

## 2004 : BIOGRAPHIES OF NEW GOVERNORS

### INDIANA

#### Mitch Daniels (R)

A native of Monongahela, Pennsylvania, Mitch Daniels, 54, moved to Indiana when he was in grade school. He earned his undergraduate degree at Princeton University and a law degree from Georgetown University in 1979. Daniels began his career in politics by working for then-Indianapolis Mayor Dick Lugar. When Lugar was elected to the Senate in 1976, Daniels followed him to Washington and served as the new Senator's chief of staff. When Lugar was elected to chair the National Republican Senatorial Committee in 1983, Daniels was named executive director. Two years later he went to the Reagan White House, where he served as the President's chief political adviser and as a liaison to the nation's state and local officials.

In 1987, Daniels returned to Indiana and became chief executive of the conservative Hudson Institute, a nationally known think tank. Then, in 1990, Daniels joined Eli Lilly and Co. as vice president of corporate affairs. He was promoted to senior vice president of corporate strategy and policy in 1997. During this time, the company underwent a restructuring that shed many of its non-pharmaceutical divisions, putting greater emphasis on drug development.

Daniels returned to Washington in 2001, when the newly elected President Bush appointed him to serve as director of the Office of Management and Budget. During his tenure at the helm of OMB, Bush nicknamed Daniels "The Blade" for his ability to cut spending. As a result of his zeal for slashing spending, Americans for Tax Reform presented Daniels with a "Hero of the Taxpayer" award.

He defeated Democratic Gov. Joe Kernan, 53 percent to 46 percent.

### MISSOURI

#### Matt Blunt (R)

Matt Blunt, 34, grew up in rural Missouri and received an appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy where he majored in history. He spent five years on active duty serving several missions overseas, including Operation Support Democracy's blockade of Haiti, drug interdictions off the coast of South America and the interdiction of Cuban migrants. Blunt continues to serve in the Navy Reserves and was called to active duty

after the September 11 terrorist attacks, taking him away from the Secretary of State's office for six months.

Blunt got his start in politics when he won a seat in the state House of Representatives. He ran for Secretary of State in 2000, winning 86 of the state's 114 counties and was the only Republican to win statewide office that year. Blunt is not the only member of his family to hold office. His father, Roy Blunt, has represented the 7th congressional district since 1996 and is the Majority Whip in the U.S. House of Representatives. And, Blunt's grandfather defeated 2004 Democratic gubernatorial nominee Claire McCaskill's mother in a race for the state legislature in 1978.

As Secretary of State, Blunt focused on modernizing elections, enforcing securities laws and using technology to make the office's service more easily available to Missouri residents.

Blunt won the governorship with 51 percent to McCaskill's 48 percent.

### MONTANA

#### Brian Schweitzer (D)

A Montana native, Brian Schweitzer, 49, grew up on a ranch. After graduating from Colorado State University with a degree in international agronomy and getting a master's degree in soil science from Montana State University, he spent a number of years working in Libya and Saudi Arabia. He returned to Montana in 1987 and started his own ranch. In addition to cattle, he has grown peppermint, alfalfa and dill, distilling the oils for sale to food processing companies. In 1993, he was appointed to serve on the Montana State USDA Farm Service Agency.

In 1999, Schweitzer decided to take on then two-term GOP Sen. Conrad Burns. Although he had no political experience, Schweitzer proved a very formidable candidate who impressed national Democrats and the media with his energy and enthusiasm. Schweitzer made the high cost of prescription drugs the centerpiece of his campaign and was among the first candidates to organize bus trips to Canada to buy cheaper medication. He criticized Burns for breaking a term limits pledge as well as "going Washington" and losing touch with Montana voters. In the end, though, Burns pulled out a close victory, winning 51 percent to 47 percent, even though he outspent Schweitzer by more than two to one.

During the gubernatorial campaign, Schweitzer promoted a "Grow Montana" plan that calls for investing the

state's coal tax trust fund, forming a state-sponsored buying pool to purchase prescription drugs at lower prices, encouraging small businesses to form pools to purchase health insurance for their employees, and increasing spending on education. He also conducted a statewide search for a running mate, inviting all Montanans to submit a letter telling him why they'd like to be Lieutenant Governor. Schweitzer ultimately chose GOP state Sen. John Bohlinger.

Schweitzer led GOP nominee and Secretary of State Bob Brown throughout the general election, winning the race with 50 percent to Brown's 46 percent.

## **NEW HAMPSHIRE**

### **John Lynch (D)**

John Lynch, 52, grew up in Massachusetts and received his undergraduate degree from the University of New Hampshire and then went on to earn his M.B.A. at the Harvard University Graduate School of Business Administration. He later returned to Harvard to serve as director of the M.B.A. program. In 1984, he received his law degree from Georgetown University Law Center. A decade later, Lynch became the president of Knoll, Inc., an office furniture subsidiary of Westinghouse. In less than one year he took a company with losses of \$50 million annually and built it into a \$1.2 billion company with \$240 million in annual operating profits. The company currently employs 4,000 worldwide. Lynch's leadership skills and accomplishments at Knoll were major themes in his campaign.

Lynch was appointed to the state's University System Board of Trustees in 2000 and chaired the board from 2001 until early in 2004. He also spent six years on the board of directors of Catholic Medical Center in Manchester. Prior to the election, Lynch was a private business consultant.

While Lynch has never held elected office, he is not new to politics in New Hampshire. In the 1970s, he interned on the staff of then-Sen. Thomas J. McIntyre. He later went on to become the executive director of the New Hampshire Democratic Party.

Lynch defeated incumbent GOP Gov. Craig Benson, 51 percent to 49 percent, making Benson the state's first incumbent Governor in decades to be denied a second term in office.

## **UTAH**

### **Jon Huntsman, Jr. (R)**

Jon Huntsman, 44, centered his campaign on the idea that a prosperous and competitive economy and education system are necessary to create high-paying jobs for future generations.

The Huntsman family is widely known throughout Utah and other parts of the country for their successful business and philanthropic efforts. Huntsman graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, where there is now the Huntsman Program for International Relations and Business. Prior to winning the Governor's race, he was the chairman and CEO of the Huntsman Family Holding Company. He has also served as chairman of the board of the Huntsman Corporation, a diverse manufacturing company with 15,000 employees around the world and \$9 billion in sales, and as President and CEO of the Huntsman Cancer Foundation, which oversees the Huntsman Cancer Institute at the University of Utah.

Huntsman also served on the University of Pennsylvania's Board of Trustees, the International Board of the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, and as a Branch Director for the Federal Reserve Bank in San Francisco. He is a founding member of the Pacific Council on International Policy and served on the board of the Asia Society in New York and the National Bureau of Asian Research. He is currently a director of Karl Malone's Foundation for Kids.

Fluent in Mandarin, Huntsman has held several prominent positions in the federal government. He was a staff assistant in the Reagan White House, as well as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce for East Asia and Pacific Affairs and Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce for the Trade Development Bureau. Huntsman was Ambassador to Singapore, one of the youngest Ambassadors in U.S. history. More recently, he has served as Deputy U.S. Trade Representative. The Senate unanimously confirmed him to that post in August of 2001 and he left in 2003 to return to Utah to run for Governor.

After emerging from an eight-way field to win the nomination, Huntsman took 57 percent in the general election, defeating Scott Matheson, Jr., the dean of the University of Utah Law School. Matheson's late father was a popular two-term Governor and his brother Jim represents the 2nd Congressional District.

**WASHINGTON****Christine Gregoire (D)**

After three recounts and 51 days, Democrat Christine Gregoire became the Governor-Elect on December 23, defeating former GOP state Sen. Dino Rossi by a mere 129 votes out of 2,810,049 cast.

A native of Auburn, Gregoire, 57, served as Washington's first female Attorney General. Gregoire won her first election in 1992 and was easily re-elected to two more terms. As Attorney General, she created a special criminal unit to prosecute those who abuse vulnerable adults and used the Consumer Protection Act to stop business practices that prey on the elderly. She argued and won a case in front of the U.S. Supreme Court that clarified provisions of the Clean Water Act. Gregoire was also the lead negotiator for the states in the tobacco lawsuits.

Gregoire began her legal career as a law clerk in the Attorney General's Spokane Office, and was appointed Deputy Attorney General in 1982. Gregoire graduated from the University of Washington with a degree in speech and sociology. She received her law degree from Gonzaga University. Her political career began in 1988 when then-Gov. Booth Gardner appointed Gregoire director of the state Department of Ecology. During her four years in that position Gregoire negotiated an agreement with the federal government for the safe cleanup and permanent storage of radioactive wastes in Eastern Washington, an achievement touted by the campaign.

In July of 2003, Gregoire was diagnosed with early-stage breast cancer and underwent surgery. She talked about her battle with cancer during the campaign, saying it served as a reminder of the importance of having access to health care services and insurance.

**WEST VIRGINIA****Joe Manchin (D)**

Joe Manchin, 57, grew up in Marion County and graduated from West Virginia University in 1970 with a degree in business administration. He returned home to run a family-owned carpet store. He later started Enersystems Inc., a natural resources company. Manchin got his start in politics in 1984 when he won a seat in the state House. He moved to the state Senate in 1986 and was re-elected in 1988 and 1992. In 1996, Manchin sought the Democratic gubernatorial nod. Although he proved to be a very strong fundraiser, he lost the nomination to state Sen. Charlotte Pritt, a liberal who ran for

Governor in 1992 as an independent and took 7 percent. Pritt ran a dismal general election campaign, losing the race to former Republican Gov. Cecil Underwood, 52 percent to 46 percent.

In 2000, Manchin made a successful bid for Secretary of State. He worked to make the office more responsive to state residents by speeding up the time it takes to process paperwork and introducing some e-commerce functions. As the state's elections officer, Manchin worked to increase voter registration and participation.

Manchin easily won the gubernatorial contest with 64 percent to 33 percent for businessman Monty Warner.