



## Diary of a Delegate IV

by Jonathan Guerra, Jackson

We interrupt your regularly scheduled programming to bring you this news bulletin: Boys' State has reached its conclusion! These past monumental days have forced me to run the full gauntlet of emotions, from the depths of boredom and exhaustion to the peaks of enthusiasm and pride. It is difficult for me to fathom just how many interesting people I have met in such a short period of time. From noble veterans to charismatic politicians, I am very grateful to have been given this opportunity. I ask you, where else can you meet so many accomplished individuals? Where else can you face the burden of running your own replica of New Jersey's government? I will, however, be pleased to return home tomorrow. I would compare a week at Boys' State to reading a lengthy piece of literature. It takes a long time and may not be the most instantly gratifying

experience as you read it, but when you've finished, you look back and are proud of the accomplishment and appreciative of the effort it took to create the book.

Personally, from my standpoint as managing editor of this newspaper, Boys' State seems like one long hallucination. Don't ever ask me what I did on any given day, because I can guarantee that I won't know. It all just seemed like one long day. Some of you have probably slept more in a day than I have since last Saturday, but I'm not complaining. As I have said before, this is a labor of love in which I take a great deal of pride. It seems like I will forevermore have the shouts of "Jackson!" echoing in my mind. Jackson has been good to me, and so have the counselors there. I also owe a debt of gratitude to Paul Lasky and

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DIARY

## The Oath of Office

by Raj Patel, Taylor

At the beginning of the oath of office, Bill "Bib" Zweir welcomed Christopher J. Christie, U.S. Attorney for N.J. Christie attended Boys' State in 1979, where he was elected mayor of Jefferson. He then went on to become Boys' Nation Senator. Christie has prosecuted over 128 politicians. Christie spoke about what he gained from Boys' State, preventing political corruption, and our responsibility as a voter.

Afterwards, Christie summoned Edward Reep. Edward walked onto the stage, while the crowd thunderously applauded. The crowd chanted "ED-WARD!" Reep raised his right hand and then began saying the oath of office. The oath was followed by a resounding wave of applause, a standing ovation, and the "ED-WARD" chant. Then Governor Reep thanked everyone for voting for him and talked about how he has already started working on his "seven points." Reep made over 48 appointments to departments and offices. This was followed by a question-and-answer session directed towards Christie. Out of all the speakers, Christie was the only speaker to put on a staff shirt, after being inducted as an honorary member. The crowd went wild.

A Special Thanks  
Goes to  
the staff of *The  
Jersey Statesman*



# BOYS' STATE NEWS

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## Lanberg Ahead!

by Lance Wildorf, Johnson

Tomer Lanberg is one of the world's finest politicians – and State Party Chairman for the Federalist party.

Lanberg climbed the ladder to a top spot on the Boys' State political mountain. He eventually became his county's nominee for State Party Chairman and gave a hilarious speech which eventually secured him the victory. The speech was speckled with confidence, humor, and much, much more. One of the most memorable parts was a reference to Ali G. When asked how Mr. G influenced him, Lanberg responded, "Ali G is just overall the man. He keeps it real."

That he does, Tomer, that he does.

I was curious about how such a well-planned, well-executed speech affected Lanberg. Was he apprehensive? Was he scared? No.

"I like making speeches," he said. "I just want to put something out there that people remember me by."

Many people were probably curious about how Lanberg was able to unify such a motley crew as the Federalist party into a gubernatorial election-clinching machine.

"Ed (Governor Edward Reep) built up a lot of support by himself." In addition to the actual candidate, Lanberg attributed the organization of his party to the "smart people" he was surrounded by. "I couldn't have done it without these guys."

Reep said of Lanberg, "He did a good job. Also I had my own personal campaigners who helped me very much."

Lanberg promised in his speech that he would not wake up a single soul at 6 a.m. during his campaign. He craftily fulfilled this promise by going with his assistant Eric from room to room and quietly putting fliers under each door.

Tomer Lanberg is quite a character, one who deserves to have an article written about him.

I asked him, "Hey, if you could define yourself with one word, what would it be?"

After thinking for a minute and throwing around various possibilities like "emphatic," Lanberg paused, smiled, and replied. "Realness."

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## My Time as a Moderator

by Christopher Fatta, Monroe

At 8:30 yesterday morning, I witnessed a spectacle worth seeing. I saw 900 boys, most who knew maybe three other statesmen at the beginning of the week, align themselves behind two candidates whom they did not know. These boys did not know every detail of the candidates' personalities. They also didn't know which candidate was cool or not, nor did they know who was more popular. All these boys knew were the positions the candidates had on the issues and the qualifications they presented. It was with this small amount of information that 900 boys took to the polls in full support of these candidates.

They didn't just put their faith

behind the candidates, they launched full campaigns for them by chanting, cheering, lifting the candidates up in the air (both literally and metaphorically). I was fascinated and awed.

Then I attended the debate between our two Gubernatorial candidates as a moderator. I was a little uneasy at first, being one of only four people that would ask a potential governor a question directly related to his policies. Also, the statesmen of this 63rd American Legion Jersey Boys' State are loud.

I kept repeating in my head, "Say the question, mute the mic,

and make eye contact." I successfully performed that and felt a sense of accomplishment. I felt that maybe someone learned something about one of the political candidates that swayed their opinion. I felt

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MODERATOR



# OPINION

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## DIARY

Tom Marsden for being there 24/7, literally. They made this great publication possible and should be offered canonization ASAP.

One of the greatest things about this program is that it is not Las Vegas. What happens at Boys' State does not stay at Boys' State – it follows us to each of our 21 counties, where we can make a difference. We have been given the tools to succeed, flourish, and make our marks in our towns, counties, state, and country. I thank The American Legion for making this possible because it is their vision for America's future that makes us strong during our time here. I leave it to each and every delegate to determine for themselves what the next step is on the path to a better tomorrow.

During the gubernatorial elections, Boys' State delegates were given the opportunity to voice their opinions on the following issues:

1. Should the drinking age be lowered from 21 to 19?

RESULTS: The majority said yes.

2. Should New Jersey enact legislation to reduce carbon emissions within the state?

RESULTS: A landslide majority said yes.

3. Should New Jersey reinstate the death penalty?

RESULTS: A very narrow majority said yes.

4. Should the state of New Jersey develop a system of public works projects for the unemployed?

RESULTS: A landslide majority said yes.

Congratulations, delegates, on your staggering voter turnout.

## The 63rd Boys' State Governor by Jonathan Guerra, Jackson

Edward Reep (Federalist) was triumphant in the gubernatorial election and is now the 63<sup>rd</sup> governor of Boys' State. The Fair Lawn native came to Boys' State because of his affinity for politics and the prospect of a realistic political simulation. His sponsoring post was Legion Post 171.

Before being elected governor, Reep served as mayor of Pierce City. The governor next made a name for himself during his campaign due to his popular seven-point plan, as well as his famously rabid cult following. Since Reep began his politicking, he has stressed unity numerous times and believes strongly in the removal of both the Nationalist and Federalist parties. His goal was to have a state government run without parties.

Governor Reep's policies also reflect his respect for the environment. His pragmatic approach included a reduction of all greenhouse emissions by 80 percent by 2050. He also voiced his desire to research the possibilities of bio-fuels and ethanols to replace fossil fuels.

Reep's platform also involves the enforcement of stricter immigration laws, in which he favors the employment of legal workers instead of illegal immigrants. His pro-choice stance on abortion and unorthodox answer to the debate on same-sex marriage have garnered a large amount of attention. Reep and his supporters want to ban marriages and replace them with civil unions.

Overall, both supporters and detractors have praised his command of language in rousing his audiences to embrace his positive ideals.

# FEATURES

## Terror Strikes Washington

by Brandon Barney, Washington

Like an ancient biblical plague, fear had spread through the heart of Washington and gripped its inhabitants. Roaming the streets were the four horsemen of lore, whose very presence oozed discord. "I had never seen anything like it," described local inhabitant Eleanor Rigby. "It was as though I had stared death in the face."

What could inspire such a terror in a cozy little city such as Washington? Gypsy moths.

Upon their arrival, initial panic evolved into mass chaos. As the gypsy moths settled in and began to destroy 1,500 acres of Washington, the citizens progressively became more and more restless until their simple fear and hesitance metamorphosed into

pillaging, looting, and burning.

There has been speculation that countless illegal firearms bought from gun running contributed to the violence. For up to three days after the initial invasion, many commercial buildings were up in flames as their contents were plundered. Finally, the police's riot squads were able to regain order.

All in all, it is estimated that fifteen lost their lives and eighty were wounded. "Many of my men gave blood, sweat, toil, and tears for the sake of this city. We plan to better learn from this experience in hopes of preventing another calamity such as this. No longer will we be caught off guard by the dubious forces of the gypsy moths," explained Sergeant Pepper.

In the wake of this madness, a state of emergency was declared. However, up until the publication of this article, no supplies or help have yet been sent by the federal government. Reports state that President Bush is occupied with learning how to pronounce "nuclear" correctly. As a result, local citizens have taken it as their own mission to rid their city of these moths. Plans ranging from pesticides to covering trees in double-sided tape have been suggested.

Meanwhile, talks of memorializing the victims of the Gypsy Moth Outbreak of '08 with a butterfly garden have surfaced.

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### MODERATOR

as if I had made an impact. Part of me also felt that maybe the statesmen didn't hear the answer to the question.

For future reference, have a little respect. Whether or not you support the candidate, he has the right to voice his opinion and let it be known to all those who want to listen. Save the chants and rants for after the questions. I could barely hear the answer to the question I asked.

Overall, the debate was an eye-opening experience. It proved to me that teenagers are not shallow and don't vote by popularity. Today I realized that when it comes down to the wire, teenagers can join together and make a wise and informed political decision.

Cumulative Voter Turn-out

CITY	COUNTY
1st - Johnson	1st - Eisenhower
2nd - Monroe	2nd - Bradley
3rd - Buchanan	3rd - Vandenburg

*Disclaimer:*

*Turn-out is as of*

*Tuesday, Wednesday*

*and Thursday*