



# THE STATE OF BOYS

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## Voices of Sacrifice: Honoring Those Who Serve

*Keagan Klaers, Rochester*

Wednesday was abuzz with state caucus meetings, elections, and some very special guest speakers. It was a true honor to have both Speaker Demuth and Senator Howe speak with our assembly on the legislative process, an experience that I consider invaluable.

However, I would like to mention two other speakers we had today, the two veterans, Dominic Skawiniak and Brett Kelly, who both spoke on their time serving, and the work they have done and are doing to help improve the lives of veterans who are having difficulty adjusting back to civilian life. I, for one, found their stories of service very moving, and was reminded that the reason we come to Boys State and run a mock democratic government is because of those who sacrificed it all so that we could have the freedoms we hold so dear.



It is because of this that I wish to dedicate this article to all active duty soldiers and veterans, whose selfless sacrifice can never be repaid, but should always be remembered.

# Inside the Federalist Convention

*David Ha, St. Cloud*

“Mister Chairman” was the phrase that echoed in my mind as I left the State Convention of the Federalist Party. In just three hours, thirty-six delegates engaged in a state convention marked by confidence, controversy, and compromise.

Although I served only as a 5th Alternate Delegate representing Cook County, the passion in the room was unmistakable. Every delegate spoke and voted with a sense of duty and conviction that resonated throughout the hall.

The adopted planks ranged from bolstering public infrastructure and transportation to investing in renewable energy innovation. The Federalist Party firmly established itself as an advocate for the people. I am confident that whatever policies they implement, the well-being of the community will remain their top priority.



## Order, Freedom, and the Road to Office

*Karsten Springborg, St. Paul*

Yesterday was a time in which we recognized the two greatest aspects of Boys State: order and freedom. As we learned about the power and necessity of law at our assembly, we also gained a further understanding of order and procedure through our city and county party meetings. As we realize the schedule and order that governs our daily lives at Boys State. I hope we all recognize and, within the scope of reasonability and betterment, utilize our freedoms to their maximum capacity.

As we begin to move into county and state elections, I would like to give those campaigning for higher office a chance to make themselves and their values known.



**Q. What office are you running for and what is the foundation of your campaign?**

I am running for chief justice. I have always been interested in that system of court and would love to support my city, county, and party. I believe in a strong leader and believe I could fill that role and be the best we have to offer.

**Liam R. - St. Paul**

I am running for state auditor. I think it's important to keep our money handled and ensure that we are exceeding within our cities and making our state as strong as possible.

**Ari P. - Minneapolis**

I am running for governor. I am running for a plethora of different reasons. I am running to represent the people. My past experience involves me seeking to lift up the community. I have been on the platform committee at both state and county levels, and I am a parliamentarian within my county. I am ready to take the great ideas of the people and allow them to reach the state level.

**Raymond. - Rochester**

I am Brett Winter, and I am running for Lieutenant Governor. It is a very strong and fun position, but not as competitive and stressful as the governor's.

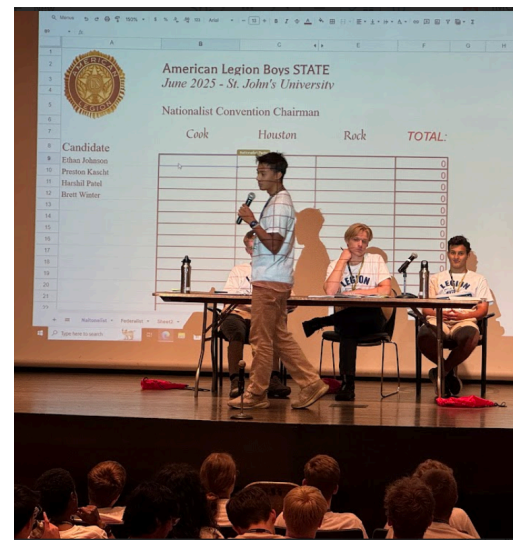
**Brett Winter - Rochester**

I'm Ayoub Farah, and I believe I'd make an outstanding Justice. I'm the youngest ever captain of Owatonna's Mock Trial team, where I've led our squad all the way to the state tournament. I'm also a state champion in speech, which means I know how to think critically, speak clearly, and argue persuasively under pressure. I work at the law firm of Einhaus, Mattison, Carver & Haberman, P.A. in Owatonna, gaining real-world legal experience that has sharpened my ability to analyze complex situations and ask thoughtful, challenging questions. I strive to be fair, open-minded, and principled in everything I do, and I'm confident I can bring those same qualities to the bench.

**Ayoub F. - St. Paul**

I am running for Lieutenant Governor. I do not want to hold the procedural burden and hindrance of the Governor, but rather to use my platform to embolden me to make connections with the people, hearing and advocating for their suggestions. I understand the great responsibility that comes with a position of this esteem, and that responsibility is what I have sought out rather than the pomp associated with the title.

**Briley O. - St. Paul**



## Zoned Out: Federalists Debate Bathroom Boundaries”

Wyatt Fiedler, CITY



Rock County introduces a plank to limit counties to a respective bathroom at Boys State, as both accompanying cities, Duluth and Rochester, have been overlapping in bathrooms and thus creating scheduling conflicts. Along with fixing this problem, Rock County says that this plank will bring in votes from nationalist members, ultimately increasing Federalist popularity. Other remaining counties at the Federalist State Convention expressed concern with the plank, as they do not have nearly as much bathroom traffic and could therefore suffer from the plank. After more dialogue between the counties, all came to agree upon a final plank that promotes “Bathroom rights and zoning regulations at Boys State.”

## Land, Lawsuits, and Loose Papers: A City Dispute

Kortland Booth, St. Cloud

**Kortland Booth:** “So today we had in the city of St. Cloud a proposition for being sued. What was this all about?”

**Austin Newcombe:** “I propose that I wanted to develop 80 acres of land that I had and turn it into a suburban area. I wanted to build houses, specifically 102 lots. 77 of them have already been sold and I just wanted to help the city because I own land elsewhere, I can build elsewhere for cheaper but because I love the city of St. Cloud and I want others to love it too. When I asked the city to help pay for only \$500,000 of the utilities they refused and instead chose to go proceed and violate my constitutional rights as an American. They tried to say that I could not collect rent on my property and then they tried to say that I couldn’t collect any money from my property.”



**Kortland Booth:** “Now a word from the witness”

**Benjamin Brinkhous:** “I saw Austin hit people with a new a bundle of papers, and I was scared for my life as a witness as a member of the city and as a higher up as a representative of the house, I thought that Austin was going to start beating state members”



# A Letter to the Editorial Board

Owen Nielson, Duluth

The Federalist Party officially supports the legalization of sports gambling in the state of Minnesota. The delegates had a variety of opinions for and against the legalization of sports gambling. -Overwhelming numbers of people who illegally gamble through fake addresses.

For:

- More tax dollars for Minnesota if we can take the tax dollars that are going to other states from people who are gambling in Minnesota.
- The right of a human to gamble and use their money for what they want.
- A delegate from Cook spoke about civil unrest in his community about the lack of opportunities to gamble in Minnesota.
- Spent time trying to lower the age of legalization, but that was never seconded there and was not voted on as an amendment.

Against:

- It could cause addiction, and Minnesota already struggles with addiction.
- Gambling is already legal in Native American territories.

***Editorial Disclaimer: The State of Boys welcomes submissions and perspectives from all delegates. The views expressed in opinion articles, letters, and interviews are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editorial board or Boys State as a whole. Our goal is to provide a platform for open dialogue and civil discourse among delegates.***

## Fast Facts

Those who have served as Directors of Minnesota Boys' State are Chic Zwiener, Eugene Sheik, Ambie Kohl, Gerry Postier, Mike Bredeck, Tom Nelson, and Kyle Oldre.

The 2020 session didn't take place because of COVID-19.

Richard C. Ebert, Joe Kise, Lee Krough, Lars Nesvig, and C.A. "Chic" Zwiener: Were key individuals behind the establishment of Minnesota's Boys State program in 1949.

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