

# ☆ ***THE STATE JOURNAL*** ☆

JUNE 25, 2021

Edited by Clayton Fannin

## **SWEEP!!!**

Yesterday, the elections for state offices were held and the victors announced. The executive positions were appointed and work has officially begun on the passage of 2021 Virginia Boys State legislation. After a hard-fought campaign race, and speeches from all six party nominated candidates, voting was held in each city. The candidates gave their speeches according to party, with the Nationalists going first. Nationalist Attorney General candidate Thomas Meyers spoke about his long-standing desire to hold the position, and his devotion to the rights and good treatment of Boys State delegates. Lieutenant governor nominee Rami Ghaleb spoke about his experiences as a Muslim-American, and his goals for unity among the boys State delegates. And Governor candidate Mathew Preston hyped up the crowd around his major campaign promises and party platform. The speeches were then followed by those of the Federalist party. Attorney General nominee Christopher Brown made jokes about his name, and renewed promises for superior quality toilet paper. Lieutenant Governor nominee Gavin Senger demonstrated his connections to the delegates by having those he'd spoken to in the campaign stand up to thunderous applause. And Governor nominee Aryan Hamdard got personal with his story as an immigrant from Afghanistan, and his love for the United States of America. The cities separated to vote on the candidates, and the ballots were thoroughly counted by the State Election Board. Shortly before lunch, the victors were announced. The members of Nimitz city, who had already made history by collecting a nominee for each of three main state positions, held hands and connected with their city's delegates for good luck. The tension in the auditorium was great, and increased with each winner announced. The Election Board members called for a drum roll, and announced victory for Nationalist Thomas Meyers, Federalist Gavin Senger, and Nationalist Aryan Hamdard. The Boys State crowd cheered loudly, particularly the delegates of Nimitz city, who had accomplished something never seen before in Boys State history: a single city holding all of the "Big Three" positions. After lunch, an inauguration ceremony was held, and key cabinet positions were announced. Many prominent competitors were given spots on Hamdard's staff after the swearing in, and the team convened to draft five bills to be considered the congress today. A very exciting race full of twists and turns came to an end with a sweeping victory for the city of Nimitz.

**Written by Calvin Schilling**

## **Newspaper Staff:**

- Connor Gilster (Eisenhower)
- Jason Melendez (Henry)
- Edward Joo (MacArthur)
- Cohen Steele (Marshall)
- Calvin Schilling (Nimitz)
- Samuel Banks (Patton)
- Clayton Fannin (Puller)
- Landon Bonneville (Washington)

## **It's College Day!**

Today several colleges will descend upon the Radford Campus, in an attempt to recruit and learn more about the fantastic delegates of Virginia Boys State. Very accomplished and prestigious universities both in, and out of state will be in attendance, with several more sponsoring. Will your dream school be here? Check out the Boys State website to find out!

**Written by Silence No-good**



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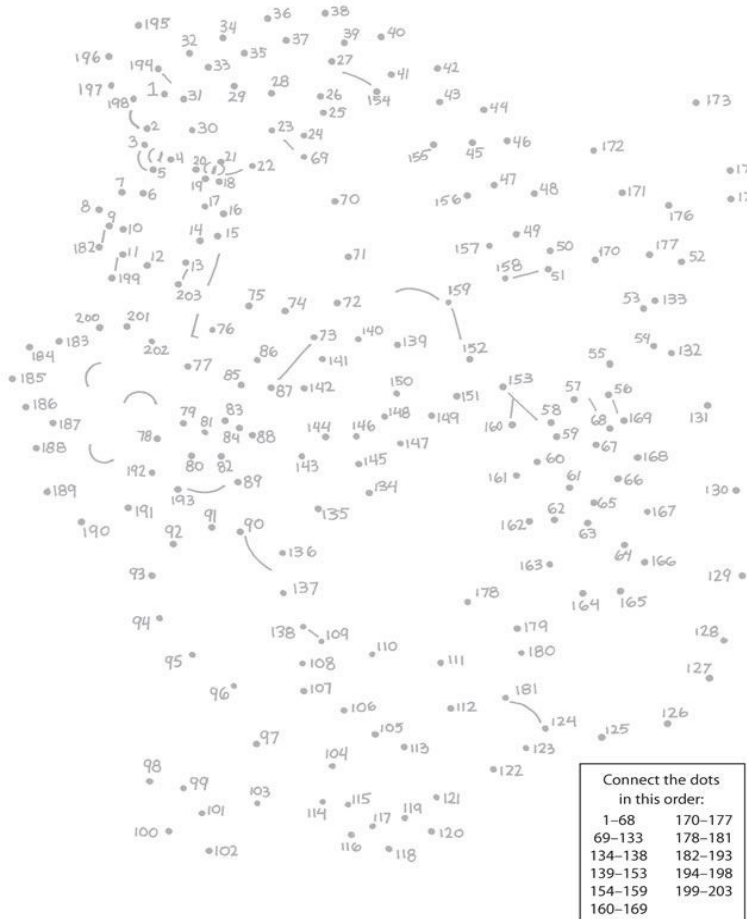
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## Samurai Sudoku

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## Connect-the-Dots



## Henry City Council Holds Meeting on Friday Night Party

Henry City Council members held a meeting last night to discuss the Friday night party event at Floyd Hall, the dorm hall being used by Henry City.

The Council is still expected to go forward with a party.

Citizens withdrew from the city meeting and demanded that the Council decide on food and events for the festivities. Some citizens requested that there be pizza for the party.

The State Journal will continue to monitor this story.

Written by Bernard

## Newly-Inaugurated Governor Holds First Cabinet Meeting

Newly-minted Governor Aryan Hamdard held his first cabinet meeting to focus on discussing new legislation.

Hamdard did not convey many policy interests before his election. He operated his seated cabinet in a democratic manner. Secretaries had the chance to debate and vote on ideas and draft legislation to inform the Governor's opinion.

The Hamdard Administration missed the Flag Book-mandated time to deliver Governor's Bills by.

Senator Melendez expressed concern over legislative business tomorrow, and whether there will be final bills to debate. Because the Boys State General Assembly is not performing a so-called "crossover" of legislation between the two houses, details of legislation need to be negotiated beforehand. Amendments that are non-uniform between the two houses will lead to a failure of a bill.

The General Assembly is next expected to meet today for legislative business.

Written by Bernard

## Talent Show Raises Great Applause

On June 24, 2021 Boys State had their Talent Show which was pretty exciting. The acts consisted of magic with a deck of cards, Political Impersonations, Guitar, Saxophones and Country singing solos, dark humor poems, fast Rubix Cube solving and each act was followed by screams and claps of joy by the belt twirling audience. It was a huge event, the newly elected "Big 3" candidates, Aryan Hamdard, Gavin Senger, and Thomas Meyers made an appearance at this event. All the Boys at Boys State want to thank all counselors, staff, and the American Legion for giving us an opportunity to have this event but most importantly have as good as an experience it has been this week at Radford.

**Written by Shazam**



## Food Review: Thursday

Although Thursday's meals were rather uninspiring and overly salty, the stuffed shells served at lunch stood out. The stuffed shells could be considered to be "overstuffed" with cheese and sauce, but the liberal stuffing worked well in tandem with the pasta shells. The cheese was perfectly melted, and the sauce was strong enough to be able to taste but not so strong that it smothered the taste of the cheese. If it means anything, it was a unanimous decision from the writing staff that the stuffed shells were quite good. Potatoes were served on the side, but unlike the ones that were served throughout the week, they were much too salty to be given a good review.

The pudding next to the pizzas have been a hot commodity since it was first served. Whipped cream sits atop the pudding and, once mixed in with the pudding, made the dessert even sweeter. Today's pudding contained Oreo chunks. Because the writer is heavily biased towards anything that contains Oreos in it, he believes that the pudding was absolutely fantastic. The writer must concede, however, that the pudding on its own does not hold too much

Additionally, "the tomatoes were fresh," according to a member of the newspaper writing staff.

In closing, it was specific parts of the meals that were truly outstanding, and the rest were rather substandard compared to the quality of the foods served at Radford throughout the week.

Rating: 120/142

Overall Rating: 139/191

**Written by Jedi Yoda**

## Henry City Chaplain Initiates Charges with Commonwealth's Attorney Against Sheriff

The Henry City Chaplain has filed for charges against the Sheriff.

The Chaplain alleges that the Sheriff indecently exposed himself when he dropped his shorts at last night's city meeting. The Sheriff still had his underwear on during the event.

The Chaplain has made it a point to focus on professionalism and respect for the human body throughout the week.

**Written by Bernard**

## Boys Nation: The Next Step for the Most Qualified

There is no doubt that anyone attending Virginia Boys State is not at the top of their class. The top 1% of their class in fact. However, only two Virginia Boys State delegates will be able to attend Boys Nation. The delegates chosen for Boys Nation will be that top 0.1%. The individuals chosen will have to have an impressive knowledge of both Virginia and federal politics. Though knowing your politics isn't the only criteria, character traits can determine whether you get accepted into Boys Nation. How well can you cooperate with those around you to benefit a larger cause? This question, and others that can determine different character traits, play a crucial role in deciding the Boys Nation delegates.

Boys Nation is a selective institution that only accepts 100 young men. This competitive institution is another week-long camp run by the American Legion that (CONT.)

## **Boys Nation: The Next Step** **for the Most Qualified** **(Continued)**

...teach the brightest young men about the ins and outs of U.S. government and politics. One grand benefit of Boys Nation is that the delegates get to meet the President of the United States, this year they will meet the 46<sup>th</sup> president, Joe Biden. Putting politics aside the young men attending should all be exhilarated to meet president Biden. This is only one of the benefits of attending Boys Nation. Besides from looking

spectacular on college resumes, pretty much a one-way ticket to any college of your choice, this camp will provide a great learning experience for anyone interested in pursuing a career in politics and government.

The camp will be held in the Washington D.C. area in late June. Boys Nation interviews happened both Wednesday and Thursday. While uncertain when the results will be revealed all delegates should support the Boys Nation delegates from Virginia in the coming weeks.

**Written by Goldie**

## **Minor League Baseball Better** **Than Major league baseball?** **Senator David Suetterlein** **Thinks So!**

Minor league baseball isn't necessarily the buzz when it comes to talking about baseball, and still isn't when talking about professional baseball. Why could that be? Is it not advertised enough, do they not have much money to advertise and get on television? We don't know, but I can for sure tell you those guys definitely work hard to get where they are. Me having friends that play baseball professionally, on many different levels, all the way from developmental league, to Major League Baseball, I have seen the work they put in every day just in hope to get a call that they moved up to the next level to increase their pay by \$200. It isn't easy being a minor league baseball player.

First off, minor league baseball players don't make anywhere near as much as you probably think. For minor league baseball, the average player salary for a minor leaguer in Single-A is \$6,000, \$9,350 in Double-A, and \$15,000 in Triple-A, then whatever the major league club offers the athlete. Now of course if you are drafted high in the first couple rounds, you make more money, and then you get bonuses along the way for accomplishments, etc. However, what do you do if you aren't one of those players who gets drafted high? Do you turn down the draft and go work somewhere else in hope to make a career out of that decision, or do you take the chance of being a professional athlete and hopefully fulfill a lot of child's childhood dreams of playing on the biggest stage in front of thousands?

Minor league players are a different breed when

talking about baseball, even Senator David Suetterlein agrees that minor league baseball is better per his saying "Major League Baseball is changing the way baseball is played, and it doesn't make it fun to watch anymore, that is why I like Minor League Baseball more because those guys actually work to play at the next level and the highest level."

Most Minor league guys struggle to make a living which is why they end up dropping out of baseball, heck, most of them when they are playing will share homes, and have to apply for food stamps because they don't get enough pay. I personally feel like players that are drafted to be professional athletes, should be treated like professional athletes and get enough pay to pay for a meal to their liking and support themselves and their families. Major League Baseball has now surprisingly raised the salaries of minor league players, starting this 2021 season. The Professional Baseball Agreement expires after this season, so this change comes as a result of negotiations towards a new agreement. The raises will range between 38 percent and 72 percent. The weekly raises broken down by level start with Rookie and short-season: Up to \$400 from \$290, Single-A: Up to \$500 from \$290, Double-A: Up to \$600 from \$350, and Triple-A: Up to \$700 from \$502. While the raises are nice, it is not nearly still enough in my mind. This agreement doesn't guarantee minor league players a livable wage. Triple-A players can earn \$14,000 for their five-month season and short-season players can earn \$4,800 for their three-month season. Minor leaguers are not paid during the offseason or for spring training. However, this is a start to something.

**Written by Landon Bonneville**