

American Legion Boys' State of Kansas Staters Union

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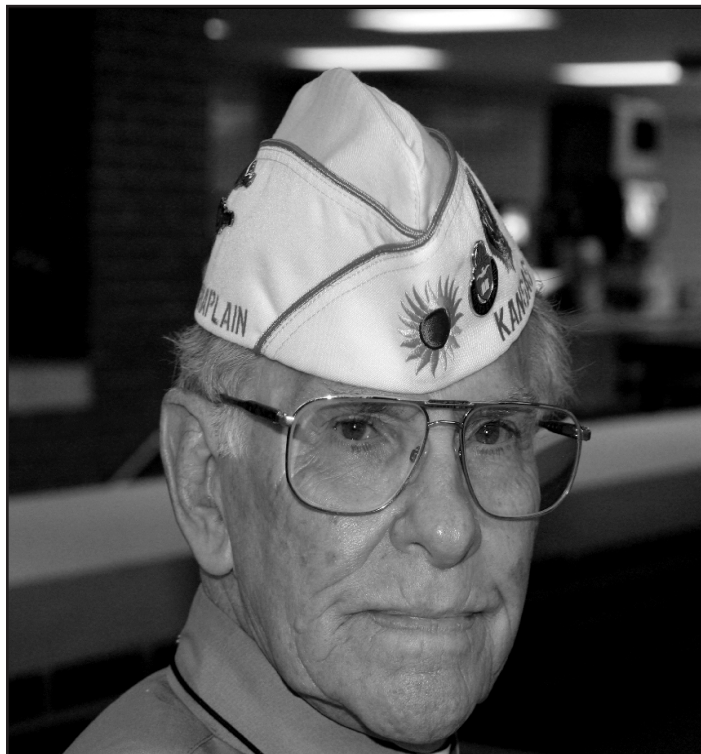


Inspirational youth keeps Akers returning

Curtis Thom
Whorley, Seitz

Each person has their own personal experiences that they gain from Boys State. Whether it's friendship, or companionship, we all obtain something different. For State Chaplin Jim Akers, what he takes away from this program is more than anyone can relate to.

Since 1992, Jim Akers has encountered an emotional roller-coaster, and is just enjoying the ride. A State Chaplin ever since



1997, Akers has had numerous opportunities to be involved with the ever-evolving youth that attends Boys State.

"There is always a lot of potential that gathers in this program, and a constantly diverse collection of Staters," noted Akers. "Being that I'm the State Chaplin, you have the ability to interact with many numerous individuals. Seeing the drive that is harnessed in some of these youths is a large inspiration."

In addition to

TO BE CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

Persistence pays for Nick Farris

John Kurtz
Aylward, Bradley

Many Staters make the trek to beautiful Manhattan with dreams of becoming the governor or attorney general, leading their imaginations to run wild with thoughts of captivating speeches and fierce races for office. Others

however, aspire to achieve greatness in other areas. For Nick Farris, who hails from Marshall County, the goal was to become an athletic team captain.

"I wanted to be a captain really bad," Kyle city council member Farris said.

Just as Sam Brownback told the Staters on Sunday, Farris was following

his dream. Later Sunday evening one of the many tasks to be accomplished was to pick the athletic team captains. This was Farris's time to shine...or so he thought.

As the first captain race took place, Farris took his turn to give a rousing speech to sway the votes of his peers. No fruit would be produced from

this labor though. Nick, as it was desired by Mike Zimmers during the opening ceremony, failed in his initial effort to become a team captain. This did little to stifle Nick's hopes. Since many more athletic team captain races remained, Nick's day was only beginning.

TO BE CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

Possible superpower, looking to broaden horizon

Curtis Thom
Whorley, Seitz

Sitting inside a small classroom, surrounded by avid followers, Ji Lui and Matthew Silverstein feel quite at ease. With serious financial backing by both Federalist and Nationalists, Lui and Silverstein look to turn their low-key campaign into a bona-fide superpower.

From recent reports entering the office, the newspaper staff received information about a revolutionary move by the Nationalists. In a ground-breaking move,

the Nationalist party has taken the initiative and placed their candidate in the front running position, by placing over thousands of dollars for financial support.

"Having the opportunity to speak on the behalf of a large number of people is a huge responsibility. While holding such a position comes with a lot of pressure, someone has to step up and get the job done," said Lui.

In yet another revolutionary move, Lui has decided to run for both parties citing,

"Everyone has the right to voice their own opinion, and assess their

own political affiliation."

Extending into Federalist and Nationalist parties, Lui has taken an unparallel approach of attracting voters of both parties, and not concentrating on one parties vote.

While having such an overwhelming personal backing - in theory - sounds great, it also entails a large array of problems, and could eventually compose his downfall.

With scandals seeping from this party, an extra layer of difficulty has backfired, leading to a search for a correct approach to answer questions on the alleged

scandal. Overcoming such a alligation, will be difficult, and could be overly damaging to their campaign aspirations in the future.

Living in a democratic society, everyone has the ability to finalize their own opinions. With such a superpower forming, many people could get the feeling that they are being bullied into thinking a restricted way. An over utilization of power, has been the ultimate downfall of many great societies. Is this party destined to be yet another casualty of deception?

Whistle Stop whirlwind sweeps counties

Dale Owen
Newman, Patton

Federalist precinct committeemen nearly passed a proposal that would have impacted the entire Federalist Whistle Stop Tour. This proposal is known as the super primary.

Stuart Warkentin, Federalist Secretary of State Primary winner, proposed the idea.

According to the plan, all the primary candidates would present in front of the precinct committee. The committeemen would then choose the candidates they felt carried the best chance for victory. These chosen candidates would thereby present normally during the Tour, and those not chosen would instead speak in favor of the chosen candidates.

"The super primaries

could have won the general election for the federalists," said Warkentin. However, the committee decided differently. A majority vote shot down the idea.

Many committeemen disagree with Warkentin and felt the super primaries would stifle democracy. Some felt the amount of peer pressure could take away from the voters' opinions. Many agreed that such a movement

would prove unfair to the majority of voters.

Warkentin's super primary would have become a powerful motion had it been enforced. Under the system, voters still have a choice to vote for any candidate. The Federalist Precinct, however, decided against Warkentin's proposal and allowed the Tour to continue traditionally.



FEDERALIST

Gaarret (howl tie) Blase
commissioner of
insurance

Stuart Warkentin
secretary of state

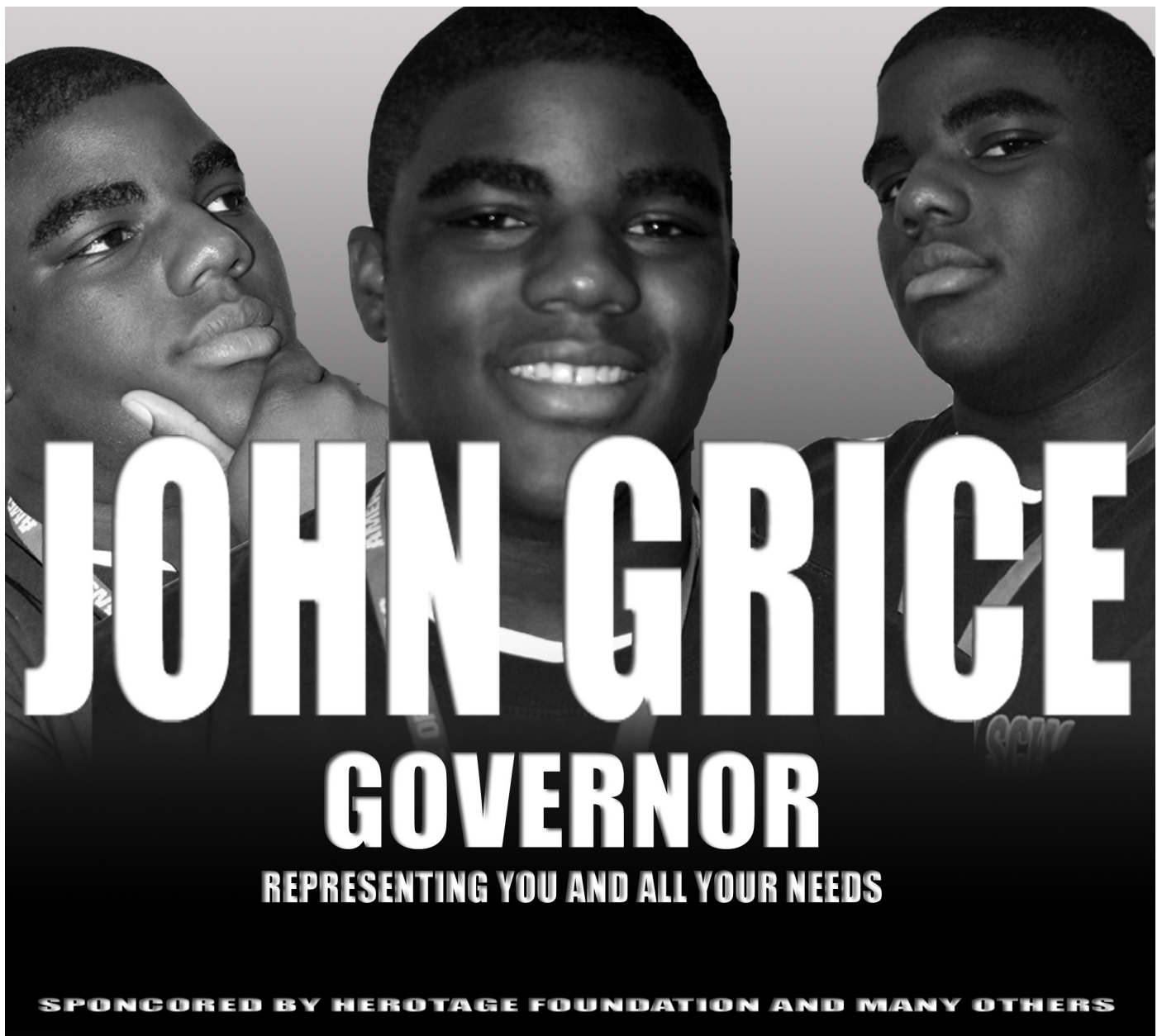
Ryan miller
state treasurer

John Grice
governor

Brett Londmark
attorney general

The Farmers' Alliance and Marshall County have pledged to build an ethanol plant within Kyle city limits. Gracious support from the Farmers Alliance gave Marshall County the ability to build a police station. Thank you for the donation.

Cameron Davis Kyle, Marshall



Death Star builds fear around counties

Wesley Eckols
Schmitt, Pershing

"That's no moon, it's space station," echoed Obi Wan Kenobi. In the Star Wars movies the Death Star was an extremely powerful instrument of mass destruction, capable of annihilating an entire planet. This fictional creation, however, might come to life here

at Boys' State.

Hiatt City is a part of the highly industrial King County. This county has large deposits of iron ore, and most of the citizens of the county work in factories. Since the county has a large supply of iron, the members of Hiatt City feel that they could easily construct a Death Star without spending too much money.

A secret group from Hiatt City recently provided reporters with startling information about their secret plan. It appears that they have their eyes set on conquest, and the gaining of new resources.

One member of the group, when asked what the Death Star would be used for, said, "We will take over every county here at Boys' State!"

According to Hiatt City's plans, the Death Star will help with the conquest of the easternmost counties. After these are secured, the invasion will head westward.

While the Death Star is still a vision waiting to happen, it is entirely possible that it might soon become a reality.

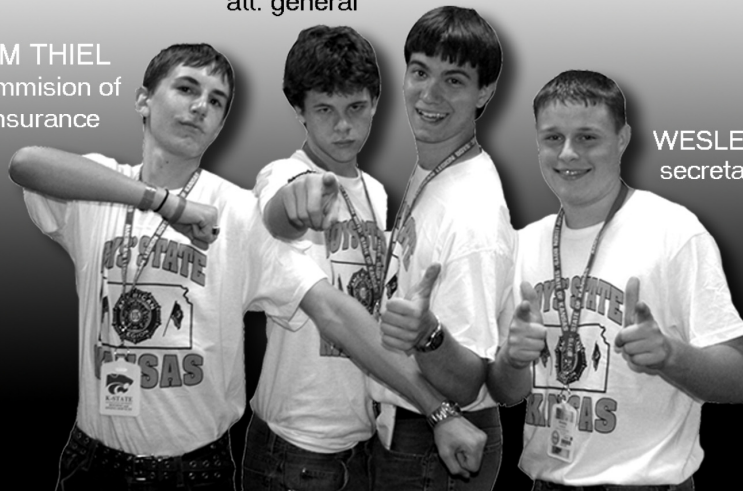
NATIONALIST

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att. general

TYLER THOMPSON
state tres.

TIM THIEL
commision of
insurance

WESLEY CALLAHAN
secretary of state



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Indecision hovers over Nationalists

John Kurtz
Aylward, Bradley

If you enjoy 200 rowdy Nationalists crammed into an oversized classroom with constant scattered noise echoing through the building, then the Nationalist Convention Monday night was for you. It was the first chance for fellow Nationalists to meet their newly elected governor candidate, as well as the other



State Executive Office candidates. The candidates made very enthusiastic initial appearances that helped win the crowds affection.

Soon after these dramatic entrances, the parties' platform was announced. One controversial part of the platform was to give school districts the choice to offer intelligent design classes as an elective

TO BE CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

Grice comes up short on issues

Wesley Eckols
Schmitt, Pershing

As candy bars were flung into the audience and music blared from speakers, the Federalist Party Convention got underway. Silence fell as governor candidate John Grice picked up the microphone. After introducing the other candidates Grice listed the PACs that are supporting the Federalist Party. A representative from each PAC was called onto the stage to tell a little about the support they have pledged, or

already given.

After each representative had spoken, the microphone was handed back to Grice. He claims that the Federalists need to all be a part of one thing. The party needs to be united. United in values, platform, and with support strongly behind the candidates.

After giving his speech, Grice and his Lieutenant Governor, Alex Barbuto, gave an outline of the party platform and the issues they are focusing on.

Immigration was the main platform mentioned, with a very strict policy

on illegal immigrants. In short, illegal immigrants are illegal. Deterrents are needed to stop illegal aliens from entering Kansas. A guest worker program would encourage legal immigration.

Education was another big issue mentioned. Many cities don't have schools and teachers, and Grice proposes that we do something about it, simply because education is the foundation of our society.

Alternative energy is the third platform for the Federalist Party, and the candidates seem to have everything worked

out. The farmers grow corn, the oil and gas companies refine it, and this helps the industries to grow. Subsidies will be provided to all three branches to encourage trade and growth. More refineries will be built, which has the added bonus of boosting employment.

It seems that the Federalist Party is indeed united, and many Nationalists have also pledged their support to Grice and his campaign. We can only watch, wait, and make our own

THE REAL O.G.'S

"ORIGINAL GOVERNORS"



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

Akers from page 1

being the State Chaplin since 1997, Akers served as the National Chaplin in 2004-2005, with the opportunity to speak with the members of Boys Nation. Finally, Akers was appointed Chairman of Education, which is responsible for rewarding scholarships to deserving Staters.

Although Akers accomplishments have brought him full circle, he just appreciates the fact that he has had the opportunity to fill such a respected position, for such a great program.

"This is the best national program," said Akers, "It gives children the chance to harness their leadership abilities, while gaining a more knowledgeable understanding of our current government."

While many Staters are unaware of the prestige of having such a guest, Akers believes that he is the lucky one.

"I've been fortunatetobethisState's Chaplin since 2004, and I feel privileged to be able to be associated

with such great young men," said Akers.

Now that Akers stay for the 2006 session has come to a close, he has begun to look towards the future.

"I just take the position as it's administered to me. Having such a position is a true privilege, and I will be more than happy to continue to fulfill it, until I decide otherwise."

Farris from page 1

"Even though everyone had years of experience, I went up there anyway," Farris said, showing the incredible desire residing within him.

He persevered through many close elections, often losing by only 1 or 2 votes. Finally, Farris won the final team captain vote for volleyball by a large margin. Persistence paid off in the end, and he now plans to fearlessly lead the Marshall County volleyball team to numerous victories.

According to Harris, the captain has to be the most essential part of a team. As he puts it, "I'd rather fight a group of lions led by a lamb than a group of

lambs led by a lion."

Watch out for Nick Farris as he roars onto the volleyball courts this week.

Nationalist from page 6

class, in addition to requiring the teaching of evolution. In the area of agriculture, the Nationalists platform calls for developing an alternative energy plan, and giving a tax break to farmers who contribute to the effort.

All was well within the convention, until a question from an audience member sparked controversy. When addressing the question of a fellow Nationalist, governor candidate Omeid Seirafi stated that he would mostly follow the platform for that issue. His answer created many questions from Nationalists in the audience and caused an immediate stir. All the Nationalist State Executive Office candidates spent most of the remaining time to calm the audience and assure them that they could trust

in the Nationalist party. Whether the audience members truly were calmed remains to be seen, but afterward Seirafi offered more reason to trust in his party.

"We have a comprehensive plan for all issues on the Nationalist platform," Seirafi said. "We are the people and we are where your loyalties should lie," added Lieutenant governor Candidate Ji Liu.

Other candidates for the Nationalists are: John Davis, Attorney General; Tyler Thompson, Treasurer; Wesley Callahan, Secretary of State and Timothy Thiel, Commissioner of Insurance. Do the Nationalists loyalties remain with their elected candidates? Soon this answer will be revealed.

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.