

ENDORSEMENTS

Guthrie, McConnell

Guthrie

The 2nd Congressional District has not gone to form since Rep. Ron Lewis announced his retirement. His handpicked successor dropped out before the primary and threw his support behind Kentucky Senator Brett Guthrie, R-Bowling Green.

On the Democratic side, Kentucky Senator David Boswell of Owensboro brought 30 years of elected service to the table and he won the May primary.

That set a general election campaign between two state senators looking to replace a longtime member of the U.S. House of Representatives.

The two men aren't far apart on many issues. Boswell is a conservative Democrat, so much so, he was endorsed by Blue Dog Democrats in the U.S. House. He's a natural fit.

Both match the baseline values of the district.

The most contentious element in the campaign has been a pair of ads claiming Guthrie's family-owned manufacturing business sent jobs to Mexico. In fact, his plant sent parts to a plant in Mexico to be installed in a component that was then returned to the U.S. for further tooling.

In contrast to the picture of Guthrie painted by Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee ads, he is not simply a corporate executive. It may be more accurate to refer to him as a small business executive.

The Kentucky state Senator is a manager with Trace Die Cast Inc., a company started by his father. He does understand how business works. During time with the Glasgow Daily Times editorial board,

he also demonstrated knowledge of business from the ground up. This along with serving as a member of the Kentucky Senate for 10 years.

He demonstrated he understands the importance of education in improving the workforce for southcentral Kentucky and even laid out his own ideas for upgrading secondary and postsecondary education.

Boswell also is a proponent for secondary and postsecondary education and developing a better educated workforce, but gave no specifics on accomplishing this.

One of Guthrie's television ads has him saying, "We need some can-do leadership and that comes from the real world."

To us, Guthrie actually understands who lives in the

SEE ENDORSEMENTS, PAGE 5

ENDORSEMENTS

FROM PAGE 1

“real world.” And he will represent those people in Congress, which is why he receives our endorsement.

Guthrie’s vision for education is clear and goes well beyond the stump speech touting the virtues of education. His insights into what is working and not working in Kentucky — in our part of the state especially — are clear.

Guthrie has a distinguished record of service to our country and to our state. From his time at West Point to his service in the Kentucky Legislature, Senator Guthrie has been the embodiment of servant leader.

Both Guthrie and Boswell are strong candidates. Both have much to offer. Guthrie, we believe, offers more.

McConnell

Our endorsement for re-electing Mitch McConnell to the U.S. Senate is very simple: He is one of the most powerful members of the Senate as the minority leader. That’s influence in Washington that we cannot afford to give away.

Senator McConnell is arguably the most powerful and influential Republican in America. In red-state Kentucky, he represents our values, our traditions and our way of life.

What really appeals to us is that even though he could probably sit on high in the beltway and work exclusively on national and global issues, he does an amazing job of staying in touch with and involved with Kentucky. That quality alone makes him an effective public servant; that he is one of the most power-

ful Kentuckians to walk the halls of Congress makes it that much more important to return him to Washington for a fifth term.

McConnell has been supportive of our region. The tobacco buy-out program, tireless support for Western Kentucky University, money for Mammoth Cave National Park and countless projects throughout Barren County and southern Kentucky had direction, leadership or help from Mitch McConnell.

Yes, he’s married himself to an unpopular president on several issues — the conflict in Iraq, the \$700 billion bailout — but he’s also demonstrated his strong desire to do what’s right for Kentucky in 24 years in the Senate.

Democratic nominee Bruce Lunsford is certainly qualified to represent Kentucky in the U.S.

Senate. He has been successful in business for many years and he has dabbled in politics enough to know how the system works. But for all his success in business, he has not been as successful running for office. He failed in his two previous bids at winning a statewide office.

Through his personal energy and the backlash by voters against the Bush administration, Lunsford has turned this race into one that’s being watched nationwide. That is a good thing for Kentucky.

With eyes on us, McConnell will be able to return to Washington and do good things for his state.

The bottom line of this race is that now is the wrong time for Kentucky to lose influence in Washington.