

THE
AMERICAN
LEGION

BOYS STATE
OF KANSAS

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A WEEK THAT
Changed
MY LIFE

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Storms wreak havoc

Boys State Wire
Staff Writer

SIMULATION ONLY - Heavy rains resulted in localized flash flooding, and tornadoes caused an array of destruction across the state.

The counties of Pershing, King, and Eisenhower experienced damage from powerful winds and flooding, however, no tornadoes were reported in the area. Leaving much of the infrastructure intact.

This was not the case in other areas of the state. An EF-5 tornado ripped through Patton, Marshall, and Kennedy. EF stands for enhanced fujita scale.

The scale goes from zero to five with five being the strongest. Wind speeds of 225 mph were recorded at the height of the storm.

It is estimated the tornado was more than a mile wide at its base and was moving across the state at sixty mph.

The destruction was catastrophic. Homes collapsed, bridges fell, and cars were found stacked in piles.

One resident, Troy Vogts, witnessed the events first hand. He claims "a whole herd of cattle got tossed 500 feet threw the air before crashing into a large grain elevator."

There were pieces of straw buried four to five inches into hardwood trees. Even the steel reinforced concrete structures were reduced to rubble by the awesome power of this storm.

Boys State Meteorologist Shively Jacobson told Staters Union "a storm of this magnitude is only possible when the climate pattern known as the Thaddeus Tuckusus Mid-Atlantic cyclone combines with an unnaturally warm winter.

Fortunately no one was seriously injured in the storm, but the counties have largely been leveled.

Stater wins lottery

Boys State Wire
Staff Writer

The Boys State Lottery was won by Curtis Evan of Raymond in Pershing County. Curtis won 4,652 Boys State dollars and is the first winner in 2015.

The Education lottery also raised 74000 Boys State dollars to be used in schools across the state.

Staters Union Staff

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Investigating the Governor's absence

By Jordan Waymaster
Staters Union

Recently our Boys State media held a press conference to give our state officials a way to access the Staters more personally. However when most of our state government showed up...
(Read more online)



Staters Union staff sits in on department proceedings

By Aaron Simpson and Jordan Waymaster
Staters Union

In times of economic stagnation, many departments have had a hard time providing funds for the infrastructure of the state and counties. However, a few departments...(Read more online)



Lack of sleep becoming a concern at State?

By Alex Veliz
Staters Union

As I sit at the computer at 11:40 p.m. on Wednesday night trying to finish a story for the media group, for close to the third time this week I cannot begin to explain the irony that this story entails. (Read more online)



The Staters Union is a designated forum of free speech. The print edition is published every day of Boys State by the Staters Union Staff. It is distributed for no charge throughout Kansas Boys State. All stories pertaining to Boys State within these pages refer to a simulated society, and editorial license may have been used to report the "facts" of such stories. Letters to the editor are encouraged and accepted. Letters must be signed and the writer's county indicated to be considered for publication. All letters are subject to editing for length, legal, grammatical and factual reasons. Letters should be taken to the Staters Union office in the basement of Marlatt Hall (Room 20). To contact the Staters Union, please email us at ksbsmedia@gmail.com.

Staters Union interviews advisor Scott Bley

By Jacob Doerksen and Brandon Hurn
Staters Union

The Boys State organization is a flagship program of the American Legion Association, and the Boys State of Kansas has many former members of the military on staff as advisors.

Scott Bley, past executive director of Boys State and current Ceremonies Advisor, is one of the valuable veterans in the program.

Following high school, Bley went to Bethany College and got a degree in music education.

After entering his own professional field, Bley expressed an interest in serving his country, and the Army Reserves offered him an opportunity to continue his career while training.

Bley enlisted in the army reserves in 2010, and completed his advanced training in 2012. He is currently a member of the Army Band in the 338 Army Reserve Unit in Ohio, his home state.

Bley said that when he found out that he could “serve his country and still keep his job,” he jumped at the opportunity to joint the Reserves. “When I look back on my professional life, I didn’t take the path that people might think is correct,” Bley said. “There is no right way, there is no wrong way, to go through life.”

Boys State has been a part of Bley’s life since 2000,



Staff Photo

Adviser Scott Bley
when he was a delegate himself.
Bley has proven over the years to be an invaluable resource to the Boys State of Kansas program, and has returned for 15 years to assist with the program; serving as a counselor, associate director, and a three year term as the executive director.

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State eDirectory here:

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