

The Howey Political Report



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“QUOTE” OF THE WEEK

“Don’t believe the papers. They run an interview like it is an obituary!”

- U.S. Rep. Julia Carson, on the state of her health after missing more than 100 votes since June, to the *Indianapolis Star*

Seven Hoosiers in prime time roles

Will help shape dramatic 2004 election

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

The election of 2004 will likely be determined by events yet to occur. As this compelling drama plays out, seven figures with vivid Hoosier ties will be cast in prominent roles on issues such as terrorism, security, and marriage.

Today’s release of the 9/11 Commission Report put the spotlight on former Indiana Congressmen Lee Hamilton and Tim Roemer. They will be “fanning out across the country” in the coming weeks pushing reform of U.S. intelligence capabilities, CNN reported. “Authority and responsibility are too diffuse,” Hamilton said of Congress and the federal bureaucracy. “We need stronger oversight for our intelligence.”

On the Congressional front, U.S. Reps. John Hostettler and Mike Pence are in the vanguard of the marriage issue, seen as a wedge element that President Bush hopes will propel him to a second term. The next “*most important speech*” of Bush’s career will be written by Michael Gerson, a former aide of U.S. Sen. Dan Coats. The Bush-Cheney campaign spokesman is Terry Holt, the Elkhart native long active on the Hoosier congressional campaign scene. And the press secretary for Vice President Dick Cheney is Kevin Shaw Kellems. Here are some thumbnail observations on the Hoosier Seven and the impact they will likely have in the coming months.

Lee Hamilton: 9/11 Commission Chairman Tom Kean called Hamilton “one of the most decent and thoughtful men I have ever had the pleasure to know.” Hamilton pressed for a wide range of reforms this morning. “This commission doesn’t have all the answers but we have thought about what to do with our global strategies and how

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LUGAR COMMENDS 9/11 COMMISSION: U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Dick Lugar made the following statement today on the 9/11 Commission report: "The 9/11 Commission report provides a useful historical record. More importantly, the President, the Congress, and all U.S. and international institutions engaged in the war on terror, must focus on the future. The Commission makes many recommendations - including expansion of the Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction program -- that will need to be considered, along with steps already taken since 9/11, and recommendations made by others. Topping our priorities must be to make certain that all weapons and materials of mass destruction are identified, continuously guarded, and systematically destroyed, so to keep them out of the hands of terrorists. Expanding and globalizing the Nunn-Lugar program can help accomplish this."

PEW POLL HAS KERRY UP BY 2 PERCENT: Sen. John Kerry is heading to his party's national convention with Democrats faring better with the public on both domestic and international issues, according to a poll released Wednesday (Associated Press). But

to do it. This strategy must be balanced and embrace all the elements of national power. There is no silver bullet for the decisive blow that can defeat the Islamic terrorists. We need to play offense to kill or capture the terrorists," he said.

Tim Roemer: The former 3rd CD Democrat told the *Fort Wayne Journal Gazette* in today's editions, "I know we're not postured appropriately for the next attack I keep coming back to a story of a widow, sitting in my congressional office when I was writing the legislation to create the 9/11 commission. She handed me her wedding ring and asked me to hold it in my hand, and I did. She said, 'That's all I have left from my husband who died at the Trade Towers. They found this ring at ground zero several weeks afterward with a part of his finger in it.'" It is that type of experience that will allow Roemer, Hamilton and the eight other commission members to find riveting audiences as they fan across America. Roemer called for "revolutionary changes" with a national intelligence center and director. Roemer stressed the need to "rebuild our human intelligence."

Terry Holt: A veteran of Indiana congressional campaigns (John Hiler, who was defeated by Roemer; Mike Pence, Chris Chocola), Holt is now one of the key voices and faces of the Bush-Cheney campaign. On CNN's *Inside Politics* on Wednesday, Holt was preparing to blunt the Kerry-Edwards convention push, saying, "We're going to be 24/7 next week. We're going to be out building our grassroots team, our Rapid Response Unit, RMC, will back up in Boston, This is going to be a big theatrical production to try and make John Kerry more palatable to the voters. Well, gosh, I hope he'd do it. But you kind of anticipate he might finally say how he would fight and win the war on terror what with supporting Iraq and going in but then not supporting the troops. We feel like we have to be there to tell a little truth under all the majesty of this theater and image makeover that

they're going through."

Michael Gerson: He provides many of the most profound words for President Bush, including the "Axis of Evil" phrase Bush used in his 2002 State of the Union address, and his remarkable Sept. 14, 2001, National Cathedral speech in the wake of 9/11. Bush's most critical speech in making a case for a second term will come at the Republican National Convention in New York City in September and Gerson will play a key role.

Rep. Hostettler: He is playing a key role this week in the marriage debate. He explained in today's *Evansville Courier & Press*, "The government's imprimatur in changing the definition of marriage is potentially the most devastating thing the government can do to the fabric of society." Hostettler said during the news conference on Capitol Hill that the intent of his bill was not "homophobic," but he had reservations about expanding marriage to same-sex couples.

Rep. Pence: The Columbus Republican has been at the GOP vanguard in the House, both reveling in President Bush's social agenda and his expressed anxiety about the cost of his government. Last week, Pence was rallying Congressional support to defend Israel's right to build a security fence, and tried to cut Egyptian aid, a move that was thwarted by Secretary of State Colin Powell and National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice. Politically, Pence was pushing for more conservative speakers at the Republican National Convention, delivering a petition to President Bush on Wednesday calling for Henry Hyde to speak. The irony there is Hyde, a long-time pro-life activist, became known for an adulterous affair he described as a "youthful indiscretion" in his late 40s.

Kevin Shaw Kellems: He's the fourth press secretary for the secretive Cheney and has become a lightning rod for Democratic critics who are concentrating on Wolfowitz and the information that was dispensed prior to the Iraq War II. ❖

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PERHAPS... WE WANDER

By Brian Howey

A column on marriage; two reader responses; Pence & Rice stances

Dear Reader:

Last week, I wrote a column about the marriage issue that ran in about 25 Indiana newspapers. That column is reprinted below, followed by two of the many thoughtful e-mails I received from readers. This column accomplished one of my most important roles as a journalist, which is to inform and stimulate discussion.

After the two reader responses, I have excerpted published quotes from U.S. Rep. Mike Pence and Notre Dame Prof. John Rice.

Brian A. Howey Column

I can still hear the reminder from one of my first editors, Jeff Gillaspay of the *Elkhart Truth*, who would say to young journalists under his direction, "Remember, there are real people out there."

I've thought of Gillaspay's quote frequently in recent weeks as the gay marriage issue overtook the American political scene. And before I continue, it's worth noting that I do believe that marriage should be between a man and a woman. That's the political reality of American life today. Back in the mid-1990s, every member of Indiana's Congressional delegation, including liberals like Rep. Andy Jacobs, voted for the Defense of Marriage Act.

Having said that, I am extremely concerned about the nature of the debate and the timing. Because when the war in Iraq is going badly and the economy isn't producing as many jobs as forecast, the Bush-Cheney campaign is using the gay

marriage card as a classic wedge issue. Like most issues, this is not simply black and white. There are also sorts of grays out there.

President Bush said last week, "What they do in the privacy of their house, consenting adults should be able to do. This is America. It's a free society. But it doesn't mean we have to redefine traditional marriage."

So what is "traditional marriage?" The defenders of marriage would have you think that it's been with us since the time of Jesus. Not so. It took 1,500 years. It wasn't until the the Council of Trent sometime between 1545 and 1563 formally declared marriage a "sacred" aspect of Christian life. Prior to Trent, marriage was strictly a legal condition used to determine property rights. Martin Luther referred to marriage as "a worldly thing," comparing it to food and clothing.

America's founding fathers didn't envision a role for the state in marriage. It took the Jim Crow laws aimed at interracial marriage and other laws aimed at polygamists for government to get involved in what had been a family matter and social convention.

Marriage in America has constantly changed. Many marriages used to be arranged by parents, often for social and monetary reasons. In my lifetime, marriage has changed as divorce rates have skyrocketed and mothers emerged from the family kitchens to engage in the workforce. Family roles between husbands and wives have been altered and swapped.

It will continue to change, constantly evolving. But to say that marriage is a "sacred" institution is to ignore both American and world history.

Has traditional marriage served America well? For the most part, yes.

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Kerry remains locked in a tie in the presidential race. When people are asked which party would do a better job of handling a given issue, Democrats are now 12 points up on handling the economy and have an even larger lead on issues from education to health care and the environment, according to the poll by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press." The AP adds that despite this, "Kerry and running mate John Edwards (news - web sites) remain in a tie with President Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney. Kerry and Edwards are at 46 percent, Bush and Cheney at 44 percent, and Ralph Nader and Peter Camejo at 3 percent.

KERNAN CONCERNED ABOUT TROOP DEPLOYMENTS: Gov. Joe Kernan told Congress on Wednesday he is concerned members of Indiana's National Guard won't re-enlist at the rates needed to maintain state and national security unless the government is more responsive to their concerns. Their biggest concern "is uncertainty about how long they'll be deployed," Kernan said at a Senate hearing on the needs of military families. Kernan appeared at the panel with Florida Gov. Jeb Bush (Gannett News Service).

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INDIANA LEGISLATURE SEEN AS BIG BATTLEGROUND: The Indiana House will be one of the nation's top 10 legislative battlegrounds this fall, according to a first-ever ranking released Wednesday by the Denver-based National Conference of State Legislatures. Democrats hold a 51-49 edge in the chamber, which has been divided 50-50 twice within the past 16 years (Indianapolis Star). Republicans are solidly in control of the Indiana Senate. In the past, political division within the General Assembly has tended to force more compromises, and this year Democrats blocked an effort by Republican lawmakers to pursue a constitutional ban on same-sex marriage. Only 37 votes in House District 86, covering portions of Hamilton and Marion counties, kept Republicans from controlling both chambers -- and the state's legislative agenda -- two years ago. A record \$779,963 was spent in that race in which Democrat David Orentlicher unseated Republican James Atterholt. State lawmakers and political operatives were not surprised by the NCSL ranking. "It's like saying it's going to be cold this winter in Alaska," said Rep. Ed Mahern, an Indianapolis Democrat who's helping coordinate his party's races. Rep. Michael Murphy, R-

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Then again, wade through the hundreds of thousands of local police log pages and you'll find death, abuse and destruction within the confines of marriage.

Look at the biggest defender of the "sanctity of marriage" in Indiana, former Republican gubernatorial candidate Eric Miller, who has publicly acknowledged a divorce in his past.

When Indiana House Republicans held up proceedings for several days on the floor last winter, I asked their media staff how many members of the GOP caucus had been divorced. I was told that it wasn't "relevant."

But last January, when I took in a beer with House Minority Leader Brian Bosma, who I admire and consider a friend, he told me to "watch" the marriage issue. Press reports then came forth that the issue was being orchestrated right out of the White House by Karl Rove, who was more interested in creating the wedge. This week's action on President Bush's constitutional amendment in the Senate was purely, and cynically political. It flies in the face of their own history of backing states rights. It was designed to get Sens. John Kerry and John Edwards on the record. Indiana House Republicans were looking to do the same to Indiana House Democrats, so that votes could be exploited before Election Day.

Coming next week will be U.S. Rep. John Hostettler's "jurisdiction stripping" bill that would bar federal courts from hearing lawsuits related to gay sex and marriage.

Lost in all this "defense" of the institution of marriage are the real people out there. Gay men and women who are willing to make a commitment to each other. When they do, I don't see how it impacts me or my family. I don't care what they do in their bedrooms. The gay people I know, other than the sexual activities I never see, are so much like me and other people I know.

The sensible compromise here would be to give them "civil unions," that

would afford folks property and other family rights involving benefits (as many of our Indiana corporations already do), power of attorney and latitude to make deathbed decisions on behalf of someone they love.

Civil unions were seen as a "radical" idea when Vermont passed them last decade. Now it is the moderate, centrist compromise.

And through this debate - this nasty, ugly wedge debate - is the notion of bigotry. Yes, bigotry. Perhaps it is latent bigotry, but it's still discriminatory.

I find it uncomfortable, unsettling and dangerous when mainstream political parties use such an emotional issue that targets a minority part of our population. I've often found that those I've known who are most animatedly against gays are people who have inner sexual conflicts themselves.

Folks, I know this will probably be one of the least popular columns I've written since 1985. But I have to remind you ... there are real people out there.

Jane Doe, Logansport, Indiana

I feel compelled to write after reading your column entitled "Marriage, bigotry and real people out there" in the *Logansport Pharos Tribune*. I would like to share a true story with you. You are welcome to quote me for future columns, however, out of respect for the privacy of some extended family members who are still in denial, please do not use my name.

I have an uncle who is gay. As a child growing up, I always loved my Uncle Chuck and his partner, my "Uncle Neil." As far as I was concerned, they were both my uncles. It wasn't until I was a teenager that I realized that they were actually a gay couple. Chuck and Neil were together for years. They bought a house together, squabbled like any other married couple, went on vacation together, shared many common interests, and had differences as well. I'm sure they also had a physical relationship, but I feel no more

right to question or pass judgment on that, than I would on a physical relationship between any two other consenting adults - what goes on in the privacy of their own home is none of my business.

After more than 25 years together, Neil's health, which had been deteriorating over the years, took a turn for the worse. After having nursed him and cared for him all that time, Uncle Chuck finally had to face the facts. Uncle Neil was placed in a hospice. As a courtesy, Uncle Chuck notified Neil's family, although they had been estranged for several decades, ever since Neil had announced his sexual preference to his family.

Neil's relatives, who hadn't spoken to him in years, swooped in. They disapproved of Neil's lifestyle; therefore they disapproved of my Uncle Chuck. Immediately, Chuck was banned from visiting Neil at the hospice. Legally, Neil's blood relatives had more right to make decisions about Neil's final days than Uncle Chuck, who was in legal limbo. When Neil inevitably died, all decisions regarding the funeral service were made by his blood relatives, who were virtually total strangers.

So after more than 25 years of living with Neil, of caring for him during his extended illness, of laughing together and crying together, of being every bit as much of a married couple as any other two individuals, my Uncle Chuck was pushed away. He was not permitted to be at Neil's bedside when he was dying, he was not allowed to participate in his funeral service (or even attend it), he of course was not mentioned in the obituary, because he was a dirty little secret in the eyes of Neil's blood relatives. His mourning was done completely alone.

Yes, there are real people out there. And they suffer pain just like the heterosexual "moral majority." To quote Rodney King, "can't we all just get along?"

Dan Wright, Elkhart, Indiana

I would like to comment on Brian's

statements about marriage in his article Sunday, July 18, *Elkhart Truth*. First, I am glad he believes that marriage should be between a man and a woman, but I would like to know more about why he feels that way. He states that it is the political reality of American life today. There has to be a deeper reason than that for believing in marriage. Also, this is not just an American issue. It is a worldwide issue that is being handled in a very worldly way.

Marriage involves covenants between a man, a woman, and God. It is an institution that has been with us since the time of Adam. God married Adam and Eve and created the family unit. It is not a fairly new idea brought forth in the 1500s. God established marriage as the means to bring forth his children and provide for their needs. These children that we call ours, belong to the Father of their Spirits. We have been given the responsibility and blessing of providing bodies for their Spirits and also the responsibility of protecting them, teaching them and helping them develop the skills and confidence to provide for their needs in life.

I know that marriage is a "sacred" institution. God ordained it. You would have to ignore American and world history to deny this fact. All of the gains of ancient and modern civilizations came about through the efforts of the families of mankind as they struggled to prosper and grow. America is the greatest example of people who have lived with faith in Jesus Christ and taught their children his laws that has ever been on this earth. Has America prospered by reason of this devotion to true principles?

Within marriages that have kept their covenants, you will find peace and prosperity. But, as Brian points out, you also see abuse, death and destruction in some marriages. Is that a reason to discard it or does that tell us something about the ease with which many disregard their promises to each other and to God?

I would like to state that I too am disturbed by the politics involved in this issue. I believe the federal government

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Indianapolis and Marion County GOP chairman, said he hopes the increased national attention brought by the NCSL's rankings will solidify contributions. But House Speaker B. Patrick Bauer, D-South Bend, said he doubts that will happen. "We've been 50-50 twice," he said. "It's not news to anyone. People who know there's a difference between the two parties are already active."

FORT WAYNE COUNTS 116 HOMELESS: A count of unsheltered homeless people in Fort Wayne on Tuesday found 116 men and woman living on the streets (Fort Wayne Journal Gazette).

KERNAN ADDRESSES GRANT COUNTY DEMOCRATS: While acknowledging Grant County's economic woes, Democratic Gov. Joe Kernan on Wednesday focused on programs already in place to help the state's economy and renewed his pledge to implement a statewide all-day kindergarten program (Paul McKibben, Marion Chronicle-Tribune). "I know and you all know first-hand that there have been a lot of people in your community over the last few years that have been hit and hit hard, and many of them and their families have suffered as a result of dislocation as the result of plant closings,"

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Kernan told Democrats gathered at the Grant County Democratic Party's annual Jefferson-Jackson Day dinner at the Meshingomesia Country Club. Earlier, Kernan attended a fund-raiser for his campaign at the Marion home of Kem Linn, treasurer of the Grant County Democratic Party. "We put more money into K-12 and higher education. We put an unprecedented amount of resources into job creation activity," said Kernan. If elected, Kernan said, he would renew his effort in January to get an all-day kindergarten program for Indiana schools through the state Legislature. A plan failed to pass this year, and Kernan blamed politics. "There is no more important investment that we can make than in our children," he said. Kernan also has proposed a health care plan under which small businesses and self-employed people would be able to combine their resources to buy basic health insurance. Kernan has had mixed success in Republican-leaning Grant County as O'Bannon's running mate in 1996 and 2000. In 1996, O'Bannon and Kernan lost the county to Republicans Stephen Goldsmith and George Witwer. Goldsmith and Witwer had 13,652 votes (52 percent) while O'Bannon and Kernan earned 12,073 votes (46 percent). Then, in

cannot legislate for or against gay marriages. It is not a power given to them by the founders. I believe that the right to establish a code of law and conduct rests with the residents of the states. I believe that the citizens have the right to self government and should chose righteous men to govern and legislate with the welfare of the citizens as their only desire. I believe that gay men and women should have the right to bequeath any and all personal properties to whomever they wish. However, I do not believe that the government can or should give to people who are living these lifestyles, all of the benefits afforded married couples without first polling the state's citizens for approval.

U.S. Rep. Mike Pence

New Castle Courier Times

Pence said recent court actions could set the stage for a challenge that could change the state of marriage as we know it today. Because a Texas court has ruled sodomy laws unconstitutional, saying that sexual behavior between consenting adults is a private matter, Pence believes the stage could be set for a U.S. Supreme Court challenge on the gay marriage issue. "I don't think a large majority of Americans know this is coming," he said. Pence told those attending Friday's town hall meeting he and others in the U.S. Congress were prepared to push for a "marriage protection act" next week. He couldn't over-emphasize the importance of the matter. "To me, this is an issue where the homosexual left has tried to use the courts to come in and change marriage as we know it," Pence said. "This is an issue of defining and institution instead of denying rights of people. I've always had a live and let live policy. But now the homosexual left is using the courts to change the definition of my marriage."

Pence said Republican state legislators were correct in the last session to take a stand on the gay marriage issue. "I called minority leader Brian Bosma and encouraged him to stand firm," Pence

said. Now he's calling on everyone else to do the same. "I believe all the people who care about the institution of marriage should do everything they can to lift it up," he said. "It's important that every American use whatever means is necessary. I feel a little like Noah. Everybody laughed at him when he was building his boat. People may not understand the urgency, but we need to build a firewall to defend marriage."

Prof. Charles Rice, Notre Dame, *Elkhart Truth*

Notre Dame law Prof. Charles Rice spoke to local defenders of traditional marriage on why the Federal Marriage Amendment is the wrong response. Rice supports traditional marriage, but said amending the Constitution is a knee-jerk response to problems for Americans. "You don't need a constitutional amendment every time the Supreme Court decides something you don't like," he said. States always have retained control over the definition of marriage, said Rice. The definition has two components in a legal sense: The name of marriage and its legal incidents, or benefits and responsibilities.

Most states such as Indiana grant the name and benefits of marriage only to heterosexual couples. Vermont gives the benefits of marriage to same-sex couples but not the name, calling them instead "civil unions."

A different approach, and one Rice recommends, also intends to limit the power of the courts, but not through the Constitution. "HR3313 would leave states free to say, 'Massachusetts, get lost. We're not going to recognize your marriage as a marriage in Indiana,'" said Rice. He believes the amendment is very limited because it stands little chance of passing the rigorous constitutional amendment process and leaves the power of the state untouched. "It says the courts can't do it," said Rice. "But it leaves the legislature free to enact Vermont-style unions."

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COLUMNISTS ON INDIANA

Andrea Neal, *Indianapolis Star* - An Indiana congressman has emerged as the leader of the latest effort to block gay marriage. Instead of changing the Constitution with an amendment, he's trying to use the Constitution to achieve his goal. Republican John Hostettler, who represents the 8th congressional district in southwest Indiana, wants to strip the federal courts of their ability to hear cases concerning the federal Defense of Marriage Law, which has been on the books since 1996. Hostettler's bill calls into play two obscure provisions in the Constitution: Article III, Section 2; and Article IV, Section 1. "The great object of my fear is the federal judiciary. That body, like gravity, ever acting with noiseless foot and unalarming advance" is "gaining ground step by step and holding what it gains." Those words may sound like something President Bush would say to justify a constitutional amendment barring gay marriage. In fact, Thomas Jefferson spoke those words in 1821. Jefferson could not have imagined a congressional debate over same-sex weddings. But he would surely applaud those like Hostettler who don't just jump on the bandwagon to amend, but first look to the Constitution's own language for answers. ❖

Gary Gerard, *Warsaw Times-Union* - Michael Moore, the "documentary" director from Michigan, is all in the news these days because of his new movie "Fahrenheit 9/11." (Note to copy editor - That's not a typo.) Moore is an award-winning filmmaker. His "documentaries" (I thought documentaries were supposed to be non-fiction) have won Oscars, Emmys, Writers' Guild Awards and jury prizes at Cannes. He's sold more books than Limbaugh, O'Reilly, Coulter and

Hannity combined, too, by the way. (Sometimes I think these people give conservatives a bad name. Like when Coulter called Ted Kennedy an "adulterous drunk.") But even some of my liberal friends say they have had enough of Michael Moore. Heck, I can make principled arguments against policies of the Bush administration, like, what happened to all the conservatives? But there is little or no principle involved when it comes to the work of Michael Moore. But don't take my word for it. Take his. Following are some quotes from the famous filmmaker. I will let his words speak for themselves. "He is probably choking on a pretzel or something. I hope nobody tells him that I have won this award while he is eating a pretzel. He has the funniest lines in the film. I am eternally grateful to him." ❖

Sylvia Smith, *Fort Wayne Journal Gazette* - Why does a politician with no barriers to another term spend endless hours doing what most politicians say is the worst part of their jobs: raising money? Sen. Evan Bayh had no opposition for his party's nomination, no scandals nipping at his heels, no well-funded and well-known opponent in November. From a re-election standpoint, he's on easy street. Nonetheless, Bayh's campaign finance reports look like a candidate running scared: He's amassed a breath-taking \$7.4 million and shows no signs of slowing down. It shows he "can raise money, which is a prerequisite for anyone with ambitions for advancement within the Senate or presidential aspirations, or both. Republican challenger Marvin Scott's report was not immediately available at the Federal Election Commission and Scott's campaign did not return calls. ❖

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2000, O'Bannon and Kernan won the county, earning 13,674 votes (52 percent) over David McIntosh and Murray Clark who had 12,132 votes (46 percent).

DAVIS TOURS BURNS HARBOR STEEL PLANT: It wasn't the first time Lt. Gov. Katherine Davis toured a steel mill, but her Wednesday tour of ISG's plant here left impressions on the state's number two official (Times of Northwest Indiana). "It is a remarkable place, like a city of its own," Davis said after touring by van the plant, from its raw materials to blast furnaces to a stop at the hot dip line to talk to the control room operator. The tour, and a meeting afterwards with about 50 steelworkers at the USWA Local 6787 office, was part political rally -- stoking support for the election of Davis and Gov. Joe Kernan in November -- and part information gathering. Jim Robinson, USWA District 7 director, introduced Davis. "We know how badly we need to take back the White House, but in Indianapolis we already have the House, we have the governor's mansion. We need to keep them," he said. "When Mitch Daniels was the budget director for the White House he gave away the treasury and put the problems on the backs of working people in Indiana. If Mitch Daniels gets elected, it

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isn't about losing what we got. They are going to come after us. It will be a four-year attack on working people." "Indiana is the biggest producer of steel in the country," said Davis. "It is big employment and big business. It is an industry that has become a global industry. I don't know if there is any more global industry than steel." "Steel has been a story in and of itself. It has been a little bit confounding," she said, tracing the impact of steel dumping, the initiation and then cutting of tariffs and the climbing prices of steel. "It has been a remarkable turn of events, hopefully beneficially to all of you in this room," she said, promising the Kernan administration would continue to support the industry.

LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONER SEEKS CASINO: Lake County may gamble on the casino business, if one county commissioner gets his way (*Times of Northwest Indiana*). Commissioner Gerry Scheub said Lake County should develop a land-based casino, to be run by the parks department, with all proceeds earmarked toward residential property tax relief. His plan was met with little enthusiasm by his fellow commissioners Wednesday, however. Scheub, D-Schererville, admits he hasn't researched the plan, but pointed to the planned casino Donald

2004 Racing Form

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:** We're hearing persistent rumors that the *Chicago Tribune* is working on an expose concerning Daniels. The latest poll in this race is from Dr. Brian Vargus and Bob Massie. It has Daniels leading Kernan 32-26 percent with 41 percent (41 percent!) undecided. If

you believe that, I'd like to sell you a really cool bridge. More than 70,000 of 340,000 Lake County voter registration confirmations were returned as undeliverable mail (*Post-Tribune*). We are hearing persistent grumbling

from Lake County Democrats that the governor may not be able to get the kind of pluralities that Gavs. Bayh and O'Bannon did, mostly due to the property tax meltdown. Marching in the Griffith Fourth of July Parade, Democratic sources say that a number of angry taxpayers approached Gov. Kernan along the route to complain. Kernan is skipping the Democratic National Convention and will campaign on Saturday at the Puerto Rican parade there. An indicator of the Lake County frustration came when State Rep. Charlie Brown, D-Gary, complained about an IDEM permit granted for a medical-waste processing plant. Brown called the permit bad for Kernan. "There are some boneheads over there who are not looking out for the goodwill and interests of the governor at a time like this," said Brown (*Times of Northwest Indiana*). "It is his agency, but they are not looking out for him nor me or the community." Lt. Gov. Kathy Davis said at Burns Harbor on Wednesday that Kernan will address the tax problem soon. "The governor has a plan and is working with officials in Lake County," she said, adding that Kernan is scheduled to visit within the next couple of weeks with a proposal (*Times of Northwest Indiana*). However, she added, "most of the fixes will be at the local level." Kernan-Davis conducted a statewide conference call to hundreds of parties. In a conference call, Kernan and Lt. Gov. Kathy Davis revved up Democrats statewide with talk of health care reform and pushes to get out the vote (*Michigan City News-Dispatch*). Gov. Kernan announced new initiatives, including the creation of a trade compliance office and "comeback grants" for communities, all aimed at offsetting any negative impact from federal trade policies and strengthening Indiana's ability to create new jobs for Hoosiers. "Hoosier manufacturers and their workers are among those who have suffered because of practices such as foreign government subsidies, illegal steel dumping and the Administration's decision to impose steel tariffs too late, and then rescind them too early," Kernan said. "During his years as lieutenant governor, Kernan was in charge of economic development," said Ellen Whitt, spokeswoman for Mitch Daniels. "This is simply a matter of shifting the blame on someone else" (*Indianapolis Star*). Daniels showed up at the ABATE Boogie at Bean Blossom last weekend, riding in on his Harley-Davidson hog. "It's phenomenal," said Daniels, referring to the response toward his Boogie appearance (*Bedford Times-Mail*). "Everybody is here to have a good time." Promoting agriculture and technology, Daniels made a stop at the Tippecanoe County 4-H Fair on Tuesday (Erin Smith, *Lafayette Journal & Courier*). Daniels, who has been to about 15 county fairs this summer, said he is visiting as many as possible to advance his position of the importance of agriculture. "I keep stressing agriculture can be a big part of Indiana's economical impact. In fact, in our smaller communities and rural spaces, it has to be a part of it -- more livestock production, improving food processing quality." Daniels proposed an eight-week tax amnesty program today. "Indiana state government is broke by any honest definition. Its overdue bills far exceed its cash," Daniels said. "The teachers' pension fund has been raided and is severely underfunded. For the fifth year in a row, the state is spending hundreds of millions of dollars more than it takes in," said Daniels. "It's time for some new w ideas. Forty-one states have used amnesty programs to bring in delinquent taxes; as usual, our state government is behind the pack." **Status:** *Tossup.*

HORSE RACE

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 Money:** Donnelly reported raising about \$410,000, including \$181,694 he contributed in loans or in-kind contributions. That is more than most challengers across the country are likely to raise, but it's a lot less than the \$1.2 million that Chocola has taken in since his last election. Donnelly had \$132,395 in the bank at the end of June. Chocola had \$821,806. Amy Walter, who tracks House campaigns for the *Cook Political Report*, said, "Those are some daunting numbers to come up against." **Status:** *Leans Chocola.*

Congressional District 7: Republican: Andy Horning. **Democrat:** U.S. Rep. Julia Carson. **Geography:** Indianapolis. **Media Market:** Indianapolis. **People:** Urban 99.7%; median income \$36,522; poverty 13.5%; race white 63, black 29.4%, Hispanic 4.4%, Asian 1.3%; blue/white collar 26/58%; **2000 Presidential:** Gore 55%, Bush 43%; **Cook Partisan Voting Index:** D+6. **2002 Results:** Carson 77,478 (53%), McVey 64,379 (44%). **2002 Money:** Carson \$1.099m, McVey \$1.15m. **2004 Forecast:** Carson says her health is getting better. Her political health is just fine, with Horning unable to crack the \$20,000 barrier. Even with an ill congresswoman, the GOP isn't ready to support anyone with "lib" in their resume. Horning refused to sign the term limits pledge, even though he's for term limits saying that by doing so, it would hamper his ability to make them a reality. He told *The Hill*, "I'm talking about term limits as a system-wide improvement." **Status:** *Likely Carson.*

Congressional District 8: Republican: U.S. Rep. John Hostettler. **Democrat:** Jon Jennings. **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 new survey conducted for the NRCC shows Hostettler leading 58-26, according to a Tarrance Group survey. The poll of 300 likely voters was conducted July 12-13 and had a 6 percent margin of error. The survey also showed Hostettler had a 63 percent approval rating. Tarrance has a somewhat dubious reputation in Indiana, blowing the 1996 polling for Stephen Goldsmith. **Status:** *Tossup.*

Congressional District 9: Republican: Mike Sodrel. **Democrat:** U.S. Rep. Baron Hill. **Media Market:** Evansville, Indianapolis, Louisville, Dayton, Cincinnati. **People:** urban/rural 52/48%, median income \$39,011; race white 94%, 2.3% black, 1.5% Hispanic; blue/white collar: 34/50%; **2000 Presidential:** Bush 56%, Gore 42%; **Cook Partisan Voting Index:** R+8. **2002 Results:** Hill 96,654 (51%), Sodrel 87,169 (46%). **2002 Money:** Hill \$1.144m, Sodrel \$1.62m. **2004 Forecast:** Hill is withdrawing his support of legislation that would amend the Constitution because of the controversy that the recent vote on banning gay marriages has triggered (*The Hill*). Rep. Hill, who is in a tough re-election race, had co-sponsored Constitutional amendments on equal rights for women, extending the terms of House members, and balancing the budget. But last week, he withdrew his support of the bills. Hill spokesman Stefan Bailey said the lawmaker took this unique step "because he does not play politics with the Constitution," which Bailey said both parties are doing. Bailey pointed to the constitutional marriage amendment as one example of an amendment being brought up in a charged political atmosphere. **Status:** *Leans Hill*

- Brian A. Howey ❖

TICKER T A P E

Trump will develop in French Lick, as a potential model.

HOGSETT WANTS TO FIGHT METH AT DRUG STORES: As part of his anti-crime proposal, attorney general hopeful Joe Hogsett wants to take the fight against methamphetamine to the corner drugstore (Terre Haute Tribune-Star). Training retailers to spot the signs of meth use or intent to cook is a crucial step in shutting down labs, the Democratic candidate said Wednesday at a news conference. Hogsett will face Indiana Attorney General Steve Carter in November's general election. Hogsett's Meth Watch program is modeled after one launched in 1999 in Kansas that now is used by 12 other states. Hogsett acknowledged the prevalence of meth in Vigo County. "I don't need to tell people of this area what a scourge meth production is," he said. Still, Hogsett said that while Vigo County leads Indiana in the number of lab busts, that is not always the best indicator of which county struggles the most with meth. "I worry more about the counties without a lot of busts. In Allen County last year there were only two meth lab busts," he said. "But I bet if you talked to police in Fort Wayne, they'd tell you meth is prevalent in Allen County." While the Kansas program cut meth lab busts to about 500 from about 1,000 in five years, Hogsett acknowledged that the effort will put more people in often-crowded jails at first.