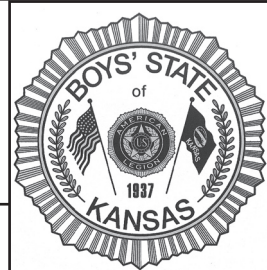


American Legion Boys' State of Kansas Stater's Union



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BOYS STATE: ATTEN-TION Delegates arrive with skepticism

BY BRAD REVARE
JOHNSON, MACARTHUR

As the 68th Boys State of Kansas began, around 500 soon-to-be high school seniors piled onto the K-State Campus. Coming from all corners of Kansas, the delegates add a unique twist from their local towns to the experience.

"It was kind of strange at first, but it's starting to mesh now" Matt Stout, Seitz, said.

The young men have come with hopes, apprehensions, and goals in mind to make Boys State the best experience possible.

"It's a suspense builder because everyone has said how much fun they have had, so we have something to look forward to," Zo Aruajo, Seitz, said.

Indeed, each and every delegate has been told of what to expect at Boys State by parents, past Staters,

and the speakers on the first day. After Thane Chastain briefed all delegates on the schedule of the week, many felt overwhelmed. Others found it intriguing.

"[I find it] interesting and educational. . . but I disliked the rain," Brett Keenan, King, said.

The rain proved to be a real downer with the young men as it drenched them during their 10-

see Arrival, page 5



2005 Delegates take their first step into the Boys State process. Marching is often one of the first things delegates learn about upon their arrival on campus.

NICK BROWN/UNION



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Boys State pulls Staters from their elements

BY DAN KNAPP

MCCOY, PATTON

From the moment we arrived on campus we have been shuffled from place to place and thrown into scenarios where the level of our comfort zone has been genuinely tested.

Besides that point, every place that I have visited my superior counselors and advisors have conveyed to me the message that Boys State is one of the most exhilarating and enriching experiences that life has to offer.

To me this seems a little out of reach at the present time. Piling a bunch teenage boys into a room for an extensive amount of time and telling them how life changing

their week is going to be is rather torturous considering the anxious nature of all the new Boys State arrivals.

Although the opening day events were less than desirable, they are essential to making this ordeal run along in a smooth manner. Aside from these minor drawbacks, I am already catching glimpses of the light at the end of the tunnel. It is because I am a 17-year-old boy, I can fully appreciate and understand the fact that most of "us" do not desire the idea of being pried away from our life of T.V. and electronically altered dream worlds.

Another possible deterring aspect of the six-day event is that

we have been totally detained from the outside social world. To put this in laymen's terms, this means no contact with girls, and that is sometimes devastating to the staters moral.

On a lighter note, we should all just come to the consensus that there is nothing we can do now to change our six-day fate and embrace the opportunity with the utmost open-minded attitude.

It is to my understanding that as the intimidation subsides the greatness of the moment will increase dramatically. So let's all just sit back, relax, enjoy and rock out with the big six-foot-nine Johnson.

Just a little...

COMIC RELIEF

by Jacob Granzow
Sullivan, Seitz



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
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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.

Schedule lays out week well; detailed down to the minute

BY SAM MCCLAIN
BRAMLAGE, BRADLEY

While the twenty-three page schedule is an intimidating document, filled with meetings, workshops, and elections, there are many things to look forward to.

Many speakers have commented about their experience and the memories that they have from Boys State. What then should the 2005 delegates be looking forward to?

The schedule includes many exciting activities for almost every personality type. The eclectic mix of individuals at Boys State creates a broad cross section of interests. The

wide range of scheduled activities caters to these varied interests.

The jam-packed schedule includes scores of activities to be thrilled about. Counselor John Moeder is excited about the political debates. Seeing both platforms and the contrasts between the parties' opinions is his favorite part.

Other people are eager to enjoy the delicacies in the cafeteria. Tim Casey said, "I am looking forward to eating ice cream at the meals."

The most excitement seems to center around the two concerts and the talent show. From past

counselors who enjoy watching the upcoming performers, the talent competitions are the highlight for the week.

Counselor Daniel Glascock likes the talent show because it is a great chance to meet talented people with similar interests.

Boys State is filled with great activities that appeal to various interests. Some activities are long and tiring, but they are balanced out by fun, exciting experiences. The thick schedule may be intimidating, but 2005 State will no doubt prove to be a worthwhile experience.

Two parties start intense bedlam

BY ISRAEL MONTANTES
PERILL, PERSHING

When everyone got here to Boys State, the ID's given to everyone said either Nationalist or a Federalist and most didn't know what that meant.

"A Nationalist tries to keep the playing field leveled by more government involvement, and a Federalist does the same by having less government influence," Director of Development Thane Chastain said. "Years ago, Boys State divided the Nationalist and Federalist into half, no matter what their background was. Today, we try to change that so people will have a chance to learn about different parties."

"A Nationalist is a person who is

not afraid of change and is willing to learn from the mistakes of the past," Stuewie Bell, the Nationalist candidate for Governor representing the city of Finley, Kennedy County said. He believes that the idea of a Nationalist is, "a strong central government; a party that focuses on unification."

His plan for "Revitalization of Kansas" has Nationalist written all over it.

"The problem of today is that people are leaving Kansas faster than they are coming in," he said.

To resolve this issue he is having the state government buy the land from people who are leaving and granting it to people who are coming

in. Everyone in the Nationalist Party does not yet accept this as their platform.

The Federalists, however, "stand for traditional values and personal responsibilities," Angel Romero, Governor candidate from Crum, Eisenhower, said.

"A Federalist strengthens the state policies that are going to affect the people who choose the officials," he says will be his platform for the candidacy. "If I was elected I would try to build collaboration between both political parties, while still holding on to my ideals," is one of his ideas in his platform.

Two parties, two platforms, one state. Boys State has begun.

Where do you stand?? Delegates look to build ideas on party platforms

BY JORDAN WATSON
HIATT, KING

Platforms, platforms, platforms—the word on everyone's minds. Platforms are everything to the Federalists and the Nationalists at the moment. Who they're going to offend and whom they're going to win over seems to be the main concern.

Campaigns are sort of like a house, without a foundation the house is going to crumble to pieces. But they not only need a foundation, they need a strong foundation. Before creating their campaign, the candidate must create a strong foundation, or platform, to base his campaign off of. This platform must be worthwhile and hold a lot of value to his followers. If he uses a platform that isn't concrete, or doesn't apply to his followers, his campaign will eventually lead to destruction.

Platforms for the Federalists this year are becoming more and more focused on reviving our slowing education programs. While some programs are flourishing, a lot are still continuing to decline in credibility. For example, just this year Circle High School in Wichita had to close down school weeks early because of a huge disappearance in

budget money.

"I'm taking a stand on keeping our school budgets safe from losses that Wichita suffered this year," Alex DeSocio said.

Agriculture and industry are also big issues for Federalists this year also. The farmers have gained a lot of support from the Federalists, which will pay off with the benefits that the Federalists are promising them.

"I support the farmers of Pershing County," Clint Schneider said.

Nationalists are taking some similar avenues on structuring their campaigns, but they are focusing more on health care reforms. They are still concerned about education; however, but are focusing their attention more on protecting their citizens from losing money through loose health care programs.

"I really want to drive home health care reform," David Bowers said.

You've heard their sides, and it's getting down to crunch time. Make your decisions well on who you want to believe, but use as good as judgment as both sides are showing in their platforms. Going back to the house theory, if your platform isn't concrete, it's bound to crumble.

STATE WALKING

What does SPF stand for?

-Russ Whorley
Administrator
"No idea, I don't read the newspaper."

-Brady Flock
City of Birk
Bradley County
"Super Proud Fun Time"

-Nathan Stitt
City of Harris
King County
"Sun Protection Formula"

-Powell Runyon
Assistant to House
"Solar Protection Formula"

-Kevin Terry
City of Chastain
Eisenhower County
"Sun Protection Factor"

-Anthony Crespino
City of Gardner
Kennedy County
"State Provided Funding"

-Brad Puglisi
City of Hasler
King County
"Seniors For People's Aid"

-Ramone Lowe
City of Johnson
MarArthur County
"Sun Protection Fulfillment"

Answer: Sun Protection Factor

Arrival from 1

minute march from their dorms to McCain Hall for a presentation.

After informative speeches from past Staters and Chastain, all the delegates reconvened on their floor for elections at the city and county level, as well as nominations for party candidates for positions such as governor. For most, this was their first opportunity to see how positions were filled at different levels of the government.

"I feel immersed in the

experience," Scott Sturgeon, Marshall, said.

In addition to finding out their government position, race and political affiliation, the boys were given jobs, all of which varied in wages and importance.

"I can't believe I only make eight bucks a day," a dejected Zachary Sellers, Kennedy, said.

Others discussed the duties of their government positions and the drawbacks that entail.

"[The] paperwork is overwhelming, but I think it will work out in the end," Trent Freeman, MacArthur, said.

Overall, most Kansans had an enjoyable, if slightly bewildering, experience. With the first day over, and already many memories instilled, the delegates look forward to an array of speeches, debates, campaigns and many more peeks behind the mysterious curtain that is politics.



OTE NICK

CUNNINGHAM

"The people's candidate"

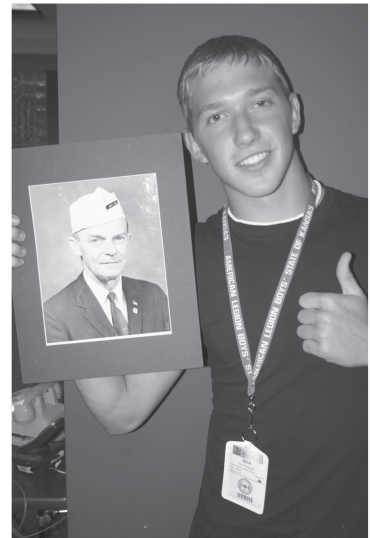
for Governor

Let's make Boy's State Sweet

&

Hogan Miller for State Treasurer

"Vote for Hogan, that's my slogan"



Polls show numerous viewpoints

BY KYLE HAAS
WHORLEY, SEITZ

Boys State is an opportunity for conflicting points of view facing our state to come together in an organized setting and discuss each side fairly.

response. Marijuana's results, for example, brought on several similar responses from both parties.

D.J. Kennedy of the Federalist Party said, "(The) 'yes with exceptions' is probably for medicinal use. So that isn't that bad."

most students believe is a lost cause. Kennedy seemed unimpressed by those who voted for the 18-year-old drinking limit.

"I think (18 age limit) was this way because the kids wanted to start drinking as soon as they could," a Kennedy county representative said.

Drinking age limit was another item that the two parties agreed on.

Hershborn's statement was similar: "I'd assume that most sides were going to say (18) just because that is closer to their age and they just want to start drinking soon." Hershborn went on to say,

"Plus anyone who said 21 probably had mommy standing over their shoulder."

So despite the political differences, it is easy to decipher that we all come

However, prior to Boys' State a random group of Staters were polled on these "hot" issues. The results brought on mixed results by Staters who did not take part in the survey but were given the final outcome.

On the always-arousing subject of Gay Marriage, most students agreed with the poll results.

"I think that is an accurate representation," Jake Reeves of the Federalist Party said.

Though, not everybody thought the polls were what they should be. On the side of the Nationalist Party, David Bowers, was perplexed by the answers.

"I'm surprised at how close the two groups are," he said.

Other subjects seemed to be more personal to those polled, which might have affected the students'

Kennedy went on to say, "It is a drug, so no matter what is going to be said, it still is a bad."

Nationalist Party member, Preston Hershborn, echoed almost same sentiments.

"It surprised me that more Federalists agreed (with it) then Nationalists," he said.

from around the same backgrounds and share similar opinions on controversial topics, but not enough to make the debates lackluster. So today go out and discuss your topics with validity and fervor. Remember

Finally the age of legal drinking in the state, a long argued debate that us having different ideas is what makes life worthwhile.

Drinking Age:	What should be the legal drinking age?			
	21	20/19	18	No Response
Federalists	20.3%	63.7%	7.6%	8.2%
Nationalists	25.0%	64.1%	6.1%	4.6%
Total	22.7%	63.9%	6.9%	6.4%

Marijuana:	Do you support the legalization of marijuana?			
	Yes (without exceptions)	Yes (with exceptions)	Maybe	No Response
Federalists	5.8%	26.3%	66.6%	1.3%
Nationalists	3.8%	26.2%	66.2%	3.8%
Total	4.8%	26.3%	66.4%	2.6%

Gay Marriage:	Do you support gay marriage?			
	Yes	No	Maybe	No Response
Federalists	20.3%	63.7%	7.6%	8.2%
Nationalists	25.0%	64.1%	6.1%	4.6%
Total	22.7%	63.9%	6.9%	6.4%

Banking Center opens for business

BY DEAN SYMES
SPIGARELLI, POWELL

Aside from their counties and the bathroom, the one place Staters will most likely be visiting the most throughout this week will be the Banking Center. The Banking Center is run by, among others, Counselor Austin Roberts. This is the place that all materials used for solving problems within State can be purchased. So how, exactly, does this system work?

Every Stater starts out with a different amount of money depending on the job they have been given. These may be found out through county and city counselors.

You may buy from the Banking Center or transfer money to another Stater's account. Everything from casinos to hazardous waste landfills

may be bought by cities to take care of their group projects. A full sheet is sitting at the Banking Center desk. You may also buy campaigning materials such as poster boards.

You are not limited to the things listed on this sheet, though. If you wish to buy something besides what is listed, you may pick up a Price Estimate Sheet at the Banking Center. You will list what the item is you are asking for, along with your County or State name and the reason for the request. They will then estimate how much the item will cost.

The requests do not have to be realistic.

"My County actually requested Captain Planet to help out with the environment," Roberts said. "I'm not sure how much we bought him

for, but I won't be selling him this year."

In order to transfer any amount of money to another account, you must go to the Banking Center. When you are here, Roberts or another counselor will scan the barcode on his nametag, and then scan your barcode.

The person who's file you are transferring the money to does not have to be there. The money can be transferred to the group the receiver is in. If the person is at the Banking Center with you, his barcode will be scanned after this, which will complete the transfer.

Any material bought will need a Banking Center stamp. If any material does not have the stamp, such as campaign materials hanging on the wall, it will be taken down.

WHAT'S TO EAT?

Meal Menu

Monday, June 12, 2005

Breakfast

- Scrambled Eggs
- Sausage Links
- Tots
- Banana Bread
- Donuts
- Assorted Juices
- Oatmeal

Lunch

- French Dip

- Italian Sausage Cavatini
- Cheese Cavatini
- Whole Kernel Corn
- Chips
- Country Turkey Soup

Dessert

- Fudge Browning
- Ice Cream Novelty
- Fresh Fruit

Dinner

- Roast Turkey Breast & Gravy

- Country-Fried Beef Steak
- Ratatouille over Rice
- Whipped Potatoes
- Bread Dressing
- White Rice
- Broccoli Spears
- Mixed Veggies
- Hot Rolls

Dessert

- Strawberry Shortcake
- Ice Cream
- Chilled Pears



Picture Perfect

Boys State
Kicks Off
With
Picturesque
Sunday

ALL PHOTOS BY:
NICK BROWN/
UNION

Rex Gardner delivers
his annual welcome
as the 2005 Staters
assemble and pre-
pare to enter Kramer
dining for the first
time.



Adam Keesling, Assistant Eisenhower County Counselor
greet a Stater with a hand shake as counselors met del-
egates for the first time.



As registration progressed, Events Counselor
Bryan McAlister checks in a Stater as Thane
Chastain works in the background.



Meeting and greeting, Events Counselor
Matt Woehle helps move the first day along
smoothly.