

**9/6/2007**

## **SD “straw poll” goes for “Law and Order” candidate**

— Mount Blogmores @ 6:22 pm

*Any Blogmorites read this? (Ah, the '70s, when sideburns were **SIDEBURNS** and lapels were measured by the acre.)*

By Bill Harlan

Fred Thompson wasn't even an official candidate when he won the first-ever South Dakota GOP straw poll, which was conducted at the state fair over the Labor Day weekend.

The results:

- Fred Thompson: 25 percent.
- Rudy Giuliani: 19 percent.
- John McCain: 14 percent.
- Mike Huckabee and Mitt Romney: 13 percent.
- Ron Paul: 8 percent.
- Duncan Hunter: 4 percent.
- Sam Brownback: 3 percent.
- Tom Tancredo: 1 percent.

More than 500 people voted, according to a GOP press release. The poll was open to anyone who will be 18 by the June 3, 2008, (irrelevant) primary.

Pundits are comparing Thompson to that other showbiz pol, Ronald Reagan, but Thompson was a public official first. Senior citizens of the Mount, like me, will remember that his first series was “The Watergate Hearings.”