



The



Statesman

2007 Nevada Boy's State Welcomes All!

By Daniel Williams (Howard)

Yesterday, one hundred twenty-five delegates arrived here at UNR. They came from different parts of the state. For those from Las Vegas, the day began at midnight. Couple that with an agonizing ten-hour bus ride, check in, and a day full of various physical activities, and that's one long day. Welcome one and all to the American Legion's Nevada Boy's State '07. You will leave behind all kinds of comforts, sleep included (welcome to Insomnia 101), but now you can call yourselves the "Cream of the Crop" of Nevada. Out of the many that applied, you were the ones selected, and for that we congratulate you. When you first arrived, you were faced with the hassle of checking in and meeting some people whom you have never met. You continued on to the Wacky Olympics, and then to committees. The day continued with an interesting Federalist vs. Nationalist debate, and city elections, then FINALLY it was lights out. What you get out of this week depends on what you put into it, so put all you can into it, and enjoy your experience at Boy's State.

Eat Up!

By Evan Sanborn (Bill Valley)

Not only is the information we learn about our government and country important but the fuel we fill up with is too. Most of us as high school students were expecting the average food we receive our campus and being hungry all day for some good food. The people that were interviewed were all pleasantly surprised by the quality of food that we found to eat in the huge cafeteria here at the UNR campus. Some say the cafeteria could be considered a gourmet restaurant.

Nevada Boys' State Newspaper Staff '07

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All of the counselors were warning us of the food but their thoughts on the food were definitely proved wrong by the sight of the somewhat beautiful facility. David Morris, from Bill Valley, said, "I was expecting crummy cafeteria food but was surprised to see so many choices!" And then went on to describe what he ate for the day and how he could go back for however much he wanted. Stephen Gall "thought they would be pre-planned meals and dishes." Some of us actually weren't expecting anything bad or good but were still pleasantly surprised. Jacob Trotter said it was, "Awesome!" And Matt Moran went as far as to say, "The food was like a thousand naked ladies dancing on his tongue!" I thought this was a little excessive but agreed to the extent the food was good. So be polite to the chefs and enjoy the food.

All in a Day's Work

By Tony Boffelli (Martie)

Tired and weary faces flooded the Reno campus yesterday, amongst the lucky few who simply arrived here minutes before check-in. An excruciatingly long day awaited them, yet somewhere amongst the ruckus and dazed looks lied 123 delegates, each of which about to embark on a journey full of knowledge and leadership.

Kids checked in, formed into cities, and brainstormed on ways to "break the ice" amongst one another. Opening Ceremony was held soon after, with introductions to both staff and Legion members. The informational, but lengthy 'How a Bill Becomes a Law and Parliamentary Procedures' soon followed, including the viewing of a clip from *Schoolhouse Rock*. Next, Ryan Hamilton spoke to the delegates about proper speech ethics, and then entertaining the excited crowd with a Federalist v. Nationalist debate. The exhausting day was concluded with the election of mayors, city clerks, and other city officials.

Today, another full schedule lies ahead, either bringing dread or elation to each delegate, and quite possibly each counselor. Starting with the typical groggy awakening from the luxurious commodities of the dorms, everyone sleepwalks out of the shower, somewhat ready for breakfast. Pictures are to be taken today, and a visit from Jay Hansen is to be expected also. The first day of air time is set, followed by the beginning of court cases and the party caucuses. Senator Dennis Nolan will also be visiting, and the athletics tournament will start. The principles of the American flag will later be discussed as well. The day will conclude with more city time and the opening round to the quiz bowl.

Wacky Olympics: Martie and Howard Tie for First

By Jake Reid (Lindsey)

Few arrive at the Boys' State doorstep anticipating a program filled with kooky sports activities the likes of which we saw today. In order to capture the fun-filled nature of the outlandish tournament that unfolded this afternoon, I decided to write a brief poem...

'Twas on a fine Sunday in June...
Boys' State teams of all colors
Put their brawn and
Their diplomatic wits together—
Six fine teams
Gathered on a field of grass,
Engaging themselves
In a wacky endeavor
Full of quirky amusement and unusual leisure...

Boys made shapes with their bods,
Smacked pig-skins to the ground,
Ran around with folds over their eyes
And formed human pyramids,
Altogether proving themselves
To be worthy of teamwork,

tactfulness,

and best of all,

steadfast obligation.



Political Opinion

By Tim Hansen

Federalist (Bill Valley) Stephen Gall

Education

School voucher should be valued by a case-by-case basis
He doesn't believe in using standardized testing determine educational worth

Ethics

Basis all deductions from the law on his religion

Less government control

He believes the punishment should fit the crime

Abortion

Abortion is morally wrong except when a victim becomes pregnant with a child after being raped.

A person should be held accountable for their actions

Gay Marriage

Using the term marriage is misleading and should not be used as a term to signify a same sex marriage

Environmental

He believes it should be a the responsibility of the government to research alternative fuels

The change between gasoline dependent fuels to something else has to be a gradual process

Why am I a federalist? "I believe in the importance of national security which the nationalist side, I feel does not uphold."

Nationalist (Bill Valley) Ruel James

Education

Is the most important thing to worry about.

Students need to be aware that college is essential in the development of citizenship

He advocates smaller class sizes

Freedom

More government involvement

People are the cornerstone of any good government

Without people an economy or government would not exist.

Abortion

It is frivolous to save a life when it will have a hard life from birth.

Rape victims that result in pregnancy need to be exempt from any law that deals with this issue.

Gay marriage

If the feelings are strong between to people government involvement is not necessary.

Environmental

It is the government's responsibility to research alternate fuel cells

Why am I a nationalist? My philosophy is that the people should come first and the nationalist's positions are consistent with the nationalist ideals