



7 June 2008

Highway patrol takes trip to Salina

Christopher Kuckleman
Reporter
Finley, Kennedy

The state of Kansas Highway Patrol Academy is located at Marymount College in Salina, Kansas. Eleven lucky Boys Staters received the opportunity to travel to the Academy on Friday morning with Troopers Mario Rios and David Stahl.

To start the tour, Trooper Amy Ayers greeted the group of staters. Trooper Ayers showed a short movie on what life is like to be in the training program at the academy. Early mornings, attention to detail, academic classes, and strenuous physical training are some of the challenges the program presents. Daniel Simon was one individual who noticed the intensity

as well as the importance, "It's pretty intense, but necessary for the officers and the citizens."

Attention to detail is one thing that cannot slide by as a trooper. The reasoning for the attention to detail was explained by Trooper Rios. Rios explained how the citizen's lives as well as freedoms are at stake and you have to be detailed oriented to do the job correctly. Do-

ing the job correctly requires paperwork, knowing laws and materials, and not letting something get by you. So, to instill the idea into the potential officers' minds, the attention to detail starts at the beginning through the end.

Once at the simulator, each stater was able to take a turn behind the wheel to see what life is really like driving a pa-

trol car. "The driving simulator is awesome," said stater Andrew Seufert. All attendees agreed with this statement. This was definitely one highlight of the trip. Even though the simulator is not a real car, it is the most expensive "car" any stater will drive. The simulators cost around \$210,000.

Sadly, the staters' day at the Kansas Highway Patrol ended. No person in the group had any regrets about the opportunity they received as a trooper. Andrew Seufert spoke for the whole group when he said, "The Highway Patrol is a great opportunity and what not, especially because we got to actually see how it worked." Seufert is right. The position allows staters to truly experience the life of a trooper in a too short.



Congratulations Boys' Nation delegates



Courtesy Nick Brown

The Boys' Nation delegates took the stage for applause and congratulation after being chosen by the Boys State to lead them in D.C. in July. Left to right, name and town: Marcus McNeal, Icenogle, MacArthur; Alex Jones, Shelton, Powell;

Clarification

On behalf of the of *The Staters' Union*, we would like to clarify that the article on the Thursday edition of the paper regarding falsified ballots was in fact part of the Boys State simulation. Its desired effect was to play on emotions of the populace in the way that the media would in the real world if ballots were faked.

We would like to apologize if other effects came out of it, but *The Staters' Union* was only playing the role asked of us.

Unknown man steals Hannah Montana clock from Seitz County

Brandon Holdsworth

Reporter

Sullivan, Seitz

On June 5, 2008, a man who resides in Seitz County abducted the teen pop sensation Hannah Montana from her post as telling time to all of Seitz County. This unknown child abductor frightens many of the other citizens whom are scared to let their children outside even in the daytime.

"I walked into the county area and nobody was around except for a man whom I could not recognize. I was hiding behind a door looking through the window when he grabbed the clock and walked subtly down the

hallway when he was caught by other staters entering the county hall," states Travis Gunter.

Jason Morris of Wiles City states, "Gabe and I found this man running away with the clock. We had strange suspicions of abduction and rape. Justice has not been served because this man still walks the streets of Wiles instead of being locked away."

The citizens of Seitz pulled a vigilante arrest on the abductor but he soon got away before an ID profile analysis was taken.

"I saw the unknown child abductor running down the hallway. Oddly enough he had the Han-

nah Montana Clock. He was being chased by other staters trying to get our only clock back," states Wiles Citizen, Hunter Knunnenkamp.

Adam Holmes described, "I saw a man running down the hall acting very defensive. I yelled asking him if we could enter his house but he refused and quickly locked the door. Was he hiding something?"

Jakob Glidden stated, "I witnessed the abductor running down the hall with the Hannah Montana clock. Many others including me yelled at him, wondering what he was doing with the clock. He said that he was going to blame it on KCK A.K.A.

Jason Morris. He then assaulted multiple witnesses."

This unknown man has broken many laws put in place not only by the state government, but also from the federal government. He has abducted and possibly harmed this teen pop sensation, assaulted many citizens from Seitz County and put a state of terror in the county from being abducted as well. If there is anyone out there who knows anything about the culprit behind this injustice please notify the highway patrol in the county you reside in or call the hotline at 1-888-734-8926.

Legionnaires commend staters

Taylor Wood

Reporter

McCoy, Patton

The week at Boys State is finally coming to a close, and the opinions of the staff seem to all agree: the year went very well. Although the delegates may seem unable to notice, the staff definitely does.

David Hinkson, a legionnaire here at Boys State, said, "Probably one of the smoothest years I've seen."

Many of the Legionnaires all agree that this year has been very excellent, and the

staff is all looking forward to the next year.

It was also apparent that the delegates are not the only ones who have learned a thing or two from Boys State.

"I've realized most how guys can grow,"

Legionnaire Bob Jenkins stated as he discussed what he's taken from being apart of the Boys State Staff, "No one is a loser... Everyone is a winner." He went on to mention how being apart of Boys State you learn and grow regardless of what happens.

However, like any pro-

gram or event, there is sometimes miscommunication or new information passed around quickly.

Legionnaire Ron Cocoash said, "I think it kept us in suspense moment by moment." It's evident that due to this, excitement obviously ensues and many times, the simulation can become stressful, but eventual."

Along with the many events and situations that go on at Boys State, some people attempt to form their own extreme rebellions or seceding from the State. However, Martin Cram,

a Second Year Councilor, said it is average for these things to happen.

In essence, the negatives that occurred during this year of Boys State are majorly outweighed by the positives that have taken place.

"This year has been great because it seems that the staters are more into the simulation then previous years."

Martin Cram said, "I'm really proud of the delegates." And it's safe to say the Legionnaires are proud of them too.

Participate in political process, civil service

Jared Anderson

*Copy Editor
Lane, Marshall*

At some point this week, every stater missed home. Something happened during the week, whether it was not seeing our friends or family, or not being able to sit around doing nothing, we missed home. We'll all be glad to get back home.

What will we take away from Boys State, though? Will it be lasting memories and friends? Perhaps a heightened sense of civic duty? A more patriotic sense of mind, maybe? Whatever the case may

be, I hope we all can take away something from this experience.

As I have learned this week, we all have a responsibility as American citizens. We live in the best country in the world, and everyone else knows it. Regardless, we must strive to keep this country's status as the best alive.

As Americans, it is our duty to participate. We have to participate in the political process, or as we've seen lately, things will fall apart, and our whole nation will suffer. We have to participate in our communities, because

the roots of all success lie in strong American communities. We have to participate in voicing our concerns, and striving to help solve problems instead of just complaining about them. We have to participate in political elections. Bottom line: if we don't participate, we lose the sense of pride we all have in America. We become something our forefathers would frown upon.

So as you pack up and leave, take something with you. You missed home for a reason, it's your world and you love living in it. Go back and make it better, even if it's something

really small like registering to vote.

It will be men like us that will lead the country into the uncertainty of the future. We all know how that's apparent after this week at Boys State. We simply need to step it up a bit. In an age where caring is not considered cool, we have to, quite frankly, give a damn about this country. We've seen what happens when we don't: war, economic strife and uncertainty.

Lead and lead well, with passion and common sense and we will make America the best it can possibly be.

Boys State never fails to enlighten

Jordan Watson

Newspaper Counselor

After the close of each session of Boys State I find that I learn unique lessons from each one of my staters and fellow counselors. While it is difficult to pinpoint exactly what they taught me every time, I always leave with a feeling of enlightenment. Simple gestures can make a mediocre week an amazing one and everyone I have worked with this week seems to embrace this.

These have come through different avenues and I feel I must thank everyone that helped make this week amazing.

Boys State is such an eye-opening experience that it allows everyone involved to grow more and more as their involvement progresses. We find out things about ourselves that many times we ignore and learn to embrace our true leadership qualities. Living in a world where so many young people are losing faith in civil service

can make a person bitter. But Boys State instills in me that there are true leaders in our world. I see them everyday of the week and I learn to embrace each and everyone of their personality traits that make them exactly who they are.

Individuality in this world is extremely important and while Boys State may seem like an opportunity to conform to what the political process might demand of people, I see it as an opportunity to change the political process. An

individual idea can change the world and even the simplest of actions of civil service can create waves in the community. Leadership is contagious and I find everyone involved in Boys State catching its symptoms.

This week is not always perfect though. Just like any other organization, it has its flaws. But the difference between Boys State and other organizations is it looks

See *Enlighten*, page 5

As it turns out, bees don't like vinegar

Staters,

The week is over and it's time to go home, and the one thing you should be asking yourself is what you learned throughout the course of the week.

If asked, many of you would undoubtedly respond with statements about how the government works, but to me the point is missed if this is what lingers foremost in your minds. After all, this is just a simulation. And not everything you experienced here was simulated.

Peoples' reactions and how they dealt with each

other as vessels of their respective organizations, those are not simulated.

An important thing to remember is that the simulation is driven by people. All too often staters run into problems and make them larger when they decide to immediately resolve issues with institutional control, instead of simply approaching another human with the goal of fixing the problem.

The knowledge that the exact, defined nature of the simulation is inextricably tied to the subjective world of human feelings and ego

leads on to the realization that the government must then be the similar, being of the same formula.

There is institution, and that institution is driven by humans who interpret and implement it. The human element makes it not so cut and dry. This ambiguity requires finesse in order to achieve an end.

We have all witnessed the government in stalemate, unable to put aside partisanship and find a way to agree, but we have also seen government in unison.

Even if that unison is just by way of same-party

presence in the executive and legislative branches, the important lesson to be learned is that even though the makeup of the institutions was essentially the same, it was the people that dictated the level of productivity and achievement.

I have seen several instances of people treating others with disrespect, with an assuming air of superiority, but you will find that subordinates can drastically disrupt things for a superior.

So what do I want you

see *Bees*, page 5



So long, and thanks for all the fish.
-2008 Stater's Union Staff

The Stater's Union Staff 2008

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to learn? Respect and tact make the world go round, and all a chip on your shoulder does is weigh you down.

I have found myself saying and re-saying a certain phrase this week, one that rings true. I consider it my theme for Boys State 2008:

You catch more bees with honey than vinegar.

Sincerely,

Brandon Ellis

Newspaper Counselor

Grant enemies forgiveness

Ben Kostroske

Reporter

Janssen, MacArthur

Respect - a simple seven letter word and one of the main themes of Boys State. But what does it mean?

The dictionary defines respect as having esteem towards someone and honoring them; showing regard and consideration for that person.

Respect isn't just something for a select few people,

but rather for everyone. Respect is the key to most everything in life, both big and small.

Even when you seek to change something you're against, you still need to show respect and do the right thing in order to keep your honor and pride.

Martin Luther King Jr. is one of the best examples of this form of respect and honor. Even in the face of blatant wrongs and evils he held true and showed his respect for his oppressors despite the difficulty

of this task.

If someone is disrespected by your actions, make amends and make up for what you've done.

As Benjamin Franklin once said, "The best thing to give to your enemy is forgiveness; to an opponent, tolerance; to a friend, your heart; to your child, a good example; to a father, deference; to your mother, conduct that will make her proud of you; to yourself, respect; to all men, charity."

Referendum from King County

After recent events relating to a chemical explosion at the state owned nuclear power plant located in King County, the local Boeing plant has instigated a massive build-up of military bombers. These bombers then proceeded to carpet bomb the three cities located in Powell County. Following the complete annihilation of Powell

County, the local Justice League located in King County proceeded to "clean up" anything that was not already eradicated. Members include Green Lantern, Superman, Batman, and the Flash. Marvel Ultimate Alliance got wind of the festivities and helped out the Justice League. Finally, the large internet company Google, now

centralized in its new Googleplex in King County, took place in the largest known identity-theft scandal against the members of Powell County. During the attack, King County Space Center was able to get an aerial shot thanks to its new Space Shuttle.

From **Enlighten**, page 3

for ways to constantly improve upon its flaws. Looking further into this idea, it may seem like the staff are the only people involved in the problem solving process but staters are also heavily involved.

I have witnessed this first hand in The Stater's Union staff. Working to make the newspaper more efficient has been an ongoing goal for me over the past several years. Perhaps desperate for ways to be more efficient are the proper words to use. Although, I can't put my finger on exactly why the paper was so much better this year, I know that something was different. With this being my fourth year

as a newspaper counselor I was starting to grow weary of the long and laborious process. But these staters brought my spirits up and showed me that a great, hard-working staff is exactly what this paper needed.

Most of the time, I was able to take my hands off of the wheel and let the staters run this publication. This felt amazing and the fact that I got to sleep at night was definitely important in making this a great week. In years past, all of the late nights that progress into early mornings started out as fun but would grow into something I despised. I cannot put into words how much of a relief it was to have an independent and hard-working staff.

Another major contributor to the success of the newspaper this year was the addition of another extremely skilled counselor. Brandon Ellis worked his butt off for this paper and proved to be almost the perfect addition to the staff. While we had different ideas, many times, on how the newspaper should be run we found ways to compromise. Also this difference in opinions served for a breeding ground for a combination of great ideas to make the paper stellar. In my experience, I would say that the paper has never been better. Thank you to everyone who allows us to publish The Stater's Union. It is a beautiful opportunity for staters to be exposed to journalism.