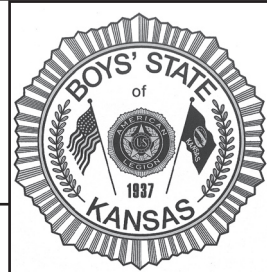


American Legion Boys State of Kansas Stater's Union



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Sunflower Staters selected for Nation

Valencia, Harris to represent Kansas in July at Boys Nation

Delegates Chris Valencia and Harrison George pose for a picture following the announcement of the Boys Nation Delegates.

BY JORDAN WATSON
HIATT, KING

Boys' Nation is a great honor only given to two people out of the entire state. These candidates's get to meet the president and sit in as senators of Kansas in the Boys' Nation simulation. The experience of going to D.C. is reportedly life changing from the views of past candidates.

The two candidates of 2005, Christopher Valencia, and Harrison George are full of anticipation. They can't wait for the trip to D.C. and everything it encompasses. Honor and gratitude fill the hearts of these two

candidates' and they want to leave the 2005 staters with a little background on their lives outside of Boys' State.

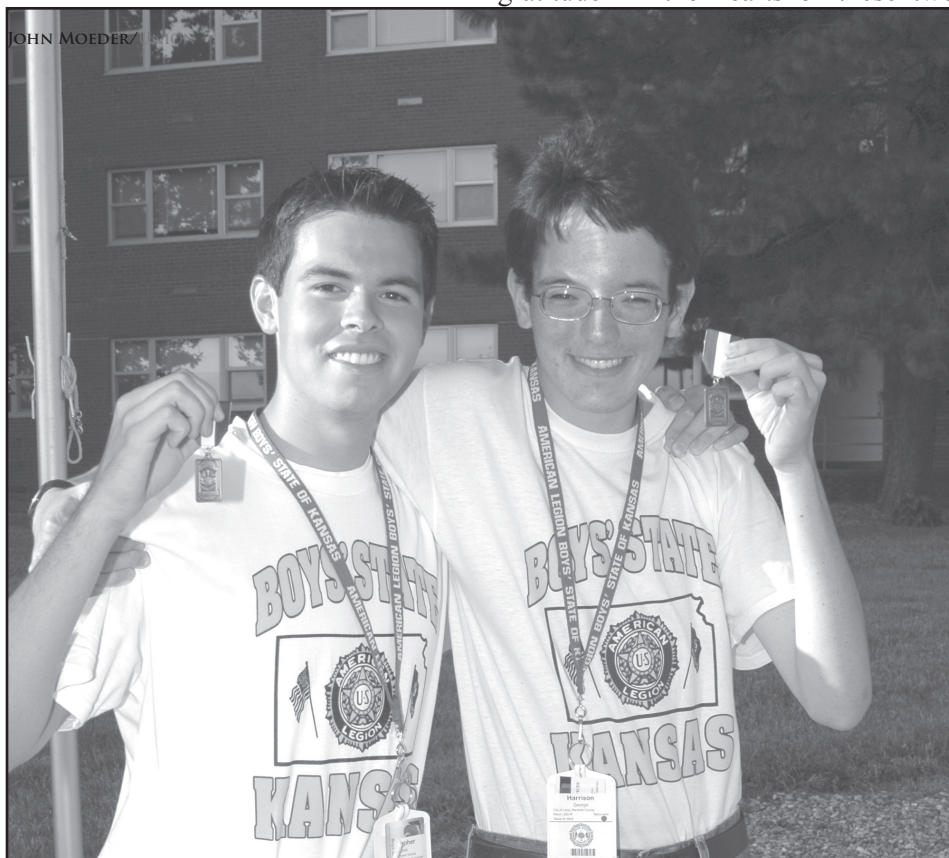
Christopher Valencia attends Blue Valley West, in Kansas City, Ks. He holds many hobbies and talents that leave his schedule rather busy. Staying close to friends and family is very important to Christopher. He considers himself a "community centered" person that cares about the people close to him. Among some of his favorite music is classic rock, alternative, and last but not least, anything Coldplay.

Christopher is also very active in school. He is part of NHS, The Spanish National Honor Society, drama, choir, and the Blue Valley West Teenage Republican Political Club.

The second candidate, Harrison George, attends Maize High School in Wichita, Ks. He is a very involved student with a number of interesting hobbies. One of these hobbies happens to be making short films. He prefers to create short comedies with friends for a quick laugh and memories that will last a lifetime. He enjoys golf, reading, movies, and music. He loves to educate himself as much as he can and his positive attitude toward education is contagious to the people around him.

"I give positive vibes through my good attitude and my willingness to learn, said Harrison George.

Harrison is heavily involved in school activities. He participates in Kansas Association for Youth. He helped found the Japanese language club and is part of the Peer Helpers club.



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

Writer chooses highlights of State week; marching, hustle just a few

BY DAN KNAPP
MCCOY, PATTON

Through out the duration of Boys State we have been molded into find upstanding individual human beings. The potential has been given to us to become citizens of many leather bound books and apartments that smell of rich mahogany, but that is besides the point. As well as these things we have also acquired a brother hood extending all over the state. It is within this milieu that times of greatness are shared.

It has been my pleasure to share it right along with everyone and I would like to condense it down into highlights or things that I hope to carry with me forever.

One of the things that I have come

to the understanding of just by being at this program is that people need to learn to appreciate things of which they can't stand. I think one of the top highlights of this ordeal is the fact that all delegates came with different views and ideas of how things should be run.

I think that it should be considered a miracle that we have come together, differences aside, to create a legislative unit that provides for the common good.

Another high point of this adventure without

a doubt is the campaigning and hustle and bustle of electing new candidates. It was at moments like this that everyone in the state felt that they had an important role, not to mention it provided for good conversation at the dinning hall. This experience has

helped us to realize the significance of being informed which will hopefully carry into real life situations.

After a few days of grueling work I am sure everyone needed a break from political issues. The Talent show provided us with a little relief from these things and can now be described as the culmination of all state unity. This event will provide many sater's, myself included, with many valuable memories.

There is nothing more of a highlight than the people and friends that were made during the week. The thing I really enjoy about this program is that everyone is treated as an equal. There is no popularity clicks or disrespect shown to any of the delegates. This type of environment provides us with the ability to make conversation with anyone and every one. Over all Boys State in itself is truly a week to change a lifetime for all who let it be so.

Dan Knapp

“ There is nothing more of a highlight than the people and friends that were made during the week.

The Stater's Union

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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.

Robinson writes home from State

BY ANDREW ROBINSON

FINLEY, KENNEDY

Dear Mom,

They told me when I got here that it would be a week that changed a lifetime, and these guys know what they're talking about. It was a week that changed a lifetime.

My city and county were great here, Finley racked in "Best City" so many times that I don't think we could describe it any other way, but with the Best City. Kennedy County was pretty sweet too. Jared, our counselor was a cool dude with experience that not many could match because he went to Boys Nation. Every morning he showed passion towards what he was doing, and I think it carried over to the rest of us. He did pig calls too.

Once in a while they put us in these

cool t-shirts and made us wear jeans. Then to top it all off they made us march and yell at the same time, crazy.

The days were long; usually the schedule was two or three pages. Every morning they woke us up and put the flag on the pole, we salute it and then our busy day begins. They try to pack lots of things into a day. Thankfully, they included breakfast, lunch, dinner, and recreation. Since I was on the newspaper I had to stay up even later to finish it. Being on the staff taught me what it was like to be on a real staff and get the paper to press, what a great experience.

This week I have seen a lot about how the government works, we watched debates, participated in whistle-stop tours, voted, filed some lawsuits, and we did it all at a feverish pace. As soon

as the next election rolls around I am going to the polls to vote, especially since I have kind of formed a personal platform on some things this week.

If it's not to much trouble Mom, I think it would be great to come back next year as a counselor, these people here are great, and while we may be the future, you can't get the ice cream into the bowl with out the man behind the counter, and that is the way it has kind of been. It would be great to be a part of this with another Stater's class as a counselor.

Don't worry, they took care of me well here and I'll be home soon. I can't wait to tell you about all my experiences, as this is just a Cliff Notes version. I'll talk to you soon, but for now I must continue to have my life changed.

Symes sends letters via delegates

BY DEAN SYMES

SPIGARELLI, POWELL

Dear Fellow Kansas Boys State Delegates,

"Memories that will last a lifetime." This is the sentence that has been driven into our brain since the day we first read our delegate handbook. But it took the meaning it deserved this week. From the Talent Show to last night's festivities at the Student Union, this will truly be a week to be remembered for the rest of our lives.

When I heard I had to make a reflection of this week in the final newspaper, I had no clue what to do. How could I round out so many things from such an awesome week in just a short story? It seemed like it would

take a novel to say everything I wanted to say.

First of all, I would like to say thank you to everyone. That's right, everyone. Without all of you, everything would be different, even the slightest bit. Thank you also for reading my stories. As some of you know from my whining, especially those in Powell County, I have stayed up until at least 3 a.m. each night to make sure you have the *Union* in your hands. It is truly all for you.

To me, personally, this week has been one of responsibility, lack of sleep, and meeting new people. When I was sitting through the first ceremonies at McCain auditorium last Sunday, I was scared. I was scared that everyone would hate me and I would just walk through the week without a name.

How wrong I was. Though I made the gradual change from "hey, you!" to "the newspaper guy" to Dean, the change was fun to witness, and I had a blast through it all. Though my work has sometimes not been up to par, as a certain Powell County citizen has reminded me over and over again, I have tried my best to make up for that in my personality towards others.

In closing, I hope this week has been as fun to you as it was for me. I hope that every story I have written has sparked at least the slightest of interest to you, for that is what I truly strive for. Whether it is a kooky metaphor or a hilarious quote, entertainment is my main goal.

Thank you for making this the best week of my life so far.

Senate talks of issues; numerous discussed

BY STEVEN DICKSON
LANE, MARSHALL

Many important issues were discussed in the senate meeting on Friday. Guns, Universities, and stem cell research were the main issue discussed.

The first issue discussed was the Conceal and Carry law that was currently operating the state. The conceal and carry law said that any citizen could conceal and carry a weapon. Carrying a gun did not require any preliminary background checks or testing. Many senators discussed how the conceal and carry law was only for self-defense. The majority of the senators believed that the law was detrimental to the state and caused unnecessary problems. They expressed that even though the guns were only supposed to be used for self-defense there is always a chance of people using the gun for more than self-defense. Consider this situation, a fight breaks out in a bar and everyone is intoxicated, and everyone has guns. People can lose judgment and use the gun when it is not needed. Considering these factors the state decided to pass a bill banning any citizen to conceal and carry a gun, with exception to police officers, and citizens with a license to carry a gun.

Admissions into the Boys' State University were also discussed. The

Senate wanted to pass a bill making new requirements for students to be admitted into the Boys' State Universities. The requirement says that all persons above the twenty percent percentile range with a high school diploma could attend the Boys' State University. This law was passed to ensure that the lower twenty percent could not get in because of the low numbers in that percentile. There were high numbers of students in the twenty percentile and up range. The law ensured that this high number of students could get in to the university.

Stem Cell research was also a hot topic. The senate wanted to pass a bill permitting all counties to practice all forms of stem cell research with no restricting laws.

This law was reported to be very unstable and vague. The law did not sound beneficial to the state because of its open boundaries to any types of research. It was not passed. Assistant Majority Leader, Kurt Partridge comments on this proposal.

"The Senate is a bunch of G-Fizzles," said Kurt Partridge.

The Governor's title was also bothering the Senate. The Senate passed a bill changing the Governor's title to "Miss Kitty." If this law passes our Governor Nick Cunningham will be "Miss Kitty" Nick Cunningham until the Governor of 2006 Boys' State is elected.

STATE WALKING

Favorite Moment at Boys State

"Yelling chants when marching."

Grant Symonds
Icenogle, MacArthur

"Talent show."

Jacob Granzow
Sullivan, Seitz

"When Crazy Ivan stole the
Governors hat."

Andrew Rickel
Coss, Eisenhower

"Being elected for general
elections."

Tim St. Arnold
Icenogle, MacArthur

"Raising the mill level to 100%."

Dane Crawford
Raymond, Pershing

"Being away from home for a
week."

Logan Rivers
Burk, Bradley

"Seitz not getting a banner
Thursday night."

Daree Clemmer
Icenogle, MacArthur

Cunningham examines role in Boys State

BY ANDREW ROBINSON
FINLEY, KENNEDY

Cunningham, with 2005 governor Christian Corrigan by his side prepared for his Friday. Corrigan looked over every detail about the schedule and where Cunningham needed to be every minute of the day. The first event on the docket was a press conference in the Kramer Conference Center. In an open-question format, governor Nick Cunningham briefed the media for a short while early Friday Morning. Topics ranged from what it is like to be the governor, the budget, the rumors and the overall experience.

Cunningham responded to rumors during his state of the state address.

Cunningham believes you will never be able to not have any rumors but you can do your best to keep them to a minimum.

The budget has also given Cunningham stress as numerous citizens have questioned his ethics regarding the budget. It has also taken a while to get through the legislature.

"I think the budget is moving slowly, but it is moving," Cunningham said.

It hasn't been all roses for the governor, often negativity reflects more off the governor's prism than the positive aspects of the job. Cunningham has been very open to citizens coming in and talking to him. Ultimately, it is Cunningham's goal to do everything he

can to keep the people happy, but at the same time not sacrificing his views.

"As governor, I am going to have to be tougher on stances," Cunningham said.

Just a few short days are left in the governor's reign, however it is expected for the governor to come back to Boys State the following year to assist with the next year's governor.

"I think it will be a lot easier when I am the one helping the governor," Cunningham said.

Overall Cunningham said it was a great experience for him to be the governor.

"It's been a wonderful honor and a great experience," Cunningham said.

Pershing deals with mill levy fiasco

BY ISRAEL MONTANTES
PERRIL, PERSHING

It is to my understanding that not many people know what happened to Pershing County this week. Too many rumors had started up and now that the IT guys have finished up and we can clear up everything.

Pershing County's commissioners (the Jedi Council) had raised the mill levy to 80 when they first began working. Their city councils had told them the consequences, but they just couldn't resist.

The commissioners said, "we needed the money to help the county so we thought it was a good idea." The money came in and they received \$5,000 from the property taxes, but after sometime they were pressured to lowering back down to five.

Following this they took the risk once more to raise the mill levy back up, but

this time to 1000—yes one thousand. The plan was simple, raise the mill levy, have the corporations pay their taxes, and money would start to come in—a lot of money to be more precise. Later they saw that it led to a rather harsh end.

The IT staff here at Boys State checked up on this and saw the disaster that was going to erupt. "In real life, when you raise taxes the corporations would get angry and leave. What Pershing County was trying to do was raise taxes, have the corporations pay and then leave." Adam Doyle of the IT Staff reported. They hurried to change this before it created a catastrophe for the entire state.

Afterwards, the County of Pershing got hold of this information and started a riot. "We were under the impression

that the IT Staff wouldn't change the simulation," the Commissioners said. Most of the money gain was lost, but nearly all of it was taken away to pay almost half of the deficit that the state had.

Pershing Commissioners

“All your county belongs to us, for we are still the strongest Jedi in the galaxy.”

Pershing County ended up having a deficit of exactly \$7,140.20. The commissioners stated, "We feel we've been shafted by the state and the IT staff." However,

the IT Staff came up and said, "This is not some big conspiracy against Pershing."

Nevertheless, Pershing is still very much alive, trying to solve the problems that they knew would occur. The commissioners last words were, "all your county are belong to us, for we are still the strongest Jedi in the galaxy."

King County goes before court

BY KYLE HAAS
WHORELY, SEITZ

District Court Judges from King County presented a case to the Supreme Court on Friday morning. The judges wanted to prohibit State Officials from trying local cases. The case involves Tim St. Arnold who is the first assistant to the Attorney General.

St. Arnold recently represented Powell County in a King County

courtroom. The King County Judges, in their address to the Supreme Court, requested a ruling that would prohibit State Officials from representing clients privately in local cases. The King County Judges goal is to prevent a conflict of interests. A State Official could represent a client in a local court and then have to prosecute the same client in the Supreme Court.

Attorney General Jon Blessing

agreed with King County. He added that he had already adjusted his department policy to prevent his associates from infiltrating the local courts.

With both litigants in agreement, it is very likely that the Supreme Court decision will be in favor of the King County Judges.

The Supreme Court is in action and they are working hard to improve the state government.

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Closing time

Staters wrap-up session at Union

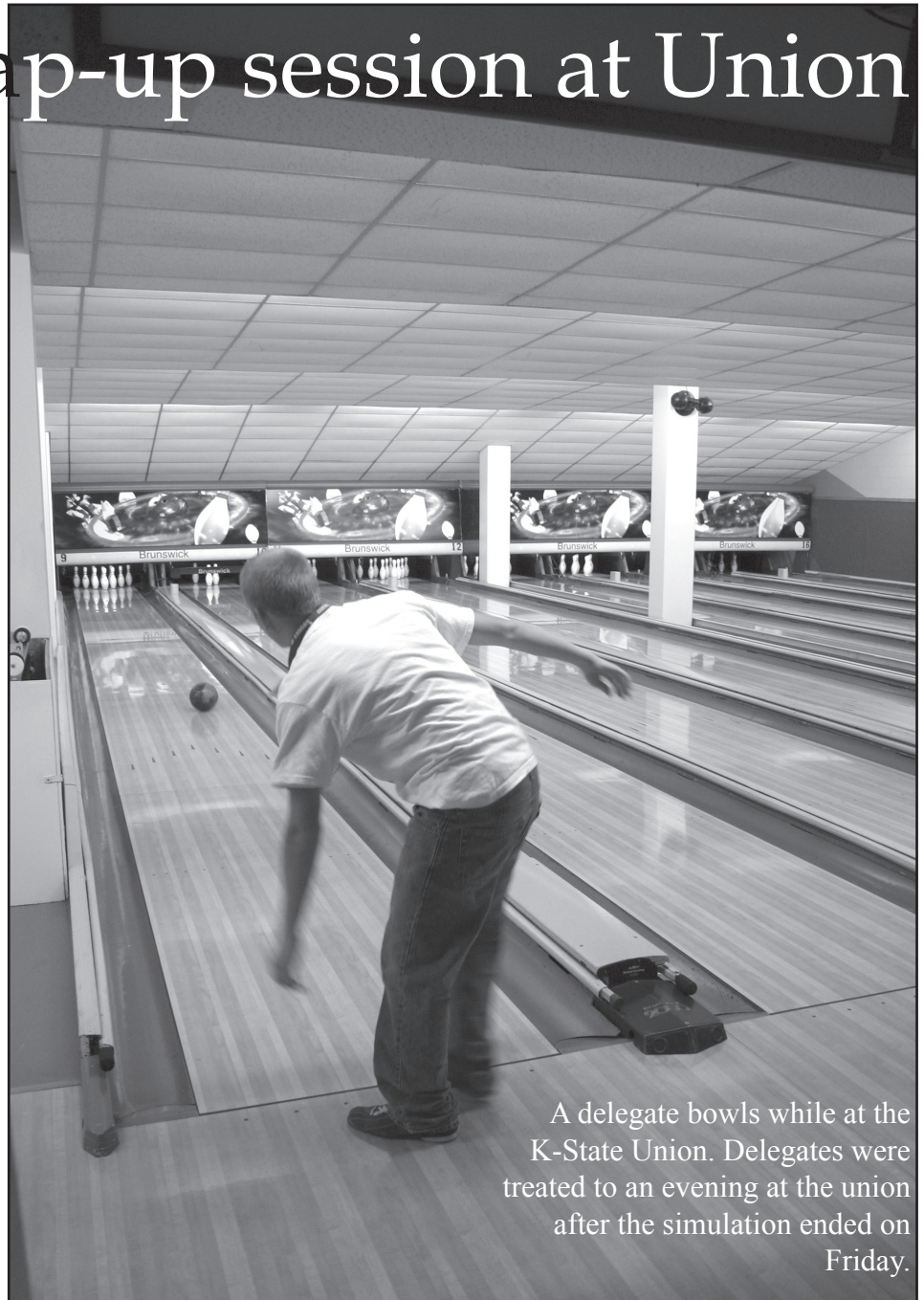
BY DEAN SYMES
SPIGARELLI, POWELL

All good things come to end. Everyone knows that, though they probably never think about it. But it was especially true Friday night. The end of the week brought the last night of the 2005 Boys State of Kansas session. To celebrate, the whole state migrated to the Student Union.

On the way there, counties sang jodies, or marching chants, of all kinds. From vulgar womanizing chants to drinking songs, it was hard to hear anything else on the road that night, as every counties goal was to be the loudest.

When the Staters arrived at the Union, they were amazed at the choices. Aside from their first up close encounter with girls, excepting the lunch ladies, free bowling and billiards were the main attraction, but an arcade and shuffleboard were also available to those waiting for a turn or not interested.

An odd attraction was watching the counselors try their hand at the golf simulator. Hilarity ensued as counselors Ben Procter, Danny Owens, Paul Day, and Kevin Phillips cracked jokes at each other. The night was truly one to remember, and surely one of the highlights of the high-strung week.



A delegate bowls while at the K-State Union. Delegates were treated to an evening at the union after the simulation ended on Friday.

JOHN MOEDER/UNION

Suspicious package surprises state offices

BY BRAD REVARE
JOHNSON, MACARTHUR

Early Friday morning, a tragic and heart wrenching event happened. A package containing a note was to be delivered to Governor Cunningham later that day.

The note labeled the package as containing the Governor's hat, which had been stolen by "Crazy Ivan" the previous day. Unfortunately, inside, there was not the Governor's hat, but a bomb instead.

Because of how early in the morning it was delivered, a Kramer Staff Member, Evelyn West, was the one who opened it, near the State Office.

The immediate blast killed two people, Evelyn West, and Aaron the video guy.

Evelyn's last dying words came from the heart.

"I don't have to work ever again. Bill Wheeler doesn't have to put up with me ever again," Evelyn West said. Truer words were never spoken.

Adding to the sorrowful mood, Aaron the video guy's corpse was mangled after the blast, no one being able to withstand the stench to honorably carry him out of the blast radius.

The note was signed by Crazy Ivan, noting "I'm Sorry". Police all over the state are in hot pursuit of the malicious criminal.

The Stater's Union

The delegate's up-to-date
resource for all the Boys
State Happenings

Budget takes significant cuts

BY ISRAEL MONTANTES
PERRIL, PERSHING

This year, everyone has heard some interesting things happen in proposing the budget, anywhere from cheating, stealing, and other miscellaneous activities.

Finally, after waiting all week long, the budget has been accepted by both the senate and governor. "I have full confidence in the legislative and Nick," says Hogan Miller, the state treasurer. The big issues he said were

the most controversial were taxes and allocations for specific areas of the departments. "Since Nick passed the plan, I know it will benefit all of Boys State," he adds.

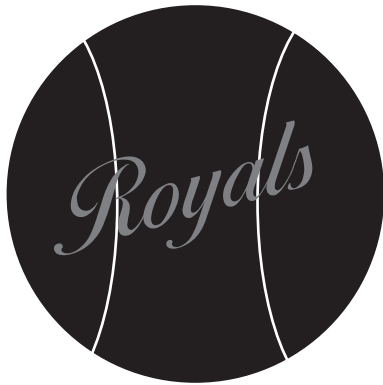
The most troublesome items included the Municipal Bonds, because it was decided that they would get the most budget cuts, but the Attorney General needed the money most and so they weren't changed much.

Going from the official final release of the budget. The budgets were changed this way. First, the Attorney

General lost only \$69, while the Commerce got \$1000 added. Culture had \$555 cut from them and Revenue gained \$796.

Although if these are just a few of them, all these cuts and add-ons changed the ending balance to \$5,524,49, a difference of \$3013.69 more from last year.

It has been going smoothly, and with no complaints with the budget plan arising so far, everyone must have somehow found a midpoint in all the confusion.



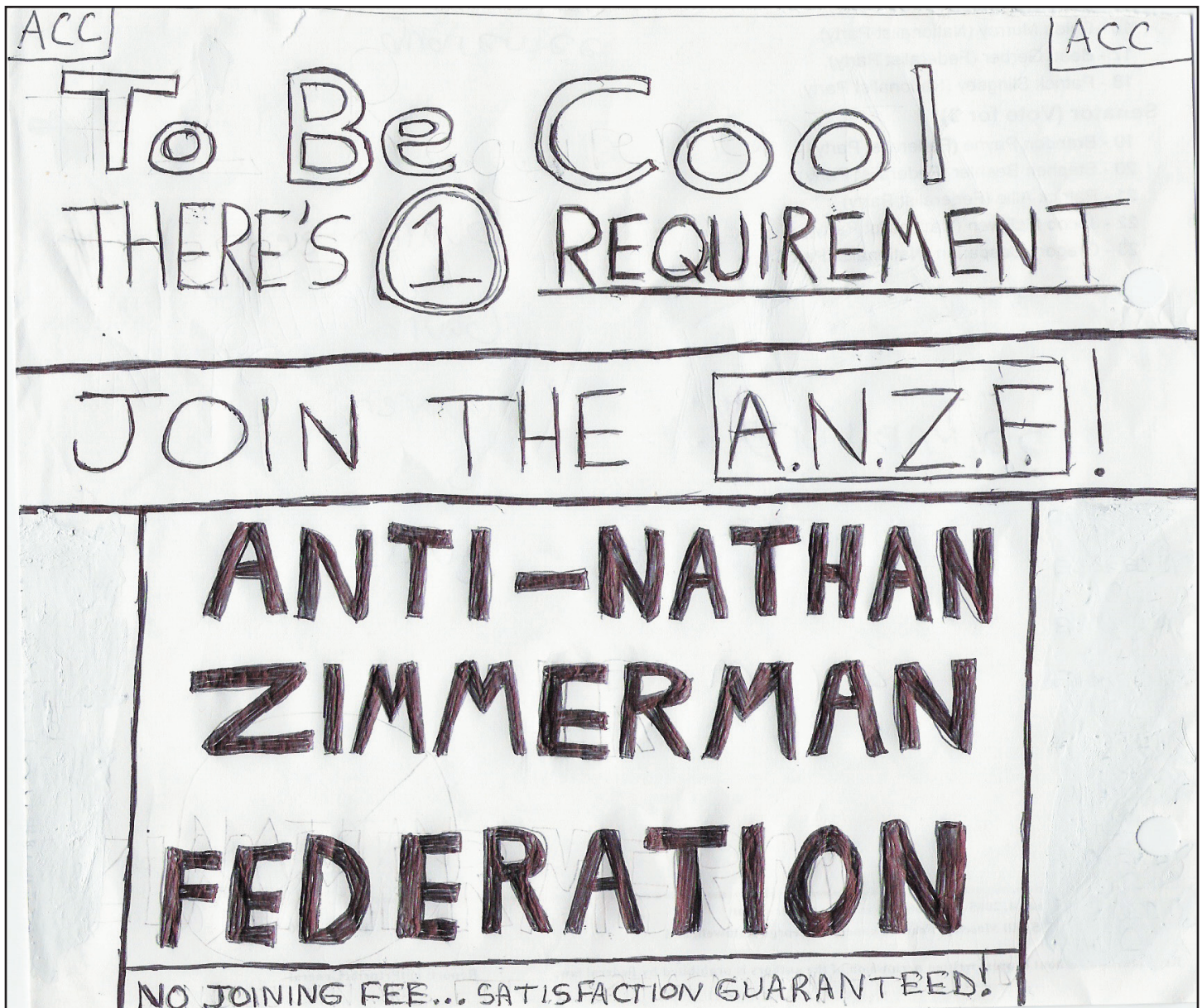
Royals get brooms out; sweep Dodgers in KC

BY STEVEN DICKSON
LANE, MARSHALL

After starting the season as the laughing stock of Major League Baseball, the Kansas City Royals have gained some respect after becoming the first team to sweep both the Yankees

and the Dodgers in a season.

Under new manager Buddy Bell, the Royals have seem to find a second wind, they are currently on a five game winning streak, and have an 11-4 record.



Scrogging, not blogging all the rage during State Staters, counselors adopt newest slang fad, encourage others to follow

BY KYLE HAAS
WHORLEY, SEITZ

Recently a new word was introduced into the vocabulary of many Boys' Stater's. The word "Scrogg" (still unsure about the exact spelling) has spread like warm butter on toast.

The definition of the word has taken on a few meanings. The first is that it means the same as the word "eat." For example, a person might say, "I'm going to Kramer to scrogg." The second meaning is used to describe how nice a person looks. Example, "Man, did you see how scrogg she looked?"

Though, the most popular practice of the word has been in a manner of substitution. Instead of using an expletive a person could use this

new word. For instance, "Why don't you just go scrogg yourself?"

Despite how humorous the word seems a person should be forewarned before openly using the word around the Boys' State campsite. The word has met harsh resistance and aggression in its home county of Seitz. "I think it is a very annoying word, because people are using it so frequently," said Jess Maddox of Whorley in Seitz.

In addition to the verbal bashing of "scrogg" a resolution has been passed in Seitz County by the Seitz County Regulators. On Thursday at 12:31 Resolution 69 was passed, saying "Anyone who uses the word 'scrogg' in anyway shall be charged twenty Boys' State dollars, punched

once and is forced to be silent for five minuets following the use of the word." The inventor of the word, Jacob Granzow of Sullivan in Seitz, was unable to be reached for questioning on his reactions to the 69th Resolution, but reliable sources said that he was very upset at what had been passed in Seitz.

It remains to be unseen what will happen to those in other counties who use the word, as no resolutions have been passed anywhere except for Seitz County. No matter what amount of opposition to the word there remains a few defenders of the words right in Seitz County. "I think they should be able to do whatever the scrogg they want," said Mark Toland, Wiles City Councilor.



Department of Commerce

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from.

Newspaper staff bids Boys State Goodbye

This session of State at large has been great, but the time with this staff has made it more enjoyable and memorable than it otherwise would have been. These ten guys came in Sunday and immediately put out an eight-page paper that rivals any ever

produced at Kansas Boys State. They are a group of talented writers and people. In less than a week, they have become wonderful friends and colleagues. I hope these guys stay in touch because that is what this week is about. I would be proud to call any of these

young men my son, brother or friend because of their talent and personality. Todd, my "boss" is a great guy with many talents and ambitions. The newspaper staff of 2005 has been a great one, and their work will live on as one of the best papers in State history.

-Kyle Rogers, newspaper counselor



Thanks for the memories
from
The Stater's Union