



# THE JERSEY STATESMAN



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## Weather

Today's low temperature is 57 degrees and the high temperature is 79 degrees. The weather will be a mix of partly cloudy and mostly sunny.

## Schedule

- 6:30 AM - 8:15 AM: Senatorial Candidates pick up petitions
- 6:45 AM - 8:10 AM: Breakfast
- 8:20 AM - 9:30 AM: Gubernatorial Debate
- 9:40 AM: Flag Ceremony Practice
- 9:40 AM - 10:20 AM: Work on City/County Manuals
- 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM: Seminars
- 11:45 AM - 1:10 PM: Lunch
- 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM: Gubernatorial Election
- 2:30 PM - 3:00 PM: General Assembly
- 3:15 PM - 5:15 PM: Rec Time
- 5:35 PM: Retreat
- 5:45 PM - 7:10 PM: Dinner
- 7:15 PM: City/County Manuals Due
- 7:20 PM - 8:50 PM: General Assembly
- 9:00 PM - 10:00 PM: State Party Conventions

**Note: Check your personal schedule for more specific logistics and events!**

## Gubernatorial Nominees

*Nicholas Battista*



On June 23rd, Federalists and Nationalists gathered outside to know who won their parties' nomination for ALJBS Governor. The Nationalist nominee is Devin Falci, with Chris Rieman being the nominee for the Federalists. Both

will be campaigning throughout the day for the ultimate spot of ALJBS governor. We congratulate both nominees on their victory and wish them the best of luck on their campaigns for ALJBS governor.

## Get Out and Vote!

Boys Statesmen act upon your civic duty and vote in your Gubernatorial Election.

## Reminder....

Work on your County and City Manuals as those are due Thursday at 7:15 PM! Tip: the manuals are easy tasks if ALL members are participating in the process.

## Fun Fact!

Boys State was founded in 1935 to counter the socialism-inspired Young Pioneer Camps.

# Local Politics

## Stadium Standoff

*Jake Briggs*

The Jersey Demons' new stadium has caused much unrest in Halsey County. Offered initially to Washington for thirty million, the stadium has created a bidding war between Washington and Adams City. The problem arose when the sports team offered Adams millions to build the stadium on its waterfront.

Both cities seem to be vying for the construction, but there might be a possible compromise in the works. Washington might give Adams the stadium in exchange for helping to construct a turnpike to connect the cities. This compromise is only rumored for now, but could help to benefit both cities and help mend the divide between them.

Many are hoping that this problem can be fixed, if the bidding war continues, both cities will spend unnecessary money and grow to despise each other. This proposal may fall through, but only time will tell.

## Grogu Jumps into the Band's Assembly

*Jacob Hannum*

During Wednesday's general assembly, the ALJBS band performed a wide selection of songs. The statesmen heard songs from the likes of Bon Jovi, John Williams, and some special tunes from a galaxy far, far away. Specifically, the Mandalorian's theme song filled the ears of the excited audience. The band director stopped the song in the middle of it to announce that baby Grogu was hiding somewhere in the audience. Everyone went into a fury, flipping chairs and peering over to others to see who Grogu was. When the name was found under the chair, everyone shouted as the delegate was given a Grogu doll and a green lightsaber, burning the band director's hand in the process. Grogu didn't have anything to say, unfortunately, but what can you expect from a fifty-year-old baby?

## Commedic Court

*The Jersey Statesman Staff*

An individual in ALJBS was charged with the unnecessary tampering of thermostats not in their own room. The court heard the case, and after the Prosecution and Defence gave their cases, the Judge's verdict was guilty, with his punishment being having to wear his Boys State uniform backwards.

A head counselor was accused of leaving their property unattended. That "property" was their food, and they left it in the cafeteria. After the court brought up and heard multiple witnesses, and even after the counselor spoke for themselves, the Judge's verdict was guilty as charged, and their punishment was to spend the breakfast side-by-side with a student who was "scarred" by the counselor's actions.

A counselor was accused of 500+ accounts of murders of various degrees. The court heard testimony from a sergeant, who claimed he was "sus" enough, to be possibly guilty on all charges and we will likely serve life in prison.

A statesman was charged with assaulting a counselor. The judge ordered him to life in prison. In response he stated, "You fool, that's what I wanted! Now I'll be surrounded by men!"

A counselor was accused of possession of drugs and the intent to distribute it after a statesman accepted a plea deal to give up his supplier of "some of the best cocaine" he's ever had. After very convincing eye witnesses, he was found guilty and the judge ordered for no lights out but was talked down to an extra 20 minutes after the scheduled time instead.



Congratulations from *The Jersey Statesman*

# VISIT THE ALJBS STORE FOR MERCHANDISE AND THE FRONT OF THE DALY DINING HALL FOR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PINS!



## Events

### Finding Careers in Government

*Noah Hilsdorf*

On Tuesday, in Yvonne Theater, interested statesmen listened to an hour of discussion on what is available in government. The main topics discussed included civility, lobbying, and professions. Speakers Kay LaCausi and Matt McDermott Sr. spoke to statesmen on their careers and life stories. LaCausi started the conversation with mentions of civility and how the two were members of a bipartisan household with a liberal and a conservative. She pushed the belief that: "It is ok to disagree, but it is not ok to be disagreeable." That, she believed, is the poison in the well in modern discourse.

Further into the seminar, the two delved into their career paths, both entering their respective positions in the 90s. Both began with working at the State House in Trenton in various capacities and rose through the chain in offices. McDermott Sr. left the State House for positions in gubernatorial administrations. He worked for the Whitman and Christie administrations in many roles. Today, McDermott is the senior vice president of Kaufman Zita Group, with a job with Orsted. LaCausi left to start her own consultant firm, called Hoboken Strategy Group, Inc. There, she serves as president and helps clients like Honeywell.

As lobbyists they know the general distrust with the profession. Although they believe there are good and bad lobbyists, both speakers insisted they take more moral approaches. There were many, many questions, and in only an hour, the meeting ended a little over time.

### Big Hero Seven

*Jacob Hannum*

Tuesday's seminars fell into a wide spectrum of topics, from careers in medicine to speeches about leadership. The people that represent these topics and careers are all remarkable in their own right, but I believe it is especially important to shine some light on those that presented the seminar on careers in law enforcement. We are all growing more familiar with policy and law-making throughout this program, but I find the other side of the coin to be just as important. Although we have sheriff and other law enforcement positions, the seven men in this seminar demonstrate what it takes to enforce these policies to guarantee that they are followed.

Continue on Page 4.

**Continued from Page 3.** The presentation mainly covered the actual logistics of law enforcement, and while I want to focus on the actual men behind this seminar, it can't hurt to touch on what the seminar was actually about. Becoming someone in this field of work is quite difficult, and a lot harder than many might expect. You not only have to be physically fit and intelligent, you must also have a fairly intense moral compass. That's probably the easiest part, but the actual application process is much harder. Firstly, an application must be sent in, similarly to a typical job. Then, an exam must be taken to test your knowledge, think of this like the written driving test. This then leads to several physical assessments, an interview, a more formal application (usually fifty pages of almost everything that has occurred in your life up until the point of applying), medical exams, a psychological test, and a background check. These can occur in any order, but the process as a whole barely changes. Officials will investigate your entire life, so be honest. The formal application is designed to test your integrity, so don't hide anything (you really don't want them to find out that you have ten speeding tickets when applying to be a police officer).

When the officers, veterans, investigators and more walked into the Gill Chapel, it was impossible to ignore the overwhelming sense of awe. These men are of immense honor, stature, and presence, and there is no doubt that they are amongst the most distinguished men in America and the world. They not only showcase discipline, respect, and honor, but they also put a large focus on following your dreams. Go ahead, roll your eyes at this cheesy and corny ideology, but one thing that was said should hopefully stick with you: "Preparation leads to success...I grew up poor in a small, two-bedroom apartment with five siblings," he continued, "always strive to educate yourself and be better."

## **An Amazing Band Debut**

*Kedhar Bartlett*

Tonight we were graced with the musical performance of the legendary Boys State Band. The Band has been an exalted group since before we arrived here at Rider, so expectations were definitely high coming in. They have practiced every day during sports time, and have been putting in the work! I interviewed a few of the band members before and after the show to give our readers an idea of what they were feeling the day of this momentous debut.

The moments before a show are always emotional ones. Braeden Carroll of Monroe City plays the timpani and said that before the show he was "feeling very excited, because this band is one of the best bands in Boys State history." Similarly, tuba player Joaquin Cole of Johnson City said that he was feeling "excited" and "ready to put on a good performance." Finally, Samuel Thompson of Madison City said that he was "nervous, since there's always a little of that [before a show], but excited." He mentioned that this year's group is smaller than the Band has been in past years, so fewer shoulders carried the weight of the same expectations.

Before the show, percussionist Braeden Carroll affirmed that "in the condensed schedule [they've] had, [the band has] been able to put together an excellent program." That was a gross understatement. The Band played phenomenally, an absolute hit! Playing the perfect mix of patriotic songs, movie anthems, and pop culture classics, the Band exceeded all of the sky-high expectations always placed on the Boys State Band. Band Director Kallimanis said that the Band "went from 20% to about 90% [...] in terms of quality." He mentioned setbacks like the fact that musicians lost practice time due to elections and their other obligations, but they still absolutely killed it. Firing back his own compliment, bassist Jesse Bross of Grant City stated that "Mr. Kallimanis did a great job" with the band. Elijah Pratt, also of Grant City, described the experience of performing as a "spectacular, extraordinary, and extravagant moment." He said that he "would truly like to live through that moment again."

Another highlight of the Band's performance was the mosh pit in which many statesmen from the floor and the bleachers participated. It was surely an experience that will be remembered. The band is playing again on Friday, so keep supporting our musically-inclined fellow statesmen!

# Opinions

## Book Review: Dune

*Aaron Nagler*

Known as a big inspiration for the Star Wars film series, Dune by Frank Herbert is one of the most popular science fiction novels ever written. It is around 400 pages long and is the first in a series of books. I haven't read any of the later books in the series as the first book has a conclusive, satisfying ending. In my opinion, the strongest aspect of this book is its plot. The story is filled with interesting politics, battles, and interactions between opposing sides. The plot is also supplemented with an assortment of strong characters with distinct motivations. I wouldn't say the characters are superb, but they are definitely good enough to carry the plot and provide a solid level of investment. The world building is also solid enough, with Herbert creating a unique culture based on the layout of natural resources on specific planets. There are also interesting themes throughout the story that relate to real life situations such as the Middle East situation and the idea of political personalities. A downside to the book is the complex terminology commonly used to label technology that is made up, making it hard to understand what is going on at first. However, once you look at the glossary a few times and get a bit into the book, you will understand everything easily. Ultimately, the book is very solid and despite its weakness in vocabulary at first, it is well worth reading.

## The Strife of Our Healthcare Workers

*Jake Briggs*



With the nearing end of the pandemic, many of us thought the battle in hospitals was over. However, it would appear that a new fight has risen from the end of COVID. Looking at Adams City, we see many front-line workers on strike over their unaffordable health care plan. The staff is upset that they are not paid enough to afford the high-quality healthcare plan offered by their hospital. Adams City is left without a running hospital and has begun to discuss either replacing the workers, meeting their demands, or simply closing the Saint Dominic Municipal Hospital.

The growing problem in Adams has spread to its neighboring city, Washington. The hospital has been served with multiple lawsuits due to its lack of efficiency from being understaffed. These lawsuits came after the violent graduation shooting and claimed that the victims could have survived if the hospital was more staffed. These problems have plagued the hospital and may lead Adams City to replace the workers or close the hospital altogether.

However, we must remember the work these strikers have done for the nation. They led the nation in the battle against COVID-19, working on the front lines and risking catching the virus. The fact that these people we call heroes can't receive the same treatment that they give us is outrageous. It is a moral and civic responsibility for Adams to maintain the hospital and provide the workers with better pay, along with expanding the funding of the medical institute. Though these workers are not on the same level as veterans, they deserve to be rewarded for their service to not only the country, but to the world.

# College Vaccinations

Omar Alghondakly

Most U.S. colleges and universities already require on-campus students to show proof of vaccinations against illnesses like bacterial meningitis that can spread rapidly in close quarters. COVID-19 is a much more complicated story. Some attorneys say universities have the same right to mandate COVID-19 vaccines; however, the experimental vaccines are approved for emergency use only, putting the new mandates in a legal gray area.

Without approval from the FDA, Virginia Tech officials determined that they could not require COVID-19 vaccination. Harvard Law School professor Glenn Cohen counters that COVID-19 tests are approved under the same FDA emergency authorization and have been required by colleges all year without issue. Federal agencies, including the Department of Education and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, permit employers to require their employees get a COVID-19 vaccine.

A growing number of schools will require proof of a coronavirus vaccination for on-campus students this fall, including Cornell, Rutgers, and Oakland University in Michigan. Other schools are not requiring vaccines but will offer incentives, such as an exemption from the campus mask mandate. However, many more schools have yet to set a policy or have explicitly said they would not require proof.

The issue of requiring vaccinations is shaping up to be yet another political debate. A day after Nova Southeastern University in Florida announced it would require vaccinations, Governor Ron DeSantis, a Republican, issued an executive order banning businesses and government agencies from requiring vaccination documentation. All in all, vaccine mandates in higher education are typically set by the institutions themselves and could force students to have them based on where they attend.

## Sports Standings

1. Ridgeway
2. MacArthur
3. Eisenhower
4. Nimitz
5. Bradley
6. Halsey
7. Schwarzkopf
8. Vandenburg
9. Marshall



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