



The Stater's Union

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“The State of the State is Strong!”

Brady Blevins
Whorley, Seitz County

The Governor awoke to a busy day yesterday. Just coming off Wednesday, which was a busy day in itself, he still had to tackle the problem of balancing the budget. While Governor Maxwell hoped to have the budget approved on Wednesday, it didn't happen until yesterday.

The Governor's Chief Advisor, Dusty Johnson, admitted that the endless work was “frustrating.” But he also said that the clocks were ticking, and they had to get it done. Wade Walker, State Treasurer, was angered that they couldn't help the cities and counties financially at all until the House and Senate got it passed.

Eventually, the budget did pass and Maxwell and his crew went on to tackle other issues. The primary goal for Maxwell was to give the cities and counties help financially and otherwise. They were prepared to give out equal funding to all.

Well, to all counties at least. An issue was raised as to the taxes as far as higher class citizens and

lower class citizens are concerned. While the higher class taxes won't be affected, the lower classes will actually be raised, but only by 1%. This was an unpopular decision that Maxwell wasn't in support of. But as he puts it, you have to compromise.

One issue that has been raised and highly debated during the



Governor Maxwell Addressing State

term of the Governor has been the infamous Pujay. The Governor's take on the issue is that Pujay is an “alright guy.” Another thing the Governor was in support of was the talent show. Aside from boosting morale, Maxwell claimed it “entertained and let people have fun.”

The day drew to a close as Maxwell tackled his biggest event

of the day, his State of the State address. Overall the speech told of the stabilization of the state. We heard of the campaign promises Maxwell made only a few short days ago, and the ways they are being fulfilled. It's these kinds of reports that make you have faith in politicians. The budget reports were announced and accepted favorably by most of the state. The common ground between polar opposites that the Governor has made was mentioned. Finally Maxwell told us of his new B.I.G. proposal, standing for “build, invest, grow.” But most importantly we learned that “the state of the state is strong!”

Tornado Strikes Counties

AP Newswire

A severe storm struck south-east Boy's State last night. Tornadoes touched down in six different cities in the area. No one was injured, but property damage was severe. The Department of Environment has emergency funds available for disaster relief. Cities struck by the severe weather need to apply for funds to repair property damage.

Boys' State Marching, Past & Present

Andrew Cott
McCoy, Patton County

It seems that the hottest topic of discussion for many of this year's Staters is the marching issue. As has been previously published in this periodical, some feel that the marching is anywhere from "excessive" to a "halfway excuse". For the previous 65 sessions of Boys' State, however, the character of the marching was not synonymous with the 66th session. This year's marching has taken on a more formal, militaristic style as compared with years past. Brian Shosa, Color Guard Counselor, '96 Stater, and West Point attendee, agreed to comment and further explain this year's shift in marching policy.

According to Shosa, Boys' State marching used to fit into a more casual, informal mold, most likely as a direct result of the pervading thought that Staters couldn't be taught to march properly in the time allowed. Shosa continued and commented on what was the most likely reason for the switch. Evidently, resentment was present in the years past as Legionnaires expected a marching product of a higher quality that counselors generally didn't feel compelled to provide. This, coupled with Legionnaire complaints and the availability of a counselor with West Point experience, meant that it was now possible to deliver more formal, militaristic marching at an adequate standard. Although the decision to change the marching style was a recent one, Shosa still believes that the new style provides distinct benefits. He lists significantly higher Legionnaire approval, increased discipline from the beginning and therefore a smoother running State, and increased county morale and cohesion as those benefits.

Individual Staters also checked in with their opinions on the formal/

informal marching issue. AJ, Huer of Powell County, supports this year's marching style, "I think that the military aspect of it is entertaining and walking would be boring". John DeVore of Patton County and Jameson Giebler of Kennedy County agreed, noting that "The formal looks better and shows more respect to the Legionnaires" and that "I prefer the militaristic style because this is a Legion activity and it thanks the Legionnaires", respectively. Seth Gordon of Marshall County disagreed, saying that "This is Boys' State and it's supposed to be fun, they're trying to be hard core about it".

Whatever your stance or personal opinion on the issue, love the old or hate the new, it looks as if this style is here to stay as long as there's a West Pointer to keep watch.

ESCAPE!

Todd Vogts, Editor In Chief
Janssen, MacArthur

Last evening, much after lights out, it was reported that there were a few brave souls who decided to put their staterhip on the line. These gentlemen got the idea into their heads that it would be fun to escape from their dorm.

The offenders were seen by a member of the IT staff through a window of the stairwell of the Goodnow building. The IT staff member then saw the offenders duck into one of the floor doors. This floor was the third floor, home of King County.

The IT staff member proceeded to radio to the King County floor. Chris Werring, the King County Government Counselor, was dispatched to investigate the situation in one of his cities. Apparently the offenders

ducked into a couple of the rooms at the end of one of the hallways that were the most easily accessible from the back stairs that they were using. They never even made it to fresh air.

At the same time, the Government Counselor from MacArthur County, Paul Day, rushed to the scene to assist Mr. Werring in the investigation. The two quickly went to the rooms where the suspects were believed to be. Amazingly, during the questioning, no one knew who committed the act. Some believed it was possibly the Ninja Turtles coming to rescue them, while others thought it was the Cookie Monster. Either way, no one actually admitted to it.

This attempted escape had farther-reaching affects than just people rushing to investigate. This also caused the IT staff enter the Matix, stand outside and radio to County Counselors if lights were on in any of the rooms. The County Counselors than had to stalk from room to room shutting off lights. Also, counselors from nearly every county and city had to sit at the end of their hallways and be guards to ensure no one else tried to make a run for it.

The only question that remains, besides who it really was instead of Michelangelo and his friends or a big, blue hairy guy, is "why?" Why did they try to escape? If and when this publication finds out the answer to these questions, they will be reported immediately.

Quote of the Day:

"When life hands
you a lemon . . .
Punch life in the
face."

Submitted By Eric Wood

City Budget Woes

Adam Deines
Kyle, Marshall County

Natural disasters, bad decisions, and just plain bad luck have left some cities in dire straights. In fact, early yesterday, one city was down to seven dollars in their bank account. Given these extreme situations, some cities have turned to alternative methods for raising money.

One such city is Raymond in Pershing County. You may recognize their name from their fliers and the newspaper story concerning their proposed brewery. In addition to the brewery, they are also exercising their bargaining skills. One member of the city council reached an agreement with the Heritage Association that involved twelve Mountain

Dews for 230 Boys State dollars.

One approach that didn't work was organized crime. Kyle City in Marshall County started their own mafia with the idea of hiring out hit men. This plan backfired in a big way. As soon as the Attorney General heard about the plan, a lawsuit was filed and the Kyle City Mafia dissolved itself, but not before they spent money on guns and an armory. This left Kyle in a bad situation and with out much money.

There are some that are getting the hang of managing their cities. The City of Harris is doing quite well. In fact, they are being named the State Capital. The city council was even kind enough to offer advice to the other cities. The very first thing they said was not to raise taxes and if any thing is done, they should be lowered. They also suggested avoiding telling potential donators how much money you have. Another thing they have done is sharing all of their buildings and institutions with

the other cities in their counties. This reduces the cost and it also boosts the counties infrastructure.

Many other counties have also come up with original ideas to combat their own budget shortfalls. Garner City in Kennedy County is hosting a rodeo soon. Lane City in Marshall County has been approved to host "Culture Day." They will receive 40% of the profits from ticket sales, and they are also going to host a farmers market in the same area. Many counties are making sure to get every bit of business in writing so that if any deviations are made, they can sue. Others are debating on whether or not to legalize activities that have been illegal up to now.

I would like to remind everybody that money isn't everything. The cities with thousands of dollars have to do just as much work as the cities with tens of dollars. Granted, the stress level is much lower for the richer counties and they get to buy useless items such as Death Stars and Robocops.

Boys' Nation Candidates Speak

Todd Vogts, Editor In Chief
Janssen, MacArthur County

Last evening, all of the participants of Boys' State quickly assembled in the parking lot just as they do every evening. However, last evening there was an air of importance to the assembly. Everyone was wondering about one thing. Everyone was wondering

about the Boys' Nation candidates.

Everyone had a question about what it would be like at that assembly. Some pondered what kind of reasons the candidates had for wanting to attend the Boys' Nation. Others were wondering what the candidates' qualifications were that set them up above the rest of the candidates. Others still were simply wondering who all of the candidates were. Everyone had a question. Everyone was excited.

Once all of the Staters arrived at McCain Auditorium, the place began buzzing with talk about the candidates. Many had heard who a few of the candidates were, and they were already making

their predictions on who the two Boys' Nation Senators would be.

Every candidate had three minutes to speak. They all stated their cases quite well. Most, sadly, did not speak directly from their hearts. Only one person, as far we know, did not use a script. The newspaper's staff would like to congratulate that person on his awesome job.

The newspaper's staff would also like to congratulate all of the other candidates on their courage to actually get up in front of that large group of people and speak. Good show.

Everyone seemed very qualified. May the best man win. With the candidates that we have, there's no way the best man can't win.

RAFFLE! Win half the pot. \$5.00 p/ticket. See the Association for Advancement of Minorities!

What do you think this is? A Holiday Inn?

Jake Rudisill
Raymond, Pershing County

The first thing that comes to every ones' mind when they hear about Boys' State is that they will be living away from home for a whole week. Not using their own car, shower, T.V., pillow, and, most of all, your own room. As we unpacked we looked around at where we would be staying for the rest of the week. Some had good thoughts and some had bad. You were probably hoping you would get a roommate that you would get along with. Another thing some of the Staters may have realized is that some of the floors have group showering. Now I hope every ones' views on this are the same, we don't like them. If you do have a different view about this I'm glad you're not my roommate.

After I went around to talk to your fellow delegates about the thoughts on the living areas in the Marllat and Goodnow building this is what they had to say.

Cody Osborn
Crum, IKE

"I don't spend a lot of time in my dorm room so I can't complain too much about it. It stays clean and it is good enough for only staying a week."

Jake Rudisill
Langfor, Marshall County
"I think the dorms are to small, they have like no space at all."

Jeremiah Johnston
Janssen, MacArthur
"I have a nice wooden bunk bed with a huge bathroom where the toilet and shower are separate from the vanity. It must really suck to have to shower with all the other guys, HA HA HA!"

Brent Chandler,
Marshall County
"The dorm rooms suck and the open showers suck, the only think that is cool is that I don't have a roommate."

Andrew Cott
McCoy, Patton County
"Our beds aren't very good compared to other beds I've seen. It's just a box with a worn out mattress on top. I don't dig on the group showering either."

Feature



Profiles

Bad Boy Blue Shirt Ben

Andy Boyd
Hiatt City, King County

Amidst the mass legal suits brought against “The Staters’ Union” a great and powerful leader rallies the humble group. Ben Procter, a Kansas State University Political Science major is the head counselor for the 66th Boys’ State newspaper.

Ben attended Manhattan High School, and has many unique hobbies. Among those are: “I make bank, spend cheese, flip switches, pimp and I calypso with the chicken.” While we have no idea what this implies or includes, it is quite fitting for a man with the nickname, “White Chocolate.”

his busy schedule of “flippin switches” and such activities, Ben spends much time studying his minor, which is in recreational pharmaceuticals.

Ben can be seen in a “black Escalade with no-teen inch rims.” Ben’s stance on controversial issues, such as the constant suing of the newspaper are, “all y’all wack! Don’t playa hate, ‘preciate!” On other issues such as the “war without women” Ben “has his own stash of war rations.”

This is Ben Procter, the “Blue Shirt of The Day Award” winner for Friday. So while you see Ben cruising around, “holla back and give him props.”



Red Shirt of the Day

Andy Boyd
Hiatt City, King County

Name: Tanner Lucas

Job: Events Coordinator

Home: Satanta

College: KU

Major: Political Communications

Hobbies:

Long Walks on the beach, and enjoying beautiful sunsets. Tanner is a self-proclaimed “Beach Enthusiast” Also he enjoys to, “Roll on my 24’s.”

Nicknames: Plenty of them

Advice: “Don’t hate ‘da playa, hate ‘da game.”

“War Without Women”:

“My girlfriend lives in Manhattan, so it ain’t that big of a deal for me.”



Opinions & Editorials

Stepping it Up Striving for the Banners

Brady Blevins
Whorley, Seitz County

Each night during Boys' State, Staters cheer in excitement for the traditional awarding of the banners. Many say the banners don't matter, but I, for one, disagree. I think it's a given that pretty much everyone at Boys' State is driven. We're all competitive, and we want to win.

For my county, that didn't happen Tuesday night. On the first day of banners, Seitz managed to come away without a banner. Possibly even more embarrassing, we were even unsuccessful to obtain a 2nd or 3rd placing. For many, that was a disappointment. That feeling has extended to other counties as well.

Leave Me Alone!

Hale Sloan
Aylward, Bradley County

After a long day of work at Boys' State you finally get to rest and relax. As soon as you get to sleep the night disappears and the pleasant actions or voice of a valued counselor awakes you pleasantly from your long night of sleep. Wait, I was dreaming. As soon as you get to sleep some annoying dude wakes you up with his cruel call and then laughs as you jump so high you resemble a salmon. During this week the wake up call maybe the most dreaded event any of us face. Unfortunately sleeping until noon

J.D. Fronk said Pershing County felt that disappointment on Wednesday night when they failed to win a single banner. For Seitz, it drove us to work hard and go on to win greater things.

Now, since Seitz has won the Best County banner, I have personally felt the thrill of winning. Without a doubt it increases the morale of your group immensely. At the announcement of our name, people were yelling and screaming. The energy of the county could be felt by all.

That sort of excitement is what drives all of us in our quest for victory. According to Daniel Usera of MacArthur County, his county has vowed to step it up to continue their success after winning the

doesn't provide as much production.

'Painful' might describe the air-horn wake up. Seitz County policy is to give a verbal announcement, then a more forceful 'reminder.' The last result is an air horn in the room. Josh Cosgrove of Sullivan, Seitz County "My counselors won't let me draw, my inner child is being damaged by wake up calls. I am not content." As you can see reactions vary. Despising isn't the word delegates who know Travis Clark, use. The friendly bugler, also the bugler for assembly, awakens his city with a tune on the horn. Consensus of opinion on the floor is eagerness each morning is something new. So, even though waking up sucks, the way you wake can be enjoyable.

Emotional damage is happening to some in the early hours of

Athletics banner Wednesday night. Adam Kessling of King agreed by saying that winning less banners has driven his county to "work harder."

This working harder consists of many different aspects. From having more active members, to winning more at recreation; From having better county project scores, to better representing your community, a variety of things can influence the outcome of the banners.

County councilor Evan Durnal summed it up by telling his county that the banners don't matter until you win one. That's completely true. But Evan also warns, "Don't get content." The continual strive to succeed will serve the counties best in the long run.

So, whether your county has won a banner yet, or not, keep trying. The morale boost by winning something so simple is definitely worth it.



Kennedy County with banners

the day. The Raymond City counselor runs into the delegate's room half naked while screaming and singing at the top of his lungs. I am deeply worried that later in life these men may have reoccurring nightmares. Metallica, Mötley Crüe, and Marilyn Manson welcome in the morning for select floors. Slamming shoes together is the trademark of Matt Britton, Mantee City Counselor. If you don't wake up on the first call you will be visited with the shoes. Whistles, used on a couple floors, seem to be the most aggravating way to wake someone up.

Sleep is a very critical part of the day but every once in a while deprivation is a good thing or at least some think this way. Eight hours is essential to peak performance, but since this is a simulation normal requirements are inaccurate. Good Night.

Sports & Et Cetera

Texas Justice

Cody Osborn
Crum, Eisenhower County

The Nets got dominated by Tim Duncan, who had 32 points, 20 rebounds and seven blocks -- the second most in Finals history -- in San Antonio's effortless 101-89 series-opening win on Wednesday night. Maybe it was the 10-day layoff that led to the Nets losing for the first time since April 24, a first-round loss to the Bucks. Maybe it was the idle time that caused Jason Kidd to make just four of his 17 shots in scoring only 10 points. Maybe the Nets' 37.1 percent shooting can be attributed to opening-night jitters in a hostile environment. Now we will see how the Nets bounce back. On Wednesday, they gave up 100 points in a regulation game for the first time since the opening round. They lost a game by more than five points for the first time in the playoffs. The Nets 10-game playoff winning streak -- the fourth longest in NBA history -- was snapped. To bounce back, the Nets will have to find a way to slow Duncan. Last year, the Nets were physically battered by Shaq. After Game 1, they might be on their way to having their confidence strategically shattered by Duncan. "Maybe we can send him to the old arena, the Alamodome, while we play here," Kidd said. "We have to make it tough as possible for him."



Down to a Best-of-Three

After both teams won their home games, the Stanley Cup Finals is down to the best of three with Game 5 tonight in New Jersey. "We're going to end it in six," Eisner told reporters after the Mighty Ducks defeated the Devils 1-0 in overtime in Game 4. "We're going to end it here on Saturday night. We deserve to win it and we will win it." Burns replied by saying, "There's a lot of things we've

got to be excited about. I think Mr. Eisner has planned the parade for the Finals, saying that our fans aren't very good. We'll see about that Thursday night." It will definitely be a good match-up to watch with both teams deserving the Stanley Cup and working very hard throughout the regular season to reach their ultimate goal.

Forecast



Friday

Partly cloudy. Highs around 75. Northwest winds 5 to 15 mph.



Friday Night

Cool and partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 50s. Light and variable winds.



Saturday

Partly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 70s. Southwest winds 5 to 15 mph.

Stater's Menu

Friday Lunch

Grilled Chicken, Leaf Lettuce and Tomato on a Bun, Macaroni and Cheese, Green Peas, Chips, White Rice, Beef Vegetable Soup, Pumpkin Bar and Cream Cheese Frosting.

Friday Dinner

Smoked Whole Pig, BBQ Beef on a Bun, Grilled Brats and Kraut, Grilled Portabella Mushrooms on a Homemade Wheat Bun, Potato Salad, Baked Beans, Coleslaw, Chips and Onion Dip, White, Wheat, and Coney Buns, Bottled Water, Canned Soda, and Fudge Brownie.

Saturday Breakfast

French Toast and Syrup, Bacon, Breakfast Potatoes, Cinnamon Rolls, Glazed Donuts, Assorted Juice, and Oatmeal.

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From the Office of the Attorney General



Paid for the people that aren't afraid to be known. The KBI has been around for many years and the office of the Attorney General didn't release them. On Pujay your comments are no longer offensive, but rather comical now because obviously you don't know how to spell and don't know your facts. The office knows who you are(P.O.), but we prefer you remain nameless so you don't embarrass yourself due to your blatant ignorance and callous disregard for common decency.

-Keithley Lake, Attorney General "AG"

Special thanks to the highway patrol for their generous contributions!

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