

The running mates alluded to are dogs of the presidents. First word is dog name; second word is corresponding president's last name. Once shaded letters are extracted, reorder based on the president's term as hinted in flavor text.

### Running Mates

Running mates can serve multiple purposes. Some have been real attack dogs, while others simply obedient and loyal confidants to the president. Identify the leading and trailing running mates below to determine a pair that prominently played political games. Keep in mind the president is the one ultimately barking orders.

A loveable (or hated) purple dinosaur **BARNEY BUSH - N (43 overall, 13 puzzle)**

A small fruit OR a cellular device **BLACKBERRY COOLIDGE - K (30,5)**

A blunt weapon used to incapacitate OR a casino game **BLACKJACK ROOSEVELT - E (26,3)**

First name of Jim Carrey's almighty character **BRUCE WILSON - C (28, 4)**

Friend OR pal OR guy **BUDDY CLINTON - O (42, 12)**

A fast 19th century sailing ship OR plural: Los Angeles basketball team **CLIPPER KENNEDY - N (35, 9)**

A popular children's story (and movie) by Swiss author Johanna Spyri **HEIDI EISENHOWER - S (34, 8)**

Nickname of an Egyptian Pharaoh whose relics frequently tour the world **KING TUT HOOVER - E (31,6)**

Freedom or autonomy OR US research ship attacked by Israeli jet fighters in 1967 (with USS) **LIBERTY FORD - I (38, 10)**

Husband of Melissa McCarthy's TV Molly **MIKE TRUMAN - R (33,7)**

Hook or jab OR cohort of a puppet named Judy **PUNCH BUCHANAN - H (15,2)**

Buzz and Woody's dinosaur pal OR Latin for "king" **REX REAGAN - X (40,11)**

Home planet of Spock OR Roman god of fire and metalworking **VULCAN WASHINGTON - C (1,1)**

**FINAL ANSWER: CHECKERS NIXON**