

THE STATE JOURNAL

JUNE 20, 2021

City Election Results For Sunday:

Marshals:

- Connor Duryea (Eisenhower)
- J. McCurdy (Henry)
- Husam Abughoush (MacArthur)
- Nate Dietrich (Marshall)
- William Hospodar (Nimitz)
- Jacob Campbell (Patton)
- Ethan Williamson (Puller)
- Tristan Carney (Washington)

Newspaper Staff:

- Connor Gilster (Eisenhower)
- Jason Melendez (Henry)
- Edward Joo (MacArthur)
- Cohen Steele (Marshall)
- Calvin Schilling (Nimitz)
- Samuel Banks (Patton)
- Clayton Fannin (Puller)
- Landon Bonneville (Washington)

Social Media Team:

- Connor Doran (Eisenhower)
- Shane Wall (Marshall)
- Calvin Schilling (Nimitz)
- Riley McDonough (Nimitz)
- Sean Meese (Patton)
- Devin Burnat (Puller)
- Landon Booneville (Washington)

Day One: Journalism Done Right

“Our liberty depends on the freedom of the press, and that cannot be limited without being lost.”

- Thomas Jefferson

Following several hours in a car, and a day of new experiences for all present, it is safe to say that this year's members of Boys State had earned some rest. However, as the delegates turned in for the night and the Radford Campus was drifting to sleep, there was one room that was still packed with action. Eight delegates, one from each city, gathered in a basement across campus from where their new peers were enjoying the comfort of a dorm room mattress, were huddled around a table, furiously clicking and clacking away. These eight dele-

gates, are in control of one of the most powerful instruments of persuasion known to exist. The free press. To quote Teddy Roosevelt, "Free Speech, exercised both individually and through a free press, is a necessity in any country where people are themselves free." As the great fifty first state of America, we are all undoubtably free, and a free people deserve a free press, where ideas and beliefs of all shapes, colors, and sizes can be expressed. It is the job of these writers to safe guard this constitutional right against all attacks, and contribute the beliefs of their cities, and parties to the State Journal. This newspaper will always be free. Made for the people, by the people.

Written by Silence No-good

Food Review – Sunday Dinner

The first evening of the 78th Boys State Session began in earnest at 5:30pm as delegates from all across the state of Virginia filed into Dalton Dining Hall to eat dinner. The boys mingled across city lines as they started to create connections that would aid them in the city and state campaigns that would be raging on throughout the week. Fueling this “buzz” of action was the food provided by the Radford kitchen staff. This evening’s meal: braised chicken and pizza served with corn, rice, and an assortment of cooked vegetables. A fully-stocked salad bar was made readily available for those seeking a healthier option.

Coming into the cafeteria, I was fully expecting that the food that was to be served would be much like tasteless, rubbery hotel food. Much to my pleasant surprise, the smell that wafted from the cafeteria to my nose made my mouth water. I eagerly piled on as much food as I could as I rushed to find a table and enjoy my food. The chicken was mildly spicy and beautifully seasoned, with the flavors of the sauce and the chicken blending together nicely to create an enjoyable balance of tastes. There is not much to say about the corn; it tasted like corn—no complaints. Rice produced on a massive scale never tastes particularly good, but I was pleased to note that the rice was unexpectedly flavorful and paired well with the braised chicken. The pizza was mostly served right out of the oven, which made it taste so much more “real”. The dough and the crust had the perfect texture, and the sauce provided the right amount of sweetness without totally overpowering the flavor of the cheese.

All in all, dinner was a delightful affair, and the food served greatly exceeded my expectations.

Rating: 7.8 ⚽ / 8 ⚽

Written by: Jedi Yoda

Boys State Social

Media

You may have noticed the pictures and posts from social media that appeared on the screen in the auditorium yesterday. Virginia Boys State is taking an opportunity to highlight its presence online and encourage delegates to spread the word about the program to their friends and families. The social media team will be hard at work taking photos and videos for the program’s Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram to inform people at the program and back home about the goings-on throughout the week. Additionally, Boys State participants can post their own content to social media with hashtag #VABS21. Delegates are encouraged to take photos and cooperate with the social media team to allow for greater online engagement and awareness of the Boys State program. Collin Lee said that the team would focus on news updates through Friday, then transition to content that will last through the years.

Henry City holds first round of local elections

The City of Henry, residing in the Floyd Hall, held its first round of local elections on Sunday, June 20, 2021.

Sunday's elections focused on local officials such as Moot Court, Parliamentary Procedure, and notable positions like City Sheriff and City Clerk.

Jason Zheng was elected City Clerk. In Mr. Zheng's capacity, he is now responsible for scribing for votes and maintaining records of official appointments.

McCurdy, a more outspoken candidate for City Sheriff, won with a definitive majority following more than one round of voting. Mr. McCurdy has pledged to work with Henry citizens to formalize fair and effective rules to maintain order without compromising fun. The State Journal has not yet reached out to Mr. McCurdy for comment.

Elections for the City Electoral Board required more convincing. Some citizens were reluctant to participate in elections for the City Electoral Board due to ambitions for other city or state-level positions. Two Federalist candidates and one Nationalist candidate were approved as members of the City Electoral Board, with the Nationalist candidate set to preside over the Board. Board members have a supervisory role over local elections, and they act as self-appointed Officers of Election.

City residents are expected to enter nominations for Mayor, Senate, and House of Delegates on Monday, June 21, 2021.

Written by Bernard

How will this year's physical training compare to previous years sports?

Sports have been a staple at Virginia Boys State for the camp's entire history. Boys competing against boys has brought about special bonds and rivalries among cities and parties. Relationships have been formed and relationships have been broken due to sporting events taken too seriously. Competition is ultimately a key factor at Virginia Boys State. Boys will compete regardless of there being a specific environment to facilitate that competition. How will this year's athletic activities compare to years past? Will Boys' competition be unleashed on the whole camp? Will many students Boys State experiences be ruined without organized sports?

This year's activity time will be filled with various activities including moot court, parliamentary procedure, and newspaper. While these activities have been apart of Boys State for years the one major difference is the lack of organized sports. Though for those athletic gurus at camp there is a replacement, physical training. No one is quite sure what physical training will be comprised of this year, though Steve Cox will be running this year's physical training program. With his exuberant personality he will hopefully be motivating many young men. Cox's background in the army makes him a perfect candidate to motivate young men to break through physical and mental barriers. Making this sports replacement seem like a viable option for those seeking a good sweat. The biggest question regarding this year's physical training is whether it will measure up to the competitive tournaments of years past. Many believe it will suffice hungry camp goers who, due to the pandemic, have been unable to participate in their normal athletic routines. This week will be a test for Boys State officials and counselor's whose main goal is to provide a fun and competitive environment for the young men at Boys State.

Written by Goldie

Boys State citizens expected to receive Commonwealth officials on Monday

On Monday, June 21, 2021, Boys State citizens are slated to hear from a number of officials from across the Commonwealth of Virginia, including incumbent state delegates, state senators, and local officials.

The morning instructional session is set to focus on the Virginia General Assembly, the longest continually serving democratically-elected legislative body in the Western Hemisphere.

Senator David Suetterlein, a Republican state senator representing Floyd County, Salem City, and surrounding areas will address Puller and Washington cities. Delegates Rasoul, Hurst, Keam, Avoli (virtual), and Herring (virtual) are expected to address several other cities respectively. Senator Ghazala Hashmi, a Democratic state senator representing Powhatan County, Chesterfield County, and Richmond City, will address Macarthur City.

Delegate Rasoul, who represents part of Roanoke City, was recently defeated by Del. Hala Ayala in the Democratic primary for Lieutenant Governor on June 8, 2021. Delegate Charniele Herring is the Democratic leader and majority leader in the House of Delegates.

Several local officials, including Robert Coiner, Mayor of the Town of Gordonsville; Renee Turk, Mayor of Salem City; David Horton, Mayor of Radford City, who welcomed Boys States citizens on opening day; and Levar Stoney, Mayor of Richmond City, who will be joining virtually. The roster of local officials will educate Boys State citizens on the role of local government in Virginia.

Navy Veteran Kicks off Great Week at Radford

Yesterday was the first day on the beautiful Radford campus for the delegates participating at Boys state. At the opening session yesterday afternoon, we were graced with the opportunity to speak with retired US Navy RADM William Cobb. During his speech, he spoke with us about the importance of the flag and how important his time at Boys State was on his career and life as a whole. The things that he said that stuck with me were the important qualities for the people of future, he said that the most important qualities to have were honesty and integrity. He spoke about how those are two things nobody can take away from you. It is important to remember that qualities like this are important to be a functioning citizen in your city at Boys State but also to be a better person in the future of society. He really drove how much he loved how diverse the audience was and even talked about the importance of diversity and how much we have of it in our generation. Mr. William Cobb also gave us insight on the importance of his family, especially the huge role his dad played in life, very fitting since it was Father's Day yesterday on June 20th, 2021. The admiral's speech was very inspirational for the receiving audience in many ways, the delegates were clearly impacted by the things he talked about such as the importance of family, important qualities that can take you far in life. The things he talked about today should live with us for the rest of the week and beyond that.

Written by Shazam