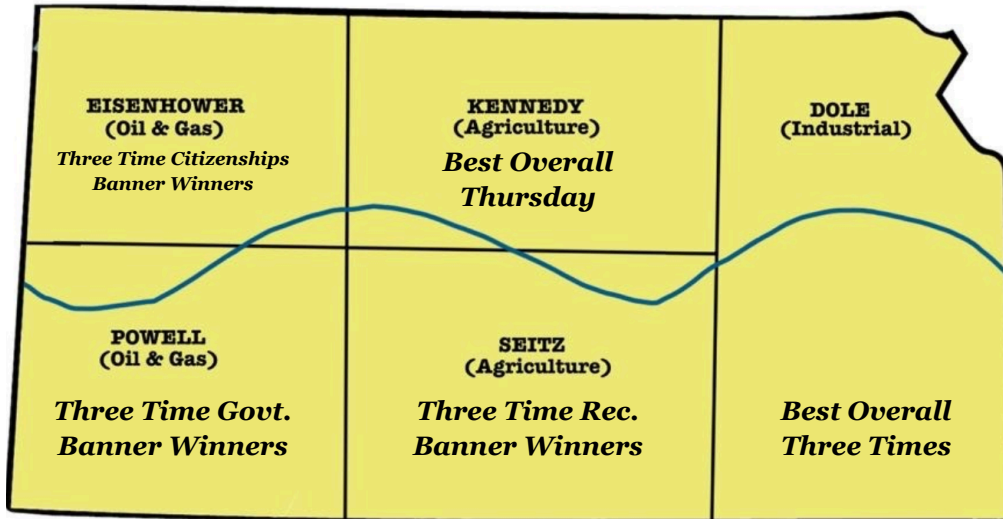


STATERS UNION

BOYS STATE WEEK IN REVIEW

Boys State of
Kansas
Launches
Space Shuttle

Seitz and
Kennedy
Counties
Biggest
Sponsors in
Rocket
Launch



Kennedy County
Wins Best
Overall
Performance in
the Simulation
Thursday;
Shoemaker Best
City for Fourth
Consecutive Day

Creytin Sanner
and Adiel Garcia
II Voted to be
Boys Nation
Delegates

Boys State Week in Review

Media Staff

After a week of hard work and determination to make the Boys State of Kansas great, we take time to look back and reflect on what each county did, adversity they overcame, and how they came out of the simulation. Sunday evening, we listened to keynote speaker Kendall Gammon talk about mindset, persistence, and being intentional. Fast forward to the start of state operation periods, orientations, and elections, Boys State is thriving. Local elections went by in a flash and party chairs met to establish values and plan caucuses. Tuesday, we listened to speeches and debates in the gubernatorial debate. Governor Sam Houston wasted no time moving along pieces of legislation after being elected into office. Wednesday was the annual talent show with band, choral, and individual acts headlining the evening. Dean of Counselors Rex Gardner's emceeing was also an act in of itself. His humor and ability to fake being clueless gave a special laugh to the Boys Staters. Thursday, the Boys State of Kansas faced a large crisis: the Armor Oil Plant in Powell County exploded causing wildfires and poor air quality across the state. Cities and counties bounced back quickly, however, and the worst effected city, Shoemaker, won *Best City* for the fourth consecutive day. Powell County started off the week strong, and ended the week strong- despite the pipeline explosion. Going into the last day of operations, Powell was the winner of four government banners. Lucas Hoss, Powell County counselor, says he will let his city shave his head if they can manage to win yet another time. In the end, though, it wasn't the amount of banners your county won, how many awards you won, the recreation games you won, or the amount of money you ended up with; but the friendships you made and the life lessons you learned. In the end it will be the lifelong memories that you have made that you will cherish the most.

Adiel Garcia, Boys Nation Delegate

Along with interviewing Creytin, we interviewed the other Boys Nation candidate Adiel. When asked how he planned to represent Kansas at Boys Nation, he said that he wanted to be able to submit legislation that would benefit the country, and he also said he wanted to make himself known. He wanted to make sure that the country understands that Kansas has potential to do great things. When asked what excites him about Boys Nation, he said that he will be able to meet people with the same passion, and be able to share that with other people. Finally, when he was asked what message he has for the people of Boy's State, he says that he promises he will get things done and make us proud.

**Creytin Sanner,
Boys Nation
Delegate**

Creytin Sanner plans to represent Kansas at Boys Nation by reflecting the values and lessons that he has learned at Boys State of Kansas. He explains this by saying he wanted to show the nation that the Boys State of Kansas is “serious” and “a program to consider.” He is excited to meet staters from other Boys State delegations, and to hopefully be elected to other positions at Boys Nation. His message for the Boys State delegation is: “I would like to say thank you, I really appreciate it. I won’t let you down. I will represent Kansas very well with the things that we learned, and I will have fun!”

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SCAN ME

Final Thoughts

Chetan Thomas

For the final paper of Stater’s Union, we got the legendary Zachary “ZB” Brunner from Eisenhower county. “The experience was overall good, and that there were quite a few differences from most years.” One of the biggest differences that he mentioned was that the staff is a lot younger than it has been in past years. “Overall, there has been more growth this year not only from the staters, but from the counselors as well.” “Do you feel like the staters have begun to understand Kendall Gammon’s idea of mindset,” I asked him. He responded by saying he believes that they have begun to understand the overall idea, but they still need to hone that skill, and that it’s far from perfect. He claims that the mind easily tends to wander, and that it’s hard for it to snap back into focus. Finally on a less serious note, he was asked what his favorite dino nuggie was, and to my astounding shock, he said he has never had dino nuggies.

A Lot on Your Plate at Boys State

Luke Torrez

The combination of a busy schedule and teenage boys calls for a lot of food to be made. Luckily enough, Kramer Dining Hall is available for all members of Boys State and its staff. Although the diverse tastes of attendees differs greatly, the attitude towards the food that is served at Kramer is overwhelmingly positive. “The food in Kramer is very good,” said Adiel Garcia, “the dessert is fantastic it may be too early to say, but I would have to say my favorite item has been the cheesecake.” While the flavor is a major factor in the satisfaction of the dining hall, it is not the only thing that excites members of Boys State. Garcia has also expressed his gratitude for the nutrition the food provides. “We 100% need nutrition at Boys State. Whether it is the marching or recreation, the food helps us by providing protein and other nutrients.” The satisfaction of Kramer Dining Hall is of no surprise. Kramer is currently ranked eighth in the nation among university dining halls, according to the Princeton Review. The dining hall is run by the dining and housing services of Kansas State, and uses fresh and local ingredients in many of the dishes.

Disappointment in Dole

Grayson Coffield

Yesterday shocked everyone due to Dole County losing their streak of obtaining the best county banner. When interviewed, a Dole County member and even one of the councilors. First interviewed was Wilson Biles on his thoughts about losing the banner. What he said could represent all of Dole County. When asked what he thought, he said things like “I can’t stop thinking about it” and “it was to give others a chance.” Gibson Hobbs, a Dole County counselor, was also interviewed. When asked his thoughts he stated “when walking that banner up and giving it to the cold, yellow hands of the advisers. A piece of my heart went with it.” He also got emotional and went as far to say “I may be a Dole Daddy but this father has lost two sons.” It was a sad day for Dole County as we had lost not one but two of the great Boys State banners.

Many people’s favorite drink tends to be the chocolate milk, which is sourced locally through the College of Agriculture. Kramer earns its high ranking status not only from quality of food, but also from food safety. Garcia’s sense of safety is higher, as he feels Kramer is “100% safe” since he has seen workers “wiping down the tables right after people leave.” Sanitation contributes a lot to the safety of Kramer Dining Hall, and so does the prevention of cross contamination of allergens. Samuel Wilson is a Boys Stater with food allergies, and says that he receives his food wrapped in plastic wrap to ensure his safety. “The wrap is for storage, since they have to keep things compact, but allergies seem to be part of the reason that they wrap it up,” said Wilson. “I had a meeting with a lady who was a part of management at Kramer to ensure that I knew about how to go about the allergies.” Whether it is safety or quality of food, members of Boys State are very thankful for the opportunity to eat at such a highly ranked dining hall. There is an option for everyone, regardless of health concerns, and it has proven to be a contributor to the success that Boys State has had in the past, and continues to have this year.