

The Howey Political Report



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“QUOTE” OF THE WEEK

“The reason he gave for the recount was that all votes had to be counted. Now he’s trying to disenfranchise an entire county.”

- Brent Waltz, on Sen. Larry Borst’s recount tactics in Johnson County

Borst’s Titanic campaign plunges

How will it impact the Senate floor?

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY** in Greenwood

The day Sen. Becky Skillman was tabbed by Mitch Daniels to be his lieutenant governor candidate, Brent Waltz received a phone call from Senate President Pro Tempore Robert D. Garton.

“He was very cordial, very friendly,” Waltz related. “He invited me to the Senate Republican Caucus golf outing on June 28. I told him I would be there.”

That’s the gigantic tea leaf to read when it comes to the SD36 recount between Waltz and powerful Senate Finance Chairman Larry Borst, now clinging to the upright stern of his Titanic campaign. By June 10, the Indiana Recount Commission will almost certainly certify the election for Waltz (Secretary of State Todd Rokita will be sitting in Waltz’s chair in the Johnson County Council chambers), though Borst is throwing everything from the deck chairs to the life jackets at some how, some way rejecting the will of the people. His recount team challenged the votes of Greenwood Mayor Charlie Henderson and his wife, Donna. When they came to Waltz’s own absentee ballot, the Borst campaign did not contest. It was about the only one.

Even if Borst were to somehow get a new election, the fact is that he has besmirched the Republican election officials of Johnson County, which hasn’t elected a Democrat countywide since 1978. A new election would probably give Waltz a landslide, instead of the current 65-vote margin.

“It’s dawning on people that he’s going to be going away,” Waltz said of Borst.

But the inevitable Waltz victory is really only the tip of the iceberg -- the end of the beginning, as we put it in

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

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TENET RESIGNS: CIA Director George Tenet resigned today, effective July, citing "personal reasons" (CNN),

KERRY UP BY 1 PERCENT IN RASMUSSEN TRACKING: A Rasmussen Reports poll of 1,500 likely voters nationwide, conducted over May 30-June 1, (+/- 3%) using an automated polling system, shows 45% would vote for John Kerry; 44% would vote for George Bush; 5% would vote for another candidate; 5% were not sure.

INDIANA REVENUES UP AGAIN: Indiana's tax receipts continued their positive trend last month, beating estimates for the third straight month (Louisville Courier-Journal). The state took in \$22.7 million — or 2.7 percent — more than expected from sales, income, corporate and other taxes in May. "These numbers are good news and a sign that the economy is heading in the right direction," Gov. Joe Kernan said in a statement issued yesterday. "The economic indicators demonstrate that our focus on job growth and investment are beginning to pay off for the state, but we know there is more work to be done." "We've got a ways to go to get back to where we need to be," said Sen. Bob Meeks, chairman of the

Monday's *HPR Daily Wire* analysis -- of what could be a profound and historic power realignment in the Indiana Senate. It is a story that has evaded the profiteer-journalists at the *Indianapolis Star*, which refused to cover the race, but has the Statehouse corridors aflutter with intrigue.

The desperate machinations of Borst's Titanic campaign is a postmortem power play on behalf of Borst that has not been lost on the dozen or so younger members of the Indiana Republican Senate caucus who have been under the thumb of Borst and Senate President Pro Tempore Robert D. Garton, some for more than a decade.

The final certification of a Waltz victory by the Indiana Recount Commission will be the final signal that a new day has arrived, now that Borst's political heart will have stopped beating. One Republican senator told HPR of the coming maelstrom in the Senate, "There are a lot of young guys in there," and began ticking off the names -- Jeff Drozda, Murray Clark, Luke Kenley, Mike Young, David Long, Brandt Hershman, Ronnie Alting, Teresa Lubbers, John Waterman, Dennis Kruse, Waltz -- who are potentially open to the idea of a power realignment. Others, such as Ryan Mishler (replacing Sen. Kent Adams in SD9), possibly Brent Steele in Skillman's soon-to-be vacated seat and Vic Heinold, if he upsets Sen. Nancy Dembowski in SD5, could be joining the fold.

That's potentially a dozen votes contributing to a mere 17 needed to determine who heads the caucus. Any emerging core of the young guns joined by veterans like Sens. Johnny Nugent or Robert Meeks could set in motion leadership change.

The new reality in the wake of Borst's Titanic campaign is that once-secure senators, never believing they would face a serious election challenge, now have two living primary templates to ponder: Sen. Jeff Drozda's 2002 upset of Steve Johnson in Kokomo, and now the

profound Waltz victory over Borst. Said one senator, "Drozda and Waltz have now written the guidebook on how to beat a legislative incumbent. A lot of us are looking in the mirror and saying, 'This could happen to me.'"

Some might see the Waltz victory as either pro-Waltz or anti-Borst, but the message many Republican senators are drawing is this: Hoosier voters are demanding changes and a new way of confronting problems. While some of the 10 Waltz mailers were specific criticism of Chairman Borst, several were on issues (such as legislative health insurance and pensions) where the names could be changed to politically indict incumbents.

Sen. Luke Kenley tried a power play against Garton in 2000 and Sen. Murray Clark attempted one two years later. Both failed, both were punished, and have been rehabilitated by Garton, Clark since he became chairman of the Daniels gubernatorial campaign.

Could President Garton be vulnerable to a leadership challenge, particularly in this era when Daniels is urging a "new crew" to take control of the Indiana Statehouse, and not just within the Executive Branch?

Kittle on speed dial

The crucial Republican caucus vote will likely take place on the morning of Wednesday, Nov. 3, the day after the election. It will be called by Indiana Republican Chairman Jim Kittle Jr.

As one Republican senator noted, since Kittle became chairman, "Garton has had him on his speed dial. They talk all the time."

A caucus the day after the election gives Garton crucial leverage, as opposed to it occurring on Organization Day, when Skillman's replacement will be seated. Even though former Republican Chairman Mike McDaniel used to complain about the inertia and ill-tidings in the Senate, he acquiesced to Garton in 2000, called the caucus the day after the election, and

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essentially put the Kenley insurrection out of business.

This time around, a Daniels-Skillman victory would create an open seat in SD51. Many expect it to be filled by former state rep Brent Steele of Bedford, another potential vote for the agent of change crowd.

A quick vote after the election gives Garton more control over quelling an insurrection, though that is not an iron-clad situation. Reps. John Gregg, Mark Kruzan and Winfield Moses Jr. were able to put together a midnight House coalition for Gregg in the hours after House Speaker Michael K. Phillips was upset in 1994, pre-empting B. Patrick Bauer's morning-after attempt to do the same.

A caucus nomination of Steele could trigger a caucus leadership vote next month, though he wouldn't be seated until Organization Day in mid-November. "It's interesting when you look at the makeup of the new Senate," said one Republican senator. "Some people will say it's time to make changes. Is there anything in the works? I don't know of anything specifically. If there are enough folks saying we need more change, it might come up over the next month. There are members who have been aligned with Bob Garton who are now saying it might be time to rethink things."

That was one common theme for the handful of senators HPR talked with: None would acknowledge any specific movement for leadership change. But, Sen. Borst is not officially defeated.

The only thing in the works is coming from Sen. Jeff Drozda, who has been appointed by Grover Norquist to set up an Indiana Taxpayer Protection Caucus. Drozda told HPR he will send a letter to Senate colleagues asking them to support taxpayer rights and vote against deficit budgets. "With the new makeup in the Senate, a new Finance chairman and the coming budget year, there are now wonderful opportunities," Drozda said.

Drozda emphasized that there is

"no ulterior motive" in the letter his colleagues will soon be receiving.

Garton's assets

President Garton has ample assets. As one Republican senator explained, "Never underestimate him in a micro-political situation. He's very good at rearranging committees, combining or dividing posts."

Senate Finance and Budget were once the sole "Ways and Means" of the Senate, but Garton punished Borst following their epic leadership showdown in 1980, with Borst getting Finance and Morrie Mills getting Budget. Garton has those perks (the latest line is that Finance goes to Kenley), along with Skillman's leadership post should she win.

But there are problems. If Kenley gets Finance, how soured will Meeks be? For every senator with a new assignment, another could be honked over being passed over. It creates a delicious array of possibilities.

Garton has been an agent of change in the past. He got behind Gov. Robert Orr's A-Plus initiative in 1987. But two years later, after Gov. Evan Bayh was elected igniting 16 years of Democratic gubernatorial rule, Garton and Borst discovered the true power they would keep for much of the next two decades -- loyal opposition with the ability to profoundly craft tax and budget legislation

Mitch's 'new crew'

What impact does a victorious Mitch Daniels gubernatorial campaign have on a new Senate?

Senate sources tell HPR that Daniels "has been extremely attentive to current legislative leadership." The Daniels campaign has to be operating on the assumption that Garton will be the main man in the Upper Chamber. But it had also assumed that Borst would win re-election.

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Senate Budget Subcommittee. "We've still got an \$800 million structural deficit so the more we can put in the pot between now and June 30, 2005, (the end of this budget cycle) the better off we'll be."

19 SUNDAY TORNADOES THIRD LARGEST OUT-BREAK: Gov. Joe Kernan has asked President Bush for disaster aid in 16 Indiana counties after 19 tornadoes hit the state on Sunday. In the letter, Kernan outlines the initial damage assessments, which indicate that a total of 1,378 homes were affected throughout the state. Of those, 154 were destroyed and 220 sustained major damage. In Marengo, which appears to have sustained the greatest impact, more than 80 percent of the town was damaged. Those counties are Clark, Crawford, Marion, Miami and Washington. Other counties can be added to the list as more information becomes available. In light of this, Kernan noted that assessments are continuing in other counties that have sustained significant damage, including Floyd, Jackson, Martin, Monroe, Orange, Ripley, Tippecanoe, Vanderburgh and Warrick. The outbreak falls far short of the most Hoosier tornadoes in one day — 37 on June 2, 1990. On that day,

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the storms affected 31 counties and killed eight people, according to the State Emergency Management Agency. The second-highest total came on April 3, 1974, a day known as the Super Outbreak. Twenty-one tornadoes ripped through 39 counties, killing 47 people.

KERNAN TO MEET WITH REGION LEADERS TODAY ON PROPERTY TAXES: In a private meeting today with Gov. Joe Kernan, Northwest Indiana lawmakers will ask for state help for homeowners about to be hit with high property tax bills (Steve Walsh, Post-Tribune).

Lawmakers asked for a closed-door meeting with the governor in Indianapolis to talk about the plight of Lake County taxpayers. Tax bills are scheduled to be mailed June 12, but the meeting had been arranged even before a lawsuit by the Miller Citizen Corp. suspended tax collection through most of May. "This was their request. They wanted to come in and talk about property taxes and so the governor is accommodating them," said Jonathan Swain, Kernan's press secretary. Local lawmakers may not be going into the governor's office with a united front. Rep. Chet Dobis, D-Merrillville, said he is not certain the steel mills need to be reassessed. "We need to do everything we can to get the steel mills

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Daniels, who has consistently promised an "aggressive" legislative agenda in 2005, even questioned Rex Early's involvement with Waltz, with Early responding, "I'm trying to do you a favor."

A Republican senator explained, "Borst was the one senator who could have told Daniels, 'Son, you're going too fast. We're going to do it this way.'"

Several senators said there is "no upside" in Daniels getting involved in emerging Senate leadership battles. He will be prepared to work with Garton. His campaign is not expected to encourage or influence any leadership change even though Sen. Clark chairs the Daniels campaign. But, having said that, a "Gov. Daniels" finding new leadership in the Senate -- a "new crew" in the legislative branch -- would probably have less of a challenge in creating disciples needed for his aggressive program.

And what if Daniels loses, which

is essentially a 50/50 proposition?

Most senators are assuming he will win, though they acknowledge it will not be easy.

One senator explained, "If Daniels loses, the reaction is going to be, 'Why am I even here?' The feeling will be that they've got even less to lose."

While Garton has an on-going dialogue with Daniels and insists he's doing everything he can for his man Mitch, a loss by the Republican coupled with Borst's defeat, gives Garton the most powerful perch of his long and illustrious career.

Faced with that prospect, the stakes for survival will be even higher in the days after the November election, and could continue to be even more so through the May 2006 primaries, when more old Senate warhorses could find themselves in an unpredictable predicament.

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Making sense of the Bush referendum

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY**

INDIANAPOLIS - National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice put up the first bid for legacy earlier this week, telling the *Atlanta Journal & Constitution*, "When you think of statesmen, you think of people who seized historic opportunities to change the world for the better, people like Roosevelt, people like Churchill, and people like Truman. And this president has been an agent of . . . historic change for the better."

On Wednesday, President Bush gave what *USA Today* described as a "muscular" speech at the U.S. Air Force Academy. "Like the Second World War, our present conflict began with a ruthless surprise attack on the United States," Bush said. "The best way to protect America is to stay on the offensive. Democracy and reform will make those nations stronger and more stable, and the world more secure, by undermining ter-

rorism at its source."

So, how should you gauge the Bush presidency on Nov. 2, which is essentially a referendum on his performance?

Bush has actually returned the presidency to two 19th Century concepts, ironically outlined by another son of a former president, John Quincy Adams: Pre-emption and unilateralism.

It didn't come about on Aug. 24, 1814, when the U.S. Capitol and White House -- the same two targets for Sept. 11's Flight 93 -- were burned by the British in the first attack on the United States. Rather, Secretary of State Adams came up with the policy of pre-emption as the result of a "failed state," in this case Spanish Florida in 1815, where Yale Prof. John Lewis Gaddis noted was the launching pad for Indian raids. It was Gen. Andrew Jackson who pre-empted the raids. Presidents James K. Polk (Texas

annexation and the Mexican War), William McKinley (the USS Maine, Cuba and the Philippines) and Theodore Roosevelt (Panama) also used pre-emptive tactics in a unilateral sense. That all changed when President Franklin D. Roosevelt wove a World War II strategy of “grand alliances” and multi-lateralism into policy that sharply contrasted with John Quincy Adams.

And pre-emption had mixed results, Gaddis contends. Adams was fortunate that Jackson’s victory in Florida led to its annexation. Polk’s Mexican War so fractured the Democratic and Whig parties over the expansion of slavery question that it ultimately led to the nation’s biggest catastrophe, the Civil War. And McKinley’s taking the Philippines “left a legacy of uneasiness about distant colonial acquisitions” that Truman undid in 1946.

Current Bush critics including U.S. Sen. Bob Graham, argue that Iran, with its support for al Qaeda and Hezbollah, were far more dangerous than Saddam, and by taking the focus off al Qaeda, Bush has allowed it to regenerate into hundreds of potentially potent cells. Former Sen. Gary Hart, responding to the Presidents USAFA speech, noted the estimated 18,000 al Qaeda recruits and said, “They are coming our way.”

Accomplices of evil

Vice President Cheney likes to quote historian Victor Davis Hansen: “Nations become accomplices of evil through inaction.” The pre-emptive war in Iraq was framed to Americans as removing the evil Saddam, ending his weapons of mass destruction program, and the spread of liberty through the Middle East.

In Bob Woodward’s book, *Plan of Attack*, the WMD element takes on a far more complex reality. Everyone from the CIA, to the Mossad, to Sen. John Kerry (who said at a Senate Intelligence Committee hearing in 1998, “Saddam is pursuing a program to build WMD”) believed Saddam possessed those capabil-

ities. Bush told Woodward, “We did find weapons programs that could be reconstituted.” And Woodward notes that the failure to find the “bubbling vat” did not render Saddam “benign.”

But here’s a crucial element that gets short-shrifted and it comes with the liberal lament that the war was really about oil.

It really was.

Oil was one of the reasons Japan went on its Pacific tear in the 1930s and ‘40s. Hitler sought oil in the Caucasus and his 1942 diversion of forces in Russia prompted his military disaster at Stalingrad. In 1980, the U.S. had to import 20 percent of its oil, compared to 50 percent today, and to a predicted 62 percent in 2020. Two-thirds of the Persian Gulf oil is currently going to the U.S. and Western Europe. By 2015, the CIA estimates that three-quarters of it could be going to Asia, most of that to China. With Saudi Arabia (262 billion barrels of proven reserves) and its status as a wobbly regime, Iraq is second with 120 billion barrels in reserves. Kevin Phillips notes in his book *American Dynasty*, “American hands would have to be on the pumps.”

Bush big mistake for his “oil presidency” might have been a failure in laying the oil economic realities out before the American people.

A troubling occupation

And then there is the occupation. The invasion was an unparalleled success. As Deputy Defense Sec. Paul Wolfowitz told Woodward, there was no use of WMD, the oil fields were saved, Iran and Turkey did not intervene, Israel and Saudi Arabia were not attacked, and casualties were low. Bush’s problem here stems from May 1, 2003, when he flew in pilot’s garb onto the USS Abraham Lincoln under the banner “mission accomplished.”

American voters are concerned that oil is not paying for the reconstruction, gasoline prices are skyrocketing due to terror threats, no WMD have been

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healthy. We can’t afford to lose any more \$50,000 to \$70,000 jobs,” Dobis said. Both lawmakers said they were encouraged by Gary Mayor Scott King’s announcement that the city plans to make cuts, including eliminating 180 jobs. “It is sort of thing people in Indianapolis will look at before they consider helping Northwest Indiana,” Dobis said.

PENCE SAYS THERE IS NO IRAQ QUAGMIRE: U.S. Rep. Mike Pence said today during a speech on the House floor that yesterday’s naming of top Iraqi governing officials marks significant progress for Iraq. His comments follow: “Amidst the violence and struggle that always attends the transition between tyranny and liberty, we have progress in Iraq. Yesterday a Sunni Muslim, Ghazi Yawar, was named president, who, along with Shiite Prime Minister Ayad Allawi will lead a free and democratic Iraq. Mr. Yawar memorably pledged, in this country that was torn by tyranny for three decades, to establish ‘a democratic and federal system under which people enjoy free citizenship in a state of laws and freedom.’ A quagmire, hardly. Difficult, yes. But an ethnically diverse government coming together under the rule of law and democracy is genuine progress in Iraq

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and worthy of celebrating in this Congress."

HORSE TRACKS SAY THEY NEED PULL TABS: Ten years after coming to Indiana, the horse-racing industry faces a crisis. Hoosier Park in Anderson lost \$555,000 last year. The state's other pari-mutuel track, Shelbyville's Indiana Downs, lost nearly \$4 million. These losses came even though each track received more than \$5 million in subsidies from the state of Indiana, the largest state subsidies given to horse tracks in the United States (Indianapolis Star). Now some legislators question whether there is enough interest to support two tracks -- or even one. The people who run Hoosier Park and Indiana Downs and area horsemen insist there is -- if the state legislature reverses course and allows the installation of pull-tab machines at the tracks and at their off-track betting facilities. Opponents, including Senate President Pro Tempore Robert Garton, argue that Indiana has enough gambling with riverboats. Jerry Walker, head of the Indiana Horse Racing and Breeding Coalition, "both tracks will cease to exist and Indiana racing will basically be nothing."

KERNAN COMMENTS ON VISTEON STRIKE VIO-

found, and the casualty counts continue unabated. Bush should have lowered expectations. Occupations are unruly. Western Europe starved for four years following World War II before the Marshall Plan. Liberated France, with a history of democracy and high culture, quivered under vigilante violence. When Saddam's killers melted away, what did we expect?

Here, Bush is vulnerable for a failure to provide the necessary forces to provide security. As Senate Foreign Relations Chairman Richard Lugar observed in his May 22 speech at Tufts University, "To win the war against terrorism, the United States must assign U.S. economic and diplomatic capabilities the same strategic priority that we assign to military capabilities. Military action is necessary to defeat serious and immediate threats to our national security. But the war on terrorism will not be won through attrition, particularly since military action will often breed more terrorists and more resentment of the United States."

And Lugar said in a *Washington Post* op-ed piece, "A detailed plan is necessary to prove to our allies and to Iraqis that we have a strategy and that we are committed to making it work. If we cannot provide this clarity, we risk the loss of support of the American people, loss of potential contributions from our allies and the disillusionment of Iraqis."

Bush has yet to provide that detailed plan and has warned Americans and Iraqis to expect a new wave of violence in the coming weeks and months. In *Plan of Attack*, he told Woodward, "Reconstruction shouldn't be compared to an American or Western European city at the onset."

Beacon of liberty

On Wednesday at the Air Force Academy, President Bush once again made his pitch for spreading democracy in the Middle East. He called for a "new era of reform to avoid the emergence of terrorist-controlled states." He rejected the

claims that his administration's policies in Iraq and Afghanistan have fueled militancy in the Muslim world. "Now freedom is stirring in the Middle East and no one should bet against it," Bush said. "We are now about three years into the war against terrorism. This is no time for impatience and self-defeating pessimism. These times demand the kind of courage and confidence that Americans have shown before."

The *Washington Times* observed in today's editions, "Bush ... tried to steel the American people for a decades-long struggle against terrorism, asking for the patience and determination that allowed another generation to win World War II and the Cold War."

The *Washington Post* editorialized, "The speech was at once a plea for patience with the escalating violence and faltering reconstruction efforts in Iraq -- and a sober warning about the ongoing fight against terrorism."

How possible is it that democracy can spread to the Middle East? Wolfowitz points out that it has taken root in Eastern Europe and East Africa. So, too, has it settled in Central America. Russia, with only six months of democracy prior to 1990, has had three relatively fair elections and a peaceful transfer of power.

On March 20, 2003, as the Iraq war began Bush told Rice, Cheney and Scooter Libby, "There can be no ambiguity about victory."

But today, that ambiguity exists. Unlike President John F. Kennedy, who decided to put off big agenda items until a second term, Bush is operating more like Jefferson and Teddy Roosevelt, who did not possess voter mandates before embarking on bold presidencies. It is also worth noting that our greatest chief executive -- Abraham Lincoln -- didn't have his re-election secured until Atlanta fell in September 1864.

Statesmen and losers are created by the kind of bold events President Bush finds unfinished today. ❖

2004 Racing Form

TREND LINE: OPEC will raise oil production by 11 percent. Unleaded gas in Indianapolis this morning was \$2.08 a gallon.

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:** It is now four weeks after the May primary and just days before the state Republican convention, and defeated Republican candidate Eric Miller has not endorsed Mitch Daniels (WISH-TV). There is some doubt about whether Miller will do endorse Daniels publicly. Daniels personally invited

Miller to address the state Republican convention where an endorsement would be the order of the day. Miller said he would have to check his schedule. We love Gov. Kernan's eyebrows. They look very gubernatorial and could be a campaign asset. The bra on his head, well, that was over the top. This isn't Kentucky. Actually, the GOP video, described by Democratic Chairman Joe Hogsett as "sophomoric and juvenile," didn't surprise us in the least. The party's intellect is not being stored at 47 S. Meridian St. The Republicans are playing "bad cop/good cop" between Kittle's GOP and the Daniels campaign, something we've been commenting on for months. This is a dangerous situation. Think of the successful Indiana campaigns in recent years -- Dan Coats in 1992, Frank O'Bannon in 1996, Bart Peterson in 1999 and Brent Waltz this year -- and one common theme emerges: All stayed on message and refused to resort to BS (i.e. remember the *Peterson Plan*). We've long speculated that Kittle's operation would probably cross the line, and it did ... just a little bit, as Bob DiNero might say in *Good Fellas*. A little bit. Ellen Whitt said Daniels was not involved in making the video and was unaware it would be shown. He has asked the state Republican Party never to use it again. Whitt said, "Mitch was unhappy about the video given he was about to issue a speech about running a competitive but issue-oriented and clean campaign." But to the greater point, here's an observation from Mike Marturello, editor of the Angola Herald-Republican: "At the Lincoln Day Dinner here in Angola, Mitch Daniels spoke, giving his standard stump speech. Of course, he pledged not to get negative in the campaign. Afterward, I posed this question/statement: I don't suppose you will have to get negative in the campaign as long as Jim Kittle is around. This kind of shocked Daniels a bit; he acted ignorant of the many negative e-mails coming out of the GOP headquarters. So I pointed him toward a pamphlet on the tables. I said, Mitch, just look at the book that the party put out tonight if you want to see negative. He looked to the nearest table for one of the booklets, which was about 12 pages of nothing but bile toward Kernan. I know the parties are supposed to do this sort of thing, but to me, it seems as though there's nothing but hate that comes from the GOP. This could backfire on Daniels, in my opinion, because many of the people who have heard him give the no negative pledge will end up seeing negative commercials come this fall from the GOP and blame Mitch." So there's the dilemma for the Daniels campaign: Recounting the public policy record of the Kernan and O'Bannon administrations in a political context without crossing the line. Here's a hint: Hoosiers are more interested in the vision thing than the blame game. Hoosier Republicans are caught in a dilemma that what helps President Bush also helps Gov. Kernan. They have yet to adapt to that new emerging economic reality. It could cost them the election. Sen. Skillman is doing a series of "meet and greet" events at GOP headquarters, first in Lafayette and Wednesday in Indianapolis. "My legislative focus in recent years has been on economic development, particularly for small towns and rural areas," Skillman said at the Tippecanoe County Republican Headquarters. "My role as lieutenant governor would be an

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LENCE IN BEDFORD: Following is a statement from Gov. Joe Kernan regarding the assistance being provided to local law enforcement officials in Bedford by the Indiana State Police. "On Sunday, at the request of Mayor Joe Klumpp, Indiana State Police officers were dispatched to assist law enforcement in Bedford at the local Visteon Corporation facility. The request came after Visteon officials and representatives of IUEW-CWA Local 907 failed to reach an agreement on contract negotiations. The state police officers are there only to assist the Bedford Police Department in maintaining order and to ensure the safety of all those involved. I am hopeful that a peaceful resolution can be reached quickly."

WELL BEING OF HOOSIER KIDS IMPROVES: Indiana's children at the turn of the century are better off than they were several years ago, according to a national study. The state, which ranked 17th nationally, improved in six of the 10 categories that look at the well-being of children in the United States, such as child death rate, poverty rate and teen birth rate (Times of Northwest Indiana). "The bad news is we're not making a drastic improvement," said Bill Stanczykiewicz, the president and chief executive

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officer of Indiana Youth Institute said. "The good news is we're holding steady, relative to the rest of the country."

ALDERMAN WRITES NEW LETTER TO LEADER ON BEHALF OF BORST: State Rep. Robert Alderman sent out this letter dated today: "As many of you may know, I have been very vocal in my objections to certification of the primary election results in any county where voters were disenfranchised, specifically Marion County. I have been asked by a number of people, why I am concerned about an election that took place one hundred miles from my district. Let me present the facts, as I know them, and as to how they affect every citizen of our state. During this year's primary election in Marion County, several precincts (the exact number is still unknown) exhausted their supply of ballots. When this occurred, at different locations across the county, various things happened. In some of the precincts, voters were told that they would have to wait for the possible arrival of ballots, or that they should come back later to vote. In others, copies were made of the ballot and voters were allowed to vote on this duplicated form. Unfortunately, the duplicated ballots were not counted in the final vote totals. Clearly, this situation violates voting provisions guaranteed by our state

extension of the role I have the past 12 years, now I would be serving all six million Hoosiers. There's extremely high unemployment in areas like south-central Indiana, and one new law that I authored was to provide funding for development in distressed counties," she said. **Status:** *Tossup.*

Indiana 2004 Congressional

Congressional District 2: Republican: U.S. Rep. Chris Chocola. **Democrat:** Joe Donnelly. **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. **People:** Urban/rural 73/27%; median income\$40,381; Poverty 9.5%; Race 84% white, 8% black; 5 Hispanic; Blue/white collar: 34/50%. **2000 Presidential:** Bush 53%, Gore 44%; **Cook Partisan Voting Index:** R+5; **2002 Result:** Chocola 95,081 (50%), Long Thompson 86,253 (46%); **2004 Forecast:** Donnelly and Chocola clashed last Thursday, with Donnelly accusing Chocola of voting against allowing an amendment to be added to a defense authorization bill and Chocola accusing Donnelly of playing politics (James Wensits, *South Bend Tribune*). Donnelly started things by issuing a press release that accused Chocola of voting "against allowing an amendment to the Department of Defense authorization bill that would ensure that every service member serving in harm's way has a life insurance policy of \$250,000 and that would reinstate pay raises for mid-grade to senior non-commissioned officers." Chocola said Donnelly was referring to a procedural vote that, if passed, would have prevented a vote on the defense authorization bill. **Status:** *Leans Chocola.*

Congressional District 8: Republican: U.S. Rep. John Hostettler. **Democrat:** Jon Jennings, Bill Pearman. **Green Party:** Clark Gabriel Field. **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. **People:** Urban/rural 58/42%; median income\$36,732; poverty 10.7%; race white 93.7%, black 3.7%, Hispanic .9%; blue/white collar: 32/52%. **2000 Presidential:** Bush 56%, Gore 42%; **Cook Partisan Voting Index:** R+8. **2002 Results:** Hostettler 98,952 (51%), Hartke 88,763 (46%), **2004 Forecast:** A national political debate over what to do about astronomical gas prices reached this race on Thursday (John Martin, *Evansville Courier & Press*). Jennings said the federal government should release some of its Strategic Petroleum Reserve to give consumers some short-term relief. Hostettler said the national reserve "exists for a strategic situation, not gas price fluctuation." Hostettler said he supports drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska, which Bush and most Republicans in Congress favor, and building new refineries. **Status:** *Tossup.*

Indiana 2004 Legislative

Senate District 36: Republican: Johnson County Council President Brent Waltz, *Sen. Larry Borst*. **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:** Waltz will almost certainly win the recount, with an all-day hearing expected to take place in Franklin on June 10. Borst has challenged every signature of every voter in Johnson County, which is run by Republicans. His campaign has prompted the copying of 8,000 pages of voting records. The most transparent quote came from Borst attorney David Brooks, described by a former colleague as "meaner than a rattlesnake," who emerged after the recount ended on Tuesday and all he could say is "We're still in the ballgame." **Recount Status:** *Safe Waltz*



COLUMNISTS ON INDIANA

David Rutter, *Post-Tribune* - This is a perfect script for moderate Democratic senators from the Midwest. He is delivering jobs and money to pay for the hardware the nation's soldiers need now -- fortified Humvees there, body armor here, tank engines over there, a WMD rapid response helicopter unit for us. Some of the money he has pressed the Pentagon to spend. Democrats run in horror from the "soft on defense" label plastered to their behinds. As a rising star in the Senate's Arms Services and Intelligence committees -- and Sunday TV talk shows -- Bayh soon will be immune to that. At each stop on his tours, he points out that he's only fulfilling the noble cause of all legislators -- jobs for home folks in a state that needs all the tax dollars it can retrieve from Washington. But each of these events also provides a perfect podium for Bayh's broader message: He wouldn't have to be working so hard on making our soldiers safe had the White House and Pentagon not botched Iraq so badly with poor planning. And, he says, if you don't like the way the "post-war" is going, blame the boss. Kerry must dance delicately around this mine field, but Bayh does not. When Bayh stands with dark-bereted Blackhawk chopper crews, he looks the part of civilian commander. Plus, he appears to be a man of patience, and 2008 is not that far off. ❖

Gary Gerard, *Warsaw Times-Union* - Everybody agrees what happened at Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq is pretty horrible. Humiliating and torturing prisoners -- physically, psychologically or other wise -- is pretty horrible stuff. But you know -- and I really hate to say this -- I can't say I was shocked by the behavior. We live in a great country, there's no doubt about that. We enjoy a level of freedom and prosperity known to no other people in the history

of mankind. But to say Americans could never be capable of such horrible behavior as in the Abu Ghraib fiasco is a stretch. Surely U.S. history is filled with wonderful, caring, helpful, strong, intelligent, innovative people. People like Abe Lincoln, Ben Franklin, Martin Luther King, Florence Nightingale, George Washington Carver, Thomas Edison -- these are just off the top of my head. There are legions more. But you have to remember, the U.S. also is the place that brought us people like Ted Bundy, Charles Manson, Al Capone and Timothy McVeigh. Americans aren't exempt from committing heinous acts. The Americans at Abu Ghraib are living proof.

Lesley Stedman Weidenbener, *Louisville Courier-Journal* - State Rep. Bob Alderman of Fort Wayne last week called for a special session of the legislature so lawmakers could invalidate the primary election results in a Central Indiana Senate race. Alderman, a street-wise Republican who has served in the Indiana House for 28 years, said that the ballot problems during the election that appear to have ousted longtime Sen. Larry Borst, R-Greenwood, are so significant that a new election should be called to determine a winner. "The core principle of our democratic and constitutional system is that every person's vote counts, and the reality is they didn't," Alderman told The Associated Press. But while Alderman's goal -- to ensure that no voter in District 36 was disenfranchised -- may be noble, his proposed solutions may not be the state's best course of action. That's because both Borst and GOP officials had an opportunity to file a contest of the election, a petition that gives the State Recount Commission the opportunity to review what happened and order a new election. It's happened before. ❖

TICKER T A P E

constitution. Article 1, Section 1, of our state constitution provides that all power of government is inherent in the people. Article 2, Section 1, of our state constitution provides that all elections "shall be free and equal". If the results of this election, as it now stands, are certified, this will clearly violate both of these constitutional provisions as well as each citizen's guarantee of equal protection provided by the U.S. Constitution. All state elected officials (Legislators, Governor, Attorney General, etc) are required to swear by oath that they will uphold the Constitution of the State of Indiana as well as the U.S. Constitution. To disregard this oath makes a mockery of the Constitution and places every citizen of our state in jeopardy. Just imagine a government without rules, a government that makes laws and rules for its citizens but disregards them when it chooses. Do not remain silent and allow our state government to certify an election that denied citizens their constitutionally guaranteed right to vote. If we as Indiana citizens do not demand that the affected precincts hold a special election, we will have forever given up our right to have each vote counted and render the constitution a meaningless document."

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