



THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR

A GANNETT NEWSPAPER
★ INDYSTAR.COM ★

"Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is Liberty." II Cor. 1:2

CITY FINAL
★ 50 CENTS ★

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25, 2008

Deal might put cash in your wallet

THE NATION: HOUSE, BUSH AGREE ON REBATES TO SPUR ECONOMY

By Andrew Taylor
Associate Press
WASHINGTON — Congressional leaders announced a deal with the White House on Thursday on an economic stimulus package that would give more tax filers refunds of \$600 to \$1,200, and more if they have children.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said Congress would act on the agreement — hammered out in a week of intense negotiations and uncertain bipartisanship — "at the earliest date, so that those rebate checks can be in the mail."

President Bush praised the agreement at the White House, saying it "has the right set of policies and is the right size."

The rebates, which would go to about 16 million families, had appeal for Democrats and Republicans. Pelosi's staff noted that they would include \$38 billion in checks to 36 million working families who wouldn't have been helped by Bush's original proposal.

Republicans were pleased that the bulk of the rebates — more than 70 percent, according to the Congress Joint Tax Committee — would go to individuals who pay taxes.

Who'll get checks, how much and when:

Who's eligible: Individuals who pay income taxes would get up to \$600, working couples \$1,200 and those with children an additional \$300 per child. Workers who make at least \$3,000 but don't pay taxes would get \$500 rebates.

How much will each income level get? The full rebate would be limited to individuals earning \$75,000 or less and couples with incomes of \$150,000 or less. But a partial rebate would go to individuals earning up to \$95,000 and couples earning up to \$175,000.

When will consumers get checks? The first rebates could go out in May; most people could have them by July.

What's also in the package? \$50 billion in business tax write-offs and help for subprime mortgage holders.

What's missing from package? Permanent tax cuts, extended unemployment insurance, a boost in food stamp benefits, Medicaid payments to states, and low-income heating subsidies.

What's next? The package goes to the Senate.

How much will it cost the government? \$150 billion: \$100 billion for rebates, \$50 billion for business tax cuts.

INDIANA: REBATES WELCOME, BUT BUSINESS AID SOUGHT, TOO

By Maureen Grope
Star Staff Writer
WASHINGTON — Any chance of Franklin, Ind., is looking forward to any tax rebate the federal government wants to send her way.

"To some people, it doesn't seem like a lot of money," the part-time delivery driver said of the minimum \$300 rebate that's part of the economic stimulus package. "But that would mean a lot to me."

Chlain, 29, said she hasn't been able to find a full-time job, and she still owes \$400 for recent re-

payments to her truck.

"I don't feel there are a lot of opportunities out there," she said of the economy.

The White House and House Democratic and Republican leaders Thursday announced they'd agreed on a package of tax rebates for individuals and tax cuts for businesses that they hope will boost the economy.

Workers who earned at least \$3,000 last year could get a check of \$300 or more, depending on how much they paid in

See Rebates, Page A11

HOVEY STREET SLAYINGS

Brizzi to seek death penalty for 1 suspect

Defendant police say was identified as shooter is only one to face murder charges

By Jon Murray and Vic Rydzak
Star Staff Writers

Hardly a single shot missed its mark when Ronald Davis fired at his victims as they huddled behind a bed in a Hovey Street home, prosecutors said.

A forensic pathologist found 10 entry wounds on the bodies of the two mothers and their young children, and police found 10 .40-caliber shell casings on a bedroom floor. Three of the four victims died from gunshot to their heads, according to charging documents filed Thursday against five men.

The carnage and the ages of the victims caused Marion County Prosecutor Curt Brizzi to seek the death penalty against Davis for what he called "an act of domestic terrorism that shocks the conscience of the community."

Davis was the only defendant to face murder charges. All are charged with conspiracy to commit robbery, and some face handgun charges.

See Slayings, Page A10



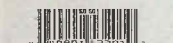
"A VERY EMOTIONAL MOMENT: Marion County Prosecutor Curt Brizzi passed Thursday afternoon announcing he would seek the death penalty against Ronald Davis.

INDEX

- Obituary.....B4-5
- Puller notices.....F3
- Scoreboard.....D7
- The Buzz.....B3
- Star Classifieds.....F26
- Television.....G36-42

WEATHER

Partly cloudy, clear and warmer.
Low 0 High 26
Full forecast, G4



HE'S WALKING THE WALK



TU/PTU coach Ron Hunter went barefoot during Thursday's win over Oakland to raise awareness of Samaritan's Feet, a relief organization trying to put shoes on the feet of 10 million children. Hunter's efforts have paid off — \$20,000 and more than 110,000 pairs of shoes have been donated to the charity. **D1**

2008 LEGISLATURE

Tax reforms pass 93-1; now it's up to senators

Version approved by House includes 27 amendments to Daniels' plan for relief

By Bill Rutishauf and Mary Beth Schneider
Star Staff Writers

Indiana senators now will have their turn to change Gov. Mitch Daniels' property tax reform package after the House on Thursday overwhelmingly passed the plan with its modifications.

Among the issues likely to be addressed in the Senate were referendums on building projects and income tax breaks for the working poor.

The House endorsed the plan 93-1 before sending it to the Senate.

"This is really a historic event," House Speaker B. Patrick Bauer, D-South Bend, said after the vote. "There's never been this kind of restructuring bill to leave either (legislative) body with this kind of a vote. It bodes well for the final outcome."

The Senate will have until Feb. 27 to vote on the 935-page bill. Then it will move to a conference committee, where negotiators from both chambers would work out their differences on the legislation.

Lawmakers have until March 15, the final day of the legislative session, to take action on bills.

See Tax reforms, Page A10

WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?

IF YOU'RE A HOMEOWNER

- Your taxes would be capped at 2 percent of your home's assessed value beginning in 2009.
- You'll get a standard \$45,000 homestead deduction and could top off as much as 35 percent more in assessed value.

IF YOU'RE A HOMEOWNER OLDER THAN 65

If your home is assessed at less than \$270,000 and you make less than \$35,000 per year:

- Your future property tax bill would be frozen until you sell your home.

FOR RENTERS

- Your landlord's property-tax bill would be assessed at 2 percent of assessed value.
- You could receive a maximum renter's deduction on your state income tax form of \$5,000.

FOR BUSINESSES

- Your tax bill would be capped at 3 percent of assessed value.

BECOME MORE INFORMED

- Go to indystar.com/politics for our 2008 legislative guide. Find your representative, track bills and get breaking news.

LONG-SHOT KUCINICH TO LEAVE RACE

Rep. Dennis Kucinich, D-Ohio, will end his second bid for the presidency to focus on winning re-election to the House. **A3**

ARCHBISHOP HAS HODGKIN'S DISEASE

The form of cancer Archbishop Daniel A. Buechlein has is rare in most cases. He received the diagnosis last week. **B1**

IPS BOARD SELECTS 6 FINALISTS FOR SEAT

The field of applicants to replace Olga Williams was narrowed from 24. The board will choose the new member next week. **B1**

DAYBREAK WEEKDAYS 5AM **THE EARLY SHOW WEEKDAY 5-7AM**