

KENTUCKY KERNEL  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2007

# ELECTION GUIDE

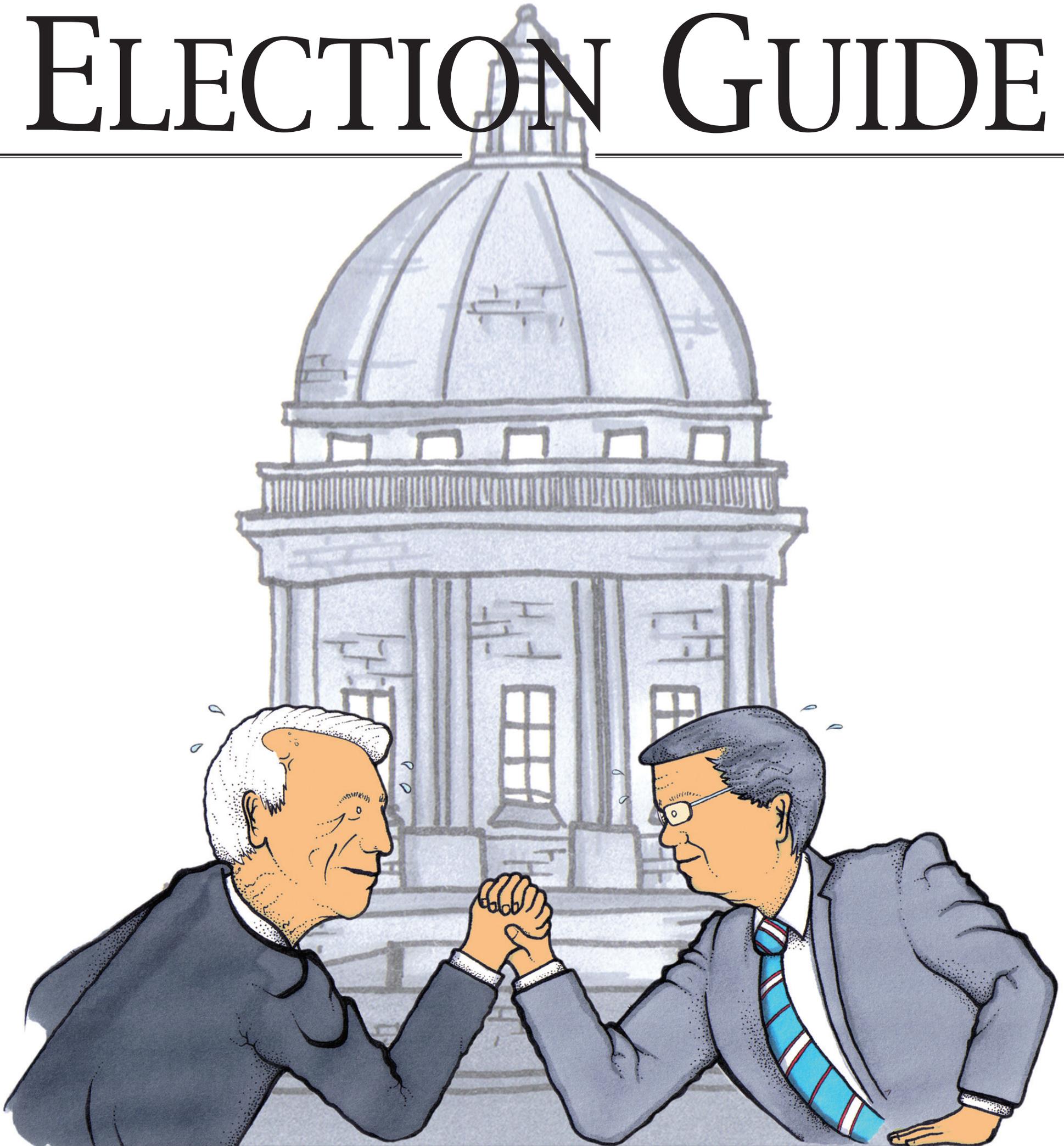


ILLUSTRATION BY PATRICK MICKA | STAFF

Cyan Magenta Yellow Black



# Kentucky Governor's Race 2007

## STEVE BESHEAR (Democrat)



Steve Beshear was born in Dawson Springs, Ky., in 1944 and graduated from Dawson Springs High School. He went on to receive a bachelor's degree in history from UK in 1966 and graduated from UK's College of Law in 1968. He served as the student body president as a junior during the 1964-65 school year. He served in the Army Reserve as an intelligence analyst.

Beshear has served Kentucky in the U.S. House of Representatives, as attorney general and as lieutenant governor. Following his government service, he worked as an attorney and senior executive of a multi-state law firm.

Beshear met his wife, Jane, while at UK, and they have two sons and a grandson.



Running mate:  
Daniel Mongiardo

## ERNIE FLETCHER (Republican)



Gov. Ernie Fletcher, the incumbent, was born in Mt. Sterling, Ky., in 1952 and graduated from Lafayette High School in Lexington. He went on to receive a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from UK in 1974. He then served as a commander in the U.S. Air Force during the Cold War. After leaving the military, he graduated from UK's College of Medicine in 1984 and became a family practice physician. He was CEO of St. Joseph Medical Foundation for two years.

Before his term as governor, Fletcher represented Kentucky in the U.S. House of Representatives. As chairman of the subcommittee on health, he worked on several health initiatives, including the Patient Bill of Rights in 2000.

Fletcher married his high school sweetheart, Glenna, and they have a son, a daughter and four grandchildren.



Running mate:  
Robbie Rudolph

## STANCES ON THE ISSUES

Steve Beshear	Ernie Fletcher
<p>To help jobs in Kentucky grow to their full potential, Beshear has a three-part plan:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provide incentives for the kinds of businesses with growth potential in high-wage jobs, such as a tax credit to cover a portion of Kentucky businesses' research expenses.</li> <li>2. Restore government integrity with an ethics reform package that will make Kentucky government an engine for progress.</li> <li>3. Improve Kentucky schools, modernize the workforce development and training system, and make higher education a viable option for more Kentuckians.</li> </ol>	<p>Kentucky has supported entrepreneurship and increased the number of high-tech startups in the state by 240 percent.</p> <p>Kentucky has gained over 100,000 jobs between January 2004 and July 2007. During Fletcher's administration, total farm income surpassed \$4 billion for the first time, the state has increased teachers' pay, the state has reformed healthcare in favor of practitioners and the tourism industry has increased by 24 percent.</p>
<p><b>Economy</b></p>	<p><b>Economy</b></p>
<p>To get the education reform process back on track, the state needs to expand education for children under 5, encourage a firm foundation in basic concepts, value teachers and involve parents, modernize schools and classrooms and put more funding into education to promote academic excellence.</p>	<p>Has increased education spending by 25 percent, which has gone to improving teachers' salaries, investing in better tools and technology, expanding preschools and constructing new facilities. Since 2003, average reading test scores have improved, and so have elementary math scores.</p>
<p><b>K-12 Education</b></p>	<p><b>K-12 Education</b></p>
<p>Expanding gaming in the state would generate extra revenue without raising the tax burden on working Kentuckians.</p>	<p>Casinos would have a negative effect on Kentucky's families and communities through an increase in crime and new social burdens on our communities.</p>
<p><b>Casino Gambling</b></p>	<p><b>Casino Gambling</b></p>
<p>Kentucky needs to expand health care coverage and address rising health care costs. That includes covering all children, allowing young adults to keep family coverage up to age 25, helping small businesses to cover employees, and maintaining and strengthening the Health Care Safety Net for those who can't afford or don't receive employer-provided coverage.</p>	<p>Has directed changes in several laws designed to bring choice and competition back to Kentucky's insurance market. There are now more insurance companies in Kentucky than before he took office. Competition means lower costs to Kentucky families and a more vigorous marketplace for health insurance.</p>
<p><b>Health Care</b></p>	<p><b>Health Care</b></p>
<p>Kentucky can be an Adventure Tourism destination, especially for all-terrain vehicle (ATV) riders, hikers, hunters, horseback riders and outdoor enthusiasts from across the country. Some of the initiative the state needs to work on include calling for landowner protection laws, exploring moving the Department of Tourism to Cabinet Level, converting former rail lines and connecting corridors to public trails and developing youth mentoring and introductory programs on outdoor activities.</p>	<p>Tourism spending in Kentucky in 2006 crossed the \$10 billion mark for the first time, according to new statistics compiled by the Travel Industry Association. That growth represents a 6.6 percent increase over 2005. In addition, tourism spending in Kentucky during the first three years of the Fletcher administration increased 23.8 percent and added more than 6,000 new jobs to the state's economy.</p>
<p><b>Tourism</b></p>	<p><b>Tourism</b></p>
<p>Universities should be free to design their own benefit programs for their administrators, faculty and staff.</p>	<p>Domestic partner benefits will increase health-care costs by expanding the risk pool. People who may not otherwise be able to afford insurance because of high-risk diseases could obtain it — and thus increase costs — by signing onto a domestic partner plan. The real solution is to make health care more available for everyone.</p>
<p><b>Domestic Partner Benefits</b></p>	<p><b>Domestic Partner Benefits</b></p>

SOURCE: STAFF REPORTS, CAMPAIGN WEB SITES

## GETTING TO KNOW THE CANDIDATES

The candidates for the next governor of Kentucky have been on the campaign trail for months, and their views on many issues — casinos and ethics, anyone? — are fairly well known. Here are their responses to some more personal questions.

	Steve Beshear	Ernie Fletcher
If a CD were to get stuck in your CD player, which one would you hope it would be?	Any Frank Sinatra CD	Best Hits of the 60s
What was your first car?	The family hand-me-down	'63 Dodge Dart
If you were going on Spring Break this year, where would you go?	Destin, Fla.	Bahamas
Which TV character do you think best resembles you and which best resembles your opponent?	I don't have enough time right now to watch TV to know	I'd have to ponder this a while. My opponent reminds my staff of Mr. Burns from "The Simpsons"
If you were at a wedding with an open bar, what would you order?	A glass of wine	I would actually hit the dance floor with Glenna
If you can only have one dessert for the rest of your life, what would it be?	My mom's lemon pie	Chocolate ice cream
What sports teams do you cheer for in these categories?	<p><b>Pro football:</b> Cincinnati Bengals</p> <p><b>Pro basketball:</b> Miami Heat, because Pat Riley played for UK while I was in school</p> <p><b>Out-of-state college:</b> None</p> <p><b>In-state college:</b> I root for all Kentucky teams, but my alma mater is UK.</p>	<p><b>Pro football:</b> Cincinnati Bengals</p> <p><b>Pro basketball:</b> I mostly just follow UK</p> <p><b>Out-of-state college:</b> None</p> <p><b>In-state college:</b> UK and U of L</p>

ILLUSTRATIONS BY ED MATTHEWS | STAFF

SOURCE: E-MAIL INTERVIEWS WITH CANDIDATES

## VIEWS ON HIGHER ED

Both candidates graduated from UK, so the Kernel asked them about their time in college. Here's what they said.

What was your favorite class at UK?

**Beshear:** Kentucky History, taught by Dr. Tom Clark  
**Fletcher:** Independent Study in Aerospace

What class was the biggest threat to your GPA?

**Beshear:** First-year chemistry  
**Fletcher:** Classic Literature

What was your worst/most awkward date in college?

**Beshear:** On my first date with my future wife, Jane, I took her to dinner at the upscale Levas' Restaurant in downtown Lexington. Jane was wearing a coat, and as I helped her out of the car, her bracelet got caught and we couldn't get her coat off. We both laughed, and that broke the ice. From then on, there was no pretense between us.  
**Fletcher:** A blind date

Who did you vote for governor when you were in college?

**Beshear:** Ned Breathitt (the Democratic candidate who served as governor from 1963 to 1967)  
**Fletcher:** Tom Emberton (the Republican candidate in 1971)

What's your favorite memory of college?

**Beshear:** Meeting my wife, Jane  
**Fletcher:** Delta Tau Delta Spring Trip to Kentucky Lake

What was your favorite hangout in Lexington?

**Beshear:** Adam's Restaurant  
**Fletcher:** It varied from year to year. Two Keys was the big hang out.

Any other memory or experience that jumps out at you?

**Beshear:** As Student Government President, being on the stage with President Lyndon Johnson during the graduation ceremony  
**Fletcher:** Making lieutenant in the Air Force at graduation

Summaries of the candidates' stances on topics affecting UK.

On keeping Kentucky college graduates in the state:

**Beshear** — The Kentucky First Scholarships program will pay off one year of student loans for every year that student works in the state after he or she graduates. The state should create more jobs that will stimulate the tax base and should create the kind of jobs that need Kentucky college graduates.

**Fletcher** — To keep Kentucky college graduates in the state, Kentucky should diversify its economy by drawing more high-tech jobs in addition to the agricultural, mining and manufacturing positions that already exist.

■ Start making commercial opportunities from existing research.

■ Provide incentives for companies that convert coal into liquid fuel

■ Make cities more livable to help attract and retain college graduates.

On keeping college affordable:

**Beshear** — The Kentucky First Scholarships program would not only keep graduates in the state but would make higher education more affordable. Expanded gaming would also bring in \$500 million more in tax revenue for Kentucky. Those additional funds will make college more affordable by allowing the state to more fully fund universities and scholarship programs.

The state should also expand dual-credit options so that high school juniors and seniors can earn college credit through community colleges or Advanced Placement programs.

**Fletcher** — A "freeze" on tuition increases should be in place until the implementation of the Kentucky Covenant program, which would work with middle-school students and guarantee tuition assistance for students who prepare for college and get good grades.

There should also be a loan-forgiveness program for college graduates going into professions where talent is needed, such as teachers.

On funding for the Top 20 Business Plan:

**Beshear** — The state should push for fully funding the plan. The current administration has failed to fund the Bucks for Brains program and the Top 20 Business Plan, which has accounted for increasing tuition. Tuition is too high now, and it is not the universities' faults.

**Fletcher** — State funding for higher education has increased about 20 percent during the Fletcher administration, and UK has received a large share of that. UK's Top 20 Business Plan rightly recognizes that there aren't enough jobs for college graduates in this state.

COMPILED BY STAFF WRITER ALICE HAYMOND

# Last days on the trail

UK students hit the streets to stir up support for Fletcher, Beshear



**Above:** UK College Republicans President Thomas Roberts, a political science and economics senior, knocks on a door while canvassing a neighborhood in Lexington on Saturday afternoon.

**Right:** Gov. Ernie Fletcher, left, shakes hands with Jonathan Bryant, a politics and government senior at Bryan College, during a rally at the Kentucky Horse Park on Saturday evening.

PHOTOS BY ALLIE GARZA STAFF

By Juliann Vachon  
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Robert Kahne and Thomas Roberts know the poll numbers: Steve Beshear has a commanding double-digit lead over Gov. Ernie Fletcher in the SurveyUSA poll for tomorrow's gubernatorial election.

But in the final 72 hours of a campaign, each party must make contacts

and mobilize registered voters so that the decisive poll — Election Night results — swings its way, said Roberts, president of UK College Republicans, and Kahne, president of UK College Democrats.

Each organization is out meeting and talking with potential voters today and tomorrow as members knock on doors, work the phones and wave signs confidently for their party while making the fi-

nal effort for victory in the 2007 election. About nine UK students stood shivering in the cold with other Democrats, young and old, at the Louisville Democratic Party headquarters on Saturday morning waiting as the oversized vans rolled in to take them out for a morning of door-to-door campaigning.

UK's College Democrats spent the day in Louisville canvassing with Kentucky College Democrats and about 45

students from throughout the country.

Meanwhile, the Kentucky Federation of College Republicans was taking a different approach, spreading its canvassers throughout the state to reach more potential voters, Roberts said.

About 18 UK Republicans and 10 out-of-state students ready to tackle precincts in Fayette County gathered for breakfast at the organization's Victory Office in Lexington, where Roberts said



Democratic candidate Steve Beshear, center, and his wife, Jane, prepare to take pictures with students who had been out canvassing earlier on Saturday morning in Louisville.

each person was assigned a route for the day.

The canvassing process is similar for both parties: Knock on registered voters' doors, remind them to vote for the party's candidates and hand them door hangers with the candidate's name in big, bold letters. If a voter is not home, leave the sign and move on.

College Democrats and Republicans are also making targeted phone calls to potential voters, reminding them of the party's candidates for elected positions and their stances on key issues.

Kahne called the Democrats' unified effort in Louisville a "great party-building activity."

"This is the only race (in the nation) that's somewhat competitive, although it's not as competitive as the Republicans would have hoped," said Kahne, a political science and economics junior. "But we're not taking any chances."

Beshear, the Democratic gubernatorial candidate, delivered the same message to enthusiastic supporters, including the student volunteers, at the Louisville party head-

quarters on Saturday afternoon.

"You've done everything in the world to make sure people come out and vote," Beshear said. "These next 72 hours will bring us home."

Corey Shepherd, a marketing senior at Auburn University, was among the students from outside the state rallying support for Beshear in Louisville this weekend.

"Louisville hasn't run an effectively coordinated event in years," said Shepherd, national membership director for the College Democrats of America, "but this year there is good momentum, and it's really going to give the Democrats a good starting block for future elections."

Richard Becker, co-chair of the College Democrats of Kentucky, said the Democrats are "the party that has the interests of young people most at heart."

"It's a no-brainer for college students to come out and help these candidates," said Becker, a history and political science junior at UK.

The Republicans had help from out-of-state canvassers as well. Jonathan Bryant, state chairman of



UK College Democrats President Robert Kahne, a political science and economics junior, leaves a home in Louisville on Saturday after reminding the resident to vote on Election Day.

the College Republicans in Tennessee, said he had knocked on at least 100 doors as of Saturday in support of Fletcher.

"I've been out knocking on doors all day and talking to voters, and people are giving (Fletcher) a chance," said Bryant, a politics and

government senior at Bryan College. "They're not closing the door."

After putting up signs leading to a white tent at the Kentucky Horse Park, Roberts and other College Republican members handed out stickers to those arriving at a rally for Fletcher.

Brent Burchett, president of the Kentucky Federation of College Republicans, said Fletcher's 62-county, 13-day bus tour that ended Saturday helped bring out more Fletcher supporters.

"Everybody's been concerned with the poll numbers, but this weekend has changed the momentum of the race," said Burchett, a public service and leadership senior.

At his rally, Fletcher stood before a crowd of supporters that was chanting "four more years" as other Republicans running for office stood on stage behind him.

Fletcher compared his need for support in the final days of his campaign to a Kentucky Derby winner, reminding the crowd that "every one of those horses turned it on in the final stretch."

Roberts agreed that turnout efforts could determine the outcome of the race.

"It doesn't matter where you are in the polls because the only poll that matters is the one on Election Day," Roberts said. "Even if he was up by 20 in the polls, these last few days would still be critical."

# other statewide races

## attorney general

The attorney general is Kentucky's top law-enforcement official, whose duties include both supervising all state prosecutors and writing advisory opinions for government officials when legal questions arise. The attorney general also supervises other law-related agencies, including the Office of Consumer Protection, which helps mediate disputes between customers and businesses, and the Kentucky Bureau of Investigation, which investigates the drug trade and public corruption.



**Jack Conway**  
D-Louisville

Conway wants to increase the attorney general's role in environmental protection by focusing on tougher enforcement of state environmental laws. He hopes to refine and strengthen the state's prescription drug-tracking system, which is supposed to alert investigators of potential cases of prescription abuse. Conway supports creating an Internet Crimes and Fraud Division to investigate sexual predators and consumer scams online.

**Web site:** [www.jackconway.org](http://www.jackconway.org)



**Stan Lee**  
R-Lexington

Lee supports creating a Rapid Response Identity Theft Unit to cut down on identity theft and a Child Predator Unit to fight online sexual predators. He opposes gay marriage and abortion, and he believes state agencies should legally be able to post the Ten Commandments. As attorney general, Lee wants to continue the anti-drug efforts he has worked on as a state representative (he supported bills to toughen drug laws and fight meth labs).

**Web site:** [www.stanlee2007.com](http://www.stanlee2007.com)

## secretary of state

The secretary of state oversees the incorporation of businesses in Kentucky and all matters directly pertaining to those corporations, such as mergers, dissolutions and relevant public records. The office holder is also Kentucky's chief election officer, responsible for managing voter registration, candidate filings and vote counts. Finally, the secretary of state supervises the State Land Office, which deals with land grants, warrants and surveys.



**Bruce Hendrickson**  
D-Pineville

Hendrickson wants to extend civics education for high-school students so they are as informed about the voting process as college students are. He seeks to defend voters' rights and ensure that people are not wrongly disenfranchised. Hendrickson also would have the secretary of state's office do more advocacy for small businesses, including working with the General Assembly to reduce their tax burden.

**Web site:** [www.hendricksonforsecofstate.com](http://www.hendricksonforsecofstate.com)



**Trey Grayson**  
R-Park Hills

Grayson, the incumbent, supports measures to fight voter fraud and to make elections more accessible for U.S. service members and for people who have disabilities. He wants to boost public engagement in Kentucky by promoting civic education in Kentucky classrooms. Grayson also emphasizes that he has made Kentucky's business laws more clear and has increased online access to business-related documents and forms.

**Web site:** [www.treygrayson.com](http://www.treygrayson.com)

## treasurer

The treasurer, Kentucky's chief elected fiscal officer, heads the Kentucky State Treasury and serves on fiscally oriented state boards, such as the lottery board, the state investment commission and the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System. The treasury manages the finances of all state agencies, which includes paying state employees' salaries and depositing checks written to state agencies.



**Todd Hollenbach**  
D-Louisville

Hollenbach wants to increase efficiency and cut spending at the treasury by using technology to streamline its functions where possible. He supports reviving Kentucky's Affordable Prepaid Tuition Program, through which families can establish tuition savings accounts. Hollenbach wants to increase public knowledge about finances by holding a summit to form a plan to improve financial literacy in Kentucky.

**Web site:** [www.hollenbach-treasurer.com](http://www.hollenbach-treasurer.com)



**Melinda Wheeler**  
R-Georgetown

Wheeler's top priority is the abolition of the office of state treasurer, which she says is unnecessary when most revenue matters can be handled electronically. Wheeler considers the treasurer's office too expensive, with a budget of \$3 million for only 25 employees. She hopes to work with the General Assembly to make a constitutional amendment that would abolish the office of treasurer and give its duties to other state agencies.

**Web site:** [www.melindawheeler07.com](http://www.melindawheeler07.com)

# other statewide races

## commissioner of agriculture

The agriculture commissioner heads Kentucky's Department of Agriculture, which makes and enforces agricultural regulations, works to control communicable animal diseases, and helps state farmers market their products and expand their consumer bases. The department also oversees state shows and fairs, farmland preservation, and education on agricultural literacy and farm safety.



**David Lynn Williams**  
D-Glasgow

Williams, who does not have a campaign Web site, said in a questionnaire by The (Louisville) Courier-Journal that he wants to promote locally grown organic food, especially as a means of fighting higher energy costs. Williams also wants to see more minorities hired in state government and fight discrimination in the program that provides health care to state employees, he said in the Courier-Journal questionnaire.

**Web site:** N/A



**Richie Farmer**  
R-Frankfort

Farmer, the incumbent, wants to make agriculture in Kentucky more diverse by researching how to use crops as energy sources, which would promote energy independence. He says he has increased the Department of Agriculture's output despite funding cuts and hopes to continue making the department more efficient. Farmer also boasts of his efforts to protect consumers from low-quality motor fuel and to increase funding for county fairs.

**Web site:** [www.richiefarmer.net](http://www.richiefarmer.net)

## auditor of public accounts

The auditor's main duty is to monitor the accounts and financial transactions of all state agencies, fighting waste and corruption. In recent years, the auditor has taken on some duties beyond finances, such as audits to ensure that state computer systems are secure or to monitor the performance and effectiveness of state public programs. The auditor's office is also Kentucky's chief tax-collection agency.



**Crit Luallen**  
D-Frankfort

Luallen, the incumbent, focuses on her record as auditor since she took office in 2004, as well as her other public-service roles in Kentucky since 1974. She boasts of exposing government-fraud cases totaling millions of dollars, resulting in several public officials being prosecuted. She also says the auditor's office has expanded its role under her leadership by taking on more performance audits and other special investigations.

**Web site:** [www.critluallen.com](http://www.critluallen.com)



**Linda Greenwell**  
R-Taylorsville

Greenwell boasts of her management experience in the private sector as a business owner and operations management specialist for UPS, emphasizing that she is not a career politician. She hopes to look into measures that would ensure the solvency of the Kentucky Retirement System, and she plans to encourage Kentuckians to report wastes of tax dollars through a "Citizen's Hotline" system.

**Web site:** [www.lindagreenwell.com](http://www.lindagreenwell.com)

## voting in lexington | Polls open at 6 a.m. tomorrow

■ Registered voters can find out their polling place on the Kentucky State Board of Elections' Web site (<http://elect.ky.gov/>) by entering their full name and date of birth.

■ Polls will be open from **6 a.m. to 6 p.m. tomorrow**, though all registered voters who are in line by 6 p.m. will be able to vote.

■ Voters must **bring a form of identification** or be known by a precinct officer to vote. Valid methods of identification include a driver's license, Social Security card, credit card or another card bearing both a picture and signature. Those without identification will not be able to cast provisional ballots in tomor-

row's election because provisional ballots are only available for federal races.

■ On Kentucky's electronic polling machines, voters turn a wheel to highlight names and press "enter" to make selections. There is a "straight party" option to select all Republicans or all Democrats in every partisan race. Voters may choose to enter no vote in any race, and they can also enter write-in candidates in any race. Sample ballots are available at all polling places.

■ Voters who are blind, have a disability or cannot read English may receive assistance from someone they select or from the two precinct judges. The

voter's employer, agents of that employer, or an officer or agent from the voter's union may not act as an assistant.

■ Those who suspect vote fraud or other violations should contact the election officials at their precinct's polling place; the county clerk, at 255-8683 for Fayette County; the State Board of Elections, at (502) 573-7100; or the Attorney General's Election Fraud Hotline at (800) 328-8683.

■ A full **Voter Information Guide** and list of voter rights and responsibilities is available on the State Board of Elections' Web site (<http://elect.ky.gov/registrationinfo/>).



STAFF FILE PHOTO

Two men meet outside the Capitol after the 2005 Rally for Higher Education in Frankfort.

# Candidates weigh in on low student turnout



By Blair Thomas  
bthomas@kykernel.com

Alex Lyons does not plan to vote in tomorrow's gubernatorial elections because he has better things to do.

"I voted when I was 18; that's the last time I've been to the polls," said Lyons, an economics senior. "I have no reason to vote. Politicians don't listen to the needs of young people, and I have better things to do."

Out of 169,243 people registered to vote in Fayette County, only 400 are registered in the Towers precinct, the area including UK's campus, according to the Kentucky State Board of Elections' Web site (<http://elect.ky.gov/stats/>).

Republican Gov. Ernie Fletcher, who is running for re-election, said he agrees that many college students feel like they don't have an influence in government.

"Many people feel removed from the political process," Fletcher said in an e-mail to the Kernel. "Too many people (think) they don't have influence on the policy choices made by their government, or that those choices have little impact on their lives."

Democratic challenger Steve Beshear said low voting numbers on college campuses are a result of the behavior of people in office.

"Too many politicians set a bad example, which causes our young people to lose confidence in government," Beshear said in an e-mail to the Kernel.

Past incidents of "less than admirable behavior" from politicians are another reason Lyons said he doesn't "bother with following candidates' campaigns."

"If I want to see someone cheat on their wife or steal money from their workplace, I can go back to my hometown," Lyons said. "I don't need to watch campaign commercials reminding me of what goes on in the government."

Lyons said instead of waiting in line at the polls, he'll be in one of his four Tuesday classes, waiting tables at Brooklyn Pizza or studying for a test he has at 8 a.m. on Wednesday.

"I have too much to do, maybe if I was just working or just going to school, or maybe if we had a day off from classes, then I'd go vote," Lyons said. "But in all honesty, I don't have a free second in my day."

Not having free time shouldn't be an excuse, said political science teaching assistant Josh Hargrove.

"We're talking about the future," Hargrove said. "Voting means having a hand in electing the future leaders, people who will hugely impact all of our lives, including students. There is absolutely no excuse for not wanting to take part in that."

Alise Mayer said she has voted in every election since she registered on her 18th birthday and will vote tomorrow.

"People who think voting isn't im-

portant frustrate me," said Mayer, a political science sophomore. "I vote every chance I get. People who don't vote are cheating themselves and the rest of us out of having leaders who really represent what the public wants."

In the Clifton precinct, which includes UK's sorority and fraternity houses along Rose Street and Rose Lane to Woodland Avenue, 610 residents are registered.

"These numbers are embarrassing," Mayer said. "We're sending the message to politicians that we don't care about anything, so why bother trying to address issues that might concern us?"

The issues that should be important to college students include the creation of high-wage jobs and keeping the "best and the brightest here in Kentucky," Beshear said.

Fletcher agreed that students should be concerned with what jobs are waiting for them after graduation.

Lyons said that even with what he thinks is an improved focus on concerns of college students by Fletcher and Beshear, he doesn't think the number of students who vote tomorrow will increase.

"I'd like to be optimistic; I'd like say that students are going to get out there and vote and start being concerned with the political process," Lyons said. "But the truth of it is, we all have too much to worry about and too much to do. We're too busy focusing on today to focus on tomorrow."



"Too many people (think) they don't have influence on the policy choices made by their government."

— Ernie Fletcher,  
incumbent, Republican  
candidate for governor

"Too many politicians set a bad example, which causes our young people to lose confidence in government."

— Steve Beshear,  
Democratic candidate  
for governor