



THE STATE OF BOYS

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Riley Scherping: A Campaign in Focus

David Ha, St. Cloud

Discipline, resourcefulness, and determination are the best words to describe St. Cloud Mayor Riley Scherping.

Riley was born in Alexandria, Minnesota. From a young age, he was fully immersed in a military and law enforcement community. This upbringing eventually led him to join the Civil Air Patrol, where he has served for the past four years. The CAP is the official civilian auxiliary of the United States Air Force. There, Riley established himself as a Flight Sergeant, demonstrating strong leadership and organizational skills.

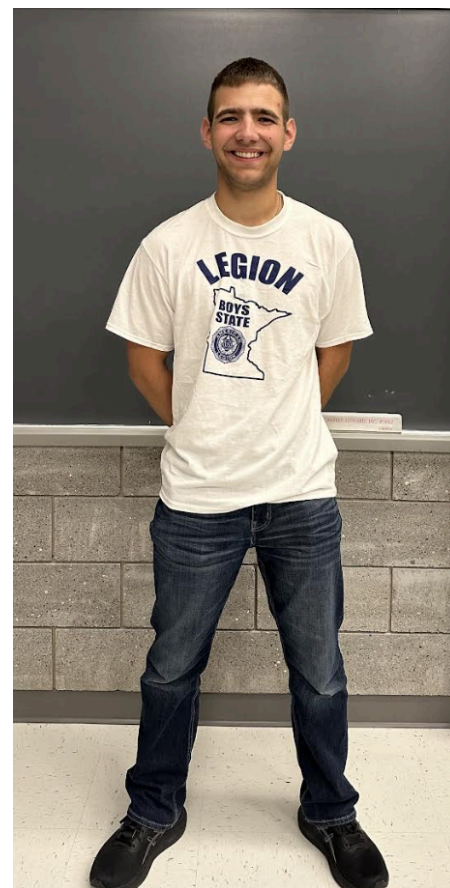
In addition to his service, Riley has avidly pursued music, earning two All-State nominations for saxophone.

Just like his résumé, Riley's campaign was nothing short of impressive. In his speeches, he emphasized his commitment to making every voice heard and prioritizing the well-being of St. Cloud over personal interests. His message resonated with the community, as one citizen, Tanush Thimmasani, remarked, "Although I didn't vote for Riley, I still fully stand behind everything he's done as mayor of St. Cloud."

After Boys State, Riley plans to continue his journey of hard work and service. He will attend the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, where he plans to major in Aerospace Engineering and commission as a pilot.

To us, the citizens of St. Cloud, Riley Scherping is not just a leader but a symbol of hope. He reminds us that no matter the trials and tribulations we face, we are stronger together as a community.

Go St. Cloud!



For Evergreen: A Poem

Kort Booth, St. Cloud

I will forever be evergreen
It is this truth that I find within myself.
I am interconnected to Mother Nature,
Intertwined with its creation.
I am created in frame by its image,
Made to be beautiful, unique, different.
Much like how a dalmatian has no spots identical
To another of its kind,
I am different from my own;
Different mind, different face, different dreams.
I am nothing like you,
Yet we are connected through nature
Through a true birth mother unbound by religion
And far beyond any known biology.
We are blinded by cities, modernity, and lies
Told to us by those who cannot see.
But we must not forget that we are all
Forever Green.



Basketball Snapshot

Ames Fassino, Minneapolis

I'm a player from the city of Minneapolis for basketball, and I'm going to inform you about how the game went yesterday against Duluth. I want to start out by saying Duluth has a strong team chemistry as well as some gifted athletes.

Game Summary: At the start of the game, both teams represented great defense by ending the first tied 8-8, exchanging buckets at will. For the second half of the game, it started off just where it had left off. By the final seconds, Minneapolis was down by one point; in desperation, Noah took a shot and ended being just short of the basket. Final score 17 for Minneapolis and 18 for Duluth.

From Convention Floor to Wordle Score: Building a Team at Boys State

Logan Cook, St. Cloud

The County Convention was pretty smooth overall—we got our main goals done, like picking our delegates and voting for the state board. Everyone worked together pretty well, and it was cool seeing how the processes work. But honestly, we finished everything way too fast, and then we were just sitting around waiting. They could cut down the time we spend there and give us more time to do more impactful things like writing bills, debating real issues, or planning for the city council. We used the extra time at the



end of the convention to get to know our County better, and we played games like *Wordle*. Even though the extra time wasn't planned, it ended up being kind of fun. We talked more as a group, figured out who was good at what, and built better chemistry for the rest of the week. Playing *Wordle* and messing around helped us loosen up and feel more like a team instead of just random people thrown together. Still, I think it would've been better if Boys State filled that time with something more structured or productive, especially since most of us were ready to keep working on real government simulation.

This program has honestly been really great. There's so much you can learn from it, and it really opened up my mind. At my school, we have some good leaders, but not like the kind of leaders I've seen here at Boys State. Being here is helping me become a better leader, especially because of all the awesome speakers they bring in.

Serving Up Inspiration On and Off the Court

Aldo Espinoza, Minneapolis

One speaker that really stuck with me, Adam Logeman. He gave a talk that seriously inspired me. He talked about the expectations we have for ourselves and the ones other people put on us, and he explained it in a way that just made sense. I agreed with everything he said, and it really made me think. His speech was definitely one of my favorite moments from the whole week.

Also, volleyball has been super fun! We play every day, and all the teams are great. I've had so much fun with it it's one of the highlights for sure.



Fast Facts

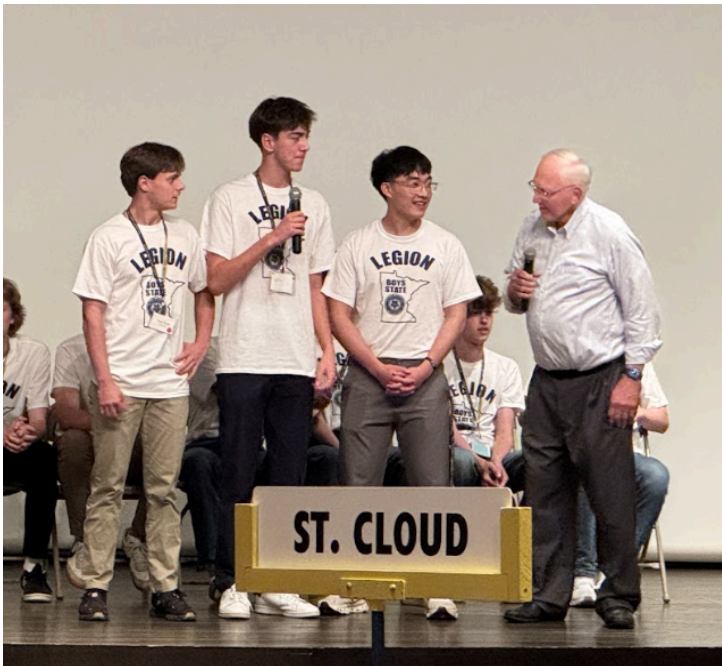
Judge Anderson is the most frequent speaker at Minnesota Boys' State.

Boys State cities are named after the post locations of the founding Legion members.

Dave Way has served more than 50 years at Boys State. His dad Myron was one of the founders of Minnesota Boys' State.

Government Gallery

Submit your photos to newspaper@mnboysstate.org today!





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