



WisPolitics GOP Convention Blog

SATURDAY, MAY 12, 2007

Fred Thompson, Walker top WisPolitics Straw Poll

LAKE GENEVA -- State GOP activists voting in the annual WisPolitics.com Straw Poll this weekend favored former U.S. Sen. Fred Thompson for president in 2008 and Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker for governor in 2010.

Fred Thompson received 95 votes, compared to 84 votes for former Wisconsin Gov. Tommy Thompson. Mitt Romney was a distant third with 41 votes. Tommy Thompson and Sam Brownback, who got 14 votes, addressed the convention in separate speeches.

Straw poll voters heavily favored Walker as their favorite for the 2010 GOP gubernatorial nomination. He received 142 votes, or 46 percent of ballots cast. Walker dropped out of the GOP primary for governor last year, clearing the way for former U.S. Rep. Mark Green, R-Green Bay, to win the nomination. Democratic Gov. Jim Doyle beat Green in November. Green received 62 votes in this year's straw poll.

In last year's straw poll, U.S. Sen. George Allen, R-Va., edged New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani as GOP activists' choice for president. Allen lost his Senate seat last fall, while Giuliani finished fourth in this year's straw poll. Tommy Thompson was the overwhelming favorite to face Democratic U.S. Sen. Herb Kohl last spring, and J.B. Van Hollen was favored for attorney general. Thompson decided not to run against Kohl, while Van Hollen went on to win the party's nomination and the office.

In this year's WisPolitics straw poll at the Wisconsin Republican Party convention in Lake Geneva, 306 total ballots were cast by convention delegates, alternates and official guests. There were an estimated 500 people at the convention.

Blog Contributors

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Contact ross@wispolitics.com with tips or news items for the blog.

Blog Description

Updates from WisPolitics.com on Wisconsin's state Republican conventions.

2007 Convention Links

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WisPolitics, since it was launched in 2000, has conducted straw polls at state Republican and Democratic party conventions and considers them but one measure of a candidate's popularity and viability.

Paper balloting was conducted Friday and Saturday at this year's convention. WisPolitics.com also will conduct a straw poll at the state Democratic Party convention next month.

WisPolitics.com is an independent non-partisan political news service based in Madison, Wis. WisPolitics also operates these companion sites: WisOpinion.com, WisBusiness.com and IowaPolitics.com.

2007 STRAW POLL QUESTIONS, RESULTS 306 total ballots cast

**Which Republican candidate do you support for president in 2008?

- Sam Brownback 14
- Jim Gilmore 0
- Newt Gingrich 12
- Rudy Giuliani 35
- Chuck Hagel 0
- Mike Huckabee 0
- Duncan Hunter 3
- John McCain 10
- Mitt Romney 41
- Ron Paul 1
- Tom Tancredo 8
- Fred Thompson 95
- Tommy Thompson 84
- No response 2
- Write in 1

** If a 2010 primary for governor were being held today, which Republican would you choose to be the party's nominee?

- Scott Fitzgerald 3
- Rick Graber 0
- Mark Green 62
- Mike Huebsch 3
- Ted Kanavas 5
- Bill McCoshen 3
- Paul Ryan 24

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-J.B. Van Hollen 42

-Scott Walker 142

-Write in 18

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-- *By WisPolitics Staff*

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