

American Legion Boys' State of Kansas

Staters' Union

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General Election Results

Governor

Tabias Wilson

Lieutenant Governor

Jackson Shuttleworth

Attorney General

Paul Baumgardner

State Treasurer

Ben Roller

Commissioner of Insurance

Michael McClung

Secretary of State

Dylan Works

Josh Donaldson
Schulz, Powell

After Monday's Whistle Stop Tour, everyone was able to get a feel for what each candidate's goals and ambitions for the state elections were. Once heard, the staters all voted for the Nationalist and Federalist candidates they thought would best represent them. Once they were chosen, Tuesday held the debate for the candidates. While each candidate had very appealing arguments for why they wanted their position, only the strongest and most convincing prevailed.

While many people were becoming involved in each state office, the crowd got especially rowdy when the governor debate came around. Of course, this would be the most important debate, however, because the person elected as state governor would be the one to lead staters on to either victory or, ul-

timately, failure. No pressure, right? The two candidates, Andrew Potter and Tabias Wilson, battled it out on the stage, giving their main opinions on education, alternative fuel sources, and welfare improvements. While Andrew Potter gave a compelling argument, it was an early sign that Tabias Wilson was destined to win the election when the crowd went wild every time he left the mic to sit down. While Andrew still got many cheers and applause, Tabias's fan club was noticeably larger. Surprisingly, Tabias was very calm and passive throughout the whole debate, acting as if he had tons of experience in political processes. He clearly stated his opinions on the issues proposed to him without batting an eye.

Even though Tabias might appear to be a very calm person, he has many plans and ambitions for his time here as governor. One of the issues presented at the debate was the welfare plan backed up by Tabias. Tabias plans on implementing a 5-10 year plan for the welfare recipients. During this time, the

recipients are able to obtain a good education and a decent job good enough to help them and their family get back on their feet and off welfare, giving them a chance to provide for themselves. Tabias' main argument against Potter's four-month welfare plan was that four months is not nearly enough time for a person to obtain a job that will allow them to buy a house and still have enough money to take care of their other needs. This is actually a very plausible defense when you think about it. This, however, was just one of the main issues that Tabias plans to improve.

Tabias Wilson did prevail, as expected, along with Lt. Governor Jackson Shuttleworth, Attorney General Paul Baumgardner, State Treasurer Ben Roller, Commissioner of Insurance Michael McClung, and Secretary of State Dylan Works, who just so happens to be the only Nationalist elected to State Office. All these candidates won this election by presenting a compelling enough case to win over their audience, and by obtaining the majority votes.

Svaty shares experience with Staters

Joe Bridgewater
Gardner, Kennedy

District 108th Representative, Josh Svaty entertained and enlightened staters last night with a large amount of audience participation. His previous experience in Boys State is the main reason that he decided to pursue a career in politics. At the age of 22, Josh was the youngest representative to ever be elected in the state of Kansas. The two main topics that he covered were private property rights and different types of energy production.

During the Boys State session of 1997, Svaty was part of Icenogle in MacArthur County and served as a senator. After graduating from high school, Josh continued his education at Sterling College. Five years after Boys State, he used his experience at Boys State to successfully campaign for a spot in the House of Representatives. His upbringing in Ellsworth as a farmer has played a large part in his positions at the state legislative level. He continues to be a farmer along with his busy schedule in the government.

Josh Svaty later expressed in an interview some of his positions on important is-

ssues such as taxes, alternative energy, and most importantly his preference on different types of cookies. On the issue of taxes, he believes that the government should focus not on reducing taxes, but determining how much revenue should come from sales, income, and property taxes individually. Svaty is in favor of different types of alternative energy such as wind generators.

"Wind generators do not pose direct threats to neighbors of the land the generators are on," he said.

Finally, when asked the question about his favorite type of cookie he replied that chocolate chip cookies were his favorite.

Counselors prepare campaign for Goyle

Emmanuel Perez
McCoy, Patton

Raj Goyle is a representative for the 81st state district which covers the east side of Wichita. Prior to that he worked as a student-journalist and a very active environmentalist. Also, he helped with the democratic presidential campaign during the 1996 presidential elections and has worked for The Department of Homeland Security.

But what makes him so special? He has accomplished many things such as taking the initiative to make the state's House of Representatives pass the "Funeral Privacy"

bill that makes funeral protestors stay 150 feet away from the place where the burial is taking place. However, some of his bigger achievements happened during his campaign. Such things were raising \$100,000 for his campaign even though the average price of a representative's campaign is \$20,000. This was done thanks in part to him choosing former Boys State delegate and counselors to partially help in his campaign, although he was never a stater.

The staters helped with many aspects of the campaign. Kyle Wheatly, Patton county counselor, was one of the staters that were involved in his campaign. He said that he helped in anything that was needed, such

as going door to door and talk to people and stuff envelopes with information about Goyle. From all of the hard work, the staters learned some important lessons.

"I learned that working as a team is the key to success to almost everything," said Wheatly.

The result of the staters' hard work was a victory over the previous representative that had been in power for 3 terms. Also, Governor Kathleen Sebelius called him a fine addition to the House of Representatives.

"Boys State has been tremendous. It assembles the best and the brightest," Goyle said about his experience with Boys' State.



Staters Union

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Thawing out the Ice Cubes

Shawn Shaller
Icenogle, MacArthur

Made famous by a toilet, heralded by riotous chants, and known early on only for their part in a small conflict within MacArthur County, the Ice Cubes come off as an extreme, conspiring, and rebellious political group. In a world where petty rebellions are many and successful uprisings occur about as often as a calm newspaper room at midnight in Stater's Union headquarters, these Ice

Cubes seem like just another group out for a little power and attention, but nothing to worry about. Proof of this might be the large number of staters who have heard of the Ice Cubes, but have no idea what they stand for and don't believe the Ice Cubes will affect them at all throughout camp. They really don't seem threatening at all, yet at the same time, the influence is spreading. It is simply spreading a bit selectively. Let me explain...

"...coolest people I KNOW!!!" says

Kenny Bangert, a citizen in Powell County and an alleged great friend of the main Ice Cube players.

"Enough said..." finishes his companion.

It seems as though the Ice Cube influence runs out through a complicated system of friends and connections. Small groups of influence are slowly making their way through crowds and spreading word of the Ice Cubes with them as they go. The main obstacle holding back a major spread of influence **Ice Cubes** on Page 8

City councils play out ideas

Spencer Lickteig
Harris, King

With all the hype about the state government candidates and who got elected where, many staters may have forgotten one of the first elected positions in Boys State. The positions I am speaking of is none other than the city council. Though easily forgotten in all the chaos, these groups do more for us than we could ever know.

Each stater was assigned a city and a job but past that, most Staters have bypassed the fact that they do more than just determine the amount of tax dollars that are removed from our salary. City councils work behind the scenes to make sure that your "life" goes smoothly and peacefully during the entire duration of being here. They also work with the county and senators to get things passed and stuff built that will make the cities look and run better. These four people.

The councils are given daily jobs and random tasks to do, but the main business

that takes up their time is the city projects. These projects are the city's way of improving the overall condition of the city and making sure everything is going correctly in their range. With almost endless possibilities of things to add, each city has come up with many unique ways of approaching the issues facing their citizens. Along with the unique ideas, there is also the "regular" bills and additions that are basically required for decent living conditions. These include things such as power lines, street lights, crime regulations, and paved roads. Councils are constantly busy regulating spending and pin-pointing key locations within the county for specific buildings, but these things are all determined by these projects.

Popular trends of project ideas have been spotted, most just a branch away from the regulars but still exciting. Topping the list of these trends are the use of a neighborhood watch system or city wide curfew to lower city crime rates. The cities that have put these plans into action and have so

far seen great results on all levels. Another popular idea is getting city schools instead of using county ones. Possibly controversial, the cities undertaking it hope to see revenue increases, reduced crime, and a better overall city image. A volunteer fire department is also in many city's future visions as a cheap way to protect the environment and gain citizen cooperation.

Geographical location has been a key factor in determining many projects. Use of the river for economic gain is quickly finding itself in many council agendas. King county specifically is working together to place a hydroelectric dam on the river to aide energy needs and finding new jobs for the population. Highways connecting all the cities in the county are also being seen in many future plans and railroads creating trade routes between counties are also popping up in an increasing amount of projects.

Environmental protection was the main subject of one of the first projects assigned see **City Council** on Page 8

Staters try case in court of law

Matt Picht

Chastain, Eisenhower

David Westerfield, accused of kidnapping, raping, and murdering Danielle Van Dam on February 2nd, was brought to trial yesterday in the county district courts. Juries were selected from the county based on their views on capital punishment, drug use, and whether they had younger siblings.

The parents of the deceased, Damon and Brenda Van Dam, testified at the trial for the prosecution. According to the testimonies, Westerfield had opportunity and motive to kidnap Danielle Van Dam.

Danielle was last seen alive at 10:00 p.m. on February 2nd. She was discovered missing the next morning, and the garage door was left open throughout the night.

Both the Van Dam's admitted to alcohol consumption and marijuana use on the night of Danielle's abduction.

Blood, hair, and fingerprints, corresponding to within a miniscule chance of

error to Danielle Van Dam, were discovered on Westerfield's property. Additionally, the investigators turned up child pornography in Westerfield's home.

However, a bug timeline conducted by the defense concluded that the body was dumped between February 12th and February 25th, during which time Westerfield was under police surveillance. The defense also presented evidence that suggested that the pornography found in Westerfield's home belonged instead to his son, David Neal Westerfield.

Capital punishment and life sentences were both considered by the various district judges as a possible sentence in the event that Westerfield was found guilty. A majority of judges told the press that they would opt for life sentences rather than the death penalty.

The juries of all the counties emerged from deliberation to deliver a verdict today. In all of the counties surveyed, David Westerfield was acquitted on account of reasonable doubt left by the prosecution.

Stutzman informs staters about role of judicial system

Matt Picht

Chastain, Eisenhower

Judge David Stutzman, a trial judge and former Stater in 1968, addressed the staters at the town hall meeting held last night. He spoke mainly about the role of the judicial branch in the political system.

Stutzman began his presentation with a review of the basic Ten Amendments. He expanded upon and elaborated the basic definitions taught in schools. Each amendment was dissected and reviewed, with the judge explaining how the amendment applied in the real world.

Stutzman then moved on to discuss the differences between the Supreme Court and the district courts. He described how his role as a trial judge differed from the roles of the Supreme Court Justices.

The main difference, he said, was that the Supreme Court ruled on the constitutionality of laws, while the district courts ruled on the facts of individual cases.

"Facts get decided in the trial courts," said Stutzman. "The Supreme Court just looks at what the trial courts give them."

Stutzman illustrated his point by conducting a small role-play, reenacting a past Supreme Court case that determined drug dog searches do not require a warrant as long as they do not inhibit the suspect. The demonstration was designed to show the staters that the Supreme Court bases their decisions on the trial court's evidence.

Stutzman has practiced law for 14 years. He previously served in the Navy for six years and completed a sea tour as an engineer on a frigate.

Debate showcases platforms, ideas

Spencer Harding

Whorley, Seitz

On Tuesday the Boys State Body met at McCain Auditorium. The candidates waited with agonizing anticipation, knowing that this would be their last chance to win over the voters. As the debate committee members took their seats the delegates filed in behind them. Tensions rose backstage by the minute. Finally it was the moment of truth and the curtain opened. As the candidates sat together for the first time, the anticipation grew through the crowd as they prepared to square off. Finally the room grew silent as

the moderator introduced the candidates to the crowd.

Prior to the Debate I met with Thomas Gregory from the city of Bramlage in Bradley county. Thomas holds a position on the Debate Committee. He went on to say that "The parties already know about the platform that the candidates are standing on, so we need to get them off their platforms. We're going to make them stem off a little. We have the power to dictate what the state hears. There's not a better group of individuals." He said they were going to make them move away from their platform and they did. There was a see **Debate on Page 8**

Tabias Wilson: Profile in leadership

Jamie Kite

Bluemke, Bradley

Tabias Wilson, the newly elected governor of Boys' State, brings promise to the most important office in Boys State Kansas. Wilson feels that his staff can meet and exceed the challenges that lay before them. Wilson believes that dedication, respect and experience are three of his administration's foremost qualities but cites diversity more than all others. Although the new administration is made mostly of Federalist candidates, Wilson believes that his administration will have a fair, bipartisan stance that will attempt to solve the state's problems without focusing exclusively on party platforms.

Hometown

Olathe, KS

High School

Olathe North High School

Core values

"Individual success without moral decline"
"equality in the global environment"
"increase in reasoning education"

Interest in Politics

Wilson's interest in a political career began in 7th grade when he promised himself that he would run for the presidency in 2038.

Clubs and Activities

Senator in the Olathe Youth Congress
Prosecutor for the Olathe Youth Court
Spokesman for Olathe North's chapter of AVID
President of FFA (Future Farmers of America)
President of peer mediators
Vice President of a creative writing club
Leader of Unbound (morning bible study)
Currently studying to become a minister

3 Most Important Issues

Welfare Reform

The Wilson administration has proposed a welfare reform program that would be characterized by a 2 - 5 year "phase-out" system, including professional and vocational training and a 3-strike penalty system for rule breakers.

Education

-In a rather creative new program, the new administration proposes legalizing and taxing private casinos and using the tax revenues to help fund public education.

Alternative

-Wilson and his cabinet are attempting to unite the Farmers' Alliance and Fuel Sources the Oil and Gas Workers Organization in a combined effort toward the 25 - 25 goal.

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1/3 PAGE - \$200



June 13, 2007

Letter to the editor: Economics crucial

As a simple, yet hard-working livestock Farmer who hopes to be a Senator for his country, I humbly offer the following observations about this year's Boys State campaign and election processes. First off, this whole computer system is whack; it has a mind of its own that has created hysteria in our government at the state level because the proposed budget for the fiscal year 2008 would put us in debt by \$22,316.51. Oddly, the Federalists promote Reaganonomics which actually tripled the national debt from the time Reagan took office to the end of his presidency. Based on that, it does not seem like the Federalists would even care if we balance our state budget. I will wait a minute to let that burn heal. The weird thing about the Nationalists though, is that they have focused on increasing monetary support for education and E85 production. They must not have looked at the Budget Overview because the proposed increase from 2007 to 2008 for the Board of Education is over 100%, and I do not even think that the system cares about what kind of gas we use. Both parties are making issues out of non-issues. The other problem I see is a major division between the two political parties. The flossing Federalists and the Spartanistic Nationalists ("We are the Nationalists") have constructed egos by believing that they are each better than the other party. Instead they should be building confidence in the everyday citizens like myself that they can work together to solve whatever the wacky computer system will throw at them. On one last note, I find it funny that the Commission on Ethics and Good Government is only allotted \$30 by the state each year. Actually, this is sad because even the governor's office gets paid more money than that entire commission. I guess it just goes to show you what we value here, at Boys State.

Sincerely,
Tim Janczewski
Finley, Kennedy

NBA Finals, Game 3: Spurs defeat Cavaliers, 75-72

Wire Story

The San Antonio Spurs continued their streak towards another championship Tuesday night in Cleveland, defeating the Cleveland Cavaliers, defeating them 75-72. The win puts them at 3-0 in the finals, getting them closer to their fourth title in under a decade and third in five years.

Cavalier star LeBron James led the team with 25 points and eight rebounds, but could not keep up with Spurs leaders Tony Parker and Tim Duncan, who scored seventeen and fourteen points, respectively.

The beginning quarter set the slow speed of the entire game, with both teams failing to post scores above twenty. James and Duncan both sat out for most of the first half.

Despite the low scores, the teams were neck-and-neck throughout the game, with Cleveland leading 40-38 at halftime and cutting a ten-point lead down to two in the closing minutes.

But even though the Cavaliers stayed with their opponents throughout the game, it was the last second three-pointer miss by LeBron James that sealed the deal. The final score tied the game for the second-fewest

points in NBA finals history, exactly matching a win over the New York Knicks in the 1999 finals.

The next game will take place in Cleveland Thursday, June 14, at 8:00 CST. Should the Spurs win, they will join the Chicago Bulls, L.A. Lakers, and Boston Celtics as the only NBA teams to win more than four championships.

Cleveland's failure to utilize homecourt advantage may prove to be a critical blow: no team has ever come back from a 3-0 deficit in the finals, almost ensuring the Spurs their place in history.

7

June 13, 2007

Releases

Staters Union

Attention all Eisenhower Citizens

It has come to the County Commissions attention that our highway system is in a horrible state of repair. Huge potholes are causing accidents and people are suing for damages. In effect, we need to repair our roads. This will cost \$450. The potholes will be fixed and minor repairs made so the problem will be fixed until a new highway can be built.

Also, due to a high number of trucks using the bridge in our county it has been closed due to deterioration. Businesses in the immediate area are suffering and the closed bridge is hurting the economy. The bridge needs replaced and its cost will be \$500. Also, a toll booth can be put in to help pay for it. A toll booth costs \$45. Please consider these issues. There will be a vote on Friday.

Help Save the Kittens

The highways in MacArthur County have fallen into a state of disrepair! There is also a need for a new major highway to connect all three cities within the county and to attract businesses. In response to this, the MacArthur county commission proposes to repair the damages to the roads and construct a new two-lane highway between the cities. As these improvements pertain to all citizens within MacArthur County, the county commission requests that each city help fund these improvements. A meeting will be held on Friday, June 15, between 11:30 A.M. and 12:00 P.M. to discuss and vote on the above issues. The county asks that all citizens of MacArthur County be present for this meeting.

King County Commission

King County is in need of a toll bridge, repairing a road, and building a new highway to connect the cities of Hiatt, Hasher, and Harris. We need the citizens of King County to vote on these improvements. These improvements will help our King's economy because it will bring in more business. We have found the best route that will be the most convenient and the route that will damage the least amount of wildlife. So to better King county vote yes for these improvements.

Pershing County Commission

We, the Pershing County Commission, propose that the county build a new four lane highway to increase better transportation in between cities as well as take stress and decrease wear on older highways/roads. We also propose to repair our current old highway because we believe it will talk less wear because of the new highway and this being more cost-efficient to just repair rather than replace.

Lastly, we propose to rebuild the old bridge, to first help the

citizens and local businesses, also to avoid lawsuits and other actions, and we thin this will be beneficial by taking away traffic from the detour that causes road deterioration, and it will allow businesses to make more money, and in turn the county makes more so the bridge will pay for itself. To improve the lifespan of the bridge, there will be a county resolution passed to ban large trucks from crossing the bridge.

Arrival of the Libertarians

A new third party had formed at Boys' State. The Libertarian Party began its tenure just in time for the general elections. It currently consists of ten members, but hopes to attract other staters in the Nationalist and Federalist parties. Two of the leading members include Robert Williams and Austin Enns.

Some newly elected representatives and senators have joined ranks with the Libertarians, and hope to represent their new party well.

from **Ice Cubes** on Page 3

ence here is the Ice Cube system itself. It seems for such a boisterous and noisy group of kids, nobody truly really knows what the noise is all about. It is my job, as CJ Schaller and Staters Union journalist, to clear the name of these men to the public.

It just so happens that, this year particularly, in Boy's State Camp, EVERY party seems to be the result of or undergoing some type of rebellion. In fact, the uprisings, rebellions, civil wars, and people who go to insane and legally shady lengths to get power have simply become expected within the state. In recent years this state has been run by a series of broken and busted up groups of people jammed together by coincidence. No offense guys, but this is all incredibly over-dramatic, cliché, and frankly, it's boring me. Only two days have passed, and already the number of people who think MORE rebellion is needed has been astronomical. How much rebellion can you people possibly stand?!?!?

Anyway, to the point. How does this relate to the Ice Cubes? Well, I'd like to start off by apologizing to the Ice Cubes. Inferences made within my original 'Toilet' article were for the most part, completely untrue. The Ice Cubes aren't rebelling at all! In fact, rather than folding into the cliché, the Ice Cubes are actually coming off now in a completely opposite direction!

Wait a minute, this gang isn't a group of... bad guys? Not at all, in fact. Quite the contrary, really. Surprisingly enough, the ideals that the Ice Cubes stand for are simply unification. Amidst all the inter-county war and among the rubble of torn up cities, the goal of the Ice Cubes are simple. Instead of focusing on the needs of a group of people, we would like to include the needs of every single person of the entire group.

The immediate goals of the Ice Cubes is simply to unify the town of Icenogle, a.k.a. Ice Cube City. Within that city there are people from all cultures, backgrounds, social statuses, and a completely random assortment of individuals altogether. They hope to unify within each other in Ice Cube City, and hopefully spread the influence gradually as they have been doing all along.

"We're not asking everyone to agree on everything, but to look past everything we agree or disagree on altogether. We want to become friends, and form a connection within our town, then our county, then our building, and then the entire state." says one anonymous and enthusiastic stater. "People may not like us, heck they may not have one ounce of respect for us when all this is over with, but people WILL REMEMBER us (hint hint, the unbelievable amount of crazy noise and hectic activity that seems to vent from the Ice Cubes) and will most certainly remember why we're doing what we're doing. The name 'The Ice Cubes' will be one associated with companionship in mind, no matter how we achieve it."

from **City Council** on Page 3

to the city councils. Therefore many anti-littering programs are sprouting up along with areas being reserved for parks and wildlife reservations. The city of Schmitt stuck out of the rest with their plan on calling upon the people to do a monthly environment clean-up, if passed this would save money and help the area ecosystems.

Financial problems in counties have forced councils to look for ways to bring visitors and a steady currency flow into their city. Buildings focused toward tourism are being built in a majority of cities; including casinos and other entertainment businesses. The city of Lane is looking toward an alternative way to gain money

which relies more on getting support of the surrounding population by hosting a Gay Pride March. Icenogle county has even proposed completely abolishing taxes to increase citizen revenue with funding coming from donations, some which measured to three-quarters of a person's total salary.

The city councils are working day in and day out to ensure that the economy run well and do it all while staying out of the spotlight. So next time you check your bank account and are surprised by the amount, remember that your city council may have had something to do with it.

from **Debate** on Page 4

huge assortment of questions asked and everyone answered them differently. So with that being said lets get on to some of the more significant happenings during the debate.

When the curtain opened you could see instantly what each party was thinking. Just by looking and listening to the Nationalist party, one could possibly conclude that they were confident and "gung ho." The Federalist party had an excellent grasp of what they were doing and excellent skill in fashion. They were very well prepared and had the right mind set. All of the races seemed to be close except for the treasurer and governor positions. As Kevin Booker (nationalist) and Ben Roller (Federalist) took their turn, Kevin didn't respond to some of the questions and rebuttals presented to him. This could have hurt his campaign as Mr. Roller was able to influence and inform the audience about his platform. The other significant instance was the governor's debate. Both candidates presented very influential and powerful statements. The turning point was when Tabias corrected Andrew over the college voucher system. This happened when Tabias explained that there is no college voucher system, and that vouchers are for high school age students seeking to enroll in a private school.