



# BOYS STATE TODAY

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Welcome to Boys State! We, “Boy’s State Today” are the primary source of reliable content for the occurrences that transpire at the 75th Session of the American Legion Boys State of Virginia, Inc.

## **SYNOPSIS: SUNDAY JUNE 19, 2017**

Today, the freshly inaugurated delegates were introduced to Radford University in a ceremonial and prestigious fashion. At the Preston Bondurant auditorium, extraordinary individuals who allow Boys State to flourish (Dan Dellinger and Steve Cox) gave informational presentations regarding the structure and function of Boys State. This assembly exemplified quality and honor. Furthermore, it distinguished participants as leaders rather than mere citizens. Additionally, the processions of the assembly culminated in a reverent description of the legitimacy and sovereignty of the American Flag. Throughout the initial occurrences of this 75th session, the respective Cities held private meetings for preparation and the election of local positions. The Counselors demonstrated the proper manner to pay respects to the flag in customary American tradition. Finally, the festivities of day one concluded with a tremendous keynote address from Colonel Richard Anderson who retired from the Air Force and serves as a Delegate in the Commonwealth of Virginia. He strongly expressed the importance of leadership, public service, and moral courage. He left a lasting impact when he said, “Management is important, but *Leadership* is indispensable.” The ceremony was more impactful than a basic presentation. Colonel Sanders’ sincere efforts cultivated an enriching display of true quality in human relations.

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## **THE DELEGATES’ PERSPECTIVE**

“We arrived to the larger than anticipated Radford University slightly disheveled, extremely ambitious, and characteristically clueless. The gentlemen in “Blue Shirts” appeared official and reliable. Their responsibility and life experience were unparalleled. As we began to navigate the intricacies of a new atmosphere, we discovered the importance of situational awareness and learning actively rather than passively. We are beginning to comprehend and further appreciate the privilege of freedom in The United States. Within the culture of Boys State - the demands, the hierarchy of authority, the social conventions, the respective reverences, the old war veterans, the slightly above average meals, the election of positions, and the all too important former UPS Executive - we are beginning to manifest the charisma and opportunity of democracy. At the concluding assembly of the night, we were welcomed by Brian Hemphill, the President at Radford university. He created an elegant depiction of Radford University and highlighted the benefits of attending this university. We were then challenged and encouraged simultaneously by Colonel Richard Anderson.”

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## **Today’s Trivia 75 : What was the reason Boys State was not held from 1942 - 1945?**

Send your response via email to [boysstatetoday@gmail.com](mailto:boysstatetoday@gmail.com), along with your name and city name.

*First response will be highlighted in the next publication of Boys State Today.*

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