

Thoroughbred trainer Dale Romans enters Kentucky Senate race

BRUCE SCHREINER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — Longtime thoroughbred trainer Dale Romans on Wednesday entered the Kentucky campaign to succeed Republican Mitch McConnell in the U.S. Senate, portraying himself as an independent Democrat willing to cut through “partisan nonsense” and tackle trade, health care and immigration. Romans criticized President Donald Trump’s tactics in his immigration crackdown and pointed to his decades of work alongside immigrant laborers who toil for long hours cleaning stalls and performing other labor-intensive tasks tending to horses at racetracks.

“I’ve traveled around the world, but I also saw the plight of the immigrant workforce we needed back here,” Romans said in an introductory campaign video. “The ones that are here working, doing jobs that are necessary in this country. We need those people. We don’t need a fight, we need a fix.” Romans said the nation’s borders must be secured and that people living in the United States illegally who commit crimes should be sent back to their home countries. But raids by immigration agents under the Republican administration, he said, have created fear and resentment in targeted communities, sometimes ensnaring innocent residents while hurting businesses and the economy.

With more than 2,250 career victories as a trainer, including in the Preakness Stakes and Travers Stakes, Romans said he knows how to win as an underdog.

Romans joins a large field of Republicans and Democrats competing in 2026 for the Senate seat held since the mid-1980s by McConnell, who is retiring when his current term ends. Kentucky’s primary election is in May.

“We need a senator who reflects our people,” Romans said in a news release. “Not polished insiders or party-line politicians running the same old partisan nonsense, but someone who has built a career the hard way and lived the struggles that Kentucky’s working families face every day.”

Romans stressed his working-class background and said he would protect workers and businesses from overregulation and “destructive” tariffs. He pledged to take action to make Kentucky more affordable. Affordability was a key issue in Democratic victories in last week’s elections in places such as Virginia and New Jersey.

He said he would work to strengthen Medicaid, Medicare and the Affordable Care Act so more people get health care coverage without it draining household budgets.

Romans enters the race with considerable name recognition among horse racing fans in the Bluegrass State, which prides itself as the world’s horse capital. He has been a longtime fixture at Churchill Downs in Louisville, his hometown, and he trained 12 horses for the Kentucky Derby.

Romans tried to distance himself from his national party, a recognition of Kentucky’s swing toward Republicans in recent years. Kentucky has not elected a Democrat to the Senate since Wendell Ford in 1992.

“As an independent Democrat, I won’t be beholden to the national party, and I won’t be a puppet of the president like a freshman Republican senator would be,” Romans said.

Other Democrats in the Senate race include Amy McGrath, a retired Marine aviator; Pamela Stevenson, a state lawmaker and former military judge advocate general; Logan Forsythe, an attorney and former U.S. Secret Service agent; and Joel Willett, a military veteran and former CIA officer.

Republicans in the race include U.S. Rep. Andy Barr, former state Attorney General Daniel Cameron and business entrepreneur Nate Morris. The GOP hopefuls speak glowingly of Trump, hoping to land his endorsement in a state that Trump overwhelmingly carried in the past three presidential elections.

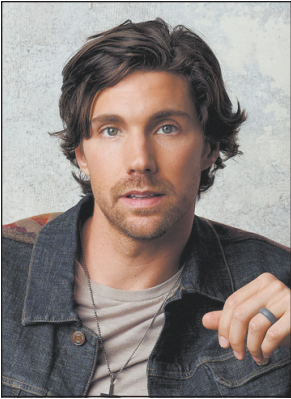


Dale Romans

Country Music Showcase comes to The Center on November 15

CHRIS TILLEY
THE CENTER FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

A country music showcase featuring four artists headlines a full night of entertainment this coming Saturday, November 15 at The Center for Rural Development’s Cornelia Dozier Cooper Theatre in Somerset. A very modest ticket price of \$30 allows music fans to see four singers bring their own unique sound of the ever-popular country genre to the main stage. Local artist Steve Taylor will take the stage from 6:00 pm until 6:30 pm. Taylor has opened for The Bellamy Brothers and Confederate Railroad at The Center over the last year. His cover songs have opened for local shows for the past 30 years. Somerset’s Logan Purcell will take to the stage from 6:40 until 7:20 pm. The



John King

22-year-old has been singing and playing music for the last three years with “Dirty Floorboard” and “Ain’t Right” being two of his hit songs. Rising star Damon Spigle of Lincoln County will be the penultimate singer of the show from 7:30 to 8:15 pm. Spigle’s young career has already blossomed into songwriting and singing. At just 17 years of age and a high



Logan Purcell

school senior, Spigle not only has made his mark in local country music but also on the football field as a starting running back for the Lincoln County Patriots. Spigle has opened for Little Texas and Andy Griggs within the last year. Spigle’s hit songs include “Hey Girl,” “Never Go Back Again,” “Why,” “Every Heart Has A Story,” “Wish You Back,” “Take Me Out Of

My Hometown,” plus more. Country music artist John King of Georgia headlines the night’s show and has built a dual career as both a songwriter and a recording artist. He co-wrote the song, “We Went,” recorded by Randy Houser, which reached No. 1 on the country charts and wrote “Rollin’” for Hootie & the Blowfish. As a country artist, King is known for songs like “Tonight, Tonight” (a Top 40 hit), “Always Gonna Be You,” “Ain’t Missing You,” “Your Man,” and “Easy.” His current single, “Try Saying Goodbye,” features heartfelt lyrics and infectious hooks that connect with fans everywhere. Tickets for this electrifying night of music can be found by visiting www.CenterTech.com or by calling The Center’s Box Office at (606) 677-6000. Tickets will also be available the night of the show.



Associated Press

Crosses stand during a vigil for those killed and missing after a UPS plane crashed, at the Great Lawn, on Nov. 7, in Louisville, Ky.

All 14 victims identified from fiery UPS cargo plane crash in Louisville

BRUCE SCHREINER AND DYLAN LOVAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — A grandfather and his young granddaughter. An electrician with two young children. A woman standing in line at a scrap metal business.

They were among the 14 people who died in the fiery crash of a UPS plane in Louisville last week. Their names were released Wednesday as Mayor Craig Greenberg lamented the lives that will “forever be unfinished.”

Eight days after the plane plowed into the ground in a massive fireball, the local coroner’s office said it completed the grim tasks of recovering victims’ remains, identifying them and notifying their loved ones. Investigators from the National Transportation Safety Board remain at the crash site, Greenberg said.

Victims included three pilots on board when the crash happened during take-off at UPS Worldport, the company’s global aviation hub located at Muhammad Ali International Airport. They were Capt. Richard Wartenberg, First Officer Lee Truitt and International Relief Officer Capt. Dana Diamond.

Rand Paul warns McConnell-backed provision will regulate hemp industry ‘to death’

JENNIFER SHUTT
STATES NEWSROOM

WASHINGTON — Kentucky’s two U.S. senators sparred this week over the future of the country’s hemp industry — one arguing that a provision attached to the package that will reopen the government will close a problematic loophole and the other contending the language will regulate the industry “to death.”

Sen. Mitch McConnell ultimately prevailed and was able to keep the section in the Agriculture appropriations bill cracking down on hemp that Sen. Rand Paul tried to remove during floor debate. Both are Republicans.

The appropriations bill is riding along with a stopgap spending bill that will end the government shutdown and is expected to be voted on by the House as soon as Wednesday. The hemp measure has raised alarm in farm states benefiting from a robust hemp grow-

ing industry.

Cannabis cultivated as hemp has 0.3% or less of tetrahydrocannabinol, or THC, while plants cultivated as marijuana have higher concentrations of that substance, which is what gives users the “high or stoned” feeling.

A summary of the bill put together by Senate Appropriations Chairwoman Susan Collins’ staff says the new language would prevent “the unregulated sale of intoxicating hemp-based or hemp-derived products, including Delta-8, from being sold online, in gas stations, and corner stores, while preserving non-intoxicating CBD and industrial hemp products.”

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has a warning page on its website cautioning “that delta-8 THC products have not been evaluated or approved by the FDA for safe use in any context.”

FARM BILL ORIGINS

McConnell explained he is targeting

hemp because its uses have expanded beyond what was intended.

“I led the effort to legalize industrial hemp through the 2014 pilot program and the 2018 Farm Bill,” McConnell said. “Unfortunately, companies have exploited a loophole in the 2018 legislation by taking legal amounts of THC from hemp and turning it into intoxicating substances, and then marketing it to children in candy-like packaging and selling it in easily accessible places, like gas stations and convenience stores all across our country.”

McConnell said the new provision, which won’t take effect until a year after the bill becomes law, would “keep these dangerous products out of the hands of children while preserving the hemp industry for farmers.”

Paul and Oregon Democratic Sen. Jeff Merkley urged their colleagues to remove that McConnell provision from the larger spending package, but were unsuccessful.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Columbia Gulf Transmission, LLC (700 Louisiana St. Houston, TX 77002), has filed an application with the Energy and Environment Cabinet to construct the Pulaski Project, including the installation of approximately 41 miles of 30-inch diameter pipeline, beginning at Columbia Gulf's existing Main Line System in Lincoln County and continuing through Pulaski County to a new delivery meter station interconnect with the John Sherman Cooper Power Station. The proposed Project crosses Logan Creek, Buck Creek, Hurricane Creek, Caney Creek, Briary Creek, Pitman Creek, Hyatts Fork, Fletcher Branch, Holtzclaw Branch, Dry Branch, Gilmore Branch, Smith Branch, and unnamed tributaries.

Any comments or objections can be submitted via email to:

DOWFloodplain@ky.gov

Kentucky Division of Water, Floodplain Management Section
300 Sower Blvd. Frankfort, KY 40601
Call 502-564-3410 with questions.



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