

Wednesday
Edition

The Stater's Union

American Legion Boys State of Kansas



4 June 2007

Federalist party receives all nominations

Brandon Holdsworth
Reporter
Sullivan, Seitz

Andrew Koucky was sworn into the office for the American Legion Boys State or of Kansas Governor on June 3, 2008. Koucky ran on the platform of the Federalist Campaign. This platform involved many conservative ideals as well as moderate ideals. The

issues involved included percentage tax instead versus a flat tax, the lowering of taxes, increasing the agricultural industry and tourism, cutting social programs, and fulfilling the protection of Constitutional amendments for the citizens. Koucky had many issues on his mind when he took the stage for the debate.

See *Party*, page 8



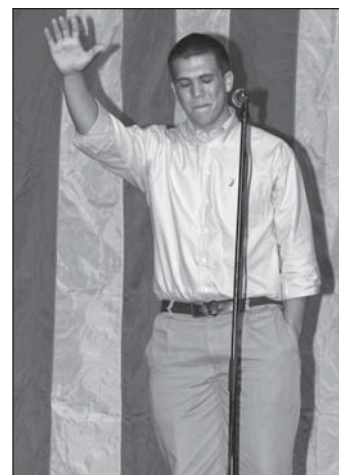
Photos Courtesy Nick Brown

Above: The Federalist Party swept the general elections with all of their candidates winning their campaigns.

Left to Right: Aaron Caldwell, Comm. of Insurance; Marcus McNeal, Secretary of State; Dakota Meyers, State Treasurer; Zach LaRue, Attorney General; James Mullins, Lt. Governor; Andrew Koucky, Governor.

Right: Andrew Koucky, Governor, speaks during the debates.

Below: The Executive Department works on the budget. w



Federalists Sweep Election

Governor

Andrew Koucky
Whorley, Seitz

Attorney General

Zach LaRue
Crum, Eisenhower

State Treasurer

Dakota Meyers
Schulz, Powell

Commissioner of Insurance

Aaron Caldwell
Finley, Kennedy



City of Raymond legalizes Hemp for use in paper

Officials cite history in choice to emphasize paper, not decriminalize others

Brandon Holdsworth
Reporter, Ad Manager
Sullivan, Seitz

Raymond City has chosen to support an agricultural product that has ties to American history. This product is marijuana. The legalization of marijuana in Raymond City is not for smoking or for medicinal purposes, but it is for the process of making paper out of the hemp leaf used in creating marijuana.

“We want to bring back the hemp industry in honor of our county and to help the agricultural production of the state increase as well,” city councilman Ben Detrixhe said.

During the Mexican Revolution, Mexican general Pancho Villa invaded parts of the southern states of the U.S.A. In retaliation, the U.S. ordered General Pershing and his men to pursue Pancho Villa, capture him and bring him to trial. A game of cat and mouse quickly ensued as Villa and General Pershing engaged in many battles. The main source of paper in the United States during this time period was hemp paper, but Pancho Villa found another use for the hemp leaf: smoking marijuana.

“We wanted to be different,” city councilman Lukas Blea said. “It’s not the drug we want to use

but the paper from the hemp leaf.”

With this new use of the hemp leaf, Pancho Villa decided to capture the plantations around the southern borders of the U.S. He captured more than 800,000 acres of hemp leaf land from William R. Hearst. In response to the loss in hemp paper funds, he decided to put a tax on the hemp production and changed the type of paper production from hemp to wood pulp. Raymond City in Pershing County decided to re-establish the tradition of hemp paper in honor of General Pershing.

Our city is agriculturally based,” city councilman Brennan Smith said.

“We wanted to open a new route of trade so we created an ordinance to allow it in the city. Looking at the history of our county, it made sense to choose marijuana.”

“The city of Raymond legalized marijuana to be unique and also because we’re an agricultural city,” city councilman Dustin Campbell said. “It will bring more money and tourism to the city because the history of marijuana will probably attract the younger people.”

While some remain skeptical and others question the motives behind the ordinance, it will certainly be a unique policy to be dealt with at Boys State.

Raucous debates favor Federalist candidates

Taylor Wood
Reporter
McCoy, Patton

The debates between the Federalist nominees and Nationalist nominees took place, marking a major event that will decide the future of Boys State Kansas down the road.

As the candidates of each party were announced the delegates

applauded and cheered. However, the Federalists seemed to gain a greater amount of applause compared to the Nationalists; due to the ratio of the parties.

As the delegates quieted down, the debate began.

Each candidate had to stand before his fellow delegates and be asked a question by one of the many PACs stationed

below the stage.

Starting with Commissioner of Insurance and ending with the Governor debates themselves, each question either making or breaking the candidates.

When the Governor candidates began their debate, the issues consisted of gun control laws, healthcare, and education. Alex

Jones, the Nationalist candidate for Governor, seemed to draw more applause compared to his opponent Andrew Koucky, the Federalist Governor, when answering his questions. However, at the end of the day, it was evident that despite the debates, party ratios and numbers might have been the winning factor for the Federalists.

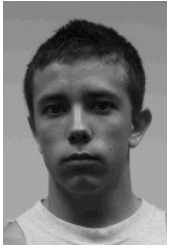
Court against paper

District Court rules against constitution

Wouldn't it be nice to break the law and get away with it? That's exactly what happened Monday night when a lawsuit was brought against the newspaper publication at Boys State.

The newspaper placed

Editorial
by
Ben Kostroske



an advertisement on its pages for a governor nominee in the Monday edition of the Stater's

Union, but as readers may well know, the Monday edition of the paper was released later than many expected due to unforeseen delays.

The nominee sent us a district court judge to inform the staff that we were being sued on the grounds that their nominee believed that the paper would be in circulation before the primary elections.

I ask you, would the nominee have won even if the advertisement had run?

Honestly, probably not.

Advertisements, although they may help in the process, have no say in the making or breaking of

had told him that the paper would be released by breakfast. When confronted by the fact that no such statement had been made, he changed

"receiving free goods and services" is "stealing," if those from which they were obtained were forced to part with what was rightfully theirs.

The nominee still has not paid for his advertisement services, yet he expects the to pay for the lawsuit.

Whatever happened to the ideals of upholding justice?

The results of the situation were completely immoral and illegal.

There would be no market or economy if the entire world operated with the same basic judgement that was employed in reaching the decision in this fiasco.

Then again, how many times have people sued for ridiculous grievances and won?

It happens every day in modern America. Is that what we, as a society, have been reduced to?

If people don't get their way, then they sue?

No positive results can arise from this unlawful lawsuit, and it provides staters with an opportunity to reflect on similar issues in their own communities.

The decision of the court
is entirely unconstitutional
and contradicts everything
this country represents.

an election.

We were assured by a court official (most likely another unlawful action) that the candidate's case would not hold due to the shaky justification on which the case was founded, yet the newspaper lost the case.

Which seemed fair, given that no terms of sale had been made and no statement had been made regarding when during the day the paper would be released.

The plaintiff in the case held that the news staff

his position to one stating that newspaper advisor Brandon Ellis had told him this.

The court ruled in absence of testimony by the advisor in question. They took the plaintiff at his word.

The newspaper was effectively "guilty" as they could not prove themselves innocent. Seems a little backwards.

The decision of the court is entirely unconstitutional and contradicts everything this country represents. Another name for

Socialism just an exercise

Last night within the hubbub of our news office, as general election candidates swarmed in to ask us for advertising space, the staff had an unexpected visitor.

Not the district court judge serving orders to appear or a Federalist or Nationalist with a mission to advertise, but the leader of the newly formed Socialist Party.

The promotion of socialism at a Kansas Boys State, a nationwide celebration of democracy, is surprising.

This is an issue, albeit a minor one. Socialism poses no real threat to modern American government, but it's still an issue that some staters feel strongly about.

The practice of socialism is not as oppressive as many believe. It not necessarily a democratic form of rule, but can be compatible with democracy. It's not simply a Russian idea, either. Great Britain's Parliament currently houses three members of the Democratic Socialist Party.

However, socialism is unbecoming of what

America stands for. It promotes mandatory economic equality for all. In theory, this makes all of us happy, as we all fare well and coexist in tandem. No conflict should ever arise in the workplace because we're hypothetically all on the same level and happy with what we do.

The problem with socialism is that no economic competition ever arises because the market is set completely equal by government price controls. Workers become complacent and lazy, as no opportunity exists for advancement.

With no incentive, nationwide production levels drop in all industries, and the average wage drops as well. We all suffer.

Socialism may work in some countries or cultures, but it doesn't uphold the true American principle: the harder one works, the more they earn. Yes, all men are created equal, but this mandate applies to civil rights, not the workplace.

It makes absolutely no sense for a retail cashier to make as much money as a chemical engineer or any other career which requires higher education, because odds are the engineer has worked more diligently to attain

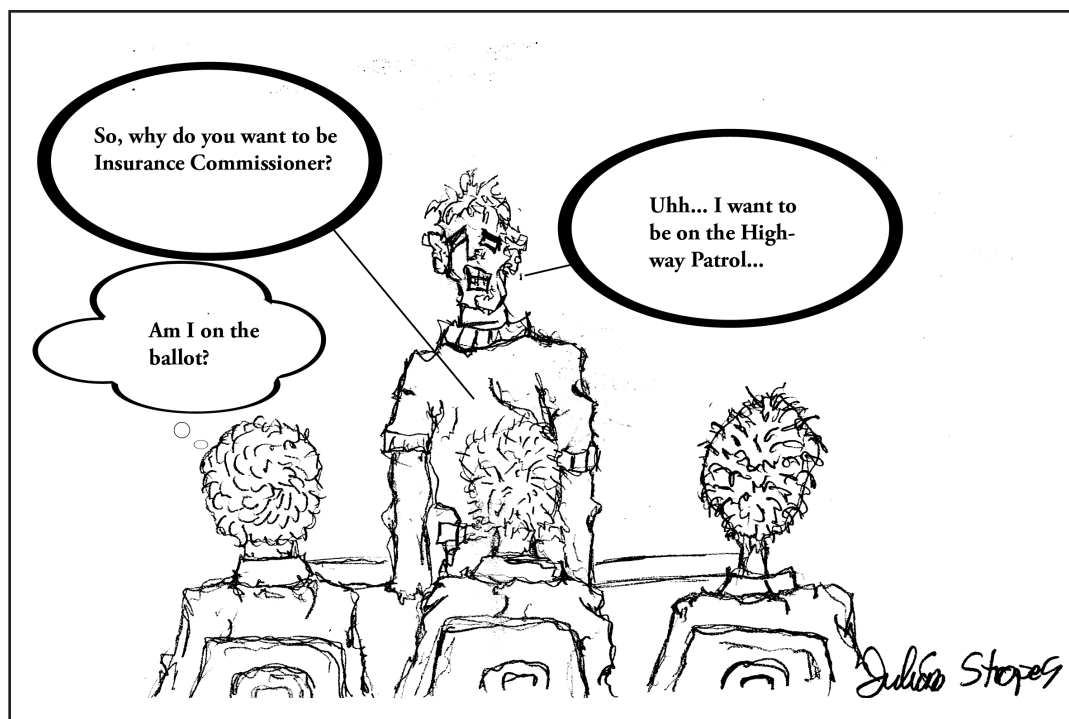
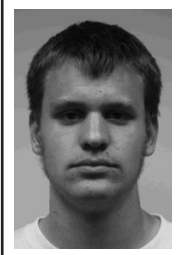
his position.

What is the incentive for that chemical engineer to even put in the time and effort to obtain such a station in life?

If the Socialist party here at Boys State is to teach us one lesson, it should be one of choice. Staters belonging to the party have reminded us all of our rights of free speech and assembly.

However, socialism isn't the American way, and it has no chance to succeed in this country as long as we all keep our heads on our shoulders and realize that opportunity exists for all of us, and we don't need to rely on the government to help us out.

Commentary
by
Jared Anderson



Retraction

In issue three of *The Stater's Union* the following mistakes were printed. On page 1, Dakota Meyers, Schulz Powell and Aaron Caldwell, Finley, Kennedy were described as Nationalist candidates. They were actually Federalist candidates. *The Stater's Union* apologizes for any confusion this caused.

Public urination made illegal

Brandon Holdsworth
Reporter
Sullivan, Seitz

Public excretion of wastes was recently made illegal by Sullivan City. The main reason for the passage of this bill was to ensure the cleanliness and preserve the hygiene of the city. City councilmen for Sullivan consist of Ryan Doberer, Anthony Hawkins, Tristen Connell and Jay Schmidt. Each of the councilmen have differing reasons for supporting the passage of this bill.

"I didn't want the grounds defiled at all by urine or feces," Ryan Doberer said. "Also, the property value will increase with the decrease of public urination. The health issues involved with public urination will also decrease."

Anthony Hawkins said, "This bill will be good for the health of the residents of Sullivan.

Also, the taxes will increase with the property value with decreased urination and an increase on public cleanliness."

Tristen Connell stated, "For one, public urination is disgusting! It smells and is distasteful. I passed this bill to make the town look more refined and better for the people who live here."

Jay Schmidt said, "Sanitation for Sullivan makes the city look more attractive. It also makes the city smell better. If the bill would not have been passed, more diseases and health crises would occur. Sullivan wouldn't be a nice smelling place to live."

The bill was passed on Monday June 2 at 9:37 a.m. with the help of judges Nicholas Barkley and Daniel Copelan. Many citizens hope to see other improvements like this bill in future meetings by the city council.

Campaigning is a laborious process

Ben Kostroske
Reporter
Janssen, MacArthur

Needless to say, the campaign process and appointment of the officials inside the party such as Lieutenant Governor is a highly time consuming and tedious process that requires much attention. But not everyone knows exactly what the whole thing is about.

Campaigning and appointment within the party is an important process which each side must go through, consisting of choosing debaters, fundraisers and speakers.

Each party plans and chooses the best strategies to win the campaign by attempting to sway voters at the political fairs and conventions by promoting the party and its platform.

Each side appoints a committee of debaters to oppose the other side and try to argue their point, rather than stumping the opposition.

The fundraising committee is in charge of raising the money for the campaign for office. They go around to each of the

different Political Action Committees, as well as to individuals to make a good impression and show their views of the platform. They do so in hopes of persuading the voters to gain support for the party.

Finally, each party holds a convention in which both sides try to pump up the crowds of voters and gain support. An emcee and speaker are chosen for each party.

The emcee starts off by being loud, proud and fun in order to stir up the people to get hype and get them ready for the speaker.

The speaker attempts to get the crowd even more fired up by giving a speech explaining the party platform and maintaining the momentum of the excitement of the moment. Overall, the campaigning, and subsequent appointment of the right individuals for office, is one of the most important processes of the party's goal for election.

All that's left is to see what you, the voter, have to say. After all, it is your choice.

Red Panthers create noise

Jay McDaniel
Reporter
Coss, Eisenhower

A buzz group that has been brought up a lot in the last few days is a group called the Red Panthers. The Red Panthers are a minority group that named themselves after the old black minority group of similar name, who were a militaristic political action group. Minorities

are labeled with a red dot so they decided to change the name from Black to Red Panthers.

A member affiliated with the Coalition of Cities and Counties PAC stated, "the Red Panthers are a radical minority group that wanted to buy zoos to foster illegal immigrants in."

This proved to be a rumor, cleared up by Daniel Rank, a member

of the Red Panthers. Also, the rumor of them wanting to buy airplanes to bomb certain Kansas areas has also been proven false.

The Red Panthers have purchased and are funding a zoo, but have no intention of keeping illegal immigrants in them – just animals. Rank said, "the Red Panthers have had strong financial support from the Heritage Foundation and the

People for the American Way. "

With this he said that they have bought and are funding a zoo and are funding a college and two different schools. The Red Panthers said that they are extremely strong supporters of education and want to promote it as much as possible.

Bank equals backbone

Financial exchange represents the key to the simulation

Korab Eland
Reporter
Bramlage, Bradley

One of the most pivotal parts of the Boys State program is the banking system. Without it, the staters' world would be in chaos and government life would be impossible.

The bank is open only during designated time slots, but when it is open, staters and local governments can use it to do anything from transfer money to their favorite political party or buy upgrades for their home communities

like oil refineries or police stations. The bank is also where many campaigning hopefuls can purchase supplies for getting their names and views out into the public.

It sells round paper plates for \$5 each that can be posted on walls anywhere on the Boys State campus with nominees' names and slogans. Or if you are a big spender, placing an ad in the newspaper is another viable option.

Many county and city governments have already made large purchases, the largest so far being a nuclear power

plant for \$900. Once the state government is formed, then more funds will be funneled into new projects at the state, county and city levels.

The most recent bank scandal occurred on Monday when the Farmers' Alliance was supposedly robbed of \$750.

Apparently someone got a hold of the Farmers' Alliance's bank card and helped themselves to their fair share of the funds accumulated by the organization.

The Farmers' Alliance members in Bradley

County were unsure as to whether it was theft or whether it was possibly a result of an alliance member donating funds without the knowledge of the PAC.

This isn't the first time the Farmers' Alliance has been victimized. According to the banking staff, this PAC has been cheated out of its money for three consecutive years.

The bank system is the cornerstone of our state's economy, and whether they are recording transactions or dealing with theft, it is a Boys State necessity.

Pierron shares judicial experiences

Christopher Kuckelman
Reporter
Finley, Kennedy

Three men who hold government positions in the state of Kansas appeared Tuesday evening to speak to the delegates of Boys State. Among these three speakers during the Town Hall Meetings was Court of Appeals Justice,

Joseph Pierron.

Pierron is a current member of the Kansas Court of Appeals. Cases are brought before the Court of Appeals before entering the Supreme Court. The court debates and settles the cases. After a case is appealed, the case can then be heard before the Kansas Supreme Court.

Pierron presented an example of a court case that has been appealed, and the delegates were asked to act as justices. The case brought before the delegates was determining whether it is constitutional for police to use drug traffic stops that employ the use dogs to attempt to find drugs. The searches were debatable

because there is no probable cause which would allow the police to search the cars.

Pierron actually had a delegate represent the police chief, a stuffed dog to act as the drug dog and individuals to act as the lawyers who were searched and chose to appeal the

See *Pierron*, page 8

Hard campaigning pays off for Goyle

Korab Eland
Reporter
Bramlage, Bradley

Raj Goyle, a current member of the Kansas House of Representatives from the 87th district in Wichita, presented a very compelling story Tuesday night.

"It is a great honor for me to come to Boys State," Goyle said. "Staters are obviously some of the best of the best. I have a commitment to Kansas and making it the best it can be."

Raj, originally from India, was raised in Wichita making him the first Asian American member of the Kansas Legislature. He is not your typical politician. Being 33 years old, he is also

the sixth youngest member of legislature and easily appeals to the states youth.

Goyle earned his position against two to one odds. The 87th district has a Republican majority, and it was an impressive feat when his democratic campaign became victorious. He earned his position through hard work and persistence.

By going door to door to nearly 8000 homes, he got his name out and earned the respect of many Wichitans. Raj has used this opportunity to fix the many problems faced by the state of Kansas. He is an up-and-coming politician, and he has become popular in the House. He is considered "the next big thing" in Kansas legislature.

Slattery runs for U.S. Senate

Jake Kaufman
Design/Layout Editor
Schulz, Powell

Staters were treated to a special presentation Tuesday night, during the Town Hall event. All counties were invited to listen to three speakers with backgrounds in politics such as House Representatives and Court of Appeals Justices. One person who spoke about his political career was former House Representative Jim Slattery.

Jim grew up in Atchison County and is a graduate of Washburn University Law School. At the age of 24, he was elected to the Kansas House of Representatives as a democrat.

Then in 1976, he was appointed Speaker Pro Tem.

"I don't like to say that I pursued a 'career' in politics," Slattery said. "I think too many politicians get caught in this and they forget to live their owns lives."

After serving six years in the House, Jim began his own real estate business in Topeka. However, in 1982, Jim returned to Politics, and he was elected into the U.S. House of representatives.

Currently, Jim is running a campaign against Pat Roberts for the United States Senate. Jim supports many popular Democratic policies for his campaign. A few of these

See *Slattery*, page 8

From page 1, *Party*

“While up on the stage, I was just trying to focus on the issues,” Koucky said. “I was trying to deliver the views I have with the passion I have for them. I was also listening to my opponent’s views on the issues and coming up with the best debates I could.”

The Federalist Party regulations have been set forth for the counties and cities. The number one issue is to employ a balanced budget. This includes lowering taxes set from the previous year. The state officials have funded a progressive agricultural industry in hopes of strengthening the

economy for farmers. They are also managing a fair percentage tax. This policy helps relieve big businesses tax and puts slightly more pressure on the poor people without excessively taxing them. “Right now I just want to set forth to accomplish the goals that got me elected,” Koucky said. “I’m not one to break the

promises made to earn me this position. I look forward to all challenges being Governor has to offer.”

The newly elected state officials worked into the early hours of the morning to finish the budget specifics. The Federalist Party desires to base policy upon public opinions.

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Taylor Wood
McCoy, Patton

From page 7, *Slattery*

policies include a gradual withdrawal of troops from Iraq and strengthening diplomatic relations between the United States and Iran.

Jim had a piece of advice for staters that wished to pursue politics or social service jobs, “Develop a servant’s heart. Serve people in your community. If you are a doctor, serve your patients. If you are a lawyer, serve your clients. If you are a politician, serve your constituents. If you can do this, you’ll be amazed how far you will go.”

If you are interested on following Jim’s campaign for Senator, you can visit his website at www.slatteryforsenate.com.

From page 7, *Pierron*

case. The idea was to show what occurs during a case through a somewhat comical, but realistic simulation.

After the case was presented, every delegate in the room had the opportunity to voice his opinion on whether the searches were constitutional. Different delegates took advantage of this opportunity to voice their opinions. At the end of discussions, the delegates in the room were told what ratio felt the searches were constitutional or unconstitutional. Pierron then explained the actual appealed case involving searches. In reality, the searches were deemed unconstitutional by a ratio 3 to 6.

The justice concluded his speech by answer-

ing some of his most popular questions before receiving questions from the audience. Pierron told staters his annual salary is \$130,000. The justice added that he feels this is an adequate pay check. The second most popular question asked to Pierron was his choice of car. His answer was a 1999 Honda Accord with 248,000 miles. Pierron then answered many other questions from the audience.

Pierron successfully presented to the Boys’ State delegates an effective example of the judicial branch of government and showed the branch’s actual duties. The simulation allowed staters to be put in the shoes of a justice and attempt to make a fair constitutional decision.