

Cornhusker Boys' State

The Bulletin

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Saturday, June 8, 2013

THE PEOPLE HAVE SPOKEN



WALTER PAUL, GOVERNOR ELECT



The Results Are In
Boys' State 2013
Draws to a Close



STRATCOM
Cybersecurity
and You
Coverage on Page 3



State Capitol
Boys' State Visits
Nebraska's Capitol
Coverage on Page 3

Stone and Glass

Phil O., S. O'Raptor

As I walked through the great halls within the Lincoln capitol building, I could not help but be amazed at the fascinating architecture and the myriad of materials used in its construction. But, as I gazed upon the majestic stone edifices, another thought crossed my mind: Why do we not construct buildings like this anymore?

Let's face it, the amazing, ornate stonework in the capitol and other buildings of that period is rarely ever seen in modern architecture, but why?

Perhaps it is our culture's absolute fixation on efficiency, not getting things done, but getting them done fast. We no longer want to take years to make a beautiful, ornate building when we can stick a big, glass and steel square up in a few months. Even the mundane has lost its beauty. Ever sat on your grandmother's old, antique bench or looked at the crafted handle of an old piece of silverware? Often times, these objects from the early parts of the 20th century are far more well-built and crafted than the stuff of today.

So, perhaps, our generation should start to slow down. Pull our noses out of our phones and stop trying to do everything at once. Instead, let's begin focusing on a single task at a time. Let's start building a future that will last not months, not years, but centuries. Maybe then, we can begin creating beautiful buildings and bridges that will not only inspire a sense of awe and wonder, but also last for ages. Instead of making art in paintings and sculptures and pictures, let's start making it in buildings, in furniture, maybe even in our phones! Who said every smartphone has to look like Apple's?

Our grandparents and great grandparents were able to do it, so why can't we?

The Cruz of Democracy- An Opinion Article

Davis Erker, Bataan

Let me start by revealing that I do not handle defeat well. As a competitive teenage boy, there is very little I loathe more than losing. To suspend my hopes at such a level, I should have realized I was setting myself up for disaster, but I was blinded by a conveniently created sense of self-overconfidence. Upon discovering my hopes had been misplaced, I then needed to handle this disappointment in the most productive and positive way, two adjectives far from describing my emotions at that moment in time.

The lesson here is not a revolutionary one, but more of an ignored one. Winning is so dominate in our culture that we often forgot a gracious loser is what makes such a brilliant governing system so effective. We won't always agree with what happens, but the fact of the matter is that whatever happens is what the people wanted to have happen, and if we don't agree with the decision, who are we to selfishly complain if the event doesn't necessarily effect in the way we would like?

It has been my pleasure to serve you all as editor-in-chief of The Bulletin and I hope you've enjoyed the fantastic work of our staff.

The Glory of Band

Josh Osborne, Valley Forge

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This week was interesting for the band members. Upon arrival for the first rehearsal, we discovered that our actual director would be in Orlando, Florida, with the school band he directs until Tuesday. This meant that we would have two different directors, with entirely different direction styles, leading the band at different points. However, this was more exciting than it was inconvenient. Both of the directors knew their stuff were a lot of fun to work with. Beyond the directors, the other band students were pretty awesome, especially the Girls' Staters. We even decided to give them a well placed standing ovation when they entered the ladies room late on the first day, and they were kind enough to return the favor the next day. Lastly, the music turned out well. Despite some issues with a shortage of percussion equipment, not being able to use any of the college equipment, and practice times not always being as long as expected, the songs played sounded well rounded, in tune, and balanced in terms of technicality and style. To put it simply, the experience of the boys state/girls state band was down right Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious.



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Words of Wisdom

Micky Osten, Yorktown

For today's words of wisdom, we will read the words of Carrick Perlinger, Phil Sweet, and, from our beloved Newsletter Associate, Kyle Chesterman.

Words of wisdom from Carrick. "Life presents opportunity when you are willing to make the most of that chance. It's a privilege and an honor to be selected to Boys' State. Create the experience you want to have. :)"

The words from Phil Sweet are, "The possibilities in life are endless. Always pursue your passion everywhere you go. Make friends with positive people and do not let anyone tell you that you cannot accomplish anything. More than anything, have fun in your last year of high school. Best of wishes to all of you Cornhusker Boys' State members."

The final person I asked for words of wisdom was from Kyle. Kyle said, "Boys' State is an incredible opportunity. It puts you face-to-face with leaders in Nebraska from every generation. Take advantage of this time. Pay attention to your speakers, pay attention to your councilors, and pay attention to each other. This is a great time to develop your leadership skills and take a more active role in your communities."

Gone "Phishing"

Zachary Burn, Yorktown

Grab your poles and hooks, we're phishing! Of course, it's not the actual type of fishing. Instead, we got a lesson in cyber security from STRATCOM, or, for the non-military minded men, Strategic Command. I don't know about anyone else, but this brought out my inner nerd. I can't quite figure out how people fall for phishing scams. I, personally, have received one, and let me describe how outrageous it was. It was from a Chinese bank telling me they needed someone to pose as a family member of a deceased wealthy Chinese man. Basically, they told me what they were doing was illegal and I would need to follow their specific instructions. Well, as you can tell if you've seen me, I don't have a fragment of Chinese in me. Plus, if you Googled their email address you got the email from, it tells you it's a scam. Still, you've got to be a smart "fish" and swim away, or completely secure yourself away from hackers. That's the sum up of it. Still, the growing need for technology in the military just shows that we'll end up being the "e" generation, and that "e" isn't entitlement, rather it is electronics.

Overall, Robert Anderson, the representative from STRATCOM, gave a good speech and gave us tips on securing ourselves, and the importance of doing such a thing.

Not to mention an insight on what the hacker is thinking or doing. Just remember, if an email is too good to be true, it'd be smart to just "swim" away and let some other fish get caught. Also, if you are one of those "phishers", which I doubt anyone is, you may want to hang up your pole, cause the fish are getting smarter.

Running to the Capital

Micky Osten, Yorktown

It was that time of the day where all of Boys' State headed to the State Capital. But instead of a stroll through the park and enjoying the view on the way there, we ran until we had to stop and wait for traffic to pass. This was a quick way to get there. After running, we had to huddle together, us all so sweaty, for a picture. Talk about being really hot. After we took the group picture, we split into groups. The judges went and were taught about what judges do. The legislature went and passed laws for upcoming American Legion Boys' States. If you were not a part of either one, you went and talk to the senator of your district.

My senator is Paul Shoemaker. He is a very nice guy. Four other guys and I asked him questions about the state and being a senator. But when we asked him a question he just asked us for our opinion.

Unlawful, Unlikely

Roger Mcgraw, Bunker Hill

Iowa

- It is a crime to use a dead person's handicapped parking sign or license plate
- One-armed piano players must perform for free.
- Kisses may last for no more than five minutes.
- It is a violation of the law to sell or distribute drugs or narcotics without having first obtained the appropriate Iowa drug tax stamp.
- A man with a mustache may never

- kiss a woman in public.
- Ministers must obtain a permit to carry their liquor across state lines.
- Tanning bed facilities must warn of the risk of getting a sunburn.
- It is illegal to read a person's palms in the city limits.
- The "Ice Cream Man" and his truck are banned.
- Horses are forbidden to eat fire hydrants.

Weather



Today is Saturday and the weather is, High of 75 degrees F. Low of 60 degrees F. 80% chance of precipitation. There is a SSE wind at 20 mph dying down to 14 mph. Humidity is 69%. Sunrise is at 5:55 A.M. There is also a NEW moon!!! There is supposed to be a few thunder storms in the afternoon, a few of them may be SEVERE!!!

Legislature Update

Luciano Ramirez, Manila Bay

Friday's legislative sessions were divided into two: one in the morning and one in the afternoon. First, the Legislature managed to pass a bill that would change the Nebraska Veterans Administration's paper filing system to a digital system. A bill proposing a 2-3% tax cut for farmers switching to a water-conserving system passed. One bills calling for tax cuts on small business and another permitting arming teachers failed. Legislators intensively debated on a bill that would abolish the death penalty in the State of Nebraska.

The legislative session in the afternoon took place in the State Capitol. After more debate, the Nebraska Legislature indefinitely postponed the bill that would have

abolished the death penalty. During the 'select file' stage of the Legislative process, all the bills the Legislature had passed in the last few days were up once more for debate and for another vote. Six bills passed the 'select file' stage and then passed through the 'final reading' stage.

These bills include one that would enact comprehensive education reform, one that would approve the route of the Keystone XL Pipeline, another that would present awards of recognition to the Bulletin's news writers, and another that would raise the amount of Boys' State T-shirts initially given to Boys' Staters to three. The other two are the water conservation bill and the overhaul of the Veterans Administration's filing system. These bills are all now going to presented to Governor Paul on Saturday morning.

Gubernatorial Platforms

James Rcihards Jr., Alamo

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It all comes down to 2 prime candidates for governor who seem to share similar ideas. However, the gubernatorial platform debates prove that federalist Walter Paul from Alamo and Nationalist Jacob Lambert from Yorktown are indeed preaching different aspects. The gubernatorial platform starts off with openings From Jacob and Paul. Paul promotes democracy and believes that it will always prevail.

He supports the 10th amendment and an "axe on taxes". Jacob states that he is honored to meet all of us here at Boys' State, and the fact that he has talked to a lot of us. He believes that Nebraska is the best state in America and that we need to improve our alternate energy sources. The EDU PAC and the rifle association support Jacob Lambert for governor. Walter Paul is supported by the AG PAC and the Keystone Pipeline PAC. After openings, the candidates were presented with questions dealing with various matters of their ideas. To some up the main answer pattern for both candidates, I summarize and am able to choose one word or phrase for each candidate.

For Walter Paul, I find that he is more for the action and process of ideas and functions in a government. He states that we need to build our knowledge base in order to rationally act within our society. Jacob can be summarized as wanting our insight on everything. He stresses that he will listen to all our thoughts and questions and will put them to good use in the government. He also states that our AG industry is one of the best and is our key benefactor to being a great country. All in all, we hope the best of luck to both of these young men in their run for governor, and their missions in the future.

Words from the Newsletter Staff

"The most difficult subjects can be explained to the most slow-witted man if he has not formed any idea of them already; but the simplest thing cannot be made clear to the most intelligent man if he is firmly persuaded that he knows already, without a shadow of doubt, what is laid before him." - Leo Tolstoy (submitted by Davis Erker)

"Every great story on the planet happened when someone decided not to give up, but kept going no matter what." -Spryte Loriano (submitted By Shane Brichacek)

"The more effort that you put into something, the more you will appreciate the outcome" - Aidan Clarke

"Awesome experience I would do it again in a heartbeat" - Devin Mueller

"Don't stop believing in yourself and fight for what you believe in!" - Craig Thor

"We have come from God, and inevitably the myths woven by us, though they contain error, will also reflect a splintered fragment of the true light, the eternal truth that is with God. Indeed only by myth-making, only by becoming 'sub-creator' and inventing stories, can Man aspire to the state of perfection that he knew before the Fall. Our myths may be misguided, but they steer however shakily towards the true harbour, while materialistic 'progress' leads only to a yawning abyss and the Iron Crown of the power of evil." - JRR Tolkien (Submitted by Ezra J. Effrein)

"This was a "burning" but fantastic experience. I'm a little short on words, but for those of you who thought you were dodging a bullet when kids willingly went to the newsteam, you're wrong. This was one of the best experiences ever." - Zac Burns

"Man's reach far exceeds his grasp, and his grasp far exceeds his nerve" - Nikolai Tesla (submitted by James P. Richards Jr.)



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Things that “burn” my mind, Part 5

Zachary Burns, Yorktown

I would just like to say, this may be a sappy article, but it's worth reading to the end!

I'll never be able to forget what happened here at Boys' State. I'm gonna have to tell you all something sad though. I give up. Failed you, I have (sorry for the Yoda). Looking up at the stars I get a feeling of satisfaction knowing I made it here. I'll never regret signing up for this. You're gonna be even more sad to know that I can't “burn” you anymore. I let you all down. Boys, you are family, and I'm sorry I let you down. But, down is not the direction I look anymore! I'm never saying goodbye! I'm gonna scream at the top of my lungs, not really. I'll run! All around the campus I'll go, just so you can get a final “burn”. Food and ice cream will drive me forward, courtesy of the dining hall. Let's desert Boys' state, wait, NO don't desert, but walk out with your head held high. Councilors, you made this experience the best! Still, never forget the speeches we saw, both funny and boring. I'm gonna be the first to say A-arón had a convincing campaign platform for Auditor.

I make no exaggerations when I say the Governor race was intense. Yet, you all who didn't run for positions still offered your own comedy contributions, some of which I reported on. I'll cry if I don't get “burned” at least once tomorrow. I never thought that Boys' State would be this amazing. I'm gonna suggest we don't forget about all the laughs we've had. I'll say it loud and proud, I loved Boys' State. This goodbye is going to be difficult. I've never wrote on a paper staff before, and this one was really great and fun. It's gonna be a fun time thinking back to Boys' State. I'll tell you what, despite the “burns” I've had. How a group of boys from across the state can get along so well, is shocking for me. I'd lie and say it was all horrible, but that's just not me. Lyle and Alex were by far the coolest councilors in Yorktown, from my standpoint. It hurt my heart with a “burn” to think

of leaving all you guys. Still, you all made this the best experience ever. Now that the sappiness is over, please go back and just read the second word of every sentence.

That's right, Zac Burns, left one last “burn”. I didn't have anything happen to me, but I wanted you all to remember me. If you figured out the words, you'll think of Rick Astley. That's right I did it! Anyway, it was good experience to be here, and I hope you all enjoyed it as well. This was a delight, especially to represent Yorktown in the newsroom. Thank you all! I hope you enjoyed the “burns” I passed along.

Walter Paul, Your New Governor

Shane Brichacek, Bataan

Congratulations to the 2013 Cornhusker Boys' State Governor, Walter Paul, for his victory in this year's election in the program. A native of Alamo, as well as Uganda, Paul ran on the principles of both his party and his policies he would like to implement among all of the towns. Boys' State could not have chosen a better candidate to be elected or to run against him. With that, I would also like to congratulate Jacob Lambert of Yorktown in his valiant campaigning and election of the Nationalist Party. All and all, this year has been great in not only the candidates for governor, but all the members of Boys' State as well. This has truly been a great learning experience for all parties involved. Again, a huge congratulations to Walter Paul of Alamo for being our Governor for 2013.

Justice Served

James Demott, Maila Bay

Judges elected to the Nebraska Boys' State Supreme Court made their way to the chambers in the capitol in the afternoon yesterday. The seven justices and attorneys found themselves in elaborately decorated surroundings, “You could feel the importance of the room”, said Patrick Nolan, Associate Justice. The court had the opportunity to hear from J. Kirk Brown, an authority on the operating procedures and func-

tions of the court. Following the briefing from Brown, the court began to hear cases.

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The basic structure of the Boys' State Supreme Court followed that of the American Supreme Court. The appellate was given ten minutes which could be used to take questions and divided in to time for a rebuttal following a statement from the opposing side. Following the statements and optional rebuttals the justices convened in order to make a judgment.

The first case heard by the court was Monsanto V. Boman. Monsanto alleged that Boman had sold Monsanto's intellectual property in the form of genetically modified seeds. The Boys' State court, contrary to the ruling of the Supreme Court, found in favor of Boman, saying that Monsanto's claims were patent over reach and that the corporation did not have the right to tell Boman whether or not he could sell his property.

The court also had the opportunity to hear the case of Florida V. Jardines. In this case, a drug operation in Florida was tipped off to the authorities. The authorities brought a drug sniffing dog, after indicating that there were drugs on the property, the authorities received a warrant. The Boys' State court found in favor of Jardines, who alleged that the dog's ability to detect drugs classified as a warrantless search of the property.

Justice seems to be defended for yet another day thanks to the Boys' State Supreme Court.



Legislators in the Nebraska State Capitol

Craig Thor, Bataan

The state legislators took a trip to the capitol building to pass legislation in the Warner Memorial Chamber. The Warner Memorial Chamber is actually the old Nebraska Senate chamber building. The agenda for the Capitol Building was to finish debate on a bill to eliminate the death penalty. Other parts of the agenda included rereading the bills we already passed and officially voting to put the bills in front of the Governor.

The bill regarding the death penalty was a hotly contested issue. With both sides stating morals and the economy as reasons to vote, things got extremely heated and tense. The moral reasons were if it was moral to put to death murderers. The economic issues started to become very circular, going back and forth between which form of punishment is most harmful to the economy. The bill was eventually postponed indefinitely.

After we postponed that bill, the Legislature moved onto the final reading of the bills that had been previously passed. This means that if the legislature has come up with any new amendments or arguments against a bill, this time gives them the opportunity to debate them.

The first bill to get this treatment was a bill concerning water conservation. This bill provides tax breaks to farmers that use drip irrigation or drought resistant hybrid seeds. The next was a bill relat-

ing to energy, this bill was a bill to approve an alternate route for the Keystone XL Pipeline. The next was one concerning the newspaper staff getting further recognition. All of these bills passed without argument.

The next bill however was a point of tense debate. The bill concerned education reform. This bill had sections that included ending tenure for teachers, allowing school districts to terminate teachers' contracts, using the ACT to replace NESAs testing, and forgiving half of student loans after living five years in Nebraska. The part of the bill that created the most tension was actually a part omitted from the bill but was reintroduced in an amendment, a portion that gave tax breaks to families that sent their children to private schools.

This caused arguments between the citizens that went to public schools and the citizens that went to private schools. In the end this amendment was stopped and the bill itself was passed.

Next was a bill to provide an extra shirt to all Boys' Staters to push the number up to three shirts to start the week off. This bill as well as a bill creating a digital filing system for Veteran Affairs, to make the system easier to use, were passed.

At the end of the session the legislators approved all of the passed bills to be presented to be signed by the Governor-Elect Walter Paul.

Valley Forge Town Report

Ezra J. Effrein, Valley Forge

The town of Valley Forge, as usual, woke up today to the sound of the counselors pounding their doors and telling them to get up. Of course, unlike every other day, this day marked the final full day the townsmen would have to spend in Harper Hall.

We set out for Kimball Hall. There, we watched a lecture by a colonel from the Strategic Command talk about cyber security in the nation and at home. Afterwards, we watched as the two gubernatorial candidates answer questions that the audience asked them. Voting followed, and candidate Walter Paul came out on top.

After lunch, we headed out for the capitol building, in which we toured and, for those of us that were lucky, got to talk with our district senator.

Once we returned from the capitol, we departed to our activities for the day.

Yorktown Town Report

Mickey Osten, Yorktown

We have great memories up on the 5th floor. Sergio is the best councilor leader on that floor. David, Alex, and Lyle are also great. They have taught us a lot about Boys' State and the stuff they did as Boys' Staters. We made a lot of ordinances, many of them dealt with Micky going to the Gettysburg floor, which I don't think they have liked very much. But I can't really speak for Gettysburg. I had a fun week here at Boys' State.

Gettysburg Town Report

Tyler Cuellar, Gettysburg

Friday was another great morning in the town of Gettysburg. We all did our hygienic duties and headed off to sessions. We all very much enjoyed the capital and the Kimball hall sessions. As for the fun part of Gettysburg, every day has been fun for us and will not change and we will always remember this great experience.



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Bunker Hill Town Report

Aidan Clarke, Bunker Hill

Bunker Hill remains committed to excellence even when faced with others who may feel differently. In an incredibly strong showing on Wednesday, Bunker Hill swept all of the athletic events, emerging 4 and 0. After dinner at the joint session with the governor, the city stayed on good behavior. These efforts were acknowledged by the Red Shirts, as along with Belleau Wood, Bunker Hill received no Giggy Points. The following day at the General Election for state and county offices, Bunker received a major setback with none of their candidates for state positions winning an election. In spite of the disappointing results, the citizens of Bunker Hill remain dedicated to setting an example of good conduct to all other cities.

Alamo Town Report

Tom Hawbaker, Alamo

Every day at Boy's State begins with shrieking whistles and blood shot eyes, but as we soon learned, yesterday was a day of celebration at the Alamo, but more on that later. With the crack of dawn we filed out of bed to the showers. The ever occurring line of inconvince serpented its way around the bathroom. After the showers, we sloshed over the dining hall for breakfast and the volleyball girls. Then came the flag raising and the march to Kimball hall for a briefing from STRATCOM on cyber security and the clash of intellects at the gubernatorial debate. Then the climax of Boy's state: the gubernatorial election. The end all be all of our little experiment with democracy. Walter Paul, our gubernatorial candidate won his election. Cheers were shouted and cans of pepsi were raised at the Alamo as the election results came in. This is the final Alamo town report of the year, and as always, we at the Alamo find it appropriate "to look back two hundred years" and quote the Founding Fathers. As Thomas Jefferson said, "...friendship is pre-

ciuous; not only in the shade, but in the sunshine of life, and thanks to a benevolent arrangement the greater part of life is sunshine." So to the boys of the Alamo, as we go forward into our future, may we walk in the sunshine and our friendships flourish, except for you Cain, I'll fight you.

Manila Bay Town Report

Luciano Ramirez, Manila Bay

Manila Bay has come a long way this week, ultimately forming a cohesive group of violently barking individuals. We have progressed so much under counselorships of Josh Scott, Levi, Sam, and Phil. Throughout the week, our town has initiated plenty of rivalries with neighboring towns, none of which we regret. We've come up with so many great chants, only to have other towns steal them. Awesome moments were had, the most recent of which was when we listened to Junior Counselor Phil Sweet and Mayor Alec McCarthy tell us about some of their own past experiences. Barking from some of our town's members has providing plenty of amusement and hilarity. We've had several of Manila Bay's denizens win governmental positions too. Overall, Manila Bay had plenty of fun during our Boys' State experience.

Belleau Wood Town Report

Devin Mueller, Belleau Wood

Belleau Wood came alive on Friday before the morning session, all due to one counselor. Senior counselor Blake Weeder brought the group together with his interesting recreations of past injuries. His most recent and most severe injury happened just a couple of years ago before going to his girlfriend's prom when playing his favorite sport, basketball. Weeder lives, breathes, and sweats basketball. He has mentioned numerous times playing pick-up games and also a competitive varsity high school career. While playing a pick-up game with a couple of his friends from school, Weeder

tried showing off by slam dunking the ball over a friend's face, an easy task being he is six-three with "mad hops". He misjudged his own massive strength and leaped onto the rim, smashing the ball down and hanging on the rim. With the force of the jump and the momentum, he was hanging not straight down, but horizontally. With quick judgment, he let go of the rim while letting the impact of the fall land on both his wrists. The damage was severe enough that when a friend tried to help him up, he could not be pulled up by his friend due to the pain and the fact that his wrists were dangling helplessly. After this gruesome story, Belleau Wood opened up sharing their personal injuries and other exciting stories, really getting to know each other. Thanks to Weeder, Belleau Wood can come together and share stories without having to worry about being judged or ridiculed by others. In other news, we elected our major town officials and legislators. All candidates gave one to two minute speeches on why they should be elected.

Bataan Town Report

Craig Thor, Bataan

The City of Bataan had an amazing week. From winning many primary election spots to becoming a brotherhood, the city had a lot of fun. We loved, we lost, and we won as a group. As a whole, the city bonded.

We sang and played guitar. We watched basketball and Meerkat Manor. We chanted and quacked. We flinched and punched. We laughed and laughed harder. We won and lost. We sang and played instruments. We debated and spoke our mind. We did a lot, but we never split apart at the seams. As a whole, it was an honor and a privilege to be a part of Bataan.