

How Humorous?

-Nathan Heineman, Patton City

Following the selection of the party gubernatorial candidate, the Nationalist Party approved at a strong majority a plank that, if implemented, would allow any citizen to challenge an elected official for their position via a rap battle. Meanwhile, across the aisle, the Federalists voted in favor of a plank creating designated school therapists to deal with substance abuse. This dichotomy in tone was not brought about by a split in the two parties, as ideas reflecting both of these sides found approval among both parties. Instead, it is a split forming as the days of Boys State progress, and there is more widespread involvement in the political process. A split over the nature and tone that this camp should strive for. Between the highly humorous, and serious politics. It permeates through all parts of this camp. Both in individual parties and in congress. While no direct conflict has come from these two sides, there has been some indirect debate. Direct conflict has mostly come from those wishing for a more serious tone, rightfully critiquing flaws within the more humorous ideas of these. There has been a general trend of this type having much more vocal debates, but receiving major general support, while more straight-forward bills being debated less with more divided votes. Still, these outlandish ideas have passed through, garnering major support across all areas. It is

easy to see how this can happen, for with all of its prestige, Boys State still remains a summer camp for teenagers. However, that is only part of the root source. Through interviews with several citizens across cities and parties, it was found that these unserious ideas come from a place of feeling powerless toward achieving any major awards such as best city. This trend is only seeming to grow with the rising “Goon Party” making strides to becoming an official. With only a few days left, and the gubernatorial vote rapidly approaching, the camp will have to see how this humor fares.



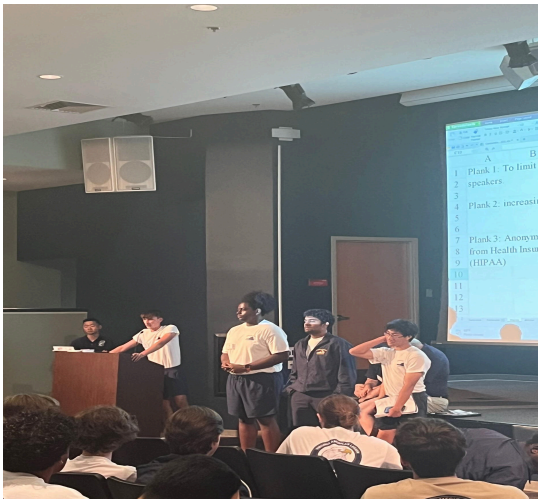
Owen Kujawcki

Can the Federalists make a comeback?

-William Hoosier

Today's Federalist Party started off on an amazing note! It commenced with the head chairman apologizing for last meeting's

mistakes, promising to be better, and giving an agenda for the meeting. Immediately after the uplifting introduction, the party cast votes for Lt. Governor, with Adam Washington being elected in a very close and competitive election, even driving one candidate's party to start handing out free candy. Then, with a neck-and-neck vote, Sean Miles (right) managed to win the federal election for governor. Afterwards, the third and final plank was established for the party. This plank states that schools will implement an anonymous program for kids with addictions, with the therapists being sworn in with HIPAA. Overall, this meeting was a huge step up from the last meeting, with all of the cities behaving and every vote going through relatively smoothly. What an incredible turnaround for Josh with his handling of the Federalist Party!



Adam Washington (Left)
Anon Joseph (Middle)
Sean Miles (Right)

A Viral Warning

- Jackson Mayfield, Patton City

It has been made aware to many of us across Boys State that there are possibly numerous viral and or bacterial infections spreading through the State population. Our peers have fallen ill and are experiencing stomach bug-like symptoms and cold symptoms. I am writing this article as an appeal to all of my fellow peers, citizens, counselors, and blue shirts to please practice routine hygiene to prevent the spread of these infections so that no more citizens risk having to be dismissed from this Boys State session. Most importantly, I urge all gentlemen on Radford campus to please wash their hands before and after meals, and to generally be conscious of ensuring to frequently wash their hands. Additionally, please disinfect or clean surfaces such as bathroom counters, dorm door knobs, and common space surfaces that frequently come in contact with citizens, especially if you know of a citizen who has fallen ill within your dorm or hall. Thank you, citizens! Stay safe, and go Patton.

Bills

- *W. Joel Simpson, Marshall City; Rydell Wilkins, Washington City*

Yesterday, both chambers of the House of Delegates met for the first time. With each city being required to submit two bills to be considered, one to be considered first by the House and one to be considered by the Senate, legislators were eager to get to work, and anxious to see how their respective chambers would receive their bills.

The first bill that was passed by the House chamber was a bill from Bradley City to regulate the usage of body cameras in EMS agencies, an issue close to one of the delegates from Bradley, who works as an EMS at home. He said the need for EMS body cameras stems from the need for more training footage, which is especially sparse in the areas of the Commonwealth outside of Northern Virginia. Another bill that was passed the house vote was a Bill from Marshall City to Improve Security Staffing in Virginia Schools, which aims to require Virginia Schools to meet the national recommendations of one School Resource Officer per 1,000 students and one Unarmed Security Staffer per 750 students at all middle and high schools. According to the authors of the bill, who witnessed a stabbing incident at their school in April, aims to improve response times to security incidents in school.

There were also a number of unexpected bills debated on the floor on platforms that have less mainstream recognition. One bill proposed by James City about freedom of

self-expression within the state of Virginia, which might provide people with more freedom but it could be labeled as vulgar to the public. Another bill that was present but failed in the house was a proposal to ban chocolate and other flavored milk and reduce dairy products in schools. The idea was to launch a test program and compare the health of the students with or without.

Inside Scoop to the State Candidates

- *Javier Garcia, Bradley City*

Strategy. The most important thing one must start with when going into logrolling. Logrolling is the political term for an exchange of patronage for a mutual benefit. Virginia Boys State has just started logrolling today. Many cities have been seen talking to one another and having allegiance to one another. Without a strategy, you might lack an effective craft in communications with other cities. For example, if you are trying to play a “backstabbing method,” that will require a lot of planning and convincing skills, because if you have one slip-up, the rest will fall down.

In an interview with the Nationalist Party Chairman Barrett Kindig from Bradley City, Enoch Tan and I asked him his thoughts on how the convention is going so far. He said, “It’s going pretty well, but yesterday we had a bit of a struggle with people coming to order.”

What I got from this was maybe the fact that logrolling methods might replicate the essence of this convention’s chaos. Will tomorrow morning be filled with chaos?

Will tomorrow's logrolling be elevated compared to today's?

In continuation of the interview with Barrett, we asked what his outlook was on the elections now that the candidates have been chosen. He replied that he had strong candidates. He specifically stated, "Regarding the Federalist convention yesterday, I feel like we have a really good shot at having our candidates being elected in comparison to the other party."

Then, on a final mark, we asked him for any extra thoughts. He concluded, "If you are scared to do something, you should do it anyway. As LeBron said, 'You miss one hundred percent of the shots you don't take.'" He made a point that even if you are not certain about running in an election, consider running for it anyway.

He ended with a strong quote, saying, "Just how it connects to my earlier sermons: 'You must be taken down to be built right back up.'"

Supreme Court Nomination News

-Camden Fowler, Burke City

Wednesday marked the nominations for Supreme Court Justices, one from each city. The delegates were responsible for choosing a member of their cities' Moot Court to run to be one of the seven justices chosen. Each speech was given opening words by one of their delegates and a minute and a half to persuade the legislative body. Although many of the speeches were persuasive, there was undeniable vote trading and shady deals between cities to get their citizens to the top of the judicial branch. At 7:50 PM, the Justices were announced to be Jesse (Bo) (White Lightning) Summers (Burke), Arsen

Hakobyan (James), Zareef Said (Gravelly), Christopher Schlenz (Marshall). Tommy Carmody (Henry), Joseph Sernock (Eisenhower), and Surafel Demeke (Nimitz).



REMOVAL OF THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES

-Camden Fowler, Burke City

While giving speeches to the Senate and House of Delegates during Supreme Court Nominations, a controversy came up over the question segment at the end of each speech. The Delegate Minority Leader (Abhiram Gadolam) intentionally asked unrelated, divisive, and controversial questions to split votes on candidates from

other cities. After the voting, the Federalist Delegates held a caucus to remove him from his position and held an on the spot election to replace him. In the chaos, Owen Kujawcki was chosen as the new minority leader. Whether or not the decision was official or not falls into a gray area, but regardless, the former Minority Leader has undoubtedly lost some respect and influence from the Federalists.

Sounds of Freedom:

Melodies That Unite: Friendships forged between music.

-Felix Garcia, Burke city

As is tradition at **Virginia Boys State**, each morning begins with the raising of the American flag. But what would that solemn moment be without a soundtrack worthy of



its meaning? The official Boys State band never misses. Every morning, their harmonies do more than fill the air - they lift spirits, ignite patriotism, and build a sense of unity.

But what happens after the show?

After the performance, the band members don't just pack up and leave. They laugh,

trade stories, and carry their instruments while reviewing what went well. They support one another without being asked. They've become a short-lived family - bonded not by time, but by music and shared duty.

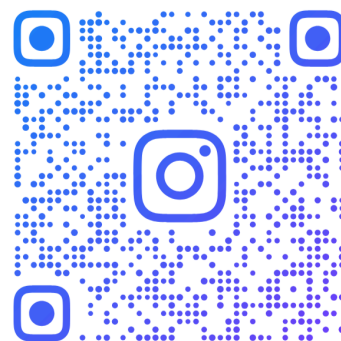
The music they play isn't just about skill - it's about heart. And with each anthem, each joyful march, what we're truly hearing is something deeper: the voice of a generation that, even though brass and percussion, shows its devotion to country, to peers, and



to purpose.

“A band is not strong because of its volume, but because of the unity of its members”. -Felix Jr. Garcia.

If you want to know how crazy the life of someone who doesn't know how they ended up here can be, read this:



@FEDERALIST_FOR_A_WEEK

Governor Elections In Virginia

- W. Joel Simpson, Marshall City

In an effort to keep Boys State citizens informed about the races that will impact them after they leave the campus of Radford University, *The Statesman Daily* is comparing and contrasting the candidates running for Governor of the Commonwealth in 2025. We will get to see these candidates face off against each other in a gubernatorial debate scheduled for November 4th, but before then, we have pieced together a short profile on each candidate.

Lt. Gov. Winsome Earle-Sears(R)

Lt. Governor Earle-Sears, born in Kingstown, Jamaica, immigrated to the United States with her family in search of greater economic opportunity and personal freedoms. She has an MA from Regent University and has served in the United States Marine Corps. Some of Earle-Sears' main issues include reducing the cost of living, primarily by lowering state taxes, supporting law enforcement and cutting down on crime, improving education, and protecting Virginia's right to work without being a union member. Earle-Sears is endorsed by Governor Glenn Youngkin and Attorney General Jason Miyares to preside over the Commonwealth.

Rep. Abigail Spanberger(D)

Del. Abigail Spanberger, originally from New Jersey, came to Virginia during high school and studied at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville. After graduating from UVA, she joined the CIA as an

operations officer working to gather intelligence on terrorism and nuclear proliferation, and in 2018, she ran for the US Congress and won, unseating a Republican incumbent. Some of Spanberger's main campaign issues are growing Virginia's economy and making Virginia more affordable, Lowering the cost of healthcare and prescription drugs, investing in Virginia agriculture and rural Virginia, and standing with Virginia's veterans. Spanberger is endorsed by US Senators Tim Kaine and Mark Warner from Virginia, as well as Speaker of the Virginia House of Delegates Don Scott.

The Historical Implications of this Election

No matter which candidate wins this race, Virginia is guaranteed to have its first female Governor in the state's history. If elected, Earle-Sears would be the first Black Female to serve as a governor in the US. The Virginia gubernatorial elections also hold a lot of national significance, as Virginia is a politically diverse state, and it is the first major vote after the previous year's presidential election. With the country watching, who will Virginia elect to lead them for the next four years? As the race draws closer to completion, we encourage Boys State members to stay informed and engaged throughout the duration of the race.



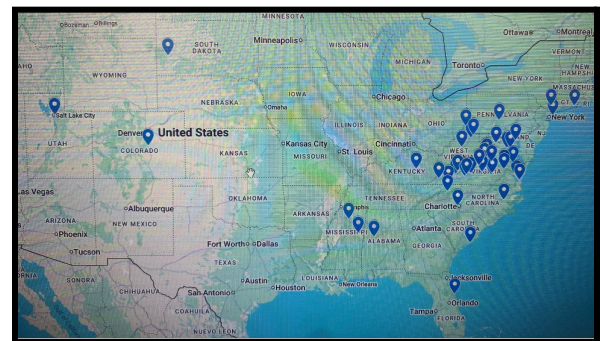
College Day

On Friday from 3pm-5pm, delegates and parents will be able to tour universities from The University of Utah to the Citadel in Charleston.

- Belmont Abbey College (Belmont, NC)
- Berea College (Berea, KY)
- Bluefield State University (Bluefield, WV)
- Bridgewater College (Bridgewater, VA)
- Chowan University (Murfreesboro, NC)
- Christopher Newport University (Newport News, VA)
- Concord University (Mercer County, WV)
- East Carolina University (Greeneville, NC)
- Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (Daytona Beach, FL)
- Emory & Henry College (Emory, VA)
- Fairmont State University (Fairmont, WV)
- George Mason University (Fairfax, VA)
- George Washington University (Washington D.C.)
- Glenville State College (Glenville, WV)
- Hampden-Sydney College (Prince Edward County, VA)
- Hood College (Frederick, MD)
- James Madison University (Harrisonburg, VA)
- Johns Hopkins University (Baltimore, MD)
- Juniata College (Huntington, PA)
- Lees-McRae College (Banner Elk, NC)
- Liberty University (Lynchburg, VA)
- Longwood University (Farmville, VA)
- Mary Baldwin University (Staunton, VA)
- Mississippi State University (East Lansing, MS)
- Old Dominion University (Richmond, VA)
- Roanoke College (Roanoke, VA)
- Radford University (Radford, VA)
- Randolph College (Lynchburg, VA)
- Randolph Macon College (Ashland, VA)
- Regent University (Virginia Beach, VA)
- Shenandoah University (Shenandoah, VA)
- South Dakota School of Mines & Technology (Rapid City, SD)
- The Citadel (Charleston, SC)

Representatives will be able to answer questions about their universities and plenty of merch will be given out. Get ready for your future!

- University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa, AL)
- University of Charleston (Charleston, SC)
- University of Lynchburg (Lynchburg, VA)
- University of Mississippi (Lafayette County, MS)
- University of Utah (Salt Lake City, UT)
- University of Virginia (Charlottesville, VA)
- University of Virginia at Wise (Wise, VA)
- U.S. Air Force Academy (Colorado Springs, CO)
- U.S. Coast Guard Academy (New London, CN)
- U.S. Merchant Marine Academy (Nassau County, NY)
- West Liberty University (West Liberty, VA)
- West Virginia University (Morgantown, WV)
- U.S. Military Academy at West Point (West Point, New York)
- Virginia Commonwealth University (Richmond, VA)
- Virginia Military Institute (Lexington, VA)
- Virginia State Police (VA)
- Virginia Tech (Blacksburg, VA)
- Virginia Tech Army ROTC (VT Corps of Cadets)
- Virginia Wesleyan University (Wesleyan, VA)
- Washington & Lee University (Lexington, Virginia)



Nelson Smith's stance on Mental Health

-Rydell Wilkins, Washington City

Today's Boys State received a very special visitor from the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health Services, Nelson Smith. Smith talked about the importance of mental health within kids and adults. He displayed extraordinary statistics in the work that the company has done to significantly improve people's lives. His campaign "One pill can kill" is an attack against the use of substance drugs. His VBHS organization has been very successful throughout the state of Virginia. If you or someone you are struggling with a sort of crisis or addiction please reach out to VBHS through the emergency hotline number 988.

Lights, Sirens and... Rambo?

-Felix Garcia, Burke City

What seemed like a normal road safety presentation completely changed in a matter of seconds. The theater lights suddenly went out, the music blasted, and the only things you could hear were the enthusiastic shouts of the Boys state participants... and the roaring engines of **police motorcycles** invading the stage. The surprise was absolute.



Moments later, a **K-9** unit took the spotlight, demonstrating the precision and obedience of dogs trained to detect drugs, weapons or even missing persons.

But the most epic moment came when a Special Action force officer made his entrance... Full-on **Rambo Style**. Dressed in full tactical gear, he descended to a chorus of cheers as if he were a movie star. "This isn't a costume, boys,"



The activity was not just for show. Representatives from the state police shared alarming statistics about road accidents in Virginia - many caused by a silent enemy: the **Cell Phone**.

Small Drops, Big Ripples: Jason Wright

-Enoch Tan, Eisenhower City

While most speakers at Boys State are distinguished politicians and government personnel, Jason Wright is different. A *New York Times* bestselling author, Mr. Wright is not a politician by any means but has found a way to positively impact the world through The Kindness Card Initiative, a program dedicated to giving gift cards to people in need. After working with the Boys State crowd to film a For his presentation, Mr. Wright introduced various people impacted by the initiative and explained each person's story before asking the city chaplains to interpret the life lessons we can learn. Each individual had seen some challenging times and was touched by Jason's gift. These people are normally outcasts of society, ignored and unseen, but Mr. Wright fearlessly approaches these people to learn their story and help provide their next meal. Despite their hardships, the people shown all shared a down-to-earth honesty and positive outlook on life marked by persistence. By sharing these people's stories, Mr. Wright gave the citizens of Boys State hope and inspiration for the difference they can make in their own community. Even if you aren't the most politically savvy person, Jason's stories proved that anyone can make a difference, in or out of the government. While the statewide elections are heating up, let's not forget the difference that regular citizens can make. Keep connecting, keep learning, and let's make a difference in our communities!



Vote Adam Washington

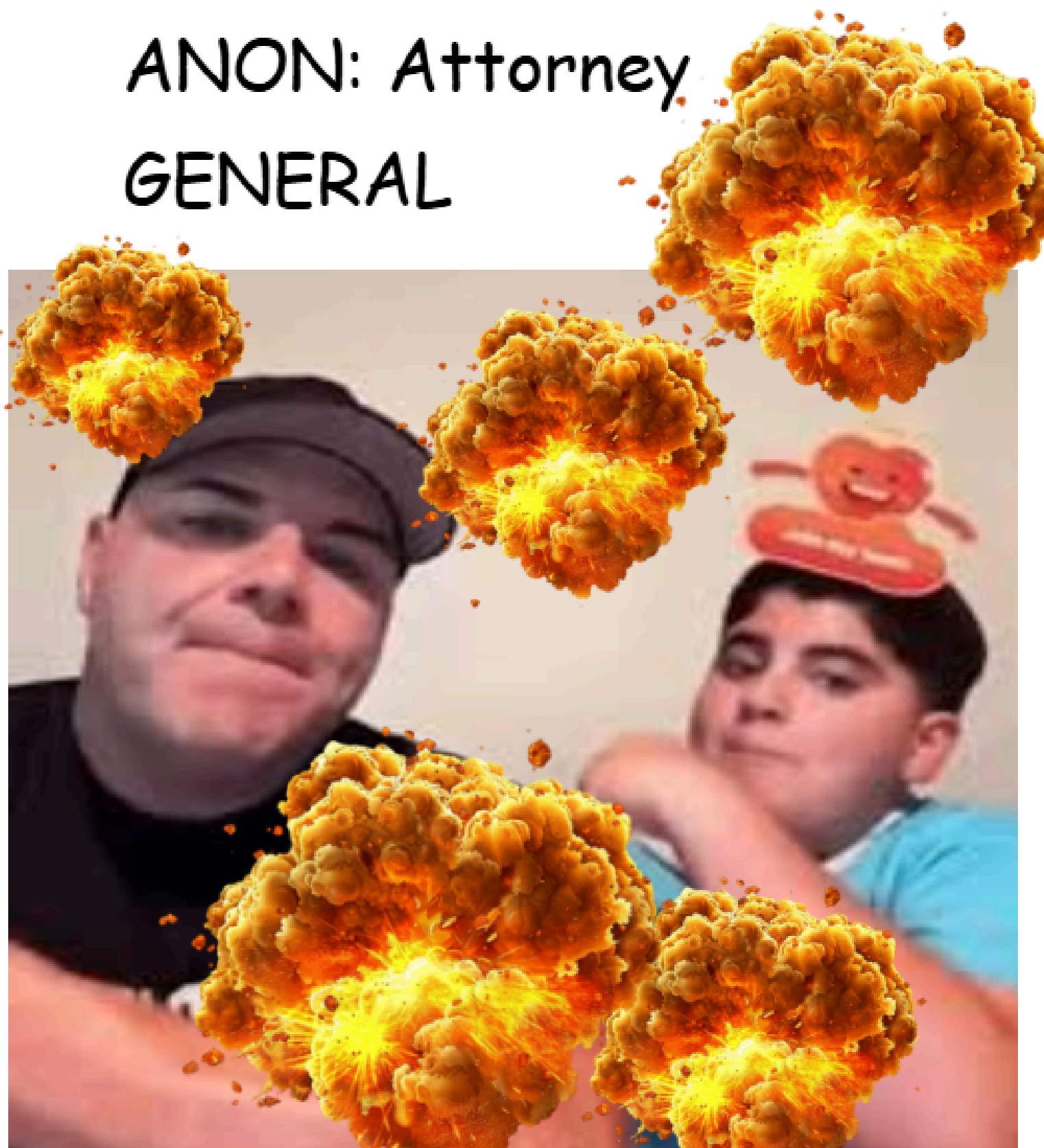


for

Lieutenant Governor

5 BIG BOOMS 4

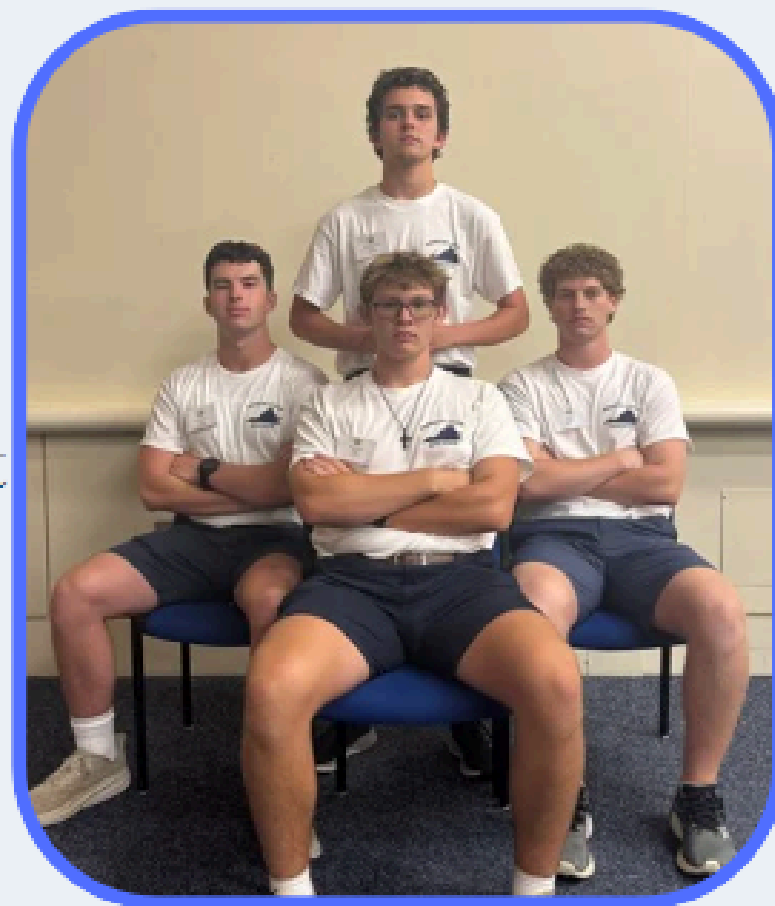
ANON: Attorney
GENERAL



BETTER DEAD THAN FED

Jay Fuller:
Governor

Zachary
Johnson:
Lieutenant
Governor



Cole Hill:
Attorney
General

Barrett Kindig:
Party Chair

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NATIONALIST TICKET,
TOGETHER WE CAN WIN**