



## THE NEW ADMINISTRATION TAKES OFFICE

Alabama Boys State Director Judge Pete Johnson administers the oaths of office to newly elected Governor Mason Laney and Lt. Governor Arman Sheffield Wednesday night at Morgan Auditorium.

*(Photographs courtesy of Brad Green)*

## LANEY ALREADY AT WORK

By Joshua May, City 1 Harper and Justin McCleskey, City 3, McCray

Mason Laney, our new governor, spent his first full day as an elected official to propose his idea of change for the future of Alabama. These are some of the highlights from the meeting on Thursday morning.

One of his proposals addressed preventing the raising of the cost of electricity in Mobile, Limestone, and Greene counties. Yellowhammer Power plans to increase electricity rates by 20% in those counties to better benefit infrastructure development. They hope to use the profits to invest in currently strained businesses and the community as a whole. Laney stated that people living in these counties could not maintain a healthy lifestyle of living with such a steep increase and will work to stop it.

Laney also addressed the reassessment of the Moral Turpitude Law, which took away certain rights to those who acted wrongly against the community. This includes the most severe felonies, which the new governor agrees should not have their rights restored, however, persons convicted of minor felons should have those rights, including the right to vote, restored after leaving prison or rehabilitation. He hopes to reduce spending on pointless trials and give people another chance in society.

He later spoke of his goals for the future economy of Alabama. This included using his team to put money where it needs to go and increasing funding to the judicial and executive branch to lessen unfair trials and wasteful government spending.

Laney's next point made was the  
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**(Laney, from page 1)**

refurbishing and increase funding of the prisons in Alabama. Alabama's incarceration facilities need more money, and that is what the governor plans to act on. He wants to put more money in prisons and have them fixed by the end of his term.

Agricultural Commissioner Jacob Springer proposed a bill to assist with food laws, describing a lack of necessary enforcement of food safety policies. The bill utilizes new training of inspectors and two inspections per year. By enacting the bill, Springer hopes to capitalize on the strong food safety policies that Alabama currently must create for safer food establishments.

Proposals to create public pre-schools across Alabama and increase elementary schools were also on the table.

**Words of wisdom from a Legend**

By: Colby Harden, City 1, Harper

Boys State had the pleasure of meeting and hearing a life changing and empowering speech from Nick Saban. Nick Saban thoroughly believes determination and the way you strive to reach your goals is the mark an outstanding student and even better leader. During his speech today, he spoke about his ideas, beliefs, and views.

Most of the guys here at Boys State know why they are here, but there are a still some boys here that still do not know. Everyone is here because someone saw these young men are not just regular students, but future leaders, outstanding citizens and the best Alabama has to offer. Nick Saban made sure to put the message out that this is exactly why we are here, considering he did attend Boys State, and we need to embrace that to the fullest extent that we can. Saban made sure to connect on a personal level with every man sitting in that general session through stories of his childhood, lessons learned from his dad's morals, as well as stories of his coaching career.

Thanks to his speech, the delegates now know that if they push the bar and open up to their fullest potential, they can achieve great things in life and eventually become the leaders, politicians, educators or engineers that they dream to become. When you lose sight of the path you are on, there will be consequences and you can either learn from them or not. If everyone chooses to learn, they can change and become a better citizen was part of his message. Saban wants the young leaders to take that and live by that. He wants them to push themselves to complete the play and score the touchdown, coming out as the champion they were even before the game started.

Boys State delegates genuinely thank Nick Saban for his inspiring words and taking time out of his busy schedule to come speak with everyone.

**Leaving a Legacy**

By: Will Kirby, City 9, Barnett

After this week, all of us will head back home and into our normal lives, but what will you take away and what differences will you make in your community? We are the creators of our own destiny and we are the only ones who decided what will now and forever define us. It remains imperative that we, as future leaders of Alabama, conduct the necessary steps to ensure that our beautiful state remains the way it is today. While the road less traveled seems never-ending, it will soon unveil opportunities you never thought possible and will grant you peace of mind for the rest of your prospering life. No matter how hard it may seem to attain, always strive to your best in everything because you might never know what doors will open-up. Be a leader, show others the right path to take, and be strong when you are faced with making big decisions. Your story will go on and people will remember you for the sacrifices you made, but they will never

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forget the legacy you left behind.

It is up to you whether you decide to take risks and challenge the things you only thought impossible, but I ask that you be humble when doing so. At the end of this week you will be tasked with the ultimate challenge and we cannot allow the fears we once had, to hold us back from completing the duties we have set out to accomplish.

Everyone is the author of their own story, but most have no say in how it is told. That is why we, as the young leaders of America, must put forth the effort to understand where our priorities lie and always strengthen the connections with those around us. No person is the same, but every person has the ability to show true greatness and work to break the barriers that hold them back. Learn new skills, develop a courageous spirit, and show the world that you are a person worth remembering. While you may endure hardships and demonstrate a strong commitment to your future, remember that when paving a road for which not many will travel, it remains important that your legacy

**AL Boys State Blog**

By: John Melancon, City 2 Hayes

At Boys State one finds out that every city partakes in community service. However, community service goes on much deeper here. Not only do we help the community of Alabama, we also help the community within ourselves. For instance take Saul from City 2. In an attempt to help the other students at Boys State, he graciously helped a fellow student with an injured leg and crutches to his seat by carrying the student's plate of food for him. This just goes to show the comradely portrayed within Alabama Boys State. Additionally, both boys were from different cities showing the friendships conceived from this program.



Of course, there are other examples of service to each other such as Walter, Brock, and Michael from City 2. Upon learning to write bills, the three teamed up to discuss the specifics of the bills that will be sent to the legislature. Supporting and encouraging each other is a defining value in Boys State. Everyone has a voice which will increasingly affect the future of Boys State, and the future of our nation. be shared with those seeking the same revelations you once did.

**Boys State Weather Report**

For Friday, June 1, 2018

Scattered thunderstorms

Chance of rain 50%

Humidity: 72%

Wind: SW winds up to 8 mph

*Data via Weather.com*

## A Kind of Brother

By: Will Kirby, City 9, Barnett

What is your definition of a brother? Who in your life fits into this role? There are many characteristics that will describe what a brother can be to almost anyone, but what does it mean to you? In my time here at Boys State, I have gotten the opportunity to meet multiple groups of very dynamic individuals and I can say that, so far, it has been a great experience. Whether you believe it or not, the people that you meet here will have a lasting effect on how you see yourself and who you will see yourself eventually become. The many other delegates that have been chosen to take part in this experience share the same goals and ambitions that you do. We are on this journey together and each one of us should be motivated to support and drive others to do their best no matter the position or political party.

You never know who will change your life or what stranger will leave a lasting impact on how you view the world. Here at Boys State, we all run for some position and we each love to witness the support of our fellow city members. Every single one of us wants to make a change and a difference in this state, but we cannot do that without the help of others. In my opinion, every delegate are in the same political party, sharing views on how we can better ourselves and the world we live in. For example, when all of the cities grouped into counties, I was so nervous to run for any office because of fear that I might fail. I, eventually, worked up enough courage to take a chance and speak for the position I desired. When the votes were tallied, we walked back into the theater and I could not believe how much support my city showed me when they finally called out my name.

If there is anything to remember when faced with challenges and uncertain outcomes, it is that there will always be someone standing beside you. The ones who share the same fear you carry will be there because they have experienced the same trials you are now. It may

not seem like it now, but the delegates that stand with you today may just be the ones you consider a brother for a lifetime. I can say with complete confidence that there is no failure when you are surrounded by those who have lived through the same fears and worries. We are here to find out our purpose and embark on a journey that is filled with success. We take the chances we see will change us and mold us into the person we want to one day become. Boys State is filled with many unique individuals who will help shape our future and just maybe some will be there to see it unfold.



## --Boys State Sports Results-- (from Wednesday, May 31, 2018)

By: Evan Rainey, City 6, Jeffrey

**SPORT:**                      **CITIES:(Winner in Bold)**

### BASKETBALL-

(2) **Hayes** vs (4) Copland  
(7) **Limbaugh** vs (10) Cook  
(8) Odom vs (9) **Barnett**

### SOFTBALL-

(2) Hayes vs (4) **Copland**  
(7) Limbaugh vs (10) Cook **TIE**  
(8) Odom vs (9) **Barnett**

### VOLLEYBALL-

(2) Hayes vs (4) Copland  
(7) Limbaugh vs (10) Cook  
(8) Odom vs (9) **Barnett**

### SOCCER-

(2) Hayes vs (4) Copland  
(7) Limbaugh vs (10) Cook **TIE**

### ULTIMATE FRISBEE-

(2) Hayes vs (4) Copland  
(7) Limbaugh vs (10) Cook  
(8) Odom vs (9) **Barnett**