

THE MOUNTAINEER

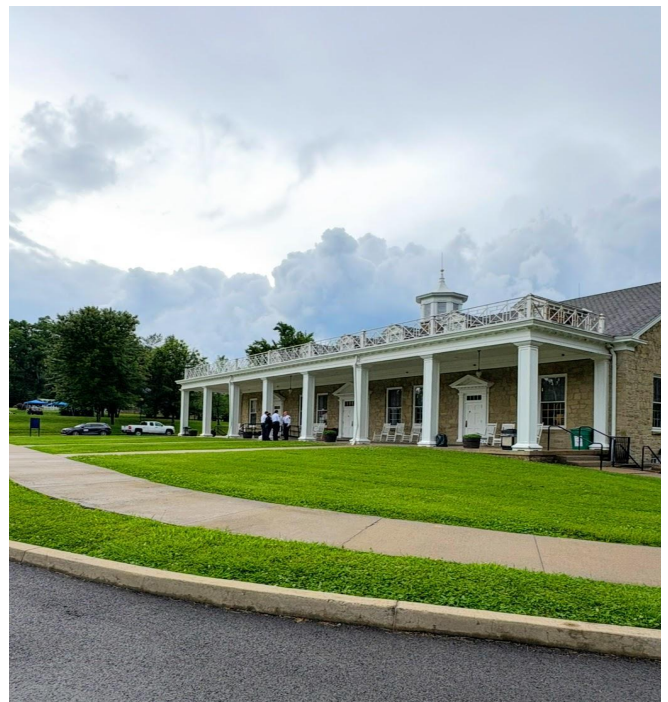
American Legion Mountaineer Boys State Is Off to the Races

By Max Newman
Staff Reporter

The first assembly of American Legion Mountaineers Boys State officially kicks off its 86th annual occurrence. The collective roars of excitement from young men reacting to the ceremonies, speeches, and commemorations echoed throughout the building.

However, between the shouts of patriotism, and the brass playing loudly, were somber, thoughtful moments of remembrance. A ceremony conducted during the event displayed numerous stages of representation for P.O.W.'s as well as M.I.A. soldiers. Partakers of this ritual set a small dinner table for one with a white cloth, candlestick, Bible, and other symbolic objects.

To finalize the gathering, the ALMBS band played their anthem, *Men of Tomorrow*, all while the Boys State choir sang along with the tune. Afterwards, the boys were dismissed, left to discover their new occupations, view test results, and begin their first of several days at their new jobs.



The Mountaineer Staff

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Athletic Directors Interviewed on upcoming season

By Jackson Bowen, Sportswriter

Representing Monroe cabin, Breandan Mullins, the athletic director thinks that he has good athletes all around in his area and that by discussing with his cabin on said abilities he thinks they will excel in kickball as well as basketball.

"Be ready for Monroe," Mullins said.

Representing Webster cabin Mighty Lopez, the athletic director discussed that he thinks that his cabin will do great this season and because he is the captain of both his football and wrestling team he thinks that will help their odds greatly. He discussed that he believes basketball will be their greatest strength as many of his cabin mates are varsity basketball players.

"Good luck this season, we're going to keep it respectable in words but keep it deadly on the court," Lopez said.

Representing Randolph cabin Alvaro Yemba, the athletic director for his cabin believes his team will excel this coming season and that has a good squad and they're already getting hyped. He thinks that basketball and volleyball will be their strong suits as most of the gentlemen in his cabin are on the taller side but has expressed his worries in the kickball area.

"I just want to have a fun time and make some friends out there," Yemba said.

This Article will continue in the Tuesday edition of The Mountaineer.

Thoughts On My First Day

By: Zachariah Nunley
Editor

My first day at The American Legion Mountaineer Boys State has felt as if I am attending a kindergarten equivalent of bootcamp, which I mean respectfully. The order and routine is refreshing amongst being high-overwhelmed from the freedom and choices I have been offered with the exception of not being allowed to wear my hat (I will be leaving this camp sunburnt). On the subject of choices, when I first arrived to my cottage, Marion, we almost

immediately held an election. In said election, I was elected for the only position no one else had wanted. My point being that from the moment I settled in, I was given choices. It is this freedom and variety of choices combined with the structure and schedule that has led my first day of ALMBS to be enjoyable.

So what have I accomplished on my first day? As evident as it is, I became an editor. Being an editor is a career path I wish to pursue later in my life, so my attention was drawn to the position here at ALMBS. Hopefully my time spent here as an editor will allow me to learn what it is like to be a real one. And, I am thankful for said position I was granted. Unrelated to careers, I find myself strangely enjoying

marching between locations with my cottage; I originally believed I would not like the marching, as the idea of bootcamp is off putting to me. Unlike bootcamp, however, everyone here has been so nice: staff and campers alike. This enjoyment of marching has led me to volunteer to carry my cottage flag when we march, making me Marion's flag-bearer.

The aforementioned polite staff and campers have greatly elevated my experience here. Truth be told, this is my first time at any camp. I am not the most social, but I find myself being able to talk easily with the exceptionally nice people here. There is a sense of camaraderie amongst the camp, the staff especially; they act as if they are all family. The patriotic speeches also strengthen the *brotherhood-ness*. The others in my cottage, to whom I

apologize for not memorizing

their names yet, were very

welcoming. I hope they too

enjoy their experience here as

much as I have thus far.

I look forward to the

days to come. However, I have

a suggestion for the camp:

allow hats.

Ambitions of Several ALMBS Political Candidates

By Josiah Pilkington

Staff Reporter

The Mountaineer Newspaper does not endorse an candidate for political office

Alvaro Yemba is an ALMBS citizen running for auditor. He hopes to get a better understanding of the legal systems of the government, and better help his community through the information and experiences he gets from Mountaineer Boys State.

The prestige of Mountaineers Boy State and the opportunity to test his own abilities is what drove Alvaro come to Mountaineers Boys State. After Alvaro gradua from Mountaineer Boys state and high school. He hope to work in wall street as an invested banker to invest in underappreciated areas and if he does well hopes to maybe start a career in politics.



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