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STATE SHUTDOWN - NO BUDGET DEAL

BY GRAHAM BOND
Writer for The Delegate

With a Senate that threatened to halt any legislation until a \$1,000,000 statue of the Killdozer and a House of Representatives that would not allocate any funds until the Killdozer legislation was stopped, the state department was already in an unfortunate place. In a joint session in the House, senators and representatives debated over the state budget. However, the Killdozer debate split the session, and a protest grew outside.

At times, the protest swayed in favor of the passing of Killdozer, but the opinion of the protest was never stable; in the end, the people gathered to convince the session to pass the budget.

"This is everybody," said Gibson Hobbes, Powell County Commissioner, Powell County Federalist Party Leader, and National Guardsman. "We got guys from a bunch of different counties; we got Kennedy, even Kennedy, because those men right aren't listening to the people."

During the debate, the Department of Humanities, Department of Natural



THE Boys State Legislature Joint Session attempts to broker a successful budget deal. Photo Credit Todd Vogts

Resources, and the Department of Economics wrote a mandate stating that they would not allow any money towards the Killdozer monument, and even temporarily shut down all funds towards Powell County, one of the biggest proponents in the protest, until the state budget were passed

"All the departments signed a petition to not allow any money towards the bulldozer monument," said Adrian Kaus

The debate ensued until a resolution was made with around 45 minutes of time in the operations period left.

"We gave the Department of Humanities \$100,000 for Killdozer, but it's up to the Department to enact it," said Representative Joe Nordling.

At 2:27 PM an anonymous source from the state department announced to the Delegate that Killdozer passed, and the delegates outside in the protest dismissed themselves. The session continued on, but the budget proposed by the government ultimately failed to pass the two-thirds majority and as a result the government went into an official shut-down.

Midweek Mayhem

BY PEYTON WEIXELMAN
Writer for The Delegate

Merely hours after the governor and his cabinet were elected, the House and Senate continued to work together to attempt the passing of bills but were faced with a strong clash within their groups. President of the Senate took a strong stance on budgeting that may compromise any progress towards legislation. Others, including Governor White, disagreed with the proposition that the Senate President wished to push and mentioned that a

possible shutdown would occur if the group disregarded any current bills, policies, and even the state budget proposal in order to ensure the passing of their own policies. This has created a conflict between the House and the Senate, which could result in a government shutdown if an agreement can't be reached.

"And we said, 'well, we're discussing the abortion bill, when are you guys gonna get some of our bills passed.' And they said, 'well, frankly, we don't see a point in that until the Killdozer resolution goes through'" said speaker of the house Declan Carter.

Speaker Declan Carter voiced his opinion to The Delegate that the House

will not let their power be taken by the Senate. Carter and the rest of his party defended themselves in the interview.

"What they're trying to do is say, look, we have the power, but the bottom line is they're not respecting our power. The House is equal," said Carter.

In an interview with the Senate Minority Leader Camden Baxter, one of the initial proposers of the idea, gave background information about the Killdozer. Baxter introduced a man named Marvin Heemeyer who acted against the government after they unfairly charged him after the destruction of his... (see page 2)

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Midweek Mayhem

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personal property. Baxter also mentioned a few reasons why the Senate specifically supports the proposition.

“We believe that Killdozer represents an extremely important aspect of the American experience, of what it means to be an American,” Baxter said.

The Killdozer proposal was agreed upon unanimously by the Senate but is currently receiving opposition from the House, particularly because of the request of \$1,000,000 dollars for the proposal which is nearly a tenth of the budget allocated to the House and the Senate.

Opinions on Shutdown

BY JOSH KHANG AND SHAWN LANGE
Writers for The Delegate

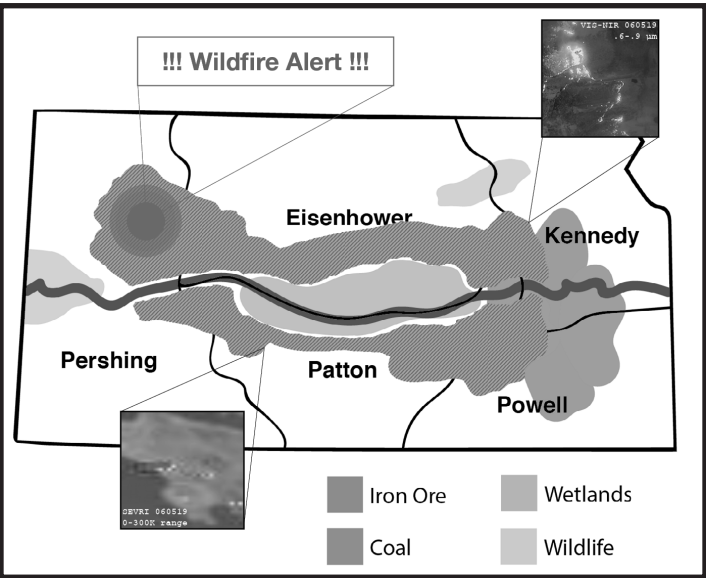
There have been talks recently from both sides of the issue of the shutdown with speculation of both sides having willingness to shut down the government for fun. With the Senate and House denying the budget proposal from the cabinet, a shutdown has happened. The House and Senate were attempting to reach a compromise with no progress.

“I mean we are not getting anything done anyways. It’s a big deal. The government’s not up and running.

It is what it is. You can’t really control it. Because you know not everybody can be as smart as me,” Luke Wichmann, a House representative, said.

On the other hand, some viewed the shutdown as a detriment.

“They’re taking this like it’s a joke. I think [a government shutdown] would take away the fun. They said we’re taking it too seriously. I don’t think the government shutdown would be beneficial in anyway. I mean, government shutdowns even in the real life almost never accomplish anything,” Lt. Governor LiCastro said.



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Field Fire Ravages Multiple Counties

BY BRETT CHAPMAN
Writer for The Delegate

While most tension during Kansas Boys State happens due to fighting between counties, departments, and legislature, the weather has added an unexpected twist to the mix. A lightning strike in Pershing County started a wildfire that made an impact not just on Pershing, but on more counties as well. The weather conditions in Kansas helped the wildfire spread from Pershing to both Eisenhower and Patton County. A report from The Delegate’s website describes the fire:

“Emergency responders in Pershing County reported a field fire started by a lightning strike. The fire has spread to cover 400 acres. The wildfire started in dry

conditions and is fueled by moderate winds.”

The report originally suggested that the fire would only be in Pershing County, but it was later reported that the fire spread to Eisenhower and Patton County. Another report posted not too long after the first report states:

“The fire in Pershing County is no longer contained. Satellite tracking shows several rapidly moving fire fronts driven by high winds. Due to ember travel up the convection column, it has crossed the river, heading south.”

The fire was contained before reaching Kennedy and Powell County, but the affected counties have a lot of work to do. Pershing, Eisenhower, and Patton county will need to work fast to repair the damages caused by this fire.

Counties and Departments Talk Killdozer

BY BRETT CHAPMAN
Writer for The Delegate

Protests broke out the meeting room that discussed and voted for the budget, primarily to voice their opinions on the Killdozer plans for the budget. Commissioner of Powell County, Gibson Hobbs, explained why Powell County decided to help out in the protest. He believes that it was important to have to his county rally for a cause that would be beneficial to them.

“It came to my attention that it’s a popular demand of the people in my county, and so the mayor and I, in the best interest of our county, decided to use our pride to start this strike and people of other counties joined in,” said Hobbs

Hobbs also stated that

the rally was more than just Powell County, and that many others joined in for a similar cause.

“We’re all uniting behind this, no matter what our allegiances are, because this is the will of the people versus the will of just a few,” said Hobbs.

The Department of Economy’s chairman, Andrew, explained why the departments decide to release the mandate to not fund anything for the Killdozer monument.

“So basically, we realized the Killdozer project could be a waste of money and resources in general,” said Andrew. “Throughout the departments they will have no other way of distributing the funds, there will be no way they can get the money out, and so we effectively killed Killdozer,”