th CD:** Buyer (R) 132,035, Goodnight (D) 81,423; **Old 7th CD:** Kerns 131,562, Graf (D) 65,174. **2002 Forecast:** Young officially kicked off his campaign last week and declared that Buyer and Kerns "are self-destructing." That comes after Kerns was caught in an apparent fabrication saying he witnessed Flight 77 crash into the Pentagon when he was in his Capitol Hill office at the time with a representative from the VFW. Buyer has sparked some controversy over his remarks that the use of tactical nuclear weapons needs to be debated here in the U.S. As HPR's Brian Howey reported in his statewide newspaper column last week, Buyer was floating that as a trial balloon for the Bush administration. A credible Pentagon source confirmed that for HPR over the weekend. Buyer was featured on CNN's Wolf Blitzer Reports explaining the scenarios in what appeared to be overtures where reaction was being gauged by the Bush administration. Of these two events, the Kerns faux pas will be the most damaging. There's a huge difference between floating a controversial trial balloon for a popular sitting president and getting caught in a fib - and one centered around a national tragedy no less. We still see Buyer as the front-runner in this race, but it would not be surprising if Young, an aggressive campaigner who will be emphasizing his conservative credentials, becomes Buyer's primary challenger. **Status:** *Leans Buyer.*

Congressional District 6: Republican: U.S. Rep. Mike Pence. **Democrat:** Melina Ann Fox. **Geography:** Anderson, Muncie, Richmond; Wells, Adams, Blackford, Jay, Madison, Delaware, Randolph, Henry, Wayne, Rush, Fayette, Union, Decatur, Franklin, and parts of Bartholomew, Shelby, Johnson and Allen counties. **Media Market:** Indianapolis, Fort Wayne, Dayton, Cincinnati. **2000 results:** Pence (R) 106,023, Rock (D) 80,885, Frazier (I) 19,070. **2002 Forecast:** Pence received considerable media attention this week after anthrax spores were found in his office. He was both reassuring and defiant, declaring to perpetrators, "You have failed." Pence has probably garnered more PR than any Hoosier freshman congressman in memory - and that includes David McIntosh. Fox met with the National Women's Political Caucus in DC last week. She has hired consultants: Feldman Group (Diane Feldman) and MacWilliams, Robinson & Partners (Will Robinson). **Status:** *Leans R.*

Congressional District 8: Republican: U.S. Rep. John Hostettler. **Democrat:** Paul Perry, Hal Johnston, Bryan Hartke. **Geography:** Evansville, Terre Haute, Greencastle; Posey, Vanderburgh, Warrick, Gibson, Pike, Martin, Daviess, Knox, Sullivan, Greene, Owen, Clay, Vigo, Vermillion, Parke, Putnam, Warren and part of Fountain counties. **Media Market:** Evansville, Terre Haute, Indianapolis, Lafayette. **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 Results:** Hostettler 116,860, Perry (D) 100,461. **2002 Forecast:** The first candidate for the seat in the newly drawn 8th Congressional District made it official last week. Bryan Hartke, a Democrat from Warrick County, is the nephew of former Indiana Sen. Vance Hartke. He'll probably have his hands full against the incumbent, Rep. John Hostettler, who has proven to be a winner against strong opposition. Hostettler hasn't made much in the way of overture to contact folks who live in this new, northern portion of his district, but he may not have to as long as he remains strong in the 10 counties that remain under his umbrella (Pete Ciancone, *Terre Haute Tribune-Star*). Hartke said he supports what President Bush has done so far in this war against terrorists, but believes other issues will arise that will have an equally great impact on Hoosiers. How well his message plays will probably hinge on how this war seems to be going next summer. **Status:** *Likely Hostettler.*

- **Brian A. Howey** ❖

TICKER

T A P E

the plan would harm small businesses, and those who think it would need to understand its benefits. (<http://www.ibj.com/topstories.asp?A=8366>)

ZORN SAYS KERNAN PLAN VULNERABLE TO BOOM AND BUST: Gov. Frank O'Bannon's plan to restructure taxes will leave government more vulnerable to the boom-and-bust cycles of the economy and require a larger rainy day fund to weather recessions, a state tax expert said at the Indiana Fiscal Policy Institute's annual meeting (Lesley Stedman, *Louisville Courier-Journal*). Indiana University economist Kurt Zorn said the plan will shift government funding away from the relatively stable property tax to sales and income taxes, which produce revenues that are far more cyclical. In good economic times, the state likely would be flush with cash, he said. But when the economy sours, state revenue probably would drop considerably, he said. "That will require more discipline in the executive and legislative branches," said Zorn.

O'BANNON PLEDGES PORTER SUPPORT: Gov. Frank O'Bannon met in Merrillville Sunday with representatives from Porter County and pledged to throw his weight behind an effort to bail the county out of its

continued on page 8

TICKER T A P E

financial jam due to Bethlehem Steel filing for bankruptcy (Robin Biesen, Times of Northwest Indiana). The Porter County delegation said the county needs an infusion of \$10 million this year and as much as an additional \$21 million in 2002. Porter County Commission President Larry Sheets said after the meeting he was "not discouraged." Sen. Rose Ann Antich, D-Merrillville, has drafted two versions of a bill to provide Porter County with financial aid. Senate President Pro Tem Robert Garton, is the key to getting action on her measures. He must suspend the rules when the legislature meets Nov. 20 to allow the package to be approved in one day.

CASINO ASSOCIATION WON'T PUSH DOCKSIDE: Indiana's 10 riverboat casinos are divided on the details of dockside-gambling legislation -- which could make it much harder for them to get a bill passed in next year's General Assembly. In fact, the Casino Association of Indiana, the industry's trade group, has decided not to push the issue because of the lack of agreement among its members (Lesley Stedman, Louisville Courier-Journal). "It's of the utmost importance that everyone is united behind one effort for dockside," said Rep. Charlie Brown, D-Gary. "I think a divided party is always easier to conquer." ❖

COLUMNISTS ON INDIANA

Sylvia Smith, Fort Wayne Journal Gazette - There aren't many issues in America that generate 100 percent agreement, or even near it. But these days, you'd be hard-pressed to find anyone who disagrees with the idea of upgrading the safety of airline travel. In particular, improve the screening of passengers and their luggage. The Senate passed a bill Oct. 11 - two full weeks ago. What's the hold up in the House over something as innocuous - and widely supported - as tightened airline security? Part of it, to be sure, is that the weeklong closing of some congressional office buildings for anthrax decontamination unavoidably slowed things. But a far larger part is politics. No one disagrees, you see, on the need for more baggage handlers and people screeners. Air marshals, stronger cockpit doors, pilot and flight attendant training on dealing with hijackers, scrutiny of foreigners applying for flight training courses - all good ideas. The tug-of-war is over whether those extra people should be federal workers or employees of private contractors, as they are now, who win the bid by offering the lowest price and, it follows, paying workers poorly. Rep. Mark Souder acknowledges that the flying public doesn't really care. They just want to feel safer on that flight from Chicago to St. Louis. They want business and vacation travelers back in the skies so their jobs in hotels, airports, coffee shops, souvenir stands and bars start to feel a little more secure. But the House continues to futz. There are some, mainly Democrats, who say the federal government should issue the paychecks of airline baggage screeners. Their logic is that it's the only way to ensure passenger safety. There are others, particularly conservative Republicans, who say fighting terrorism should be no excuse for expanding the size of the federal government. Some will

also acknowledge that they are loath to create as many as 30,000 new union jobs. Souder said the resistance to more union jobs doesn't have anything to do with partisan politics. "We're opposed to it because it wouldn't give as much flexibility in being able to move people around or hire and fire them," he said. Of the two viewpoints, the Republicans' appears shallow, if not stupid. The American people have demonstrated a willingness to spend billions of dollars on fighting terrorism. Can the GOP really think there's much of an objection to an additional 20,000 or 30,000 federal workers out of a total federal civilian workforce of 1.8 million? ❖

Gary Gerard, Warsaw Times-Union -

From the outset of our response to the now month-old terrorist attacks on our nation, we have been told by our government that this is a war against terrorism, not against Islam. That is, of course, a correct characterization of our actions. We, as a government, a country or a people are not targeting Islamics. We are targeting terrorists. Thousands of Americans were mercilessly murdered on Sept. 11. We had to respond. The religious affiliation of the murderers is truly irrelevant. This most definitely is not a war between Christianity and Islam. Any rational person understands that, which brings me to what worries me about this whole war on terrorism. We aren't dealing with rational people. Osama bin Laden and his devotees are not rational people. I truly believe bin Laden wants this to be a war between Islam and Christianity. A holy war or Jihad, as he calls it. That is what he hopes for. That is what he prays for. This is worrisome because bin Laden is charismatic. Portions of his rhetoric play well throughout the Arab world. ❖