

Talentshow Inspires Staters

Unique Acts Perform for the 75th Anniversary

By **HARRISON LAMP**
Media Staff Writer

Wednesday's talent show was indeed a moving ceremony for all of the Staters and staff that had the pleasure of being in attendance for these exceptionally talented Staters, as well as special guest Chuck Shoemaker. From the opening speech given by Governor Brownback, to the last song of the Boys State 2012 talent show, "American Pie," the listeners were fired up and attentive.

The audience displayed their charisma through excellent

synchronized clapping, roaring cheers, waived cell phones in the air, and at the end they locked arms and swayed from side to side as brothers of Boys State, quite literally moved by the performance. The entire audience was captivated and blown out of the water by the obvious talent displayed last night. The performers were all so talented as well as diverse in the gifts that they displayed.

From forensics performances of maimed bodies and watermelons to flag dancers in singlets, from pianists who wrote their

own music to mind blowing break dancers, and even a young man who played different tunes with nothing more than his bare hands.

The breaks between each performance and the introduction of the performer turned out to be shorter than the momentous applause that followed each one of them. That was an encouraging sign of the level of movement throughout the crowd and the inspiration that was shown by the audience throughout last night's events.

The auditorium was filled to the brim with excitement and desire to see more talent from the performers. An encore was even called for Chuck Shoemaker to come out and play another song after his finale. Overall, the talent show was an outstanding success, congratulations and well done to all of the performers.



Mid-Week Impressions Shared

By **MORGAN FAULKNER**

Media Staff Writer

Now that we're in the second half of Boys State week, people have had time to form some interesting opinions about their experiences. While things like having to use the stairs and changing clothes every thirty minutes have been a subject of annoyance and frustration, things such as the competitive athletic opportunities and the friends made have been the highlights of some

Staters' experiences.

Stater Matt Rogers from Pershing County said in an interview, "People have gotten over the initial dryness of Boys State, and they've gotten into the flow of things so the experience is more enjoyable."

It's true – for most Staters starting out was not an exciting experience. Upon arrival to Boys State on Sunday many felt out of place, nervous, and unsure about the week ahead of them. Joseph Jumonville, a Stater

from Marshall County, recalled, "I got here, and was way out of my depth...but I really enjoy what I'm doing now."

Then again, we must ask ourselves – if we are never thrust into uncomfortable situations, how will we grow? How will we mature and become the leaders that we are called to be? The answer to that question is most likely found in the experience that is known as Boys State.

Musicians Take Pride In Performances

By **DREW SMITH**

Media Staff Writer

Boys' State offers the wonderful opportunity to be a part of the Boys State band and chorus, which allows the Staters to express themselves in other ways than just through politics. When asked what do you like most about the chorus, Keiser Witte from Bradley County said, "They didn't pick easy songs. The songs are relatively challenging."

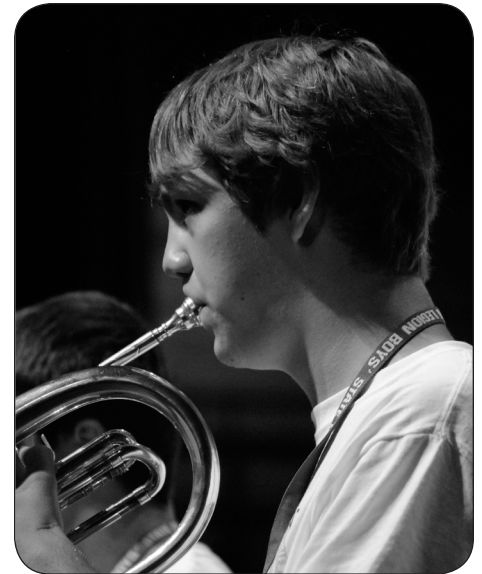
A majority of the chorus, as well as the band, are looking forward to the evening of their concert. They have been practicing every day and are

ready to show off what they have!

The Staters involved in the chorus and band have put extraordinary effort into their performance pieces to make the best concert they can.

The passion and enthusiasm is hard to miss when the band plays their instruments and the chorus sings their hearts out. "My Favorite thing about the band is how good the band is and how nice it is to be among other band geeks at Boys State," said Jason Tidd of Kennedy County. The band and chorus concert will be this evening and will run during a 7:00-9:45 time frame.

Best of luck to everyone performing!



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 it
may be printed in the paper!*

State of the State Address *Governor Presents Plan*

By **WILLIAM ENGLANDER**
Media Staff Writer

In McCain Auditorium, Jesse Porter gave his first public speech as the newly elected Governor in the form of the State of the State Address, in which he communicated to the delegates his administration's budget plans for the following week.

There are six main issues the Porter administration hopes to tackle and solve in the coming days: a shift towards alternative energy, education reform, equality for minorities, decreasing the unemployment rate, attracting new businesses to Kansas, and increasing funding and support for infrastructure. The latter of which Porter believes will be an effective way to open up more job opportunities for the unemployed.

The budget plan Porter put forth is one which aims to solve all the aforementioned issues. Severance taxes will aid in the conversion of oil and gas companies into wind and solar corporations. Thousands of dollars will be put forth in funding schools all across the board, which will include offering more

scholarship opportunities for students and higher salaries for teachers.

There is a 2.4% employment difference for minorities as compared to the majority. This is a reasonably low number according to the Governor, and he believes this budget plan can keep it the same or potentially even lower it with the job opportunities that will be arising. Additionally, before Porter and his administration entered office, the unemployment rate was 15%. With the creation of this new budget plan, that number has been almost halved, and now sits at 8%.

For bringing new business into

the state, corporate tax revenue will be decreased by \$7,000, giving prospective businesses more incentive to start up in Kansas, creating new jobs in the process. In regards to infrastructure, thousands will be put towards improving and creating roads.

Finally, Porter concluded his overview of the budget plan by declaring that it will effectively remove the deficit facing Kansas, a statement that drew much applause from Staters. Overall, delegates had an overwhelmingly positive reaction to the Porter administration's plans, and everyone is looking forward to the progress to be made.



Ray Bradbury Dies

By **STAFF REPORTS**

Media Staff Writer

Ray Bradbury, author of “Fahrenheit 451” and more than 600 short stories, died Wednesday at the age of 91.

Bradbury also wrote poems, essays, operas, plays, and screenplays. For his teleplay “The Halloween Tree” Bradbury won an Emmy.

Other honors and award include: the 2000 National Book Foundation Medal for Distinguished Contribution to American Letters, the 2004 National Medal of Arts and a 2007 Pulitzer Prize Special Citation.

His writing included, before their existence, ATMs and broadcasts of car chases among other things.

Bradbury understood writing

can be a catalyst for change. He used it to warn about the dangers of too much technology – from computers turning on us to our own laziness consuming us.

In an essay Bradbury said, “In my later years I have looked in the mirror each day and found a happy person staring back.”

This Sci-Fi legend made, is making, and will continue to make an impact on all of his readers.

From The Streets To Ivy

By **J.T. HAGER**

Media Staff Writer

For many students in their senior year of high school college is a goal, a dream. For one teen in Cleveland it was the only way out. 18 year old David Boone of Cleveland’s MC2STEM High School was, for the greater part of his senior year, homeless. His home and family had been assaulted by a gang when David told them he would not join

their cause. The gang members then vandalized David’s home to the point where no one could live in it.

“I guess their mentality was, ‘You’re either with us, or against us,’” David had said. Unfortunately David suffers from a severe pet allergy, so he could not live with a family friend, or even his mother.

“That kind of put me in a position to where I had to find different places back and forth to stay,

and sometimes there was no place to go,” David stated. David most remembered the toughest question he had ever asked himself, “Where was I sleeping tonight?” Sometimes he found a park bench to sleep on, and other times, he slept nowhere at all. Through it all David continued to study Science, Technology, Engineering and Math at MC-2STEM, and will graduate with a full ride to Harvard.

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County Banners Retrieved

By **MATT ROGERS**
Media Staff Writer

The latest chatter throughout Boy's state involves the theft of two county banners, and many Staters are eager to learn more about the crime and speculate on who is the primary suspect. Unfortunately, a complete and detailed report of the situation is unavailable in order to protect the classified information.

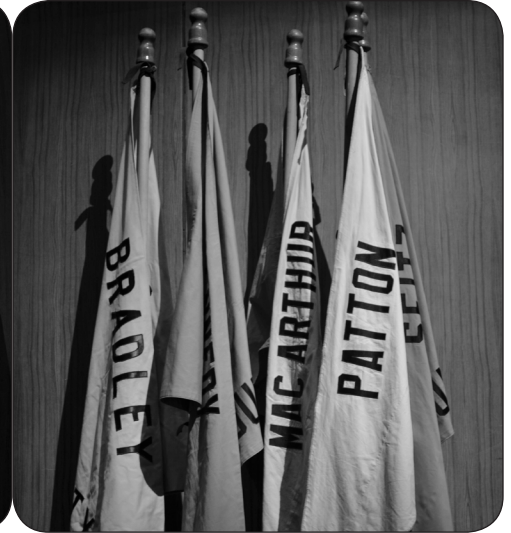
"The Bradley and Eisenhower banners were recovered by a mentor from the county floor which they were found on, and through some great detective work on the part of the mentors, they were retrieved," was the explanation of the event given by mentor Andrew Rozeboom.

It is easily understood why this matter is treated with so much secrecy and respect. The banners of



Boys State have been stitched into the tradition of state almost as much as the marching itself, and therefore these serious matters must be handled with care. Many Staters were annoyed with the theft, while others saw it coming.

"I knew somebody would do something like that eventually. This many guys in one area is a tinderbox for pranks," remarked



Stater Morgan Faulkner from Marshall County.

While this may be true about the high probability of pranks, the theft of the banners is a very serious issue, and we remain hopeful that no prank of this magnitude will be committed again in the near future.

MLB Amateur Draft

By **CALEB HECKER**
Media Staff Writer

Surprises in sports always happen, and the MLB Amateur Draft is no exception. With the first pick in the 2012 draft, Houston took 17 year old shortstop Carlos Correa from Puerto Rico. Correa is the first Puerto Rican taken as the number one overall pick, but many believe he will outgrow the shortstop position.

Houston passed on right handed pitcher Mark Appel from Stanford University, who was for most the number one pick. Appel was never thought of as a slam dunk talent along the lines of a Stephen Strasburg or a Bryce Harper, but was still the best player available. The surprise continued for Appel when he slipped all the way down to eighth when the Pittsburgh Pirates finally drafted him.

Kansas City also passed on Appel

but picked up right hander Kyle Zimmer from the University of San Francisco. The Royals pitching staff is in need of some help and Zimmer is expected to make his way to the Majors quickly.

Zimmer was 5-3 on the season with a 2.85 ERA in 13 starts and pitched three complete games. He had 104 strikeouts with 17 walks in 88 ⅓ innings pitched.

Banking Center Serves State

By **LOGAN GIDEON**

Media Staff Writer

The Boys State Banking Center processes around 150 to 180 transactions per day. Most transactions are transfers for campaigning, checking for balance, city projects, and county projects.

The money system for Boys State is based on proportional amounts, for example a fire station only cost \$455.00, and a church only costs \$250.00 to build.

When asked why the money was proportional the banking center manager Thaddeus Tuck said, "The reason money is proportional is it's easier to manage than doing it in the millions,

and billions. By scaling proportionally it is easier to wrap your mind around what you are doing to get a better effect."

While costs of projects are, indeed, proportional to real life, they sometimes leave Staters without the full idea of the true counterpart real life prices of these aforesaid projects.

An Eisenhower county commissioner said, "I am not getting a real sense of the magnitude of funds we deal with so it is hard to connect with real life."

The head of the Kansas Department of Revenue stated, "I feel like the proportional prices are fair because it gives the idea of what small towns deal with everyday."

~ Paid Advertisements ~ Powell County Highway Plan

The Powell County Commission has been notified of the existing highway problems. The commission has decided to replace the previous roads with a highway through the heart of the county, along with a gravel road running through the city of Shultz.

In order to successfully complete this project the County Commission needs all the help available. If you know a PAC or a generous donor please come to the 3rd floor of Marlatt Hall.

Correction

The Wednesday edition of this 75th volume of the Staters Union contained an error in the article "Kings Closing in on Stanley Cup:"

The article claimed the Kings to be a member of the Eastern Conference and to have been the only team added to the NHL in 1967.

The article should have stated the Kings to be a member of the Western Conference and to have been one of six teams added to the NHL in 1967.

So now you can stop complaining Coordinators Matthew Root and Rick Wohlfarth. :P

GOOD TIMBER

By Douglas Malloch

The tree that never had to fight
For sun and sky and air and light,
But stood out in the open plain
And always got its share of rain,
Never became a forest king
But lived and died a scrubby thing.

The man who never had to toil
To gain and farm his patch of soil,
Who never had to win his share
Of sun and sky and light and air,
Never became a manly man
But lived and died as he began.

Good timber does not grow with
ease:
The stronger wind, the stronger
trees;
The further sky, the greater length;
The more the storm, the more the
strength.
By sun and cold, by rain and snow,
In trees and men good timbers grow.

Where thickest lies the forest growth,
We find the patriarchs of both.
And they hold counsel with the stars
Whose broken branches show the
scars
Of many winds and much of strife.
This is the common law of life.