



THE STATERS' UNION

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7, 2001

VOLUME 64 ISSUE 3

Wednesday's Menu

Breakfast:

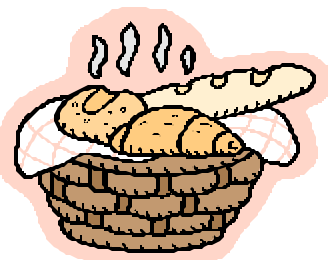
Scrambled Eggs
Sausage Links
Southern-Style Hash Browns
Cinnamon Fluff Coffee Cake
Donuts
Grapefruit Juice
Oatmeal

Lunch:

BBQ Pork Ribette on a Bun
Grilled Cheese Sandwiches
Carrot Coins
Onion Rings
Chips
White Rice

Dinner:

Carved Roast Beef and Gravy
Chicken Tenders and Dipping
Sauces
Broccoli Rice Casserole
Lyonnise Potatoes
White Rice
Green Peas
Corn on the Cob
Potato Rolls



DELEGATES AWAKE TO MANY SUPRISES

Prior to arriving at Boys' State, many delegates envisioned a nice, calm, overly conservative setting would be welcoming them each day at Manhattan, Kansas. Some students even debated if they would forget where they were every morning, thinking they would mistake their calm environment for their own household bedroom. Those sweet mental pictures were immediately extinguished after participants were jolted awake to Monday's famous "Wake Up Calls." There was no doubt- This was Boys' State!

County/City counselors used differing tactics to wake their delegates up. Some members of Patton County were fortunate enough to experience a close to "normal" alarm, with Newman city counselor Jimbo knocking on the door three times and turning on lights to wake city members up. Many other counties were not as fortunate. At approximately 6:40 am, Pershing County was rocked by various rock sounds blasting throughout fellow

counselor stereos. The city of Schmitt fell victim to "Great Southern Trend Killer" performed by Pantera, while the rest of Pershing County endured "Awake" by Godsmack. King County delegates also had to succumb to various Pantera tunes blasting through Goodnow hallways.

While we are here to encounter the various governmental aspects of the program, the American Legion did warn us that we would be "stressed out of our comfort zones." If nothing else, some of us may learn how to adapt to differing environments. Sweet dreams to all...

Jeff Coverdale
Pershing County

Kindergarten Fire Kills 13 Toddlers

Seven boys and six girls are dead in Nanchang, China after mosquito coils caught fire and set their beds ablaze. Most of the toddlers, age three to four, died of smoke inhalation. The fire began just after midnight in the dormitory of the Jiangxi Radio and Television Arts Kindergarten. It is common for

for parents to leave their toddlers in a full-time boarding kindergarten during the week.

Chinese news reports that there were actually seventeen children sleeping in the dormitory that night. One child ran to safety, while three others were carried to safety by fire fighters. Not all of the information concerning the accident has been revealed. But, China's top government officials have visited the site, and an investigation is underway.

Jiangxi is no stranger to tragedy. On March 6, an explosion rocked the city and leveled a schoolhouse killing forty-two teachers and students. The government did an investigation and blamed the explosion on a deranged bomber. The parents of the children refused to believe this explanation, and cited that the school was making the children make fireworks, and that was what caused the explosion.

Aaron Norton
Seitz County

Bonds Blasts 30th Homerun

Bonds hit his 30th home run, reaching the mark faster than anyone in major league history, and the San Francisco Giants beat San Diego 3-1 Monday night for the Padres' sixth straight loss.

Estes (5-2) was pitching when Bonds reached No. 500, and was on the mound again when he reached 25 for the season against Colorado. He was there again on Monday.

"As I said the last time, I

would have felt slighted if he didn't hit me one -- and he didn't disappoint me again," Estes said.

Bonds hit No. 30 in a record 57 games. Babe Ruth reached 30 homers in 63 games in 1928.

Bonds' solo shot off Bobby J. Jones (2-8) in the fourth inning sailed over the fence in center field as the crowd chanted "Barry! Barry!"

"Barry's a professional hitter and a good one," Jones said. "I got a changeup up, and he did what good hitters are supposed to do."

Bonds did not comment after the game.

That 30th homerun marks his 524th career homerun in the majors.

Ryan Hawks,
Bradley County

Boone Has BIG Night

The highlight of Bret Boone's night wasn't his career-best seven RBI or two home runs.

It was the curtain-call standing ovation after his second homer in the seventh inning Monday night.

"You don't get that too often," said Boone, who helped the Seattle Mariners beat Texas 11-6 and extend the longest winning streak in team history to 12 games. "It gives you goose bumps."

The Mariners improved to 44-12, tied for the third-best start in major league history. The 1939 New York Yankees and the 1912 New York Giants each began 45-11.

Boone, who had his 12th and 13th homers of the season,

took over the major league lead with 64 RBI in 55 games. Boston's Manny Ramirez and Colorado's Todd Helton each have 62 RBI.

"I know we're a heckuva team, we're playing good, I'm getting the opportunities and I'm taking advantage of them," said Boone, who was signed as a free agent this winter to try to make up for the loss of offense after Alex Rodriguez signed with Texas.

Ryan Hawks,
Bradley County

Jerry Rice

Jerry Rice, a 12-time Pro Bowl receiver for the San Francisco 49ers, is reportedly very close to signing a contract with the Oakland Raiders.

San Francisco vice-president Bill Walsh said Monday that Rice would be released from the team and that he would ultimately sign with the Oakland Raiders later in the week.

Rice, who met with reporters on Monday, declined to say he had made his final decision. He did say, though, that he had narrowed his choices to Seattle and Oakland.

According to ESPN.com, Rice will sign a four-year contract with the Raiders worth almost \$3 million over the first two years.

Rice, who is considered by many as the greatest receiver of all-time, holds the NFL records for most receptions (1,281), receiving yardage (19,247), total touchdowns (187) and consecutive games with at least one catch (225).

Jesse Newell,
Patton County

Pershing County Press Release

The County of Pershing has decided to take necessary action in regards to their road inefficiencies. County officials have recently agreed to pursue a multiple part highway repair as soon as possible. The plan, as it currently stands, is costing \$900.00 to repair roads and implement a much needed bridge, along with an additional \$1750.00 to add a four lane highway that will tremendously enhance the current transportation format.

While the plans appear expensive on paper, County officials are both dedicated and confident about the positive aspects of the implementation. "The repairs to the highway are a must," says Dustin Hoffman, Assistant Head Commissioner of the County. "According to the advice given to us, we believe this is the right path for us." Head Commissioner Michael Orth agreed. "While our County is the one to implement this ordeal, this procedure will benefit the state as a whole," added Orth. "We are confident that both Countywide and Statewide transportation and commerce situations will be stimulated, and delegates will find an all-around benefit from the proposal."

The County of Pershing is welcome to both suggestions and much needed support (both politically and financially). Anyone looking to back/support

the county in its valiant efforts can contact any County officials, likely to be found on the fourth floor of Marlett.

Jeff Coverdale
Pershing County

Oil and Gas Barons

It has been brought to the attention of this reporter that Eisenhower County has openly dismissed the facts about the amount of pollution it has produced. The Boys State of Kansas has a legal limit to the amount of pollutant levels that can be released into the environment. The statute stipulates that, "Air particle levels will not exceed 4 microns per cubic tons; water pollution shall not exceed 8 microns per cubic ton." We have been made aware that Eisenhower County has known the legal limit and doubled, at times even tripled the legal amount. If Eisenhower refuses to comply with the rules then we must insist that they be penalized or dealt with. We like our boys state to be clean and with a safe environment, we are a state of farmers Eisenhower, remember that. And please, have a nice day.

DJ Soper
Kennedy

Letter to the Editor... **Contra Skaters**

In response to yesterday's editorial from the "Skaters," I felt it prudent to write up a rebuttal to several of their arguments. First of all, the Skaters show the inherent weakness of their position by resorting ad hominem attacks at the beginning of their article. As fun as name-calling might have been back in elementary school, it needs to be recognized that using it the arena of politics is always a weapon of the unprepared.

The Skater editorial made a number of contradictory statements, and I think it a good thing to recognize that these

statements were made only two dissident party members and that their opinion, erroneous as they might be, do not reflect the general sensus fidelium of either the Federalist Party or Boys' State as a whole. Among these statements are the claim that the Federalist and radically conservative" in its view. To be quite frank, these two statements cannot both be true. "Radical" is seen as being on the fringe, something that the Republican Party cannot be since it commands the respect of roughly fifty percent of the nations' voters. So if the Federalists are mirroring the Republican Party, they are not radical, but rather more towards the center, which is likely what voters will want.

Additionally, the Skaters failed to make any direct comparisons or give examples between the Republican platform and the Federalist platform, so basically all they're coming at the public with is an angry diatribe without any serious evidence or (in my own opinion) intellectual support. IN other words, it's a straw man and shouldn't be give serious heed by anyone who values themselves being swayed by argument rather than angry diatribes.

One thing I find rather humorous is that the Skater charge that the Federalists are both narrow-minded and corrupt at the same time, giving the impression that the two things go hand-in-hand. They do not, and it is indeed possible for a party to be radical without being corrupt (such as in the case of the current Reform Party) or to be corrupt without being radical

(such as with the Republican Party under Grant). Additionally, the charge of corruption is without merit seeing as how there's very little room for corruption here at Boys' State and about the only example of corruption that I can think of off-hand is the Parkinson matter currently before the courts. Of course, seeing how very few of restrain their charges of corruption until the courts make a ruling, which is why I refrain from making comments about the alleged actions of Paul Day.

As the two Federalists refrain from identifying themselves and give the general inconsistency of their editorial, I suggest discounting their information regarding Cooper Martin unless some evidence should actually surface supporting their allegations. By the way, Skaters, you say that Cooper is going to expose the Nationalist campaign plans. If you are referring to the Nationalist platform, I think that the general populace should remember that this has been public knowledge since Monday and is therefore a non-issue.

As far as which way you should vote, I won't give a speech on why the Federalists are better than the Nationalists, but listen to the debates, hear the issues, and make certain that you vote your own conscience rather than that of a popular fad or what seems cool at he time. Use you intelligence, hear the arguments, and go with whoever you thinks hold water.

Angelus Errares
Kennedy County

Powell County Press Release

Powell County is in need of road repair or replacement. They discussed several ways to raise money for the roads, including taking out a bond. The bond issue is to be for \$4700. The bond issue includes building a new bridge, possibly a toll bridge. At the present time the bridge is closed and the county is losing revenue. A county meeting to discuss the matter will be on Tuesday, June 5 at 11:00. An election for the plan will be on Friday at Noon. IF Powell County citizens have any questions than they should visit with a Powell County Commissioner.

Powell County

Kennedy Press Release

First off, the Kennedy County Commissions proposing a new highway makeover project. We need the support of you the voters for this to happen. We are intending to repair and replace some bad areas in the highway, build a new toll bridge, and build a new highway system connecting the cities in the county. This project will cost approximately \$3,200, but its positive attributes are worth it. It will reduce car wrecks and damage; increase revenue, increase business, and increase cooperation throughout the whole county. Your vote is needed wanted, and appreciated. It is in your best interest to vote yes. We've also built a police station/ fire station in Gardner, a golf course in Finley,

and we're proposing a hospital or brewery in Haney.

Kennedy County

Seitz County Proposal and Funding Plan

Seitz County has been in heavy planning over repairing an old highway, construction for a new bridge and a new four-lane highway that connects the neighboring counties. The county feels that a replacement highway would be better than filling the old highways pot-holes. We feel that it would be more cost efficient because the old one cost \$450 to repair. The cost to replace the highway is \$400. The election for the construction will be voted on Friday 11:00-12:00. Other topics that would be voted on will be reconstruction of a new bridge and the building of a highway that will connect the counties.

Seitz County

Wichita Teen Faces Murder Charges

Sashada Makthepharak, a 16-year-old young man from Wichita was arrested and is being charged with murder. A main question at this point is whether he should be charged as an adult or juvenile offender.

Just days after he was released from a juvenile detention center he and some other gang members allegedly charged into a house and fired approximately 30 bullets at the victim. Binh Ly, of Dodge City, was also arrested as one of the other suspects who charged into the household. Out of

approximately 30 bullets fired, Chanthivong, the victim was hit 16 times.

The incident started with a confrontation between Chantvivong and Makthepharak earlier in the evening. Later after the fight, Makthepharak and maybe others allegedly were involved in a drive-by on the home of Chanthivong. After this event, Chanthivong, Ly, and one other accomplice charged into Chantvivong's house breaking down the door and firing approximately 30 bullets. 16 bullets struck the victim.

With Makthepharak being in and out of juvenile detention centers since the age of 13, the court must decide how the trial will be handled. Should he face his actions as a young juvenile, or face the world as an adult?

Jason Adkins

Eisenhower County

The City of Sullivan

Plans to unite all the
natural resources of
Eastern Kansas!

All Donations are
Welcomed!

Help Us So We Can
Help You!

The city of Sullivan, Seitz
County

Dear Voter's

We would like to thank you immensely for supporting yesterday's article on Paul (a.k.a John) Day. I thought that my column concerning the unethical practices committed by this Gubernatorial Candidate was anonymous. Apparently SOMEONE noticed that the particular concerned citizen was in fact me. Anyhow I ended up accepting a position dealing directly with ethics. As a result of these events I have decided that a thanks is in order. You struck down your mighty wrath, and I respect you for that. I look forward to our Fed heavy Gov. and I can tell the A.A made a true impact. Goodbye for now, and you have earned an important man's gratitude.

Concerned Citizen: Charter
member of Treaster-Ball Party

! WE LIKE NICE PEOPLE!

MacArthur County Press Release

As a county, we plan to help the citizens of MacArthur County be meeting their transportation needs. Our proposal is to repair any and all roads and highways. We plan to pay for this by miscellaneous revenue and donations from various associations and departments.

Also it has come to our attention that a new bridge is needed. A toll booth will be set up because of the high cost of the highways and the amount of use on the bridge.

Are you in favor of using any means possible to pay for the repairing and reconstruction of many of the county's roads?

MacArthur County

Bradley County Press Release

Bradley County will ensure the unity of our county by funding \$850 of repairs construction of our new highway, while increasing availability of industry, transportation, and employment of all citizens of Bradley County. We will ask for a board to help pay for repairs. We will also implement a small 2% sales tax increase to help fund further care and upkeep. The highway repair will be located between lots 53 and 10 in the cities of Birk and Bramlage. The new two-lane highway will be created along the middle of Aylward City and connects with the existing highway.