

My Life & Boys State

By Jeff Schrag
Advisor

The American Legion Boys State of Kansas has been one of the most important aspects of my life, beginning with my Stater year in 1984.

I have attended the program ever since. First as a counselor, then as a coordinator and now as an advisor. Some of my longest, closest and strongest friendships come from Boys State.

For me, the program has offered the opportunity to grow as a person and as a leader.

When I was 19 or 20, this program put me in charge of cities and counties. I learned about planning and organization. As a coordinator when I was 23 or 24, I learned to run an efficient meeting and also how to motivate and cultivate others. As an advisor I learned exactly how much food I could fit on one plate.

These skills have helped me so much in life: managing staff, planning events, organizing businesses. And Boys State taught me these skills for free. All I had to do was to get involved and follow through. I did the same things in a voluntary organization that many young people start to do in their companies: but I was able to make my mistakes and learn my hard lessons in a way

see *My Life & Boys' State* Page 3



Staters' First Impressions

By Nick Ramsey, William Englander
Media Staff Writer

First impressions have an incredible effect on a person's outlook on a particular event. Often times, these first impressions can make or break a person's enjoyment of the event in question.

In order to get an idea of Staters' opinions about their first day at Boys' State, members of the news team went out and captured different reactions in regards to the organized marching Staters participated in today.

There were varying opinions on the topic.

Bailey Joonas, a resident of Mantey in Patton County, who has experience in marching due to his tenure as a Boy Scout, said, "It's an effective way for a lot of people to get from point A to point B really fast."

Similarly, Christian Sweeney of

Schulz in Powell County said of the experience, "I enjoyed immensely the great team activity of marching."

However, not all the Staters were fans of this new activity.

Chad Pauly, who hails from Newman in Patton County, said, "My future governor legs were a little tired, honestly." He also mysteriously coughed as the interviewers walked away in a noise that sounded like "You'll always be jolly with Chad Pauly."

Given the overall positive feedback, it is safe to say that everyone has a positive outlook on the following week, and consequently, everybody involved in Boys' State this year can look forward to a great time.

Opening Ceremonies

By Logan Gideon, Morgan Faulkner
Media Staff Writer

This year's Boys State opening ceremonies were received with optimism and excitement.

Following check-in, approximately five-hundred staters marched to McCain Auditorium for the opening ceremony.

The Opening Ceremonies started with the pledge of allegiance then moved on to a series of speakers. Speakers included J'Qui Audena, Scott Bley (Executive Director), Rex Gardner, Anthony Hensley (Senate Minority Leader), Thane Chastain, and Andrew Roozeboom. Staters enjoyed the welcoming

start. Speakers informed staters on the opportunities Boys State will provide. Than Chastain gave an in-depth report on what staters can expect from their jobs.

After the Opening Ceremony the Staters Union had the opportunity to speak with several staters on their initial thoughts of the pro-

gram. Darryk Ledgerwood from Schulz City in Powell County, said, "[The Opening Ceremony] made the elections clear - what we were running for. The

purpose of each position is what it didn't make clear. We're all sitting here in committee and we don't know what we're doing," Ledgerwood continued to say "The marching itself was the midpoint between organization and distraught chaos." Another stater Nigel Murphy said "I was surprised we weren't goose-stepping," when asked about the marching. Stater Braden Robinson from Lane City in Marshall County, said, "The marching was definitely new. Different! However, the opening ceremony provided just enough info." All in all the Opening Ceremonies provided a good balance of education and enjoyment for all staters.



The Only Way Is The American Way

Sponsored By:
People For The American Way PAC

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).

Questions? Comments? Ideas for State?

*Text 91286 followed by your
comments to 22333, and maybe
have it printed in the paper!*

2				8	5		9	
		1	9				2	
9		6				5		1
					7			4
3	9	2			6	7	1	
4	6		3					2
	1		6		4			3
							4	
			8	5	1			

Ken 'Bestie' Beck

**Vote For Me
For Attorney G**

Federalists Go Hard!!

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1 MY LIFE & BOYS STATE

that did not affect my career or my paycheck. My first big meeting, my first big project, my first time leading a diverse team was here. There is no substitute for experience. But often your first big project doesn't turn out too well. You are young, inexperienced, unprepared. You think: "I wish I could do that again." But maybe your boss thinks: "I wish I hadn't assigned that to Jeff, he was clueless." And then you don't get the opportunity to do it again.

At Boys State I could get those breaks away from my professional life. I could do a project over again, at the next session. Then I could take the confidence I gained by success and use that to get a break in

my professional career.

I continue to be involved because I want others to have the same advantages that I had. I want to help foster their growth in some small manner. I want them to have the advantage to stretch their wings in this great organization. To have the advantage to learn and grow, here.

I would be remiss if I did not add one more thing: Friendships.

There is a good chance that some of the best friends of your adult life will come from people you meet at Boys State. Truly a gift that keeps on giving. I wish you the same rich experiences that I have had in the American Legion Boys State of Kansas.



Staters Looking Forward To Rec Sports

By Bryan Courtney

Media Staff Writer

Competition is already heating up between counties and cities here in Kansas. Different Staters are all warming up to compete against others starting today at 3:30 p.m. Cole Feldman from Eisenhower County is ready for soccer.

"I'm most excited for soccer because I enjoy the competition," he said.

Some Staters like Joseph Anguiano from MacArthur County just want to play the sports for the love of the sport.

"I'm ready for basketball because I just love the sport," he said.

There's going to be some tough competition here in Kansas in the ranging from basketball to even arm wrestling the activities will all

be both competitive and good ways for the Staters to have some fun.

"I'm extremely excited for volleyball because I get so pumped!" yelled Samuel Sheaks from Kennedy County.

Fierce competition will be rising today so best of luck to all competitors, and remember, be safe and have fun!



Royals Win

By Caleb

Media Staff Writer



The Kansas City Royals beat the Oakland Athletics by a score of 2-0 on Sunday.

With the win the Royals took their third straight series, and they pulled to six games under .500 (23-29).

Vin Mazzaro pitched in his third game since being called up from Triple-A Omaha and moved to 2-0 on the season. Mazzaro pitched 6 innings gave up no runs on six hits

with three walks allowed.

The Royals' first score came from a solo homerun to center field from the bat of first baseman Eric Hosmer in the second inning.

The Royals scored their second run in the fifth inning off an RBI single by second baseman Johnny Givatatella who scored center fielder Jarrod Dyson.

Despite scoring nine on Saturday, Oakland continued to struggle scor-

ing runs going 0-8 with runners in scoring position and leaving nine men on base.

Tommy Milone, A's starter, went seven innings and gave up two runs on eight hits and a walk, and so the A's lost. The Royals closer Jonathan Broxton came on in the ninth for the Royals and racked up his thirteenth save of the season. The Royals play again at home Monday, June 4 against the Minnesota Twins.

***Your Ad Could
Be Here!!!***

Contact the Staters Union
staff for prices and details.

Marlatt Hall Basement — Room 020

Be sociable!

Connect with Boys State online!

Twitter: @ksboysstate OR #ksboysstate

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

Website: www.ksbstate.org