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STATERS UNION

A WEEK THAT
Changed
MY LIFE

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Staters hear inspiration, advice from Town Hall speakers

By **MIKENNON DONOVAN**
Staters Union

We had three speakers during the town hall meeting: the Honorable Judge Joseph Perrone Jr., Dr. Bernard Franklin, and Kansas Representative Brandon Whipple.

Judge Perrone spoke on how and why our judicial branch is so powerful compared to other judicial branches in the world. He discussed two cases. The first was about three Libertarians in Georgia who were opposed to having to take drug tests. The case was taken before the Supreme Court and they ruled in favor of the Libertarians. The second case, from Indianapolis, involved two lawyers who were running late for a meeting and were stopped to search for drugs in the car. They eventually took their case to the Supreme Court and they ruled in their favor.

Dr. Franklin was a very charismatic speaker, whose message focused on our futures and the idea that we are meant to be leaders. He repeated the phrase, "The world is changing around



Photo Credit Dustin Curiel (1), Julian Kincaid (2), Sam Skeet (3)
FROM LEFT TO RIGHT The Honorable Judge Perrone, Rep. Whipple, and Dr. Franklin address the staters.

you." He meant that since the world is going through a social and technological metamorphosis, we should not get left behind. He also touched on his idea of how to achieve your goals. He said, "Stop being boyish, and man up, take charge of the role you were given."

The third speaker, Rep. Whipple,

spoke of the ongoings of the Kansas House of Representatives. He briefly spoke about his career, but his main point was about leadership. He spoke of three kinds of leadership: Transformational, Transactional, and Laissez Faire. He also spoke on what makes a leader.

The Daily Veteran- Don Peters

By **MALACHI HIBLER**
Staters Union

On Tuesday morning, I had to opportunity to sit down with a Legionnaire for an interview. The Legionnaire I interviewed was Don Peters. Mr. Peters was part of the Dayton Peace Accords that took place in Bosnia in 1995.

Some questions I asked were, "why did you join the Dayton Peace Accords, and what (read more online at <http://ksbstate.org/news/>)

The Daily Veteran- R.C "Chuck" Shoemaker

By **DYLAN RINNE AND ANDREW GILL**
Staters Union

Vietnam Veteran R.C. "Chuck" Shoemaker of the United States Air Force has dedicated 36 years of his life to servicing the American Legion, currently serving Shawnee Post 327. Shoemaker says the most important thing about his story is that he joined the military to honor both his mother and father. His father, (read more online at <http://ksbstate.org/news/>)

The Daily Veteran - Don Thomson

By **STAFF**
Staters Union

Don Thomson was a Reserve Officers Training Corps graduate from the University of Nebraska. After his graduation, he was commissioned into the Infantry, where he was sent to his first station in Fort Bay, Georgia. From there, he proceeded to take on his first assignment in Germany. After arriving at Freiburg on Christmas Eve of 1965, Don proceeded to (read more online at <http://ksbstate.org/news/>)

The Staters Union is a designated forum of free speech. The print edition is published every day of Boys State by the Staters Union Staff. It is distributed for no charge throughout Kansas Boys State. All stories pertaining to Boys State within these pages refer to a simulated society, and editorial license may have been used to report the "facts" of such stories. Letters to the editor are encouraged and accepted. Letters must be signed and the writer's county indicated to be considered for publication. All letters are subject to editing for length, legal, grammatical and factual reasons. Letters should be taken to the Staters Union office in the basement of Marlatt Hall (Room 20). To contact the Staters Union, please email us at ksbsmedia@gmail.com.

Joint committees scramble to grab share of state funds

By PADEN BEDFORD AND
MIKENNON DONOVAN
Staters Union



Photo Credit Julian Kincaid

During the Joint Committee meetings, Department heads met with various PACs in Marlatt Hall to try and receive funding for their projects. These groups met in order to give their reasoning as to why they deserve money for their public works projects.

The Department of Commerce and Transportation is attempting to accumulate \$1,000,000 in funding for various projects, including a \$330,000 railway system and an international airport in an undecided location. Due to the amount of fracking occurring in the county,

the Department has decided against putting state public areas in Eisenhower county.

Unlike their counterparts, the Department of Agriculture has not seen many groups, much to the confusion of the members.

“Everyone has to eat, obviously,” many members agreed on. “We think our Department is more important than some make it seem.”

With public benefit on the mind, these committees are looking to use these funds in order to improve the quality of life in the state of Kansas.

Staters rock talent show

By ANDREW GILL
Staters Union

The annual Boys State talent show was a huge hit among this year’s Staters. From singing to water bottle flipping, the show had it all. Legionnaire Chuck Shoemaker surprised the whole crowd when he pulled off his yellow advisor polo to reveal a Spider and the Crabs t-shirt, sat at the piano and masterfully played a montage which included Somewhere Over the Rainbow and My Heart Will Go On among others. At the end of his performance the crowd erupted and he received the longest standing ovation of the night. The show concluded when Staters, Counselors, Coordinators and Legionnaires joined in singing the classic American Pie by Don McLean.

Be sociable!

Connect with Boys State online!

Main Twitter Account:
@ksboysstate OR #ksboysstate

Facebook:
Search for “American Legion Boys State of Kansas

Governor approves Supreme Court applications

Moderate court selected

By CONNOR AGUILAR AND PETER FONTAINE
Staters Union

On Tuesday morning, district court judges and attorneys were given an application to be a Boys State Supreme Court Justice, asking them to provide an opinion or closing statement for McLean v Arkansas BOE.

According to Trent McHenry and Ethan Palsmeier of Powell County, many applicants had to skip Rec, lunch and dinner in order to finish their application by lights out. Applicants believe that their were over 30 applications submitted so the competition was stacked. Governor Grant Daily reviewed all applications and appointed justices.

Yesterday afternoon, Daily appointed the Supreme Court Justices for the Boys State of Kansas:

- Dylan Ernst - Chief Justice
- Keith Andrews
- Patrick Bircher
- Oscar Chase
- Lucas Jackson
- Kenneth “KJ” Newman
- Jacob Stanley

Debate clarifies party platforms

By BRET SAUVAGE, TAYLOR GEORGE, AND
CONNOR AGUILAR
Staters Union



Photo Credit Julian Kincaid

On Tuesday afternoon, hundreds of Staters gathered in McCain auditorium to witness the 2016 State Officer Debate. This debate was unique in the fact that it was the first in Kansas Boys State history to introduce a third party, known as the Independent Party.

The nominees were asked a wide array of questions concerning key topics and issues pertaining to the state of Kansas. These questions were based on issues left out in candidates’ initial speeches, questions from special interests groups and issues that are currently affecting the state.

The Federalist Party generally stuck to their libertarian principles and ideals. This quote from Grant Daily sums up their beliefs, “If what you are doing isn’t affecting other people, why should the government care?” Nationalists and the Independent Party both had “middle of the road” views but differed on key topics such as their respective tax plans and business in Kansas. All three parties agreed that funding to education was a large problem and needed to be addressed. Many candidates gave detailed answers while others gave somewhat vague ones. All in all, the debate gave Staters an opportunity to find out more about the candidates they would be voting for in the general elections.