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# STATERS UNION



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## Landslide!

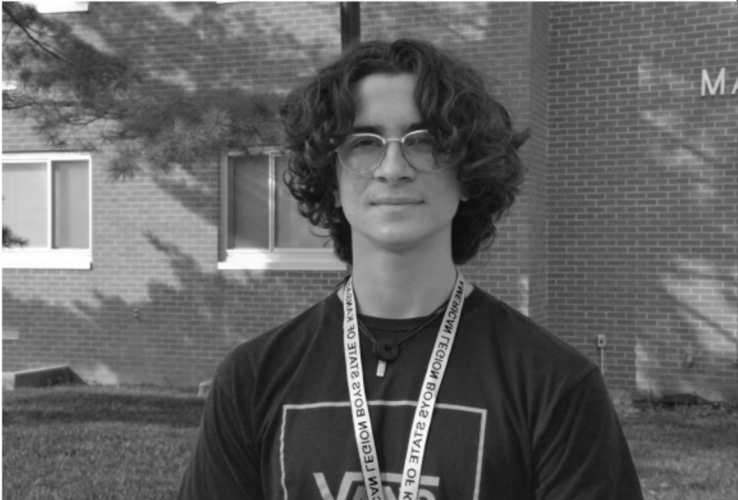
Jonah Kim -Staters Union

With general elections looming and brand new party platforms in place, many staters have been asking themselves about what they value most within their party’s platforms. Additionally, with a 50/50 split of the parties, one party must differentiate themselves and gain support from the other side.

For some there seems to be some strong party loyalty. “They seem to focus on more unity and trying to keep everyone together, and defining what they mean and what we want,” Federalist Russel Wyer explains on what he likes about his party. Also, when asked about whether he could be swayed by the Nationalists, Wyer immediately replied with a firm “no way.”

However, others seem to be going into the debate with an open mind. Federalist Jackson Taylor explains his take: “I’ll be listening at the state debates on who has the better policies and might switch over depending on that.”

From the other side, Nationalist William Robin says, “In order to switch over to the other party, the candidates would just have to have good ideas and I would switch over to them.” Despite this, Robin still is in support of his party, saying, “Our four ideals are economy, education, industrialization, and legalization of drugs, and a lot of our candidates talked about that and I support



them.”

In the middle of the day, the debates were underway and ballots were cast. After a strong showing from Federalist candidate Noah Gould, there was unease in the air of the Nationalist party regarding their chances for governor.

This unease was clearly felt for a reason as the Federalists seized the positions of state treasurer in Logan Claasen Wilson and governor and lieutenant governor in Gould and Chris Taylor. Interestingly, Gould chose Taylor from the Nationalist party to run as his lieutenant governor. Despite the gubernatorial win, the nationalists still took the majority of positions in the general election with secretary of state in Patrick Olson, Attorney General in Ajay Lohr, and Commissioner of Insurance in David Drake.

*Following the general election, the Executive and Legislative branches will be tasked to pass a budget before 3 pm Wednesday August 4. If no vote is passed, a Government shutdown will occur. If you have any desire to lobby for allocation it is up to you, staters, to speak with your representatives before this time and make your voice heard!*

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 Goodnow Hall (conference room 2) To contact the Staters Union, please email us at [ksbsmedia@gmail.com](mailto:ksbsmedia@gmail.com).



## EDITORIAL

### Who's Your Governor?

By Maverick Aggson and Cam McDonald  
-Staters Union

The governor race has come to a close, however deliberation of the candidates has just begun amongst county leaders, senators, and the like. The two gubernatorial nominees include, Nationalist Owen Miller and Federalist Noah Gould as well as the Lieutenant Governors Shekhar Gugnani and Chris Ramsey.

To start off, Nationalist candidate Owen Miller, who is the leader of the Republican club in his school, believes that as the parties do have at least somewhat similar beliefs, what puts him ahead of the other candidate is his experience as a nationally ranked debater.

However, Federalist Chris Ramsey (Ex. President of the Senate), who is a former Nationalist, switched parties to become the lieutenant governor for Noah Gould and his platform. Noah Gould believes that his policies of cooperation and communication will help Boys State to push legislation through. He has cooperated with Ramsey in the past and has a healthy reputation amongst his peers.

Here is what the lieutenant governor had to say about his decision to change his party affiliation: "[The switch] was not about parties, but instead getting things done for Kansas, so I thought Noah was the best Candidate for all Kansas to work together and get things done." Gould and Ramsey aim to speak to the other counties and cities themselves to make sure they can help them in the way they need. No doubt, both Nationalists, and Federalists alike eagerly anticipate what these Freshly Elected candidates will do for our state.

### Good Boy: Highway Patrol Is Introduced to the Super Sniffer

By Luke Hampl -Staters Union

Today at Boys State members of the highway patrol were introduced to one of Manhattan's K-9 units. As they walked outside, five members of the group were asked to hide objects in the grass for the K-9 to find. More than five happily obliged, and after a multitude of items were hidden, they were given a brief lesson on the procedures of safely disarming a bomb. After said lesson was over, the K-9 was brought out of its car and was quite literally quivering with excitement for the task ahead. As the dog sniffed the air and quickly honed in on the hidden objects, the Staters gathered around were awestruck at how proficient they were at their job.

With all items found, the members of the highway patrol were given another lesson on how K-9 units were trained and then dismissed. All in all, this was an impressive display and a great learning opportunity for those at boys state!

### Veteran Spotlight: James Snyder



By Jonah Kim -Staters Union  
James Snyder served in the reserves for six years and is an American legion member dedicated to supporting the veterans. He grew up going to school in Mclouth and is from the Jefferson County area near Lake Perry. Snyder's response to his favorite music as a high schooler was a resounding "country all day" and his first car was a "'53 Chevy Bel Air, 3 speed on the column."

On his status of duty during his service, Snyder says, "I actually didn't serve in any [war], when I went in in '84 it was the end of Guerre in Lebanon, so I was in the reserves for six years." Transitioning into his role in the American legion, Snyder explains, "Since I was never on active duty, I put everything I can into helping the veterans." James holds several different positions including the Sons of the American Legion Detachment Commander. "I do everything I can to support them," Snyder says of the veterans.

Snyder says he has never been able to see as much of the Boys State process as he has this year, so if you see him walking around, make sure to say hello!

### City Spotlight: Spigarelli



After winning best city on the first day, city commissioner of Spigarelli, Ben Godina, explains the journey to early success: "Our first major push was improvement on education and reducing crime levels. We assigned new teachers and new police, and our first major bill that we passed was the introduction, purchase, and the requirement of body cams on police officers, which majorly reduced crime levels and brought up property value, which increased the amount of money our citizens made that were making no money and got them off of welfare."

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