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# STATERS UNION

A WEEK THAT  
Changed  
MY LIFE

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## The Week that Changed My Life

**By Luke McGowan  
William Montgomery  
Staters Union**

This week has been a great one for everyone. All of the staters have made huge gains, both for themselves and their new friends.

As the session winds down, staters look back on the experience they have had. Staters Union took the opportunity to see just what these young men had to say about Kansas Boys' State here on the campus of Kansas State University.

The staters have so many different opinions about how this week has affected them. So let's see just what some of these leaders have done.

The first stater asked was William Lehman, who is the Mayor of Crum City in Eisenhower County. He said, "On the first day I was a bit nervous, because I didn't know what to expect, on the second the Department of Human Services shut down the city of Crum and Crum is now the top city. It was a joint effort between Chastain and Crum.

Now over the course of these last couple of days, I feel like I am a lot closer to everyone in my county and learned what it's like to be in some type of Government."

Ryan Spiegel of MacArthur County, Johnson City also said, "I learned a lot about Government that I didn't know before and I didn't know what to expect before I arrived at Boys' State.

I am the MacArthur county commissioner and we won some banners for being a great county because of that."

Kennedy County's Andrew Rolater told SU that he had enjoyed his experience here, working with the Coalition of Cities and Counties.

He humorously stated that he had gotten more comfortable with cafeteria food, and also commented, "I learned that the best way to make friends in a new environment is to [...] open up and try to meet people, not make people come to you."

Finally, Staters Union approached the Department of Labor Treasurer, David Christie. Christie, also of MacArthur County, has been working hard all week distributing money and providing grants, telling SU that they have actually lowered the unemployment rate.

He reminisced about his county experience, stating, "Without one of us in our county, it'd be completely different." He mentioned how great leaders, such as Neil Armstrong and Bill Clinton, who are former staters themselves probably wouldn't have been as successful as they were without the lessons learned at camps like this.

His only complaint was that he wish it could have been longer.

Over the course of the week, every single stater has made gains in some aspect of their lives.

They could have made new friends, gained a greater appreciation for the government and those who run it, developed their public speaking, or simply enjoyed pulling pranks left and right and basking in the brotherhood and companionship that defines this week.

Regardless of what they have done and what they have accomplished, the legionnaires and staff who put this on year after year can sleep soundly, knowing that they have prepared another group of young men for their futures, and enabled them to onwards to infinity and beyond.

This truly has been a week to remember.

## Corrections and Clarifications

In Issue 6 on Friday the Boys State Wire reported, "It is believed no one survived," regarding the school destroyed by the tornado.

Friday all students in the rubble were found, alive. Much to the amazement of rescue workers, the twenty-four students and staff hid underneath the boiler in the basement of the building.

The Fire Chief leading the rescue mission, Jon Vogts, had

this to say, "There must have been someone looking down from above; the support beams were torn to shreds, but one remained standing by some miracle which prevented the entirety of the building from crushing them."

After several hours of removing debris, the survivors were found and many rushed to the hospital to treat serious and some life-threatening injuries.

## We Made it to the End

**By Jared Shelton**  
**Staters Union**

Here we are; Saturday morning. Packing, saying good-byes, filing out, and thinking.

Thinking about the week that has changed every Staters' life, whether that be in a major or minor way.

We came here on Sunday, some because of parents, some because it looks good on an application, and some because they truly wanted to learn more about the government system at work.

We came from all different parts of Kansas and met in Manhattan's Kansas State University.

Little did we know, we were in for the time of our lives. Some met lifelong friends, ran for office (whether they

intended to or not), and some experienced a monumental impact.

But all of us have changed, whether or not due to a life-altering epiphany. We've met strangers, and those strangers have transformed into brothers.

When you leave here, remember that you are not alone. Every camper in attendance is in your position; regretfully turning their backs of Kramer, Goodnow, Marlatt, and McCain. On the cities and communities, and the people in it.

Do not forget this week. Text, Facebook, tweet; keep in touch! Don't let the experience die out with Boys' State 2013.

Remember what you learned, spread your knowledge to the people back home, and help change the world for the better.

## Be Sociable!

### Connect with Boys State online!

**Twitter:** @ksboysstate OR #ksboysstate

**Facebook:** search for "American Legion Boys State of Kansas"

**Website:** [www.ksbstate.org](http://www.ksbstate.org)

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](mailto:ksbsmedia@gmail.com).

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## Boys Nation Senators Announced

**By Kent Chrest**  
**Staters Union**

Following the band and chorus concert Thursday night, the candidates for Boys' Nation took turns speaking on behalf of their candidacy and why they thought they would be the best Stater for the prestigious opportunity. Unfortunately, the results were not released until the next morning at assembly.

The Staters voted for two alternates and two delegates for the opportunity to go to Boys' Nation. The two alternates selected were Nathaniel Kessler and Conner Viets.

The alternates may not be able to actually travel with the program, but their nominations alone is a huge honor to Boys' State of Kansas as well as the American Legion.

The first delegate selected and announced was Sam Pate from Eisenhower County. During his speech, he noted that, "Just like the donuts here at Kramer, everything that I

learned here at Boys' State had me yearning for even more."

He also made sure to thank all of the Staters for giving him the opportunity for this great achievement. "Without all of you guys doing what you did, I wouldn't be up here speaking."

The next candidate announced was David Nolan from Patton County.

During his speech, he wanted to make sure that Patton County was heavily thanked due to the great support received from the whole county.

After being selected as a delegate David was asked the question, "When you got here, did you expect to have all this happen to you?"

His response, "Never in a million years."

Nevertheless, the two delegates will be headed to Washington, D.C. for an experience that will definitely change their lives forever.

For more Boys State News, don't forget to tune in to the  
**>> Boys State News broadcast <<**  
every day online and during assemblies  
at McCain Auditorium!



<http://www.youtube.com/ksbstate>



## House Rushes to Pass Laws

**By Taner Sass**  
**Staters Union**

Friday in the House of Representatives was definitely an interesting day to sit in on.

We can guess that as the last full day to work on passing bills and the last day of simulation that a lot of last-second, crazy bills are going to try and get passed.

Even with this assumption in mind, we never expected the level of action that would go on in the House.

Probably the most important bill that we saw approved through the House was the impeachment of the Commis-

sioner of Insurance.

On legal grounds, the Commissioner was eventually impeached with the most pressing charges occurring during the charge scenes filmed for the movie trailer in the morning.

As read by the Speaker of the House, "He was charging into people in the other crowd and pretending to stab people with a newspaper."

Another important bill passed was the bill of Remmy for Warlord.

Remington Friend of Marshall County has been appointed the official Warlord of the 2013 Boys State of Kansas.

## Pollution Turns Neighbor Against Neighbor

**By Kent Chrest**  
**William Montgomery**  
**Staters Union**

The two cities of Eisenhower County, Crum and Chastain, butted heads during operations on Thursday morning.

The city of Chastain wished to sue Crum for the pollution from the town being blown into their city limits.

The effects of the pollution included major birth defects in the children being born.

Also, there were many accounts of Siamese twins that were increasingly being born. Although there was a big effect on the city of Chastain, they only hoped to take \$1 from the city of Crum.

The representatives of Crum agreed to pay the fine without any issues.

"If there are major birth defects in the city and also Siamese twins being born, we can afford to lose a dollar," one of the Crum reps stated.

This case has not yet been taken to the Supreme Court. Even with the cities disagreeing and taking different sides, the county of Eisenhower fixed it in a quick and efficient manner.

Other counties have had the same pollution problems that Eisenhower has faced.

This represents two cities interacting with each other to reach a common goal for the collective good of the county.



## Ms. Boys State Gives Her Support

**By James Stapelton  
Staters Union**

Let us talk about our very own "Ms. Boys State" herself, the wonderful Frances Swenson. She served from 1944-1945 as a radio operator in WWII.

On the day the atomic bomb dropped, she received radio signals from Japanese personnel and planes. She was born in southeastern Kansas.

When she had to leave for bigger cities, many of the girls she knew were very excited to see the many sights to behold, while Swenson found this a little more surprising.

Fortunate to have the staff we have, she said she holds Boys State in very high regards.

She says that it prepares young boys to become good leaders, and how everyone comes together and works

together, even if they don't know where each other came from; Along with this, she encourages anyone in the area to come and see how Boys State does things, proving that not every high schooler is all that bad, and we have respectable features that will make us more wonderful people in the world.

Even at her age, she always manages to come every year to see the new faces that take place here.

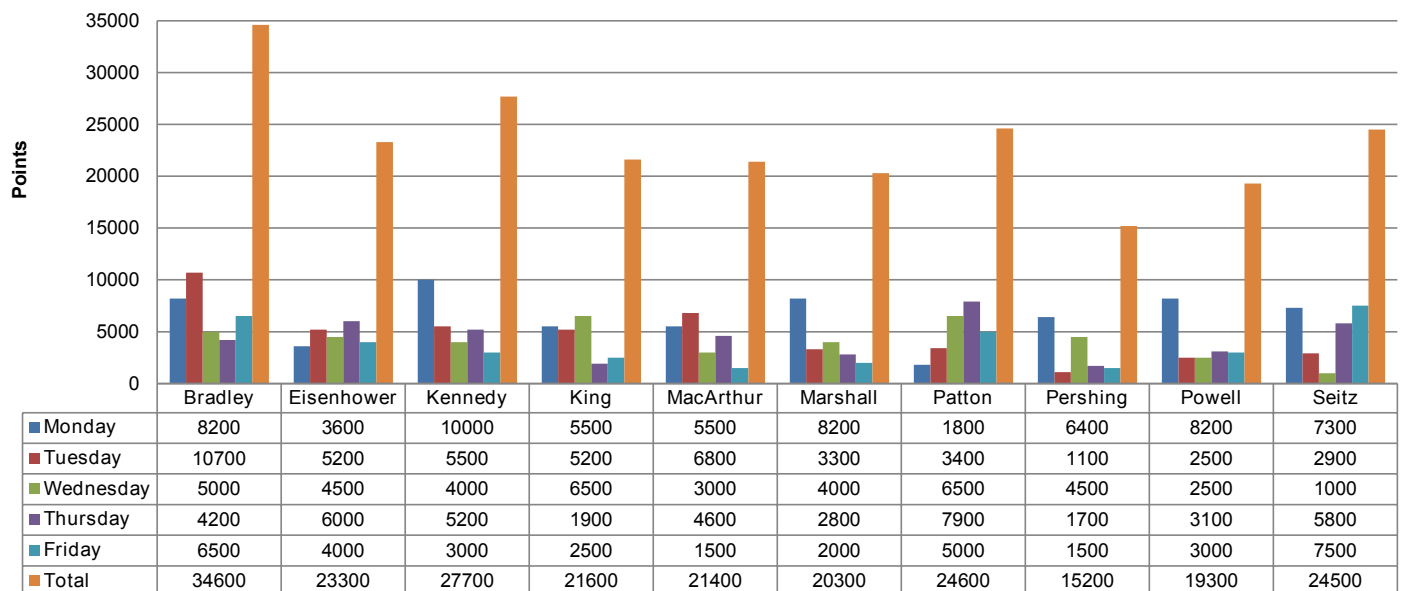
Her favorite events are always the ceremonies that are held each year, including the talent show, which she says, "that it was amazing this year."

Last year, she couldn't make it here, but glad that she could this year, and that this should be the most expected event of the summer.

So we give a great big thanks to "Ms Boys State herself, that she will support Boys State every chance she will get, always.



## Athletic Score



## Alternative Energy Alliance Sues State

**By Dylan Crow**  
**Staters Union**

The Boys State Supreme Court made a landmark decision Thursday in a case involving the Department of Energy and the Alternative Energy Alliance.

On Wednesday, the Alternative Energy Alliance met with member Sam DeVore of the Department of Energy. They were trying to gain support for plans to build wind farms in every county across the state.

DeVore, who was in a rush because of a prior commitment, was asked to sign a contract before leaving. This paper was a contract that gave \$550,000 of the department's budget to the Alternative Energy Alliance to build wind farms and implement Alternative Energy. When the Department of Energy refused to hand over half of their budget, the Alternative Energy Alliance filed suit.

The Alternative Energy Alliance, who as represented by district prosecutor Ryley Menhusen, stated that DeVore knew what he was signing, and willingly signed it before leaving the room.

DeVore however has no recollection of the contract stating that it would allocate half of the department's funds to the Alternative Energy Alliance.

The prosecution argued that the contract that DeVore signed was legally binding as he is a member of the Department of Energy, while the defense argued that the contract was void as DeVore did not have the authority to sign away any money.

When asked about who did have the right to sign, the

defense replied that the designated secretary had the ability, and had signed all previous documents for the Department of Energy. In a later inquiry by the Supreme Court, the defense stated that each member of their department had equal power.

The Supreme Court also called upon three witnesses who were sworn in on an iPhone Bible App. These testimonies are confidential and cannot be discussed outside of the Supreme Court, but they were integral in the court's final decision.

The court made a final decision in favor of the Alternative Energy Alliance -- with a vote of 6-0 with one abstention -- and awarded the PAC all \$550,000.

"Because the contract was signed by a member of the Department of Energy who has equal power, the contract is valid. If [the Department of Energy] had designated one person with the ability to sign, the contract would be void," stated Chief Justice Cameron Jurgens.

Justice Jonathan Bush also went on to explain "The contract was signed by a member of the Department of Energy, and pursuant to Dartmouth College v. Woodward, the sanctity of a contract must be upheld."

The Alternative Energy alliance was ecstatic immediately after the verdict, and rightfully so, as the ruling will increase their budget by 45,733%.

"I think its great that we can build wind farms across the state now, and I am happy that the Supreme Court upheld the sanctity of our contract."

Justice Chris Seidel ended the trial quite appropriately, shouting "Bring out the dancing lobsters!"

