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Web Winners |

By Reid Kanaley | Nov 5, 2006 | 375 words , 0 images

With the nation in a lather over midterm elections, we found Web sites to help us review some of the actual issues, take pleasure in the nasty ads, and escape into Fantasy Congress.

Campaign network. C-Span's campaign page has all the most-talked-about campaign TV ads, such as Michael J. Fox's appearance on behalf of Senate candidate Claire McCaskill in Missouri, and Harold Ford Jr.'s "Kick the dog" commercial in the Senate race in Tennessee. You can also review debates, take a daily political trivia test, and check out the election forecast map.

www.campaignnetwork.org/

Election map. Another election map, this one at the site of National Public Radio, offers brief notes on key Senate, House and governor races around the country.

www.npr.org/news/specials/

[election2006/map/](#)

Vote smart. The nonpartisan group Project Vote Smart offers a "Voter's Self-Defense System" with this site full of background on federal and state political races, state legislative voting records, answers to candidate questionnaires on basic issues, and other refreshing alternatives to spin.

www.vote-smart.org/index.htm

Election commission. Wondering who puts up the money? Go here to review the campaign contributors listed for all candidates in federal elections. Run the cursor over "Campaign finance reports and data," on the left of the screen, to see all your options. The site also tells you how to register as a candidate for future elections. C'mon, you know you want to run.

www.fec.gov/

Voting machines. Debate even rages over the reliability of modern voting machines - the very devices meant to avert problems such as the infamous hanging chads. This site presents the pros and cons of the various voting machines now in use, including arguments about their vulnerability to hackers, ability to register a voter's "intent," and usability for disabled voters.

www.votingmachinesprocon.org/

Fantasy Congress. When you can't get enough of real politics, it might be time to join the Fantasy Congress. The game works like fantasy sports, only your goal is to pick a team of real legislators that can beat competing teams by pushing the most legislation through the system. Budget smudget.

www.fantasycongress.us/fc/

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