

# Political Report

V13 N20

Weekly Briefing on Indiana Politics

Thursday, Jan. 11, 2007

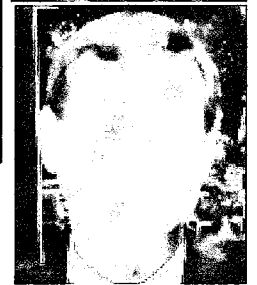
## The new faces of Hoosier power

*Kondo, Roberts, Long, Ellsworth, Gettelfinger on HPR's 50 List*

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY** and **MARK SCHOEFF JR.**

INDIANAPOLIS - In the year of mayoral elections, the tendency (as it was with HPR's Top 50 lists in 1999 and 2003) is to look inward and to the cities. It's also a budget year. You'd expect mayors and committee chairs and the governor to dominate the 2007 HPR 50 Most Influential List.

But we think outside the box. There is no doubt that the Daniels, Bauers, Crawfords, Kenleys, Longs, Petersons and Weinzapfels will provide many headlines. But as we did with our interview with Gov. Mitch Daniels last December, we like to look forward and we like to get our readers to circle around their world and, perhaps, take on another view. Our list is generated to spotlight people who



Clockwise: Gov. Daniels and Honda's Koichi Kondo; UAW's Ron Gettelfinger; Chief Justice John Roberts; Sen. President Pro Tempore David Long; and U.S. Reps. Joe Donnelly and Brad Ellsworth.



See page 3

## Is Petraeus our Grant?

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY**

KENDALLVILLE - In the spring of 2003, Gen. David Petraeus entered Mosul with the 101st Division.

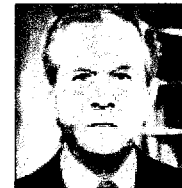
The city was consumed by chaos. Ambassador L. Paul Bremer had just issued two orders disbanding the Iraqi Army and commencing a de-Baathification program with the governing bureaucracy. Both orders would begin to fuel the insurgency that has since cost close to 3,000 American lives, including 70 Hoosiers, and wound 22,000 others.

Mosul was crawling with 100,000



Brian Howey's Column

“QUOTE of the Week”



“The situation in Iraq is unacceptable to the American people - and it is unacceptable to me. Where mistakes have been made, the responsibility rests with me.”

- President George W. Bush



unemployed troops, 20,000 Kurds who were ready to fight them, and the Hussein boys, Uday and Qusay, were hiding out in the city.

According to accounts written by Thomas E. Ricks in the book **"Fiasco: The American Military Adventure in Iraq,"** Gen. Petraeus began meeting with the various ethnic groups and tribes. He formed a local governing council. His troops displayed a no-nonsense, non-aggressive posture. When Petraeus entered neighborhoods, he would take his helmet and flak jacket off.

As Ricks observed, "He did it right and won over Mosul."

Petraeus earned his doctorate at Princeton University, with a dissertation on the effects the war in Vietnam had on U.S. thinking on the use of force, saying, "Counter-insurgency operations, in particular, require close civil-military cooperation." The ideal commander is a cross between "being president and pope."

And Gen. Petraeus laid out three basic concepts: quelling an insurgency is a race against time; it is important to create Iraqis who feel they have a stake in the new Iraq, and will our actions create more bad guys?

While members of the 4th Infantry were kicking in doors and humiliating heads of households, Petraeus and the 3rd ID were following his guidelines. When his troops surrounded a neighborhood, they asked the men they were seeking to surrender, and many did.

Petraeus eventually left Mosul, because the U.S. didn't have enough troops to stay once order was restored, and the city slipped back into chaos. Petraeus went on to begin training the Iraqi army and, eventually went back to Ft. Leavenworth where he updated the Army and Marine



The Howey Political Report is published by NewsLink Inc. It was founded in 1994.

**Brian A. Howey, Publisher**  
**Mark Schoeff Jr., Washington Writer**  
**Mark Curry, Washington Writer**  
**Jack E. Howey, Editor**

Subscriptions:  
\$350 annually HPR via e-mail;  
\$550 annually HPR & HPR Daily Wire.  
Call 317-254-0535.

## Jeffers on Gen. Petraeus

Tim Jeffers of the Indiana Democrats served on Gen. Petraeus's staff in 2005, arriving on Christmas Eve in overcast skies, "with no wise men" in sight. Here's his take on Petraeus, who he has talked with recently:

"He is an outstanding leader with an exceptional understanding of the challenges associated with our presence in Iraq...including military, cultural, political, and historical complexities. He is a good listener, and he understands and appreciates the role of the media in modern, armed conflict. He works long hours and has high expectations of his staff, and will not hesitate to call somebody out during a staff meeting if something is not being reported with sufficient clarity,

counter-insurgency doctrines. Released in December, it calls for a "minimum" of 20 counter-insurgents per 1,000 residents. By using Petraeus's own formula, it would take 100,000 U.S. troops just to secure Baghdad.

Wednesday night, President Bush told the nation he was committing 17,000 more troops to Baghdad, source of some of the bloodiest

The Howey Political Report  
PO Box 40268  
Indianapolis, IN 46240-0265.

[www.howeypolitics.com](http://www.howeypolitics.com)  
BrianHowey@howeypolitics.com

Indianapolis Office: 317-506-0883.  
Indianapolis Fax: 317-254-0535.  
Washington, DC Office: 202-256-5822.  
Business Office: 317-254-0535.

©2007, The Howey Political Report.  
All rights reserved. Photocopying, Internet forwarding, faxing or reproducing in any form, in whole or part, is a violation of

purpose and thoroughness.

"As a military leader, he is presented with a mission, and it is his duty to determine the best course of action under the circumstances and identify the resources necessary to achieve a desired outcome. It is the responsibility of others in our government to hold the Iraqi government accountable.

"Clearly, Lt. Gen. Petraeus has a difficult mission, with the situation on the ground (in Iraq, on Capitol Hill, and on Main Street) very different from what he encountered on his two previous deployments. Personally, I'm not convinced the 'surge' in troop levels coupled with the expenditure of more money is the answer." ♦

scenes imaginable. Another 4,000 Marines are going to be sent into al-Anbar province (bordering Saudi Arabia and Jordan), where al-Qaeda has a stronghold.

We must hope and pray that Gen. Petraeus becomes our Gen. U.S. Grant and saves the Americans from a devastating loss in Iraq, and that Baghdad doesn't end up like Beirut in 1982: a sacked modern city with a bloody future. In the American Civil War, Gens. Grant and Sherman met in 1863 and came up with a simple plan: "You go after Johnston and I'll go after Lee." They used overwhelming, bludgeoning force and decimated the



Confederacy, ending the war within 18 months. That's what it will take to subdue and recreate Iraq: the destruction of the Shia militias and Sunni insurgents. It will probably take far more troops than we have (military experts say the U.S. Army is almost broken). To win Iraq, we would need a draft and sacrifice from the American population. President Bush goes into this sequence admitting "mistakes were made" and a 26-percent approval rating on Iraq.

While Hoosier congressmen such as Mike Pence in safe Republican districts ("Our commander-in-chief has decided not to fail"), Dan Burton ("We cannot leave unilaterally"), and Steve Buyer ("a comprehensive plan") support this surge, U.S. Sen. Evan Bayh is "skeptical." Sen. Richard Lugar, who met with Bush twice this past week, said, "The complexity of the Iraq situation demands more of us than partisan sound bites or preconceived judgments."

The Iraq tragedy has created an awful stain on the Bush presidency, which has gotten all the major elements wrong. The premise of this war (weapons of mass destruction) was fallacy. We didn't go in with enough troops.

We didn't secure the borders. Bush goaded the insurgents with his July 2003 "Bring 'em on" quote. Our diplomacy is almost non-existent. There was Abu Ghraib and now the Saddam execution that actually makes him out to be a victim in the Middle East. NBC News was showing Iraqi Army units in Baghdad Wednesday evening with no bullets and broken rifles. We didn't protect our soldiers with enough armor. In 2006, as the situation deteriorated, Bush was more interested in securing his own capital (Congress) than revamping his strategy. He is mostly ignoring the Baker-Hamilton Iraq Study Group.

Now he talks of interrupting "the flow of support from Iran and Syria. And we will seek out and destroy the networks providing advanced weaponry and training to our enemies in Iraq," which seems to many as a potential widening of the conflict.

Gen. Petraeus appears to be the right general, working for a commander-in-chief who got almost nothing right. The question that will be answered, probably in the next six months, is whether he is three years too late. ❖

## From page 1

have the biggest potential to shape events and our future. And there were some names

you've never seen in these quarters before who we believe will cast long, enduring illumination and shadows across the Hoosier landscape: John G. Roberts. Ron Gettelfinger. Koichi Kondo. David Petraeus.

In the case of Chief Justice Roberts and UAW President Gettelfinger, they either grew up in Indiana or began their career paths here. Their actions in the coming year could have a huge impact on two of the most compelling and controversial issues facing us: abortion and jobs.

Kondo is representative of the more than 200 Japanese firms that have plants in Indiana and are employing our people. Lt. Gen. Petraeus, while not on our list (see Howey column above), is a breakout because he will hold the lives of thousands of Hoosier Marines and Army infantry in his hands, and how he does as the top field commander in Iraq will go a long way in developing the Indiana political landscape in 2008.

We originally thought the Evan Bayh presidential campaign would be the biggest influence on this list, but everything changed on Dec. 15 in a story HPR broke. In the aftermath, we decided to cast our light on some of the issues which have been around for more than a generation, and give you some new perspectives to ponder.

**1. U.S. Supreme Court Justice John G. Roberts:** In 2007 all eyes will be on the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling on the federal partial-birth abortion ban, which is expected to be released in late spring or early summer, according to Mike Fichter of Indiana Right to Life. "This ruling will not only give clear indication as to the judicial

philosophy of Chief Justice Roberts and Justice Alito, but also the role of Justice Kennedy as the crucial swing vote," Fichter said. No other abortion-related cases are expected to be heard by the Court in '07. Chief Justice Roberts is considered an unknown quantity until his votes are cast, although his position as a strict constitutionalist and his line of questioning in the partial-birth abortion oral arguments indicate he will vote to uphold the ban. "I believe there is a high likelihood that Roberts will more closely resemble Rehnquist in that his strict constitutionalist judicial philosophy will drive his votes, whereas (Justice Antonin) Scalia is more of a combination of being a constitutionalist and a social conservative," Fichter said. "Time will tell." Roberts is the first Hoosier chief justice. His votes and legal interpretations could have profound impact on the U.S. political culture when it comes to the issue of abortion, which for almost two generations has provided the key litmus test for Republicans seeking higher office and possibly doomed Sen. Evan Bayh's chance to win the Democratic presidential nomination. A second

term for President Bush gave him the opportunity to reshape the Supreme Court for a generation, and he turned to Roberts. No other person in America now has the ability to deliver pro-life activists to their promised land. After 12 years in power, it didn't happen legislatively when Repub-



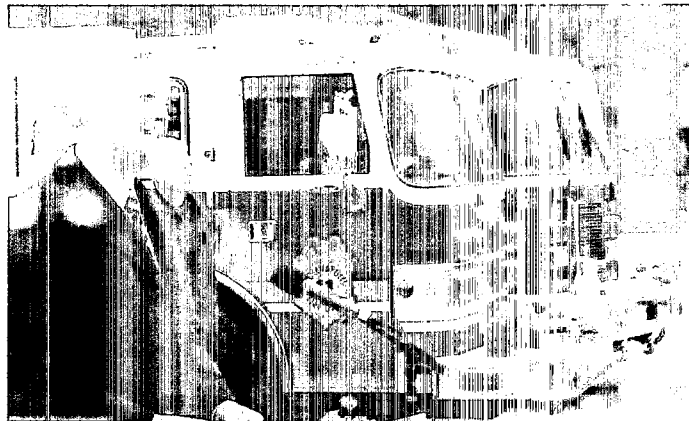
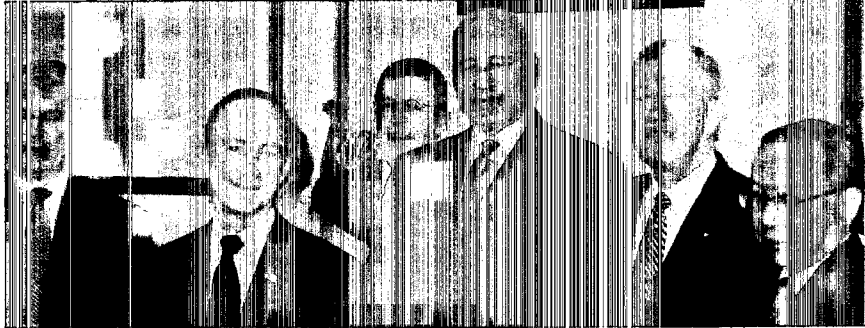


icans controlled the executive and legislative branches. While Roberts gained his national reputation in courts far from Indiana, he grew up in Long Beach, graduated from high school and still has family living here. His nomination to the Supreme Court accented the Hoosier roots that were essentially the child of the man. Chief Justice Roberts probably won't be on this list every year, but for now, he could be the catalyst that could alter politics in this state and across the nation for years to come.

## 2. Gov.

### Mitch Daniels:

The latest SurveyUSA fav/un-favs have Daniels at 43/49 percent. With Republicans, they are 67/29 percent. In Northern Indiana they are 41/50; in Southern Indiana they are 43/46. Democrats believe he is vulnerable in 2008, but we think the reason Democrats like Mayor Bart Peterson may be reluctant to take him on is that a number of major developments will come on-line by 2008, ranging from the new Colts stadium, to many Major Moves projects, to the new Honda and Toyota plants in Greensburg and Lafayette. While the Indianapolis Star suggested in October that Daniels might ease up a bit, Daniels has since revealed what a naive story that was, proposing a full-day kindergarten, a cigarette tax hike, a health insurance plan aimed at the lower class, the Commerce Connector Tollway from Pendleton to Martinsville, and the Hoosier Hope/Hoosier Lottery proposal (Daniels is shown with university presidents above). This governor is fearless and does not play by the previous gubernatorial rules, politics be damned. He is already having a profound impact on time, transportation and finance. He has



helped ignite an agricultural revolution. A decision on a second term is expected sometime this spring and all indicators suggest he wants to follow an eight-year script.

3. **Speaker B. Patrick Bauer:** Returned as speaker after Democrats retook the House by picking up two seats. Bauer (pictured below with Rep. Bosma) has been signalling his intent to war with Gov. Daniels over privatization issues, even though much of FSSA has been

contracted out by Democratic governors Bayh, C'Bannon and Kernan. Bauer might have a harder time holding his caucus in line as some university representatives may feel compelled to back the governor's Hoosier Lottery proposal. Bauer knows he cannot simply be an obstructionist. He and the governor appear to be in a compromise mode on full-day kindergarten and a minimum wage boost.

## 4. Indianapolis Mayor

### Bart Peterson:

All eyes will be on the mayor this month as he is expected to announce for a third term, where he is expected to be a prohibitive favorite. There will be inevitable questions about a possible showdown with Gov. Daniels in 2008.

All indicators are that he will pass and work on further fire consolidations, getting Hometown Matters passed in the legislature and serving as president of the National League of Cities. That will set off a chain of events as lesser candidates jockey for the right to take on Daniels. But with a simple sentence, Peterson can either freeze the field or send it into the kind of chaos that developed during the Andrew-Simpson fight in 2003 that finally ended when Gov. Joe Kernan re-entered the race.

## 5. U.S. Sen. Richard Lugar:

Incoming Senate Relations Chairman Joe Biden made it clear the day after the election: Lugar would essentially be the "co-chair" of the committee, a virtually unprecedented power-sharing arrangement. He has demonstrated in



the past that he can wield considerable influence in the minority. Last week, Lugar and Biden announced a series of "extensive and intensive" hearings on Iraq. He has not signed off on the Iraq "surge." Many in Washington believe that it may take Republican senators to convey the harsh realities of Iraq to President Bush, similar to what Sen. J. William Fulbright did during Vietnam. Lugar met with Bush on Monday and he urged the president to consult with Congress. The White House described it as a "courtesy call." If Lugar breaks with Bush on Iraq, public support for the war could collapse. President Bush could ignore Congress when his party controlled Capitol Hill because there were few consequences for doing so. Now, Bush is facing a hostile Democratic majority and will need the help of friendly Republicans such as Lugar more than ever. Bush should follow Lugar's advice and consult -- really engage in bipartisan give-and-take -- with Congress as he sets a new direction in Iraq. If Bush continues to flounder, Lugar may become even more prominent in foreign policy because of his bipartisan bona fides and the fact that he'll be one of the few senators not running for president. He won't have any electoral ax to grind. Lugar also will be extremely active on the alternative fuels front, authoring legislation with Democratic Sens. Barack Obama and Tom Harkin in an effort to wean the U.S. off foreign oil.

**6. Koichi Kondo:** He is president of Honda's U.S. division and took stage center last July in Greensburg when he announced with Gov. Mitch Daniels and Mayor Frank Manus a new Honda plant that could employ up to 4,000 people with four times as many spinoffs. There are some 207 Japanese companies operating in Indiana and more are on the way. We see Kondo as a representative figure of the globalization coming to the state despite its xenophobic history. And we loved what Kondo said about the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, where Honda racing engines hold sway. "For more than 50 years, racing has been a key part of the Honda culture, and we use racing to help train our engineers," Kondo said. "Last month the winning car at the Indy 500 was powered by a Honda engine. In fact, all 33 cars in the race were powered by Honda engines, and none had a failure.



Now Honda and Indiana are beginning a long race together." How Hoosier can you get? Welcome to Indiana, Mr. Kondo.

**7. Senate President Pro Tempore David Long:** He will have a great deal of influence, but how powerful will he be? And who beneath him will emerge in the void left by Sens. Bob Garton and Larry Borst? Long (photo)

will chart a new governing style. The governor/speaker dynamic may curtail some of his clout on budgetary issues. But how Long wields power in the new Senate will be one of the most fascinating sub-plots of this session. Long has acted decisively on ending the health care perk that destroyed Borst and Garton. He appears sympathetic to government reform efforts involving the cities and counties. We can expect the Senate decorum to remain, but Long may chart new waters in other areas.

**8. UAW President Ron Gettelfinger and Mo Davidson:** Gettelfinger is an Indiana native who heads the United Auto Workers. He began his career at a Louisville Ford plant in 1964 and eventually headed Region 3 before being elected vice president in 1998 and president in 2002. Davidson recently replaced Terry Thurman as Region 3 director. They face a daunting scenario as the American auto industry retrenches in the face of high fuel and legacy costs, and market inroads by Japanese companies. Gettelfinger has been candid about the precarious state facing auto workers, as recent plant closings at Guide Lamp, Ford, Visteon, and Chrysler strikes at Conn/Selmer, and Delphi's bankruptcy. Wrenching changes could be in store, including even a merger of the UAW itself. "Corporate policies have declared the death of the 'American Dream,'" Gettelfinger said. "Our shared vision of an America that lives up to its promise of freedom, opportunity, dignity and social and economic justice for all" has been sacrificed by "those who measure their lives by the value of their stock portfolios, the square footage of their homes in gated communities, and their exotic vacation homes." He described the U.S. auto market as the largest in the world, which continues to grow. Growing competition from international carmakers have cut into the market share of the Big Three with resulting financial losses for GM and Ford. Layoffs, especially in the auto parts sector, have been in the hundreds of thousands. These conditions "demand new and farsighted solutions," Gettelfinger said.

**9. Ways & Means Chairman Bill Crawford:** He returns as chairman of the Ways & Means Committee and will be a major player on the budget. That's also good news for Mayor Peterson, who is seeking financial remedies for cit-

ies via Hometown Matters.

**10. U.S. Sen. Evan Bayh:** A month ago, the junior senator would have been No. 1 on this list. But his stunning decision in late December to pull out of the 2008 presidential race takes the state's political apparatus out of the presidential sector, at least for now. Bayh will certainly re-emerge in 2008 on most Democratic short lists for veep.



But he has spent his gubernatorial and senatorial years grooming himself as a bipartisan alternative to politics as usual. The problem was his vote for the war in Iraq has led to the point where Democratic activists in New Hampshire and Iowa don't want a centrist, but someone who will punish Republicans for Bush-Cheney transgressions. Evan Bayh knew that wouldn't be him. Key allies dismiss speculation he might run for governor in '08.

**11. U.S. Rep. Baron Hill:** He has perhaps the largest and most difficult policy minefield to traverse of any of the Democratic freshman in the Hoosier U.S. House delegation. A champion of the "pay-as-you-go" budget rules, Hill might be vulnerable to attacks that accuse him of raising taxes to pay for numerous Democratic promises to bolster the middle class. Given the conservative tilt of his district, his Iraq position may undergo close scrutiny. He also will may come under fire from the Chamber of Commerce and other business groups if he opposes trade deals and votes to deny the president authority to negotiate trade deals that can't be amended by Congress. But he was put on the House Energy and Commerce Committee, which is the catbird seat for fundraising and developing an alternative energy strategy. In addition, he has a strong relationship with Majority Leader Steny Hoyer.



**12. Carmel Mayor James Brainard:** The mayor (pictured left) is charting new territory, taking a suburban patchwork and essentially creating a new urban downtown, which stands to give Indianapolis a run for its economic and cultural money. The new Carmel city center could motivate other suburbs across Indiana and the nation to follow suit.

**13. Evansville Mayor Jonathan Weinzapfel:** The former Democratic legislator is a prohibitive favorite to win a second term. While he's not actively running for governor, many Democrats see him as ticket fodder in '08 (See Claybourn column, Page 12). And here's a hot trend: After barn-burning big city mayoral races in 1999 and 2003 (sans Indianapolis), all the big city races are looking to be uncompetitive in 2007.

**14. Allen County Commissioner Nelson Peters:** With no obvious Democratic opponent in sight, Peters (pictured right) is the odds-on favorite to reclaim the Fort Wayne mayor's office for the GOP after eight years. Peters had a long, distinguished career on the Allen County Council before he became a commissioner.

**15. Marion County Prosecutor Carl Brizzi:**

Winning a tough race the way he did in an increasingly Democratic county means that Brizzi has great stroke. He's got the governor's back and will also play watchdog for the next four years in the Indianapolis Democratic administration. Many believe Brizzi is emerging as the heir apparent in a post-Daniels GOP.

**16. Gary Mayor Rudy Clay:** The new mayor of Gary is a so chairman of Lake County Democrats. His re-election as mayor is not a total done-deal, but as more candidates enter the May primary, Clay's odds at winning his own term improve. Thus, the power in Lake County

shifts from East Chicago to Gary.

**17. U.S. Rep. Pete Visclosky:** Visclosky was able to use his position on the House Appropriations Committee to bring home prodigious amounts of federal money under Republican leadership. His effectiveness should only increase with Democrats in power, regardless of efforts to curtail the earmark process. Visclosky also



has become Hoosier Republicans favorite Democrat. Gov. Mitch Daniels sings his praises, and Sen. Richard Lugar is often his partner on projects. Not only does Visclosky return to the U.S. House majority after a 12-year absence, he has become an integral player in reforming Lake County government. He kicked off the Good Government initiative and worked with Gov. Daniels to forge the Regional Development Authority. He's still a major voice on steel.

**18. Lee Hamilton:** Although Sen. Evan Bayh worked for two years to establish his name ID in the presidential preliminaries, it was former Rep. Lee Hamilton whose star has ascended in that time frame. As vice chairman of the 9/11 Commission and the Iraq Study Group, Hamilton has carved a niche for himself as the Democrats' foreign and security policy elder statesman. Hamilton may be the sage that the media, and congressional Democrats, turn to for perspective and guidance. And he'll continue to be the Democratic go-to guy for Republicans who are trying to put together bipartisan blue-ribbon panels.

**19. IEDC Director Nathan Feltman:** He becomes the Governor's point man on jobs, which we still believe will be one of the most crucial issues in the 2008



# Political Report

governor's race. And he (and Mickey Maurer) had a great year in 2006.

**20. State Sen. Bob Meeks:** Who's the Senate go-to guy on finance? Is it Meeks, chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee? We don't really know at this point. Larry Borst used to hold all these marbles. After he lost, President Garton split up the duties. It's another fascinating sub-plot that will only become apparent once we know President Long's governing style.

**21. State Sen. Luke Kenley:** He's the probable "go-to" guy on property tax reform and is chair of the Senate Budget Committee. But Kenley has made recent comments that certainly won't curry favor with Gov. Daniels. And as the 2008 primary season rolls around, we see Kenley as potentially one of the most vulnerable Republicans to the kind of political dynamic that ended the careers of Garton and Borst.

**22. State Rep. Russ Stilwell:** The House Majority Floor leader will carry the Hometown Matters legislation, which could be one of the key government reform efforts in the legislature.

**23. U.S. Rep. Brad Ellsworth:** The New York Times anointed Ellsworth (below) as one of the Congressional "Alpha Men" (along with Sens. James Webb and Jon Tester and Rep. Heath Shuler). Ellsworth won a 22-percent victory over

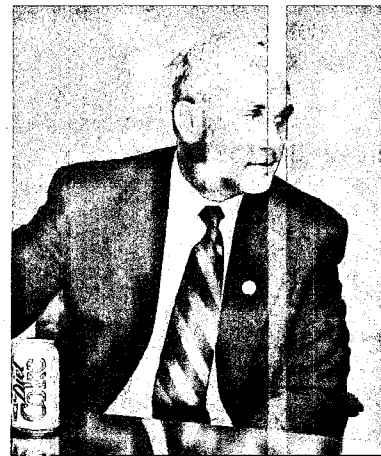
John Hostettler in '06 and many see him as a rising star in the party. The telegenic former sheriff continues to be a media darling. His votes will offer guidance on the extent to which conservative Democrats will support or block the agenda of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi. He says that she told him to vote with his district. Everyone will be waiting to see what happens on the first

contentious issue that helps define the Pelosi House. As a member of the House Armed Services Committee, he has a high-profile platform on which to formulate his stance on Iraq. Like Hill, he'll have to calibrate how far to go toward



the Democratic base that wants the United States out of Iraq yesterday and a Hoosier constituency that cares about "winning." To borrow a phrase from Indiana's favorite sport, Iraq will not be a slam dunk for Ellsworth.

**24. U.S. Rep. Joe Donnelly:** He has already become a touchstone for determining where "populist" Democrats will take the party and, by extension, the Congress. Early this week, he issued a blunt "warning" to Speaker Pelosi to stick to a "middle-of-the-road agenda" or their party's control of Congress may last just two years. If she "goes too far one way or another, we're not coming back," Donnelly said. His is the most blue-collar district in the state. The manufacturing-based economies of South Bend, Elkhart and Kokomo give him a broad canvass on which to paint middle class themes. It's that district that may make him an important vote to win over to the side of trade liberalization. What it takes to persuade Donnelly to vote for trade promotion authority, if in fact that can be done, will help define how the United States participates in the global economy. With his seat on the House Financial Services Committee, Donnelly will be in the front row of legislators who are grappling with soaring executive pay and other excesses that alienate rank-and-file workers and professionals. Donnelly can shape how Main Street tries to govern Wall Street



**25. U.S. Rep. Mike Pence:** This Republican (left) faces his biggest challenge since winning his seat in 2000 -- staying relevant after getting pounded in the race for House minority leader in November. He's also been term-limited out of his chairmanship of the House conservatives. But the articulate and media savvy Pence continues to demonstrate the abil-

ity to turn a phrase that puts him on the cover of the New York Times. He can fashion his own bully pulpit from which to shape the conservative opposition in the Pelosi House. And unlike some of his GOP colleagues, he can do it with a smile instead of a scowl.

**26. Indiana Democratic Chairman Dan Parker:** The chairman can carve notches for three Congressional seats and retaking the Indiana House. He is expected to remain at the helm through the 2008 sequence. He has been a consistent critic of the Daniels administration in a similar fashion to Jim Kittle's assaults on Gov. Joe Kernan. But Parker has his critics, who question the fact that he picked up only two seats in the House in a Democratic wave year and passed on the statewide, who ended up



losing by narrow margins

**27. Indiana Republican Chairman Murray**

**Clark:** Conversely, Chairman Clark is getting accolades for keeping the losses down in the House while preserving the statewides. He's expected to stay on through the '08 cycle. We believe Clark could be a player in the post-Mitch era of the GOP's gubernatorial echelon if he so chooses.

**28. U.S. Rep. Steve Buyer:** This will be the

second term Buyer will spend in the minority (he was first elected in 1992). While he lost his Veteran's Affairs Committee chair, he will still be a voice on the war. Last week, he sent a letter to President Bush urging him to move 27 Iraqi battalions into Baghdad (and was ignored). Allies say the White House continues to quietly use him as a sounding board on Iraq. Buyer resides in one of the safest Republican districts in the nation.

**29. U.S. Rep. Mark Souder:** He is the last standing Hoosier from the 1994 Gingrich revolution and now finds himself in the minority for the first time. He has indicated he will run at least one more time in '08 and may face a rematch with Democrat Thomas Hayhurst, who he defeated with 54 percent of the vote in his smallest plurality. Watch Souder to see how rank-and-file conservatives adapt to the Pelosi era. A phenomenal vote counter, perhaps Souder will become a leader of the Republican effort to pry conservative Democrats like Ellsworth away from Pelosi during close votes.

**30. House Minority Leader Brian Bosma:** The top House Republican would be higher if the governor wasn't of the same party. He took his lumps after adroitly leading most of his caucus through the Major Moves saga. As speaker, he emphasized economic issues over social ones and opened up the process to the Internet. He could easily reclaim the speakership in 2008 as he only needs to pick up two seats, very doable in a presidential year.

**31. Farm Bureau President Don Villwock:** He continues to play a major role in the shaping and execution of farm policy at both the state and national levels. The growth and public acceptance of ethanol and other biofuels in Indiana is in large part attributable to the close relationship between Villwock and key members of the Daniels administration including the Governor himself. During the 2006 election, the Farm Bureau was a key factor in a number of legislative races and clearly established itself as one of the few truly bipartisan big players in Indiana politics. Villwock is a member of the American Farm Bureau board of directors and AFBB's Trade Advisory Committee which advises the Secretary of Agriculture and the U.S. Trade Representative on international trade issues affecting U.S. agriculture. He is past chairman of the Farm Foundation and is a member of the 25 X 25 Ag Energy Working Group, a national task force promoting the use of renewable fuels

with the objective of American agriculture satisfying 25 percent of the country's energy needs by the year 2525. As a former Lugar employee he will be one of the key voices that the ranking Republican on the Senate Ag committee will listen to during the crafting of the 2007 Farm Bill.

**32. Tim Roemer:** There stood Roemer (and Hamilton) outside of Speaker Pelosi's office on Monday, urging passage of the 9/11 Commission reforms. That very day, Roemer had an op-ed piece in the Washington Post, calling for more Congressional oversight on national security. Roemer's intellectual curiosity and his restless inner wonk may not be fully engaged in his role as president of the Center

for National Policy. With Bayh out of the picture, Roemer has latitude in selecting which Democrat he will advise in the presidential race. Look for him to choose the one who is most likely to appoint him secretary of homeland security in a Democratic administration. With his facility for crafting soundbites and his greater Capitol Hill entree with the Democrats in the majority, Roemer (left) may be able to raise his stature in Washington over the next two years. He's too young to be a sage, but he could become his generation's Lee Hamilton. And for those of you who

missed it, his HPR Forum keynote last October was compelling.

**33. Michael O'Connor:** He will likely become the next chairman of the Marion County Democratic Party, which will continue to grow in influence, and could become mayor some day. O'Connor (pictured, left) is one of Mayor Peterson's closest allies.

**34. Terre Haute Mayor Kevin Burke:** He has been an innovative mayor who broke with Democrats and supported Major Moves last year. He will now try to break the jinx that plagued the last three Democratic incumbent mayors who lost in primaries. In his State of the City address this week, Burke proposed an "Inland Port" for Terre Haute, connecting air commerce to I-70.

**35. U.S. Rep. Julia Carson:** There is a growing consensus that Carson has entered the twilight of her career as her health becomes an increasing liability. We know of several credible potential candidacies beginning to take shape in both the '08 primary and general election cycles in both parties. She stands to benefit from Speaker Pelosi, who will continue to help female Members, as she has done







in the past. But that requires Member involvement, and Carson may be flagging there. If, for some reason, Carson can't complete her term, 7th CD Chairwoman Tralonda Anderson picks the replacement and she is a political ally of State Rep. Greg Porter.

**36. Indiana Republican Executive Director Jennifer Hallowell:** She is beginning to lay the groundwork for Gov. Daniels' '08 re-elect and will also coordinate '07 mayoral races. She managed Prosecutor Brizzi's win and we see in Hallowell the first female Indiana Republican chair some day.

**37. Indiana Chamber President Kevin Bringer:** Some influence is lost with the Democrats controlling the House, but it's a budget year and he still has clout in the New Senate.

**38. Indiana Manufacturers President Pat Kiely:** In a budget year, the former Ways & Means chairman will be a voice heeded, particularly in the Senate.

**39. Lt. Gov. Becky Skillman:** The LG has become an integral voice on bio fuels and Indiana's agriculture revolution. Can and will she position herself to be the governor's heir apparent?

**40. South Bend Mayor Dennis Luecke:** The mayor will easily win a third term and he commands the South Bend media market.

**41. U.S. Rep. Dan Burton:** He is the senior member of the Indiana delegation. He is likely to play a larger role in defense of the Bush administration on foreign policy matters.

**42. State Reps. Sheila Klinker and Peggy Welch:** In 2006, only two Democrats parted ways on Major Moves. This year, with the Hoosier Hope/Hoosier Lottery proposal from the governor that has the backing of IU President Adam Herbert and Purdue President Martin Jischke, it will be interesting to see if these two college town Democrats vote with the caucus or with their universities. In Welch, we see a potential member of the Democratic ticket someday.

**43. St. Joseph Democratic Chairman Butch Morgan:** He played an integral role in the Donnelly campaign and now takes aim at mayoral races in Mishawaka, Elkhart and Kokomo.

**44. FSSA Commissioner Mitch Roob:** Here will be one of the chief defenders of "privatization." It is a role he, Gov. Daniels and former Mayor Stephen Goldsmith played in the 1990s in Indianapolis. The fact that the Daniels administration inherited an FSSA that was already 92 percent contracted out won't stop Democrats from trying to make hay on this issue. If they don't, Roob may be one reason why.

**45. IACT President Matt Greller:** His organization has formulated the Hometown Matters tax reform issue that will be one of the major elements of this legislative sessions. Greller and Mayors Peterson, Leigh Morris and Al Huntington of Madison all will push the plan.

**46. Marty Morris:** Lugar's chief of staff continues to keep a tight grip on the senator's legendary political organization.

**47. State Sen. Vi Simpson:** This Democrat will make a decision by the end of the session on whether she will seek the '08 gubernatorial nomination. Simpson ran for that job in 2003 before Gov. Joe Kernan re-entered the race. She lost a leadership bid against Sen. Richard Young.

**48. Fort Wayne Mayor Graham Richard:** He is serving his last year as mayor and has been an innovator in preparing his city for the next generation of communications and logistics. Richard has taken himself out of the '08 gubernatorial mix.

**49. State Reps. Kreg Battles and Jon Elrod:** These are, perhaps, the two most vulnerable House freshmen. And being freshmen, they are largely expected to shut up and vote with the party on the budget. But both House caucuses will have to do things to protect their prospects for '08, and thus, that makes them important. If you think putting freshmen on the influential list is a stretch, look at the impact that the last group of freshmen had on key issues such as Major Moves, DST and gaming.

**50. John Gregg:** The former House speaker (pictured, left) is actively positioning himself for the '08 ticket. Democrats we talk to see him as a more likely LG nominee than governor. Gregg will have to figure a way to explain his instigation of the health care for life legislative perk that doomed the political careers of Garton and Borst.



## Honorable Mention

(listed alphabetically)

**Marion County Sheriff Frank Anderson:** He's now in charge of the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department at a time when crime is surging in the capital.

**7th CD Chair Tralonda Anderson:** She would make the selection if Rep. Carson cannot fill her term.

**Warren Township Trustee Jeff Bennett:** He defeated one of the key thorns in the side of Mayor Peterson - Tom Marendt - and thus presents a wake-up call to Big Government Republicans in the legislature that defending the township status quo is going to get risky. He'll get some breathing room before the fire consolidation issue bubbles to the surface.

**Betsey Burdick:** The governor's deputy chief of staff and key trouble shooter.

**Deputy Mayor Steve Campbell:** The deputy Indianapolis mayor is a future star of the party.

**Attorney General Steve Carter:** His decision on robo calls ticked off a lot of party pros on both sides.



Another post-Mitch gubernatorial contender.

**Dan Coats:** The former senator is now a trouble-shooter for Gov. Daniels and helped shepherd the two recent U.S. Supreme Court nominees for President Bush.

**United Methodist Church Bishop Michael**

**Coyner:** He is seeking to unite the north and south conferences of the United Methodist Church in Indiana and therefore could be an inspiration to those involved in city-county unity campaigns around the state.

**Kathy Davis:** The first female lieutenant governor is not currently seeking the 2008 Democratic gubernatorial nomination. "There's no news," Davis said. "I'm not doing anything in that regard." She clarified that this morning, saying that she hadn't definitively ruled out a run. "I'm not anxious to make any kind of announcement," she said. What she is doing is a Purdue University project with the Department of Defense that she says, "Will fight terrorism by supporting people, as opposed to using force."

**Michael Davis:** The Chamber's political director, he may have saved the HD20 seat of Mary Kay Budak from going Democratic by actively supporting Tom Dermody.

**Shaw Friedman:** Played an integral role in Rep. Donnelly's election.

**State Rep. Craig Fry:** Will challenge the Mishawaka mayor.

**Tim Goeglein:** The deputy director of the White House Office of Public Liaison coordinates with a number of offices to, as the Washington Post described, "make sure conservatives are happy, in the loop and getting their best ideas before the president and turned into laws."

**Earl Goode:** Gov. Daniels' chief of staff.

**Bob Grand:** Bigtime ally of the governor and key GOP financier.

**Bill Haan:** Can he get the Association of Indiana County Commissioners to reform county government?

**John Hammond III:** He plays the drums. He digs the Allman Brothers. He's got the governor's back.

**Al Hubbard:** The White House's economic czar is working to keep the economy from tanking, which, if that happens, could doom GOP prospects for Congress and the White House in '08.

**Madison Mayor Al Huntington:** His dispute with Rep. Billy Bright over Hometown Matters led to the legislator's loss.

**Lacy Johnson:** Heads the Indianapolis International Airport Board and is a key ally to Rep. Carson.

**Joe Kernan:** Officially, the former governor has said he has no interest in electoral politics. Yet he allowed his name to be included in a Democratic Party poll in a head-to-head with the man who defeated him, Gov. Mitch Daniels. We still believe it's unlikely Kernan will seek a rematch, but this door is open just a crack.

**Joe Loftus:** Will be one of the key lobbyists on Hometown Matters and county government reform issues.

**Hammond Mayor Thomas McDermott:** Seek-

ing his second term as mayor, McDermott has ruled out a gubernatorial run, but his name will be on most lieutenant governor short lists.

**Kokomo Mayor Matt McKillip:** From a pure spectacle standpoint, the mayoral primary in the City of Firsts is going to be a donnybrook. And now let's pray.

**LaPorte Mayor Leigh Morris:** A leading voice on Hometown Matters and IACT.

**John Okeson:** The governor's legislative liaison.

**State Rep. Greg Porter:** He chairs the House education committee. If U.S. Rep. Carson retires, he's one of the frontrunners to replace her.

**Tim Purucker:** Key lobbyist on slots and spirits.

**Indianapolis Councilman Isaac Randolph:** A declared challenger for Mayor Peterson.

**Mishawaka Mayor Jeff Bea:** Will try to fend off Democrats for a second term.

**Supt. Suellen Reed:** She's doing a statewide listening tour. Key sources are suggesting she probably won't seek re-election in '08.

**OMB Director Charles Schalliol:** It's a budget year and he's the key budgeteer.

**Dein Seitz:** A key lobbyist with the state's prolific insurance industry.

**Tom Sugar:** Sen. Bayh's chief of staff who will become a key gatekeeper in 2008 when the veepstakes begin in earnest.

**Hamilton County Republican Chairman**

**Charlie White:** Will he be able to keep the peace in Sen. Kerley's district? And what kind of role might he play in the costly patchwork of township fire departments in southern Hamilton County being overtaken by growing Carmel, Fishers and Zionsville?

**Abdul Hakim Shabazz:** The effervescent forum of Indiana politics on WXNT, Abdul in the Morning makes life a lot more interesting. Get this dude some more watts!

**Mike Sodrel:** Truckin' toward an '08 rematch?

**Ben. Thomas Weatherwax:** He's making news these days for his "Bold Moves" plan to eliminate property taxes. Many 2nd CD Republican chairs see Weatherwax as the best challenger to Rep. Donnelly.

**Gary Welsh:** As blogging becomes more influential, Welsh's Advance Indiana website (as opposed to Eric Miller's "Advance America") provides original reporting from this guy, moderate Republican (and former Reaganite). We had Welsh slotted for the Top 50, but this past week he indicated he might stop blogging. We hope he doesn't.

**Robin Winston:** The former Democratic chair is working a number of mayoral races in 2007.

**Senate Minority Leader Richard Young:** He is the first announced Democratic gubernatorial candidate and he'll face an uphill battle, unless he's the only Democrat. He heads the 17-member Senate caucus that is now fractured after his one-vote victory over Sen. Simpson. ♦



## A rising star from the south

By **JOSHUA CLAYBOURN**

EVANSVILLE - When Jonathan Weinzapfel, now the 33rd mayor of Evansville, lost a hotly contested congressional race in 1996 in Indiana's "Bloody Eighth" Congressional District, there was a deep sense of sadness among Democrats. Weinzapfel, a young Democrat at the tender age of 31, was seen by many as a bright rising star of politics.

Although not quite a Kennedy, he was energetic, good-looking and optimistic. In many ways he embodied the hope of southwestern Indiana Democrats.

But the grassroots juggernaut of former Congressman John Hostettler, combined with the residual conservative fervor from the 1994 Republican Revolution, was enough to send Weinzapfel back to practicing law.

Many people on both sides of the aisle thought they had witnessed the early death of a promising political career. Yet Weinzapfel quickly rebounded, and now many pundits are rightly considering him as a potential 2008 gubernatorial candidate.

In 1999 he was appointed state representative for HD76, and there he quickly made a name for himself as a smart and able politician who deliv-



ered results.

But Weinzapfel's biggest feat would be using this political capital in 2003 to unseat Russ Lloyd Jr. for mayor of Evansville, Indiana's third largest city. In some respects this wasn't a difficult task. Lloyd had suffered a setback by trying to push through an unpopular baseball stadium in the city's downtown district.

Perhaps just as important, Evansville was an inherently Democratic city. Lloyd was the first Republican mayor since his father served in that post from 1972-79, and more than a few believed he only held that position because he had his father's name.

Yet although the position of Evansville mayor was a slam dunk for Democrats in 2003, Weinzapfel has used his strengths in that office to remake himself as one of the state's most successful public officials. He has focused on downtown and neighborhood revitalization, producing marked results in conjunction with the business community. Indeed, his popularity is so high that Republican insiders believe there may be no one willing to run against him in the upcoming mayoral race.

It's no wonder that pundits would consider Weinzapfel a serious contender for the 2008 gubernatorial race. As an incredibly popular mayor from the state's third largest city, he's bound to have a legitimate shot. And there's no

denying that he would reach for the opportunity if it was available to him.

Ultimately, the very qualities which made Weinzapfel a successful mayor of Evansville would make him a quality candidate for governor in 2008. But unlike his congressional race in '96, he now has results to run on. The message to Indianapolis Mayor Bart Peterson, the leading 2008 contender, should be clear - watch out, you've got company. ♦



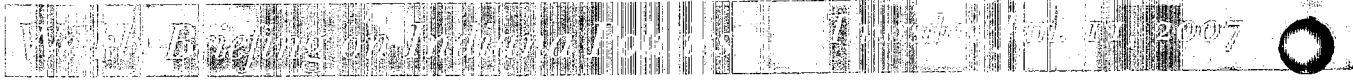
**Mayor Weinzapfel with his family announcing his re-election bid last fall.**

**Powerful Persuasion**

**BOSE**  
publicaffairs  
group

[www.bosepublicaffairs.com](http://www.bosepublicaffairs.com) 317 • 684 • 5400

Government Relations | Strategic Communications | Procurement | Association Management



## Souder 'unimpressed' with Bush speech on Iraq

WASHINGTON - U.S. Rep. Mark Souder reacted to President Bush's speech by saying: "I wasn't particularly impressed. I know he's trying to do the best he can in an extremely difficult situation. It's not like any of us have easy solutions to this. ... Most of us don't have much confidence, including most of the soldiers in my district, that the Iraqis will actually fight. ... I don't favor an increase in manpower. I believe we need to start drawing down. We need to show them they need to take more responsibility."



## Visclosky sees escalation

WASHINGTON - U.S. Rep. Pete Visclosky said, "I oppose the president's plan to escalate the war in Iraq. Just as I was concerned with troop levels leading up to the war, I am concerned with where these additional troops will come from. Furthermore, I believe the president must come back to Congress for authorization to maintain our presence in Iraq."

## Education top priority for Daniels administration

INDIANAPOLIS - New education spending is at the top of Gov. Mitch Daniels' wish list as state budget officials presented the governor's two-year budget proposal to lawmakers for the first time Wednesday (**Fort Wayne Journal Gazette**). State Budget Director Chuck Schalliol described it as one of the leanest recommendations in terms of base agency spending that he has seen. Overall, the \$25.8 billion budget would grow 3.8 percent in the first year and an additional 3.3 percent in fiscal

year 2009. Some general government areas that will see modest increases include Medicaid, economic development and public safety, which calls for a significant salary hike for corrections officers. But Daniels is putting most of the new money into education. The budget includes an average 3 percent increase in state tuition support for K-12 schools each year, as well as implementation of a full-day kindergarten program for at-risk children. Overall, Schalliol said the plan includes \$400 million in new K-12 spending. Indiana's colleges and universities would receive a 5 percent boost, compared to a 1.7 percent average between 2002 and 2007. "I'm impressed," said Rep. Jeff Espich, R-Uniondale. "It's even more than a starting point. It's better than that." "I think the governor's outline probably would make a good budget, but the devil is in the details and we haven't seen the details yet," said Rep. Bill Cochran, D-New Albany.

## Manous out of prison

HOBART - Former state Democratic Party Chairman Peter Manous, who spent 22 months in prison for taking a \$200,000 kickback in defrauding a union pension fund in a \$10 million land deal, is working again (**Associated Press**). Manous has been working since Dec. 18 for Hind General Hospital, a private hospital in Hobart owned by two Democratic Party contributors. Manous said he is working on a contract basis. "I'm doing some administrative work under contract with the hospital," Manous said. "I'm just making sure vendors are getting paid, things like that."

## No charges in Shine case

FORT WAYNE - The chairman of the Allen County Republican Party will not face domestic battery charges, a special prosecutor announced Wednesday (**Fort Wayne Journal Gazette**). Indiana State Police investigated party chairman Steve Shine, 54, after his wife, Laura Beth Shine, 51, called police Nov. 9 saying her hus-

band had assaulted her at their Liberty Mills Road home, according to a police report and 911 tape. St. Joseph County Prosecutor Michael Dvorak agreed to take the case Dec. 13 and, after requesting further investigation, released a statement Wednesday saying he was declining to prosecute Shine. "There is no evidence with which to prove the crime of intimidation and insufficient evidence with which to prove the crime of battery beyond a reasonable doubt," Dvorak, a Democrat, said in the statement. Dvorak said he reached the decision since the investigation, Laura Shine has filed for divorce and hired attorney Michael Loomis. In 2001, Steve Shine endorsed Richards in the Republican primary. Loomis also was a candidate for prosecutor. Loomis, a former Allen County chief deputy prosecutor, later sued Shine for defamation in connection with statements he made during the campaign, a lawsuit Shine won in 2005.

## Dems grill Roob

INDIANAPOLIS - It looked like a scene from "Miracle on 34th Street," the one where actor John Payne, playing an attorney defending Kris Kringle, is ordered by a judge to produce volumes of mail sent to Santa Claus (**Stinson, Post-Tribune**). On Wednesday, it was the turn of state Rep. Bill Crawford, D-Indianapolis, to play the judge. Crawford, the chairman of the Indiana House Ways and Means Committee, asked Mitch Roob, secretary of Indiana Family & Social Services Administration, to produce copies of 303 answers he asked about Roob's contract with IBM. Several staffers then brought in loads of the 600-page reports and gave them to each member of the committee.

## Pence opposes wage bill

WASHINGTON - Republican Congressman Mike Pence was in the minority Wednesday when voting against raising the federal minimum wage over the next two years.