



THE JERSEY STATESMAN



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ALJBS2022

WEATHER

Today will have a high 73 degrees and a low of 58 degrees. Showers expected in the early morning until 1 PM.



SCHEDULE

6:15am - Wake Up
 8:20am - Gubernatorial Debate
 9:40am - Flag Ceremony Practice
 10:30am - Seminars:
 10:30am - Running for Office
 12:00pm - Gubernatorial Election
 12:15pm - Museum Trip #1
 12:30pm - Museum Trip #2
 12:45pm - Museum Trip #3
 2:30pm - 76th ALJBS Governor Announced
 3:15pm - Sports
 6:45pm - Flag Ceremony
 7:15pm - City and County Manuals due
 9:00pm - State Party Convention
 10:00pm - Impromptu Campaigning by Boys Nation Senator Candidates
 10:10pm - ALJBS Evaluations, City Meetings
 11:45pm - "Lights Out"

TRIP TO THE NEW JERSEY

NATIONAL GUARD MUSEUM

Ethan Shenker

On Wednesday and Thursday of this week (June 22nd and June 23rd). Delegates are given the opportunity to participate in a tour of the New Jersey National Guard Museum. Located within five minutes from campus, this facility boasts a large collection of antique weapons. The facility also maintains a fleet of inactive tanks that can be viewed outside the facility.

Inside the building, delegates were met with a presentation on the history of military firearms in American history; even getting the chance to hold them.

Whist within the facility, one can view (and hold) genuine Civil War, World War I, World War II, and Vietnam War era rifles. In addition, the New Jersey Army National Guard Museum is the home of many war artifacts from Civil War cannons to World War II Nazi machine guns.

Senior Councilor and organizer of the trip, Mr. Joe Demyon documents this trip as "the opportunity to learn the minute history behind and during the events that Boys State highlights in its programs and seminars." He feels that this trip provides a great background to facilitate learning in military history.

Mr Demyon believes that "Starting at the local level and working up to higher position is an optimal strategy to become an active participant in any feild."

If you are still interested in taking a tour, but have not signed up. You can always return to the musuem. The Lawrenceville Armory (Located on 151 Eggert Crossing Road, Lawrenceville, NJ 08648) is open from 9 AM to 3PM on Monday through Firday*, and on Saturday* 10 AM to 3 PM.

*Unless State or Federal Holiday

POLITICS

The Gubernatorial Elections

Matthew McDonald

Congratulations to Charlie Costal of City #13 Pierce and Benjamin Duvelson of City #11 Taylor for their success in the Nationalist Party and Federalist Party primaries respectively. These two candidates will represent their parties as the Governor nominees during today's elections.

Charlie Costal quickly proved himself a people person capable of swaying undecided voters and gaining the confidence of his city constituents. He was rapidly nominated for the position of mayor by Pierce's Nationalist Party but didn't stop there after claiming victory. He ran for state senator, also handily winning the nomination and election for the county of Eisenhower. At the Nationalist Party primary for Governor early Wednesday morning, Costal utilized effective methods of repeating catchy slogans and proving he was willing to do meticulous legislative work by giving examples of some of his own policies. For example, he proposed a system by which community college students could make their education completely free through one year of community service. He compared the Nationalist Party to a family with himself as the father, with audience members using the chant "Daddy's Home!" to refer to Costal.

Duvelson stood out during the Federalist primaries for his lack of ambiguity. He pushed for better schooling, lower inflation, and clearing out the corruption and vague language of politics. His fellow candidates either became mired in obscure promises of bipartisanship or went beyond the boundaries of Boys State politics, delving into controversial issues like the debate surrounding a woman's right to choose and the contentious relationship between the Democratic and Republican parties.

Both are what most expect in the ideal gubernatorial candidate—well-spoken, confident, and with a seemingly endless network of communications built with those from other cities. The Jersey Statesman wishes both luck in the upcoming election and delegates can rest easy in knowing that they are in good hands regardless of which candidate wins this election.



Pictured above: Program Director pictured with the candidates for Governor 2022

Pictured below: candidates with their Party Chairmen



POLITICS

Fierce Debate in ALJBS Assembly

Matthew McDonald & Adrian Hou

After the election of each county's three state senators and five assemblymen on Wednesday morning, the new state legislators were quickly whisked away to settle their main task for Thursday: deciding on the five referendum questions that would address major issues within the cities. The legislators would represent their cities and counties, fighting to have the problems they deemed most important addressed in the referendum ballot to be released later today.

For those unfamiliar with the legislative process, all laws begin in the State Assembly (in this case, the Assembly decides on which questions to put on the ballot as opposed to passing laws). After drafting a proposal, the Assembly sends the proposal to the second branch of the Legislature, the State Senate.

The Senators have three options: they can reject the proposals outright, amend the proposals and send them back to the State Assembly, or accept the proposals verbatim.

Debate was, according to State Assemblyman Giovanni Olaya of City #13 Pierce, heated to say the least. "It felt like most people were focusing on their personal opinions surrounding the questions as opposed to whether or not the questions were important enough to be put on the referendum," he said. Due to disorganized and slow debate in both chambers, the ALJBS Legislature was forced to call an emergency meeting to resolve the questions. Though the legislators were pushed to the brink, five questions were finally selected for the referendum: one on the question of gun control, one on funding for infrastructure, two on the topic of school safety (arming teachers and placing police officers in school) and one on the participation of transgender

athletes.

The legislators also formed caucuses to draft legislation and build coalitions (a caucus is a group of like-minded legislators). These included the Environmental Caucus, which fights for wildlife and against climate change, the Asian Caucus, which was a collection of Asian legislators, and the Efficiency Caucus, which aimed to reduce gridlock in both chambers by making procedural changes like replacing "Yea" or "Nay" responses on a bill with simple voting by raising your hand.

There was also a major controversy on the assembly floor. Certain assemblymen were discontent with the speed at which the chamber was being run. These assemblymen formed a group to determine a course of action to counteract this, which was labeled the "efficiency caucus." The elected Speaker of the Assembly, Ricardo Merado, was determined to be the source of the problem. Kyle James, the president of the efficiency caucus, explains their rationale: the Speaker Merado slowed down the caucus by taking too long with deliberations, votes, and order. The caucus determined that the assembly needed a speaker who was more experienced and thorough with leading a legislative chamber. They suggested the impeachment and replacement of the Speaker Merado. However, ALJBS counselors determined that for the sake of time the impeachment was not allowed.

Speaker Merado responded with this message: "I do not agree with the counselors' decision to disallow the impeachment. I believe that if the assembly wills it, that they should have been allowed to impeach me. I understand their anger, and believe it is justified. This is why I resolve to work all night to work on running a more efficient chamber."

AROUND TOWN

Cadence on Campus

Michael Bulluck

The fog of war has always required soldiers to find unique and creative ways to identify themselves in battle. One such way is to sing. In the Bible, a King of Judah wins a battle by stationing his best singers on the front line. During the First World War German soldiers would sing to identify their comrades in the thick gunsmoke. The importance of cadence within a team, whether it be a monstrous chant or military commands cannot be overstated.

Boys State is a place for unity and motivation. One of the many important roles here at Boys State are our Guidon bearers. Guidon bearers act as a rallying point for the city. So who better to ask about the importance of cadence than 2 of Boys States own guidons bearers. First we asked Washington city's Guidon Bearer Wolfgang Wahl. When asked "What is the importance of having chants as Guidons?", Wahl responded, "It unites the squad and motivates the group to do the best they can." Motivation of your city is important, especially when the most alluring achievement at Boys State is winning best city. Next we asked Adams City guidon bearer Jordan Viszoki the same question. He responded,

"As guidons, the chants are what inspire your city and raise the energy of your statesmen. In efforts to ensure high morale, the guidon must use the chants to help his statesmen get through the day, as energy will drop as people get tired and as elections are won and lost. The chants also give the city a sense of identity as it gives them something to separate themselves from other cities. They're a chance for the guidon to be more than just a standard bearer, it gives the guidon the chance to be the leader of his city."

Statesmen are inherently drawn to pride for the city, county and state. As Jordan noted, identity

is a key factor for those who attend Boys State. Being able to see yourself as a part of something greater is important. Cadences amplify the feeling of uniqueness and overall makes all the cities throughout Boys State stronger.

Cadences provide a necessary sense of identity and motivation to all delegates in attendance. The only thing stronger than union is a union that makes their voices heard. So while at Boys State, make your voices heard!



Pictured Above: Boys Statesman lining up during retreat

Pictured Below: Army troops beginning a training exercise



AROUND TOWN

Q & A with a Jersey Supreme Court Justice

Spencer Howard

Judge Lee A. Solomon is an associate justice on the Supreme Court of New Jersey. He has experience with being both an attorney and a justice, having a deep political background. He gave these following answers to questions posed at the legal seminar on Monday:

Q: In the law field, how important is the school you went to?

A: The importance of your law school depends on what field of law you want to go into, and it's only really important for your first job. What is important, however, are the skills you learn in your law school. You need to be talented in both academics and personality in order to succeed. In addition, you need a decent resume, good speaking skills, good writing skills, and a good relationship with the judge.

Q: Does your political affiliation affect your ability to judge?

A: I think a person's philosophy should affect their decisions, but their politics shouldn't. A judge should interpret decisions based on the law, not their own personal belief systems. As a Republican, I am a minority in the state Supreme Court, but I still usually agree with the other justices on legal matters.

Q: What does the average day look like for a lawyer or judge?

A: I don't have an average day because everyday is different. When I am working on a case, it's a lot of early mornings and late nights. I put a ton of hours into preparation because that is the most important part of a lawyer's job. I also often exercise and relax in order to keep a balance. The balance is super important because lawyers and judges can easily

become overwhelmed.

Q: Do you suggest that a law student enter "big law" or a private practice?

A: I think it comes down to which gives you the better deal. Money is important in law because you will be doing a lot of work and deserve to be paid well for that. Out of school, lawyers need litigation experience and can best achieve this by being an assistant. If I didn't have experience prior to my time in a courtroom, I would've failed.

Q: Does your undergrad affect your law career?

A: Once again, the skills learned in undergrad are what matter, not so much the major. You can basically get a law degree with any undergraduate major, but it should be related to the field of law that you want to study.

Q: Would you take a case that you know you would lose if it coincides with your own morals?

A: I would take the case, but I would let my client know it is a bad case. I would continue to advocate for them to the best of my ability, even though sometimes cases are unwinnable. Communication with clients is the most important thing for a lawyer.

Q: What is the best piece of advice you can give statesmen wanting to go into law?

A: You need to be prepared. Law school is a lot of work and students need to be prepared, especially during their first year. Discipline and comprehension are also extremely important for law students.

SPORTS

STANDINGS

- 1) Eisenhower (700)
- 2) MacArthur (400)
- 3) Ridgeway (500)
- 4) Bradley (800)
- 5) Vandenberg (600)
- 6) Halsey (100)
- 7) Nimitz (300)
- 8) Marshall (200)



Ridgeway's Out For Blood!

Jack Alpaugh

As athletes awakened on day four of the ALJBS 2022 session, some were looking to continue their winning streaks, while others were hungry for redemption. Now that our statesmen had gotten a taste of how competitive New Jersey's best can be, all bets were off. Some statesmen decided to take part in their best sports, in order to potentially earn their counties some much needed points, while others tried their luck in unfamiliar sports. Nonetheless, everyone involved pushed themselves to their limits, and aimed for the olympics on day three of sports.

Flag Football: Halsey vs. Ridgeway

I for one decided to try my hand in flag football, and I'm glad I did. The match between Halsey and Ridgeway county only lasted twenty minutes like all the rest, but when you're experiencing it, it looks and feels like an eternity on a battlefield. Flag football substitutes tackling for snagging a flag from the waist of the opposing team, and when that is put into practice, mishaps are bound to occur. For example, Ryan Allen of Halsey County was elegantly connecting routes, and throwing dimes as his team's star quarterback. Unfortunately, however, Ridgeway County was forced into a last resort QB blitz, which not only caused Ryan to lose yardage, but his shirt was ripped to shreds as well.

Basketball: MacArthur vs. Halsey

Halsey County was finally defeated in basketball by MacArthur County after an impressive streak, bringing their record to three wins and one loss. The White Mamba, The Wall, the rest of the team's exhaustion had become too much to suppress, and MacArthur's hunger had given them the push they needed to secure the win.

Volleyball: Halsey vs. Vandenberg

Lady Luck was seemingly against Halsey County today as their volleyball team received a spoonful of bitter defeat as well. The tag team abilities of Alexander Lim and Jacob Bae were nearly their saving grace, but not enough to stop the steamroll of the Vandenberg Volleyball team's consecutive wins over the last few days.

OPINION EDITORIAL

What is Passion?

Henry Thyrum

Throughout my early life, I used to think that no matter how hard you worked at a job or endeavor, regardless of your own personal enjoyment, you would always be successful and satisfied in your work. Later, I put my life on autopilot, hoping that acting completely on my natural impulses would eventually lead to an impossible, romanticized vision of “passion”, a realm in which I would succeed without having to put in any mental strain or uncomfortable work. Now, however, I have realized that a perfect equilibrium of happiness cannot be achieved by a simple recipe or algorithm, but instead is a constantly changing balance guided by a combination of the two extremes. It took 17 years for me to reach this conclusion, and I will allow you to enter this journey through my account of my personal story.

When I was a young boy, I always felt culturally isolated from other children. My mother, a woman with incredible willpower from the extremely competitive city of Beijing, always pushed me to get the highest grades in my classes. I succeeded in many academic competitions and musical auditions, but I had few real hobbies that I would have fun with in my free time. In addition, I viewed academics as a race to defeat all of my peers instead of a journey to build knowledge. If I had continued this lifestyle into adulthood, I would've ended up a cynical work drone without any actual friends or genuine satisfaction for my work. Eventually, however a large change came, monumentally shifting my overall philosophy towards life.

The COVID-19 pandemic made my life much more difficult. Due to the lockdown, there were very few activities for me to do for the sole purpose of winning. As a result, I fell into a deep depression, feeling as though I had no sense of purpose or worth. Burnout had destroyed the facade of skills that I had originally convinced myself I was

interested in. However, from the ashes, real, genuine passion began to sprout. Back in middle school, I always enjoyed the occasional trip to the math club. My friend Rohan introduced me to math competitions in the summer of my sophomore year. After spending some free time doing practice problems, I found that I loved manipulating the expressions and playing around with the geometric sketches. However, although I was interested in the solutions, I never had the stamina or grit to finish a problem by myself.

The August before my junior year, I decided to try to balance hard work and natural desire, finding myself pushing myself far without going over the edge. When the exam day came, I solved each problem methodically and with deep concentration. Nervous and unable to stop thinking about my results, I waited for a month to receive my score, finding out that I had been the only kid in my grade to successfully qualify for the national invitational exam, an award given out to the highest scores on the test.

After my newfound success, I decided to apply my new attitude to my hobbies of public speaking and outdoor volunteering, winning my school's Model Congress trip as well as the appointment to my recreation department's volunteering club, later getting many other awards for my pursuits of things that I really wanted. Not only did my newfound success boost my self esteem, but I learned what passion truly is. It is not simply “doing what you love”. It is not a brutal conquest to gain materialistic titles, income, or social elevation. Passion is the realization of knowing what you want to do, balanced with the desire to force yourself to seek out opportunities and improve your skills in your field. Once you find it, you will no longer have to prove to anyone else that you will become great, as you would've proven it to the most important person involved in your career, yourself.

HUMAN INTEREST

Chicken Tenders, Fries, and Ice Cream: Not for Every Meal

Collin Morales

Three food options can be seen during almost every meal at Boys State: chicken tenders, fries and ice cream. These choices have been on the plate of almost every statesmen's meal. However, these delicious meals should not be eaten as often as they are here at Boys State.

Statesmen across Rider University have admitted to feeling sick and having stomach issues for the past two days. When questioned about what they ate throughout the day, there was one constant: chicken tenders, fries, and ice cream.

Chicken tenders and fries are intrinsically unhealthy, as they are cooked by being dipped in boiling oil. After being taken out of the fryer, they are left to dry, still covered in the greasy substance. Then, they are served for statesmen to consume.

The oil that this food is caked in may lead to stomach issues within its consumers. This liquified fat slows the digestive system, leading to food staying in the stomach for longer than normal, which can cause bloating, nausea, and stomach pain.

Eating too much ice cream has also caused nausea and/or bloating due to the superficial fat within. However, this is not the only risk that eating too much ice cream holds; one can also gain a higher risk of getting heart disease and obesity.

The consistent consumption of chicken tenders, fries, and ice cream has led to the sickness felt campus-wide, so remember to vary your food choices!



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