



# THE JERSEY STATESMAN



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ALJBS2022

## Weather

Today's temperature has a high of 78° and a low of 60°. After 4 pm there is a 40% chance of rain, so bring your rain jackets!



## Schedule

- 6:45 AM - 8:05 AM: Breakfast
- 8:30 AM: County Meetings
- 10:30 AM: Seminars
- 11:45 AM - 2:15 PM: State Legislative Elections
- 12:00 PM - 2:30 PM: College Fair
- 2:35 PM: County Meetings
- 3:15 PM: Sports & Band
- 5:35 PM: Retreat Ceremony
- 5:45 PM - 7:05 PM: Dinner
- 7:20 PM: NAT D-day & FED Convention
- 9:20 PM: FED D-day & NAT Convention
- 11:20 PM - Lights out

**Note: Check your personal schedule on the Yapp app for more specific logistics and events!**

## A Warm Boys State Welcome

*Tyler Paluzzi*

Welcome to Boys State! The first two days have come and gone, and you're still standing! Your first days of Boys State probably came with some ups and downs. From winning and losing elections, seeing familiar faces and brand new ones, and fighting sleep as the tedious work catches up to you. You should be proud of your work and perseverance, as you've planted your feet in the beginning of a week that shapes the future.

You're here with over seven hundred other gifted statesmen that have big goals, just like you. For some of us, this is the first time we have ever been surrounded by individuals that shoot as high as we do. As much as it may be daunting, make the most of it! You're most likely meeting people that will be future innovators that help New Jersey succeed.

You can start today if you haven't already, as a big slate of events will be before us on campus. Starting off, you can attend a college fair at noon in the basketball courts of the Student Recreation Center. Meet admissions counselors and potentially find your fit for the future! Following, we will have our first State Party Conventions. Everyone has made their way from city government to the county level, and this will be your first time interacting with every single member of your party in Jersey Boys State. This will be important for state elections, and will pave the way for gubernatorial candidates to emerge. We will also get our first taste of official online voting, the first in the history of Jersey Boys State!

You will be presented with many opportunities throughout the week. Make the most of them, and learn from both your counselors and your peers. It was a great first two days at Boys State, but let's make sure each passing day gets even better!

# FYI

## Cities Show Major Disrespect with Minor Law Violations

*Collin Morales*

Upon arrival at American Legion Jersey Boys State, statesmen have one rule that they are constantly reminded about: do NOT walk on the grass. “If the grass is ruined, then Rider will have to pay to get it fixed,” said one councilor, “and they don’t want to have to do that.”

However, despite the constant warnings, at 4:45 pm on Sunday, cities across campus were seen trampling the luscious greenery. The perpetrators were allegedly discussing elections for their party within their city. They were even heard discussing issues regarding the protection of the environment, all while destroying the grass underfoot.

Walking on the grass is not the only way you can be found guilty of a minor law violation, however. Simply carrying a phone in your hand while outside of city limits can also grant you a court date, so be wary of texting and walking!



**Delegates enjoy little known activity called “sleep”**

And, before you leave your room this morning, be extra careful with making sure you have all of your belongings and are dressed appropriately. Failure to dress in your proper attire and have your nametag on can get you a meeting with the police chief!

If you were considering gambling with your Boys’ State currency, that too will earn you a ticket and a court appearance.

Finally, littering is an offense that not only destroys the environment, but also gets you a ticket. There are trash cans and recycling bins all over campus; make sure you use them.

Have a great week statesmen, and remember, a bag of grass seeds costs \$103.98 plus shipping on Amazon.



**Delegates enjoy breaking the law**

## **Politics**

### **Nuclear Energy for the “City of the Future”**

Ethan Shenker

Monroe City, an industrial city in Nimitz County with a population of about sixty-thousand residents, has been faced with a recent problem: nuclear energy.

The forty-five year old reactor is believed to be in a precarious situation. Debates will occur tomorrow, Tuesday June 21st 2022, regarding evacuation plans and possible risks of maintaining the reactor. Yet, many in the city believe that clean energy is required to become a “city of the future”

Despite this fact, there are those that dispute such an idea, citing the risk that nuclear power would have if a meltdown occurred, leading to a large-scale evacuation. However, the evidence presented shows that nuclear energy does not seem to have as much of a risk as many think it does.

Refueling is often routine. According to the United State Energy Information Administration, “U.S. nuclear power plants typically refuel every 18 to 24 months,” In addition, the use of fossil fuel resources are responsible for more nuclear waste than nuclear energy. According to a Science in the News, a graduate group at the Harvard graduate school of the arts and sciences study, “Coal power plants release more radioactive waste in the form of coal ash than waste from nuclear plants.”

Many still say that nuclear energy is not the ideal solution. A large amount of waste is produced, and not all of it can be used again. To combat the waste produced by nuclear energy, Nimitz County executives will be working to create a sustainable nuclear waste transit system with the hope that sustainable energy can soon be restored and made safer for the future.

### **“Weed” The People**

*Tyler Paluzzi*

The Federalist Party of Buchanan City heavily debated throughout their first city meetings, setting a baseline for how they will present their party values. They must have done something right, as they won the mayoral election and secured a party split in the city council. This may be because one issue had a resoundingly positive response and a plethora of ideas and compromises to back it up. The Federalist Party not only wants legal marijuana, but ways to acquire it within Buchanan City.

Why would this answer be so obvious? Well, to the Federalists it's a thing called sales tax. The proposed 15% sales tax on marijuana sales would help tremendously in mitigating the potential viral outbreak that is threatening the city of 150,000. They have a long term plan in place to help the party's planned police reform and school district improvement. (Article continued on Page 4)

(Article continued from page 3) Federalists also argue to opponents that if they don't legalize the distribution within city limits, then people would still commute to buy marijuana legally. With rampant illegal drug use in the city already, the legalization of marijuana would encourage a move in a positive direction. This would give the sales tax to surrounding cities, rather than in the pockets of the city itself.

To ease the stigma around marijuana dispensaries, the party is promising to compromise with citizens against the movement. Along with monetary gain, the party looks to increase penalties for public intoxication and disorderly conduct while making smoking marijuana only legal on private property to ensure the comfort of everyone.

With the Federalist Party in the driver's seat, expect campaign cries of "Weed" The People echoing the streets of Buchanan City.

## **Taylor City Politics**

*Adrian Hou*

From their countoff early Sunday morning, you would not have guessed that City 11, Taylor City, would be a collaborative and unified group. It took 5 separate attempts to complete a full countoff, and it turns out that not everyone was even there. But Taylor City has moved past its initial struggles and is now working as a cohesive unit. In fact, one of the biggest issues was completely unanimous.

Despite it being a contentious issue with the ongoing worldwide debate about climate, both parties almost unanimously agreed that allowing for the construction of a natural gas pipeline was the way to go. Despite concerns from environmental activists, the parties came to a consensus that the financial benefits gained from the influx of jobs and gas prices would be necessary to solve many of the other problems the city was facing. However, some of the fine details there were some varying opinions. Almost everyone agreed that some of the money received from allowing the pipeline to be built should be reinvested into climate change solutions. There were multiple different ideas about what exactly those solutions would be.

One proposed solution would be to offset the environmental impact by reinvesting in clean energy. A major fear among the legislature was that Taylor City residents would become too reliant on energy resulting from the pipeline, making the switch to renewable harder in the future. By investing immediately, they would try to avoid this problem. Another solution proposed was planting more trees. However questions came up about the effectiveness of this strategy and the magnitude of the impact it would have. A particular controversial solution was to encourage surrounding cities to build renewable sources and import energy from them. None of these proposed solutions have yet been tied to specific parties however, and have more been ideas floated by specific individuals or groups.

It will be interesting to see if this cross-aisle cohesion is maintained going forward. Taylor City has much in store for it, from bomb threats to an upcoming negotiation with neighboring city Buchanan. And it will be interesting to see how this dynamic plays out when county elections begin, whether this cohesion will continue to counties, or if it will simply divide the county along city lines.

# Sports



## Sports Standings

1. McArthur (400)
2. Vandenburg (600)
3. Eisenhower (700)
4. Halsey (100)
5. Ridgway (500)
6. Bradley (800)
7. Marshall (200)
8. Nimitz (300)



## Abdul ‘The Wall’ Rahimi Takes the Courts by Storm

*Jack Alpaugh*

The 2022 ALJBS session was officially in motion on Sunday the 19th of June, and the vast majority of statesmen were exhausted after several perilous general assemblies, as well as an abundance of new routines to adapt to. One thing sparked hope in the minds of athletes, however, was the promise of sports the next day. Volleyball, Yard Games, Soccer, and Football are just a few of the many physical activities offered at Boys’ State, but the most popular sport among the statesmen was without a doubt Basketball.

I decided to gather a statement from the seemingly most fanatical basketball player in Adams City, Abdul Rahimi. “Respectfully, I will dominate the courts. I am the strongest in Adams City, and potentially the strongest in the entire 51st state” says Rahimi, and well... he isn’t wrong. The six foot, two hundred pound, fully bearded mountain of a seventeen year old carries a suffocating presence. With legs rivaling the width of tree trunks, Abdul posed quite the threat to any statesmen taking their talents to the courts.

Fast forward to Monday the 20th, and you could cut the testosterone of the 700 eager statesmen with one of the substandard dining hall knives. After a grueling first round of county meetings, the boys of Adam City nearly dog-piled their Athletic Director, Gabe Dayon, to check in before hurrying off to their respective sports.

I chose to cover the exhilarating Volleyball game between Halsey County and Marshall County involving the unmatched skills of Alexander Lim. Soon after, I investigated whether or not Abdul had backed up his words on the court, and the reports I got were simply electrifying. They had awarded our herculean statesmen the nickname Abdul ‘The Wall’ Rahimi. On defense, he was unshakeable. Stopping all kinds of advances with criminal precision, knocking players down, and producing verticals that bordered the impossible. Abdul was nothing short of a star on the court. Not to take away from anyone, other statesmen also expressed their abilities in their chosen activities such as Military physical training, where the level of patience and grit was a sight to behold.

Sweaty, all of the statesmen marched, ran, and crawled back to their cities with victorious grins or defeated eyes, but all the same collectively exhausted. The second day ended much more calmly than the first. And yet the wall remains to be knocked down.



# Human Interest

## The Sunday Food Review

*Alexander Garcia*

The Sunday dinner was filled with delicious food that left hundreds of hungry delegates completely full. Many worried that they would go hungry because of the excessively long lines, but eventually everybody was satisfied with their meals.

Early student reviews were glowingly positive. The meatloaf, a delegate favorite, received outstanding reviews. Nick Mascio, a nationalist Guidon Bearer, said, "(the meatloaf was) eight out of ten, wasn't ten out of ten because the side was a little hard, but not bad." Another stellar meal choice was the jerk chicken. Rocco Alessio, a nationalist, said, "jerk chicken was bussin."

When asked to describe the food in general, Jake Mullins, a federalist, described it as, "fantastic." David Farrell, a nationalist councilman, was especially content, remarking that the food was, "spectacular, on a college standard."

Consistently positive reviews for the first dinner of Boys State yields happier and healthier statesmen for an even brighter future for the program. Whether it be the refreshing ice cream, the delicious bacon, or the succulent potatoes, ALJBS should continue to feed candidates with their wonderful food for years to come.

## Book Review: The Last Lecture

*Daniel Saul*

Recently, I've been trying to read books out of my comfort zone of fantasy and science fiction. One of those recent examples is The Last Lecture. The Last Lecture is an autobiography/ self-help book based on the writer's unfortunate tumor. The author, Randy Pausch, was told he had a limited time left to live, and as a professor, he wanted to give his final lecture as many times as possible.

Unsurprisingly, Pausch dives deep into his childhood and family life, providing interesting stories and serious life lessons while still leaving in some humor. One thing I really appreciate about this book is how Pausch doesn't constantly remind the reader about his life-ending disease, engaging the reader with his unique style instead of turning them away with incessant lamentations about his condition.

I would overall give it an 8/10. Self-help is not always my thing, but it's probably one of the best books that I've ever read.





Get excited Boys State! At noon today expect courts 1 and 2 at the Student Recreation Center to be filled with colleges from all across the country. Ignite your college search today at Boys State by looking around the different stands and discovering what college is all about!



# BUY ALUMNI PINS - \$5 CAFETERIA

## REMINDER



**Tuesday, June 21st, 7:20 PM**

Nationalists go to the D-Day presentation in Yvonne Theatre, while Federalists are to report to their State Party Convention in the Cavalla Room.



**Tuesday, June 21st, 9:20 PM**

Federalists go to the D-Day presentation in Yvonne Theatre, while Nationalists are to report to their State Party Convention in the Cavalla Room.

# Opinion

## Should Fireworks be Banned on the 4th of July?

### PRO

*Kavish Arora*

Yes! The fundamental purpose of July 4th is to celebrate our independence. Fireworks are not a core part of our democracy. Rather, they are extremely disruptive and harmful towards the environment. On average, they emit 60,340 metric tons of CO2 every year in the United States alone. In order to make a positive impact on the environment, we need to let go of some privileges: fireworks.



### CON

*Ethan Shenker*

Absolutely not! Fireworks symbolize an end to the conflicts that define our nation. In history, war is often ended by celebratory gunfire into the air. Setting them off on the 4th of July, American Independence day, we remember the start and end of the conflict that won us our freedom.

The use of fireworks preserves the memories of all those who served and all those who lost their lives for this country. Fireworks represent the democracy and freedom that we enjoy today.



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