



Boys Nation Senators Selected

Jon Nagel
Staff Writer



L to R: Elijah Penny, J'Qui Audena, Thane Chastain,
Zachary Hendrickson, Matthew DePuis

After Thursday night's vote, Zachary Hendrickson and J'Qui Audena have been selected to represent the state of Kansas at Boys Nation, with Matthew DePuis from and Elijah Penny as alternates should either Audena or Hendrickson be unable to attend. The two Boys Nation senators will be travelling to Washington D.C. in late July and will be experiencing a deeper level of government and politics.

"I'm very excited and honored to be given this opportunity", says Hendrickson. "I've always wanted a career in politics and this is a great way to start it." He is also very happy with the other candidate. "I think J'Qui and I will really work great together. He really understands what he's doing and it's going to be amazing having him with me every step along the way."

When asked for his thoughts on Boys Nation, J'Qui said "I hope to share [with] them and explain to them this experience." He expressed his excitement to experience Boys Nation with Hendrickson. "He inspires me and is a great guy."

Audena and Hendrickson are "your guys" for Boys Nation. Both are prepared to represent Kansas and to do the best they can. Congratulations to the senators and alternates, and best of luck.

Marshall County Secedes from Boys State

Brent Miller
Staff Writer

Early Friday morning, a delegate from Marshall County appeared in the media area following the press conference with governor England, bringing with him an interesting proposition from his county.

Marshall County declared its intentions to secede from the Boys' State of Kansas, petitioning the governor to allow this.

At first, Mr. England was close to being adamant in denying the action to take place. However, his resolve slowly changed into mere skepticism, and finally resigned acceptance, as the ambassador from Marshall clearly outlined his County's objectives and plans. Apparently, Marshall was in possession of the power to file a lawsuit for over \$6,000 they had not yet received unless the governor signed their petition.

Of course, secession from the Boys State of Kansas is not merely a simple matter of acquiring the governor's permission. That permission is needed to propose the action to the other governmental branches for ratification. Only after being approved by these can Marshall rightfully secede.

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Ike County, Sir

Austin Dickey
Staff Writer

These days, when most delegates to Boys State hear the name Eisenhower, they no longer think of the honorable president from Abilene, Kansas; instead their thoughts turn sour for the county who seems to be the only county left with money (and lots of money at that). The hate has grown so drastically that not even Reuben James could walk onto the stage as the Eisenhower Boys Nation candidate without getting booed. What did the citizens of Ike County do to deserve the hate?

Right out of the gate, Eisenhower got lucky. With excellent counselors, an oil/gas economy that supplied capital, and the right people elected to the right jobs, the county was set up for success. However, it was the hard work and careful investment and planning of the county and city officials that really helped its residents succeed.

Critics abound. Aaron Vajnar of Bradley County summed up the feelings of some people from other counties by mentioning that "Eisenhower County is just obnoxious, especially when they're marching ... They're like the fraternity of Boys State." Others, though, seemed to enjoy the humor of the Oil and Gas PAC's TV advertisement. But the laughter faded to jeers over time, and later to cheering again as Eisenhower lost some money through "over-drilling" after escaping foul weather.

It is understandable that people must search for a scapegoat in times of trouble. But ask yourself; would you really have done things differently in Eisenhower County's position? We all want to stand out: Marshall County has seceded, people have tried to assassinate the governor, and Ike County just had the resources to stand out in a fiscal sense.

As we have learned here at Boys State, it is incredibly important to work together to avoid gridlock or achieve a common goal. So perhaps we all can agree to get through the last day together, as a unified state of Kansas. Plus Marshall, of course.

Question of the Day

Shane Fonyi
Staff Writer

Today's question was one of authority: "Who is more powerful: Obama or Oprah, and why?"

Zachary Zarnstoff, of Powell County, answered, "Oprah because she has her own television network that many people watch."

David Laurence, of King County, answered, "Obama, though both [Obama and Oprah] can control masses of people, Obama has more direct authority and power that was given to him by the voters of this country."

Jahman Hill, of Powell County, answered, "Obama; he is the president of the United States, so he has more control over the government than Oprah and because of that he has more power"

John Shively, of Bradley County, answered, "Oprah, because she has more money and money buys power."

Fun Facts

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Garrett Moylan
Newspaper Counselor

The most expensive cow in the world was sold at \$1.3 million? Holy Cow!

If a man could run as fast for his size as an ant can, he could run as fast as a racehorse.

The Blue Whale's tongue weighs more than an adult elephant!

Frozen lobsters can come back to life when thawed! Now if only humans could do that.

A chicken will lay bigger and stronger eggs if you change the lighting in such a way as to make them think a day is 28 hours long!

Porcupines float in water.

An average 12oz jar of creamy peanut butter contains approximately 550 peanuts.

In 2008, the US spent well over \$1 billion on barbed wire alone.

The Tuatara, a species of lizard, has a third, light-sensitive eye on its forehead.

Boys State: My Take

A Stater's reflection on his Boys State experience

Alex Whitten
Staff Writer

So here I sit, down in the basement of Marlatt, finishing my report of world news going on outside of Boys State when one of my counselors pokes his head in the door. "You're gonna hate me," he said, "But you're going to have to delete that. We're not doing world news today. We need you to write an article about what you have learned at Boys State."

So now here I sit, looking back at what at the week, wondering, What did I learn? When I got here on Sunday, having a vague idea of what to expect from my brother, who came here in 2006, I wasn't very excited about this. He had told me the food sucks, the marching sucks, the weather sucks, Some of the jobs can be fun, and the counselors can suck. But for some reason he still said it was one of the best experiences of his life. Which left me thinking, what kind of place was Boys State?

Now you all know that the food was actually better than average. We got to wear shorts all week so the marching wasn't as bad as it could have been. The weather still kinda sucked but its June so its kinda expected. My job as a reporter was probably one of the best here at Boys State. and my counselors were all very fun to be around and get into stick fights with (I totally won). My brother was wrong on most points for once. But he was right on one. Boys State has been one of the most memorable experiences of my life.

Sunday I was very confused. I think we all were. we show up and get assigned to a county were you meet the person you have to spend

the rest of the week with. Then you had to go down and get a quick lesson in marching before you were off going to McCain. When you got back, you had to choose how you wanted to spend your whole week. I had talked with some of my friends and we had decided we wanted to do the media so we could all hang out for the week. I stuck with the plan. My friends didn't. So I was kind of nervous when I learned I was the only one.

As the week progressed I found that the job I had was one of the best. I always knew what was going on, and I had come up with several ideas that helped the paper such as news from the outside and the Question Of The Day. I got to help the video people occasionally and got my thirty seconds of fame in one of their videos (I was the one doing the backflips). I also learned how the media works and how newspapers function.

Now I'm curious, what made my experience at Boys State so outlandish and different and new? Was it the learning about how the legislative process works? Or the multitude of spectacular guest speakers we have had all this week? Or maybe some of the shenanigans we got into down in the Media Room (I think I have a permanent welt). No, I think the most important thing here was the counselors. They all have made great efforts to make this week the best. So before I sign off and leave K-State, I would like to personally thank all of the counselors for their time. So...

THANK YOU SO MUCH!!!

THE NEWSPAPER

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.

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Who Are You Now?

I wrote a letter in the Sunday edition of the newspaper asking who you are. Again, I ask that question. Who are you? Who have you become?

After a week of politics, debates and campaigning; a week of frustration, mutiny and marching; a week of fun, excitement and Jodies. What have you learned? About others? About yourself?

I hope this week has challenged you to think in new ways about new things. I hope you learned the value of thinking before speaking. I hope you discovered something new about

yourself. I hope you better know who you are.

The most important part of Boys State isn't the marching, the Jodies, the elections, or even the politics. Rather, the most valuable aspect of State is the part that you carry with you for the rest of your life. The memories, the friends, the lessons learned.

I thank you from the bottom of my heart for one of the best weeks of my life. I wish you success in all that you do, and I hope to see you next year as counselors.

Garrett Moylan
Newspaper Counselor

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Not only did Marshall County delegate inform the governor and all media staff present of his county's plans, but he claimed that he and his fellows would be able to hack their way through the inevitable jungle of red tape. Primary of the potential problems for a seceding faction: since they are no longer a part of Boys' State of Kansas, they are not qualified to receive food, power, and aid – hence, no meal tickets for Kramer, no plumbing or electricity, no room access, etc. One can see how difficult it may be to run governmental campaigns from a collection of dark, odorous, and

hunger-strained hovels.

The Marshall ambassador pronounced his County able to avoid this pitfall; indeed, their plan required nothing more than a few well-placed words to keep their residence and meal rights at K-State. Marshall can simply claim that they are still a part of the Boys' State program regardless of what state they are from, thus having the right to all privileges that it entails.

Despite their possible severance from the Boys' State of Kansas, Marshall County promises to keep beneficial transaction and trade relations with it.

Stay connected with your fellow staters!



Meeps!



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American Legion Boys
State of Kansas



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