



Larry J. Sabato's Crystal Ball

A comprehensive election prediction and analysis website brought to you by the

CENTER FOR POLITICS
UNIVERSITY of VIRGINIA

ABOUT

Larry Sabato's Crystal Ball presentations started off as single pre-election seminars featuring the major presidential, gubernatorial, and Congressional contests from across the nation. In September 2002, the Center for Politics expanded the Crystal Ball into a complete website analyzing every single national gubernatorial and Senate race, and also kept tabs of the "Nifty 50" most competitive House races in the country. The website was a forecast of the 2002 midterm elections, and was updated frequently to reflect the changing political climate surrounding the races.

The Crystal Ball is provided as a free public service to help increase public awareness of national politics. The site has quickly grown into one of the most accurate, comprehensive election analysis resources on the web.

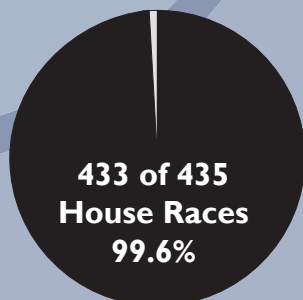
But the Crystal Ball was created as much for political junkies as for students; as such, there are a slew of other resources for academics and educators. The CB Classroom includes a "tips and suggestions" section for students researching political campaigns. Plus, in order to help teachers bring the CB to students, the Center's Youth Leadership Initiative created several lesson plans that complement the Crystal Ball. The Crystal Ball also has various charts, maps, and essays on topics ranging from the history of midterm elections to an analysis of Congressional seniority.

Election 2004: Let the Horserace Begin!

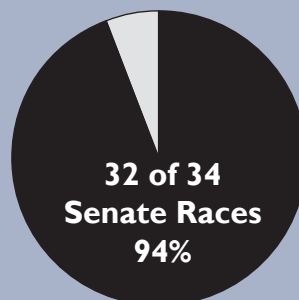
Building on an outstanding record for the 2002 races, the CB is gearing up for the 2004 election cycle, and has already posted a preliminary analysis. "Version 2.0" of the Crystal Ball will be a revamped, and interactive--yet user-friendly--resource. Detailed sections on the races and candidates for President, Senate, House and Governor will be updated frequently as the election draws nearer.

ELECTION 2002: How the CB fared...

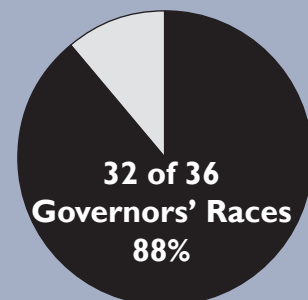
HOUSE



SENATE



GOVERNOR





Larry J. Sabato's Crystal Ball

TESTIMONIALS

Fred Barnes, Beltway Boys (Fox News Channel)

"[Larry Sabato's] political website called the Crystal Ball is a must-stop site on the web for all the latest political news and predictions."

Carl Cameron, Fox News

"Indispensable! Like the pen & pad or lap top, Larry Sabato's Crystal Ball is now essential equipment for the traveling political reporter. Whether it's latest developments or historical perspective...nobody "gets it" better."

Ed Chen, Los Angeles Times

"Sabato's Crystal Ball was an indispensable tool and a delight as well. It added joy and fun to the task of tracking political developments around the country."

Brit Hume, Special Report with Brit Hume (Fox News Channel)

"How can a political science professor create a website with election analysis and have people take it seriously as a source of political knowledge? The answer: When the professor is Larry Sabato of the University of Virginia, whose Crystal Ball predictions page at the University Center for Politics website has become a must-read for political junkies."

Will Vehrs, Punditwatch (punditwatch.blogspot.com)

"Larry Sabato's Crystal Ball was the gold standard for political junkies in 2002. If you wanted to predict the election results on more than just gut feelings, you were checking the Crystal Ball every week."

James Cowan

"Larry, I have been an admirer of your commentary for years. I just viewed your website it and it is the best I have seen. You can rest assured that I have bookmarked it and will visit it often."

Ronald Crane

"You are one of the few people out there that I actually believe and have confidence in. The "Crystal Ball" is a wonderful way to impart information on all of the races."

Peter Foster, Richmond, VA

"Although you are obviously right that "He who lives by the crystal ball ends up eating ground glass," I do find your analyses and handicapping to be the most reliable and up-to-date of any I've seen this year."

Jim Toms, W. Frankfort, IL

"I really enjoy your website. I'm a high school English/History teacher as well as a news/politics junkie so you can see where I'm coming from. Thanks again."

HIT ME!

- > In the final three weeks before the election, the Crystal Ball averaged 5,200 hits per day.
- > Over the course of the election season, the Center for Politics received thousands of e-mails regarding the Crystal Ball website.
- > Over 1,500 people signed up for the weekly Crystal Ball e-mail update, including reporters, campaign staffers, teachers, and students from around the nation.
- > Over 160,000 people visited the site during the election season, from all around the country and 53 nations around the world.