

# **Boys' State News**

#### A Race to Win Paul Coletti

Late Tuesday night, an audience of more than 400 Statesmen rose to their feet and roared.

No, the audience was not the Federalist Party and no, the roar was not a response to a campaign ploy by Federalist state party Chairman candidate Jean Fernandez. Rather, this somehow-fitting plethora was the cheer of excitement and pride from the Nationalist party that erupted upon hearing that they had won the majority of the State Senate and Assembly seats. This excitement burst from a party both desperate for recognition and eager to make its way to the top. Motivated by the eight stellar candidates for the state party Chairman, the united party found all the more reason to coalesce for a common cause.

The Federalist Party has been a true dynasty at ALJBS, always the louder of the two parties at general assemblies and the most rowdy on campus. However, the Nationalist Party looks to emerge from its relative disarray and continue its recent winning streak. Although the Federalists' pride cannot be challenged, and the unity is a force to be reckoned with, every member of the Nationalist party is ready to pick up where they left off Tuesday and win the "big three" elections of ALJBS.

Wednesday morning, the excitement just would not stop as the Nationalist Party reconvened and vowed to support itself. The voter-turnout rose and the Nationalists did their part that afternoon; they were dedicated to electing the perfect candidate in order to climb past the Federalist Party. Each of the eight gubernatorial candidates had his own flare, adding whatever flavor he deemed appropriate to win the hearts and minds of his party. However, the candidates each shared and expressed a true yearning to "take hold of the torch of leadership," as forcefully stated by Nationalist candidate Julien Blaney. Those against whom he was running were not so cautious with their words. "As for the Federalist winning streak, I think it's time for that to be over with," admitted candidate Charles Tersi. Additionally, coined as "Asian Ben," Benjamin Lioue said he was "fed up with the Federalists," and the audience was then riled up further.

But for the Nationalists, these next few days are key. This last year has been under the rule of a Federalist governor, but Thursday and Friday will be the elections that usher in a watershed-year for ALJBS and the entire Boys' State Foundation.

The Federalists must get their act together! They will need to have a 100% voter-turnout in order to defeat charismatic Nationalist Julien Blaney. In order to win his party's nomination, Federalist Andrew Davis needed to sing the national anthem. There is no telling what he must do to win the governorship. It will definitely be a tight race, and an exciting one at that. If everyone votes, anything could happen.

#### **National Party's Best**

#### Tom Shaw

The State Party Chairmen play crucial roles in the campaigns of a party's Boys Nation Senator and Governor nominees. Their advice and management are important factors for candidates aiming to be elected into ALJBS office. The ballots have been cast and, of the eight candidates, one has been elected in each party. From the Federalist Party, Justin Hockaday (Van Buren) was elected and, from the National Party, Raleigh Bulmer (Adams)

During the National Party state convention, THE JERSEY STATESMAN sat down with the new Nationalist state Party Chairman, Raleigh Bulmer. Bulmer believes that he stood out from the other candidates as a result of his public speaking skills, ability to make a crowd of exhausted Statesmen get involved and personality in general. Also, Bulmer dislikes listing school and community leadership positions as a means of qualification. Possessing an "electable platform", he was general and broad enough so that he was able to appeal to many Nationalists, yet specific enough to really gain the confidence of prospective voters of the other party.

Bulmer's goals include gaining 100% voterparticipation at the gubernatorial and senatorial elections, managing the Nationalist nominee's campaign and establishing the concurrence of the Governor's platform with that of the entire party.

In terms of campaign management, Raleigh Bulmer has organized committees to work on select tasks more efficiently, and plans to gain as much municipal support as possible through publicizing the Nationalist nominees. When asked what his thoughts were on gaining a Nationalist Governor for the first time in fifteen years, Bulmer stated: "The National Party has strong leaders, and any candidate the party elects can beat the best of the best the Federalists can produce."

# **Statesmen's Swag**

## Waterworld...maybe?

CJ Pacquing

According to the report by the Dean of Athletics, Shane Mata, at Tuesday's Nationalist Party convention, twenty-four delegates suffered from dehydration at Tuesday's sporting events. The problem of dehydration, and its risk for Statesmen, demands attention.

One Statesman at the Nationalist state party convention mentioned that access to water is limited. Statesmen have three square meals each day in which water is easily accessible. On the other hand, many Statesmen choose less-hydrating alternatives such as soda, Gatorade, and iced tea. It is suspected that a substantial number of Statesmen drink water during meals, but even with the consumption of one full glass of water at each meal, Statesmen are inadequately hydrated and significantly thirsty between meals.

The prevailing thirst between meals might not be such an issue if water was readily available. Many water fountains are inoperable and other opportunities for hydration come at a price: vending machines and city counselors both sell water bottles, but some do not have funds to purchase them. The result of this shortage of water is more than a parched throat between meals—it's a serious health concern.

## McIlroy Gets His Major Adam Zielonka

In this post-apocalyptic world of golf, The reputation of Tiger Woods finds itself tarnished and ruined. Who will step up and be the world's next dominant golfer?

Rory McIlroy of Northern Ireland made his case by winning the US Open Sunday, at -16, with a final round score of 69. The 16-under-par is the lowest score in tournament history, a tournament notorious for being difficult to the point of embarrassing professional golfers.

Last April, McIlroy led the Masters Tournament through 18, 36, and 54 holes, before imploding with a final-round 80 to lose by several strokes. Between the Masters and the US Open, Rory led seven of the eight total rounds. Now McIlroy, 22, has his first major victory, and is the second-youngest major champion in 80 years.

Is McIlroy the next Tiger? Between his 80 on Masters Sunday and his wire-to-wire dominance last weekend at the US Open, which is the exception and which is the rule? To be fair, 22 is still a ridiculously young age. But I say McIlroy is our man. Look for him to remain a threat in all events, particularly in next month's British Open at Royal St. George's Golf Club.

# **Rain and Politics Hamper Sports Competitions**

Adam Zielonka

We've seen some great feats of athleticism over the past several days, and Wednesday's slate of games promised no less than four match-ups between the two best overall counties, Vandenburg and Bradley. However, unfortunately, torrential downpours interrupted and ultimately shortened yesterday's sports schedule.

Dean of Sports Shane Mata praised Rider University's staff, whom he had approached prior to this session of Boys' State about having volleyball potentially set up inside in the event of rain. Volleyball has been an outside sport all week – that is, until yesterday's storms. "The turnaround time must have been minutes," Mata beamed. The volleyball schedule was able to continue according to plan. However, not every game was able to be completed. Mata says to expect shorter games Thursday, in order to squeeze in as many games as possible.

Mr. Mata also warned of another threat to the games – more political elections. Earlier in the week, some potential athletes were kept away because they had to attend political meetings. Now that we're in the second half of the week, we have not only city and county meetings but also meetings for state-level elections. Mata calls it a "trickle effect" that occurs throughout the week every year.

Bradley won two out of the three games they played with Vandenburg, soccer and basketball. (Vandenburg won football, and tennis was cancelled.) Bradley finished tied for second for the day, while Vandenburg ended up tied for sixth. This opened the door for MacArthur County, who won first place Wednesday, their third-straight top-three finish. This has MacArthur tied with Bradley for first overall in our speculative overall rankings.

# Sports Update Wednesday Rankings

1 MacArthur T-2 Nimitz T-2 Bradley 4 Eisenhower 5 Ridgeway T-6 Marshall T-6 Vandenburg 8 Hasley

#### **Approximate Overall**

RANKINGS T-1 Bradley T-1 MacArthur 3 Vandenburg 4 Nimitz 5 Eisenhower 6 Marshall 7 Hasley 8 Ridgeway

# Opinion

### Why Six Really Ate Seven

Alex Foxwell

When Statesmen hear the exclamation "SEVEN!", murderous thoughts often infiltrate their consciouses. I, for one, am filled with anger and rage each time I hear this obnoxious chant. Throughout the entire week, Statesmen all across the Rider campus have had to deal with the overtly obnoxious Van Buren City. Not only do they annoy us all but boy, do they piss us off to no end. It is definitely safe to say we're all a tad sick of the deafening Van Burians. Only a tad. On the other hand, they could easily be on the track to win Best City on Friday.

In all my years in academia, competition, etc., I've never seen a more enthusiastic group of individuals. At Tuesday night's Nationalist State Party convention, Van Buren guide-on bearer Eric James even said himself "Yeah, we're obnoxious...but no one can say we don't have spirit!" So while we Statesmen still detest the random calls of "SEVEN!", there is no doubt that that group of individuals is fully committed to citymaintenance as well as unity. They have formed a strong brotherhood—becoming life-long friends in a matter of days! And for this, Van Buren City deserves a cautious paton-the-back in reward. After all, we do need to be cautious just in case a Van Burian screams that loathsome number in your ear.

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# Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness

Tim Lynch

Vested in the core values of a Democratic-Republic are the God-given rights of Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness. Unfortunately, these "unalienable rights" have been alienated and ostracized by the whims of US Congressmen and presidents. For too long Federal politicians have subjugated the American people, created an insolvent, ineffective bureaucracy, and sent millions of troops overseas to risk their lives in missions and conflicts that do not advance US interests, yet cost trillions of dollars. One core principle rooted in common sense "maximum freedom, minimum government" can easily solve many problems in the US today.

In the international spectrum, the United States simply needs to stop pretending that it is the world policeman. Our military presence in the Middle East only incites anger in the people of these nations. Although Middle Easterners struck first in the 9/11 attacks and it seems as our presence in the Middle East is justified. Osama Bin Laden initiated these acts of violence in accordance with a 1998 fatwa (Islamic declaration of war). It complained of US presence in Saudi Arabia and called for the indiscriminate killing of Americans everywhere. Although the attacks were unwarranted and unjustified, if it weren't for the existence of US troops in Saudi Arabia, 9/11 would not have occurred. Plainly, people just don't like to see foreign troops in their homeland. Furthermore, foreign wars cost taxpayers obscene amounts of money, depriving them of their property. American defense expenditures, at \$698 billion, are more than double the military expenditures of the rest of the world combined. We need to bring our troops home, stop fighting unconstitutional wars and relax the burden of the military- industrial complex on the American taxpayer.

The cause of liberty needs to be heard. Without the voice of the people, this subjugation will continue and liberties will continue to be violated.

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