



THE JERSEY STATESMAN



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ALJBS2022

WEATHER

Today will have a high 83 degrees and a low of 62 degrees. Today will have a low chance of precipitation at about 10%



SCHEDULE

6:00am - Wake Up
7:45am - Senatorial Debate
9:10am - ALJBS Exam
10:05am - Elections
11:00am - Lunch
1:00pm - Final Retrat Ceremony
1:15pm - Final Assembly
3:45pm - Sign Out

Good luck to all Statesmen on the ALJBS test. It's also not too late to sign up for the college credit!



A THANK YOU TO OUR LEGIONARES AND VETERANS

Collin Morales



Thanks to all ALJBS staff for working hard in order to create the best possible experience for all statesmen. Your hard work and dedication to Boys State has provided us with the opportunity to grow and gain new experiences that ultimately changed us for the better. And, to all the veterans and on-duty officers within the staff, thank you for your service and comitment to protecting our ability to participate freely in events like Boys State. Thank you for all you have done, and continue to do to make our country a better and a safer place.

POLITICS

Meet the 2022 ALJBS Governor

Crosby Sayan



The Honorable Governor Benjamin Duvelson Governor of the 76th Session of Jersey Boys State

The 76th session of ALJBS has elected Federalist Benjamin Duvelson to the office of Boys State Governor. Governor Duvelson comes from Union Township in Union County and currently resides in Taylor City in Vandenberg County. He attends Union High School and is sponsored by American Legion Post #35 in Union. He wanted to make a special shout out to the man who sponsored him, Robert Gentry of American Legion Post #35.

In the Federalist primary, Duvelson stood out from the other candidates by displaying his incredibly blunt openness and honesty. It was by far the most radical approach taken by any of the candidates. He promised to improve the 51st state by improving schools, cleaning up corruption, and inflation. Duvelson after the fact reflected, "I worked from a base of extreme honesty, I made sure everyone knew exactly how I felt on a topic even if it cost my own chances. I lost a few local elections early on because of it." Honesty ended up paying off big for Duvelson, as voters really connected with his heartfelt speeches and clarity.

After winning the Federalist primary, Governor Duvelson chose Bruce Dickson to be his running mate due to his incredible loyalty and support. Dickson is originally from Ridgewood in Bergen County, but currently resides in Adams city of Halsey County. Dickson goes to Ridgewood High and was proudly sponsored by Post #53. Without Dickson's support Duvelson may not have even been able to run. Despite Dickson having more signatures for his Governor petition, he gave them over to Duvelson, who initially did not have the minimum number of signatures to participate, because he believed in Duvelson's position of honesty and how he conducted himself during speeches. This ultimately let Duvelson participate in the primary debate and score himself the victory.

Now, as the 76th Governor of Boys State, Duvelson wants to continue to bring his stringent honesty into passing policies. Duvelson understands that it will be hard, and expects pushback, but he would not want to operate politics in any other way.

Congratulations to Governor Benjamin Duvelson and Lieutenant Governor Bruce Dickson on their victory in the 76th session of American Legion Jersey Boys State in 2022!

POLITICS

The Gubernatorial Debate

Matthew McDonald & Henry Thyrum

The gubernatorial race, the most serious election at ALJBS, was a raucous one. Hundreds of Nationalists and Federalists sat on opposite sides of the gym, prepared to rally behind their nominees. Charlie Costal, the Nationalist, marched out with confidence, taking the podium with electrifying energy. With his booming voice, Costal declared that “Daddy was home”, launching the audience into an uproar of cheers and boos. Walking down from the podium onto the floor, Costal directly presented his bipartisan platform, aiming to connect with constituents about his detailed plans to reform New Jersey, specifically promising to improve the state’s broken and underfunded infrastructure.

Ben Duvelson, the Federalist, targeted inflation, using the gripes of the audience about rising gas prices as a launch point for his argument about education. Ben argued that teachers affected by high gas prices would need to be compensated with fairer pay and higher pensions to keep them from leaving. Duvelson used a strange tactic often in his speaking, consistently tying back his more specific arguments on policy to his campaign slogan of “Love conquers all”, then making a heart symbol with his hands to especially convey his compassion for his constituents.

The Federalist audience got behind his platform, buying in wholeheartedly (no pun intended) by making hearts with their hands and raising them in approval whenever they agreed with one of Ben’s points. In fact, one of the key dividers that separated the Federalist audience from the Nationalists was the intense enthusiasm of the Federalists. The Federalists jumped to their feet whenever their governor crossed the stage to speak, clapping and cheering, using the heart as their handmade symbol, and praising the popular Lieutenant Governor candidate Bruce Dixon by loudly and longly chanting his name. Though many Nationalists believed the Federalist audience was booing their candidate whenever he left the stage

when they were in fact chanting “BRUCE!” in baritone, booming support.

During the Q and A session, the candidates reused their previous talking points, caught up in the stressful nature of improvised answers. Ben used personal anecdotes based on his parents’ lessons about compassion, while Charlie focused on his own merits as a statesman, citing his powerful and dynamic personality as an asset in legislative negotiations. Neither candidate gained from the questions of the audience section of the debate, though again the Federalist section made sure to make themselves heard. In the end the debate was fairly even: neither of the candidates showed themselves to be greater than the other by a large margin. But the debate did reveal one crucial election factor: the general apathy of the Nationalists compared to the fiery partisanship of the Federalists.



Pictured from top to bottom:
Charlie Costal
Ben Duvelsen

AROUND TOWN

Bomb Diffusion on Campus

Thomas Broderick



TICK.... TICK....TICK....
TICK....TICK.... TICK.... And hopefully, no
BOOM.

A member of the bomb squad came to Boys State on Thursday for a seminar (Located outside the BLC). Instead of boring us with a long, drawn out speech, State Policeman Steve Christinzio got right into the action. He brought with him a \$70,000 dollar drone and a full body Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) suit. The drone can climb up stairs, get multiple camera angles, and use a metal claw attached to the end that is controlled with a remote.

During a live demonstration, its metal claw was extended to pick up a water bottle. It carried the bottle to another attendee at the seminar. Then, Officer Christinzio wanted to display the stair climbing and so the robot slowly rolled up the stairs outside the BLC. Before making it to the top, the drone wobbled, causing crowds to gather and watch this all unfold. We are given information that the drone made a full recovery.

Finally, the officer demonstrated what everyone was waiting for: offering the blast suit to volunteers in the audience. Weighting in at 90 pounds (helmet and suit), the hefty, designer clothing is made to withstand a blast at close range. Fun fact, the creator of the suit blew himself up numerous times just to get to his final design. The only thing he lost was his wallet in the blast from all the money he spent on the suit.

The first bomb teams date back to the Second World War when British Home Guard units would remove unexploded bombs from the streets of London. The bomb suit is made out of heavily-layered kevlar, plastic, and foam--no heavier materials or metal involved! *The Hurt Locker* is a great example of a bomb unit in action during the Iraq insurgency, and is a great watch for a rainy day.

AROUND TOWN

Boys State Municipal Courts v. The Jersey Statesmen

Thomas Broderick

Carl Luthke of Lincoln City #15 was sent to municipal court on Wednesday for two Counts of Bribery because he allegedly bribed a political figure and the Lincoln City judge, one Count of threatening the Mayor of our city, one Count of Racketeering and working in association with the Migaletti Crime Family, two Counts of walking on the grass, one Count of Sleeping during a General Assembly one Count of First Degree Murder on the chairman of the Casino Council Commission, one count of Grand Theft Auto for stealing a vehicle owned by the ALJBS staff, and one count of Tax Evasion. The defense was in a hole and needed a helping hand. They were able to get the Grand Theft Auto dropped, as his hands were not on the steering wheel, nor was there a key for the vehicle. Also, since there was no link for the execution of the chairman to Luthke, he was acquitted first degree murder. Despite these victories, it remained a bad day for Carl as he was found guilty for all other crimes. The Judge sentenced him to stare down a marine, Sgt. Miles.

Ryan O'Sullivan, Lincoln City's Tax Assessor, was on trial as well. The city had never received a penny of the 370 Boys State Bucks that were collected as tax. O'Sullivan was found guilty because of the witness the prosecution called up that was quote, "GOATed with the Sauce". The treasurer had been witness to the scene, so the defendant was quickly found guilty. O'Sullivan would be quoted saying "Nah I'm good," after the judge requested a witness from him. The Judge found him guilty and sentenced him to one day without glizzy gladiator jokes; if failure, he will be fined 20 Boys State Bucks.

The last Lincoln City Criminal was Kamran Vaccaro, City #15's Mayor. He would be tried for two counts of Prostitution and one count of walking

on the grass. The key witness to this trial was Rocco, also known as 'Pimp Daddy Kane', who is a notorious member of Lincoln City's Mafia. Through Pimp Daddy's testimony, the courtroom was given exact times of the crimes and names of the people Vaccaro had been spotted with. The Honorable Judge Miracle found Vaccaro guilty on all charges. Vaccaro was sentenced to 20 Squats.



The Statesman's Favorite Charges:

Conspiracy to commit libel
Arson
Possession of a minor
Witchcraft
Seducing an officer of a law
Disturbing the peace for eating cream
cheese



SPORTS

STANDINGS

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

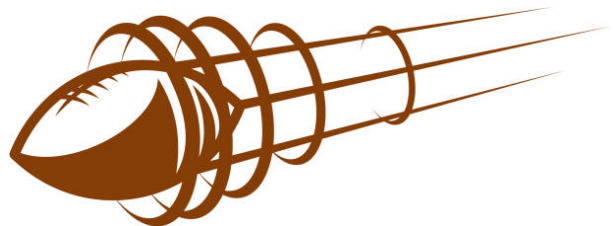


Profile and Courage: Andrew J. Grygiel

Matthew McDonald

There is something noble about athletics that has always appealed to humanity, a species which relied on physical fitness in order to survive in pre-agricultural society. It naturally follows that athletes have been lauded since prehistoric times for being the very best at their game, earning an honored place in the community for their feats. Boys State is renowned for its competitive nature, especially in the athletics that captivate delegates every day from around 3:00 to 5:00. Though being a star varsity athlete is much less a marvel at Boys State than outside ALJBS, there are still a few athletes that stand out for the contributions they make to their county teams. One of those standout athletes is Andrew James Grygiel, known as AJ, the quarterback for the Eisenhower County football team.

At Brick Township High School, Grygiel is a three sport varsity athlete, participating in basketball, baseball, and football, and is the varsity quarterback for the football team. Over the first two days of football games, Grygiel led the Eisenhower football team on the field, racking up no less than 11 touchdown passes and catching 4 interceptions on defense in addition to his impressive throwing. But Grygiel is known just as much for his lifestyle as he is for his impressive athletic record which has been key in keeping Eisenhower on top athletically with 3 first place finishes. It is hard to spot Grygiel without his ubiquitous Bang energy drink in hand, which he uses in place of sleep and coffee to keep him at his best. His record for shotgunning one can of Bang is an astounding 3 seconds, which is both funny and painful to watch. His pit viper sunglasses, speckled with patriotic red, white, and blue, are rarely found anywhere but on his unusually long Pinocchio-like nose. Besides his stellar athletic record Grygiel can usually be found being late for the lunch line up or taking an interest in civic affairs, helping to draft the county and city manuals for Eisenhower and Pierce respectively (and always wearing the pit vipers, maintaining his public image while helping his fellow citizens).



OPINION EDITORIAL

SHARKS!!!

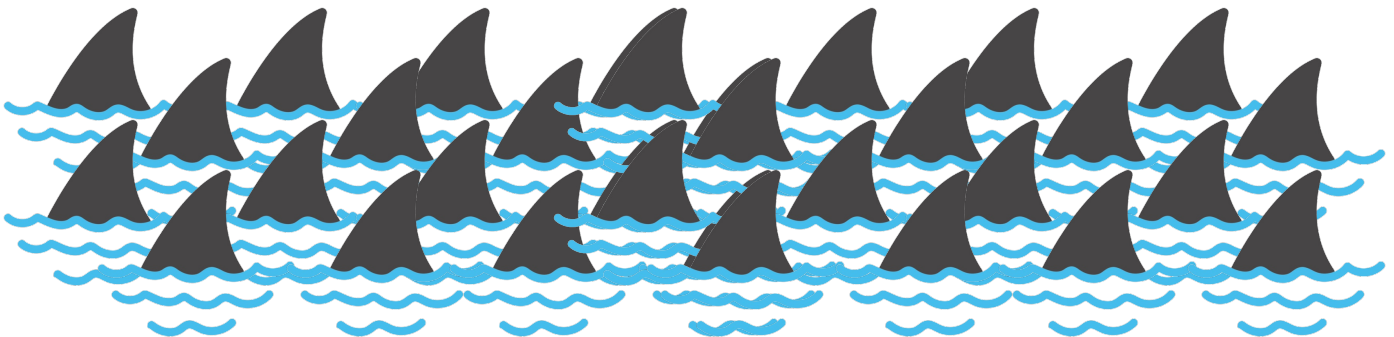
Crosby Sayan

A vast majority of people are afraid of sharks. Negatively portrayed in media like *Jaws* and *Shark Week* these predators have generated a lot of fear and anxiety. But are Sharks really the cold killers of the sea? Let's take a deep dive and explore these beasts that lay beneath.

A fear of sharks is very understandable: the teeth, the cold uncaring eyes, and predator status all scream something anyone sane should be afraid of. If something like that was swimming at me I would be scared, especially of that mouth. But shark attacks are a very rare occurrence, having less than 72 attacks annually and only killing 11 people annually. For perspective, a vending machine kills 13 people annually, around 20 people die on swing sets, not to mention that beds kill 450 people annually. Sharks attack because humans vaguely resemble their prey, a seal, so when they do a taste bite and get prickly bones instead of blubbery skin, a majority of the time the sharks will swim away. The bed you sleep on is more likely to end your life than a shark, but even still your odds of an attack lower even more if you wear an electronic shark deterrent band that messes with sharks internal navigation. Sharks like any other predator are not malicious, they are animals who need to eat, yet even still there remains a huge fear of sharks that is not apparent with any other predator. The media we consume is likely the biggest reason for this fear, prior to *Jaws* the mass public knew or cared little about sharks. However the movie and its horror element started the trend of fear surrounding these creatures that would only continue to grow. The excess attention and fear towards sharks ironically turned humans into threats for sharks.

Sharks push water through their gills by swimming, letting oxygen into their body. If the shark stops moving it cannot breathe and quickly suffocates. Shark finning is the process of removing a shark's dorsal fin, usually for cuisine or traditional medicine. A dorsal fin usually goes between \$10,000 - \$20,000. The industry is worth \$100 million dollars and annually kills about 100 million sharks each year. This mixed with habitat destruction and pollution has decimated shark populations. A study done in conjunction with Discovery looked at shark populations over the past 50 years and found that most populations saw a drop in their population up to 70%.

Sharks are incredible animals and have no malicious intent against humans. However, what is malicious is the killing of sharks for fins. Returning their body back into the ocean forcing them to drown because they can't move is horrid and raises the big question: who's the real monster in the deep?



OPINION EDITORIAL

Universal Healthcare: Really worth the Money?

PRO

Daniel Saul

CON

Healthcare is understandably classified as a basic need for all citizens by the World Health Organization. Universal healthcare allows every citizen, regardless of status, to have the opportunity to receive said healthcare. As universal healthcare is provided to all, citizens do not have to be required to pay in certain countries. This system would also create a uniform healthcare system that makes sure every citizen is given equal care. Only 43 of the 195 countries in the world do not offer universal healthcare. Examples of countries with universal healthcare include but are not limited to Germany, Canada, and the United Kingdom. Providing healthcare is one of the most important roles of the government and should be universal for all.



Universal healthcare is uniform, meaning everyone will pay the same amount. Those who are healthy will have to spend the exact same as someone who is sick, meaning that healthy people are paying for those who are sick, whether intentional or not. Universal healthcare also has longer waiting times compared to non-universal healthcare, as the universal healthcare system primarily gives basic and emergency care only. It is also much more expensive for the government, and tends to be a large part of the budget for the government. Plenty of countries with better than average health per capita have no universal healthcare, like the United States. These drawbacks make the idea of universal healthcare much less enticing overall.



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