



The Mountaineer



Publication of American Legion Mountaineer Boys State

Volume 69
Issue 4

“We all have the ability.
The difference is how we use it.”
—Stevie Wonder

June 15th,
2006

2006 BOYS STATE INAUGURATION



Yesterday afternoon the citizens elected to state positions were inaugurated to their office—a bittersweet event. Immediate past-president Afeef Ahmed (F) delivered his farewell address, highlighting his gratitude towards the Boys’ State program, and this year’s citizens. He also wished his successor, Uzi Ibrahim, the best of luck in his upcoming term. The keynote speaker was the Honorable Fred L. Fox III, judge of the 16th Judicial Circuit Court. An ex-marine and graduate of WVU Law (as a member of the Order of the Coif), Fox is now a member of the American Legion and the recipient of 2 Bronze Stars, the Purple Heart and the Cross of Gallantry. Fox has sworn in Boys State elected state officials for over a decade, and spreads a message of honor and partisanship; “You are all here because someone has recognized you as a leader—and your chances of leadership later in life are great.” After the other elected officials were sworn in, Uzi Ibrahim (N) took office as Governor and delivered his inaugural address. In this address Ibrahim thanked the voters of both political parties, the staff, and the Legionnaires for providing him with a “wonderful opportunity” to serve as head of Boys State.

By Sam Yates

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Schedule - Thursday June 15, 2006

6:00 a.m.	Reveille and Clean Quarters
7:15	In Formation at Dining Hall.
7:20	FLAG RAISING
7:25	Breakfast
8:25—9:30	All County officials meet in West Virginia Building for specialized instruction All City officials meet in Assembly Hall for specialized instruction
8:25—12:00	Governor and Board of Public Works meet in Jackson Lodge meeting rooms Senate and House in session in Jackson Lodge Basement. Supreme Court in session at Flameway Hall County School Superintendents and Boards of Education meet in Southeastern Learning Center Bank and Newspaper staffs organized and working State Police and Conservation Officers meet in EEC #5
9:30—12:00	City and County Governments organized and working in cottages Magistrate and Circuit Courts organized and working in cottages
12:05	In formation at Dining Hall
12:15	LUNCH
1:00—	Circuit Courts in session with legal advisors present. <u>ALL CITIZENS IN ATTENDANCE</u> AFTER CIRCUIT COURT TRIALS—State, County , and City governments organized and working (see morning schedule for location) Bank and Newspaper staffs organized and working State Police and Conservation Officers organized and working and meeting with Advisors for further instruction in EEC #5
2:30 —4:45	Board of Education, County Clerk & Circuit Clerks meet in Southeastern Learning Center for special instruction
3:00—5:00	Athletics and Swimming
5:15	In formation at Dining Hall
5:30	DINNER
6:30—7:30	Government and Courts organized and working, Band Practice Bank and Newspaper staffs organized and working State Police and Conservation Officers organized and working and meeting with Advisors for further instruction in EEC #5 Fire Training Academy (Fire Marshal will provide schedule) Talent Show participations meet with Talent Show Coordinator at Assembly Hall
8:00	ASSEMBLY AFTER ASSEMBLY—Government and Courts organized and working Bank and Newspaper staffs organized and working State Police and Conservation Officers organized and working Musicians and Performers gather on Marion front porch
11:00—	Devotions in Panhandle Cottage
11:30	All evening activities end.
11:40	All citizens will be in respective cottages. Individual cottage activities (meetings, devotions, etc.) left to discretion of individual cottage counselors.
12 Midnight	ALL CITIZENS IN BED AND LIGHTS OUT. Violators subject to disciplinary action and reduction in cottage inspection scores.

Only two more days and we are outta' here!!!!!!

Education: The keystone to success

As citizen's intently listened to the perplexing debate on Tuesday night, education came to the forefront of both platforms. The future leaders of tomorrow focused on the subject which will catapult them into our capitalist society; the subject which is the catalyst in the progression of young minds; the subject which will directly or indirectly affect generations of individuals throughout the course of time.

From the Promise Scholarship to teacher pay raises to tax benefits, a myriad of education-based topics were proposed but not all of them worked. Various flaws plagued the candidates' platforms proposals.

The education plan made by the Nationalist Party was to increase the educators pay, therefore satisfying the teachers, thus making them teach with more pizzazz and enthusiasm. What they failed to address was where the money for these pay raises would come from. As we scrape to find enough money to support our state as it is, the Nationalist plan is sure to drive our state into increasing debt.

Sure, the teachers do deserve more money, but is that the most important issue in the state? Is the funding for vital character developers such as athletics and academics not more important? Teachers should teach because they want to make a difference not, because of their salary. If their quality improves because of a small pay raise then are they really there for the right reason? It is easy to see the plight of these teachers and their budget problems and feel remorse, because they are underpaid. But how do we solve this problem? This was the question that needed to be answered at this debate; however, it was not addressed in the slightest.

Education is a vital necessity to all students, and they should all have the opportunity to receive an adequate amount. Before we address teacher pay raises, it is more important to provide a better learning environment for the students. Higher level students are not getting the class variety they deserve, therefore, limiting their personal progression and not preparing them for the future, and isn't the purpose of secondary education to provide a stable experience which can boost their futures?

Although the plan for teacher pay raises lacked in finesse, it was not as lacking as the plans for the Promise Scholarship. Due to lax requirements at the beginning, much of the funding was squandered on those who really didn't deserve or respect this funding. At the debate, both parties felt it necessary to extrapolate the promise, but neither had a plan on how to fund this extension, the most important aspect of the whole plan.

Giving the youth of our nation more money for their higher education is a wonderful thought, but how will those youth function as adults when they must live in a society filled with inflation and debt. Since 2003, the legislature has been searching vigorously for a way to fund this great scholarship, but each year requirements for the students must be raised to accommodate the lost funding. What the parties should have focused on was ways to boost the economy in the state, therefore, providing more revenue which in turn can be used to initiate the education proposals. One must admit, however both parties did do one thing right—centering their platforms on the keystone of society, the youth of West Virginia.

By Josh Linton

H e l p W a n t e d

Boys State is in need of insurance consultants who will provide the citizens with the insurance which is required of them

***Those wanting to apply meet at the picnic location at 8:30 this morning. These insurance consultants will be paid \$40,000.00.**

The New Jobs of Boys State

As of yesterday the newly elected officials of Boys State have been trained and equipped with the knowledge needed to run their newly gained positions in the government. With this in place, the citizens of Boys State now have a voice in what goes on in their West Virginia.

The new government has worked hard and is already coming up with new ideas; Cody “Cracker Jack” Cunningham of the County Board of Education has already announced that “Educating ignorance is our main goal.”

The officials also realize that their jobs aren’t all just fun and games. Erick Robey who is a Circuit Clerk stated, “This job comes with a lot of responsibility and I will do the best I can.”

Up to this point the counselors have been the leaders of the camp, but now it is the citizens’ turn to take control. Boys State now has everything it needs to be a working state. We have a great police force making sure citizens stay in line, a governor who will over see every aspect of our society to make sure everyone does their job correctly, and judges will keep law and order in the court room.

All the members of government are now ready to deal with any complications that are thrown their way and are ready for to make this year’s Boys State a successful place.

By Joe Bolton



Marching to a new beat

With great admiration and respect, the parents, legionnaires, and visitors looked on the citizens of Boys State as transformed individuals. At the beginning of this camp, the young men came in as bright, young minds eager to be involved in a life changing experience. After just four short days, these boys’ ambitions have been harnessed into structured men. This could be seen as they marched in precise order at the formal review yesterday. Their families, friends, and counselors watched in amazement and joy as they saw the metamorphosis of their boys.

After the formal review, everyone gathered in the pavilion for wonderful speakers and great entertainment. During the ceremony, the new officers and various veterans were honored. The most surprising element of the assembly was the introduction of Abraham Lincoln, the nation’s sixteenth president. He taught us about loyalty and respect and most of all honoring the nation and state.

Truman Sayre presented the background on Flag Day. He told the audience about the amazing production of the special day. With enthusiasm and determination, he evoked his emotions concerning the flag and the government. As he read his speech and the history of our nation, he filled the audience with pride in their nation, state, county and city.

By Josh Linton

SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS SCHEDULE

THURSDAY

- 9:00 Hear Petitions for Appeal from Circuits 1 and 5, and conduct other business.
- 9:20 Recess.
- 9:40 Reconvene: announce decisions on Petitions for Appeal from Circuits 1 and 5, hear Petitions for Appeal from Circuits 2 and 4, and conduct other business.
- 10:00 Recess.
- 10:20 Reconvene: announce decisions on Petitions for Appeal from Circuits 2 and 4, hear Petition for Appeal from Circuit 3, hear oral arguments of any granted Petitions for Appeal, and conduct other business.
- 10:40 Recess.
- 11:00 Reconvene: announce decisions on Petition for Appeal from Circuit 3 and decisions from any cases heard on oral argument, hear oral arguments of any granted Petitions for Appeal, hear motions for admission to the bar for afternoon circuit court trials and swear in circuit court judges, and conduct other business.
- 11:20 Recess: write opinions and conduct other necessary business.
- 1:00 Observe circuit court trials.
- 2:30 Reconvene: announce decisions from any cases heard on oral argument, and conduct other business before the Court.
- 2:40 Recess: write opinions and conduct other necessary business.

FRIDAY

- 9:00 Hear Petitions for Appeal from Circuits 1 and 5, and conduct other business.
- 9:20 Recess.
- 9:40 Reconvene: announce decisions on Petitions for Appeal from Circuits 1 and 5, hear Petitions or Appeal from Circuits 2 and 4, and conduct other business.
- 10:00 Recess.
- 10:20 Reconvene: announce decisions on Petitions for Appeal from Circuits 2 and 4, hear Petition for Appeal from Circuit 3, hear oral arguments of any granted Petitions for Appeal, and conduct other business.
- 10:40 Recess.
- 11:00 Reconvene: announce decision on Petition for Appeal from Circuit 3 and decisions from any cases heard on oral argument, hear oral arguments of any granted Petitions for Appeal, and conduct other business.
- 11:20 Recess.
- 3:00 Reconvene *for final scheduled session*: Announce decisions from any cases heard on oral argument and conduct other business before the Court.
- 3:20 Adjourn.

* The Supreme Court of Appeals will schedule additional sessions as may be necessary.

JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SCHEDULE

First Circuit

Monroe—Thursday

Second Circuit

Lewis—Thursday

Third Circuit

Calhoun / Gilmer—Thursday

Fourth Circuit

Panhandle—Thursday

MANCHIN SPEAKS AT BOYS STATE LUNCHEON

Yesterday afternoon the Honorable Governor Joe Manchin appeared as the lunchtime speaker. He invoked the spirit of patriotism by quoting past-president Thomas Jefferson; “Whenever the people are well informed they can be trusted to govern themselves.” Manchin, previously the Secretary of State, was elected as the 34th Governor of the State of West Virginia and sworn into office on January 15th, 2005. He is a graduate from West Virginia University with a dual major in Business and Economics, and pioneer of the popular programs, “West Virginia SHARES” (Saving History and Reaching Every Student). Its’ principles and goals are very similar to those of Boys State, encouraging citizens to learn from the older generations—parents, grandparents, veterans, teachers, etc.—about their civic duty to be patriotic and vote. He reminisced about the past “great generation” (the youth of today’s grandparents) who overcame such obstacles as the Great Depression, WWII, and Vietnam, and expressed his wish that the future of America be as headstrong as our predecessors in national and global affairs. Governor Manchin emphasizes the importance of youth in the state’s future; “West Virginia is on the verge of greatness because I’m looking at the next great generation. You, the youth, are the next great generation. God bless you all, and God bless America.”

By Sam Yates

How to write your representative
on Capitol Hill?

Senator Robert C. Byrd
311 Hart Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Senator John D. Rockefeller IV
531 Hart Office Building
Washington , D.C. 20510

First District:
U.S. Rep. Alan B. Mollohan
2302 Rayburn H.O.B.
Washington, D.C. 20515

Second District:
U.S. Rep. Shelley Moore Capito
1431 Longworth Building
Washington D.C. 20515

Third District:
U.S. Rep. Nick J. Rahall II
2307 Rayburn Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515



Ahmed's Farewell

Yesterday was Ahmed's final day here as Mountaineer Boys States Governor. He will be greatly missed by all. While he was here, he touched the hearts of many with his great stories of his experience here last year. Although Boy's State will miss Ahmed it will never forget him. Ahmed captivated this year's citizens with his interesting stories and vivacious personality which drew all who knew him in.

After his election to Governor last year, Ahmed traveled to the nation's capitol where he was an exemplary example and came very close to becoming President of Boys Nation.

As he strived to perfect his senior year, Ahmed focused on his future and applied for the very prestigious Stanford University. Only the most avid pupils are accepted to this university.

Upon his arrival to the 2006 Boys State, Ahmed sparked a fire in the new citizens' hearts thus bringing out the politician within all the new citizens. After Uzi Ibrahim won Governor, it was time for Ahmed to step down. He had his chance to affect change which is something few young adults have in their childhood. As he prepared to leave, Ahmed left the boys' with words of advice to have “great appreciation for our fantabulous state and nation.”

By Joe Bolton

Mountaineer Boys State
2006 Legislature

House
Barbour/Webster
Josh Keck
John Dorchinez
Samuel Dotson

Braxton
Chip Roedersheimer
Vincent DeGeorge
Gary Thompson
Anthony Yost

Calhoun/Gilmer
Nick Rubenstein
Chris Jurick
Thomas Moore
Andrew Koerber
Erik Hall

Kanawha
Kevin Lee
Ben Bailey
T.J. Osbon

Lewis
Matt Pizatella
Joey Reger
Brandon Starcher
Colin Green

Marion
Will Edwards
Granvil George
Jason Statler
Nathan Parrish

Monongalia/Upshur
Kevin Rowsey
Shankar Padmanaban

Danny Morgan
Matthew Wray
Alex Wilson

Monroe
Simon Feuillet
Stephen Molinari
Skylegre Bowmar
Nathan Gainer

Panhandle
Josh Walton
Daniel Barbero
Gordon Cohen
Brian Rucker
Lucas White
“Vacancy”

Randolph
John Bias
Kami Simeonov
Donte Newsom
Jay Sisson
Robbie Skinner, III

Senate
Barbour/Webster
Samuel Ashley
Kyle Hawkins

Braxton
John Hadjis
Jeremy Halstead

Calhoun/Gilmer
Lou Olive
Graham Endler

Kanawha
Adam Domico
Andrew Marcum

Lewis
Preston Reasons
Andrew Merritt

Marion
McKenzie Ditty
Christian Edwards

Monongalia/Upshur
John Semmens

Monroe
Devin O’Hara
Charles Turner

Panhandle
Taylor Wetzell
John Martino

Randolph
Shawn McPherson
Evan Moore

DMV MAIN OFFICE
HOURS
8:20 a.m. —11:30 a.m.
The DMV’s main office is at
the Old Pavilion.
It’s workers will also be
outside of the porch
after breakfast and lunch for
15 minutes for the busier
citizens.

Men of Tomorrow

Oh, we’re the Men of To..mor..row, we
march along in happy ranks today.
We never bor..row, a bit of care or grief
along the way.
Glad..ly we’re learning the things a good
American should know.
Glad..ly we’re yearn...ing to chart the
way a patriot should go.

With lessons done, objectives won
Good citizens we’ll be;
We’ll proudly stand in our home land
Where Mountaineers are free.
Men.. Of To..mor..row, good fellowship
each one of us enjoys,
Men.. Of Tomorrow, a group of all
American boys.

Individuals who want to
place ads in the paper may
do so by dropping off their
ad at the Newspaper room
at the back of Headquarters
by 6:00.

Prices

1/8 page	\$75.00
1/4 page	\$150.00
1/2 page	\$250.00
Full page	\$500.00