



THE STATE OF BOYS

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A Fond Farewell

Karsten Springborg, St. Paul

It's hard to believe that time at Boys State is coming to a close, partially because it went by so fast, but mostly because we thought it would never end. Although our past few days have involved much competition, I take this time to remind you that there are no losers at Boys State, only winners and learners.

If you learn only one thing from Boys State, it is by different hope that your learned experience is not in regards to Parli Pro or our government process, but in regards to a single word: connection. I hope you all learned to connect, developing bonds to last a lifetime. I hope you all learned to connect with your local community, returning home invigorated to participate in civic engagement. I hope you all learned to connect with yourselves, uncovering a passion, a voice, and a determination to never stop trying.



I have written over 6,000 words throughout my time at Boys State: all city, county, and state party meetings, 4 newspaper articles, almost all assemblies and schools of instruction, and 2 bills. If there is only one piece of my writing you remember, I would be honored if you would remember not my name, but these words: The day I stop failing is the day I stop succeeding, because I will have stopped trying at all. Thank you for your time and friendship, and remember:

Local government is...SEXY!

St. Paul Push-up Contest

Matthew Johnson, St. Paul

On Thursday night, the grand city of St. Paul held a friendly contest to determine who could achieve the most push-ups in 30 seconds.

The following are the results of the citizens:

Landon-50, Rocky-25, Joshua-23, Bergen-5, Elijah-40, Max-29, Jesús-10ish, Karsten-22, Mathew-2, Harrison-18, Nick-36, Briley-27. Viewing those results, it seems that Landon Gangl is the champion of push-ups in the city of St. Paul.

Late Night Government

Keagan Klaers, Rochester



After a late-night Rochester city meeting, Councilmen Eli, Gabe, and Keagan, with Mayor Hayden presiding, passed an ordinance changing the titles of all citizens of Rochester. Members of the city council are henceforth known as High Lords of the Table, the clerk is known as the Chief Scribe, the treasurer is known as the Keeper of Gold, the chief of police is known as the Constable, and the mayor is known as His Excellency the King.

Additionally, all citizens who are not members of the city government are now

known as Peasants M.D. Calling officials by these titles during city meetings is mandatory. This meeting was called into question by disgruntled citizens; however, there was a quorum, making the meeting legally binding.

Rock County Flood!

Keagan Klaers, Rochester

The Rock County government held its first meeting today, with delegates from Duluth making up the majority of the board. Right off the bat, the county experienced a deficit and had to find ways to balance the budget. Despite pushback by several citizens, the county ended up cutting some funding going to highways and streets, while increasing funding for other services. Additionally, the County Board discussed having a Rock County get-together, but this was shut down after the planning committee reported that the event would cost more than it would make. Rock County was then struck by a flood and had to ask the legislature for a loan to pay for the damages.



Federalist Hype

Avery Hruby, St. Cloud

We just had our 2025 boys state, state nominees give their campaign speeches. Each team of Federalists and Nationalists had 30 minutes to give a full presentation of all of their candidates those parties had nominated, and then they went to each city afterward and acted as a sort of panel for any questions the public had.

What stood out to me was that the Federalist's beliefs were affordable housing, as well as clean, green, and nuclear energy. In my opinion, the Federalists had a very hype and very energized campaign. Getting us to move on our feet and make sure that this election is friendly.

I personally really enjoyed the state auditor candidate, Ari's, speech. He really captured the essence of being able to perform auditorial duties such as preventing fraud and keeping accurate balances. He also kept in mind his humble beginnings, which is an important value when serving in public office.

The Federalist governor candidate, Adam, was very with the people, very active in giving credit where credit is due. Every other nominee was also incredible in their speaking skills and qualifications. Congratulations to all state nominees, both Federalist and Nationalist.



Nighttime Stories

Avery Hruby, St. Cloud



The city of St. Cloud passed a motion that would have one of their amazing counselors, William, read us all a bedtime story. This motion was very quickly passed, and with the consent of William, he even offered us 2 bedtime stories for having the highest test scores for the day. Members of St. Cloud gave nominations for books, and after numerous nominations, we needed a way to narrow these down to only 2 stories. And in true St. Cloud fashion, we collectively agreed to spin THE WHEEL to decide which books William reads. It was tense, and it was nail-biting, but our stories were Cat in the Hat and One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish. As people from both St. Cloud and our sister city, Winona, all gathered around our metaphorical campfire, we put on somber music and allowed William to start. William was spitting bars like he was Eminem out of these Dr. Suess books. His diction and cadence were immaculate for such simple yet gut-wrenching stories. Now we close the book and rush to make it in time for lights out.

An Honorable End

Kortland Booth, St. Cloud

Good afternoon, all Boy's Staters, this is likely my last article due to our time here at Boys State coming to an end. In the spirit of this, I would like to not only provide some personal advice and views on Nationalists, but also leave you with one of my very own short stories, so please enjoy.

Of Honor, Respect, and Service

It is on this day that I rest, in the field of those who cannot speak, but ye who still remain to represent. It is in this field I rest, and open my ears to hear words that cannot be spoken. It is these words that I rest. "Thank you," I say to those who listen, but remain in their rest that has forever been given. I say to thee, do thou know me, remember me, respect me. Can you hear me, or is it I that remains within a blur of numb'ed pain. Could you speak to me? I wish to hear your words, to know your thoughts, to know who will carry on the legacy I have gifted thee. I have given sacrifice to thee, in hopes one day thou may be better than I.

I still lie, forever in Flanders Fields, forever given my life for thou future. Please use thy gift, use thy knowledge, and use thy service for the Honor of us all. Use thy Honor to remain intact with thy spirit, and to remain steady for goodness of all thou. This dirt sinks my coffin as thou bullet sunk thy chest, forever sinking thy body in dirt.

It is many that have killed, and as many as I. I remain within my grave, given to me as I fell. Though my spirit remains within heaven itself now, thy body is molded to dirt. left nothing but thy bones for ye to find, to find and respect, but never to go blind. Never go blind for thou honor. Never go blind for thou respect. Never go blind for thou service.

It is this I wish for you to listen to, these words that cannot be spoken, and these words that shall not be clouded by numb'ed pain.

It is these words that I speak...

"Of honor..."

"Of respect..."

"Of service..."

Now for some views and advice, I personally (as a Federalist) was highly moved by the campaigning of the Nationalists. The hype was not only extreme, but also the presentation idea of "what I will do" vs "this is who I am, please vote" really captivated my attention. As much as I am disappointed that the legalization of sports gambling was not on the Nationalists' platform, I agreed with everything else on the platform, which I unfortunately cannot say for my party. My vote will most likely go to McCrea.

Now, some advice, I know I've angered many of my federalist party members, but I would like to say that as a member of the House, I represent all people within Minnesota, and I believe that most people would be more comfortable with my vote for governor. I am actively looking out for the betterment of society and the state of Minnesota. My advice to all who are reading this is to consider the facts, make the right decision. Thank you all, and for the very last time...

SHINE BRIGHT!

Fast Facts

Director Oldre benches 450 for reps.

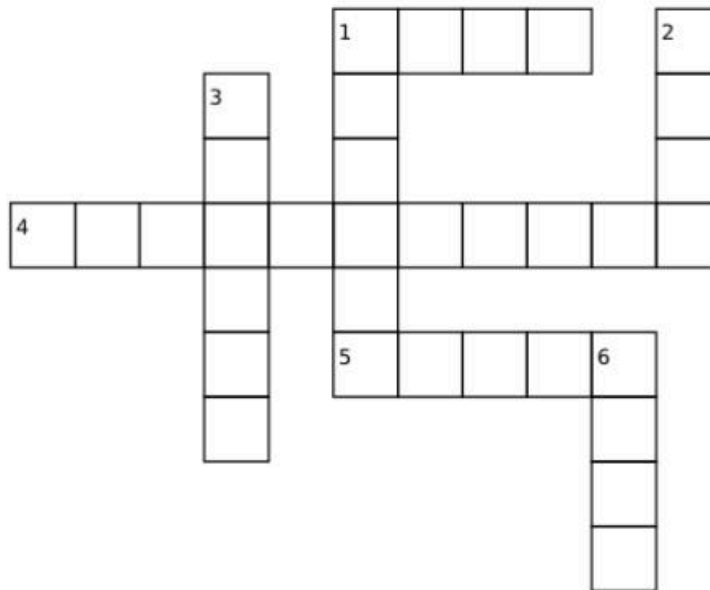
There are four former MN Boys State governors on staff this year.

The counties of Minnesota Boys State start with the four corners of Minnesota. Rock, Houston, Cook, and Kittson.

Crossword

Answers to the crossword will be at the end of the Government Gallery

Boys State Crossword



Down:

1. Has won all but one of its sports games (pre-championship)
2. St. Paul's favorite animal
3. Has done more learning than winning
6. This is ____ Boys State

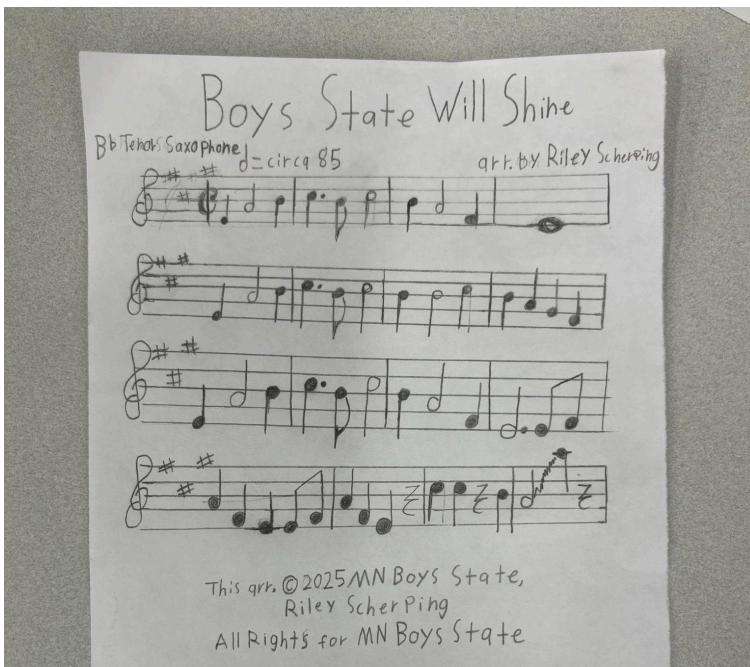
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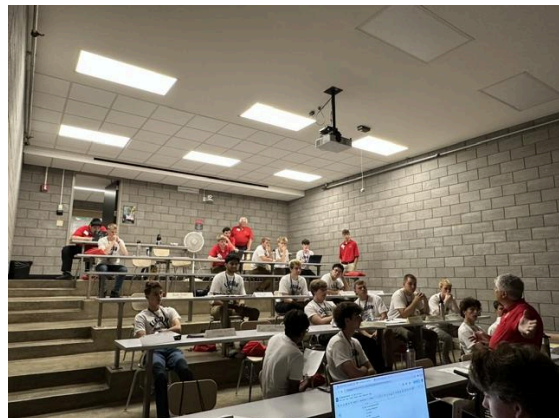
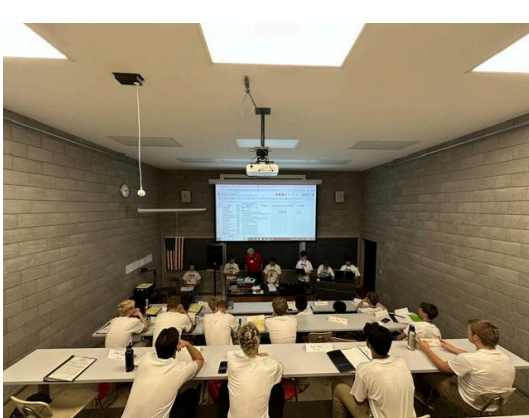
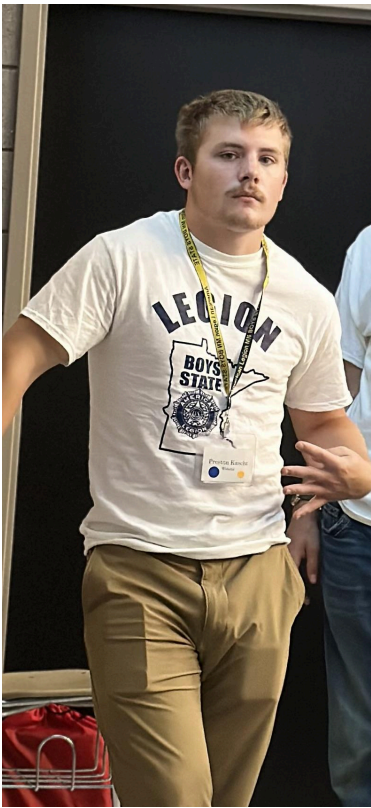
1. Local government is
4. Has best test scores
5. I love ____ and ____ loves me

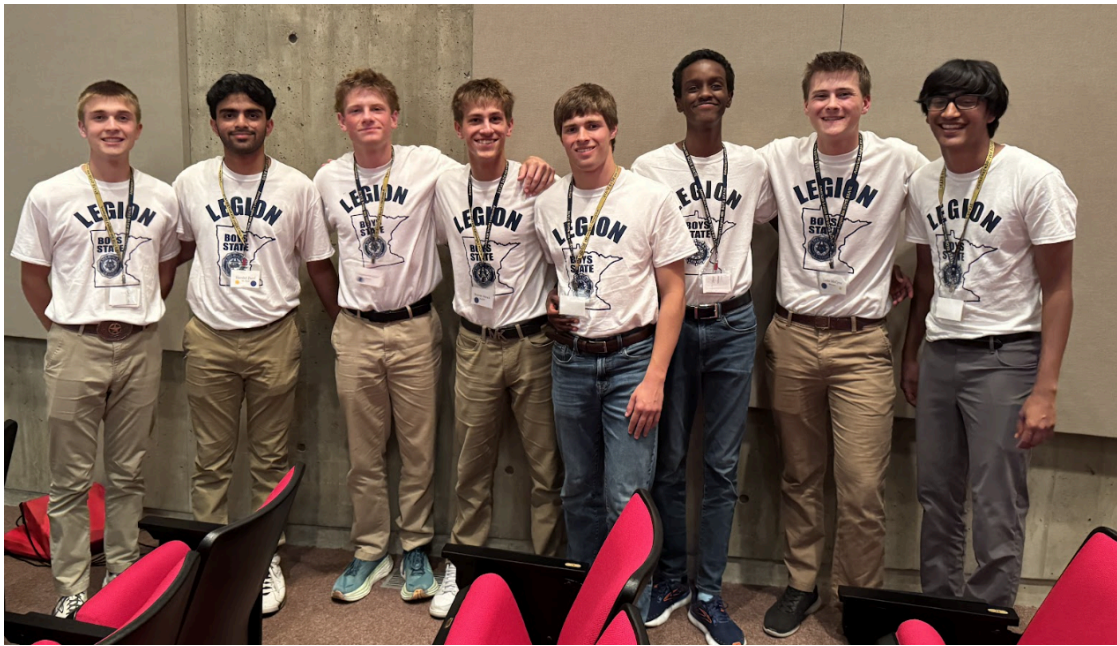
A note from the Executive Editorial Board: Thank you, readers! Thank you photographers! And thank you, authors! This paper would not be possible without the tireless effort of the delegates of MN Boys State to write articles & submit photos. Have a great senior year, delegates.

Government Gallery









Boys State Crossword



- Down:
1. Has won all but one of its sports games (pre-championship)
 2. St. Paul's favorite animal
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 6. This is ____ Boys State
- Across:
1. Local government is
 4. Has best test scores
 5. I love ____ and ____ loves me