Cornhusker Boys' State
Bulletin

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Governor Heineman Speaks!

Gov. Heineman and Athletes Address Boys' and Girls' State

Cornhusker Boys' State

Cornhusker Boys' State Alumni

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Sleep Deprivation

Zayne Kincade, Valley Forge

As we listen to people speak, nearly falling asleep , we wonder to ourselves, "Is this really worth it?" Well, the answer simply, is yes.

When sleep deprivation hits, there really is nothing else you can do but sleep. But when you are apart of Boys' State there is no hope of getting more sleep. You have from 10:30 to 6:30, if you fall asleep right away that is. But let's face it, we all talk with our roommate, or roommates, for an hour or so, getting to know each other.So we cannot expect to get much sleep.

So what can we do when we feel tired at times this week? Some will say grab a soda, some sugary food, or even a Five Hour Energy. I know that, at least for me, it doesn't work, or at best is temporary. I say you live by this mantra for the next week. "I can sleep when I'm dead. Right now, I'm going to have the time of my life with my friends." Don't worry about not having enough sleep, you won't be the only one, and come Saturday, when we leave, if you would like you can sleep until Monday if you wish. Sleep then, have fun here at Boys State now, and sleep when you're dead, or maybe even when you're done.

Workshop Sessions: Spaghetti On The Wall

Zachary Burns, Yorktown

Well, after a nice scattered morning of running from PAC to PAC or other floor events going on we sat down in the classroom environments once again. This time we got to choose some of the things we'd rather go see. The choices were: -Picking a Major? The Future of Nebraska Jobs! With Richard Baier -Advanced Communication for Your Generation. With John Morrissey -"Spaghetti on the Wall" Social Networking Methods that Stick. With April Kelly -"Community Leadership in a Crisis" With Mark Hosking -"Thinking Small." With Dr. Randolph Cantrell

So as you can see, we had our plates full and ears open with all these options. I only wish we had more time to go back and see all of these workshops, because they all seem to have their own advice and inspirational material.

A Boy's State First: Private Business

Aidan Clarke, Bunker Hill

For the first time in the history of Cornhusker Boys' State, a private business has been set up within the campaign commerce system. Leo Haselhorst of Bunker Hill has set up an advertising firm where he will use his artistic skill do draw campaign posters. Leo pays a flat rate to the city of Bunker Hill to utilize a spare office room on the floor to run his business. When charging for his artwork, he is required to collect a 5.5% sales tax, as well as have 25% of his earning taken as income tax from the City of Bunker Hill. Haselhorst is not running for any political office, but is instead using this simply as a business endeavor. Attorney General candidate Tyler Coleman has stated that he will oversee the business to make sure that all operations are in line with standard operating procedures. As a groundbreaking first in Boys' State history, the establishment of the first private business could signal a dramatic shift in the operation of the campaign economy in years to come.

Wednesday Night Joint Session

Davis Erker, Bataan

The second joint session of the week brought a much appreciated change in seating arrangement, and right along with it came the enthusiasm the Boys' State chants. After an opening collection from the Cornhusker State Band, a number of different athletes and coaches from the University of Nebraska spoke to the delegates about what they could do to put themselves in the best position for success. Those talks were then followed by a performance from the Cornhusker State Choir. After a brief set change, the guest of honor was finally presented. Surrounded by the two current Cornhusker governors, Nebraska governor Dave Heineman stepped out to tremendous applause. He gave a few introductory remarks and then opened the floor to questions. To no surprise, the governor received nothing but well-formed and insightful questions, but had no trouble addressing each inquiry. While the night may have ended on a sour note with giggy points being awarded to all but two teams, but the overall aftertaste of the event was nothing but sweet.

Phat Nguyen, Nationalist State Treasurer Candidate

Zayne Kincade, Valley Forge

The candidates are everywhere! After the General Elections for the state and county seats, many were chosen, but at the same time many were defeated. Among the chosen is Phat Nguyen. A very successful businessman himself, he described his own business like this. "I run my own business, in which we do computer services. I am the CEO and do all of the finances and marketing of the business, while two other people I work with do all of the services."

He thinks he is very qualified for the job of State Treasury, not only because of the business he runs here in Lincoln, but also because of the classes he has taken in High School. "I am taking AP Calculus next year, and I have taken accounting and financing classes."

When asked about what he does outside of school and work, he had a quite humble reply. He hangs out with his friends, plays soccer, and follows the stock market. Laughingly, he said when asked about it "Yeah, I have not done too well. I have lost about four hundred dollars on what I follow since I started, but not everyone can have the best of luck with the Stock Market."

Zac Cote- Nationlist Secretary Of State

Luciano Ramirez, Manila Bay

Zac Cote', from Bataan, plans on being elected to the office of Secretary of State. When Mr. Cote' was asked what qualifications he had for Secretary of State, he noted that helps his father with his restaurant in Loup City by making sure all seems clean, orderly, and on schedule. Cote' was also the Secretary of the Student Council in Loup City for three years, which provides him enough experience for the job. Zac Cote' assures his constituents that as Secretary of State, everything will run as smooth as possible. He says that also as long as everything is running efficiently and everyone is happy, change is not necessarily. Cote' promises that if changes in the government are needed, he will work closely with the Governor and Lt. Governor to do what is necessary. When asked what some of his political stances were, Cote' asserted that he was a strong proponent of alternative energy and background checks. Finally, he wants Boys' State to be enjoyable for everyone and wants to be a great Secretary of State. He quotes Abraham Lincoln- "Whatever you are, be a good one."

Be Your own Own Boss

By Unknown

Lincoln resident, Ben Pankonin, presented early Wednesday morning to a crowd of groggy Boys' Staters. Although tired from the previous day, the audience pricked up their ears to what this young entrepreneur had to say and were enthralled with his story. Originally from Grand Island, Pankonin described how events in his adolescence really influenced his choices later in his adult life. He went on to say that his Nebraska values and roots really helped him settle in Nebraska and set up his business. "Recognizing that there is a problem is really what you want to find when setting up a business," is what he advised to the crowd. Ben Pankonin really kept his audience interested and showed them how to start their own business, a skill they can use for the rest of their lives.

Court Proceedings

Thomas Hawbaker, Alamo

On Wednesday, hopefuls for positions in the Judiciary gathered in the Harper Dining Hall conference chambers to receive their court cases and ascertain their arguments. The first case is Fisher V. University of Texas, a case pertaining to affirmative actions in college admissions. The second is of considerable import to the agriculture industry; Bowman V. Monsanto Co. concerns the patents of agriculture seed companies and how much control proprietors of patents retain over their products. The third case is Florida V. Jardines, a case concerning 4th amendment search and seizure practices. A case that will no doubt command great attention is Shelby County V. Holder, where the plaintiff, Shelby County, is suing the federal government over section 5 of the Voting Rights Act which requires certain states to gain federal approval before their voting laws. The next case, United States V. Windsor, will decide whether the 14th amendment's equal protection clause is violated by the Defense of Marriage Act. The sixth and final case is over California's proposition 8, which defines marriage as the union of a man and a woman. Opponents propose that the proposition violates the fourteenth amendment, while supporters claim the proposition is constitutional under the police power of the state, which in United States constitutional law is the capacity of the states to regulate behavior and enforce order within their territory for the betterment of the health, safety, morals, and general welfare of their inhabitants.

The Nationalist Party

Craig Thor, Bataan

Before the Nationalist State Convention, Donna Dudney, of the College of Business Administration, spoke to the Nationalist Party about exciting new programs and colleges at the college. She spoke of how the college teaches how to solve problems in the business world, a skill that is necessary in the real world. Once the convention started, speaker Jacob Lambert and Clerk Phil Levos led the conversation that would set the Nationalist Party platform. The meeting started with a conversation about the Keystone XL Pipeline. The party decided to take a stance of being for the pipeline, but with an alternate route and with focus on the environmental risks. Many members of the party speaking against the pipeline brought up reasons to vote against the pipeline including the nearly 100 oil spills in Michigan caused by TransCanada. Jobs were also a major concern, with points on both sides of the issue of whether the pipeline would increase or decrease jobs in the state of Nebraska. The second topic up for discussion was welfare reform. Many issues brought forth by party members included putting limitations on goods bought, rehabilitating the system, and preventing illegal immigrants from using the system. It was unanimously agreed that welfare was necessary but needed rehabilitation. Welfare reform was added to the party's platform with a focus on reforming the system. Gun Control and Alternative energy were next on the docket. Gun control was added to the platform with the amendment including a background check on all guns. Alternative Energy was included with the idea of slowly incorporating alternative energy into Nebraska over time. Alcohol consumption was dropped from the platform under the idea that every candidate can have their own separate opinion. Agriculture, education, and immigration all had time on the floor. Agriculture was added with the idea of basing stances off of the idea of government intervention only when necessary. Education was added to the platform with evaluation of teachers and reformation of standardized tests in mind. Immigration was added to the platform after a lot of debate. Minimizing racial profiling, streamlining the path to citizenship and a universal background check of all possible employees were all included in the platform.

After a 15 minute break, the preprimary meeting began. First were the candidates for Lieutenant Governor. The candidates were Kevin Brittan, Devin Dykes, Devin Hastings, Trenton Hays, Dylan Steinkruger, and Troy Taylor. For Secretary of State the candidates were Braden Carroll, Zac Cote', Ethan Gibbens, Mason Glause, Jacob Herr, Tate Jensen, and James Scarlett. State Treasurer candidates were Zachary Heaton, Brett Kinney, Tyler Martin, Phat Nguyen, Brandon Nichols, John Potthoff, Jon Thoene. For State Auditor, Jackson Deterding, Laurenz Gallegos, Nathaniel Maxcy, and Craig Thor. Up for election for Attorney General was Joey Geisler, Jack Graham, Shawn McDonald, Bradley Santin, Eddie Schooler, III, and Ethan Smith. Finally up for the office of Public Service Commissioner was Connor Barr, Matthew Beck, David Beran, Brigham Cardon, James DeMott, Adam Granville, Christopher Kai, Jackson Kai, Jackson Meyers, Trev Mumm, Zach Mumm, Riley Noel, Jaden Pierce, Derek Pohl, Blake Schrage, Seth Schuessler, and Justin Wilmes. All of the candidates spoke of their accomplishments and what they plan to do if elected to office. All of these men are highly capable and it is up to the people to decide who is best.

Education Reform the Nebraska Way

John Michael Hogue

The time for education reform is now. While I agree with those who assert the education system is not broken, it is falling behind, and is unprepared to meet the challenges of the 21st century. In an age when change comes rapidly, and entire industries and communities can be transformed practically overnight, our education system needs more flexibility and adaptability. Our school administrators need the flexibility to replace unmotivated educators with the best and brightest professionals. Our parents need the flexibility to send their kids to the institution where their kids will receive the best education, whether that institution is a private, charter, or public school. Our colleges need the flexibility to enter and embrace the digital market, and to encourage their best and brightest graduates to live and work in our great state. Boys state attendees have shown that they understand these needs. That is why 16 education bills were submitted to the legislature. That is why the legislative committee responsible for education passed a comprehensive education reform bill, which makes a myriad of reforms, including abolishing tenure, providing tax breaks to parents who enroll their children in private or charter schools, bringing . That is why gubernatorial candidates from both parties and various towns, including Davis Erker (a coauthor of the bill), Scott Smith, Samuel Lindblad, Walter Paul, Curtis Stokes, Aaron Wells, Aidan Clarke and Zach Geist have enthusiastically endorsed the bill. That is why candidate for Lieutenant Governor Trenton Hays coauthored the bill, that is why his opponent Tanner Byrd has endorsed, and that is why the Education PAC has rallied behind it. Nebraska has the unique opportunity to lead on education reform, to blaze an innovative trail that other states can follow. With your support I am confident that education reform will become a reality, and that it will be done the right way, the creative way, the Nebraska way.

The Energy that is Jack Graham

Davis Erker, Bataan

Two days ago, Jack Graham was elected to represent the Nationalist Party in the state election for the office of attorney general. Mr. Graham said he wishes to be attorney general because, "I've always wanted to be a lawyer. For the last ten years sit's been my life's dream and this is a great way to gain experience both in law and politics." Mr. Graham does have political aspirations for his future, and so this week is sort of his way of testing the water. As for his qualifications, Jack has the closing attorney for his school's mock trial team, a crucial position to nailing down a victory. If elected attorney general, Mr. Graham says his first priority would be to protect the people of Nebraska. "I wanna represent Ma and Pa. You know? I'll put the people ahead of any government agency."

Today's Weather

Today, the high is 75 degrees F. Low of 53 degree F. 0% chance of rain. NNW wind at 13 mph calming down to a N wind at 10 mph. Humidity is 63% and going up to 73%.
Sunrise - 5:56 A.M.

Tanner Byrd, Federalist Lt. Governor Candidate

Shane Brichacek, Bataan

Once the smoke cleared from last night's election for Lieutenant Governor, one Federalist Party Candidate remained. Tanner Byrd, resident of Linwood as well as Bunker Hill, was claimed as the Federalist Party main candidate. As mayor of Bunker Hill, Tanner Byrd has developed a concentration of income for their town's state candidates to use for campaigning as well as develop an advertisement business for an extra source of income for candidates. When asked questions among a congregation of his peers, he seemed to either be very confident in what he wanted to accomplish or very straight-forward and promising of his indecisions. In fact, when asked a question about something he wasn't very sure of, he promised the person who asked it that he would get back to him once he can give a clear and precise answer to his question which definitely shows honesty and integrity that are both needed in the prestigious job of Lieutenant Governor. Any way you put it, the Federalist Party has a strong candidate for the Primary Election occurring later on today at 11:30am.

Want to show Mom and Dad what we've been up to?

Tell them to visit:

CornhuskerBoysState.org

Things That Burn My Mind, Part 3

By Zachary Burns, Yorktown

I'm just left nearly speechless after today. Needless to say, I still have enough mind left to at least recount what has happened. If I fail, it's just because the pure shock factor from these "burning" idea's and scenarios. I've got a lot to cover, pretty much a week's worth of raw material in a day. Pretty scary things that happened today. So, let's not waste a moment! It all started last night, when someone decided that the legislative kids needed a full moon to accompany them. I shouldn't have to add the fact that it left an imprint on the glass. Still, there was a phone call that will live in infamy. I mean, I didn't hear it, but the tale was told and just hearing about hearing about it stained my thoughts. Basically, someone was missing their girl back home a little too much for your typical conversation. Still, the shock factor was maintained with some good old anti jokes. Anti jokes, and other jokes, both of which could shock some of the more stable minds.

Oh, but the things we got to enjoy, like the girls volleyball camp for example. I thought I'd be a nice fellow and open the door for some of these girls, but to my dismay I tripped on the rug whilst opening it, and failed to keep my balance thus flinging myself into the door. At least I held it open for the ladies, but did I score any charming points? Doubtful.

I'd also like to add when it comes to town meetings, Yorktown has got some good conversation. We also thought that maybe candidates should wear a beard of some sort. In laymans terms, it'd be smart to say you would never want the hair in the beard to be associated with your face. Still, when it came around to the newest ordinance some of the candidates proposed re-enactments from Human Centipede, preferably the second one, and then some of the internet shock videos.

As you can see my mind has been mushed into one twisted little piece. I won't be able to recover, and I'll admit I'm now one of those previously mentioned kids who can't pass a mental examination. I'm proud to say it was fun being scarred this time around, even if some of the things went just a tad bit too far. I mean, whose girlfriend would maime their boyfriend just for flirting around with some of the ladies. Maybe she is just afraid of a little "burn".

Tyler Coleman - Federalist Candidate for Attorney General

By Aidan Clark, Bataan

Hailing from the city of Bunker Hill, Tyler Coleman is the Federalist candidate for Attorney General. Tyler's platform consists of a strong commitment to upholding the constitution. He feels he has a thorough understanding of the position of Attorney General, and intends to use his position to help defend the state and people of Nebraska before outside concerns. He stands to present the issues the way that they stand and be forthcoming on all matters.

Did you know?

Boys' State Alumni include:

-Dave Heineman
-Michael Jordan
-Neil Armstrong
-Bill Clinton
-Tom Brokaw
-Roger Ebert

Connect with us and campaign!

@huskerboysstate

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Belleau Wood Town Report

Devin Mueller, Belleau Wood

"Walker for governor!" can be heard throughout the floor as Walker explains his views to try and gain the local vote. Walker is hoping his kindness and strong speaking skills will lead him all the way until the end. Positive reviews of the morning speakers were also heard as we learned about our generation and that education is extremely important. Belleau Wood has been doing fairly well in sports with a strong hold in basketball with two wins so far with many more to come. Hopefully Lincoln's weather will hold out so all sports teams can continue to play outside.

Alamo Town Report

James Richards, Alamo

As we go through Wednesday, or as some like to call it, "Hump day", Alamo is getting a good grip on things. As we pass more and more ordinances and get familiar with each other throughout the days, the whole process of Boys State is becoming easier to handle. City council meetings become more efficient and we are able to pass more ordinances that set up a basic structure and foundation for our town. In other news, a fellow citizen by the name of Cain Haschke keeps losing his shoes, for whatever reason, he now has lost them at least 2 or 3 times. Alamo is still in possession of the can of beans and it still works as an efficient gavel for city and school board sessions. Alamo is safe to say that it feels confident that it can make its way valiantly through the rest of Boys State with only a few days left.

Bunker Hill Town Report

Aidan Clarke, Bunker Hill

After the hectic campaigning on Tuesday, the nominees for the General Election would emerge from the flurry of flyers. On Bunker Hill, eight different candidates emerged victorious. On the State level, they have Tanner Byrd, running for Lieutenant Governor, John Michael Hogue for Secretary of State, and Tyler Coleman as Attorney General. For County positions, there are Shane Anders for County Sheriff, Cody Boche for County Clerk, Tanner Hothus as Clerk of the District Court, Cole Weise for State Board of Education, and Troy Ebel running for County Judge. Bunker Hill is very proud of their representation in the General Election.

Manila Bay Town Report

Luciano Ramirez, Manila Bay

Manila Bay woke up on Wednesday initially feeling somewhat groggy, but rapidly restored their energy after breakfast and became ready for whatever the daily schedule threw at us. The citizens of Manila Bay welcomed the victors of Tuesday's Primary Election: Trevor Burr (Federalist candidate for State Treasurer), Evan Uden (Federalist candidate for County Attorney in Lincoln County), and Dan Kollars (Nationalist candidate for Clerk of the District Court in Lincoln County.)

Manila Bay split up early on to visit the PAC Fair, the Careers session, or the Entrepreneurship event. Like the other towns, we split up once more to attend one of the five workshop sessions. The Legislative, PAC, court, school board, and city council meetings went ahead afterwards.

Bataan Town Report

Davis Erker, Bataan

Wednesday morning went slow when we all awoke but that didn't diminish our joyous moods. But to start the day off we talked about the Dave Dollar, and who we can and will donate to. All together we do our serious meeting times but afterwards we have our fun and mess around. Aside from that we also discussed and conversed on what pizza and soda we want to eat. Other than all this, there wasn't a whole lot we did, other than make friends and have fun!

Gettysburg Town Report

Tyler Cuellar, Gettysburg

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Who ya gonna call?

Walter Paul for Gov.
Paid for by Public Safety PAC

Fear the Beard

Aarron Wells for Gov
Paid for by Public Safety PAC

Give Scott a Shot

Scott Smith for Gov.
Paid for by Public Safety PAC

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Samuel Lindblad

Mayor of Valley Forge

Nationalist Party Candidate

Supports Environmentally friendly Keystone-XL

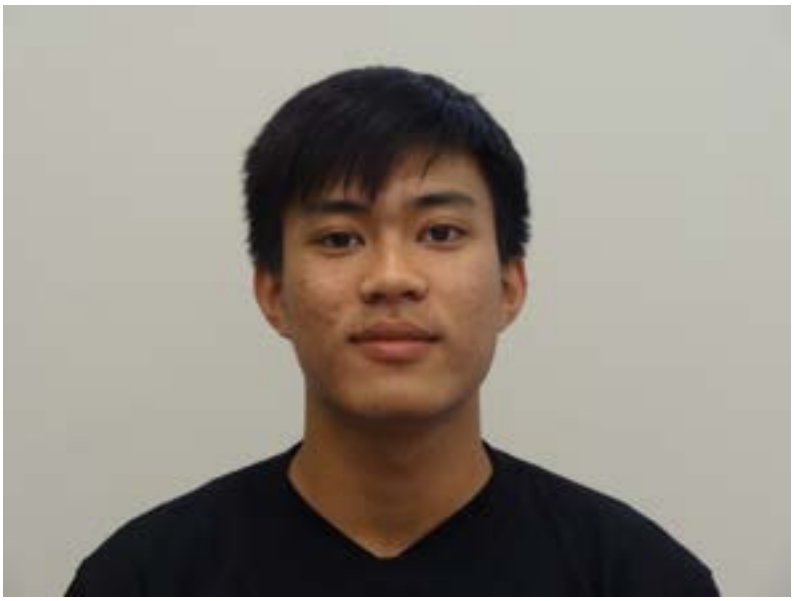
Great, friendly Leader

Nationalist Governor

Phat Nguyen Nationalist State Treasurer

CEO of his OWN business

Entrepreneurship Focusporium member for two years



Be a Cool Cat, Vote For Phat!