

# THE JERSEY STATESMAN



June 19, 2024

Issue #2

Volume LXXVIII

## Initial County Athletics

1. MacArthur
2. Marshall
3. Eisenhower
4. Vandenburg
5. Ridgway
- T5. Halsey
7. Nimo
8. Bradley

## Reminder: Museum Trip!

Today and tomorrow, June 19th-20th, a trip to the National Guard Museum will take place. If you signed up, please show up to the front of the Daly Dining Hall/SRC and remember to eat lunch before. There are three time slots (12:15, 12:30, 12:45), and the trip should last for around one hour and forty-five minutes. If you are part of the ALJBS Legislature, you are required to attend the ALJBS meetings at 12:45 pm, which conflicts with the museum trip. Remember to make Boys State look good by respecting the staff and have fun!

## Why We Celebrate D-Day

### Brief History

We celebrate D-Day because it was the beginning of the end of WWII; it was the result of the largest successful amphibious military operation in history. This began with allied leadership planning the liberation of France from the Axis powers after it was decided the Italian campaign was not going to be sufficient for a complete victory. This led to the creation of the "Overlord" plan, the day this plan was executed it became known as the day the Axis fell. Leading to that day being given the moniker D-Day. D-Day was once celebrated as liberation of millions of people from the authoritarian claws of the Nazis, but in recent years, D-Day is celebrated as a day of remembrance for all who served or passed in the line of duty.

The Nationalists trickled into the theater; taking them about 10 minutes to sit down even though most came in at a timely manner, except for City Six (Jackson City). This earned City Six a resounding "boo" from all the other Nationalists who felt slighted by their tardiness. The presentation would go on to begin with Director Bagatelle greeting all in attendance, receiving an enthusiastic response from the audience. As the documentary began the audience was enamored by the sound, the visuals and plentiful amount of information. When the film came to an end, the audience erupted in a roar of applause. Afterwards, when the veterans came onto the stage, a standing ovation was presented to the veterans, lasting for a truly deserved five minutes. After every veteran's speech, they were given applause, the last speaker even receiving a special "Horah" from the statesmen of his city. During the last applause at the end of the presentation one of the delegates yelled "We love you," and in response one of the Marines yelled "I love you too". The program ended with a smooth exit from the

# Politics

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theater and a general good feel.

As the rousing Federalist State Party Convention came to an end, the boisterous Federalists filed into Yvonne theater, taking several minutes before finally being seated – nothing out of the ordinary. When the presentation began the audience of rowdy Federalists took an unfortunately long time to quiet down for speaker Director of ALJBS David Bagatelle. Director Bagatelle stated clearly that the two front row seats were intended to be left empty in honor of American P.O.W.s and those who are M.I.A. In spite of the clear directions given by Bagatelle, many blatantly ignored the honorable commemoration by leaping over the seats, sitting in the seats, and showing general signs of disrespect. Furthermore, it should be noted that this documentary on D-Day is about one of the largest and most perilous amphibious invasions in not only American history, but likely the history of war itself. Nonetheless, there were multiple instances of disrespectful behavior as delegates continued side-conversations, using their phones, and heckled the documentary all throughout.

If we were to learn two things from this presentation it is—one; the absolute magnitude of dedication, bravery, comradery, and sacrifice that these young men, who were merely a few years older than the delegates of today—and two; we should learn from the mistakes of the Federalists... the disrespect towards the D-Day Presentation and the many staff members who volunteer their time for our experience must not happen again. We are at The American Legion Jersey Boys State Program, not The American Legion Jersey Boys State Daycare Program. Each statesman must pay homage to those who paid the ultimate sacrifice for our country, honor those who

served our wonderful nation, and always maintain utmost respect for the time and dedication that the volunteers of ALJBS who commit for the experience of the delegates.

## Rhetoric of a Statesman

Gavin Gardner

Early on Tuesday morning, candidates for the county offices delivered speeches to try and get support for their elections. Among the speeches, many were passing and a few were excellent at making their platform and their qualifications appealing to the voter; but what exactly differentiated the good from the excellent?

Rhetoric is the art of using appeals in order to convince another party of your position. The remaining appeals of rhetoric are authority, emotion, and logic, which serve the purpose of establishing common ground with the recipient. Appeal to authority mainly focuses on the credentials required to make good decisions. Appeal to emotions primarily attempts to incite feelings in a recipient creating a sense of unity. As for an appeal to logic, in this scenario it is a concrete plan that the speaker intends to act on.

Many of the speeches made in the moment had appeals to emotion, begging for support in their campaign or having a catchy slogan. However, the best speeches had the inclusion of what their platform was running on a solid initiative that would logically solve an issue faced by the county. The ones that had all three deserved to be called excellent, and the ones who used all three appeals had the best speeches with the most successful campaigns.

# Opinion Editorial

## Is Six Hours of Sleep Really Sustainable?

Gavin Gardner

The American Legion Jersey Boys State Program should certainly not be underestimated by any means. Nevertheless, ALJBS is an incredibly prestigious program for rising-Seniors in high school; many of today's leaders can trace some of their habits and behavioral roots to the ALJBS program. Whether sixteen, seventeen, or even eighteen years of age, the ALJBS program consists of teenagers—the demographic that, according to many scientists, doctors, and other health professionals, needs the most sleep out of all age demographics after infants and children. Averaging eight to ten hours, sleep is critical to the teenage body and its ability to continue growth and development.

ALJBS has some of the best and brightest teenagers in all of New Jersey, but six hours of sleep is neither a healthy nor sustainable amount of sleep for teenagers! Even adding an additional hour to the sleep schedule of the delegates at ALJBS would be far more healthy and beneficial than the provided six hours.

Despite the fact that the schedule is jam-packed with activities both physical and mental, sleep would help delegates be healthy, happy, and recharged for another rigorous day. Overall making them more productive and even improving morale. ALJBS should consider adding another hour to the sleeping schedule of the teenage delegates which attend.

(Information taken from [mayoclinic.org](http://mayoclinic.org))

## The Superior Meat: Turkey or Ham

Declan McMullen

Turkey or ham? A question asked all over, and now, not just at your local Subway. There are multiple opinions on this topic, and discussion amongst local ham enjoyers and turkey fans is many and varied. Knowing this, our new team conducted a total of forty-six interviews asking this very question to Harrison City (City 8). The results were as follows: ham scored a total of twenty-eight votes, turkey received a measly eighteen votes, and none selected "no preference". The difference itself is quite drastic and out of forty-six people, which is the entire city, no people selecting "no preference" means that there has to be a reason for such a stark choice for either pork or ham.

To understand these results, some of those who were interviewed were also asked for the reasoning behind their answers. EBO, Aidan LeComte, who in fact works at Jersey Mike's, gave his professional views on the obviously touchy topic. He claimed that "ham is just better," given that "it is easier to bite into, better taste, better digestion". Evidently, it appears that he is right because this very same sentiment is echoed throughout the majority of Harrison City. Nevertheless further investigation must be conducted on the big questions in life... ham or turkey!

## Manuals Due Soon!

As Boys State progresses, remember all city and council manuals are due Thursday at 7:15 PM. These manuals are your city and council's legislative solutions to your problems, which is an imperative aspect of the Boys State experience. These manuals play an important role in deciding both best city and best county. Late submissions will not be accepted, NO EXCUSES!

# Sports

## A Summer Full of Sports

Alexander Meyer

The summer of 2024 will certainly be one to remember, as some of the largest sporting events will be taking place all around the globe.

For starters, the months of June and July will be featuring two major soccer tournaments: the UEFA European Championship and the CONMEBOL Copa América. Both of said tournaments will boast some of the world's best international soccer teams, with the European Cup having major powerhouses such as France, Spain, England, and Germany, while the Copa América will be hosting the defending World Cup winners in Argentina and Brazil. Given that the European Championship will be held in Germany, it will be difficult for American citizens to view the games in person. The Copa América, however, will be held in North America, which offers easy access for Americans desiring to spectate the event, with games reaching as close as MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey.

The excitement certainly does not end after these two soccer tournaments. Following the conclusion of these events, the 2024 Summer Olympics will kick off on July 26th, with the most talented athletes from across the globe convening in Paris to compete in sports such as swimming; gymnastics; track and field; and a wide variety of other sporting events. Famous American athletes such as Katie Ledecky and Simone Biles will be taking center stage, competing against the best of the best, fighting to earn the prestigious gold medal for the United States of America.

Whether you can view these sporting events in person or on television, be sure

to keep an eye out for everything happening in the athletic world this summer. See you at MetLife Stadium.

## Recap of the NBA Finals

Kerem Dulger

On Monday night, the Boston Celtics took on the Dallas Mavericks in Game Five of the NBA finals. After Boston's catastrophic thirty-eight point loss in Game Four, the media cast a slight doubt on the Celtics' prospects ahead of the contest. Despite this sentiment, the Celtics ultimately triumphed in an eighteen point blowout victory, which not only established themselves as the champions of the 2024 NBA season, but also cemented themselves in history as one of the most dominating teams of all time.

In addition to winning the NBA Championship, the Celtics achieved the best regular season record with ease and only lost three games in the playoffs this year. To put Boston's success into perspective, the Celtics have two All-NBA forwards, one All-Star center, two All-Defensive guards, and the best bench in the league. While the talented Jayson Tatum is widely accepted as the primary option on the Celtics' roster, their depth in star players played a key role in their championship victory. For instance, Celtics' guard Jaylen Brown was awarded Finals MVP after his performances, while their center, Kristaps Porzingis, was in contention for the Finals MVP before unfortunately suffering a severe left leg injury.

Frankly, Boston checks all the boxes of a championship team, and given that their entire starting lineup remains on-contract until next year, the Celtics are looking to be the favorites yet again for the 2025 season.

# Local News

## Why is Purchasing Merch From ALJBS Important?

Gavin Gardner

There is only one way to continue the prestigious legacy of excellence that the American Legion Jersey Boys State Program has set-funding. Hence, if you are one of the many statesmen who wishes to see the continued success of the ALJBS program, purchasing the various pieces of merchandise available at the ALJBS store is the best way you can help!

A wide variety of different clothing and accessories are available at the ALJBS merch shop. This shop includes sweatpants, uniform white shirts, track suits, baseball caps, and more. The shop even includes accessories such as graduation cords, notebooks, pens, and anything else that you could think of, and if it's not there the suggestion box is surely open!

The best part about the shop is that every penny spent is a contribution to the program and the program only. Nothing goes to the volunteers who sacrifice their time to give this great experience to the attendees of ALJBS aside from the satisfaction of being a counselor or advisor. You can find the ALJBS shop on the right-hand side of the back of the Rider University Cafeteria during your lunch periods. The volunteers who sell the clothing and accessories are among the most friendly volunteers you will meet in the program.

To recap, the ALJBS Program is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that you, as the delegate, have the ability to directly support! You, as the delegate, have the opportunity to facilitate an even better experience for the delegates of the years to come by purchasing the many products sold at the ALJBS Store.

## Norcross Enterprise Charges

Carson Jakowenko

This week, Attorney General Matthew J. Platkin and the Office of Public Integrity and Accountability, also referred to as the OPIA, announced the filing of criminal charges against the illegal enterprise run by George S. Norcross III, Norcross Enterprise. The indictment alleges that as early as 2012, Norcross Enterprise used its power and influence to pass legislation tailored to serve solely the interests of the enterprise. In response, all six of the following Norcross employees were charged with first-degree racketeering, where a set of illegal activities aimed at commercial profit are disguised as legitimate business deals.

All of the offenses listed are violations in both the first and second degree. First degree charges carry a prison sentence of 10-20 years alongside a 200,000 dollar fine. In contrast, second degree charges face criminals with a maximum 10 year sentence accompanied by a 150,000 dollar fine. However, it's important to remember that these charges are simply allegations, and nothing is set in stone until the defendants are proven guilty.

As New Jersey Statesmen, it is our responsibility to make sure that corporations and businesses are acting with moral integrity and transparency. By doing this, not only does our state benefit, but also our many counties and municipalities. As stated by Attorney General Platkin, "Today we reaffirm that no one in our state is above the law – period".

*Disclaimer:* This story is from the inner workings of City 12.

# Local News

## "Mad-Skin City": Chaos in Madison City

Alexander Meyer

Amid major controversy in Madison City, a mid-sized seashore community, a local newspaper nicknamed the area "Mad-Skin City", clearly reflecting the gravity of the city's issues and the quality leadership required to resolve them.

More specifically, a recent hurricane inflicted significant damage on the homes of civilians and exacerbated the erosion and medical waste wash-up issues on the beaches. Yet, the controversy has only increased with the intervention of the state government. Although the seven and a half million dollars in aid has certainly helped construct dunes to partially resolve the erosion issue, officials tore down houses and local businesses in order to make room for the dunes, greatly angering the civilian population. In addition to natural disasters, residents are complaining about the fact that Madison still allows for topless bathing on its beaches, sparking heated debate within the city legislature.

Given that the general election was recently held, the citizens of Madison

can only hope that the mayor Patrick Dempsey, along with his fellow councilmen, will enact bipartisan legislation to rectify the pressing issues the city faces in this day and age.

## Reminder to Vote!

Voting is your civic duty both inside and outside of Boys State. We live in a democratic society where you can choose leaders representing your interests, values and ideas. People in other corners of the world do not have this as a privilege let alone have it as a right. Exercise your voting rights to take control of your country, state and city destiny because others cannot.

## Weather

Expect hot and sunny weather yet again tomorrow with a high of 92 degrees fahrenheit!



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