

Lawmakers react to Daniels' state address



Democrats: Speech ignored problems with property tax

By DEANNA MARTIN
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIANAPOLIS
House Speaker Patrick Bauer said Democrats appreciate Republican Gov. Mitch Daniels' efforts to credit them for two proposals mentioned in his State of the State address but also believe the governor's speech omitted

some important details. Democrats, who spent the first two years of Daniels' term in the minority but now control the House 51-49, led the way on proposals such as full-day kindergarten and health insurance initiatives, Daniels said. With the Senate still controlled by Republicans, the governor urged both parties to work together on those issues and others, such as outsourcing the Hoosier Lottery and raising cigarette taxes to fund health programs. Bauer, D-South Bend, said the speech was Daniels' best State of the State speech but that it ignored property taxes, which are expected to rise by double-digit percentages this year. Daniels said local governments should

have more taxing options and discretion on solutions to the problem. "It's a crisis," Bauer said. "His only answer was, 'Let the locals raise taxes.' That's not an answer. We need greater guidance and greater leadership on that." Bauer also criticized Daniels for his proposal to turn the Hoosier Lottery over to a private company. "That was probably the lowest part of the speech for me, personally, if it wasn't the absence of any solution for property taxes," Bauer said. Senate Democrats hoped Daniels would follow through on his pledge to work with both parties. "There was a lot of talk of bipartisanship, but he's not a very inclusive

person," said Sen. Vi Simpson, D-Bloomington. "His administration has not been very inclusive in terms of bringing us all together and having input into his programs. He says one thing and does something else, so it remains to be seen if that's going to improve during this session." Sen. Earline Rogers, D-Gary, said Daniels' talk of working with Democrats and Republicans was a marked change from the past two years. "We as Democrats need to make note of that difference," Rogers said. "If he wishes to cooperate, I think that's where we need to be also, is to cooperate to get things done."

BRIEF STATE

INDIANAPOLIS Democrats file bill to nix sales tax from gasoline

House Democrats followed up on a campaign pledge Tuesday by filing a bill that would eliminate the state's 6 percent sales tax from gasoline, legislation that could cost the state more than \$300 million in annual lost revenue if enacted. But even if the bill gets out of the Democrat-controlled House, two top leaders in the GOP-ruled Senate were skeptical of its chances in their chamber. They said the hefty price tag was hard to justify given other funding priorities and a limited amount of new tax revenue Indiana is projected to collect. "I think the (Democrats) have a lot of programs they want to implement, and we are going to have to have revenue," said Senate Tax Chairman Luke Kenley, R-Noblesville. "Somebody is going to have to be honest in the end. We have to balance what our tax structure is with the programs we want to support."

BRIEFS NATION

WASHINGTON Barack Obama launches White House bid for '08

Sen. Barack Obama launched a presidential campaign Tuesday that would make him the first black person to occupy the White House and immediately tried to turn his political inexperience into an asset with voters seeking change.



OBAMA

The freshman Illinois senator, and top contender for the Democratic nomination, said the past six years have left the country in a precarious place, and he promoted himself as the standard-bearer for a new kind of politics. "Our leaders in Washington seem incapable of working together in a practical, commonsense way," Obama said in a video posted on his Web site. "Politics has become so bitter and partisan, so gummed up by money and influence, that we can't tackle the big problems that demand solutions. And that's what we have to change first."

WASHINGTON Chief: Threats to global economy are easing

Threats to the global economy's good health have eased as oncesurging energy prices have calmed down and the United States seems to be weathering the housing slump well, the head of the International Monetary Fund said Tuesday. IMF chief Rodrigo de Rato said "a soft landing now seems more assured" for the United States, the world's largest economy. Global economic growth this year will approach 5 percent, a strong performance, he said. The IMF estimated that the worldwide economy grew by 5.1 percent last year.

WAR IN IRAQ

Violence rocks Iraq



Firemen stand at the site of blasts outside Al-Mustansiriya University in Baghdad, Iraq, on Tuesday. Two minivans exploded near a university as students were leaving after classes Tuesday in a predominantly Shiite area of eastern Baghdad.

U.N. report: 94 civilians died each day in 2006

By STEPHEN R. HURST
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD, Iraq
Twin car bombs tore through a leading Baghdad university as students left classes Tuesday in the deadliest attack in Iraq in nearly two months, and the United Nations reported 34,452 civilians were slain last year, nearly three times more than the government reported. A total of 142 Iraqis were killed or found dead Tuesday, in what appeared to be a renewed campaign of Sunni insurgent violence against Shiite targets. The sharp uptick in deadly attacks coincided with the release of U.N. figures that showed an average of 94 civilians died each day in sectarian bloodshed in 2006.

The blasts wrecked two small buses as students at Al-Mustansiriya University were lining up for the ride home at about 3:45 p.m., according to Taqi al-Moussawi, a university dean. At least 65 students died. The attackers stationed a man wearing a suicide belt in the expected path of fleeing students to take even more lives, but he was spotted and shot by security men before he could blow himself up, the dean said. The violence Tuesday against Shiites may signal a campaign by Sunni insurgents to shed as much blood as possible before the deployment of 21,500 more American troops. Most of the additional U.S. troops will be used to back up the Iraqi army in a security sweep to rid the capital of Sunni and Shiite gunmen. Tuesday's death toll from the al-



People carry a relative who was killed at a market in central Baghdad, Iraq, outside al-Kindi hospital Tuesday.

Mustansiriya bombings made it the single most deadly attack against civilians in Iraq since Nov. 23, when a series of car bombs and mortar attacks by suspected al-Qaida in Iraq fighters in Baghdad's Sadr City Shiite slum killed at least 215 people. The U.N. civilian casualty count for last year was announced in Baghdad by Gianni Magazzeni, the chief of the U.N. Assistance Mission for Iraq in Baghdad. He said 34,452 civilians died, an average of 94 a day, and 36,685 were wounded. But Dr. Hakem al-Zamili, Iraq's deputy health minister, said the United Nations may be using unreliable sources for its casualty count. "They might be taking the figures from people who are opposed to the govern-

ment or to the Americans," he said. "They are not accurate." He said he would provide Iraqi government figures later this week. The U.N. report also said that 30,842 people were detained in the country as of Dec. 31, including 14,534 held in U.S. military-run prisons. At least 470,094 people throughout Iraq have been forced to leave their homes since the bombing of an important Shiite shrine, the Golden Dome mosque in Samarra, in February, the U.N. accounting said. The report said the violence has disrupted education by forcing schools and universities to close, as well as sending professionals fleeing from the country. In a summary of the report posted on its Web site Tuesday, UNAMI said Iraq's women were particularly vulnerable, citing cases where young women were abducted by armed militia and late discovered sexually assaulted, tortured or murdered. In many cases, the agency said, families refuse to retrieve the bodies out of shame. As bombs detonated at Al-Mustansiriya University on Tuesday, there were a series of other attacks on Shiite neighborhoods in central Baghdad. A bomb planted on a motorcycle exploded in a used auto and motorcycle parts market in a Shiite neighborhood. As people rushed to aid the victims of the first blast, a suicide car bomber drove his car into the crowd. Fifteen people died. Of the 142 Iraqis killed or found dead Tuesday, 124 died in Baghdad. Police said they had been unable to complete their tally of dumped corpses in the eastern half of the city because of violence there.

Clean record kept man off radar

Police looked at 'usual suspects' in kidnappings

By SHARON COHEN
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ST. LOUIS
The man accused of kidnapping two Missouri boys and keeping one of them for more than four years escaped suspicion right up until the end, largely because he had no criminal record.



HORNBECK

In fact, Michael Devlin apparently had so little fear of being caught that he used to joke around with police at the pizza parlor where he worked and even phoned officers when he had a dispute with a neighbor over a parking space, authorities say. Devlin, 41, was arrested last week after police searching for a 13-year-old boy kidnapped on Jan. 8 went to Devlin's apartment in suburban Kirkwood, Mo. Police found not only the 13-year-old but 15-year-old Shawn Hornbeck, who vanished 4½ years ago.



OWNBY

That Devlin escaped the scrutiny of friends, family and co-workers for so long has baffled the community and led investigators to ponder whether they did enough or relied too heavily on mistaken assumptions in looking for Shawn. Early in the investigation into Shawn's disappearance, authorities scrutinized area residents with records of sexual misconduct involving children. But Devlin had little more on his record than a pair of traffic tickets. Last year, Kirkwood police even visited the apartment Devlin shared with Shawn after Devlin became angry and called police to complain that a neighbor had parked in his spot. But police saw nothing to arouse their suspicions. Also, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported that a co-worker of Devlin's at Imo's pizzeria tipped off police to similarities between Devlin's rusty white pickup truck and the one seen at the site of 13-year-old Ben Ownby's abduction earlier this month. But the newspaper said the tip was not given top priority because Devlin had no criminal record.

DAILY JOURNAL READERS' GUIDE

MAIN PHONE NUMBER
736-7101
8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Friday

ADDRESS
2575 N. Morton St. (U.S. 31)
P.O. Box 699
Franklin, IN 46131

DELIVERY, BILLING QUESTIONS
736-2777; (888) 736-7101
6 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday-Friday,
7 a.m. to noon Saturday.
Subscribers should call if they have not received a newspaper by 7 a.m.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING
736-2700; (888) 736-7101
8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday-Friday
Fax: 736-2754

STORY IDEAS, NEWS TIPS
736-2712
After 5 p.m.: 736-2723
Fax: 736-2766
newstips@thejournalnet.com

SPORTS
Send sports scores, stories and suggestions to:
rmorwick@thejournalnet.com

ADVERTISING
736-2786
8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Friday
Fax: 736-2713

POSTMASTER
Send address changes to:
Daily Journal, P.O. Box 699,
Franklin, IN 46131
Periodical Class Postage
Paid at Franklin, IN
Daily Journal (USPS 565-520)

VOLUME
Volume 44, No. 157

BACK ISSUES, DIGITAL PHOTOS
Copies of the Daily Journal are available for six months. Digital files of photos published in the newspaper are available on CDs. Please call 736-7101.

COPYRIGHT
© The Daily Journal, 2007
All rights reserved.

ABOUT THE DAILY JOURNAL
The Daily Journal is an award-winning newspaper published daily except Sundays and Christmas at 2575 N. Morton St., Franklin, IN 46131.

Founded in 1963, the Daily Journal is owned by Home News Enterprises L.L.C. and is one of Indiana's most widely recognized and honored community newspapers.

The Daily Journal is committed to responsible reporting, professional business practices and dedicated community service.

The newspaper is a member of the Associated Press, Hoosier State Press Association, Inland Press Association and Certified Audit of Circulations.

TO SUBSCRIBE
Subscription rates are listed below. To subscribe, call 736-2777.

Single copy
Monday-Friday \$.50
Weekend issue \$ 1.00

Home delivery
Month \$10.40
Year \$118.80

Mail delivery
4 months \$49.00
8 months \$98.00
12 months \$147.00

Student
1 semester \$47.00
2 semesters \$96.00

Military
4 months \$42.00
8 months \$80.00
12 months \$113.00

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
P.O. Box 699
Franklin, IN 46131
letters@thejournalnet.com

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Publisher
Jeffrey W. Owen 736-2744
jowen@thejournalnet.com

Editor
Scarlett Syse 736-2749
syse@thejournalnet.com

Assistant managing editor
Michele Holtkamp-Frye 736-2774
mholtkamp@thejournalnet.com

Assistant managing editor
Jennifer L. Gaskin 736-2721
jgaskin@thejournalnet.com

Circulation director
Mike Warren 736-2711
mwarren@thejournalnet.com

Delivery manager
Bruce Powell 736-2702
bpowell@thejournalnet.com

Advertising director
Christina Cosner 736-2750
ccosner@thejournalnet.com

Administrative manager
Linda Wirey 736-2751
lwirey@thejournalnet.com

Information technology manager
Kathy McDermott 736-2782
kmcdermott@thejournalnet.com

PAYMENTS
Payments can be made by cash, check, MasterCard or Visa. Readers also can sign up for E-Z Pay plan and have their monthly subscriptions deducted automatically from their checking accounts, Visa or MasterCard. Direct questions about payments to 736-7101.

WEB SITES
www.thejournalnet.com
www.djclassifieds.com