



# THE MOUNTAINEER



**"All the news you want to hear... All the announcements you have to"**  
Publication of The American Legion Mountaineer Boys' State

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JUNE 11, 2003

## The State of the State Address

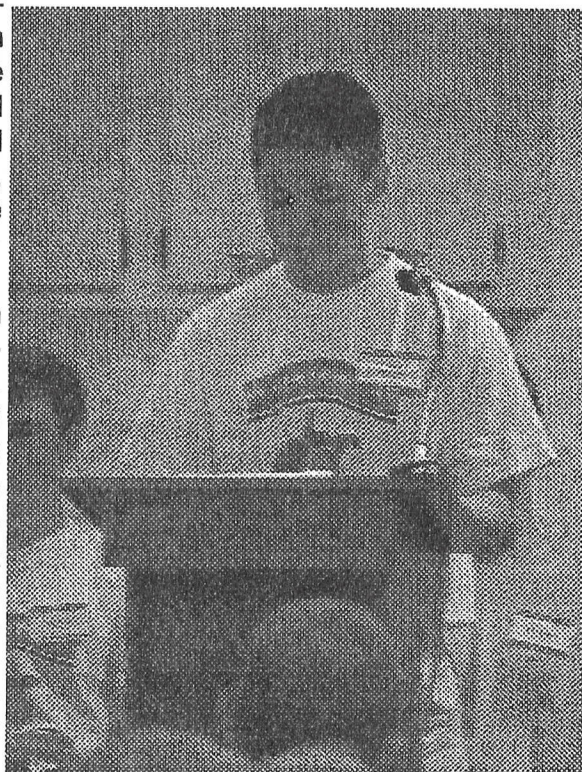
by Michael Stark

At ten o'clock on Thursday morning, Governor Frank Wang addressed a joint session of the legislature. The speech marked Wang's first official Legislative address, and it was where he proposed the budget.

Wang's speech was brief, but his message was powerful. To quote, "Wasteful spending will undo all of the work of previous generations of this great state of West Virginia." In his speech, Wang outlined his ideas and explained what he felt to be the areas of West Virginia that needed the most immediate funding. Including in these were Education, health insurance, roads and highways, and workers compensation.

This year, the budget surplus was calculated at 641 million dollars, and while no definitive

priority when it comes time to divide up the surplus funds.



Health insurance received special attention from Wang. The governor emphasized the fact that it is imperative that families are able to afford quality health insurance in order to provide quality health care for their children. Emphasis was placed on the idea that healthy children would help provide a healthy future for the state of West Virginia.

Wang's speech was short, but it was to the point. He was passionate about the areas to which he felt the money should go, and he was interrupted several times

plans were disclosed, it is apparent that not a dime of the budget surplus money will be wasted. All of the previously mentioned ideas will receive

for applause, including a rather boisterous round when he mentioned worker's compensation.

## Senate & House Report

by Michael Stark

The House and the Senate reconvened at 8:25 Thursday morning. Senate President Evan Wolfe and Speaker of the House Austin Moore wasted no time in commencing the consideration of legislation. While several bills placed on the floor concerned the government of the actual state of West Virginia, legislation regarding the practices and procedures

of Mountaineer Boys State earned consideration.

In the Senate, a bill concerning Boys Nation passed unanimously and after a brief stint on the floor at the Senate, it became the first bill passed by our 2003 legislature. According to this bill, the senior counselor of each respective cabin has the right to select one citizen from each cabin to be considered and interviewed to represent West

Virginia in Mountaineer Boys State.

Other important bills were passed in the House, and now placed in Senate committees to be considered when tomorrow's session begins. These bills include Workers Compensation, a tobacco tax increase, teacher pay raises, and a bill regarding weighted grades for high school Advanced Placement courses.



# SCHEDULE

THE AMERICAN LEGION MOUNTAINEER BOYS' STATE, INC.  
FRIDAY - JUNE 13, 2003

- 6:30 REVEILLE AND CLEAN QUARTERS
- 7:15 IN FORMATION at Dining Hall.
- 7:20 FLAG RAISING
- 7:25 BREAKFAST
- 8:25 - 11:30 City, County, State governments, Boards of Education organized and working  
(See Thursday A.M. schedule)  
Bank and Newspaper staffs organized and working  
State Police and Conservation Officers organized and working.
- 11:45 City, County, Boards of Education work packets due at GHQ.
- 12:05 IN FORMATION AT DINING HALL
- 12:15 LUNCH
- 1:00 - 3:00 College/Career Fair at Assembly Hall  
Bank and Newspaper staffs organized and working
- 1:00 - 5:00 State Police and Conservation Officers organized and working.
- 2:00 Athletics
- 3:00 Closest to the pin contest. Each cottage will get two golf balls to hit. You may use 1 golfer to hit two balls or 2 golfers to hit one ball each.
- 4:00 Cottage Tug-of-War. In front of Marion. Each cottage will provide 20 of their best men. In the event that the cottage does not have 20 men, then the opposing cottage will match the number of the smaller cottage. Braxton Cottage is the reigning champion.
- 5:15 IN FORMATION AT DINING HALL
- 5:30 DINNER
- 6:30 - 7:30 Athletics  
Bank and Newspaper staffs organized and working  
State Police and Conservation Officers organized and working
- 7:00 Band Practice
- 7:30 - 8:00 Band Concert in Assembly Hall
- 8:00 ASSEMBLY - West Fork River Review (Talent Show)
- AFTER ASSEMBLY - CITIZENS PROCEED DIRECTLY TO COTTAGES IN FORMATION FOR Pizza, soda, snacks, and refreshments.  
Newspaper staff organized and working.  
State Police and Conservation Officers organized and working.
- 11:00 Devotions in Kanawha and Panhandle Cottages
- 11:00 - 12:00 As on all previous evenings.

# COTTAGE INSPECTION SCORES

## Boys' State Band

by Kris Plona

Although much hard work is recognized here at Boys' State, one department may tend to be overlooked. Our band has been phenomenal this year. They were able to perform for the entire state after being here less than a day and having very little practice. The director of this group, Drew Aires, has had plenty of experience working with musicians.

Mr. Aires has taught high school band in North Carolina and at Lincoln High School in Harrison County. Although he took three years of percussion classes in college, the trombone is Aires's main instrument. "The band is doing pretty good," he said. "It's always tough the first day or two." Aires loves jazz music and is an avid listener of Duquesne's radio station in Pennsylvania where he lives.

The band is currently working on a big band standard. This year marks the first group Aires has worked with at Boys State that put together a cadence for citizens. He remarked that sight-reading is becoming more important for players because of their limited time to practice. Aires is impressed with the entire band. "They pick things up quickly," he said. The group is different from year to year and is doing an excellent job considering the small amount of time they have had to work with each other.

Brian Gibson, a drummer in the Boys State band agrees. "It's extremely fun," he said. Gibson participates in band at Winfield High School and also holds an office at the bank here at Boys' State. "We came from all over, said Gibson. It's surprising how we all just came together." The entire band has come together extremely well. Having never played together, their musical arrangements are driving force behind citizen's enthusiasm and patriotism. Rock on, guys!

Barbour	90
Braxton	90
Calhoun	96
Gilmer	96
Kanawha	84
Lewis	96
Marion	88
Monongalia	92
Monroe	92
Panhandle	92
Randolph	92
Upshur	92
Webster	96

"... Because the greatness comes not when things go always good for you, but the greatness comes, and you're really tested, when you take some knocks, some disappointments, when sadness comes. Because only if you've been in the deepest valley can you ever know how magnificent it is to be on the highest mountain.

Always give your best, never get discouraged, never be petty. Always remember, others may hate you — but those who hate you don't win unless you hate them, and then you destroy yourself. And so, we leave with high hopes, in good spirits... and with very much gratefulness in our hearts."

—Richard Milhouse Nixon

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## Menu

<u>Breakfast</u>	<u>Lunch</u>	<u>Dinner</u>
Orange Juice	Beefaroni	Individual Meat Loaves
Bananas	Green Beans	Whipped Potatoes
Hot & Cold Cereal	Tossed Salad	Gravy
Scrambled Eggs/Ham	Bread, Butter	Corn
Biscuits, Toast	Beverages	Cole Slaw
Butter, Jelly	Fruit Cocktail	Rolls, Butter
Coffee, Milk		Beverages
		Frosted Cake



## Glen Gainer Addresses Citizens at Lunch

by Shane Mullen

During lunch on Thursday, Glen Gainer III came to speak with Boys' State citizens. Gainer is the Auditor of West Virginia, and is responsible for taking care of issues such as the state's debt, its taxes and revenue, and

the budgeting of state's funds. Gainer, a resident of Wood County and graduate of Parkersburg High School, shared his experience with citizens and offered some words of wisdom. In terms of income, he stressed how crucial it is to stay out of personal debt and be frugal with credit

card use. He also advised Boys' Staters on a number of moral issues, such as setting goals and priorities for oneself, not drinking and driving, treating ladies with kindness and respect, enjoying high school to the fullest, and most of all – being yourself. We all appreciate the good advice, and thank Mr. Gainer for his

## Mountaineer Boys' State LIVE!

by Kyle Roberts

The American Legion Mountaineer Boys' State now has a brand new website online which provides information on schedules, elections, and other events that are currently occurring and have occurred at Boys' State. Michael Sluss and Jacob McCarty are the driving forces behind the new site.

"It is a lot of really hard and tedious work, but it is a good thing and is pretty fun," Sluss and McCarty agreed.

This is not, however, the first site that Mountaineer Boys' State has had online. McCarty shared that back in 1999, Boys' State had a webpage and it did quite well. Unfortunately, the site went down in 2001 when the designer decided he was done working on it.

"I thought the site was really good," McCarty said, "and the parents really liked being able to check up on what their sons were up to at Jackson's Mill. After the site went down, Clarence Walton called me up and asked me if I would help out getting the site back running."

Starting off with a small page with information and updates on

McCarty's personal website, he sent the link of the site to others he knew to get people involved and interested. But McCarty realized that Mountaineer Boys' State deserved something even better.

"I knew that we needed a better site for Boys' State," McCarty shared, "but it's a lot of work and I knew I needed help. I asked around and Steve Sluss mentioned that his son Michael knew some about computers. So I got together with him, talked things over, and now we're both working on the new site."

And they have been working extremely hard. McCarty and Sluss are constantly updating the site all day, whenever they have time.

"Parents and other relatives are always wanting to keep an eye on their kids," said Sluss, "so we are having to constantly update the site and upload new pictures. It makes the day really long. Normally, we are up to 1:00 or 2:00 in the morning."

The new site, <http://www.mountaineerboysstate.org>, has everything from a schedule of events, to pictures of assemblies and the Formal Review, and other events and updates, such as how the voting

went, the different classes citizens attend, and the many jobs citizens are now holding. "The site has been doing really good so far," said Sluss. "People are constantly checking the site for updates. The night of the election, we had more than 200 hits on the site and 200 more by morning. Now, we have had more than 1,000 hits in just two days. Also, when we started on Saturday, we had about 300 files on the site. Now, we have over 2,300 files on the page."

The Boys' State site, unfortunately, will only be up for about a month after this week. Then, McCarty and Sluss will start on updating for the 2004 Mountaineer Boys' State.

But citizens of will have another opportunity to keep their ties to Boys' State. Mountaineer Boys' State has obtained a group name from Yahoo! for citizens to come together in forums and keep in touch with each other.

"The forums are a good way for citizens to discuss different issues with each other," shared McCarty, "as well as simply keep up to date with each other. All citizens have to do is go to <http://www.yahoogleroups.com>, search under government for "Mountaineer Boys' State," and then sign up to join the community."



## Volunteer Firefighter Department Scores

Gilmer 12 points	Panhandle 14 points
Braxton 14 points	Calhoun 17 points
Upshur 16 points	Marion 16 points
Lewis 16 points	Randolph 17 points
Kanawha 15 points	Monroe 0 points
Webster 15 points	Monongalia 0 points
Barbour 14 points	

## Court Trial Results Thursday, June 12, 2003

Webster/Barbour 98
Kanawha 97
Panhandle 78
Calhoun 99
Lewis 100
Monroe 99

## A. James Manchin Visits Boys' State

by Deven Swartz

Members of the American Legion Mountaineer Boys' State were given an extreme honor Wednesday night—hearing one of West Virginia's most respected orators in history. Playing to an already energized crowd, Manchin used his trademark oratorical skills to motivate the crowd of close to 400.

The agenda of the 77-year-old Manchin included the story of a POW named Captain Christian, who failed to surrender to the Japanese in World War II. "He was moaning and groaning," Manchin says, "but he would not give up the flag to his country."

He then enthusiastically made this statement about burning the flag: "Nobody, anywhere, has the right to burn the flag of the United States." Cheers followed, and Boys' State citizens gave Manchin a long, standing ovation.

Manchin also talked about his love for the Mountain State. "How beautiful this place called West Virginia," he declared. He also gave

Randolph counselor Adam Miller the West Virginia state flag and told him that when anyone says anything bad about West Virginia to "break their arms off".



Toward the end of his speech, he told the members of Boys' State to think about their future. He urged the Boys' State citizens to never cut corners in life. Manchin closed by saying, "Go out and conquer the world, because it belongs to you."

Other members of the audience received gifts, such as state pins, from him throughout his speech, and several citizens stayed afterward to shake his hand and pose for pictures.

Delegate Manchin has been a major participant in Mountaineer Boys' State ever since he attended the week-long event in the 1940s. He has bought numerous items for Boys' State and has come back to speak to its new citizens for many years now. He says that he still remembers singing the Mountaineer Boys' State official song, "Men of Tomorrow".

His attendance here at Jackson's Mill was a starting point for Manchin's political career. He became a member of the West Virginia House of Delegates when he was only 21. Between 1977 and 1985 Manchin served as West Virginia's Secretary of State, and from 1985 to 1989, he was State Treasurer.

For the next nine years, Manchin stayed out of state government, but in 1998, fifty years after his first appointment to the House of Delegates, he gave it another shot and won the seat. He is running for yet another term in the next election.





# Lockett Says

## Farewell



by Michael Stark

The torch has been passed to a new generation of Boys Staters. As of late Tuesday night, the newly elected officials formed the new core of the state government here at camp. With that passing, Jake "Afroman" Lockett had to yield his position of governor to Frank Wang. Last night, Lockett took some time out to reflect on the position that he had held so proudly for the last 365 days.

Lockett came to Boys State last year as an upcoming senior at Robert C. Byrd High School. He was assigned to the Gilmer county cabin and was a leader from the start. At first, Lockett had no intentions of running for governor, but his counselor steered him otherwise. "He [Jake's counselor] said he couldn't let me not at try to become governor." The decision that Jake made was a wise one. It turned out that Lockett not only won his election, but he came away with the most lopsided governmental election in the history of Boys State, claiming 87% of the vote.

Looking back, Lockett recounts some of the perks of his job that he will miss the most. Naturally, the posh air-conditioned governor's office was on the list, but there was more about the position of governor that Lockett would back upon longingly. "I will miss everyone calling me governor," Lockett said.

The flavor Lockett brought to the office of governor will not be forgotten. His strong delivery and colorful personality made even his shortest speeches enjoyable and easy to listen to. Incumbent governor Frank Wang has some very big shoes to fill. It's up to him to "keep the funk alive."

# Wang

## Inaugurated



by Kyle Roberts

Wednesday evening I had the distinct pleasure and honor to sit down and talk with this year's American Legion Mountaineer Boys' State Governor, Frank Wang.

"Boys' State has been really cool," Wang shared. "Although it has been extremely busy for me, it has been a whole lot of fun."

Wang, a student of Morgantown High School, has been looking forward to attending Boys' State for some time now.

"My older brother came to Boys' State and was elected to public office," said Wang, "so naturally, I wanted to go to it, too."

Like all citizens of Boys' State, Wang faced a multitude opportunities to take on when he arrived at Jackson's Mill on Sunday.

"At first," Wang said, "I thought about running for Attorney General or maybe Secretary of State. But then I thought I would go ahead and just run for Governor because if I was going to lose an election, at least I would be able to say I lost trying for Governor."

But Frank Wang did more than just try to win. He rose up to meet the challenge head on that was set before him and succeeded triumphantly.

"It feels great," shared Wang. "It took a lot of hard work and long hours into the night, but it was most definitely worth it all."

The hard work and late nights, however, did not end there. Wang has had to step it up a notch now as Governor, taking on even more difficult tasks.



## County Board of Education S.B.A. Presentations Chapel Behind Harrison

8:40 – Monroe	8:50 – Webbar
9:00 – Gilmer	9:10 – Randolph
9:20 – Panhandle	9:30 – Monhoun
9:40 – Braxton	10:00 – Kanawha
10:10 – Upshur	10:20 – Lewis
Marion – 10:30	

**CORRECTION —**  
**Panhandle**  
**Received a 96 on**  
**the trial**  
**yesterday.**

## In Memory of Walter Marria

Mr. Walter Raymond Marria, 77, of South Charleston, WV served on the staff of the Mountaineer Boys' State Staff from 1964-2002, serving as Assistant Administrator. Mr. Marria was richly loyal to the Boys' State Program. Generation of Boy's State Staff knew that Walter and his wife Shirley would always be there to make sure the program ran well.

He was a World War II veteran called to serve on a P.T. Boat in the US Navy as a Seaman First Class. Arriving home, he joined the American Legion serving as a District Commander and Department Finance Officer and was a local Commander numerous times.

He was born at Sharpsville, PA on August 31, 1925, son of the late Stephen F. and Ella Frazier

Marria. Both Walter and Shirley graduated South Charleston High School in 1943. On July 22, 1949, he married his bride, Shirley Wilson Marria. To this union were born three children: Helen, Donna, and Walter Keith.

At Darlington United Methodist Church in South Charleston where he was Chairman of both the Administrative Counsel and on the Board of Trustees. He was employed at Union Carbide Corp. in South Charleston as maintenance supervisor from 1951-1987.

In 2001, both Walter and Shirley received the Dr. John J. Dombrosky Award.

Walter went home to be with the Lord on April 27, 2003. Internment at Sunset Memorial Park in South Charleston.



## Thursday Night Assembly

by Kris Plona

At 8:00, Boys State citizens gathered at the assembly hall. The band played Gary Glitter's "Rock n' Roll Part Two" to get things rolling. A noise competition followed along with two more songs from the band while counselors participated in a "white boys can't dance" contest. Emails came for citizens with good news and greetings from family and friends.

After an impressive "Star Spangled Banner" and introductions, guest speaker Judge Robert Earl Maxwell began speaking. Over the course of the assembly, he introduced numerous distinguished guests

to speak with citizens. "It's been a great pleasure to work with Boys State," said Maxwell. He has worked with the program for over 20 years. He reminded citizens that we would one day run the country. "Government is a wonderful forum," he said. Our democracy is precious, but is too often taken for granted.

Members of the American Legion reminded our citizens of their main purpose. The American Legion strives to maintain the health and rehabilitation of American veterans. This organization is very proud of their motto. "Still serving America" most definitely describes the American Legion's constant service to our country.

Judge Maxwell's son,

Earl Maxwell currently practices law in Elkins. The power and significance of our country were reflected in the impressive statistics presented by Maxwell. The United States owns over 70% of the world's firepower and produces over 1/3 of the world's food supply. Maxwell also stated that the greatest gift from our forefathers was a system of law and a political process.

A number of other guests graced the stage of the assembly hall. Citizens were reminded of responsibility, respect, and priorities. Although some people may look like a jack-o-lantern with no candle inside, these guest speakers helped supply a light for Boys State citizens.



# College/Career Fair Today

by Sean McCabe

This afternoon Boys' Staters will have the unique opportunity to visit with representatives from some of the state's most respected colleges and universities and the armed forces. The College/Career Fair will be held in the Assembly Hall today from 1-3.

Representatives from institutes of higher education from all over the state have been invited to this event. Those invited include: Davis & Elkins Col-

lege, Alderson Broaddus College, Bethany College, the University of Charleston, Marshall University, West Virginia University, West Liberty State College, West Virginia State College, Shepherd College, Fairmont State College, WVU Parkersburg, WVU Institute of Technology, Ohio Valley College, Salem International University, West Virginia Wesleyan, Concord College, and Potomac State College.

Representatives from the Army, Navy, Air

Force, and Marines have been invited as well.

This fair is a wonderful opportunity to compare and contrast career goals for the future, and it is hoped that everyone will take advantage of it.

If you are scheduled for athletics at 2 p.m., it is suggested that you attend the fair between 1-2.

Reminder... Please turn in e-mail addresses to GHQ by Noon.

## THURSDAY'S ATHLETIC RESULTS

Winners are in Bold Face

AREA 1 VOLLEYBALL BESIDE BRAXTON	AREA 2 VOLLEYBALL BESIDE SOFTBALL	AREA 3 FRISBEE BEHIND CHAPEL	AREA 4 SOFTBALL GRASSFIELD	AREA 5 BASKETBALL BEHIND GILMER
WEBSTER BARBOUR		MONROE - F KANAWHA - N	MONONGALIA MONROE - N	
UPSHUR BRAXTON - N	CANCELLED	LEWIS - N RANDOLPH - F	KANAWHA - F MARION - F	CANCELLED

## FRIDAY'S ATHLETIC SCHEDULE

First Session

AREA 1 VOLLEYBALL BESIDE BRAXTON	AREA 2 VOLLEYBALL BESIDE SOFTBALL	AREA 3 FRISBEE BEHIND CHAPEL	AREA 4 SOFTBALL GRASSFIELD	AREA 5 BASKETBALL BEHIND GILMER
RANDOLPH - F BRAXTON - F	WEBSTER MONROE - N	KANAWHA - F MARION - N	LEWIS - F BARBOUR	GILMER KANAWHA - N
LEWIS - N PANHANDLE - N	MARION - F UPSHUR	MONONGALIA PANHANDLE - F	BRAXTON - N CALHOUN	RANDOLPH - N MONROE - F

Second Session

AREA 1 VOLLEYBALL BESIDE BRAXTON	AREA 2 VOLLEYBALL BESIDE SOFTBALL	AREA 3 FRISBEE BEHIND CHAPEL	AREA 4 SOFTBALL GRASSFIELD	AREA 5 BASKETBALL BEHIND GILMER
KANAWHA - F LEWIS - F	KANAWHA - N RANDOLPH - F	BRAXTON - F UPSHUR	GILMER MONONGALIA	PANHANDLE - N BARBOUR
MARION - F WEBSTER	PANHANDLE - F MARION - N	MONROE - N CALHOUN	MONROE - F RANDOLPH - N	BRAXTON - N LEWIS - N