



# THE BOYS STATEMENT

The Official Newspaper of Florida American Legion Boys State  
Florida's Premier Youth Leadership Program

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## Governor, Cabinet slates in place

### Pride and unity prevail at Federalist Convention

By Jesse Dillon

It was truly a special time to be a fan of partisan politics. Shouts of "Feds! Feds! Feds!" echoed the halls, and the sheer camaraderie felt between the counties was commendable. Any moments of possible tension or division within party lines due to the competition of an election were easily healed, as the main themes of the afternoon were unity and pride. And the Federalist Party was in fact united, not so much to bring down the Nationalists, but rather, to support each other and help make the Federalists the best party it can be. As it stands currently, Nationalists hold more offices than the Federalists, a fact the "Feds" are well aware of.

Among the many references to dreams, ambitions, qualities, and goals, newly elected Governor nominee Danny Arias stressed the point of unity, and unbridled support from his Federalist peers. If the preliminary elections for state candidates proved anything, it's that counties generally support their representative. Danny recognizes that for the Federalists of the 62nd Boys State to succeed and be the model of future parties, we must have complete support for one another.

Intentions are one thing, but to fulfill them are another story. However, it must be stated just how much class was shown throughout. Competitors for different offices had absolute support for each other, recognizing that what's most important is for the best man to win. Among the many instances yesterday afternoon, a particular event occurred in which Danny Arias (along with other high level Federalist members, including Quentin Hibbs) unanimously agreed to appoint Governor runner-up Forrest Boone as Lt. Governor. As this race was so very close, the bridging of these two candidates was the defining moment of unity, with the entire Federalist Party breaking into thunderous cheer. Regardless of how this Boys State week will end, anybody wearing a yellow tag can be proud of the level of professionalism displayed by his party.

### Nationalists head towards the promise land!

By Brandon White

Led by James Greenwood, the Nationalist Party held their state convention in the Ruby Auditorium with the elections, with the decision of a governor, and with reconstruction on the agenda.

The process for governor began quickly. One representative from each county was given two minutes to persuade their fellow Nationalists that they were the smarter choice for governor. The candidates' credentials were impressive compared to the last convention, and the speeches were better constructed as well. The most impressive of the group, though, were finalists Chris "Spiderman" Kriz and the gavel banging Ryan McCarthy. Kriz inspired the crowd by telling them that "with great power, comes great responsibility." With this classic phrase he gained many nationalist votes, but would they be enough? McCarthy didn't retreat when hearing Kriz's words. He answered the challenge by telling the Nationalist that if elected he would unite them and "bang his gavel HARD."

The crowd reached its climax with welcoming explosions and chants for the candidates. Adrenaline rushed through all the bodies in the crowd when chairman Greenwood crowned McCarthy as the Nationalist candidate for governor. "We will unite and put the Nationalists in control."

he said confidently. Shouts of jubilation reverberated agreement that together they would become the unbeatable Nationalist Party, and leaders of the executive branch.

Other major highlights of the convention were "promise land" Moses being elected Chief of Agriculture (also referred to as farm boy by chairman Greenwood) for the party, and "cash flow CFO" Jolly being elected Chief Financial Officer. Each received countless screams of support from the Nationalists. The party feels confident that they will do well in office.



Nationalist gubernatorial nominee Ryan McCarthy and Federalist gubernatorial nominee Danny Arias pose ready to compete for the position of Governor of the 2005 Florida American Legion Boys State.

# Homeland Security: Protecting Local Treasures

By Matt Sills

As Boys State kicks into full gear, many cities already find themselves embroiled in a bitter conflict over guide-ons. All over the state, guide-ons seemingly vanish into thin air. The reports are that renegade groups from other cities operating without sanction from their counselors are stealing guide-ons in an effort to bring pride and glory to their "respective cities." Many cities have been targeted already. Shannondale has been hit multiple times already, and Mimbs Creek is suing Glover City for the alleged theft of their guidepost. Werli luckily regained their guide-on yesterday, but Deen Town is still looking.

A little bird tells me that it's highly unlikely for Deen Town to find their guide-on before this session of Boys State is dismissed. This reporter has been told that the operation on Deen Town was carried out by a group of commandos who then dumped their booty at an undisclosed location, where it remains hidden. No further information was disclosed.

Many cities are forming unofficial raiding groups. Risking my life, I prudently ventured to the front lines where I was privy to the formation of an elite squad specifically engineered for speed, strength, and stealth. No doubt other such squads exist, such as the mentioned commandos.

In light of this, many cities have stepped it up with their security measures. Walker City, for example, has declared itself to be a vigilante state. This decision came after a foiled attempt on their guide-on. The city Sheriff, Billy "The Bear" Williams, was taken unaware in a routine toll collection when he was speared and found the guide-on nearing the clutches of the enemy. Luckily he was able protect the precious piece of the city's identity.

In fact, in certain cities extraordinary means have been exercised to protect the guide-ons. It is not uncommon for the bearers to be found sleeping with their charges. In some more extraordinary examples of dedication people have been seen taking them as far as the shower and the bathroom stalls. In Seitzinger Tyler Olsen has taken to the reverse death lock method, keeping his guide-on in a quasi-kung-fu-grip. They have also adopted the strength through numbers stratagem in Seitzinger, swarming any potential threat. Other cities have taken a more "political" policy using blackmail and under-the-table threats as a means of reclaiming their lost symbols.

In the most recent development over shower curtains heated words have flown. Shannondale declares: "We will take matters into our own hands!" And Matthew Galloway stating he is: "Really pissed off." There is even the rumor of Air Force County declaring war on Army County, and if that is the case, Army County citizens say they are ready to fight back. It has been only three days of Boys State and already where this will lead is pure speculation. All I can surmise so far, though, is that it's going to be a very interesting week in Tallahassee.

SHANNONDALE

## A mockery of a mock trial and laborious Legislative elections

By Cody Strevler

Taking place in the prestigious Ruby Diamond Auditorium, yesterday morning were the elections for the senators and representatives. Speeches were influential and elections were very close.

For some nominees, this was their first time running for any office, and others were running for anything they could get since day one. Some made speeches containing empty promises; others boasted a list of qualifications. Overall though, votes were cast fairly, bringing some hope to the Boy's State legislature.

On a totally different note, the Navy County court case of the State v. Michael T. was quite a calamity. The lighting system in the courthouse seemed to have a mind of its own, turning on and off at its own digression. The way the case was presented, 16 year-old Michael T. went into school with a gun, shot and killed 5 people and wounded 22 others. He had already pleaded guilty in trial, and this proceeding was to determine if is he to get life in prison, or the death sentence.

The Honorable Cole Wells of Williamsburg presided, the well-organized city attorney presented his side with confidence and clarity; however, the State was quite disorganized in its proceedings. The state tried to disprove all mitigating factors and promote capital punishment, whereas the defense was that the death penalty was "cruel and unusual punishment" and that this was "only a mistake". Mr. T, Michael's father stated, "We've had enough killing".

After a quick deliberation the jury delivered a sentence of life in prison.



## Editorial: What are the Nationalists thinking?

*By Jeff Grosholz*

The scene at the Nationalist Party Convention was one of uneasy calm. It seemed ready to burst at any moment. Party Chair James Greenwood seemed to have something of a grip on the proceedings, but had his party forgiven him for the "fire" he started yesterday? How organized was he really? Meanwhile, over at the Federalist Party Convention, you could hear the commotion from down the hall. Had this previously well-structured, neatly ordered party fallen into an archaic mess? No, they were simply moving furniture around so as to accommodate themselves to the room they were in. Almost immediately after Party Chair Erik Johanson restored order in the room, a chant of, "Feds, Feds, Feds..." broke out. It spread like a disease through the cramped, stuffy room, slowly gaining noise and force, until the entire room reverberated with thunderous voices, all cheering for one cause, one goal. Perhaps Party Chair Johanson is right in saying that "the Federalists are going to be a force to be reckoned with."

Seeing that the Federalists were well on their way, I decided to traverse back to the Nationalists. After all, sparks flew yesterday; maybe they would fly again today? As I walked from building to building, I considered this possibility and dismissed it, thinking that there was no possible way the Nationalists could mess up that much. Unfortunately, I was wrong. But I'm getting ahead of myself. Let me tell this story the proper way.

When I re-entered the Nationalist Convention, I sighed with relief, and I must admit, a little dismay. The Nationalists were simply in the process of going through the motions of electing the Chief Financial Officer. I calmly walked through the convention, seeking out their Governor elect. It was once I got upstairs that the floodgates broke wide open. After having a brief conversation with my editor, I walked onto the balcony so as to take in the entire experience. I was shocked when I heard the words coming from below. At first I thought I was mistaken. Sadly, I was hearing perfectly. Drifting up from the bottom of the Nationalist Party Convention was the joyous cheer of "Feds suck, Feds suck, Feds suck..." I could not believe what I was hearing. While the Federalists were simply promoting party unity, the Nationalists preferred to discredit their opponents by slandering behind their backs. At this point, I was shocked; but what would happen next forced me sit down in disbelief. A few minutes after this cheap attack, the Nationalists apparently found a Federalist "spy" amongst them. After they politely "asked" the person in question to leave, their Party Chair decided that to have the last word, he would deliver a one-liner aimed at the Federalists. "I believe Richard Nixon was impeached for behavior like that," were the next words James Greenwood spoke. A couple seconds later from the back of the Convention, a sane mind from the superb city of Seitzinger yelled out, "Nixon resigned stupid!" Now, this is where you think James would stop. But no, he then proceeded to threaten the Federalist members of the Capitol Press Corps, almost causing a riot among his fellow Nationalists, a riot aimed specifically at the noble reporters of The Boys Statement, who were simply taking in the events of the day, nothing else.

After hearing this, I almost fell over the railing laughing, which would have benefited the Nationalists. Unfortunately, I did not fall, preferring to live instead so that I could report this atrocity. I quickly recapped all that I had heard, preparing to put them in some kind of order for my column. And then Alex Harper, who was running for the position of Commissioner of Agriculture, took the stage. But in unorthodox fashion, Alex actually pitched a decent platform. Then, to close off his speech, he took the mike, looked the members of his party dead in the eye and said "Republicans suck."

Alright Nationalists, what is going on? You guys seem like a good group of politicians with at least somewhat of level heads. And yet whenever you all get together, some sort of debauchery breaks out. Why? Is there some sort of primal instinct that for some reason emerges whenever you are all in the same room? Please, tell me, because I have been looking for the answer all day. To conclude, I'd like to wish Danny Arias and Ryan McCarthy the best of luck tomorrow in their bid for Governor. Both are well-qualified candidates and both would make fine Governors. But I ask that you all ask yourself this question; is party loyalty more important than rational thought?

## An even more severe weather report!

*By Jesse Dillon*

**PLEASE READ.** As reported yesterday, a storm off the southeast coast of Florida Boys State has been picking up speed and is predicted to veer northwest on a projected collision path with us.

With maximum sustained winds now nearing 65 mph, all Boys State citizens are being **STRONGLY ADVISED** to take this warning seriously, and to speak to your elected officials about your plan of action.

Tropical Storm Rachel, as the storm is being called, has now passed the Bahamas and will be turning in our direction this evening. A more accurate projection of Rachel's path will be available in tomorrow's edition, and for now all we can do is wait.



## Quotable Quips

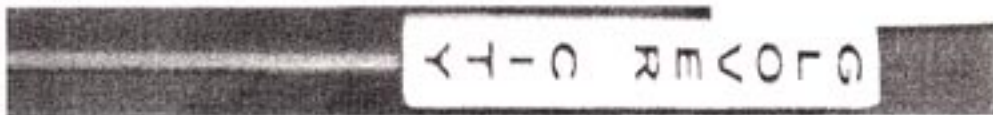
By Chase Eveleth

Some of the nominees from city positions all the way to executive offices have made some statements that have made their speeches memorable (for better or for worse). See for yourself the statements and their reactions:



10. "I could really use some votes. That would be nice." Followed by no voting support.

9. "We helped Bosnia and we didn't even KNOW them!" followed by laughter and clapping.
8. "I'm not qualified but I want a big chair so vote for me." Received a spot in the Senate, apparently for the bluntness.
7. "Let Moses lead you to the Promise Land." Raucous support.
6. "Were you afraid of the Breastalyzer test?" followed by an unscheduled break in the show and then a nice save by the accused.
5. "My passion explodes out of me!" Laughter.
4. "We should grow cannibus and tax the hell out of it." Blank stares
3. "Americans define you and you define this nation." Applause.
2. "Republicans suck!" Hands in faces along with an immediate split of the Nationalist party.
1. "I've been with a lot of guys..." Laughter and then silence as this thought and its validity was registered.



## The Dirt

### Mimbs Creek v. Glover City, part dos

By Frank Martinez

This just in! Another whisper in the wind tells me that Mimbs Creek still desires to bring Glover City to court because of "G-lover City" stealing their guide-on. Mayor Miller Townsend of Mimbs Creek states, "Glover City can plead the Fifth, but a fair trial will show who is guilty and not guilty."

Mayor CJ Tabasky of Glover City responds to the comment by declaring, "We are going to own Mimbs Creek in court." Those are strong words from Mayor Tabasky. Seems like Mimbs Creek is being called out. Will they answer? It will be exciting to watch this play out.

Some other tasty news depicts that some Boys State citizens believe that both of the mayors are going along with this in order to gain publicity. Nick Bliesner of Glover City declared "Mimbs Creek might be doing it for publicity. Taking guide-ons is just a game, but Mimbs Creek took it as a threat." Others believe that this is not for publicity. Ryan Coletta of Mimbs Creek verbalized, "The two mayor are not doing this for publicity. There is a basis for this. Mimbs Creek is doing this for justice, and it is a crime to steal things no matter what it is." What do you think? Should this case just be dropped? Will Glover City try to steal Mimbs Creek guide-on again? Will there soon be an all out war between the two cities? Stay tuned to future articles for the whole scoop!