

Nationalists take four positions

Marvin Wright Belleau Wood

And the results are in. State offices have been filled for Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, State Auditor, and Attorney General.

For Lt. Governor, Nationalist David Slobotski wins over Federalist Aaron Persinger, both are from the town of Alamo.

Secretary of State was a close race among two capable candidates, both from Alamo. The Nationalist candidate, Jeremy Hutcheson, won over the Federalist candidate, Blake Woodward.

State Treasurer candidates were Nate Anderson from Gettysburg for the Nationalists, and Jon Jensen from Manila Bay for the Federalist.

The State Auditor for Boys' State is a Nationalist by the name of Matt Grunke from Belleau Wood.

Last but not least, Nationalist Craig Hughes from Gettysburg won Attorney General over Federalist Todd Ruzicka from Alamo.

So as it stands, for state offices, Alamo has 2, Belleau Wood has 1, Gettysburg has 1, Bataan has 0, Manila Bay has 1, Yorktown has 0, Valley Forge has 0, and Bunker Hill has 0.

Federalist Platform

Josh Johnson Yorktown

The Federalist party met on Monday, June 1, and on Tuesday, June 2 to discuss their platform. The party had to go through much debate and arguing to finally settle on what issues that they would include.

The Nationalist Platform

Brian Hernandez & Harish Tella Manila Bay

On Tuesday morning, the Lincoln County assembled in Food Service Room 118 for their County Convention (CC), they discussed the four planks chosen the proceeding night and to verify the wording of the official plank statements.


After the CC adjourned, the State Convention took place where the Lincoln County and Washington County met and compared official plank statements.

The first plank addresses the issue of rural school consolidation. The party's official stance is to leave consolidation as a last resort to solving the funding problem of many schools.

The third major plank supports the right to bear arms under concealment with strict regulations. The party believes this will act as deterrent against criminal actions.

The Gubernatorial Glimpse

Nationalist

 Brian Hernandez
Manila Bay


Nationalist Governor candidate Jody Boekman plans on making governmental decisions that will please the majority of the State while remaining true to his moral beliefs.

Boekman will try to maintain an efficient government while exercising the principals of organization and accountability.

Boekman's exuberant personality, great oratory skills, and enormous intellect on relevant subject matter will aid him in the election.



Jody Boekman


 Kyle Harpster
Valley Forge

Brett Kunz, the Nationalist gubernatorial candidate from Valley Forge has dedicated himself to succeeding at a challenging position. "I didn't want to just settle for some other office when I believe that I'm capable of being a great governor," Brett said.

Brett is from Stuart, Nebraska, and is involved in many school and community activities. However, he cautions that he is the best candidate based on what he will do in office, not what he has already accomplished.



Brett Kunz

 Kendell Dorsey
Bataan

Hailing from South Sioux City, Andrew Boyle is a very busy person. He is involved in the Jazz and marching bands, choir, Magic the musical, show choir, and also leads and manages his own band. Andy feels very strongly about the issues in the Nationalist platform. He hopes to have a "fun and eventful Boys' State."



Andrew Boyle

 James Hartline
Yorktown

It has been the slogan that has identified this candidate from the very beginning of his campaign: "Orange Julius for Governor." Julius Kerschinske is well-suited for the job. He describes himself as "well-rounded, hard-working, ambitious, and wanting to help people." He is involved in football, basketball, golf, speech, drama, and FCCLA. He feels that he will do an excellent job, both because of his qualifications and how he feels about the job. "I feel a governor needs to be more than smart and charismatic. He needs to be a good leader and represent the views of the state truthfully."



Julius Kerschinske


Federalist

 Harish Tella
Manila Bay

Scott E. Leibbrandt is the federalist candidate for the gubernatorial office from Manila Bay. He wants others to know that he desires to be a serving leader. Mr. Leibbrandt is most passionate about his pro-life stance on abortion and the restrictions on water use in Nebraska. He believes his most important trait is his desire to earn respect through his actions.




Scott E. Leibbrandt

 Colton Lueck
Belleau Wood

Ben Woodruff from the Federalist Party is running for Cornhusker Boys' State Governor. Woodruff seeks to combine views for both the Nationalist and Federalist Parties. He said, "We have to cross the lines of bipartisanship to give us a better understanding of the purpose of why we are here."



Ben Woodruff

 Jacob Rundle
Bataan

Bataan's Federalist candidate for the gubernatorial race is Jonathan "Park" Sloup. He comes from the city of Lincoln and is a student at the newly opened Lincoln Southwest. Park's main running point is, "You learn more when you listen more."


"I'm a little bit more nervous now because all of the candidates are high quality and when a lot of high quality guys come together it's going to be more competitive."

While running for Governor, Park is all business, but that is not all that he is about.

"I'm all about having fun and enjoying myself. I'm all about listening so I can accurately portray and share views. That's my job."



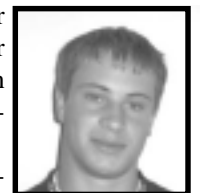
Jonathan Sloup

 Blake Waggoner
Valley Forge

The week started off as an ordinary week for Jeremy Peterson, but that soon changed. After thinking about what position to run for, Peterson opted to run for the Federalist's Governor nomination.

"I thought it would be a challenging experience," said Peterson.

Peterson's platform includes raising taxes, resulting in an increase in state income. He also supports less water regulation and the legalization of gambling.



Jeremy Peterson

The Gubernatorial Glimpse

Nationalist

Jeremy Hutcheson
Alamo

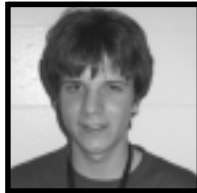
Travis stands out; well, at least his name does. Travis Ptacek is a party man that supports his platform. Travis says he is an easygoing guy that cares what people think. Mr. Ptacek believes that education is vital to our state, and knows that he has the ability to lead Boys' State.



Travis Ptacek

B.J. Davlin
Gettysburg

I never got a chance to be present at this man's speeches, but from what I hear, Robert Durland can wow a crowd. Robert Durland is from Plattsmouth and representing the Boys' State town of Gettysburg. His main campaign points are efforts to get corporations more involved in school funding, research alternate fuel sources to better Nebraska's ethanol industries, and to get stricter concealed weapons regulations.



Robert Durland

Marvin Wright
Belleau Wood

"Walk softly and carry a big stick, you will go far." This quote is what the Belleau Wood Nationalist Governor candidate, Richard Lichtas, goes by. He comes from Ashland and has many good credentials.



Richard Lichtas

Robert Lemke
Bunker Hill

Shaun Tighe is a good listener; he's considerate and passionate. He has very good leadership skills. He doesn't think his views are any different than anyone else's. He's not egotistical and he often puts other people ahead of himself. He may not be able to answer all the questions but he's determined to try and listen to the people's voice. "My role in government isn't all about me. It's all about the society. As your governor I will make sure that everyone's expectations are met. My interest is in the people's view."



Shaun Tighe

Federalist

Zach Jensen
Alamo

Federalist Andrew Lingenfelter from Alamo is a candidate for governor. Andrew believes that he's qualified because he has a strong faith and family background.

The issue that Andrew feels strongest about is Nebraska's economy with education being the most pressing concern and agriculture the second most pressing.



Andrew Lingenfelter

Daniel Ocanto
Gettysburg

As a member of the Federalist Party and Washington County, Danny Andersen, an Aurora native, may just be the heavy favorite. Andersen believes that Nebraska could benefit from the production of ethanol and biodiesel—which weighs heavily with the Western Nebraska multitude.

Andersen states, "The only way to successfully improve our budget deficit is to find a proper balance between income and property taxation."



Danny Andersen

Darren Brandl
Yorktown

Alliance native Jordan Colwell is the Yorktown Federalist governor candidate. Colwell strives to improve education by placing higher standards on teacher's curriculum, and he also plans to transform Nebraska's tax structure from re-active to pro-active; thus taxing all Nebraska citizens on the same level.



Jordan Colwell


David James Heller
Bunker Hill

Adam Parrish is an outstanding leader in the town of Bunker Hill. He believes strongly in the power of the educational system in the state of Nebraska and believes it should hold top priority when it comes to funding. By taking funding away from schools, Adam believes that the future of students will ultimately suffer.



Adam Parrish

The Master Plan

 Rob Durland
Gettysburg

Many questions come to mind when you go to Boys' State. The main one being, how come there aren't any girls there? I believe that this is a problem that needs solving. All we need is a step in the right direction. If everyone steals, I mean permanently borrows, a spoon from the cafeteria, we can begin digging a tunnel of freedom, a tunnel to Girls' State. Now you might be wondering: What do we do with all the displaced dirt? Simple, we eat it. Many people aren't getting the correct amount of fortifying nutrients found in dirt and I believe eating it is the answer. In fact, according to a recent study on the subject, 98% of people who do eat dirt say that they don't enjoy the taste. Now that we've completely wondered from the subject of tunnel digging, it's time to get back to the subject at hand. After the tunnel has been dug, we need to cover our tracks. If we put something really shiny on the opposite side of the building from where the tunnel is, then we should be able to get into Girls' State undetected because no one can resist something really shiny or at least I can't. Now as long as nobody of authority reads this, we'll have a fool-proof plan.

Coping By Creating

 Brian Hernandez
Manila Bay

A level playing field was set when Boys' State (BS) officials only allowed candidates to use crayons, masking tape, and a letter-sized sheet of paper to campaign.

Nevertheless, candidates coped with the miniscule supplies allotted and used their imaginations to distinguish themselves from others.

So, to stay one step ahead, candidates visited opposing town's floors to get their names recognized.

Certain floors had campaigning requirements.

Valley Forge (Black) didn't allow papers to be posted in their lounge.

Bunker Hill (Yellow) required candidates to dance and sing, do a handstand, or show a special talent before they were allowed to verbally campaign.


Manila Bay (Green) asked the same questions to every candidate that spoke in their lounge to better compare candidates.

One question asked by Manila Bay member, John Bettles, seemed to stump everyone. "Concerning the Republican River controversy, who do you believe should acquire the water rights? Nebraska or Kansas?"

Boys' State members also went to opposing town's floors to shout a chant about certain candidates.

Each candidate stretched his imagination in order to receive recognition. Although some candidates were more creative than others, all should be commended for campaigning during the 2003 Cornhusker Boys' State election.

Making the Most Out of the Week is Vital

 Blake Waggoner
Valley Forge

During the first general assembly I heard a speaker discuss the reasons why we were here and then I heard a phrase I am sure will be repeated throughout the week. The speaker said, "You are the best of the best." What does this phrase mean? What makes us the "best of the best?" As the speaker continued to speak I pondered these questions.

It is our leadership abilities, our attitudes, and our determination that makes us the best of the best. We, as delegates, have been chosen to represent our schools and communities. Community members have given us an opportunity, an opportunity we must embrace. It is up to us to make the most of our week. I feel that if we do not make the most of our week, we would not only be letting our communities down, we would be letting ourselves down.

Over and over I have heard counselors and speakers tell delegates to make the most of the week, otherwise the week could be just another meaningless experience. I know that I will do everything in my power to make sure that my experience is a memorable one, as should the rest of the Boys' State delegates.

Letter to the Editor:

A Lover's Quarrel

■ 'Stater Missing Dance Opportunities

Dear Editors,

I am dismayed by the lack of a dance at Boys' State. Not only are we citizens being deprived of fun social activities, but I also believe that it is taking away from a fundamental aspect of the Boys' State experience – making contact with future leaders. We are no longer in the 1800's, where women were shut up in the house. We are in the new millennium where women play an active role in all levels of the government.

On the first page of the Blue Book, we were told that we may be meeting "a future governor, congressman, even president" at Boys' State. Isn't it just as possible that they will be at Girls' State? Without the dance, the citizens of Boys' State are unable to meet some of their future leaders, coworkers, or bosses.

The dance, as you can see, would not only be fun, but it is crucial to our futures.

Lee Heerten, Yorktown

Your Opinion Counts!

The Boys' State Bulletin welcomes brief letters to the editor and guest columns, but does not guarantee their publication. All letters must be in good taste and representative of the Boys' State Bulletin and the American Legion. The Boys' State Bulletin staff reserves the right to edit or reject any material submitted. Submitted material becomes the property of the Boys' State Bulletin and cannot be returned. Anonymous submissions will not be published. Those who submit letters must identify themselves by name and Boys' State Town. All submissions are checked for authenticity.

Submit material into the Boys' State "Letters to the Editor" Box located at the front Desk of Schramm hall
