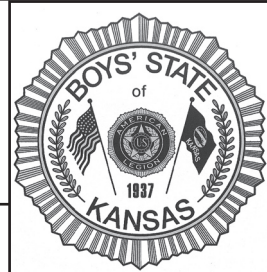
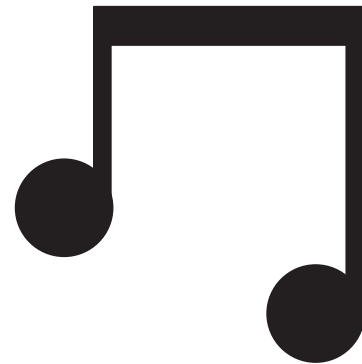


# American Legion Boys State of Kansas Stater's Union



Volume 68 Issue 5 • Friday, June 17, 2005 • Marlatt, Goodnow Halls • Kansas State University

## A NOTABLE PERFORMANCE



### Band, Choir capture stater's attention

BY BRAD REVARE  
JOHNSON, MACARTHUR

The delegates of Boys State were treated to a show as well as speeches Thursday evening. Along with several speeches from Ron Thornburgh and Boys Nation candidates, the chorus and band provided entertainment as the week wound down.

The main focuses of the festivities at McCain Hall were the band and chorus shows. Each group performed three songs.

Rolling along after Ron Thornburgh's speech, the chorus performed "Boys State," "Head to the Rear," and "Silhouettes."

The first song, "Boys State," could be thought of as the anthem of Boys State, identifying all the virtues for which past and current delegates stand for and strive to achieve.

The second song, "Head to the Rear," perfectly encapsulated the campaigning that was ubiquitous throughout the first days of Boys State. The song began by illustrating a single person's idea for leading a cause, and the chorus then swells to back his position, gushing with pride, as he becomes their leader.

The third song performed, "Silhouettes," is about a hilarious, or creepy, situation depending

on how one looks at it. A male happened to be in the neighborhood of his lady friend and mistakenly looked into the wrong house, seeing the silhouettes of two people kissing in the living room. Faint themes of stalker echo throughout the song, and reach a climax as the infuriated male knocks on the door, and "to his surprise" it's the wrong house. Realizing his mistake, he rushes down to his girlfriend's house, and apparently solves all his problems.

The band had the second half of the performance, and it did not disappoint. After rousing renditions of the Star Spangled Banner and "Smoke on the Water", the band got the entire audience on its feet with the popular pep band piece titled "Hey Baby".

Despite limited practice times for both the chorus and band, performances were exceptional and made for a great evening.

All in all, the night brought all the delegates together for perhaps one of the last times.



NICK BROWN/UNION

Created by American Legion Boys' State of Kansas  
Produced by Kinko's Manhattan

## Newspaper faces legal troubles, editor reacts to plaintiff's claims

*"We do sincerely apologize about the mix-up"*

BY DEAN SYMES  
SPIGARELLI, POWELL

Early Tuesday morning two Kennedy County representatives and a group of outraged King County citizens entered the Newspaper Room with a mission: sue the Stater's Union.

After seeing the story about the investigation on the Senator candidate from Kennedy, they filed a Slander case to the Pershing District Court at 9:30 a.m., asking for our presence in the Pershing District Court at 10:25. However, the lack of a subpoena did not confirm this, leaving them without any proof of the case even being submitted.

They finally came through with the subpoena Thursday morning,

forcing us to send a staff member to appear in court. Because of the disclaimer that is on page two of every issue, we were not charged.

The King citizens ran into the same problem, though they were suing for a number of offenses which includes printing of faulty info, negligence, emotional distress, withholding info, defamation of character, emotional and psychological damage, literary and numeric slander, and wrongful representation, while also asking for a public apology.

Kennedy County has no grounds for the case, as the story never said that the candidate was guilty, just said that he was being accused. As to the counts of slander, that is spoken, while libel is written. Clearly we

can't be held on slander, as we did not say anything about the story.

Though they were visibly angered at the story, the way they went about the case was unprofessional. They did not in anyway show that they had put thought into the case, but

As to the King case, although we may have printed wrong scores, a regular practice of daily newspapers and magazines is to make corrections the next issue. We will do that in this very issue, right next to today's scores. We do sincerely apologize about the mix-up.

In closing, if you are going to sue someone, know what it is you are suing the person, what it means, and what you have to do in order for the suit to go through.

## The Stater's Union

Editor-In-Chief:

**Dean Symes Spigarelli, Powell**

Copy Editor:

**Andrew Robinson**  
*Finley, Kennedy*

Ad Manager:

**Nathan Burrows**  
*Coss, Eisenhower*

Reporters:

**Brad Revare Johnson, MacArthur**

**Israel Montantes Perril, Pershing**

**Jordan Watson Hiatt, King**

**Kyle Haas Whorley, Seitz**

**Sam McClain Bramlage, Bradley**

**Dan Knapp McCoy, Patton**

**Steven Dickson Lane, Marshall**

### Letters to the editor policy

Letters to the editor are encouraged and accepted. Letters must be signed to be considered for publication. All letters will be edited for space, grammar and legality. Letters should be taken to the Stater's Union office.

All stories pertaining to Boys' State within these pages refer to a simulated society, and editorial licence may have been used to report the 'facts' of such stories.

## Governor questioned on good ethics

Dear Editor-In-Chief of *The Stater's Union*,

The Commission on Ethics & Good Government has discovered a shadowy point in the service of Governor Cunningham. At his budget report this morning he claimed that he cut his own funding. The budget shows that he has proposed no cuts to the governor's office. Eyewitness staters at the report confirmed that he both stated this deception and displayed it in his slide show presentation. When we scheduled a meeting with him alter in the afternoon, he was not present.

Despite a severe lack of funds, the Commission on Ethics and Good Government feels that the public should be aware of this deception and question: is Gov. Cunningham a people's representative or an over-ambitious self-representative? After all, deception is, beyond doubt, an unethical practice.

Additionally, we request funding from the state to help prevent further unethical governing.

Josh Sneed,  
CEGG Member

## Readers respond to governor's ethics and flag retirement

### Advisors put out flag retirement controversy

At the direction of Bill Wheeler, Sergeant-At-Arms for the Kansas Department of the Amerian Legion, this letter is written in response to a letter to the editor from Isiah Salmans concerning the flag retirement ceremony held on Flag Day, June 14 at the evening retreat session. Stater Salmans stated he was "gravely disappointed in the retirement as a whole," and that it "seemed rushed...and lacked the feel and atmosphere that it was due." The Legionnaires who participated in the ceremony regret Stater Salmans' feelings and his assessment of the retirement procedure. The ceremony as conducted followed the strict guidelines as published in the American Legion's Officer and Ceremonial Guide. When a flag retirement is conducted by an American Legion post as was enacted by the Legionnaires, Officers of the post participate and adhere to our written script. This includes the Post Commander, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commanders, a Sergeant-At-Arms, a Flag Bearer

and a Chaplain, all of which were included in the ceremony Tuesday evening. Only legion members may take part in a legion ceremony. Boy Scouts are encouraged to take part in like ceremonies with other participants. Additionally, the use of "accelerants" is authorized in our manual. "Members dip the unserviceable flags in kerosene and place them on a rack over the fire." It is not necessary to cut the flag into strips. Pictures taken during the ceremony were not taken or authorized by Legionnaires. Finally, we disagree that the "timing was awkward" and that "it should be voluntary to see such a ceremony." In the future, however, the ceremony will take place on the stage to allow observation by all Staters.

Once again, the Legionnaires thank Stater Salmans for his comments and wish him well with his scouting activities.

With respect,  
The American Legion Advisors

## TRIP OF A LIFETIME

### Delegates make case to go to Boys Nation

BY STEVEN DICKSON  
LANE, MARSHALL

A chance to meet the president, an all expense paid trip to Washington D.C., a week with 96 of the best and brightest from around the country, and an experience of a lifetime. Welcome to Boys' Nation.

"Boys' Nation was fascinating; however, I couldn't say one aspect was the best experience. The whole combination of everything, being in D.C., being with the smartest kids from the country, not having to march, and I made many lifelong friends," Advisor and '04 Boys Nation Graduate Lucas Vinze said.

Last night the ten county Boys' Nation candidates pleaded their case to become the two Boys' Nation senators from Kansas.

"In case you haven't noticed, I'm a big nerd. I have a thirst for knowledge that can't be quenched, and this week has been like a huge Gatorade punch bowl," candidate Harrison George, Lane, Marshall said.

For many, the amazing experience at Boys' State has inspired them to continue at Boys' Nation.

"Boys' State has been the best week of my life. I can only imagine what Boys' Nation will be like. I would give anything to have that opportunity," candidate Blake Reed, Janssen, MacArthur said.

For others, the chance to represent Kansas in Washington D.C. is their motivation.

"What I am really looking to do is to represent Kansas as an upstanding citizen, I am hoping to represent the best interests of Boys' State and the state of Kansas," candidate Richard Wohlfarth, Hasler, King said.

Some wish to become a Boys Nation Senator to make a difference.

"This week I was thinking about priorities; things that matter in life are not self-service, money, or fame. Instead life is about life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. I don't want to go because I want to make myself look good or have fun in D.C., but I believe that one person can make a difference," candidate Christopher Vallencia, Coss, Eisenhower said.

Boys Nation alumnus include former president Bill Clinton, Montana Sen. Max Baucus, and Minnesota Rep. Jim Ramstad.

"I think as a staff member that the best part of participating in Boys' Nation is that each of the senators could one day be real-life Senators, Representatives, or even Presidents. There is just so much potential in each person at Boys' Nation," Thane Chastain said. The results of the election will be announced tonight at Retreat and Assembly.

## STATE WALKING

### What is your favorite movie quote?

-Zachery Roberts  
Athletics

"Just keep swimming, just keep swimming"- *Finding Nemo*

-David King  
City of Icenogle  
McArthur County

"I'll be back"-*Terminator*

-Todd Vogts  
Newspaper

"Remember those posters that said, 'Today is the first day of the rest of your life'? Well, that's true of every day but one --- the day you die."-  
*American Beauty*

-Maxwell Hinman  
City of Bramlage  
Bradley County

"Say sorry to the baby"-*Old School*

-Jacob Granzour  
City of Sullivan  
Seitz County

"Don't make me kill you"-*Star Wars-Episode III*

-Bader Madoukh  
City of Chastain  
Eisenhower County

"I am deeply grateful for their hospitality"-*Day After Tomorrow*

-Jay Shelton  
Advisor

"You know how to whistle, don't you, Steve? You just put your lips together and...blow."- *To Have and Have Not*



# Pershing out-smarts simulation

BY DEAN SYMES  
SPIGARELLIE, POWELL

Thursday night the Stater's Union received an anonymous request for a meeting later that night. At the meeting, our source, wishing to go only by the name of "Mr. Popped Collar," had this to say:

"I found out something very interesting. But to tell that story, I must first tell this one."

Rewind to Thursday morning. Pershing County raised their mill levee to 1000, the limit. This, if all went well, would earn them enough money to cover the property tax. They also calculated that this would get the citizens of Pershing out of debt.

"Now let me explain the

importance of this," Mr. Popped Collar said. "What was planned happened, and then some. Pershing citizens became, to put it simply, filthy stinking rich."

Or at least they should have.

When word reached IT, according to Collar, panic immediately set in.

Pershing had done something thought to be impossible — beat the system. The Boys State simulation allowed this to happen, which couldn't happen.

Had this all went through in the real world, Pershing's citizens would have immediately gone into an unbelievably bad debt.

In the original Boys State simulation, however, everything would have been proverbial cake.

But IT and the coordinators could not let it happen.


And now to the point: to fix what should not have happened, IT would have to rewrite the simulations code, which is exactly what they did.

Rather than Pershing receiving the money they deserved, they were treated as if it were in the real world.

IT and the coordinators tested the new simulation, with everything excepting this untouched, during Thursday's recreation time.


Pershing was cheated out of a lot of money.

They out-smarted the system. Whether or not it would have worked in the real world, it worked in the Boys State world.



Our ideas and policies will help and benefit you!

A.C.C.



By supporting us, you support everyone!

## For The People

EDUCATION

Minorities and all counties

BUSINESS

Heritage Assoc., Assoc. of Oil & Gas, Assoc. of Farmers, & All communities

TRANSPORTATION

Everyone living Within the state

Instead of picking and choosing between sides, why not support everyone all at the same time. The ACC benefits everyone. By choosing us, you win!

# 'Sim State' forms background of program

BY DAN KNAPP  
MCCOY, PATTON

As stater's move through the program there is really no time for them to think about the logistics of the simulation as a whole. Even though the delegates are currently engaged in the created matrix, little thought process is spent on in taking the full spectrum of Boys State. A lot more goes into the project than what the eye can see.

Founded in 1937 Boys State has come a long way as the years go by. Originally the organization and

carrying out of the program was done through the usage of a paper-based system. As technology grew the paper system transformed into the computerized version of Fox Pro. This allowed the program to become more complex.

Currently Boys State uses the most modified computer program to run the state. This program is called Access. It allows for the simulation to run similar to the well-known video game Sim City.

When questioned on what their favorite part of the simulation

itself was. Christopher Shwartz (Head I.T. Staff) replied by saying he liked the simulation of natural disasters. Thane Chastain (Director of Development) remarked that he enjoys how immediate the feedback is, meaning that all the information in the state is added to the computer so prompt that the boys are then able to view results and statistics quickly.

Boys State is truly a successful idea made reality through the American Legion. All of Boys State Alumni are forever grateful.

# Cunningham pressures counties

BY JORDAN WATSON  
HIATT, KING

Talk of Budget Issues and various proposals filled the Governor's Conference meetings. Budget adjustments and county approval were just a few issues that were discussed in the meetings.

Budget cuts and adjustments seem to have been the hot topic for most of the county since the instatement

of Nick Cunningham as governor. These budget cuts have been thought of having no justification in the budget.

"I'm putting priorities first and it's causing conflicts in other areas that I will adjust to balance out, but I can only do so much at one time. I'm dedicated to balancing out everyone's budgets so everyone just needs to have patience," said Nick

Cunningham.

Another issue that was discussed was the presence of Ethanol refineries in the state. The money for these Ethanol refineries is being made available by taking out money from the irrigation funds and putting it into building Ethanol refineries.

It was a general consensus that counties need to take action in making sure that demands are met.

THE

A.C.C.

does NOT

Support **NATHAN ZIMMERMAN!**

# Staters take time to look at future

BY ISRAEL MONTANTES  
PERRIL, PERSHING

With the week almost over, our American Legion decided to let delegates have some time off. Tables with some of the best universities around Kansas and neighboring states were giving staters information on just about everything.

Wichita State with Amanda Matthews was at the entrance. She was interested in stater's questions and said, "I'm looking for the leaders, those who want the opportunities in college."

Washburn University brought Heath Vernard. He was gazing for students with certain GPA, showing them scholarships and about their application process.

University of Kansas made their appearance as well. "We want to let them know their options and to prepare for college," Jen Shoemaker said. She talked about

the credit hours, honor students, the requirements and about the first year at KU.

The University of Missouri-Kansas City was showing off their collection as well. "I want to see the best of the best of Kansas students," said Ryan Munce, the representative. They had information about medicine, and dentistry.

From the north, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln spoke about their scholarships and gave some information. Eric Wolford was looking for the high quality leaders of Boys State for a variety of opportunities.

Moving on, K-State at Salina paid a visit and showed their majors in technology and aviation that attracted many. "I want students that have a strong drive and high caliber," their representative Katie Robb said.

After that was K-State. "I am an

information network, I try to answer and provide information to questions you have." Representative Morgan Fisher said. She represented the local information and scholarship information.

Across from them, Emporia State was searching for the best. Those who were interested to talk about their ACT or GPA could go talk to Amy Jo Arnold, the ESU representative.

Benedictine College was showing off some academic and financial help.

On the other side, the last university of Pittsburg was looking to show off some good quality scholarship and benefits for each student. It is the only university in the U.S. that has a gorilla as a mascot.

The fair set up just another outlet for Stater's to look at their future after Boys State.

## WHAT'S TO EAT?

### Lunch

- Grilled Chicken, Leaf Lettuce, & Tomato on a Bun
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Green Peas
- Chips
- White Rice
- Beef Vegetable Soup

### Dessert Bar

- Peanut Butter Chocolate Chip Cookies
- Ice Cream Novelty
- Fresh Fruit

### Dinner

#### BBQ on the Tennis Courts outside of Kramer Dining Hall

- Smoked Whole Pig
- BBQ Beef on a Bun

- Grilled Brats & Kraut
- Grilled Portobello Mushroom
- Wheat Bun
- Potato Salad
- Baked Beans
- Cole Slaw
- Chips and Onion Dip
- White, Wheat, & Coney Buns
- Bottle Water

# Taking care of ballot business

## Instructions:

1.) Enter your stater # on your ballot. Your vote will be kept confidential. Your stater # identifies your county. Incorrect and/or incomplete stater # will invalidate the entire ballot.

2.) Mark your vote for each of the questions below by shading the dot which corresponds to the number listed beside the yes or no answer.

3.) Voting for more than the number of votes allowed will invalidate the entire ballot.

## Bradley County

### Question 1 (Vote for 1)

As the citizens of Bradley County, are you in favor of this highway construction plan: a 4-lane highway in the central transportation district and a 2-lane highway on the outskirts in this region?

1. Yes
2. No

## Eisenhower County

### Question 1 (Vote for 1)

Would you support the construction of a new 4-lane highway in the Eisenhower County?

1. Yes
2. No

### Question 2 (Vote for 1)

Would you support the construction of a new bridge with a tollbooth used to generate more revenue?

3. Yes
4. No

## Kennedy County

### Question 1 (Vote for 1)

Should the county replace the old highway?

1. Yes
2. No

### Question 2 (Vote for 1)

Should the county build a new highway?

3. Yes
4. No

### Question 3 (Vote for 1)

Should the county replace the bridge?

5. Yes
6. No

## King County

### Question 1 (Vote for 1)

Would you like to support a resolution to repair and replace a section of highway for \$450?

1. Yes
2. No

### Question 2 (Vote for 1)

Would you like to support a resolution to build a new bridge to replace the un-used bridge for \$500?

3. Yes
4. No

### Question 3 (Vote for 1)

Would you like to support a resolution to build a new stretch of 2-lane highway linking all cities together, all for the cost of \$1,800?

5. Yes
6. No

## MacArthur County

### Question 1 (Vote for 1)

Do the cities of MacArthur County want to repair and renovate existing highways?

1. Yes
2. No

### Question 2 (Vote for 1)

Do the cities of MacArthur County want to replace the existing broken-down bridge?

3. Yes
4. No

### Question 3 (Vote for 1)

Do the cities of MacArthur County want to build a new highway to connect all the cities in an efficient manner?

5. Yes
6. No

## Patton County

### Question 1 (Vote for 1)

Would you like the county to build a new bridge?

1. Yes
2. No

### Question 2 (Vote for 1)

Would you like the county to make this a toll bridge to generate more revenue?

3. Yes
4. No

### Question 3 (Vote for 1)

Would you like the county to repair the roads in need of repair?

5. Yes
6. No

see Ballots, page 11



# Seitz County counting victories by the day with State Banners

BY SAM MCCLAIN  
BRAMLAGE, BRADLEY

Seitz County continues their domination of the sports banner. They have accomplished a great feat, claiming three titles in a row. However, Seitz has no intention of settling.

"We will close out the week," Matt Jackson, Wiles, Seitz, said.

The county is confident, and they have good reason to be. Their Rec. teams are competitive across

the board, but why are they so dominant?

"Our team captains are specially trained," Zo Araujo, Wiles, Seitz, said.

Seitz was blessed with height, talent, leadership, the will to win and now confidence. This ever-building self-assurance could work against the county's goals of 5 Rec Banners in a row. Other counties, untouched by the limelight of victory, threaten to step out from behind Seitz's

shadow and claim the banner for their own.

"Seitz has the best chance to win, but Marshall County will step up," Jordan Pratt, Klassen, Marshall, said.

Seitz has proven that they are a force to be reckoned with. That may, however, put a bull's-eye on their back.

"We're just the best. There's nothing to it," Mitch Knopp, Whorley, Seitz, said.

## State seems split on new ratings

1. Do You Approve Of The Governor's Budget Plan?

37% Yes

57% No

6% Undecided

2. Do You Approve Of The Governors Appointed Cabinet?

63% Yes

37% No

3. Do You Approve Of The Governor's Platform?

57% Yes

40% No

3% Undecided

4. Do You Approve Of The Direction That The Governor Is Taking Kansas?

48% Yes

52% No

*You're In Our Prayers...*

"The City of Lane gives their greatest sympathies to Matthew Weaver, his family, and his brother who was killed in a car wreck."-City of Lane, Marshall County

FROM THE DESK OF:  
The Attorney General

It has come to our attention that you have been wronged by criminal activities and are eligible to receive compensation from the state Crime Victim Compensation Fund. Crime in the great Boys' State of Kansas is a travesty of the ideals for which we stand and the state administration hopes to allow deserving citizens an opportunity to receive payments to provide for losses. I personally offer my deepest condolences and hope that you will ask your local county officials about opportunities to receive compensation.

John R. Blessing  
Attorney General

FROM THE DESK OF:  
The Secretary of State

Today, all 10 counties in the state will be voting on the improvement of their transportation systems through a special election known as referendum. This will be the first time all voters will have the opportunity to make majority-rule spending decisions regardless of their positions. Bubble sheets and ballots written by the Sec. of State should be distributed to all citizens and tallied by hand. Please be sure that all election practices are in accordance with S.L.O.001 to ensure that your counties' ballots are counted. A description of this ordinance can be obtained from the Secretary of State's office in 419 Goodnow.

Referendum Rules:

- A room shall be selected in each city where that city's residents may cast their vote, one at a time, in private.
- The selected room for voting shall be free of materials endorsing or opposing any part of the ballot.
- A county or city counselor shall oversee each referendum by being present on the outside of the voting room.
- Bubble Sheets shall be used for voting in all cases and shall be hand-counted by appointed officials.
  - All counties observe the above rule with the exception of Eisenhower County whose bubble-sheet ballots will be processed by computer.
- Only ballots produced by this office will be used for voting.
- All bubble-sheets will be provided by the Sec. of State budget.
- Tampering with ballots is punishable by up to \$100 in fines.
- Cities and/or counties not following the above rules may be fined up to \$250 and have their ballots discounted.

State Legislative Ordinance 001  
Approved

Christopher Valencia  
Secretary of State

Today will be the first time all voters will have the opportunity to make majority-rule spending decisions regardless of their positions. Bubble sheets and ballots written by the Sec. of State should be distributed to all citizens and hand counted. Please be sure that all election practices are in accordance with S.L.O.001 to ensure that your counties' ballots are counted. A description of this ordinance can be obtained from the Secretary of State's office in 419 Goodnow Hall.

These are the proposals drawn up by the County Commissioners of each county:

- **Bradley-** build a new 4-lane highway in the central district with 2-lane highway on the outskirts of the region with a new bridge
- **Eisenhower-** build a new 4-lane highway with a new toll bridge that will be paid fully paid by the county
- **Kennedy, King, MacArthur & Pershing-** build a new 2-lane highway with a new bridge and repair a section of damaged highway
- **Marshall-** build a new 2-lane highway with a new bridge
- **Patton & Sietz-** build a new highway with a new toll bridge and repair a section of damaged highway
- **Powell-** build a new toll highway with a new bridge and repair a section of damaged highway

# BALLOT: continued from page 8

## Patton County, cont'd

### Question 4 (Vote for 1)

Would you like the county to build a new highway?

7. Yes
8. No

## Pershing County

### Question 1 (Vote for 1)

Do you support the building of 13 inches of new 2-lane highway, connecting all 3 cities of Pershing County, to help bring more business to our communities?

1. Yes
2. No

### Question 2 (Vote for 1)

Do you support the rebuilding of 2 inches of 2-lane highway and of a bridge, bringing efficiency and more business to Pershing County?

3. Yes
4. No

## Powell County

### Question 1 (Vote for 1)

Do you support the initialization of repairs for the existing county highway system?

1. Yes
2. No

### Question 2 (Vote for 1)

Do you support the replacement of a major bridge with a new toll bridge to generate more revenue?

3. Yes
4. No

### Question 3 (Vote for 1)

Do you support the creation of a new toll highway?

5. Yes
6. No

## Seitz County

### Question 1 (Vote for 1)

Would you allow the county to build the following: a bridge with a tollbooth, fixing the existing highway, and a new highway connecting the three cities?

1. Yes
2. No

**Ballot Questions will be voted on Today at 10:30 am in the county areas**



# Voting Day

# RAISE YOUR VOICE

To protect the quality of life, and replace the "Education of Illegal Immigrant" bill the association of Minorities is on the verge of a bill to offer low fees for public education for people illegally living here. Illegal Aliens should not be rewarded for illegal activity. The Heritage Association is determined to struggle against that costly bill, and to protect your interests. With your help, we can refuse it and use that money for the education of your children, and thus make the future brighter.

*The Heritage Association*

# Dirty Pop: Counselors, Staters rock popped, double-popped collars

BY DEAN SYMES  
SPIGARELLI, POWELL

A new fashion is sweeping the State as fast as a spreading wildfire. Staters have begun to "pop", or wear their collars up. Some are even beginning to wear multiple collared shirts at one time, popping all the collars at the same time.

The fashion "officially" began with Counselor Joel Boaldin, who claims he started doing it because he was bored with wearing the same uniform every day, though there are rumors that there is a solid history of popped collars at Kansas Boys State that can be traced back even to the coordinators.

"The main purpose of it is to add color," Boaldin said, "The double-popped collars rock my socks, they're dead sexy."

The trend caught after another counselor started to pop his own color to make fun of Boaldin.

Soon after, delegates began mocking the style, though not always in an affectionate way.

Not everyone supported the new look.

Though the criticism, if any, was restricted to personal conversations, puzzled glances and double takes were received.

"I think that the double-pop is one of the most atrocious, ostentatious, and abhorrent fashion trends since

parachute pants," Counselor Ben Procter said. "The next thing we know people will be wearing leg warmers, neck-less sweaters, and teasing their hair out the wazoo."

Some people do not participate in the popping simply because they don't think it fits what they wear.

"My collar is too blue to be 'popped'," Counselor Brian Droste said.

This style has been copied, mocked, admired, and degraded.

Whatever action you prefer, the style is taking over the State and is not showing any signs of leaving.

The double-popped collar looks to be the fashion trend of the 2005 State session.

# Staff member gets reckless; tries to steer himself out of trouble

BY BRAD REVARE  
JOHNSON, MACARTHUR

Rex Gardner, a well-respected member of the staff at Boys State, was pulled over and arrested on multiple accounts Thursday.

Employees of the Highway Patrol successfully detained Gardner after reckless driving behavior and other bizarre antics. The Highway Patrol had heard reports of careless driving behavior from a white, Town and Country Chrysler vehicle.

Making the first arrest was Nick Good Schmitt, Pershing, in the Goodnow Parking Lot.

"Rex was picked up for not staying in the lanes, and when approached, an open container of beer was found," Good said.

Common sense apparently escaped Rex as he was pulled over a second time, having his fun by putting the van into reverse as the patrol car approached the vehicle. Justin Wessling, Schulz, Powell, made the arrest.

"He was speeding, and kept asking to see how fast he was going, and I had to arrest him," Wessling said.

Eyewitness accounts describe several more attempts to pull over Rex Gardner, some ending in an unidentified man jumping on Rex's back in an attempt to prevent him from escaping. No decisions on how Rex's fate will play out have been decided as he is charged with multiple offenses from his crime spree.