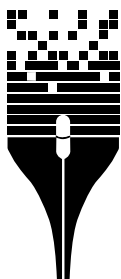


The Howey Political Report



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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: 317-968-0487
Indianapolis, IN 46240-0265 Mobile: 317-506-0883

brianhowey@howeypolitics.com
www.howeypolitics.com

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

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“QUOTE” OF THE WEEK

“Forget about it, junior. I know that look.”

- Republican gubernatorial nominee Mitch Daniels, to a young man in the crowd after he had introduced his daughter, Maggie, who will be a freshman at Indiana University next year.

Borst’s defeat a seismic power shift

Meeks, Kenley, Nugent eye Finance

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY** in Indianapolis

The stunning 49-vote upset of powerful Senate Finance Chairman Larry Borst by Johnson County Councilman Brent Waltz on Tuesday offered the biggest jolt to Indiana’s calcified power structure.

If Borst’s defeat holds up, it shifts power from the Senate Republicans to the next Indiana governor. As of mid-day, there were about a dozen provisional ballots to be counted in Marion County and only three in Johnson County, Waltz told HPR. He didn’t expect any of those to be counted because they lacked accompanying affidavits. The SD36 election won’t be certified in Marion County until Monday and Borst has until Tuesday to file for a recount.

Sen. Borst held the reins of Senate Finance for more than 30 years and his power transcended the five governors who held office above him, but who had to have him sign off on every budget and tax bill. When an Indiana budget over the past 16 bienniums reached the homestretch, it was always Borst who would say, “This is the way it’s gotta be.” It was Borst who crafted the final version of the historic 2002 tax restructuring legislation. Had he not changed his stance in January of that year, tax restructuring never would have happened.

Borst’s loss has the potential of shaking up the Indiana Republican Senate. President Pro Tempore Robert D. Garton had to fend off a challenge to his leadership in 2002 from State Sen. Murray Clark, the 2000 lieutenant governor nominee who now chairs the Mitch Daniels gubernatorial

Special Report

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HPR Forum Will Feature Dr. Larry Sabato on Oct. 1 at the Downtown Marriott

TICKER

T A P E

INDIANA TAX REVENUES UP: Indiana's tax collections in April came in higher than projected for a second straight month, according to figures released today by the State Budget Agency. The state collected \$44.2 million, or 3.7 percent, more than the \$1.18 billion that had been forecast (Indianapolis Star). April is historically the state's biggest month for revenue because of the April 15 income tax deadline. That puts the state about \$38.1 million, or 0.4 percent, ahead of January's revised revenue estimate for the 2004 budget year with two months remaining. In a written statement, Gov. Joe Kernan called this "encouraging news." "In the last few months, we've seen several indicators, including job growth and business investment, that point to an economy that is picking up," said Kernan, a Democrat. The governor's hoping for an economic recovery as he heads into a November election in which he will face former White House Budget Director Mitch Daniels, a Republican. April also was the second consecutive month in which the state's "Big Three" taxes have exceeded the forecast, with sales taxes exceeding estimates by \$13.1 million, corporate income taxes by \$10.2 million and individual income

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campaign. Borst was the biggest underpinning of Garton's stranglehold on power, using fear and intimidation to instill discipline in a Senate caucus where a dozen mid-level senators were denied clout and a freer range on issues. A challenge to his leadership is not out of the question.

The Senate runs on seniority, with the current pecking order now Garton, Harrison and Sen. Johnny Nugent, who could have first dibs on Senate Finance, though much of the speculation now centers on Sens. Robert Meeks and Luke Kenley, both of whom serve on the Senate Finance and Budget committees.

It sets up the scenario where aging senators such as Harrison, Pat Miller, Beverly Gard and Tom Wyss could face primary challenges of their own from established city, county or school officials who already have a constituency and political organization in place. That roadmap has now been laid out by the 30-year-old Waltz who parlayed his own successful runs for county office, the political organization of his uncle (Greenwood Mayor Norm Henderson) and hard work that resulted in an upset those held captive by prevailing conventional wisdom dreamed unimaginable.

Borst's defeat not only shifts more power to the next Indiana governor, but to House leaders. If Gov. Joe Kernan wins, he probably brings with him an Indiana House where Speaker B. Patrick Bauer and Ways & Means Chairman Bill Crawford will wield more influence over final budget bills.

If Republican gubernatorial nominee Mitch Daniels wins, and brings in a GOP House, that clout will pass to Reps. Brian Bosma (the presumed next speaker) and ranking Ways & Means Republican Jeff Espich.

But more importantly, Daniels, who has been promising an "aggressive" and comprehensive agenda as governor, would not be forced to kiss the ring and jump through the hoops of Borst, who has

been accustomed to calling most of the shots on anything finance. Daniels has a long relationship with Borst stemming from both men's relationships with former GOP Chairman L. Keith Bulen.

The big winners in a post-Borst era include not only Ways & Means Chairman Crawford, but Indianapolis Mayor Bart Peterson, who could need assistance from the legislature in dealing with the Colts, the Indiana Convention Center expansion, and the huge police and fire pension liabilities that have helped to create a \$100 million deficit. Peterson and other big city mayors chafed under Borst's condescending manner and his vows not to come to their aid. In fact, Borst went the other direction and imposed a spending cap on local units of government that will handcuff cities and school districts.

Gubernatorial reaction

Mitch Daniels campaign acknowledged today that "Sen. Borst was a good friend and Mitch supported him," said campaign manger Bill Oesterle. The impact of the loss "will have some effect. Someone who has been there that long will mean there will be big changes."

Oesterle said he didn't expect the dynamic between Senate Finance and a "Gov. Daniels" to change. "Mitch has a good working relationship with a lot of senators, including Sen. Garton. It won't be dramatic. I don't see this as anything where we'll say, "Oh, gosh, this changes the whole equation."

Steve Bella, issues director for the Kernan campaign, disagreed, to a point. "It certainly changes the dynamics of Senate leadership, as far as who ends up being finance chairman. Gov. Kernan has shown the ability to work with the Republicans in the Senate and that will continue."

"But," Bella added, "It's going to be unknown territory. Larry Borst brought a lot of good things to Indiana and he'll be missed on both sides of the aisle." ❖

Daniels easily defeats Eric Miller

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY**

INDIANAPOLIS - Fresh off a 2-to-1 victory over Eric Miller in the Republican gubernatorial primary, nominee Mitch Daniels will quickly turn to his campaign's next piece of business, which is anointing a running mate.

Campaign sources tell HPR that decision will be made by the middle of May. During the WTHR-TV debate last Saturday, Daniels said the criteria include a "readiness to step in as governor. I'll look for someone who shares a commitment to reform" and "someone who will help me do the most ambitious legislative program. There will be a very aggressive program on the desk. I want someone who can step in and help me get it through."

That description might fit State Sen. Becky Skillman, R-Bedford, a former Lawrence County clerk and a member of Senate leadership.

Campaign sources said that a list HPR printed in April included some names under consideration and didn't include others.

The HPR "short list" included former Rose-Hulman President Sam Hulbert, former congressman John Hiler, Biomet CEO Dane Miller, and Langham Transport CEO Cathy Langham. Others on the list included GOP Vice Chairwoman Jean Ann Harcourt, Sens. David Long, David Ford, Sue Landske, Murray Clark, Luke Kenley, and Teresa Lubbers, Auditor Connie Nass, Treasurer Tim Berry, 2000 nominee David McIntosh, Eric Miller and former State Rep. Dan Dumezich.

Because they live in Indianapolis, Lubbers, Langham, and Clark probably won't make the cut. Kenley might be in line to succeed Sen. Larry Borst as Senate finance chairman.

As for how close the Daniels-Miller race really got, we may never

know. There was no independent media polling. There was a lot of anecdotal evidence -- based mostly on yard signs -- that suggested Miller was closing the gap. But President Bush's appearance with Daniels in South Bend on Monday could have blunted any inroads.

"I don't think it got that close," said Daniels campaign manager Bill Oesterle. "We won St. Joseph County. I think the presidential visit reinforced the notions people already had."

Oesterle said the Daniels "grass-roots" campaign had been in the works for more than two years, "when we were trying to convince Mitch to run."

It ended with Daniels "getting more votes than any other candidate in a contested gubernatorial primary," Oesterle said. "We turned out a lot of voters -- 330,000. It was a huge turnout. Our grass-roots campaign really dovetailed with Mitch's travels very well. You can see that in our fundraising, which includes a lot of diverse and small donations. Those things are all related."

Daniels immediately sought to reach back out to the center he had to abandon during his landslide victory over Miller, who had pressed him on the abortion and gay marriage issue. Speaking to a campaign rally in Bloomington, Daniels said, "To Democrats, to independents and to those for whom the political process has recently seemed pointless or irrelevant, we say, 'Join us. Our problems are not philosophical. They are practical.'"

In his first remarks as nominee aimed at Kernan, Daniels said, "To our customers of state government and to state employees laboring under bloated, unimaginative leadership, we say: 'Help is on the way. The mismanagement of the people's business harms the interests of every citizen, but our young people have the longest futures and the most at stake.'"



TICKER T A P E

taxes by \$4.7 million. In addition, sales tax revenue growth has exceeded 5 percent over the same period a year earlier in each of the past four months, State Budget Director Marilyn Schultz said. "Sales tax revenue is considered to be one of the first indicators of the direction the economy is headed," she said. "Certainly, this may give us reason to be hopeful, but in the meantime, we will continue to work together with our partners in state government to manage this very tight budget."

ELECTION RESULTS:
These are official election results from the Indiana Secretary of State's office:

PRESIDENT (Democrat)	
Clark	17,153
Dean	20,920
Edwards	34,750
Kerry	224,634
Kucinich	6,775
LaRouche	4,482

President	Republican
Bush	436,691

GOVERNOR	
Kernan (D)	276,126
Daniels (R)	312,357
Miller (R).	156,880

US SENATE	
Bayh (D)	296,118
Scott (R)	326,436

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T A P E

CONGRESSIONAL

1ST CD

Visclosky (D)	39,791
Leyva (R)	7,785
Kendrick	6,251
Heuter	1,804

2ND CD

Chocola (R)	35,693
Zirkle (R)	6,734
Donnelly (D)	28,427

3RD CD

Souder (R)	46,468
Larsen (R)	12,203
Parra (D)	5,975
Summers (D)	5,199
Hope (D)	2,788

4TH CD

Buyer (R)	52,428
Hardy (R)	10,769
Paasch (R)	8,270
Campbell (R)	8,332
Sanders (D)	9,113
Abbott (D)	5,477

5TH CD

Burton (R)	83,108
Carr (D)	11,263
Brinegar (D)	6,726

6TH CD

Pence (R)	61,791
Fox (D)	31,226

7TH CD

Carson (D)	30,860
Hidalgo (D)	3,641
Horning (R)	23,108
Croddy (R)	8,748

8TH CD

Hostettler (R)	39,729
Jennings (D)	37,853
Pearman (D)	13,645

9TH CD

Hill (D)	45,886
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2004 Racing Form

TREND LINE: As evidenced from the incumbent survival in Lake County where even embattled Rep. Linda Lawson won, there doesn't appear to be any discernable "anti-incumbency" trend right now. The loss of Sen. Larry Borst appears to be a more isolated case where a challenger with "assets" executed an almost perfect campaign. As for the big losers, consider the Indiana Chamber, who lost all three of its targeted races in SD36, HD44 and HD86.

Indiana 2004 Gubernatorial

Governor 2004: Republican: Mitch Daniels. **Democrat:** Gov. Joe Kernan.

Libertarian: Kenn Gividen. **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:** Gov. Kernan was traveling to Fort Wayne, Purdue University, Terre Haute and Evansville.

HORSE RACE

Kernan issued a challenge to Daniels, aiming to ensure fiscal responsibility, fair campaigning, and spirited civic discussion are part of the upcoming general election. Kernan outlined three specific proposals for the two major party candidates. "This is an important election for Indiana's future -- it's about the positive change we want to help our families, our businesses, and our communities meet and exceed their potential," Kernan said. "I believe Hoosier voters deserve an honest fiscal account of the plans we put forward, a spirited and fair discourse, and a thorough debate of the issues that are critical to Indiana's future. I'm hopeful the Republican nominee will consider and agree to these fair-minded proposals." Kernan's proposals include: Any policy proposals that have a fiscal impact, issued from either campaign, must also include a specific plan to pay for that proposal; the two major party candidates will negotiate a fair campaign pledge; the two major party candidates will participate in three one-on-one debates -- one debate in northern Indiana, one in central Indiana, and one in southern Indiana. Additionally, the nominees for lieutenant governor from the two major parties should participate in a debate at a time and location to be determined. Daniels campaign manager Bill Oesterle said he found it "ironic" that Kernan would be talking about a clean campaign after his "henchmen trail Mitcharound calling him a liar. He says he wants a fair campaign, but that's ironic and a little late." As for the debates, Oesterle said, "We're going to want to debate the governor. We'll talk about the number and timing. We'll want to do that frequently. Oesterle said that Daniels will quickly "step back" into the campaign mode. "Mitch will be on the road, releasing details on how he's going to fix the state." Oesterle said he expected the Daniels campaign to stay up on TV, though there aren't any buys on record right now. "I see no reason to depart from what we're doing." Eric Miller's 32 percent showing in a race that had been portrayed as tightening answered one question with some finality: Like John L. Price in the 1998 Senate primary, that 32 percent represents the strength of the GOP's Christian conservative wing. **General Status:** Tossup.

Indiana 2004 Congressional

Congressional District 4: Republican: U.S. Rep. Steve Buyer, Dennis Hardy,

Mike Campbell, Brian Paasch. **Democrat:** David Sanders, Bill Abbott. **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. **People:** urban/rural 68/32%; median income \$435,947; Poverty 8%; Race 93% white, 1.3% black, 2.6% Hispanic; blue/white collar 29/56%; **2000 Presidential:** Bush 66%, Gore 31%; **Cook Partisan Voting Index:** R+18; **2002 Results:** Buyer 112,760

(71%); Abbott 41,314 (26%). **2002 Money:** Buyer \$924,869, Abbott \$21,634. **2004 Outlook:** Paasch and Hardy spent nearly 100 percent of their dollars on negative attacks on radio and TV, probably coming in at the \$60,000 to \$80,000 range. Hardy spent another \$12,000 on negative direct mail. Buyer won with almost 70 percent of the vote, giving him two decisive primary victories in a new district. **Status:** *Safe Buyer.*

Congressional District 7: Republican: Bob Croddy, Andy Horning. **Democrat:** U.S. Rep. Julia Carson, Bob Hidalgo. **Geography:** Indianapolis. **Media Market:** Indianapolis. **People:** Urban 99.7%; median income \$36,522; poverty 13.5%; race white 63, black 29.4%, Hispanic 4.4%, Asian 1.3%; blue/white collar 26/58%; **2000 Presidential:** Gore 55%, Bush 43%; Cook Partisan Voting Index: D+6. **2002 Results:** Carson 77,478 (53%), McVey 64,379 (44%). **2002 Money:** Carson \$1.099m, McVey \$1.15m. **2004 Forecast:** We blew this one. Horning wins with 70 percent of the vote. But Carson is the prohibitive favorite in November. **Primary Status:** *Leans Croddy; General Status: LIKELY CARSON.*

Indiana 2004 Legislative

Senate District 2: Republican: Open. **Democrat:** State Sen. Sam Smith Jr., Mario Montelongo, Joe L. White. **2000 Results:** Smith (D) 27,151. **2004 Forecast:** Smith easily won re-election despite his misdemeanor conviction. **Primary Status:** *Leans Smith*

Senate District 5: Republican: Vic Heinold, Cresley Walker. **Democrat:** State Sen. Nancy Dembowski. **2000 Results:** Alexa (D) 33,383. **2004 Forecast:** Heinold won with 70 percent of the vote. This will be the lone targeted race in the Senate. **Primary Status:** *Leans Heinold*

Senate District 36: Republican: Sen. Larry Borst, Johnson County Council President Brent Waltz. **Democrat:** Terry Rice. **2000 Primary Results:** Borst 7,513. **2000 General Results:** Borst (R) 24,621, Reno (D) 12,120, Williamson (L) 1,026. **2004 Forecast:** While Waltz executed an almost perfect campaign, that final 49-vote margin he won by could have been produced by Borst himself. During the last four business days of the campaign, Borst sent out thousands of "killer phone calls" that accused Waltz of being a tax and spend liberal. "I believe there were probably 49 people out of those 12,000 phone calls who probably changed their minds," Waltz said. "There's a good chance Larry Borst would have defeated me without his killer phone calls." Waltz thought he needed 5,000 votes to defeat Borst. He got 6,019 votes. He won Johnson County with a 574-vote plurality. Senate President Bob Garton is signalling that Borst will seek a recount. Democrats will have Terry Rice lining up for the fall, but Waltz will be the prohibitive favorite. **Primary Status:** *Tossup.*

House District 1: Republican: Jerome Baffa. **Democrat:** State Rep. Linda Lawson, Hammond Councilwoman Kathleen Pucalik. **2002 Results:** Lawson (D) 5,669, Rosenbloom (R) 3,006. **2004 Forecast:** Lawson turned back a strong primary challenge by Kathleen Pucalik on Tuesday, defeating the Hammond City Council president by a slim margin (Casey Newton, *Times of Northwest Indiana*). The three-term incumbent emerged victorious after what she described as a "brutal" battle for the Democratic nomination against Pucalik, who benefited from vocal support by Mayor Thomas McDermott Jr. Fighting back tears as she spoke to supporters at a Calumet City pizzeria, Lawson credited a coalition of friends, family and organized labor for her victory. "It was just black, white, gay, straight, you name it -- it came, and we took it to the mountain," she said after winning 2,963 to 2,684. Patrick O'Rourke, president of the Hammond Teachers Federation, said Lawson's victory would serve as a stinging rebuke to McDermott and other Hammond officials who attempted to oust the incumbent. "This was unions vs. politics, and unions won," he said. McDermott came to support Pucalik after Lawson and her husband, Jim Hornak, supported Republican Mayor Duane Dedelow Jr. in last year's election. "Low voter turnout killed us, it really did," McDermott said at the Maywood Civic Club in Hammond, where Pucalik supporters offered the candidate their condolences over beer and pizza. "There's no excuse for the numbers we pushed today." Pucalik may have been hurt by

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Terry (D)	6,085
Sodrel (R)	31,634

INDIANA SENATE

SD2	
Smith (D)	5,629
White (D)	2,624
Montelongo (D)	2,553

SD5	
Dembowski (D)	4,664
Heinold (R)	3,285
Walker (R)	1,334

SD36	
Waltz (R)	6,057
Borst (R)	6,008
Rice (D)	2,82a

INDIANA HOUSE

HD1	
Lawson (D)	2,963
Pucalik (D)	2,684
Baffa (R)	1,283

HD2	
Harris (D)	4,100
Morris (D)	2,346

HD6	
Bauer (D)	2,497
Waite (D)	1,021

HD12	
Aguilera (D)	2,920
Lopez-Rodriguez (D)	2,784
Fagen (R)	1,152

HD13	
Dobis (D)	3,954
Uzelac (D)	2,184

HD19	
Kuzman (D)	2,838
Malan (D)	640

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HD33
 Liggett (D) 3,524
 Davis (R) 4,265
 Carpenter (R) 20,50

HD35
 Saunders (D) 2,922
 Landess (D) 1,701
 Lutz (R) 7,345

HD44
 Thomas (R) 5,180
 Eitel (R) 3,405
 Wolfe (D) 2,460

HD46
 Tincher (D) 4,978
 Lee (R) 2,052
 Jones (R) 1,999

HD56
 Pflum (D) 2,302
 Duncan (D) 593
 Yanos (R) 2,933
 Hamm (R) 1,484
 Ingerman (R) 549

HD 62
 Denbo (D) 2,691
 Moskowitz (D) 600
 Chenault (R) 1,915
 Patton (R) 1,259

HD68
 Lytle (D) 3,661
 Bright (R) 2,525
 Newell (R) 2,081

HD86
 Orentlicher (D) 2,730
 Everitt (D) 893
 Large (R) 3,439
 Miller (R) 3,412

FACTORY ORDERS UP:
 America's factories saw
 orders jump in March by the
 largest amount in more than

coverage of her no-show at a debate last week sponsored by the League of Women Voters.
Genera; Status: LIKELY LAWSON.

House District 7: Republican: South Bend School Trustee Joanna Blacketor.

Democrat: State Rep. Tom Kromkowski. **2002 Results:** Kromkowski 10,846. **2004 Forecast:** Kromkowski has a credible GOP challenger, is in a district with property tax controversies, and Kromkowski's health isn't good. He should be a commanding front runner, but we include this race in case a national wave comes into place. If this is in play next October, the Democrats have big problems **General Status: LIKELY D.**

House District 12: Republican: Dan Fagen. **Democrat:** Rep. John Aguilera, Alicia Lopez-Rodriguez. **2002 Results:** Aguilera 7,343. **2004 Forecast:** Aguilera on Tuesday edged out challenger Lopez-Rodriguez. Aguilera listened to the precinct numbers roll in with a small group of supporters at American Legion Post 508 in East Chicago (Brendan O'Shaughnessy, *Times of Northwest Indiana*). While he lost in East Chicago and Hammond, precincts in Munster and Dyer carried Aguilera to the close victory, 2,920 to 2,784. "It was a tough election and taxes had a lot to do with it in East Chicago," Aguilera said. "We have to work hard to start bringing this community back together. I understand the message that the voters sent." Lopez-Rodriguez gathered with about 50 supporters at the Lexis Club in East Chicago. "We pulled good numbers for the first time I've ever run," Lopez-Rodriguez said. "I think people know I'm centered around family issues and children." Lopez-Rodriguez challenged Aguilera's residency within his district before the state election commission in early March. The commissioners unanimously decided Aguilera still lives in his East Chicago residence rather than the one he bought a few years ago in Munster. Aguilera, the General Assembly's only Hispanic lawmaker in a heavily Hispanic district, still must face Republican Daniel Fagen in November's general election. Fagen was beaming over the fruits of his victory. "I ran unopposed," he said in GOP headquarters in Schererville. "I pressed the winning vote at 6 this morning." **Primary Status: TOSSUP.**

House District 13: Republican: Open. **Democrat:** State Rep. Chet Dobis, Merrillville Councilman David Uzelac. **2002 Results:** Dobis (D) 8,379, Azcona (R) 3,906. **2004 Forecast:** Dobis cruised to a 68 percent victory. Uzelac was beaten even after he and his campaign workers placed a blizzard of neon yellow signs throughout Merrillville and Hobart. "I don't think you've met the aggressive Chet Dobis," the incumbent said. "I wasn't going to take the blame for all the problems in the world." Dobis benefitted from a Rich James Post-Tribune column critical of Uzelac and a number of Democratic party leaders who reconsidered sending the bomb-thrower Uzelac to Indianapolis. **Primary General Status: Leans Uzelac.**

House District 19: Republican: Ron Cooper. **Democrat:** State Rep. Bob Kuzman, John Anthony Malan. **2002 Results:** Kuzman 7,620, Roth (R) 6,355. **2004 Forecast:** Kuzman will still be sweating out tax bills for his Crown Point district that are expected to be sent early this summer. But his Democratic House colleagues seem to have weathered the primary squall line, and he enters the fall sequence as a nominal favorite. **Primary Status: Safe Kuzman.**
General Status: LEANS KUZMAN.

House District 21: Republican: Jackie Walorski. **Democrat:** Carl Kaser. **2002 Results:** Mangus 10,722. **2004 Forecast:** The race to replace retiring Rep. Richard Mangus is now between Republican Jackie Walorski and Democrat Carl Kaser. This should be a Republican keeper. **General Status: LEANS WALORSKI.**

House District 26: Republican: Tippecanoe County Councilwoman Connie Basham. **Democrat:** Joe Micon. **Geography:** Lafayette, West Lafayette, Tippecanoe County. **2002 Results:** Scholer 5,630, Micon 4,731. **2004 Forecast:** Democrats believe this is one of their best chances for a pickup in the seat being vacated by Rep. Sue Scholer. Micon ran a competitive race and has good name ID in the community. Basham is a county councilwoman and already has a political organization. **Status: TOSSUP.**

House District 30: Republican: John Smith. **Democrat:** State Rep. Ron Herrell. **2002 Results:** Herrell (D) 9,017, Rudolph (R) 6,966, Fridholm (L) 379. **2004 Forecast:** Herrell increased his plurality by more than 2,000 votes from 2000 and 2002 and he looks to be in better shape to stave off the inevitable challenge from Smith, a Kokomo businessman. **General Status: LEANS D.**

House District 33: Republican: Bill Davis. **Democrat:** State Rep. Ron Liggett. **2002 Results:** Liggett (D) 9,143, Thornburg (R) 6,895. **2004 Forecast:** Republicans will target Liggett, who has mixed it up with Randolph County government. **General Status:** *LEANS LIGGETT*

House District 31: Republican: Tim Harris. **Democrat:** Blackford County Commissioner Larry Hile. **2002 Results:** Rep. Dean Young 9,046, Raju (D) 3,909. **2004 Forecast:** The loss of the 990 Thomson jobs in Marion this week will obviously set the tone for this race. You can expect Harris to simultaneously articulate the same themes that Mitch Daniels will be through the course of this campaign. With Republican Wayne Seybold winning the mayor's office in Marion and the decline in Grant County's economy, this is looking to be a seat the Republicans can maintain unless Kernan-Davis can lure some new companies into the county. **General Status:** *LEANS HARRIS*.

House District 44: Republican: State Rep. Andy Thomas. **Democrat:** Eric A. Wolfe. **2002 Results:** Thomas (R) 8,997, Schimpf (D) 6,507. **2004 Forecast:** Thomas won a decisive landslide victory over the Chamber-endorsed Kenneth Eitel Jr., who may have crossed the line when he criticized Thomas for missing committee votes. Thomas responded that he was with his daughter during surgery. Thomas will be favored to win this fall. **General Status:** *LIKELY THOMAS*.

House District 45: Republican: Bruce Borders **Democrat:** Rep. Allen Chowning. **2002 Results:** Chowning 9,627, Borders 9,337. **2004 Forecast:** This will be a rematch of a race that former House Speaker John Gregg helped the Democrats pull out in 2002. This will be one of the most competitive races this cycle. **General Status:** *TOSSUP*.

House District 56: Republican: Ed Yanos. **Democrat:** Rep. Phil Pflum, Eric Duncan. **2002 Results:** Pflum 6,511, Hamm (R) 6,096. **2004 Forecast:** Yanos decisively defeated Richard Hamm, loser of five HD56 elections. Pflum had an easy win over Eric Duncan in the Democratic primary, but Pflum's biggest opponent is his own health as he battles cancer. **General Status:** *TOSSUP*.

House District 62: Republican: Lawrence County Commissioner Janie Chenault, Donald O. Patton. **Democrat:** State Rep. Jerry Denbo, Karyn Moskowitz. **2002 Results:** Denbo 10,009, Patton (R) 6,339. **2004 Forecast:** Chenault will challenge Denbo, but we give him an early edge. **General Status:** *LEANS D*.

House District 63: Republican: Martin County Commissioner Paul McFeaters. **Democrat:** Rep. David Crooks. **2002 Results:** Crooks 10,984. **2004 Forecast:** Republicans plan to target Crooks in this Republican-leaning district. **General Status:** *Tossup*.

House District 64: Republican: Troy Woodruff. **Democrat:** State Rep. John Frenz. **2002 Results:** Frenz 10,516, Davis (R) 8,774. **2004 Forecast:** Woodruff will attempt to press Frenz on social issues such as gay marriage. The district leans GOP in presidential politics, but Frenz has always warded off challenges. **General Status:** *LEANS D*.

House District 69: Republican: Billy Bright. **Democrat:** State Rep. Markt Lytle. **2002 Results:** Lytle 9,777, Newell 7,678. **2004 Forecast:** Republicans think they can pick Lytle off, and this is the kind of district where Speaker Bauer's resistance to the Defense of Marriage Act could hurt a Democrat. **General Status:** *LEANS D*.

House District 86: Republican: Andy Miller, Mort Large. **Democrat:** State Rep. David Orentlicher. **2002 Results:** Orentlicher 9,909, Atterholt (R) 9,872. **2004 Forecast:** Republican Mort Large appeared to eke out a 27-vote victory Tuesday over Andy Miller in an Indiana House race that could serve as a prelude to this fall's pitched battle for control of the chamber (*Indianapolis Star*). Only a handful of House incumbents faced primary challenges, and all of them won. The showdown in House District 86 was the closest legislative race. After the final two precincts reported in, Large gained 36 votes, retaking the lead. He said he was trying to line people up to monitor any rechecking of the race's results. "It's a real nail-biter, but we're not prepared to claim victory yet," Large said just before midnight. At least 100 absentee ballots were cast in their Marion County district and may not have been counted, said Miller. **Primary Status:** *Tossup*. **General Status:** *Tossup*



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a year and a half, a sign that the nation's manufacturers are getting a firmer grip on their own business recovery. The Commerce Department reported Tuesday that orders placed with factories went up 4.3 percent in March from the previous month. That marked the biggest increase since July 2002 and exceeded economists' forecasts for a 2.4 percent advance. March's orders figure, which followed a 1.1 percent increase in February, reflected stronger demand for a wide variety of goods, including cars, machinery, household appliances, food, clothes and chemicals.

HOSTETTLER PLEADS NOT GUILTY: An Indiana congressman did not appear in court Tuesday to answer to a misdemeanor charge of carrying a concealed deadly weapon into Louisville's main airport. An attorney for U.S. Rep. John Hostettler (pictured, left) entered a plea of innocent for the five-term congressman in Jefferson County District Court. Hostettler was in Washington because his attorney told the congressman there was "no point in being in town for a misdemeanor hearing," said Michael Jahr, Hostettler's press secretary. Louisville attorney David Schuler entered the plea on Tuesday. Schuler did not comment after the court hearing. Chief

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District Judge Donald E. Armstrong Jr. told Schuler that Hostettler cannot possess a firearm in Kentucky while the case is pending. Hostettler's next court date is a pretrial conference on June 30. The charge has a maximum sentence of a year in jail and a \$500 fine. Jefferson County Attorney Irv Maze, whose office is prosecuting the case, said Hostettler would not get any leniency from his office. "If anyone thinks that he will get a different deal than anybody else, that's wrong," Maze told reporters after the arraignment. "He'll be treated the same." A sign prominently displayed in Maze's office says, "A gun crime gets you jail time. Believe it." "We take gun offenses serious," Maze said. The county attorney's office generally recommends two days in jail or 14 days of home incarceration for people convicted of the same offense, said Karl Price, the lead prosecutor in Hostettler's case. However, in similar cases in state court in which weapons were seized at Louisville's main airport, offenders who pleaded guilty generally were given probation but no jail time. They forfeited the weapons and agreed not to possess firearms for an assigned period. Maze said most cases result in settlements. "I would prefer to negotiate but we have no reluctance to go to trial," he said.



Jan. 8, 2004
The Howey Political Report

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