

THE
AMERICAN
LEGION

BOYS STATE OF KANSAS



[June 5-11, 2011]

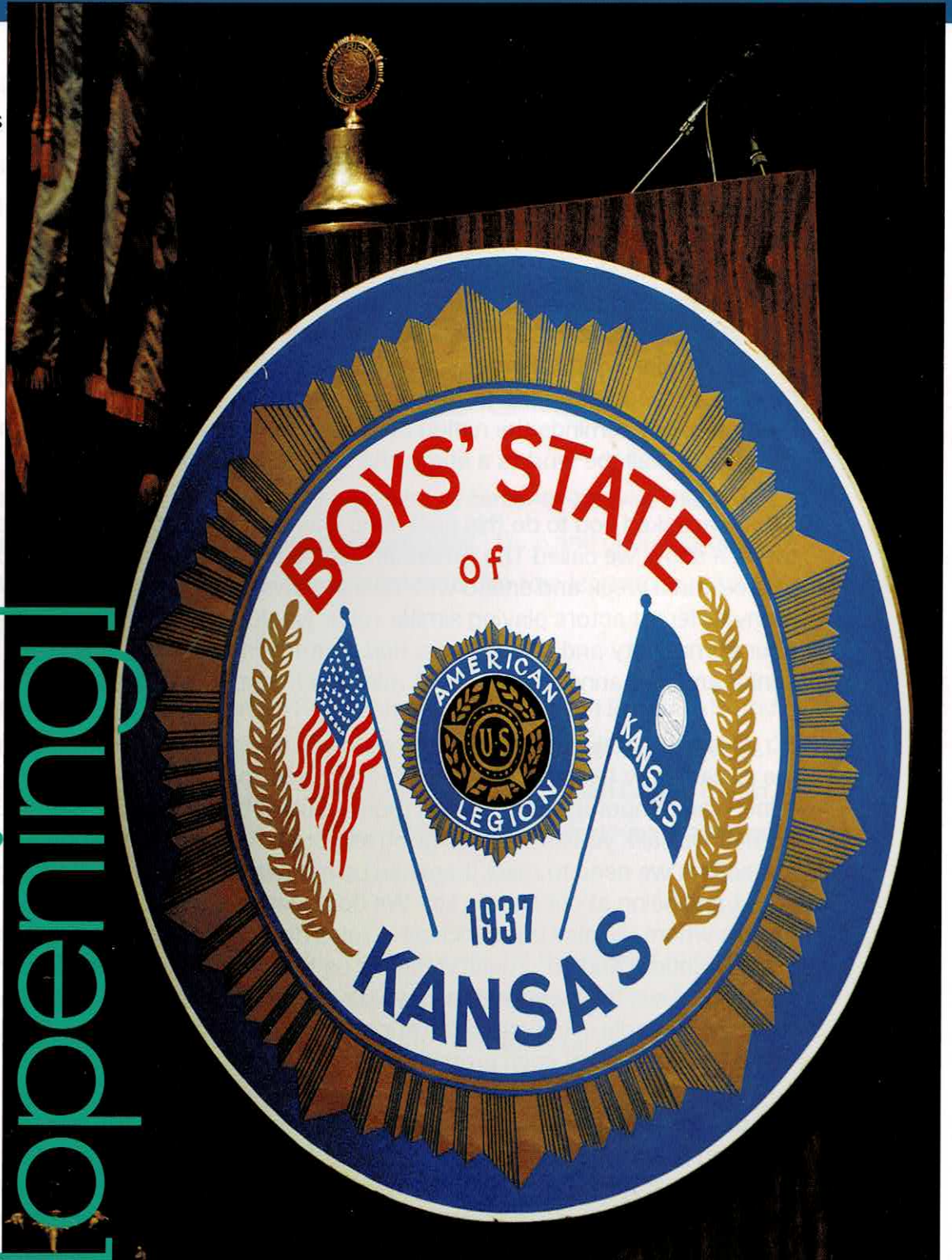
[Kansas State University
Manhattan, Kansas]

A Week that Changed My Life

To view more pictures of your week at the American Legion Boys State of Kansas Leadership Academy, go to www.ksbstate.org. Click on the "2011" button and follow the guides.

You can also download an application and help send someone to the upcoming session of Boys State at our pre-session site: www.kansasboysstate.org.

Call us toll-free at (866) 241-9920 or e-mail us at info.1937@ksbstate.org to request additional information.

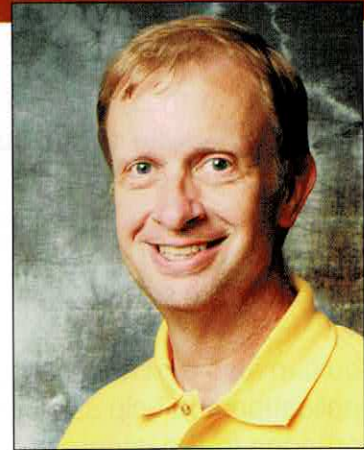


Opening

welcome

To begin, let me say thank you for making this particular week of the American Legion Boys State of Kansas Leadership Academy such an outstanding experience for everyone involved. The many emails, Facebook posts, and even hand-written notes I received were inspirational, indeed, and from the bottom of my heart, I say thanks.

This year, in the absence of Executive Director Scott Bley, who was in basic training at Fort Jackson South Carolina, I was asked to serve as "Acting Executive Director." That title, and specifically the word 'acting,' got me to thinking about something American Legion Past National Commander, and good friend, Bob Turner tells each of the Boys Nation delegates. Bob reminds the nation delegates that literary genius William Shakespeare coined the phrase ... all the world's a stage and we are merely actors.



What we asked you to do this past June was play specific acting roles on a stage in Manhattan at a show we called The American Legion Boys State Leadership Academy. Our 'performance' ran a week and ended with rave reviews. Next year, the show will run again, but with many different actors playing similar roles. No doubt, you are back into the swing of things in your community and perhaps you find yourself in new roles acting out what it means to be a senior and preparing for your next role as a freshman in college.

So taking this acting metaphor just a step or two further, I think there are several lessons we all can draw that I hope will help further your own successes. First, your role, as well as mine, was temporary and as such required us to be at our best. Milton Berle, a famous TV comedian, said 'you are only as good as your last show' which I take to mean, we can learn the scripts we need to read; there can be a great deal of improvisation that takes place each show, and being at our best is key. We don't get many second chances. Second, the various stages where we play our successive roles (the classroom, sports, theatre, debate, student council, church and community) require us to know different parts - sometimes we lead, sometimes we follow, sometimes we have major roles, sometimes it is just a walk-on but in all cases, our role is critical to the success of the over all program. Knowing our part is critical to the success of each production.

But the final point I wish to leave you with is this - much of the role you play and the script you read is actually something YOU wrote. We think we lack control over our lives. I would tell you that's simply not the case. You are acting on various stages, but you are also writing much of the script you read. Take that empowerment and run with it. Someday we will read that as a Kansas Boys Stater, you gave the performance of a lifetime - and we will all be so proud of that.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thane Chastain". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Thane Chastain, Acting Executive Director

The American Legion Boys State of Kansas Leadership Academy



[history]

“To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation.” That is the purpose of the American Legion Boys State program. It was organized by the Department of Illinois in 1935. The Department of Kansas, holding Charter No. 5, was among the first to institute this week-long government-in-action program.

The American Legion Boys State of Kansas was headquartered in Wichita for 26 years before moving to the University of Kansas in 1963. It stayed there until 1992 when the program moved to its present location on the campus of Kansas State University.

The Boys State program is available to any high school senior-to-be who meets academic criteria and demonstrates leadership potential. Civic and church groups as well as American Legion Posts sponsor delegates to this fine learning-by-doing, youth-in-government leadership program.

Almost 50,000 young men from across Kansas have participated in Boys State and performed nearly every function of city, county, and state government. Former delegates, members of the American Legion, and Sons of the American Legion return each year to serve as counselors and advisors. Many of them work year-round on ways to improve the curriculum and structure of the program.

At the conclusion of each session, two Staters are chosen by their peers to represent Kansas at the American Legion Boys Nation in Washington, D.C. These two individuals participate in a learning-by-doing program that focuses on our government at the national level.

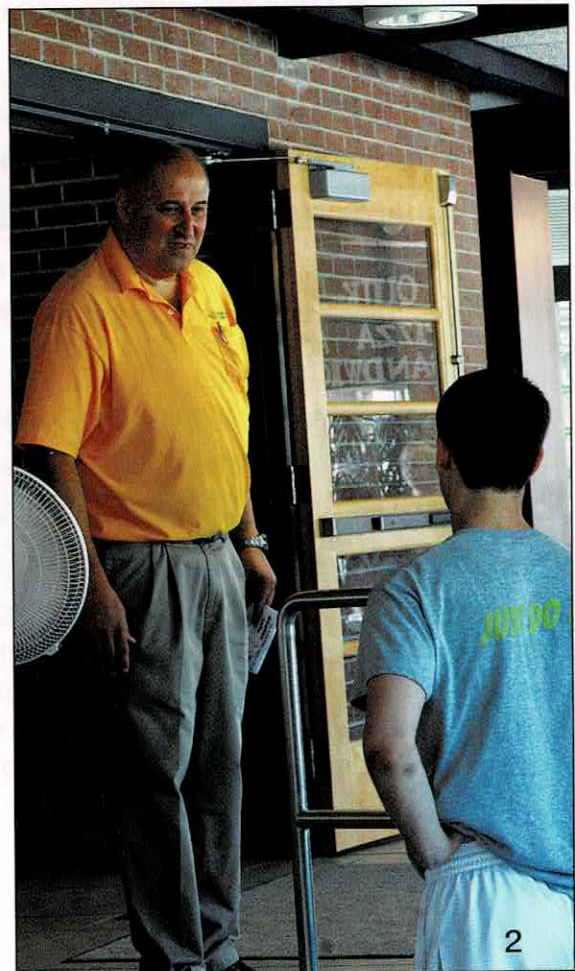
[sunday]

As new delegates nervously approached the check-in table, counselors rushed around the Kramer Dining Hall Lobby trying to meet each person and remember every name. Though many delegates did not know what the following week would bring, adviser Rex Gardner's introductory speech and the Opening Ceremonies eased most fears and anxieties. While they decided which government positions to run for, the delegates' uncertain footsteps soon became confident stomps of an army march.



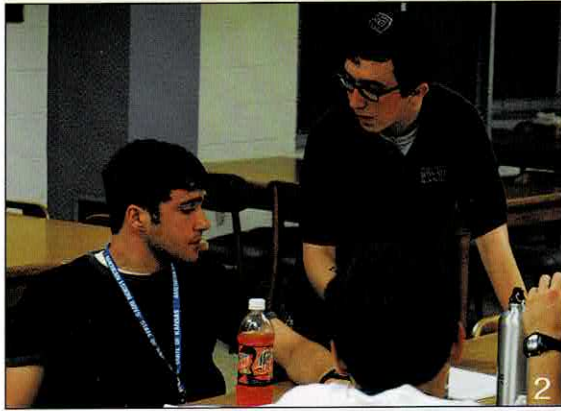
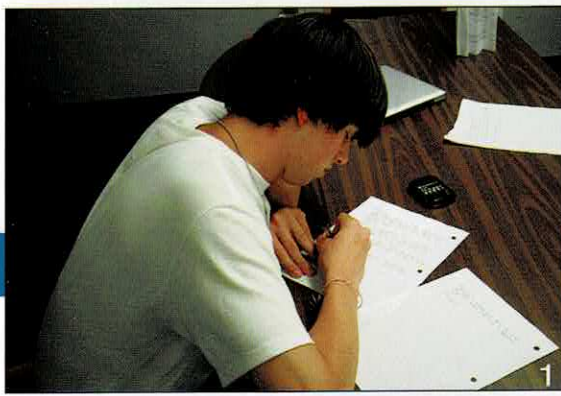
1. During the Opening Ceremonies, guest speaker Jeremy Staab — whose on-air name is J. Schafer, is the Kansas Public Radio news director and former 1986 Kansas Boys State governor — tells the delegates why Kansas is the best state in the country by discussing the various inventions to come from Kansas.

2. Advisor Rex Gardner speaks with a delegate of Boys State before the Stater went through the registration process.





The Boys State Color Guard leads State to the Opening Ceremonies.



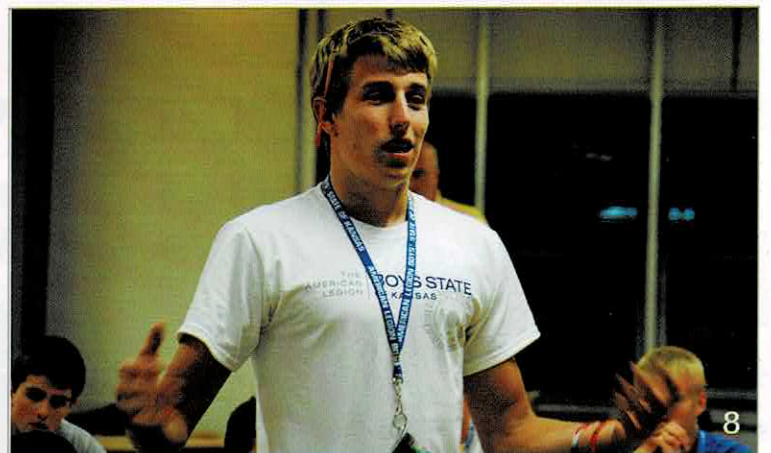
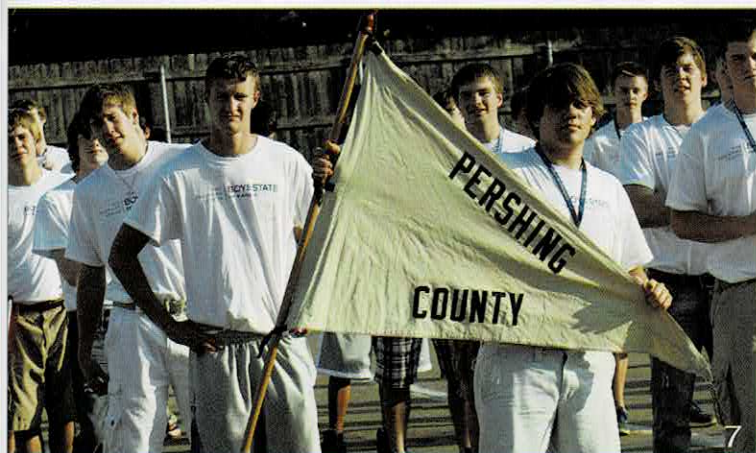
1. A delegate works on an anchor script for the first edition of the Boys State News broadcast, which is shown in Me Cain Auditorium.
2. Legislative Counselor CJ Harries discusses matters with a newly elected legislator.
3. Morning revelry is played by a delegate.

4. Members of the flag detail fold the American flag at the end of the day.
5. The Legion Department Commander Dale Allen talks to the members of Boys State.
6. The mayors of each city are sworn into office by 2010 Governor Joel Simwinga.

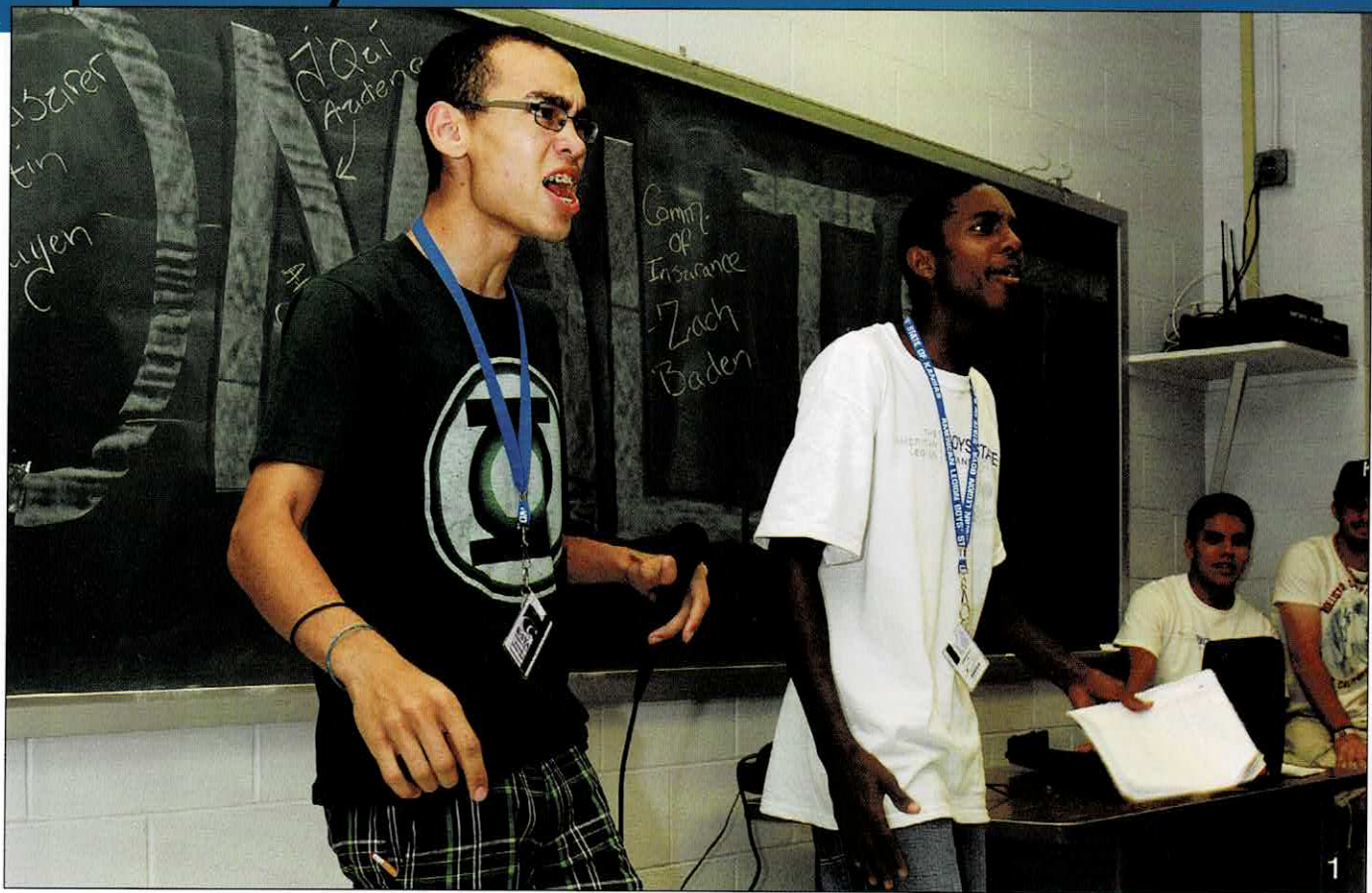
7. Pershing County proudly displays its flag during an assembly in the parking lot of Kramer Dining Center.
8. Delegate Mark Dabeck, of Kennedy County, talks about why he should be elected to office.

[monday]

As the sun rose on Monday morning State really began to start, not waiting for drowsy delegates. Campaigning, the Whistle Stop Tour, Primary Elections, and the Political Fair occupied the day, setting the stage for the evening's Party Conventions. The government of State tangibly began taking shape.



party conventions



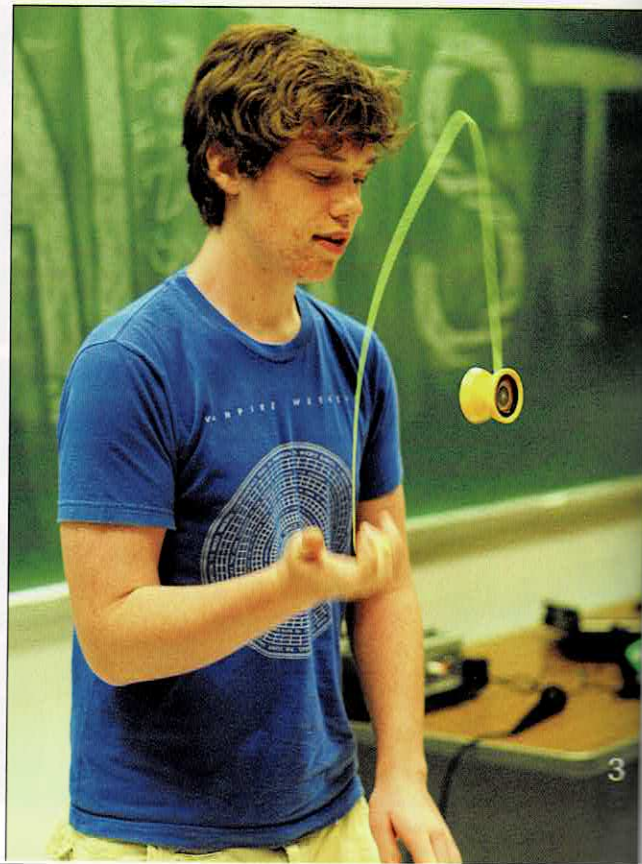
[Nationalists]

1. Nationalist party members Kristofer Lewis, of Patton County, and Jahman Hill of Powell County, perform a rap to kick off the convention.



2. Nationalist governor candidate Zachary Hendrickson, of Patton County, gets his party fired up with his opening speech.

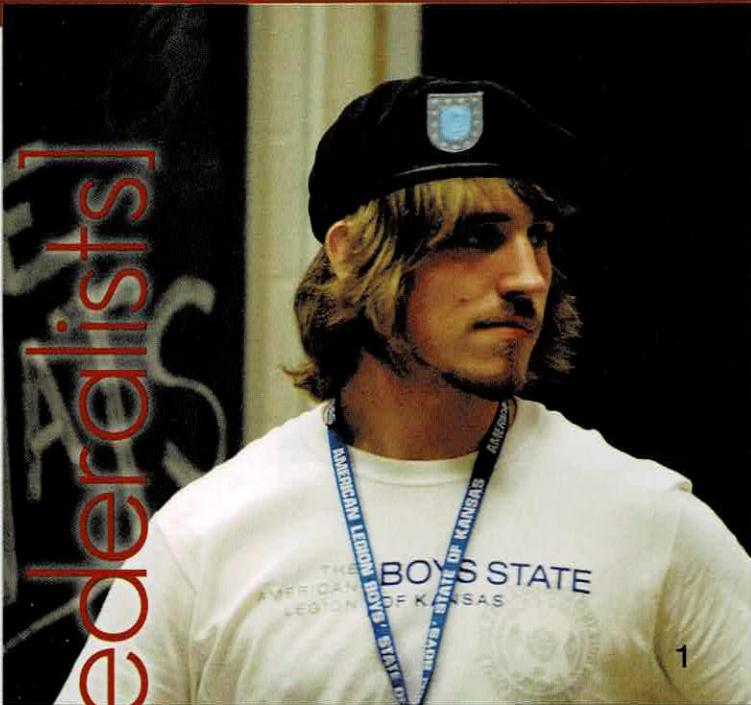
3. Mac Crider showcases his Yo-Yo abilities.



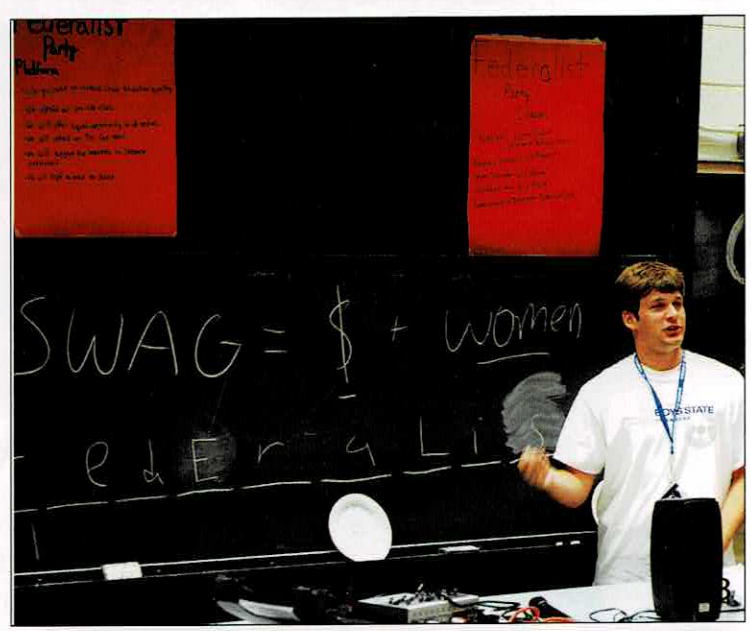
4. A delegate addresses his party during the Nationalist Party Convention.



[federalists]

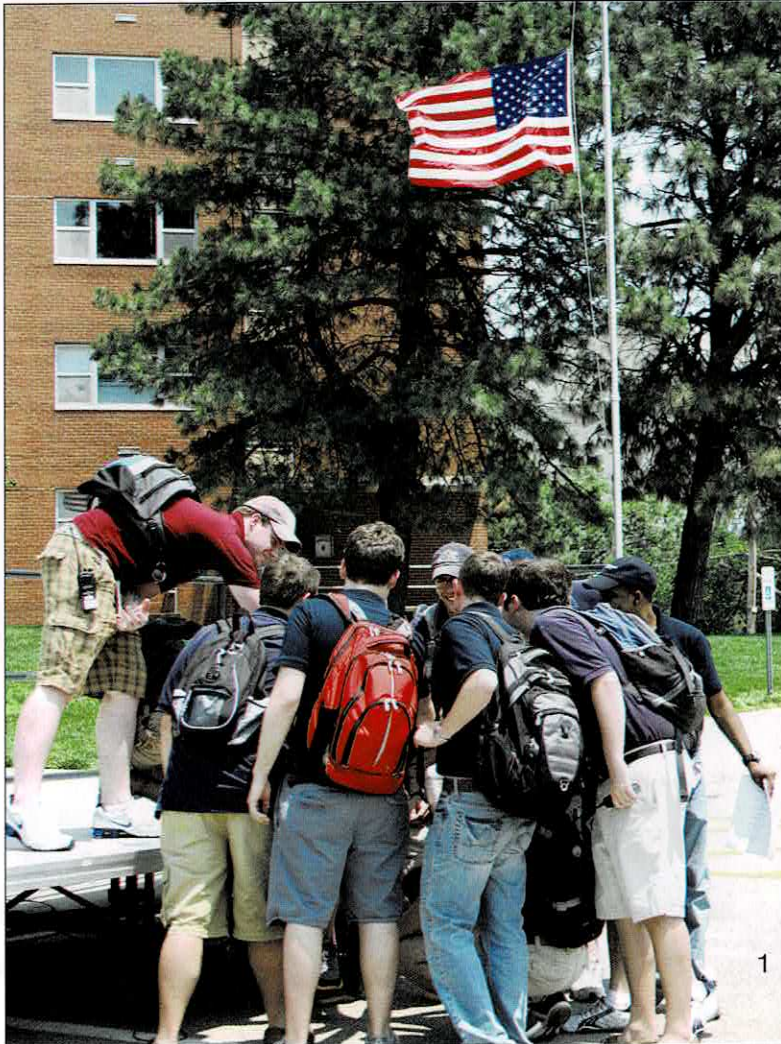


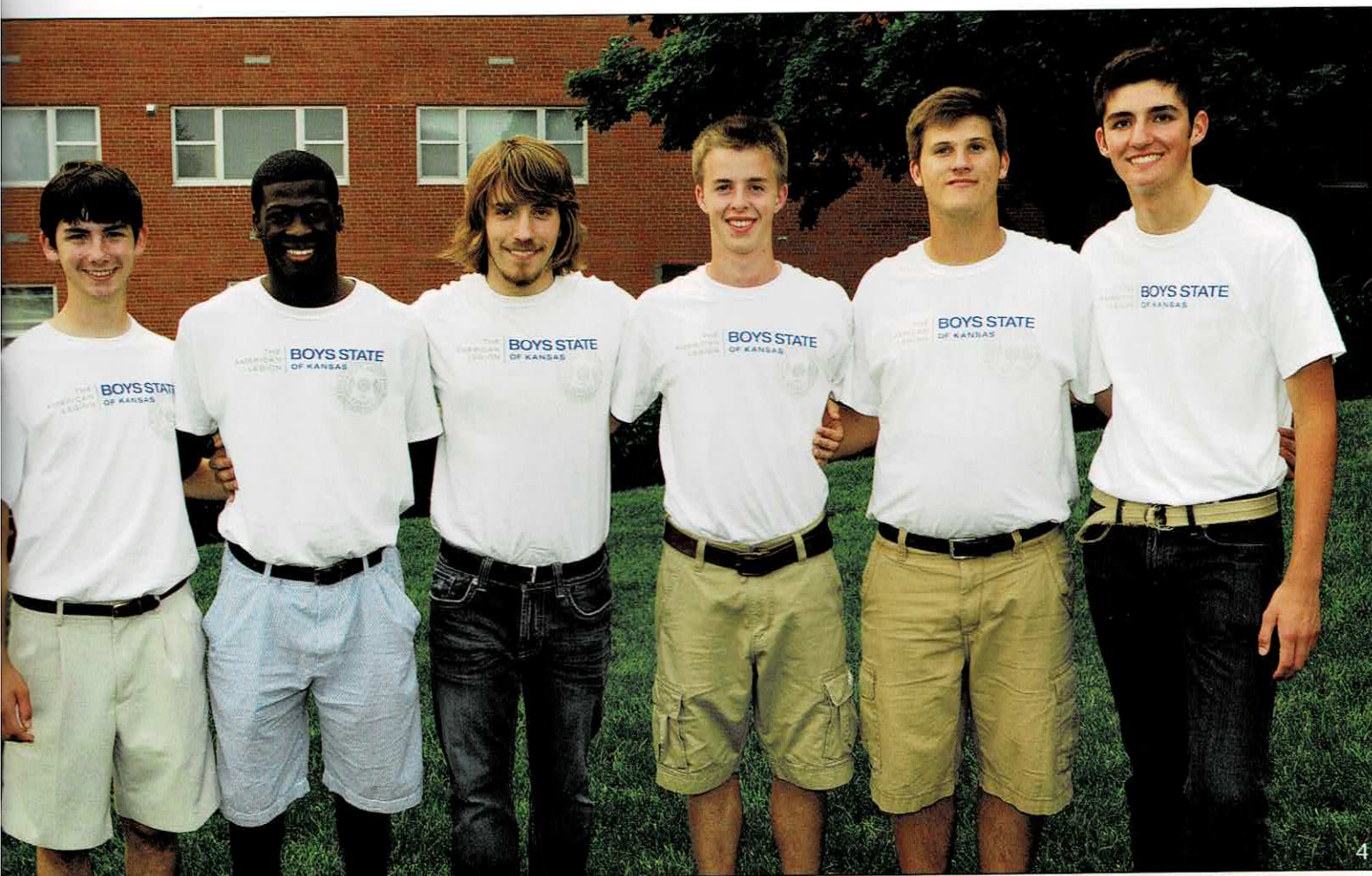
1. Federalist party governor candidate Connor England, of King County, stands before his party members and prepares to give his address at the Federalist Party Convention.
2. In order to rally his peers, a member of the Federalist party posed as a Nationalist and ran through the convention. Another Federalist is shown picking up the “invader” and hauling him out of the convention.
3. A spokesman for the party illustrates a point for the Federalist members during the convention by using the chalkboard.
4. Members of the Federalist party talk as they prepare to leave the convention.



[tuesday]

Tuesday was truly Super Tuesday at Boys State. With the primary elections wrapped up, the general election took place, but first, to show the delegates who they were voting for, the state office candidates participated in a debate, officiated by the PACs at McCain Auditorium. Then voters cast their ballots to determine the leaders of the 2011 Boys State. The results of the general election were announced during the evening retreat. Following the retreat, delegates attended Town Hall Meetings where three speakers from different government offices explained their roles. The flag was flown at half mast all day in honor of a fallen Kansas soldier.





1. County Counselors huddle together under the half-staff flag before an assembly in the parking lot of Kramer Dining Center.

2. Legionnaire John Lindholm poses next to the new World War II Memorial

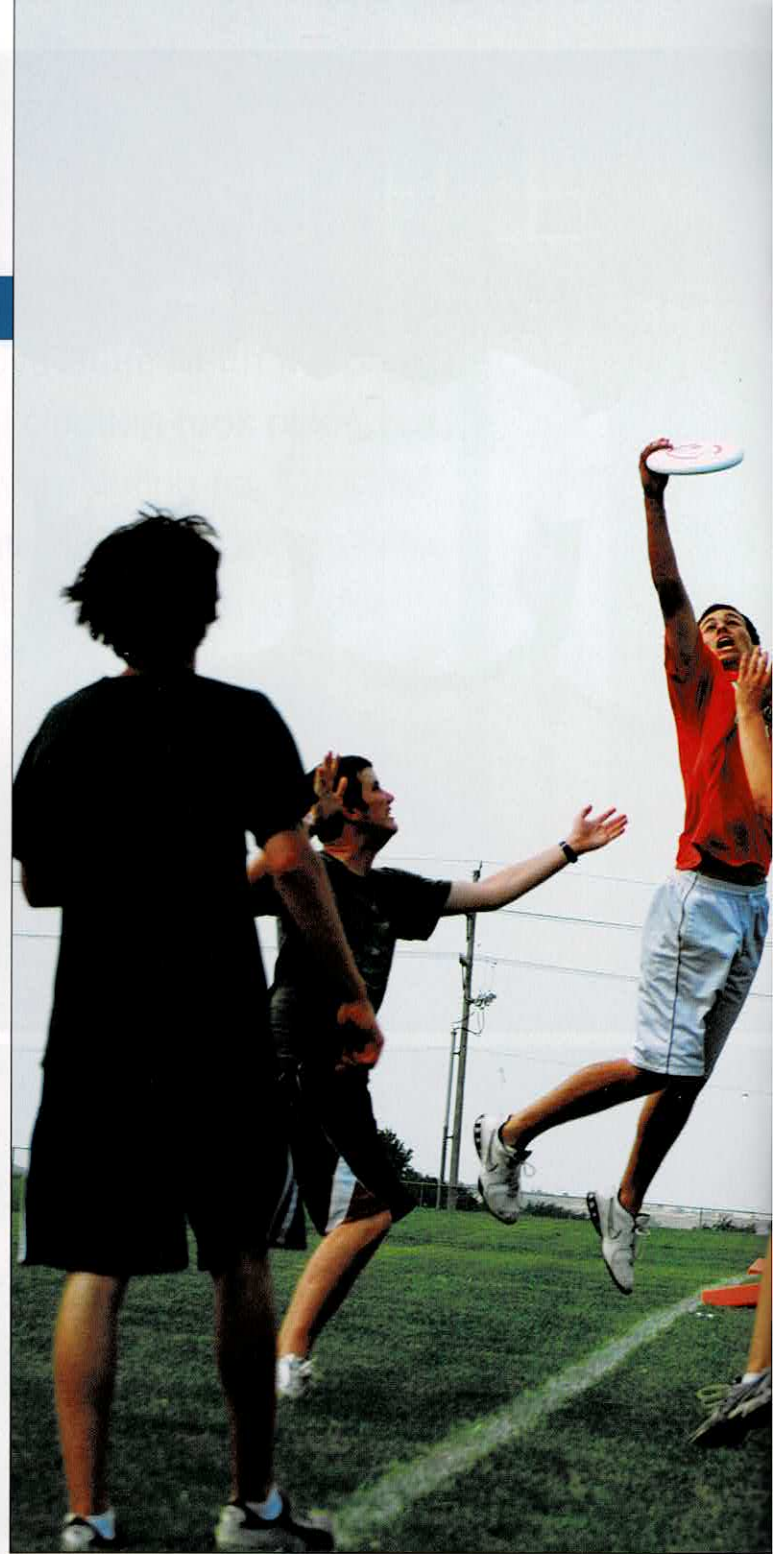
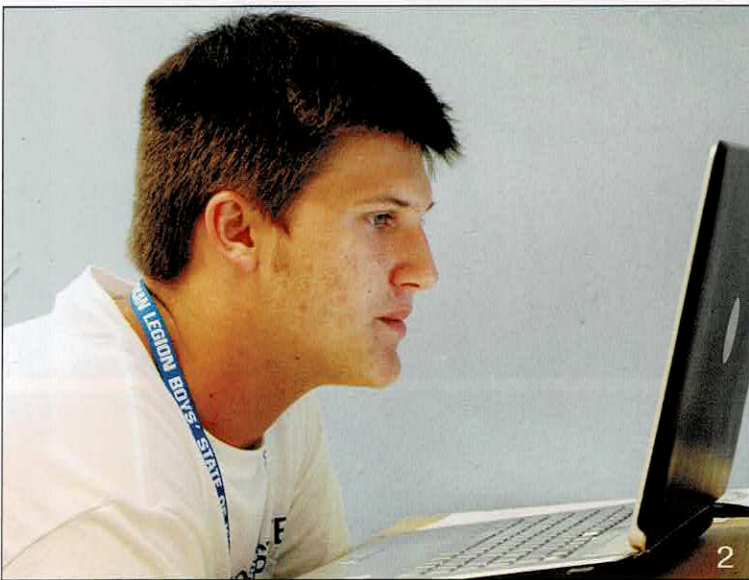
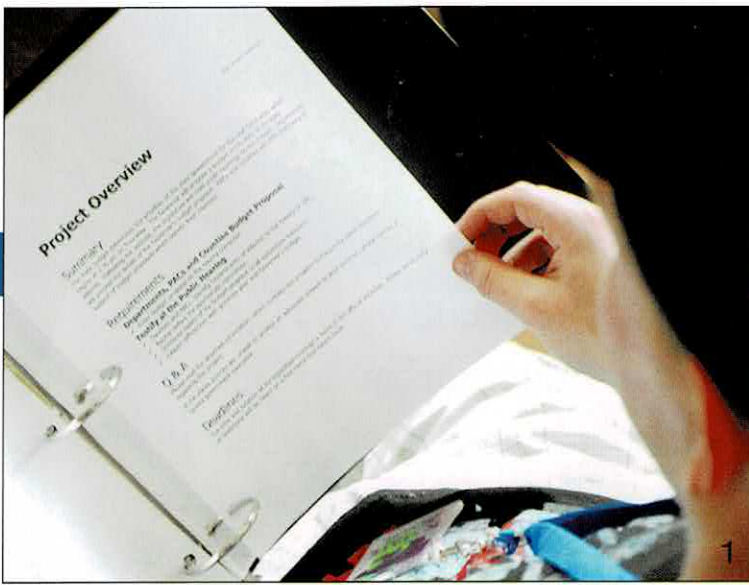
in Manhattan outside of McCain Auditorium. The memorial was based upon Lindholm's dog tags.

3. During one session of the Town Hall Meetings, Judge Michael Buser talked to delegates about freedom of speech laws.

4. The 2011 Boys State leadership poses for a picture following being installed into office.

5. A candidate for office speaks during the debate held in McCain Auditorium.

6. Delegates interact with fellow delegates during a legislative meeting.



[wednesday]

Elections are over and Connor England is the new governor. He proposed a budget plan and the House and Senate convened in order to address his ideas. In the midst of these political happenings, there was recreation time, and the day ended with a talent show, which some have said is the best event Boys State hosts during the week.



5



6



8



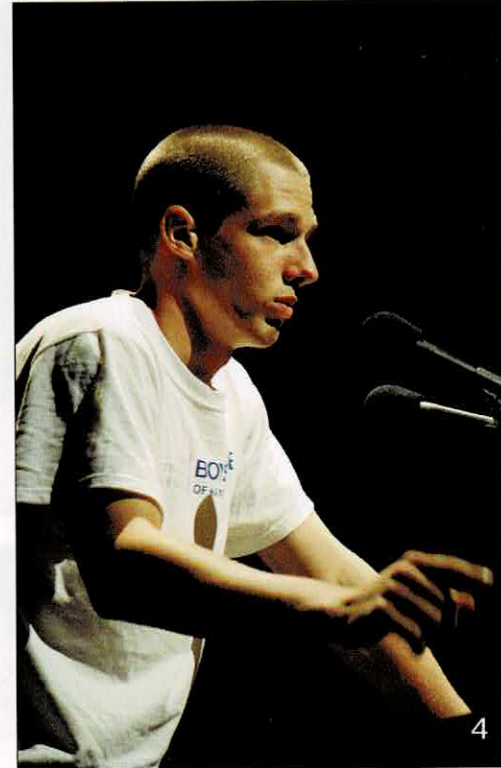
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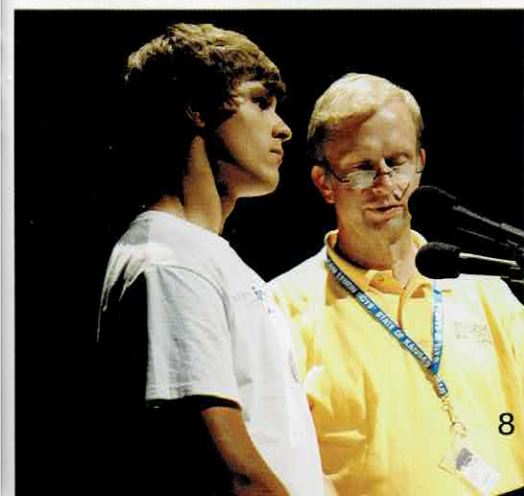
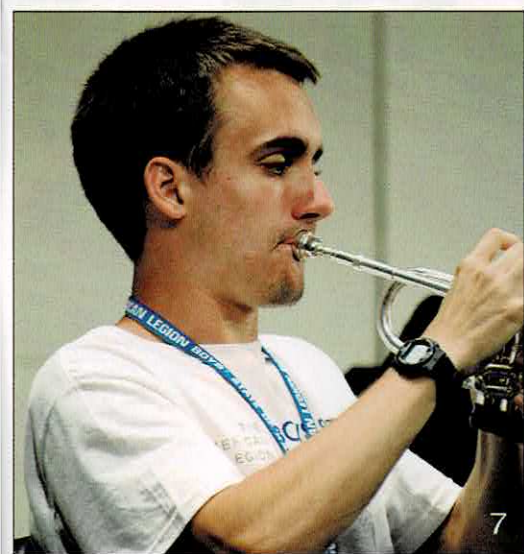
1. A member of a joint committee reviews a project.
2. In order to complete projects, delegates had to use provided laptops.
3. A group of Staters share a laugh during an assembly.
4. Governor Connor England and his cabinet present their proposed budget.
5. A Stater makes a spectacular flying disc

- catch during recreation.
6. During recreation, two Staters take part in a softball game.
7. King County marches in the "pass and review" ceremony.
8. Vivek Menon of King County, tries to walk a straight line while wearing the goggles that simulate drunkenness while working with the Highway Patrol.

[thursday]

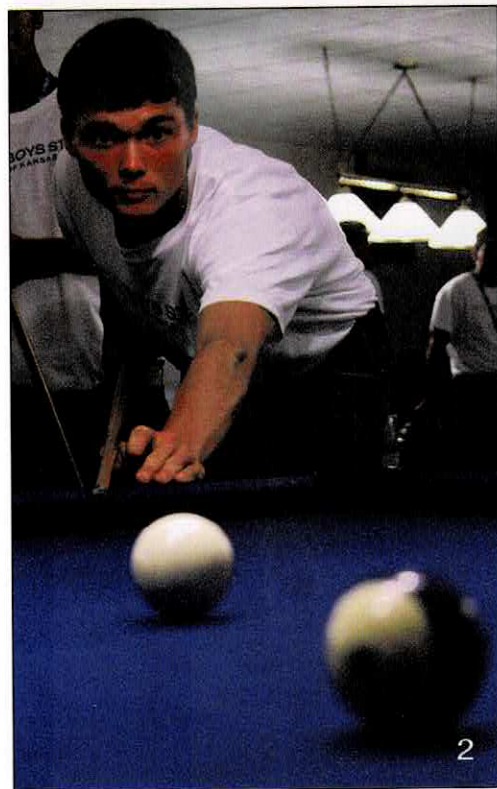
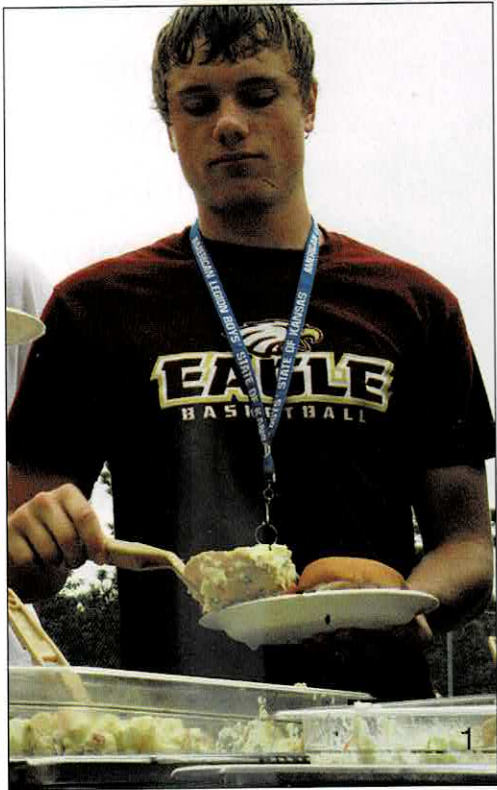
Throughout the week, delegates worked together to solve many different types of government problems. District courts heard trials and the House and Senate were discussing various legislation. The college fair gave delegates an opportunity to take a break from their hectic projects and visit with college recruiters. Delegates also had an opportunity to stretch their legs and show their competitive talents during recreation time. After evening ceremonies, Staters marched to McCain Auditorium to listen to the Boys State Choir and Band perform. Both music groups had the privilege to work with instructors from the Kansas State University music program.





1. The American Legion Post in Manhattan performs a flag disposal ceremony.
2. Delegates, from top, Kyle Thompson, of Pershing County, and William Murfin, of Bradley County, fill out interest forms at the college fair held in Kramer Dining Center's lobby.
3. Kansas State Senator Anthony Hensley, (a former Kansas Boys Stater) speaks to the delegates in McCain.
4. Levi Smith of Marshall County, tells the delegates why he should be a Boys Nation Senator.

5. Members of the choir sing in McCain Auditorium.
6. A delegate plays the drums during the Boys State Band and Choir concert.
7. A delegate plays the trumpet for the band.
8. A Boys Nation candidate listens to Acting Executive Director Thane Chastain's question about Boys Nation.
9. Members of Powell County take part in a jodie contest judged by Legionnaire advisors.



[friday]

“Crazy Counties” gave the delegates a chance to be creative by wearing random outfits for morning retreat. As the delegates finished up their last projects, they prepared to find out who would represent Kansas at Boys Nation and to hit up the Kansas State Union for an opportunity to hang out with other delegates they had met during the week. Unfortunately this was the last day of Boys State and the next day, delegates would return home.



6



7

1. Matthew Athon, of MacArthur County, fills his plate during the barbeque Friday evening.
2. Steven Rose, of Patton County, shoots pool at the Kansas State Union after Friday's closing ceremonies.
3. King County tosses powder onto

another county Friday morning during the “Crazy Counties” assembly.
4. Staters eat during the Friday evening barbeque.
5. Several Staters cheer at the Kansas State Union.
6. Jay Shelton presents Legionnaire Chuck Shoemaker

the Advisor of the Year award during closing ceremonies.
7. During the closing ceremonies, the Legionnaires stood at the front of the crowd and held their hands high in the air as the delegates did the same in honor of them.



[talent show]

Music, comedy, and dramatic performances were all part of this year's talent show. After working hard during the first part of the week, delegates let loose a little bit and performed for fellow Boys Staters. There were a variety of different acts, ranging from piano and other musical instrument players to duet acting and mimes. The night began with a piano rendition of "What A Wonderful World" and ended with the traditional "American Pie."



1



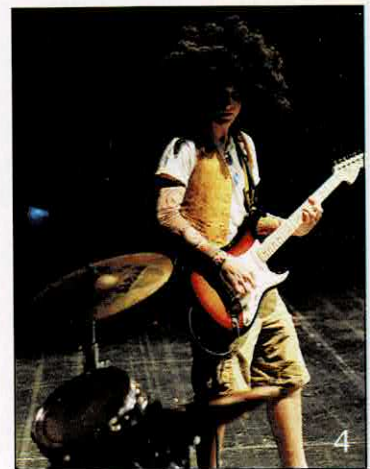
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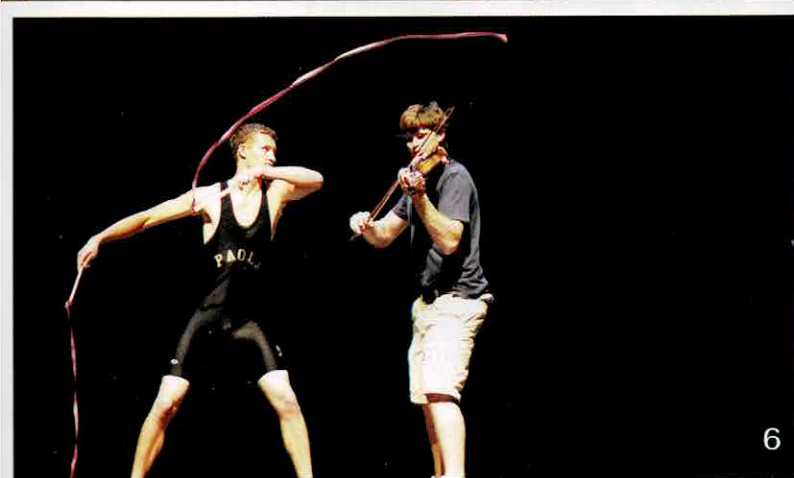
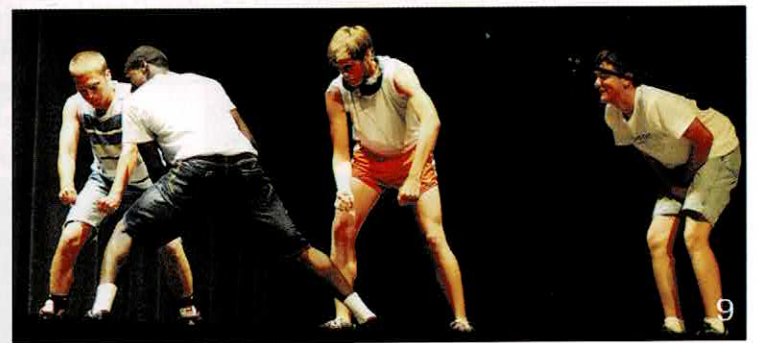
2

1. David Weiner plays the Cajón.
2. Daniel Dissmore performs a jazz piece on his trumpet.
3. Counselor Nathan Harkins sings a Boys State inspired rendition of "Memory."
4. Harrison Unthank gives his best impression of Jimi Hendrix.
5. Mac Crider and Matthew DuPuis perform a duet piece titled "Private Wars."
6. Vincent Hermes plays his

- violin while Jobie Debrick performs a dance with ribbons.
7. Mac Crider dazzles the crowd with his yo-yo abilities.
8. Brent Miller performs a video game medley on piano.
9. J'Qui Audena, Simon Fangman, Reid Hildenbrand and Andrew Stussie had the audience laughing by being mimes.
10. Mike Zimmers performs "American Pie."



4



[events/coordinators]



Front Row: Michael Reichenberger, Taylor Mayfield, Matthew Onstott, Zachary Chappell, Kyle Maddox, Eric Wright, Matthew Brandt.

Second, Row: Matthew Root, Wesley Good, Evan Habluetzel, Will Roller, Phillip Morton, Preston Mossman, Alex Schram, Kyle Gardner, Josh Cleek.

Third, Row: Jacob Brown, Garrett Moylan, Dean Symes, Thaddeus Tuck, C. J. Harries, Thomas Gregory.

Back Row: Ben Gregg, Todd Vogts, Dustin Hermes, Kyle Dietrich, Darren MacDowell, Nathan Harkins, Riley Hall.



Coordinators: Matthew Root, Andrew Roozeboom, Adam Doyle, Zach Gardner, Josh Cleek, Colton Poort, Jared Meitler.

[advisors/nation]



Front Row: Ron O'Leary, Dave Rothwell, Don Whitten, George Rothwell, John Lindholm, Department Commander Dale Allen, Department Vice Commander Paul Sanford, Bob Jenkins, Gordon Cunningham.
Second, Row: Trooper Mario Rios, Don Thomson, Jay Shelton, Jeff Schrag, John Mulhern, Allen Klassen, Thane Chastain, Jeremy Harland, Chuck Shoemaker, Terry Watkins, Pat Retz, Trooper Mike Paynter.
Third, Row: Ralph Snyder, Department Adjutant Chuck Yunker, Past Department Commander Dan Roberson, Justin Herron, Chris Werring, Bennett "Doc" Radford, Terry Camp, Steve Peterson.
Back Row: Troy Fowler, Rex Gardner, Tyler Suelter, Scott Johnson, Tom Wierman, Larry Andrews.

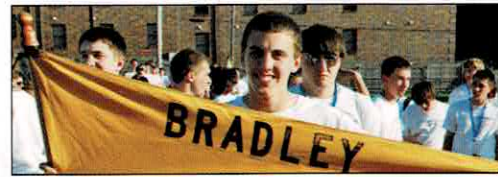


Acting Executive Director Thane Chastain with Boys Nation Alternates and Delegates. L-R Levi Smith - Alt, Delegates J'Qui Audena & Zachary Hendrickson, Matthew DuPuis - Alt.

[bradley]

County Counselor
Zac Ewert

Counselors
Kyle Gardner
Lucas Smith
Alex Kuhn
Matt Brandt

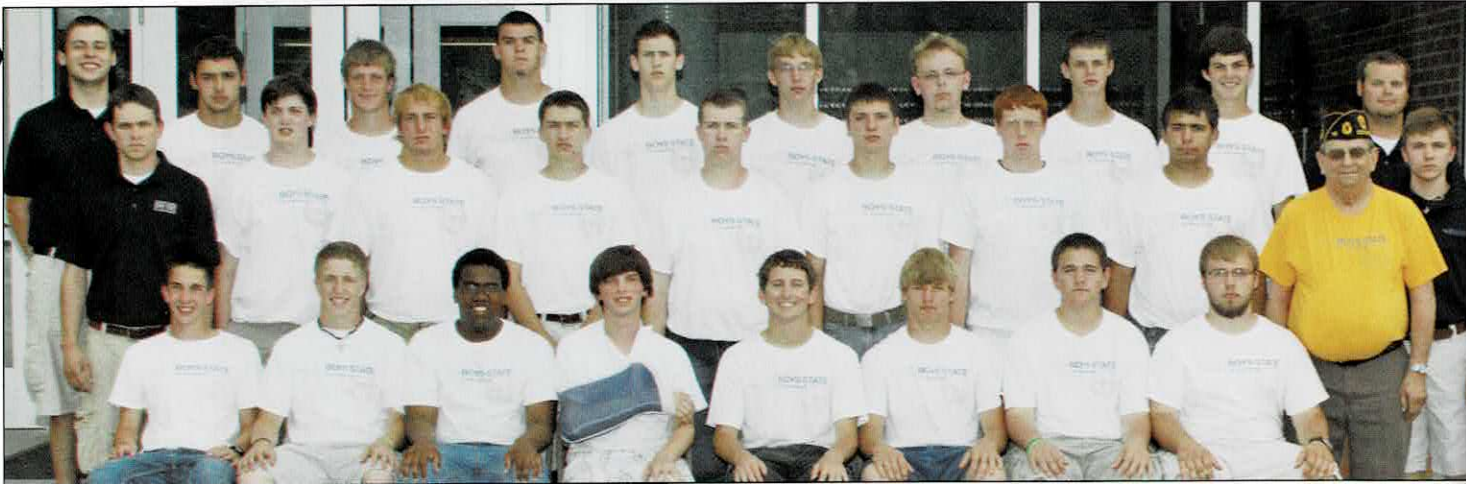


Aylward



Front: Zachary Louk, Samuel McManness, Zach Baden, Matthew DuPuis, Kyle Herrington, William Murfin, Cooper Lund, Garrett Marshall, County Advisor Ron O'Leary. Second: County Counselor Zac Ewert, Gregory Rowley, Austin Ohlmeier, Leif Nelson, Spencer Salmans, John Shively, Colby Camp, Kevin Cokingtin, City Counselor Lucas Smith. Back: Events Counselor Kyle Gardner, Cole Courtney, Zachary Blomquist, Christian Schultz, Riley Falk, Allan Clark, Andrew Stussie, Events Counselor Matt Brandt.

Bramlage



Front: Benjamin Anstaett, Luke Dainty, Brian Burton, Jacob Miller, Jamie Stadler, Kevin Cain, Evan Wondra, Justus Schremmer, County Advisor Ron O'Leary. Second: County Counselor Zac Ewert, Nick Fowler, Kelvin Shinliver, Wilhelm Orten, Austin Brown, Garrett Campbell, Brock Watson, Giovanni Pavetto, City Counselor Alex Kuhn. Back: Events Counselor Kyle Gardner, Alexander Waugh, Cody Wilson, Tyler Hieber, Brandon Beck, Zachary Kuntz, Aaron Vajnar, Karson McGinn, Grant Smith, Events Counselor Matt Brandt.



[eisenhower]

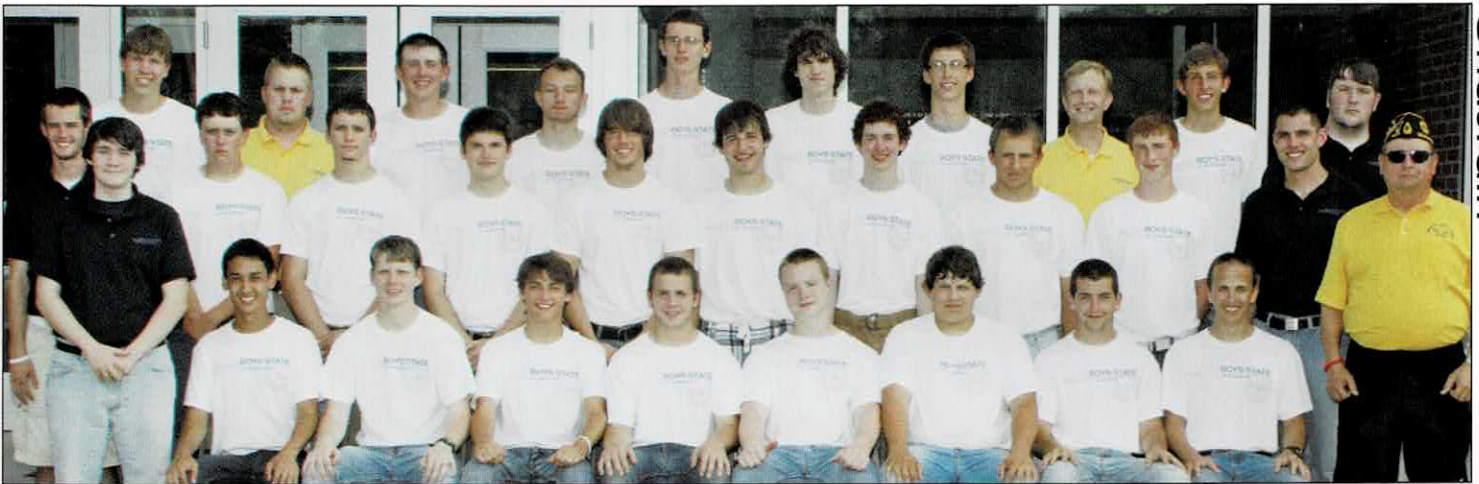
County Counselor

Alex Barbuto

Counselors

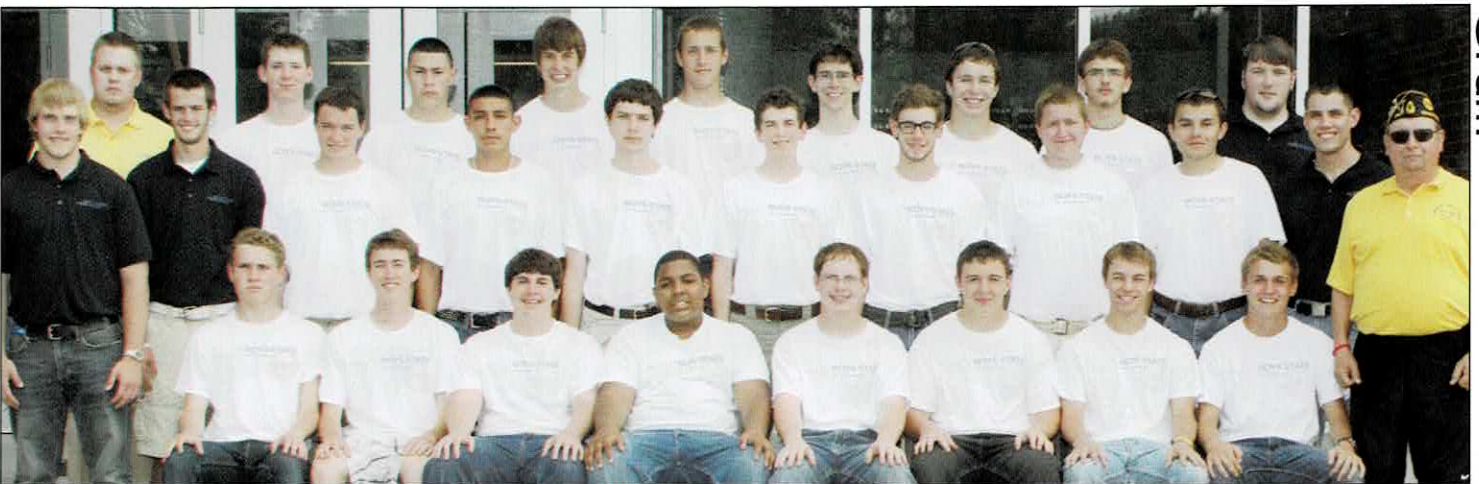
Bryce Ruble

Brendan McGarry



Chastain

Front: City Counselor Brendan McGarry, Brandon Hardman, Albert Bohn, Bobby Scharping, Samuel Seufert, Drew Gregg, Trenton Tholstrup, Brent Clark, Jonathan Volker, County Advisor Chuck Shoemaker. Second: Events Counselor Preston Mossman, Matt Wickstrom, Stuart Hogg, Ben Gunnarson, Lucas Becker, Turner Landon, Austin Dickey, Kaleb McNish, Mason Proctor, County Counselor Alex Barbuto. Back: Alex Hanna, County Mentor Jeremy Harland, Collin Wright, Zane Heminway, Joel Eppler, Reuben James, Bryce Kampfe, AED Thane Chastain, Joshua Gillett, Events Counselor Riley Hall.



Crum

Front: City Counselor Bryce Ruble, Aden Lindholm, Chris Davis, Riley Callahan, Anthony Magee, Adam Pohl, Kyle Vena, Max Stewart, Max Walden, County Advisor Chuck Shoemaker. Second: Events Counselor Preston Mossman, Korby Anderson, Daniel Zamora, Brady Lund, Cooper Rodgers, Jared Erpelding, Dylan Hodson, Paul Carbrey, County Counselor Alex Barbuto. Back: County Mentor Jeremy Harland, Chase Booth, Alex Marron, Luke Willson, Luke Bellar, Walker Womack, Ryan Hallinan, Jared Gross, Events Counselor Riley Hall.

[kennedy]

County Counselor

Shane Wilson

Counselors

Will Roller

Jason Messner

Nathan Miller

Ben Gregg

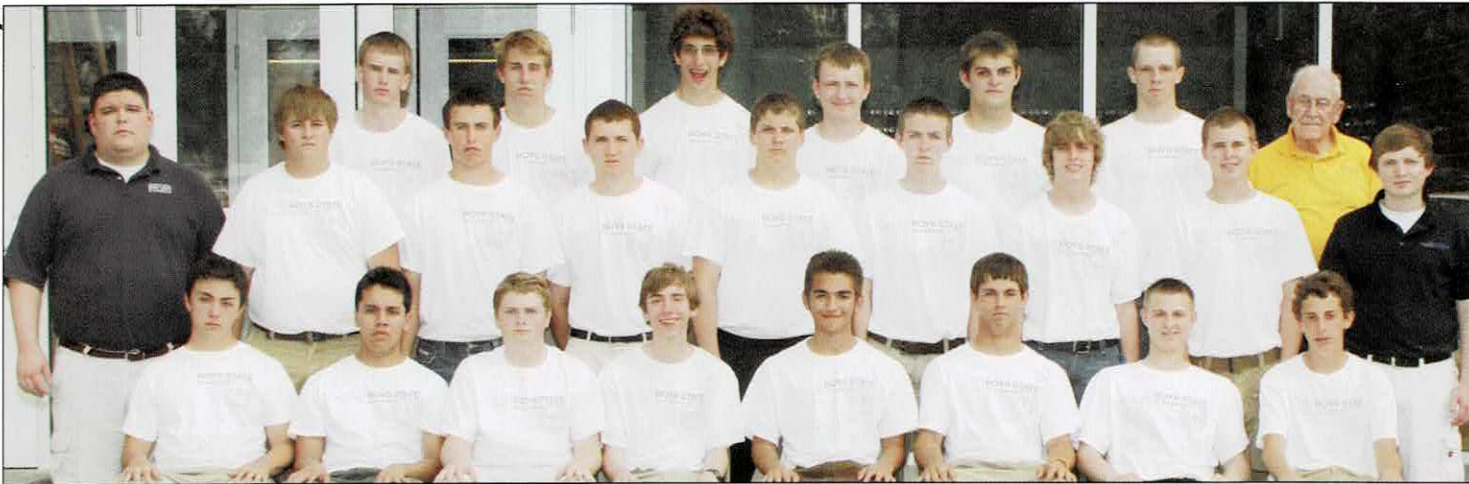


Finley



Front: Colten Johnson, Hayden Elder, Elijah Mitchell, Brett Bullinger, Seth Humble, Matthew Reynolds, Chris Pyle, Andrew Franz. Second: County Counselor Shane Wilson, Jon Podschun, Josh Wallentine, W. John Hambleton, William Reid, Jason Grossardt, Zachary Shields, William Parkins, City Counselor Nathan Miller. Back: Rafael Lopez, Jr., Richard Vargas, Derek Depew, Matthew Haefele, Owen Rauckman, Blake Porter, James Engel, County Advisor Don Whitten.

Haney



Front: Blake Parker, Cesar Luna, Nick Shaw, Patrick Shields, Adam Whitaker, Ethan Slothower, Branson Hoffman, Caleb Smith. Second: County Counselor Shane Wilson, Kolby Harris, Tanner Mangum, Michael Cokingtin, Matt Steinlage, Carter Lundberg, Chris Reger, Austin Lewman, City Counselor Jason Messner. Back: Zane O'Brien, Mark Dabeck, George Baker, Robby Satterwhite, Kyle Murphy, Elijah Penny, County Advisor Don Whitten.



[king]

County Counselor

Rick Wohlfarth

Counselors

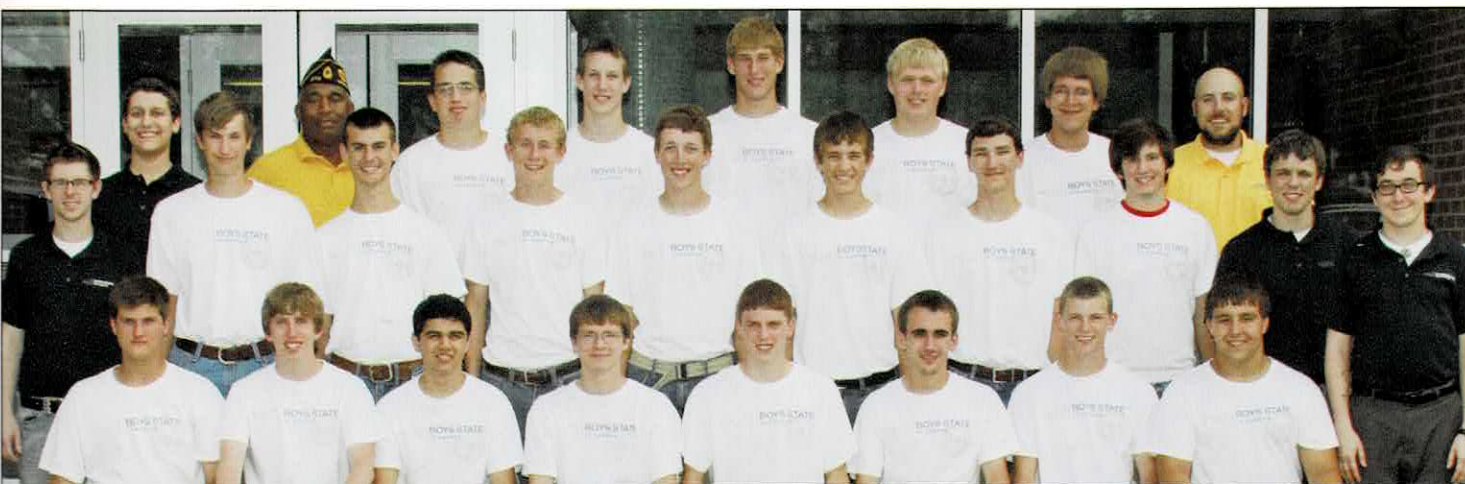
Matt Wedel

Robert Bondi



Harris
High School

Front: County Counselor Rick Wohlfarth, Thane Bulmer, Jacob Arnett, Aaron McIntyre, Callum May, Calen Kearns, Devin Simon, Konnor Kriss, Vivek Menon, Events Counselor C. J. Harries. Second: Events Counselor Michael Reichenberger, Kevin VonFeldt, Drew Burczyk, Joshua Hurla, Alex Helms, Kyle Spielbusch, Jake Regehr, Matt Cooper, Connor Yost, Joseph Botros. Back: County Advisor Larry Andrews, Alejandro Norez, Garret Platt, David Weiner, Jacob Sobering, Travis Augustine, Alexander Haines, Connor England, City Counselor Robert Bondi, County Mentor Justin Herron.



High
School

Front: Baker Weilert, Brett Wagner, Alexander Poulouse, Connor Smith, Ted Reimer, Brian Happell, Tracer Paul, Tyler Henning, Events Counselor C. J. Harries. Second: County Counselor Rick Wohlfarth, David Laurence, Nick Swearingen, Clifford Hodges, Tyler Williams, Kyle Polson, Randall Durbin, Michael Begley, City Counselor Matt Wedel. Back: Events Counselor Michael Reichenberger, County Advisor Larry Andrews, Joe Andrews, Cody Sluder, Derek Nold, Sam Knauss, Luke Bartz, County Mentor Justin Herron.

[macarthur]

County Counselor
 Marcus McNeal

Counselors
 Robert Samson
 Joel Simwinga



Icenogle



Front: Levi Berger, Daniel Ming, Ryan Luder, Tyler Haynes, Michael Hoffman, Connor O'Leary, James Mulderrig, County Advisor Bob Jenkins.
 Second: City Counselor Robert Samson, Cody Keener, Grant DeFonso, Matthew Athon, Tyler Siek, Daniel Kroeker, Noah Miller, Morgan Schreiner,
 David Schneider, Michael Denney, County Counselor Marcus McNeal. Back: Events Counselor Kyle Maddox, Daniel Dissmore, Luke Burgett,
 Dalton Jorgensen, Tyler Lisbon, Steven Buchele, Derik Trimmer, Cain Fouard, Austin Ross, Events Counselor Iain Blair.

Johnson



Front: Skyler Glenn, Dallas Rhoads, Dakota Swanson, Dalton Swindale, Mitch Franklin, Simon Fangman, Timmy Li, County Advisor Bob Jenkins.
 Second: Events Counselor Kyle Maddox, Connor Haarhuis, Levi Wilcox, Brandon Eastman, Reed Ramsey, Jason Banning, Landon Reed,
 Patrick Murphy, City Counselor Joel Simwinga. Back: County Counselor Marcus McNeal, Cody McCloud, James Manning, Neal Adams, Events
 Counselor Iain Blair.



[marshall]

County Counselor

Chris Werring

Counselors

Eli Jarnot

Bryan Lunzmann



Klassen

Front: County Advisor Don Thompson, Brendan Cokingtin, Nicholas Elliott, Garrett Zook, Brian Owara, Doug Stewart, Harrison Unthank, Derrick Carr, Bennett Hughes, County Mentor Tom Wierman. Second: Evan Davis, Slater Champlin, Kyle Stewart, Trenton Chamberlain, Jake Gipple, J'Qui Audena, Matthew McKenna, Nicholas Fief, Zachary Dennett. Third: City Counselor Bryan Lunzmann, Levi Smith, Reid Bowser, Troy Richert, Chase Cleland, Mac Crider, Jacob Schwindt, County Counselor Chris Werring. Back: Michael Wilkes, Jr., Anthony Williams, Casey Satran.



Lane

Front: Jacob Mayne, Luke Reber, Denver Johnston, Taylor Dean, Tyler Warren, Tyler Thiel, Alex Fees, Ve'Shawn Dixon. Second: County Advisor Don Thompson, Jake Gould, Thomas Joyce, Jason Eggleston, Daniel Parrott, Travis Cleffman, Nicholas Cornejo, Austin Phelps, County Mentor Tom Wierman. Back: County Counselor Chris Werring, Scotty McCartney, Mallen Trull, Brett Petty, Noah Easterling, Witt Womack, Riley Sorden, City Counselor Eli Jarnot.



[patton]

County Counselor

Taggart Wall

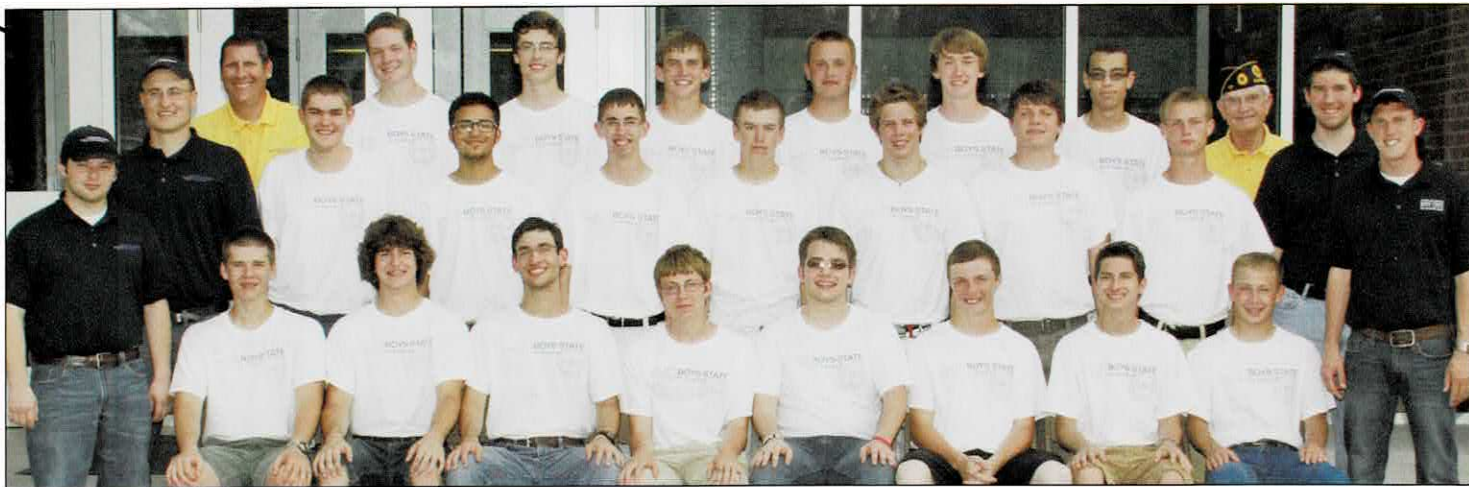
Counselors

Chris Wierman

Jeffrey Durbin



Mantey



Front: Events Counselor Eric Wright, Andrew Wehner, Phillip Ruther, Brock Morrison, Marshall Pickarts, Nathan Short, Matt Adams, Brent Miller, Trae Wolfe, County Counselor Taggart Wall. Second: Events Counselor Kyle Dietrich, Troy Brake, Zachary Hendrickson, Alex Johnson, Devon Conner, Andrew Kjellin, Ashtin Fuqua, Andrew Howard, City Counselor Chris Wierman. Back: County Mentor Troy Fowler, Matthew DeKoning, Sam Rider, Kalen Cromwell, Kenneth Taylor, Mitchell Cardin, Kristofer Lewis, County Advisor Gordon Cunningham.

Newman



Front: City Counselor Jeffrey Durbin, Caden Ford, Drew Karstens, Tyler Riffel, Robert Regalado, Trevor Greathouse, Seth Miller, Austen McGuire, Welson Lau, County Counselor Taggart Wall. Second: Events Counselor Eric Wright, Jon Nagel, Peter Cooney, Brady White, Tristen Long, Dante Simmons, Kent Carley, Steven Rose, Events Counselor Kyle Dietrich. Back: County Mentor Troy Fowler, Zach Schwermann, Kelly Homan, Joseph McNorton, K. Andrew Domann, Terron Roberts, County Advisor Gordon Cunningham.



[pershing]

County Counselor

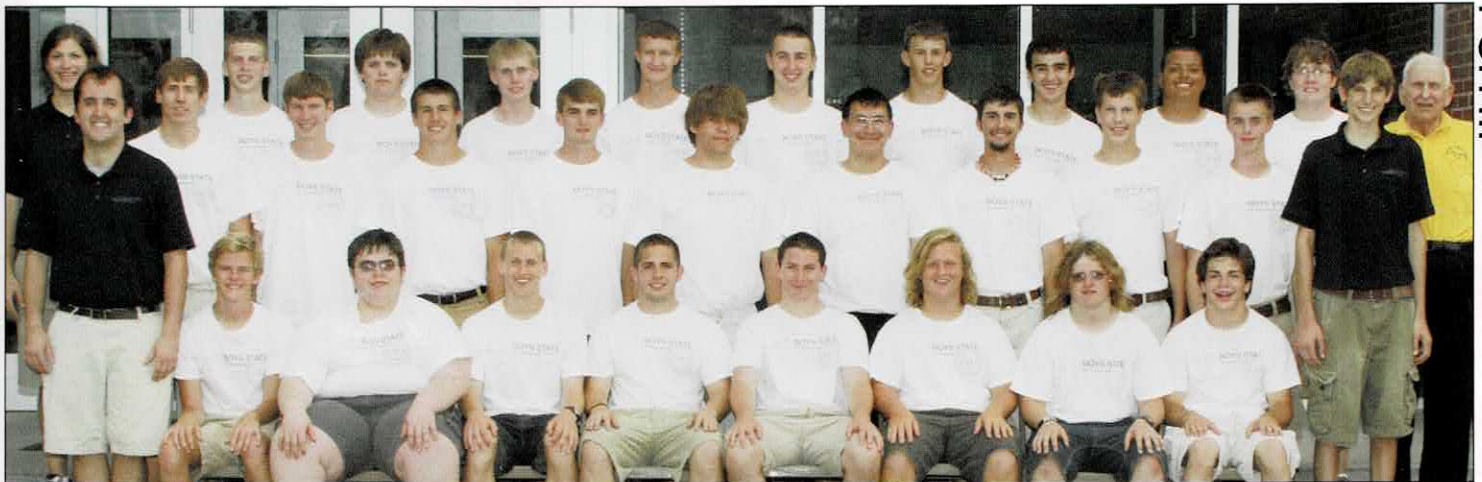
Tyler Sharp

Counselors

Matt Onstott

Luke Johnson

Alex Neises



Perrill

Front: County Counselor Tyler Sharp, Reid Eggleston, Jackson Hermann, Matthew Briggs, Brenton Hilbig, Alex Whitten, Gabriel Cowell, James Renner, Michael Tubbs, City Counselor Alex Neises. Second: Colton Anderson, Clay Siemens, Brad Standlee, Austin Stout, Kristoffer Enfield, Ever Ruiz, Shelby White, Matthew Wille, Anthony Baldessari, County Advisor John Lindholm. Back: Events Counselor Matt Onstott, Kyle Bridgewater, Clayton Callahan, Stephen Hoover, Jobie Debrick, Kyle Thompson, Steven Westrup, Jerrod Carlton, Avory Stegman, Andrew Hillring.



Schmitt

Front: County Counselor Tyler Sharp, Nathan Algarra, Gage Holler, Durand Park, Michael Koegeboehn, Mike Schellinger, Alvaro Papa Silva, Russell Brown, City Counselor Luke Johnson. Second: Events Counselor Matt Onstott, Bruce Rash, Jack Brekke, Luis Loya, Ross Marine, Mitchell Shelton, Jared Rice, Ryan Leary, Spencer Jones, County Advisor John Lindholm. Back: Karl Netemeyer, Connor Vaughn, Glenn Gaeke, Jeff Penner, Adam Heald, Joel Steyer, Jacob Sowers, Micah Duncan, Parker Riley.



[powell]

County Counselor
Zach Rebarchek

Counselors

Thomas Serafin
Xander Fortunato
Dustin Hermesch
Evan Habluetzel

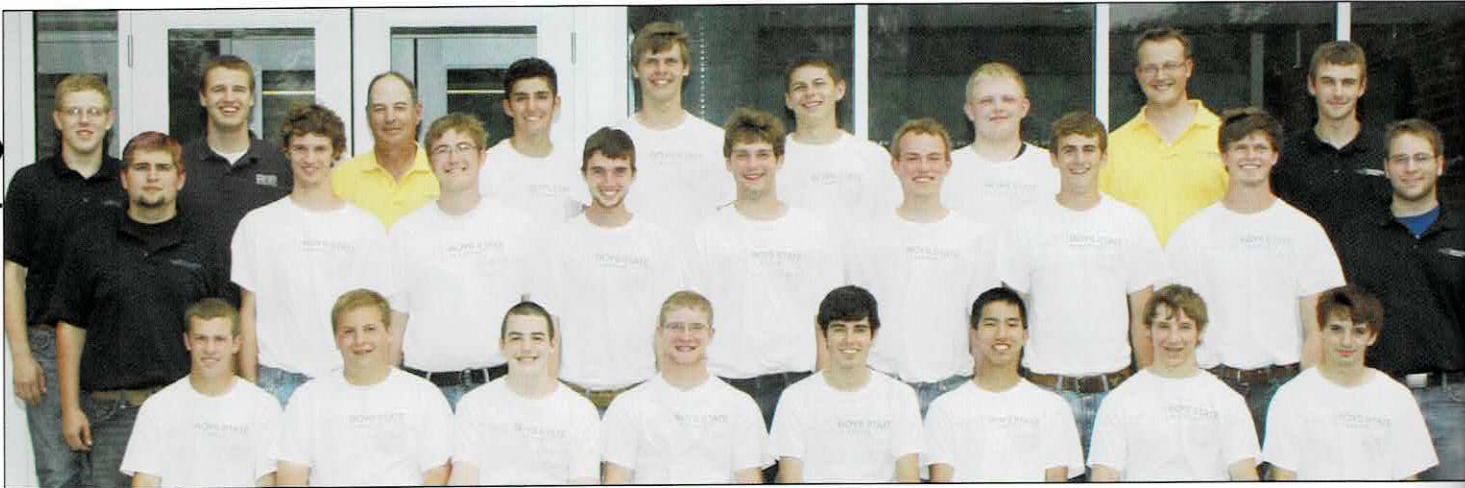


Schulz



Front: Events Counselor Evan Habluetzel, Cole Lytle, Baxter Vaz, Daniel Theisen, Matt Wakefield, Tanner Staats, T. J. Setter, Alec Smith, Zachary Martin, City Counselor Xander Fortunato. Second: Connor Clark, Clay Weiss, Joshua Schwanke, Tanner Langer, Rory MacDonald, Stephen Leu, Jahman Hill, Zebulon O'Loughlin, Jonathan Reeder, County Counselor Zach Rebarchek. Back: Events Counselor Dustin Hermesch, County Advisor Terry Camp, Adam Ronnebaum, Zachary Zarnstorff, Nathan Larson, Events Counselor Nathan Harkins, Evan Kline, Erich Amerine, Tyler Tryon, County Mentor Tyler Suelter.

Spigarelli



Front: Caleb Brening, Shane Fonyi, Matthew Davis, Peyton Wingert, Kurtis Lieber, Justin Nguyen, Jerome Tujague IV, Nico Mendoza. Second: Events Counselor Evan Habluetzel, Christian Kauth, Joshua Staley, John Rohr, David Thompson, Wade Davis, T. J. Kocour, Vincent Hermes, County Counselor Zach Rebarchek. Back: Events Counselor Dustin Hermesch, Events Counselor Nathan Harkins, County Advisor Terry Camp, William Cockriel, Eric Garner, Jamison Montes de Oca, Sean Ludden, County Mentor Tyler Suelter, City Counselor Thomas Serafin.





[seitz]

County Counselor

Alex Jones

Counselors

Derek Symes

Lewen Ninemire



Sullivan

Front: Alvin Xing, Nicholas Waltz, Aleksander Eskilson, Colin Comeau, Mar E. Whitson IV, Hayden Phlieger, Phillip Tracy, Logan Van Horn, County Advisor Bennett Radford. Second: Sergey Sambros, Troy Bland, Jackson Kelley, Tyler Hennes, Keegan Brown, Carl Stinson, Robert Barton, Colby Haverkamp, Nicholas Luthi. Back: County Counselor Alex Jones, Bryan Hellman, Bradley Mikinski, Alexander Samuelson, Benjamin Bolton, Arthur White, Logan Smith, Joseph Franzitta, City Counselor Lewen Ninemire.



Wiles

Front: Josh Ellermann, Blake Stark, Dylan Dreiling, Trent Logan, Chad Hamman, Collin Brozek, Clay Confer, Bryan Miller, County Advisor Bennett Radford. Second: Thomas McAnerney, Tyler Newkirk, Boaz Love, David Strait, Reid Hildenbrand, Josh Staab, Deven Schoenthaler, Skyler Prothe. Back: County Counselor Alex Jones, Cole Robinson, Austin Webs, Mack Preston, Events Counselor Darren McDowell, Seth Karnes, Austyn Carson, Jake Reinig, City Counselor Derek Symes.



[closing]

These are just some of the life-long memories that you created over one week in the summer of 2011 by attending the American Legion Boys State program, which was pretty neat.

You arrived at Kansas State University on Sunday, June 5th wondering what exactly to expect. Suddenly you were thrust into a high-paced, cooperative, and very involved program. The tasks of creating and maintaining a working government were placed in your hands. We hope that through this program, you were able to see exactly what kinds of decisions our society is faced with.

Elected officials have the incredible tasks of creating legislation to protect their constituents' rights, while at the same time maintaining financial and social stability. One evident message of our program is that it is not easy to be a leader. We hope that you not only found opportunities for great success, but that you also faced the chore of overcoming a sound defeat. It is in these instances where a leader proves his worth, and you have undoubtedly taken this message from The American Legion Boys State of Kansas Leadership Academy.

So it is up to you, and you alone, to overcome the failures and struggles that life will present you. Democracy, the most effective form of government, is dependent on involvement. We are taking for granted that you will certainly be involved, but we challenge you not only to become involved but also to become a leader, that extra step beyond simple participation, within your communities.

Democracy is not limited to the realms of Topeka and Washington.

Democracy exists in your homes, schools, congregations, and workplaces. There will be times in your life when you will be faced with a situation that you do not agree with or that you feel is unfair to you or someone you know. As difficult as it may seem, it is not only your right but your responsibility to use the knowledge and skills you gained from our program to help yourself and your fellow citizens do the right thing.

No matter what you think about what has happened in the past, or even what is happening now, you have the opportunity to change the future, and that is what is great about America. In a very short time a couple hundred years' worth of progress will be handed to you. What will you do with it? Will you be content to stand still? Will you move forward? The decision is up to you.

Serve your community and serve it well. We wish you the best of luck in your endeavors, and we hope that the American Legion Boys State of Kansas helped you along the way.



The 2011 American Legion Boys State of Kansas Staff

