

# THE STATESMAN



A Publication of American Legion Boys' State of New York, Inc. Volume 80, No. 1  
Monday, June 27, 2016

## David Valesky Speaks on Contemporary Government

Skye Steves 0800  
Justin Cruz 0174

David Valesky, a senator representing Madison County, came to Boys' State to give a speech yesterday during our daily assembly. Throughout his career as a politician, Valesky held a variety of positions such as Deputy Leader, State Agent and Vice President Pro Tempore of the Senate. Valesky was a citizen of Boys' State in 1983 and stated that his experience here gave him a lot of insight on the world of Politics. To this day he still shows his devotion to Boys' State by trying to come and speak to the citizens every year. He also gave advice to us boys that will help us on this week and for the rest of our lives. Regarding national politics, Valesky believes that they have changed a lot over the years and that there could potentially be a third political party in our government. A series of questions were asked by the citizens of Boys' State.



Senator Dave Valesky giving his speech about government. Picture by Cole Strong 0388.

One question asked about the effects of our society today in school. The boy asked about the common core and how the senator felt about it; his response was, "The roll out of common core was done poorly." Other questions asked were should more ethics be allowed in Legislation and he showed that he supported it by passing a law which

could strip someone of their pension. Lastly, he was asked how he felt towards lobbyist to which he replied by saying that ultimately they are a part of our government system and that is how we work together. Overall, Valesky has had an impressive career as a politician and hopefully will come back to speak to future citizens.

### BOYS' STATE MENU

Wednesday, June 29 LUNCH: Big and Juicy Burger, Steak Fries, Sliced Carrots, Tossed Salad, Chocolate Chip Cookies, Black Bean Burger, (veg) DINNER: Barbecue Chicken 5 oz., Salt Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables, Tossed Salad, Cornbread, Apple Crisp Cups, Barbecue Soy Chicken (veg)

Thursday, June 30 BREAKFAST: Scrambled Eggs, Pancakes, Sausage Patties, Potato Wedges, Fresh Fruit, Fruit Cocktail, Cold Cereal, Blueberry Muffins

### Boys' State Weather

Wednesday, June 29

Cloudy

High 72

Low 58

Precipitation 30%

Winds 7 mph

# #Regrexit – the foolish mistake



**James Hunter 0607**

As many of you have heard, this past Thursday the British people voted to leave the European Union. Following news of the narrow victory, Prime Minister David Cameron announced his resignation as Britain's leader. Both of these events together arguably amount to

the nation's most historic setback since WWII...and Britain knows it. Many citizens previously in favor of leaving the European Union have spoken out expressing regret for their actions. As of Monday, over 3,000,000 British citizens have organized and signed a petition on the UK Parliament website asking for a second referendum.

Now, this issue has been a major source of division in contemporary British politics. The initial decision was only achieved by a four percent majority (52%-48%) and tensions have been running high. To make matters worse, both sides have legitimate arguments. Those in favor of leaving have voiced frustration over the baffling abundance of seemingly unnecessary legislation

attributed to the EU, as well as the perception that Britain is being shorted in terms of delegated aid and trade deals. However, by leaving the EU Britain will effectively forfeit existing trade agreements, lower the value of the pound, cause stocks to plummet, and send the nation into a state of political and economic turmoil. Unfortunately, regardless of petition signatures, the chances of a second referendum are slim at best. Instead, some are hinting at a possible general election in the coming months. All in all...things are pretty uncertain in British politics right now, but we are all keeping our fingers crossed.

# Talk to you later...maybe



**Alex Alessi 0759**

Did you see that tweet? Did you get that text message? Phrases such as those have never, and possibly will never apply here at Boys' State. Since Boys' State's origin in 1935, the mere presence of a cell

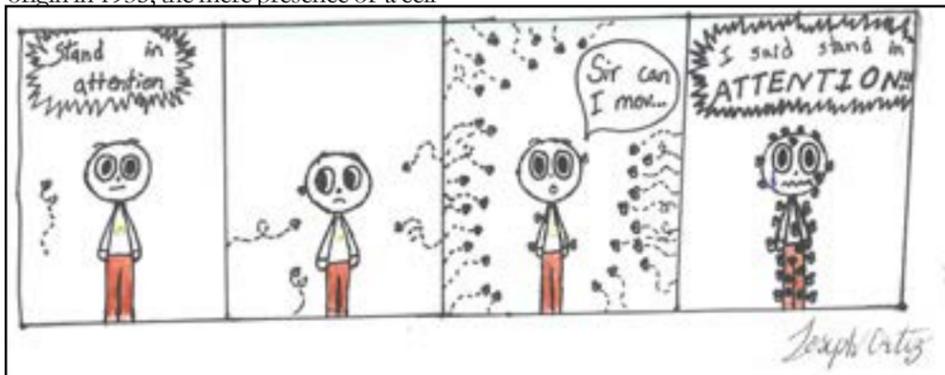
phone has been prohibited. Could such a small, inconspicuous device truly be such a threat? The answer to this question depends vastly upon one's perspective.

Advocates for cell phone presence here at boys' state find no lack of argument to promote their cause. Rightfully claimed, a cell phone has the ability to allow immediate communication between any two users. In the event of an emergency, such communication is vital and could be the difference between life and death. In addition, the lack of cell phones here at boys state set many parents ill at ease. Without any means of contacting their children, parents are ultimately forced to place absolute trust in virtual strangers. The alternative? Deny your

child the opportunity to attend a highly selective and respected program. The lack of cell phones truly places parents between a rock and a hard place.

However, cell phones also have the potential to cripple the ever growing program we deem Boys' State. Cell phones serve as a potential breach of security within Boys' State. In a program in which close to one thousand junior boys live in close proximity, showering and changing together, the ability to photograph and post at will is extremely dangerous.

Should cell phones be allowed? Unlike many things here at Boys' State, your opinion is yours to choose.



**Joseph Ortiz - 0475**

# Nationalist Party Caucus

**Hunter Radesi 0515**

In many ways, the events of the first half of the Boys' State National Party Caucus reflected real-life politics. It was scary, it was tough, and it was a bit dirty. Several County Party Chairmen ran around to make deals to secure block votes from other counties, which they did not always do with the full consent of their citizens. Controversy also arose during the caucus regarding the contents of the nominees' speeches, which often consisted of lazy references to real political candidates, false promises, and all-

around goofiness. This resulted in shouts and boos from the crowd, who felt that not all of the candidates really knew what Boys' State is about. Fortunately, the chaos yielded results.

The long election process started off on Monday night with the nominees for Party Secretary, which saw Joseph Bott of Wong County elected with 261 votes, before continuing on to elect Nicholas Godfrey of Spafford County as Party Clerk with 271 votes. As the night grew older, David Privatera of Kogutek County was elected as the Party Chair

of the Nationalists with 266 votes. After a quick break for the night, the caucus reconvened on Tuesday afternoon to elect seven citizens as Chief Justices, Ryan Arazi of McKneally County, Ethan Chaffee of Kogutek County, Kirt Joseph of Fish County, Peyton Morse of Stember County, Campbell Anderson of Pedro County, John Kim of Spafford County, and Jack Kehoe of Helm County. The Nationalists then elected Kevin Ge of Stember County as the Party Comptroller with an astounding 300 votes.

# Federalist Party Caucus

**Matthew Levenood 0336**

On Monday night and Tuesday afternoon, the Federalist Party underwent its initial caucuses for choosing its representatives for the state elections.

The candidates for Party Chairman were citizens 0252, 1022, 0372, 0058, 0608, 0784, 0970, 0136 and representatives from other counties. Citizen 0058 of Roosevelt County won out with a very energetic and patriotic speech, garnering 138 votes out of 465. When asked about his victory, he stated "It's kinda

nice being the Party Chairman, I didn't expect it".

The candidates for Assistant Party Chairman were citizens 0580, 0083, 1102, 0698, 0164, 0546, 0012, 0920, and 0372, amongst others. Citizen 0920 of Spafford secured the position with a similarly incendiary and populist speech. This particular vote was complicated by issues with the integrity of the vote counts, warranting a reassessment of voting method and a subsequent recount. The candidates for Party Secretary were citizens 0452, 0698, 0792, 0256,

0974, 0576, 0352, 0194, 0022, and 1082. Citizen 0194 of McKneally dominated the ballot. The candidates for Party Clerk were citizens 0466, 1100, 0852, 0642, 0898, 0112, 0396, 0714, 0242, and 0010. Citizen 0112 from McKneally secured the nomination. For the Judges of Court of Appeals, citizens 0856, 1026, 0744, 0972, 0298, 0166, 0538, 0028, 0398, and 0664 tried their hand. The top seven candidates were granted a spot on the court, with citizen 1026 of Helm as their first and foremost.



**Matthew Smart - 0819**

# 2016 Statesman Poll Results

1. Did you meet with anyone from your American Legion Post before coming to Boys' State?  
495 Yes      47 No
2. Do you think NYS should have an open primary?  
251 Yes      60 No      170 Not Sure      65 Not Aware of it
3. Do you think NYS should have a constitutional convention?  
201 Yes      80 No      176 Not Sure      91 Study it some more
4. Should the United States go back in to Iraq with troops to squash the current ISIS revolt?  
274 Hell, yes      111 Hell, no      166 Study it some more
5. Did you bring a cell phone to Boys' State?  
100 Yes      432 No
6. Do you feel you know what to expect from this Boys' State Program?  
330 Yes      189 No
7. Boxers or Briefs?  
280 Boxers      186 Briefs      78 Commando
8. How much debt do you expect to rack up by going to college?  
203 A lot, but it will be worth it      118 Who knows? My parents are paying  
139 It's all scholarships and grants, baby      128 A lot, and it concerns me
9. You consider yourself to be:  
194 Conservative      78 Liberal      178 Independent      20 Tea Party
10. Boys' State and Girls State should be held on the same campus at the same time?  
434 Yes, we could learn a lot from one another  
100 No, that would be too distracting (and I'm a dweeb)



## Copa America Championships

### Patrick Busche 0863

Chile beat Argentina to win back to back championships for the Copa America title. Remaining 0-0 for the full 90 minutes and extra time, leading to a penalty shootout. The two teams traded goals until Lionel Messi missed a crucial penalty, with Chile responding with a pen to win the game. Messi was so broken by his missed pen that he proclaimed that he is retiring from international competition, but with

the man being 29 years old and with a World Cup in 2018, many have doubts that this is an official retirement. In an amazing turn of events in UEFA Euro 2016, Iceland defeated England in the round of sixteen 2-1. This game will now be considered one of the most embarrassing turnouts in English soccer history, and the most amazing victory in Icelandic soccer history. The goals coming early in the competition, with Wayne Rooney capitalizing

on a penalty in the 5th minute, but just a minute later Sigurdsson responded gently tucking the ball past goalkeeper Joe Hart. The final dagger was Sigthorsson's goal in the 18th minute, marking a milestone for Iceland and will probably be the biggest story of the tournament. Upcoming matches for the quarter finals are Poland vs. Portugal on June 30, Wales vs. Belgium on July 1, Germany vs. Italy on July 2, and France vs. Iceland on July 3.

## Day 1 Sports Scores

### Patrick Busche 0863

Basketball: Minei 20 Bowen 12/ Keiser wins forfeit/ Ward 20 Kearsing 5/ Morrill 20 Troiola 14/ Sallese 20 Peters 9/ Cortright 22 Miller 20/ Clark 11 Burnett 5/ Tipping 20 Marino 18/ Coleman 13 Governor 9/ Herschlag 20 Carpenter 9.

Softball: Harrington 11 Minei 10/ Love won Brown forfeit/ Baker wins

Kearsing forfeit/ Peters 14 O'Keefe 10/ Mitras 9 Cortright 7/ Casey 11 Clark 3/ Neville won Marino forfeit/ Bertrand 16 Governor 2/ Herschlag 20 McLaughlin 9.

Soccer: Bowen 6 Harrington 3/ Keiser 9 Love 6/ Baker 7 Ward 4/ Troiola 3 Van Patten 2/ Bertrand 3 Coleman 2/ Miller 5 Mitras 0/ Casey wins Burnett forfeit/ Tipping 5 Neville 4.



Players watch as a long shot was taken. Picture by Joseph Cavataio 0078



Alex Fiore 0582