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## Campbell GOP chief wins Bunning award

### Political notes

By Patrick Crowley • [pcrowley@nky.com](mailto:pcrowley@nky.com) • March 18, 2009

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Campbell County Republican Party Chairman Jeff Kidwell won the top honor at Saturday's Fourth District Lincoln/Reagan Day Dinner.

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Kidwell was given the Sen. Jim Bunning award, named for the two-term U.S. senator and former U.S. House member from Southgate.

"Jeff is the best-case example for me as district chair," said Fourth District Chairman Kevin Sell. "He has done more in six months than most county chairs do in a whole term. From debate and convention watch parties to Web newsletters, weekly phone banking and yard sign databases, he has moved Campbell County to the forefront."

In a statement, Kidwell said he stands ready to help Bunning, who is gearing up for his 2010 re-election campaign and could face a primary challenge from state Senate President David Williams.

"The Bunning award holds special meaning for me because I have always been inspired by Sen. Bunning's conservative values and his courage to defend those values whether doing so was popular or not," Kidwell said. "Our party has made great strides in Campbell County over the last year but our work is far from over. We continue to build our infrastructure and introduce new technologies to make sure that we are highly organized and effective in the 2010 election cycle.

"Sen. Bunning has always been there for me since I became chairman, and I and the Campbell County Republican Party will continue to back Senator Bunning against all opposition on either side of the aisle," Kidwell said.

Shawn Baker, a longtime GOP strategist and activist, was given the Mary Bunning award. Baker was especially active in the 2008 election of Rep. Alecia Webb-Edgington, R-Fort Wright.

Sean Vandevander, who garnered notice while working on the GOP's 72-hour Get Out The Vote program during the November election, won the Young Republican of the Year award.

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