

VISIT THE ALJBS STORE!
 HELP SUPPORT FUTURE DELEGATES!
 NEW MERCHANDISE!
 HILL B POD

**Don't forget
 to vote in
 the Election
 at 10 A.M.
 in the
 Alumni Gym**



THE JERSEY
STATESMAN

VOLUME LXVI, ISSUE IV JUNE 24, 2011

**Congrats to
 Julien
 Blaney, the
 66th Boys'
 State
 Governor**

What I Really Learned at Boys' State

Kevin M. Karol & The Jersey Statesman

This past week, all Statesmen have experienced everything ranging from quick naps between scheduled activities to eating some of the nastiest things on the face of this earth. Needless to say, it's been a rough week for the lot of us. But we've made memories that will last us a lifetime—especially those involving bathroom-humor, swear-words, and anything vulgar! So that you, the average Statesman, can better understand this concept, the staff has decided to give you a slight glimpse into the funky lessons that Statesmen have learned here.

- Any delegate can survive on less than 5 hours of sleep.
- Air conditioners are your salvation.
- You know you're adequately hydrated when you need to pee every 10 minutes.
- Whatever you do, DON'T walk on the grass!
- Pancakes can be used for more than just eating; hockey pucks, coasters, and bullet-proof sports cups are among their many functions.
- GUARD YOUR GUIDE-ON.
- Sleep is a beautiful thing, even though it may seem idealistic towards the end of the week.
- The State Troopers' conditioning is NOT a substitute for air conditioning.
- General assemblies are more fun when there actually is a general.
- This mythical 51st state has its own time zone - 10 minutes slower than EST
- Ice cream comes in many flavors – dinner comes in none.
- He who brings the most water and fans shall prosper for all eternity.
- All of the staff members of The Jersey Statesman will probably have to be admitted to rehabilitation for caffeine addictions.

Jokes and humor aside, we Statesmen truly did learn valuable life lessons in this sometimes difficult five day journey. We have grown as people, recognized latent passions and dreams, discovered who we are, and have created bonds with friends that will last forever. Academically, the week provided us with an intensive study of government, done in a way that was fun, educational, and comprehensive. Whether it was learning that electoral victory requires teamwork, or the importance of receiving feedback on speeches, Statesman will always remember the educational and social value of this life changing experience.

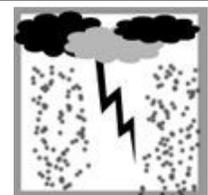
Friday Schedule Highlights

- 5:45 A.M. Wake Up
- 7:45-8:30 A.M. Senatorial Candidate Debate
- 8:45-10:00 A.M. Boy's State Exam- Location: TBA
- 10:00-11:00 A.M. Senatorial General Election-Alumni Gym
- 11:00-1:20 P.M. 2011 ALJBS Family Day
- 11:45 A.M 2011 ALJBS Marathon
- 1:30-4:00 P.M. Graduation
- 4:00 P.M. Goodbye Boys' State

Forecast

Today: High-84° F
 Low-66° F
 50% Chance of Rain
 Chance of Thunderstorms

Tonight: 68° F
 50% Chance of Rain
 Chance of Thunderstorms



Tomorrow: High-84° F
 Low-66° F
 30% Chance of Rain
 Chance of Thunderstorms

Boys' State News

Governor Christie Shares Words of Wisdom With ALJBS

Walter Burkat and Alex Foxwell

Thursday night was a memorable one for all of the delegates at ALJBS -- we were graced with Governor Chris Christie's appearance. Unfortunately, he had to hastily leave because the State Assembly was voting on the controversial pension bill. While he was with us he certainly made an impact, whether or not you agree with his politics. He started the General Assembly with the inauguration of newly-elected ALJBS Governor Julien Blaney. The room fell silent as Blaney took the oath of office.

Governor Christie offered a light-hearted speech stressing the importance of doing one's best, as determination and ambition will be one's guide. He mentioned that he was a delegate at ALJBS thirty-two years ago and he was elected a Boys' Nation Senator. Governor Christie stated that good citizens are the most integral parts of a society. Good citizens exemplify the characteristics of leaders, as they show perseverance, honesty, integrity, and the will to accomplish goals. Governor Christie additionally asserted the sometimes-forgotten idea that material things are not necessarily important. He stressed that having good character will get one far in life, and hopefully, one will utilize their skills to effectively make a difference in the world.

After his riveting speech, Christie took the time to answer a few questions from the delegates. When people began to line up to ask their questions, he made a point that if delegates were going to ask questions, they must be respectful. If delegates were to publicly challenge him, he would readily defend himself. Governor Christie is a person who garners attention easily. Whether you like him or not, it is safe to say that he is an influential person in the political field of New Jersey.



Senate Signatures Cause Chaos

Richard Chang

Of the 880 Statesmen here at ALJBS, only two will be selected as Boys' Nation senators. Unfortunately for the night owls at Boys' State, senatorial hopefuls invaded the Statesmen's dorms this morning in order to secure 55 signatures. Chaos was rampant as dozens of potential candidates scurried to each dorm and woke-up many sleeping Statesmen. The process itself was both chaotic and tiring; nevertheless, the ultimate outcome is a worthy cause as two distinguished Statesmen will be elected Boys' Nation Senators and represent New Jersey at Boys Nation in Washington D.C.

The day began for many of these hopeful candidates with anxiety and anticipation. Many statesmen woke up at 6AM simply to make it on time at 6:30AM to get their signature packets. John Migaleddi, who was handing out the packets, thoroughly explained the rules regarding the signature process. After all the signatures were given, the coordinator finally blew the air horn to signal the beginning of the signature process. The race had begun.

Immediately, statesmen sprinted out towards the dorms; chaos ensued. The potential candidates were running all over Rider University, eagerly scuffling to and fro, doing all that they could do to get signatures. Individuals went door to door throughout the cities. Some even barged into the rooms without permission. Each statesmen could only give two signatures, and many even put up signs on their doors saying "Already Signed Twice" to avoid any further intruding statesmen. Some lied to potential senatorial candidates, claiming to have already signed twice when in actuality they did not. The potential senatorial candidates were desperate and used every method to get signatures—screaming, negotiating, begging.

The efforts paid off for four candidates. Representing the National Party, Jaipartap Ranu and Luis Zamora. Representing the Federal Party, Eric Laverro and Brian Najjar. Best of luck to them as they continue their race.

Refrendum Questions

DO YOU BELIEVE IN THE REINSTITUTION OF CAPITOL PUNISHMENT?

57.03% Yes

42.97% No

SHOULD SAME-SEX MARRIAGE BE LEGALIZED?

60.00% Yes

40.00% No

WOULD YOU APPROVE OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A MILLIONAIRE'S TAX?

63.85% Yes

36.15% No

Statesmen's Swag

A Generally Eventful Assembly

Tom Shaw

Though Wednesday night's general assembly was comprised of many different subjects, each component shared one similar element: winning the enthusiasm of an audience of Statesmen. The ALJBS Band began the night with a medley of several patriotic songs, such as "The National Anthem" and "You're A Grand Old Flag." Progressing into more modern tunes, the ALJBS Band also covered an assortment of pop music. From the classic "Don't Stop Believin'" by Journey, to "Bad Romance" by Lady Gaga, band director Michael A. Kallimanis, chose a selection of music that would appeal to the majority of the crowd. Intermittently between band performances, keynote speakers Ari Fleisher, former White House Press Secretary under President George W. Bush, and Charles Wiley, a nationally renowned reporter, volunteered to share their knowledge and experiences.

The ALJBS Chorus also performed during the assembly, singing an arrangement of "Battle Hymn Of The Republic," which will also be performed at the ALJBS graduation ceremony on Friday. Between both the band and the chorus, many Statesmen were incited to break out into song, cheers, and even impromptu dancing. With these events accounted for, it is no major surprise that the assembly lasted for over an hour longer than anticipated and scheduled. It also is no surprise that the crowd generally did not seem to mind.

Playoffs Cap Off Amazing Week of Sports

Adam Zielonka

It was easy to tell that Thursday was playoff day for Jersey Boys' State, based on the athletes peaking levels of performance and competitiveness. The rain, unlike on Wednesday, held off, allowing for a certain and flowing schedule.

Through yesterday's tournaments, champion counties of each individual sport were determined. All top seeds in each tournament were victorious. Bradley County won in soccer, lead by star player David Zuleta, defeating Marshall in the final game. Vandenburg beat MacArthur in the championship football game, and beat Nimitz in volleyball for the tournament victory. Eisenhower also won the softball tournament, taking down near-Cinderella story Bradley in the last game. The basketball tournament came down to MacArthur and Bradley. It was double-elimination style – Bradley won the first game to force the second game. However, that second game belonged to MacArthur, who came from behind after halftime to win.

We don't know how Dean and Assistant Dean of Sports Shane Mata and Andy Robertson will formulate the scores from the playoffs, so there is no way we can make an accurate estimation of rankings. However, I predict Bradley, MacArthur, Vandenburg and Eisenhower Counties to be the main contenders entering Friday's marathon.

And if you see folks from Ridgeway County, give them a nice pat on the back for their efforts this week.

Boys' State Haikus

Tim Lynch

We began Sunday
Our endeavor had begun
We came to learn lots

Where has the time gone
From teens we grew to Statesmen
The journey is done

Future leaders now
We must be the better man
Osama is dead

Hot or Not

Gibson Oakley

Hot

- Rooms
- Birthday Cake
ice cream
- Italian Girls
- Voting

Not

- Food
- Ice cream line
- Not being able to talk to them
- Being woken up at 6 AM
by candidates searching
for signatures



FROM THE BOTTOM OF OUR HEARTS, THE STAFF OF THE JERSEY STATESMAN WOULD LIKE TO THANKS ALL OF OUR READERS AND, ESPECIALLY, MR. THOMAS MARSDEN. WITHOUT HIM, NONE OF THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE. AS A RESULT OF HIS GUIDANCE AND KNOWLEDGE, WE WERE VERY SUCCESSFUL IN PROVIDING YOU WITH A GREAT SOURCE OF NEWS. THANK YOU TOM, AND TO THE STATESMAN – HAVE A FANTASTIC SUMMER!

Opinion

To Our Staff . . .

Alex Foxwell and The Jersey Statesman staff

In all 66 years of American Legion Jersey Boys' State-history, the dedicated staff has been here year after year. Every session, staff-members return to ALJBS in order to enrich the lives of young, rising senior boys. They work hard, organize the first few meetings, keep track of everything, etc—especially in those first two days when every Statesman is put through the ringer. But there is something we tend to forget.

Every single member of the staff is a volunteer, now that's what I call dedication and selflessness. It's our definite duty to congratulate them on a job very well done. For organizing the entire program on the fly, we could not be more thankful and appreciative. Likewise there is no salary for staff-members, according to Dean of Technology Brian Epstein (more affectionately known as "Eppy"); however, that is not a factor for the counselors. For Epstein, the reason he continues to serve on the ALJBS staff is that he really wants "to give back to the program that was instrumental..." in his upbringing. Eppy has been here for seventeen years—others have been here for forty or more!

All in all, we Statesmen are indebted to the staff-members—especially to the Legionnaires who serve on staff. As Epstein says, he feels that it is his duty to "repay the heroes who have sacrificed everything for us." Basically, Statesmen, we need to bow down to the staff. What they have accomplished is a feat beyond comparison. As Statesmen, we too must give back to both the staff and the community, as well as those who have sacrificed everything in defense of our freedom, just as Brian Epstein did after his year as a delegate in 1994. This, gentlemen, is perhaps the best lesson we can learn—to give back to those who have sacrificed so much for so few.

If you are interested in becoming a staff-member next year, please see your respective senior city counselors. And don't forget to say "Thanks!"

Director's Thoughts

Alex Foxwell

In keeping with tradition, The Jersey Statesman was lucky enough to sit down with our beloved director of ALJBS, Mr. Dave Bagatelle. During the conversation, we discovered that Bagatelle is extremely proud of this year's Statesmen. When asked about his opinion on the newly-elected governor and lieutenant governor, he stated that both candidates "ran a great race and they both represented this year's delegates very well." Mr. Bagatelle is thoroughly involved in the experience of the Statesmen as well as committed to providing excellence.

Mr. Bagatelle has been a member of the ALJBS staff for more than thirty years, and has been Director for six of them. What keeps him coming back? The delegates and their continued drive for excellence.

While some of us may return next year as members of the all-volunteer staff, many of us will say our final farewells to Mr. Bagatelle and the rest of the current staff today. In his farewells, the Director urges us to continue to strive for the best and reach for the stars. In Mr. Bagatelle's own words, "Have a fantastic summer and carry your ALJBS-memories with you wherever you go!"

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