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KY Supreme Court lets judge remain in Bevin divorce case

BY MONICA KAST
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Kentucky's top court has declined to remove the judge in the divorce case of former Gov.

Matt Bevin and his ex-wife, in which their son has intervened to request child support.

The Bevins, whose divorce was finalized last year, had previously filed to have Jefferson Family Court Judge An-

gela Johnson disqualified from the case. The former couple said the court "has pre-judged issues before it," is biased against them, and that Johnson has been motivated by media attention when ruling in the case.

Johnson previously ruled that she did not have to disqualify herself from the case, and on Thursday, the Kentucky Supreme Court agreed.

The order issued by Kentucky Supreme Court Chief Justice

Debra Hembree Lambert said the Bevins had failed to show Johnson's bias or that the judge was seeking media attention.

"If judges must tailor their rulings around whether they will garner media attention, rather than on application of law to the facts, justice will never prevail," Lambert wrote in the 18-page order. "The Kentucky Code of Judicial Conduct requires that '[a] judge shall not be swayed by public clamor or fear of criticism.' The high-profile nature

SEE BEVIN, 4A



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Rep. Daniel Grossberg during his public hearing at the State Capitol Annex in room 129 on Feb. 2, 2026, in Frankfort, Ky.

State legislator's ex-college classmate says he assaulted her

BY ALEX ACQUISTO AND AUSTIN HORN
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A former college classmate of Kentucky state Rep. Daniel Grossberg alleges he assaulted her during her first semester when he was a 26-year-old senior more than two decades ago.

The woman's account is documented in a local police department report from 2005. Christina Ross, now 38, did not



Christina Ross

reported it to the city of Grinnell's police department.

Ross told the Herald-Leader she felt that Grossberg's interactions with her in an incident that took place in her dorm

file criminal charges, but she reported Grossberg's behavior to campus security at Grinnell College, a liberal arts institution in Iowa. Campus security then

room amounted to sexual assault. Ross said she denied Grossberg's requests for sex and attempted to leave; Grossberg then grabbed her arm in anger and tried to prevent her from leaving, she said.

Ross, an 18-year-old freshman at the time, said she still refused even after Grossberg wouldn't let go. In that moment, alone in her dorm room with Grossberg, a man eight years her senior, "I was scared," she said in an April phone interview with the Her-

ald-Leader.

"He grabbed my arm right at my wrist and kept pulling me," Ross said. "I remember being worried I needed to just play it cool. I didn't like how he seemed when he was angry. I did not want that."

The Grinnell Police Department report noted that Grossberg had previously been "aggressive" with Ross — a series of events that culminated that night in her dorm room.

SEE CLASSMATE, 12A

What would mayoral candidates do to fix city's snow, ice response?

BY ADRIAN PAUL BRYANT
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In early 2025, Winter Storm Blair covered Lexington in snow and ice for weeks after intense precipitation and a long string of days below freezing temperature.

Lexington struggled to keep streets clear in the novel storm, but promised to do better in the future.

A year later, Winter Storm Fern brought the same set of conditions to the city. Lexington did not do better at keeping roads clear, causing more frustration among city residents and causing Fayette County Public Schools to cancel in-person classes for two weeks.

Then in March, a flash freeze event early in the morning led to over 150 car collisions.

Public criticism over the response to these winter weather events led to big changes in Mayor Linda Gorton's administration. Her commissioner of environmental services, Nancy Albright, resigned after the March freeze event, and Gorton has promised to "tear up" the city's existing winter weather plan.

Gorton is rebuilding the city's snow and ice plan, but other candidates for mayor have said her administration's failed response is unacceptable.

Five of the seven candidates for mayor, including Gorton, told the Herald-Leader what they will do to ensure an effective winter response in the future.

Skip Horine and Rama Asma-

SEE CANDIDATES, 7A

Beshear seeks transparency on UK Aramark layoffs

BY JESSE FRAGA
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Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear says he wants transparency on what issues led Aramark to terminate over 900 dining employees at the University of Kentucky, even though UK says it will rehire those employees.

During Beshear's news conference Thursday, he expressed concern over whether those employees will be rehired and have bargaining rights, and whether the university had reason to terminate them.

Aramark notified 890 hourly workers and 36 salary workers at UK last month that they were being laid off because UK was

ending its partnership with the company, which provides food services to a wide range of universities. UK is ending its contract with Aramark three years early, said Jay Blanton, spokesperson for UK.

"I want to learn more about the steps that UK is taking and

SEE BESHEAR, 7A



Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear's Office, YouTube

Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear gave updates on the state of the Commonwealth including mass layoffs at the University of Kentucky on Thursday, May 7, 2026.



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