



First Impressions

Eli Mitchel
Staff Writer

The first day of Boys State arrived and nearly every Stater experienced something different; reasons for attendance were varied.

"My father attended Boys State in 1977 and went on to become the Vice President at Boys Nation.... There's lots [sic] of campaigning and competition [and] it's pretty exciting," Powell County's Connor Clark said.



The first day didn't even begin to scratch the surface of what's to come, though. Now that the basic housekeeping and all the rules have been covered, it's time for the Staters to show what they're made of and let the leaders begin to thrive and show who they are.

Some delegates have siblings and relatives with Boys State experience and have been told that the first few days were slow and a little uneventful, but it would quickly speed up and become one of the greatest experiences of their teenage years.



Zach Michaels said his expectations were not met. Rather, things were better than he had anticipated.

"I was expecting it to not be fun, but it actually is fun," he said.

Although not the only reason for some Staters, some said Boys State is only serving as padding to their college resumes. Others are simply here for the gubernatorial experience. Others still, who haven't the slightest idea bout politics, are here for the fun and social experience.



Atten-HUT!

Jon Nagel
Staff Writer

Shane Fonyi
Staff Writer

Marching in formation is a key component to the Boys State process.

Staters were asked about their opinions on marching. The comments on marching were mixed: some enjoyed it, some disliked it.

Andrew Howard, of Patton County, did enjoy marching, but he said he thought it was unorganized. On the other hand, David Laurence, of King County, thought marching was not efficient for taking large groups short distances.

It seems too early for most Staters to know what they really think of marching at this time.

"It is not organized, so it is not enjoyable," said Daniel Ming, of MacArthur.

The consensus is that everyone is still taking everything in and does not yet know what to expect; how much one gets out is determined by how much one puts in.

Most said that it's all about keeping an open mind, so opinions may change by the end of the week.



Forward, MARCH!

Derik Trimmer
Editor-in-chief

Hole in the Bottom of the Sea. Dingle-Dangle. Baby Seals.

What may sound like the products of a random-word generator are, in fact, some classic cadences sung by past Boys State marchers. These "jodies," named after a recurring character in military cadences, make a long walk between our halls and McCain auditorium a little easier to endure. Jodies are a key part of the Boys State tradition and are some of the more memorable parts of State.

This year some Staters' first impressions of the jodies were that they sounded "corny." Many other staters, however, heartily enjoyed the humor.

While counselors are hesitant to leak surprises reserved for later in the week, some of their favorite jodies include: Tiny Bubbles, Raising the Mill Levy, Down By the River, Jayhawk Dies, Teapot, and Crack Babies.

Be on the lookout for these and many other jodies as the week progresses.

Public Service Announcement

Boys State Appraisers have recently completed a market reanalysis and have determined that property values may have been previously appraised at values higher than their actual worth. Experts are expected to release revised evaluations tonight. Staters are encouraged to follow these updates, as their effects may have significant impact on the Boys State economy.

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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. We reserve the right to edit letters for length, grammar, and legality. Letters should be taken to the Staters Union office in the basement of Marlatt Hall (room 20).

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Opening Ceremonies

Brent Miller
Staff Writer

No doubt it was relieving to enter the pleasantly cool McCain auditorium for every Stater after marching vigorously through the early June heat. Certainly the opening ceremonies that would shortly take place could be easily endured, if those ceremonies could be endured in an air conditioned area. The initial excitement that comes upon arriving at Boys State can often be dimmed by the thought of listening to an orientation that stretches across multiple hours.

But what were the specific opinions of some of the newly minted Staters about the ceremonies yesterday afternoon? Throughout our briefly conducted survey, two primary notions prevailed: 1) The speakers were thorough, explanatory, and quite entertaining, and 2) The ceremonies were definitely too lengthy.

"The speakers were good...not boring or anything. But the ceremony dragged on too long," said one Wade Davis of Powell County.

Logan Smith from Seitz County agreed, saying "The talking took forever, but the governor guy was good."

Some of the Staters were more enthusiastic in their critiquing. "[Awesome] keynote speaker. Everything was very long and thorough, but it got what needed to be done, done," says Cain Fouard of MacArthur County. This seems to be a ubiquitous opinion; even though the keynote speaker didn't begin his talk until the orientation had been going on for half an hour, most Staters were impressed with the information he offered.

It would come as no surprise to learn that the Staters were as relieved to escape the McCain auditorium as they were to enter two hours before. Despite this, Staters realized the value in the opening ceremonies and that they were vital to enjoying the week at Boys State, even as they headed back out into the blazing afternoon sun.

