



The Mountaineer



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

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Jackson's Mill, WV 26452

Saturday, June 12, 2004

Citizens attend College Fair

Many colleges from around West Virginia visited MBS yesterday to inform the Boys' Staters of the opportunities they have after college. They provided many booklets and spoke to the citizens to help them decide about their future. The information was helpful and if anyone did not go they certainly missed out. One piece of information that was given was, "Apply to all the colleges you can, then when you get accepted you can decide where to go."

Story by: Randy Revels

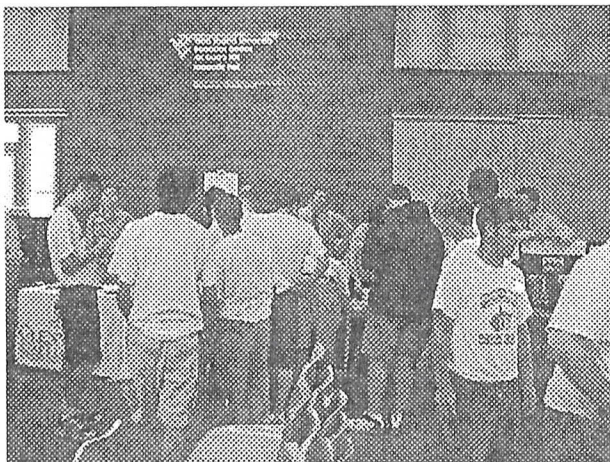


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FAREWELL MBS

Our week here at Mountaineer Boys' State is finally over. The week that started off so slow, and even boring at times, has flown by. During my stay here, I have learned so much. I have explored our government and politics, but more importantly I have developed and even greater respect and reverence for our country, our flag, our freedom, and those who secured it for us.

Outside of classes, jobs, and elected positions I'm sure you have met many people and made memories that will last a lifetime. What started off as an awkward hello is now a friendship that you hate to leave behind. I know that I have thoroughly enjoyed the company of my bunkmates in Kanawha and all of the counselors.

I would like to thank my newspaper staff for the amazing job that they have done this week. Never missing a deadline, staying late to assemble the paper; there is nothing these guys wouldn't do to help. Their hard work has made my job easier and the newspaper great. I hope you have enjoyed reading our articles this week, and that we have been a service to you in some way.

Such a success would not be attainable however if I didn't have the great advisors that have helped me tremendously throughout the week. Special thanks go out to Sean McCabe for his patience and the knowledge he has imparted to me. I would like to thank Betty Ann Williams for being always helpful, and also Robert Wines for keeping our equipment running smoothly. Jacob McCarty has also been instrumental, by keeping our computers up and running and making sure our pictures make it back to HQ.

Boys' State has been a tremendous event for all of us. Although I hate to leave, hopefully I will see you all out in the real world. I wish you all great success and happiness in all that you do.

Sincerely,
Steve Richmond
Editor 2004

Schedule
June 11, 2004

6:30	REVEILLE AND CLEAN QUARTERS
7:45	IN FORMATION at Dining Hall.
7:50	FLAG RAISING
8:00	BREAKFAST
8:30 - 9:30	Prepare for final inspection and departure.
9:30	Final Assembly, parents and guardians welcome
10:30	Adjournment – meet your parents in front of the assembly hall

Do you Yahoo?

Mountaineer Boys' State has a Yahoo Group for citizens, staff and friends of MBS. It was created a few years ago and citizens from the past couple of years have been using it to keep in touch and to share their experiences both here and back home. The moderators of this Yahoo Group would like to invite each and every one of you to sign up (its free!) and take part in the group. There is a link to it on the web site (www.mountaineerboysstate.org) or you can go to Yahoo Groups and type in Mountaineer Boys State as the key word. We hope to see you there!

THE MOUNTAINEER STAFF

Editor: Steven Richmond	Photographers: Grant Burton,
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Randy Revels, Michael Staggers	
Advisors: Betsy Byers, Sean McCabe, Betty Ann Williams	

GET TO KNOW
YOUR GOVENOR

GOVERNOR DANIEL “D-DUB” WELLS resides in Bluefield, WV, with his parents Alcesta and Harold. Wells also has 3 siblings: Loren, Willie, and Ronnie. He attends Bluefield High School.. HSTA and football take up most of his time; he is a 2nd team all stater. The rest of his time, D-dub probably spends with his honey dip, Stephanie Wallace. “Boys’ State was a really great experience,” said D-dub. “I will miss each and every one of my friends.” After high school, Wells plans to attend WVU and obtain a Ph.D while playing football.

ATHLETIC WINNERS
WINNERS ARE IN BOLD PRINT FRIDAY, JUNE 11, 2004

ATHLETICS CANCELLED DUE TO RAIN

Glen Gainer addresses citizens after lunch

Glen Gainer has been the West Virginia State Auditor for three terms and is running for a fourth. He attended Parkersburg High School and graduated from the University of Charleston. This was Mr. Gainer's 13th time speaking at Boys' State and his 28th time attending Boys' State. Gainer challenged the delegates to read. He mentioned two documents, the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights, that really stood out in his mind along with one book, the *Holy Bible*. As we all know, these documents are living, breathing documents. They give us the basis for our government, our rights, and morals to live by. He has challenged us to read and to *understand* what we read. We may not always agree with our government, but they are the experts and are doing what they feel will benefit the most citizens. "Governments aren't made to make kings happy, but to benefit the people," Gainer quoted. We must have faith that the government will do the right thing.

John Quincey Adams was President of the U.S. and served as Secretary of State under James

Monroe. Adams believed that all men had the right to vote. That belief was based on the *Bible* story when Peter had a vision of God and was told that all men are created the same. This became one of America's freedoms. "America's heart will always be with free people wherever they are."

Gainer also said that we are the most powerful nation on Earth because of our freedoms, and no one can take away our power. He encouraged us all to read the *Bible*. It can bring comfort and wisdom and give us proper ways to live our lives.

Story By: Jared Mazezka

The West Fork River Review a BFMA Production

THE CONCERT	Drew Aires and the Mountaineer Boys State Band	
CAUCASIAN COUNSELORS CAN'T DANCE	Various Caucasian Counselors (Judged by the 3 Governors)	
THE FIGHT SONG	Neil Bolyard & Truman Sayre	Counselors
MARTIAL ARTS DEMO	Alex Jenkins	Braxton
A SONG		Kanawha
UGLIEST MAN CONTEST	Selected Citizens	Monroe
GUITAR SOLO	Kyle Bartlett	Lewis
A SONG	Marcus Shaffer & Joe Hartwell	Counselors
MARTIAL ARTS DEMO	Sean Watkins	Kanawha
PIANO INSTRUMENTAL	Thad Garrett	Randolph
I'VE BEEN EVERYWHERE	Derek "The Deeze!" Lathey	Kanawha
I FEEL HOME	Joey Palcic	Barbour
COME TO JESUS	Chad Gifford	Lewis
GUITAR AND VOCALS	Adam Christian	Panhandle
SOME GAVE ALL	Joe Hartwell & Brandon Flower	Counselors
OLD RUGGED CROSS		

ODDS AND ENDS

Citizens graduate from Fire school

The fire school at MBS was started in memory of Dick Wallace.
These citizens graduated from it this year.

- Clint Perkins
- Bobby Koerber
- Adam Gianabo
- Justin Williams
- Alex McElfresh
- Nick Haylman
- Ritchie Leach
- Matt Perkins
- Todd Tichener
- Lincoln Moloney
- Christopher J. Crouse
- Mark Lemon
- Ali Mokhtarzadeh
- Joshua Duncan
- Kenny Smith
- Thomas Sleigh
- Craig Dutton
- Ranjit Shenoy
- Joe Eagan
- Spencer ford

Congratulations to Panhandle on their tug-of-war championship!

Returning Vet attends MBS

A letter by James E. Hayes

My name is James E. Hayes. I happen to have the honor of being the first returning veteran to attend Boys' State. In 1944 I quit Chester High School at the age of 17 to join the navy. I served on the USS LST874 which was engaged in the liberation of the Philippines and the invasion of Okinawa. I was discharged in 1946 and returned to Chester, WV. I went to the High School to talk to the Principal about getting a GED. He suggested that return to school and finish the two years. I took his suggestion and returned to high school. These two years were some of the best years of my life, the highlight was being selected to attend Boys' State in the summer of 1947. I was sponsored by the American Legion Post 121 of which I am now a member.

Senate/House Update

After speaking to the Speaker of the House of Delegates, Corey Zarnoch, and the President of the Senate, Bobby Herron, both said that they worked well together. Speaker, Zarnoch, stated that they passed legislation that would help the state very much and rejected bills that would not help the state. The President of the Senate, Herron, said that they passed a bill on flood insurance availability and one to spend \$4 million on a hospital for Marion County. They passed another bill to have a porch built onto Braxton cottage, discriminatory insurance policies, and for a Nascar track to be built in Clarksburg.

Story By: Jared Mazezka

Man on a mission

Paul and Karen Stern are on a mission. Stern is a Veteran that makes flag cases to display flags presented to families who have lost a service members in Enduring Freedom, Iraq, Philippines, and any domestic issues . Each case costs about 50 dollars in materials. Donations can be sent to either of two places:

Mr. and Mrs. Paul and Karen Stern
RR5 Box 609
Cameron WV, 26033

or

WVFLAGCASES@aol.com
when leaving a message in subject line,
please write, "Concerning Flag Cases"
1-304-686-3432

THE PEOPLE IN GRAY

by Mark Byers, Senior Counselor, Lewis Cottage

By the time you get here, they've been here a day, the people in gray. Some of them started work on this year's program before last year's ended. Some meet at least once a year at a remote location to improve the program to make it a better learning experience for you. Some of them invest a great deal of their personal time to put together programs that attempt to make the complexities of the law and budgets and government a simple, enjoyable experience for you. They do it because of their love for this program. They do it for you.

Who are they, the people in gray? They're veterans who fought in wars you've only read about. They're lawyers and engineers and businessmen and bus drivers and technicians and students. Some of them are high school students only a year older than you are. They come from as far away as Illinois and Southern Virginia and Eastern Maryland and from as close as Buckhannon. They take vacation and schedule their early summer around you, so important is your cause. They're volunteers.

The Saturday before you come, they come, the people in gray. Some of them haven't seen each other for a year: each greeting is a family reunion. Old friends who come together for this program and for you embrace to honor the friendships forged here years or even decades ago. Pleasantries are exchanged, then the business of your week is discussed. While you're having a last night with your families and friends, they're working with their Boys' State family to make sure they're ready for you. After the meetings, they eat and visit and catch up on a year's worth of news, knowing that time is precious once you arrive. They vote for the Weston Fire Department Flame Queen with their change. Pizza Hut loves the people in gray.

The day you get here, they've been up for

hours, the people in gray. Nametags and shirts and medical forms and rosters and blue books and handbooks are stacked and sorted and labeled and ready: ready for you. Counselors in cottages stand ready to receive you and your families, their gray shirts fresh to impress upon your parents that you will be in good hands. They receive you in all your forms: on foot, on crutches, in wheelchairs, with special needs or otherwise, there is nothing they cannot handle, even if you forget your physical forms (which you always do). You come in all sizes, colors, and creeds. You come with baggage, both physical and emotional. Some of you have never been away from home before. They answer a thousand questions for the thousandth time. You're silent and shell-shocked. They smile.

During the week, they make your day, the people in gray. They direct, correct, guide, answer, demonstrate, cajole, announce, and teach. Forms and ballots and schedules and the myriad things you need each day appear as if by magic. While you're in classes or doing athletics, caucusing, or assembling, they're making sure the next thing you need will be there right when you need it. If you are up at 0600, they're up at 0530. If you're in bed at 2400, they're in bed at 0100 or later. If you're tired, they're more so. The people in gray will sleep when they get home: right now you're more important.

When you leave, they'll linger, the people in gray. There will be tearful goodbyes fueled by a sense of accomplishment of having taken 400 strangers and molded them into teams of bright young men with a greater knowledge and appreciation for America. You'll be on the road back home and they'll be embracing, relieved that it's over, but not wanting it to end. They'll drag their feet, trying to get in that one last personal contact that they didn't make because they were busy serving you. They'll meet at the Wendy's in Weston so they can have those last moments together and to bask in the glow of their love for this program and each other. Eventually they'll say their goodbyes and resolve to return another day... as the people in gray.

Dedicated to the 77 staff members who made the
2004 Mountaineer Boys' State a reality.

THANKS TO ALL OF THE MBS STAFF WHO MADE THE EVENT SO GREAT!

Citizens of the 67th Mountaineer Boys' State,

We would like to congratulate you upon the successful completion of your stay here at Mountaineer Boys' State. Hopefully by now, your understanding of American Politics has been heightened in many ways. Our form of government relies on the participation of its people, and it is necessary for all of us to take active roles in the decision making process. You could do something as basic as registering to vote and voting, or you could even run for office yourself.

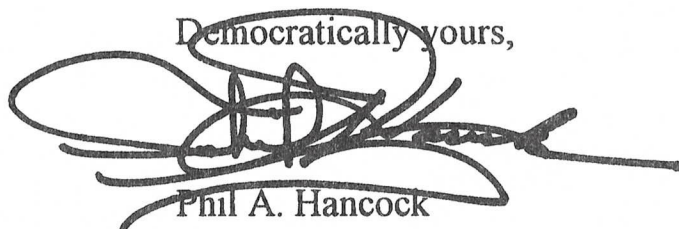
Political participation can start long before you register to vote. Today, there are young people all over the United States of America offering their views on political issues to our nation's leaders. Now, more than ever, the leaders of this great country are turning their attention to the youth of America to see the future of this land. Your voices can be heard through organizations like the Young Republicans and Young Democrats.

The West Virginia Young Republicans and Young Democrats have been active in our state for many years and are always looking to gain new members. Throughout the year, we participate in political campaigns, voter registration drives, statewide conventions, and national conventions. This year brings much excitement as our country is experiencing both races for West Virginia's Governor and our nation's President with much spirited debate.

With organizations like these, it's not hard at all to get involved in partisan politics. For more information, all you have to do is e-mail one of us. Again, we hope you had a great week and we look forward to hearing from you.

And remember, it's not a question of right and left, it's a question of right and wrong.

Democratically yours,



Phil A. Hancock
Senior Counselor-Calhoun
Young Democrats

friends@philahancock.com

Conservatively yours,



Richard E. Tyre
Senior Counselor-Barbour
College Republicans

rtyre@geo.wvu.edu

Sons of The American Legion

Sons of The American Legion (SAL) is a program of The American Legion established in 1933 in Portland, Oregon. Since then, the Sons of The American Legion have assisted The American Legion with their programs and activities. Sons of The American Legion in 2003 attained an all time high membership of over 280,000 members nationally. The largest Detachment (State level) has over 34,000 members. There are trophies and awards given to Detachments and Squadrons for the largest membership, and the largest increase in membership.

Sons of The American Legion is more than just membership. Sons of The American Legion, on all levels, have worked together with The American Legion to promote Children and Youth programs, including the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation, in which the Sons of The American Legion have raised over \$274,000 in 2003. Since 1988, the Sons of The American Legion have raised over \$2,000,000 for The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation.

Sons of The American Legion members have donated over 195,000 volunteer hours in the Veterans Hospitals throughout the country and raised over \$1,900,000 that has gone directly to the VA hospitals and VA homes for a variety of items including TVs, radios, medical equipment, and clothes for the patients.

Sons of The American Legion continues to provide services to those in need in the local communities, through programs that include fundraising events.

The America Legion, Sons of The American Legion and The American Legion Auxiliary form the "Legion Family". A family with a total membership of nearly 4.2 million members.

Sons of The American Legion are assisting The American Legion and the Citizens Flag Alliance in their efforts to secure a Constitutional Amendment to protect the Flag of the United States from desecration. If you are interested in receiving additional information about Sons of The American Legion programs, please write to the address on the back panel.

www.sal.legion.org



For information on
Sons of The American Legion
please contact:

Sons of The American Legion
P.O. Box 1055
Indianapolis, IN 46206
www.sal.legion.org

Sons of
The American Legion

Why I Belong



Sons of The American Legion Membership Application

Date _____

Detachment of _____ Squadron No. _____ Birth Date _____ Date _____

Name _____ Recruited by _____
(First) (Initial) (Last) (Initial) (Last)

Address _____
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

E-mail Address _____ Telephone _____

Veteran through whom eligibility is established _____

(a) Above is a member in good standing of Post No _____, Dept. of _____

OR (b) Above is a deceased veteran who served honorably from _____ to _____

(c) Relationship of Applicant to Veteran _____

I hereby subscribe to the Constitution of the Sons of The American Legion, apply for membership, and transmit \$ _____ as annual membership dues.

Signed _____
(By Applicant or Parent)

Eligibility certified by _____
(Post Adjutant)

00-001 (2004)

Stock#: 00-008 (2004)

Artwork#: 181A0204



Why I belong to

Sons of The American Legion

Contact: Steve Sluss - wvboysstate@hotmail.com
 Art Zoeckler - zoeck@aol.com

Our Country

- To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America.
- To honor my forefather's service to our country.
- To perpetuate (encourage) the true spirit and positive view toward Americanism.
- To help our children of (and into) tomorrow.
- To assist teaching all Americans of all ages what it took to make Our Country Great.
- To keep Freedom Alive.
- To reinstate our Loyalty and Patriotism and beliefs in America.
- To help our Country prepare for the future through the ideals established by our forefathers.
- To provide a vehicle for the Legion Family and the Community to work together, to provide various services to the Community, State and Nation.
- To protect our nation's flag and to educate youth on flag etiquette.

Our Family

- To support The American Legion and its programs.
- To respect our parent Organization.
- To give back for what The American Legion has done for my family and me.
- The American Legion Family-to make our support of The Legion Family as strong as possible.
- To help teach our youth the principals of Justice, Freedom and Democracy.
- Both a Father and Son can belong to the organization with a shared interest.
- To learn how to conduct a meeting using Roberts Rules of Order.
- To be a part of The Legion Family, and to help preserve it.
- To help the Sons of The American Legion become a better organization for all those who belong and for all who are helped through the Sons of The American Legion Programs.
- To help prepare our youth in their ability to succeed.

Our Veterans

- To help care for all Veterans who served our nation by assisting the VA&R and the VAVS Programs.
- To impact my community in a positive way, by helping and assisting veterans, and supporting various American Legion Programs.
- To provide assistance to all Veterans, especially those in need of care.
- That our Veterans, POWs, and MIAs from ALL wars will never be forgotten.
- Pride for those who served this Country to keep us free.
- For God and Country, and support our Veterans and their families.
- The pride we take knowing our contributions to The American Legion and their charitable programs are making a difference for the youth of America.
- To help those in need of help.