

## **Final Farewell** *Boys State Staff*

"When I was a kid, somebody told me that the world was gonna roll me just because I wasn't the sharpest tool in the shed. But now, after Boy's State, I think I've seen what I could achieve and the potential I had."

- Long Luu (Bradley City)

"So I'm treating every second like it's an investment. Time is money, every second I'm collecting" (Big Sean)

- Owen Ferguson (Burke City)

"I honestly don't want to leave. People I meet here are like my family."

- Walter Spurlock (Eisenhower City)

"This was a great wholesome experience that I feel will make me a better citizen."

- Nolan Hall (Henry City)

"Working as a reporter at Boys State Today is an opportunity I greatly appreciate.

Despite no previous experience in journalism, my fellow reporters have given me the chance to interview the likes of Lt.

Governor Northam and Col. Richard Anderson, and I would like to sincerely thank all of the team and Mr. Hardwick for that. I would also like to extend thanks to my brothers at Jackson City for electing me mayor and the city reporter. In the future, I hope to utilize my experiences here at Boys State to help myself get enrolled into Bedford University for journalistic studies."

- Alex Szymczak (Jackson)

"After breaking away from the monotony of the introduction to Boys State and finally electing positions, I had an incredible time meeting new people, passing new legislation, and drawing new cartoons"

- Donovan Reynolds (James City)

"During my journey from 'I can do it' to 'I did it,' I found myself."

- John Hancock (Lee City)

"Things are a lot more fun once everyone's delirious from sleep deprivation"

- Jordan Houston (MacArthur City)

"Attending Boys State will be something that I hold onto forever. I grew as a person, citizen, and writer. Thank you to everyone who got me to this point."

- John Donohue (Marshall City)

"I've felt that being on the Boy State newspaper team has been an honor. Although there have been many late nights, the camaraderie I built with the staff is truly amazing. Overall, this has been a fun experience and one of the best parts of the Boy State program."

"No matter how hard it gets, stick your chest out, keep your head up and handle it." (Tupac)

- Nathaniel Alazar (Maury City)

"The entire experience of Boys State that I was fortunately blessed with provided me with extensive knowledge of our local and state governments, and, simultaneously, a multitude of genuine friendships with its citizens. Though skeptical at first, I soon came to realize that this short week of time did in fact have the capabilities remaining prominent throughout an individual's lifetime."

- Jonathan Laredo (Nimitz City)

"Undoubtedly, Boys State will forever last as one of the most accelerating yet defining experiences of my lifetime. The relationships I have been able to cultivate, particularly with my city and the newspaper staff will go down as the most rewarding part of this experience. Gratitude is only the tip of the iceberg of what I feel right now."

- Magin Sanchez, Editor in Chief  
(Patton City)

"Boy's State is an experience of a lifetime, I will never forget the memories I made with my Pershing Squad. #1"

- Lane Carroll (Pershing City)

"Overall my experience at Virginia's Boys State was one to definitely leave an impact on the rest of my life. I've learned many things from being here at Radford such as true leadership comes from all, brotherhood is not to be taken for granted and that there are many components to and of our country. From my brothers in Puller City to all the other citizens of VA Boys State, I'm proud to say that I was a part of this eye opening adventure with such amazing people. Thank You to all the blue, brown, light blue, black and maroon shirts who made this week as special as what it was."

-Corwin Matthews "Scoops" (Puller City)  
*Editor's Note: Happy Birthday Corwin!*

"This week I experienced all aspects of Politics and discovered that unity and diversity must coincide for a society to flourish. 'Behold, how good and pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity!' Psalms 133:1. "

- Chris Oglesby (Stuart City)

"I can say sincerely, don't take your voice for granted. It is truly what makes us all equal." (2 Chainz)

- Cameron Keeley-Parker  
(Washington City)

**Thank You for Reading Boys State Today!**

- **Boys State Today Staff**