

# The Citizen Builder

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## Lincoln County Elects Probate Judge

By Will Broussard



At the Lincoln County elections this morning, votes were counted for several positions, most notably the Probate Judge. The result was a 43-43 tie between Kyson Pate of city three and Connor Romones of city five. According to Alabama Code Section 17-12-23, a game of chance is to be played to determine the winner of an election in the state of an absolute tie. Despite Kyson Pate’s valiant effort, the coin came up heads in favor of candidate Connor Ramones.

Ramones ran on the platform of supporting military families as well as individuals entering the military in the future. “I was lucky enough to win the coin toss, however I do not feel that this is the best way to elect the best possible candidate. For the other offices I decided to create a different way to elect positions that are more fair and reward the better candidate while also representing each city in our county equally and fairly,” Ramones said when asked about the coin toss.

The Meeting came to a close having elected Judge of Probate as Connor Ramones of city five. County Commissioners of city three are Trell Daniel and Creighton Bowling. The County Commissioners of city five are Jake Dean and Ethan Brown. The Clerk of the Circuit Court is Tyler Foster of city three. The Revenue Commissioner is Coleman Cox of city three. The Sheriff is Jake Sharp of city five. The Coroner is Seth Bundy of city five. The Circuit Judge is Elijah Blake of city three. The District Attorney is Micah Fortenberry of city 3.

## Colonel Valentine Gives His Challenge

By Luke Pappalardo



As the first full day of the 85th Alabama Boys State came to a close yesterday evening, the delegates and staff welcomed former Boys State Governor and Airforce Veteran Colonel Valentine to give the address at the night’s general assembly. After a “serene moment” to honor Memorial Day, Colonel Valentine challenged this year’s Boys State to achieve three goals: to overcome, to choose, and to lead. Giving powerful testimonies on the struggles of his own life, Colonel Valentine dared the delegates to reach for their dreams—regardless of what any high school counselor, current environment, or present mindset should dictate. But to accomplish this goal, Colonel Valentine reminded us that we must understand our opportunities, privileges, and duties to make choices. Complacency has no place at Boys State; we must each do our part to preserve, protect, and provide for our future. And finally, Colonel Valentine emphasized the

need for leadership. In an age when democracy appears at the brink of failure through our divisions, Colonel Valentine asked a simple question on the efforts of our nation’s enemies to destroy us through our internal divisions: “is it working?” The audience was silent. But to combat our discouragement, he moved the Boys State delegates to lead through inclusion, servitude, and consideration—to preserve what we have and to protect what we will achieve through unity. After a day of elections, sports, and interest groups, Colonel Valentine brought the mission of Boys State into perspective. We may come from different ends of the state, different socioeconomic factions, different political and opinions, and yet we are one. Through division, our democracy is doomed. Colonel Valentine concluded his speech to a standing ovation—well deserved and with incalculable thanks.

5 DAY  
WEATHER  
OUTLOOK

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
92° 69°	92° 69°	88° 66°	91° 68°	91° 68°



# Tough Win Leads to Trash Talk

By Rahlek Sanders

Yesterday the sports competitions got very heated, several cities faced off in different sports like basketball, soccer, and volleyball to name a few. Each team played their hearts out but in the end only a couple of teams could come out with the victory. There was definitely

lots of rivalry between each team in every sport, but I’ve heard a lot of stories about basketball. The most interesting story from yesterday is the basketball match between cities 7 and 8. It was a tough loss for city 8 with the match ending 68-31 in city 7’s favor. City 7’s confidence is

definitely high right now after this spectacular first match for them. After the matches I could hear some trash talk between teams, confidently saying that their teams wouldn’t lose. Will these teams be able to maintain this confidence, or will they lose their momentum.

# Interview with Federalist Party Chairman

Will Bittner reveals the Federalists Party’s agenda and his opinion on the upcoming election

By Jack Sanders

I had a chance to interview the Federalist Party’s chairman, William Bittner, about his party’s beliefs and how much confidence he has in his party before the election.

The party’s platform was chosen by the members last night, which included some near- unanimous proposals, along with some very controversial proposals which may be a deciding factor for some voters in this upcoming election.

Some of the near-unanimous highlights

of this platform include a lottery, whose revenue will be going to educational funds, the legalization of marijuana with the revenue taxes going to educational funds, and financial aid to small businesses.

The more controversial of the proposals include lowering the age to purchase concealed-carry handguns to 18, a mandatory gun safety class for high school seniors, and the right to have an abortion in cases of rape, incest, or danger, with an investment in alternative options such as adoption.

When I asked Mr. Bittner how confident he was in his party’s chances to win their elections, he replied “I am totally confident. We have a strong platform with intelligent candidates, and people will see that we are the best candidates in this election.”

With a slogan of “Fuel The Future”, these Federalists and their platform are ready for the election.

# Madison County Elections

By Sam Ware and Christopher Miller

Today, Madison County comprising Cities Stacey, Hayes, and Barnet held elections today to fill the open positions in county government. The elections started off with the position of Probate Judge, which was won overall by Jay Jacobs from Barnet (City 9). Following Probate Judge, the next election was for county clerk, which was won by Alexander R. from the city of Stacey (city 8). The position of District Attorney was won by Colton from Barnet ( City 9). The position of county

commissioner following the lengthy election of district attorney was Dalton from Hayes (City 2). Given the various deals made between the cities of Hayes and Stacey, many positions were won over by the two cities in the county election, due to the overwhelming amount of votes over city Barnet. Despite this deal during the election for the first Coroner of the county, there was a significant division between the two cities again, with a majority of the votes from city Stacey going to Nash Ellis, of city

Stacey ( City 8). The election of the At Large County Commissioner resulted with Brennan from Hayes (City 2), taking the position after a runoff against Sam. M of city Stacey (City 8). Following this runoff was the election of the county sheriff, whose role was fulfilled by Will. J, of city Barnet ( City 9 ). Finishing off the county election was the election of the circuit judges, which was won over by Riley S. of city Stacey ( City 8), and Alex .W, of City Hayes ( City 2).

# What’s to Eat?

By Cason Arther

In regards to what’s been served in the cafeteria today, the food offered to us Boy Staters has been magnificent so far. For Lunch, one primary order one could get would be a delicious baked spaghetti of sorts with a scrumptious cheese to top it, with the sides including baby carrots that were warm and tasty with the seasonings added, a scrumptious take on the classic green beans, and a fan favorite interpretation of garlic bread, baked to perfection. As for dinner, we had a wonderfully cooked fish loaded with spicy yet extravagant flavors, sided with some simple and delicious

wild rice, excellently cooked and seasoned brussel sprouts, along with a soft and warm dinner roll to give us the grains needed. For dessert in both lunch and dinner, there was an incredibly sweet and savory brownie topped with some delicious whip cream and covered with the likes of oreo chunks, chocolate syrup, and caramel syrup.

As for the other meals that can be found, sources have said that the hibachi offered for lunch is quite delicious, with some even raving that it is “surprisingly good.” I have noticed that many people have found a fan favorite amongst

the slices of pizza and the pasta near the center of the cafeteria, so it is definitely worth trying if you’re hankering for some Italian food. Other compliments go towards the Chicken Sandwich and Cheeseburger made, the salad bar, as well as the cookies made in the bakery.

In my experiences, I found the meals that I chose for lunch and dinner to be extravagant, with no complaints towards any of the food offered. I look forward to what’s coming up tomorrow, ready to chow down on the food given to us to enjoy.

# Competitors excited about week in Sports

By Lamarion Funches

Monday was the first day delegates had the opportunity to compete in their sports. With day one out of the way team captains have got a feel for the strengths and weaknesses of their team and some have very high hopes. Max Hardin of city 4 serves as the Ultimate Frisbee team captain and also activities director for his city. “Ultimate frisbee probably has a chance to be the best frisbee team at boys state. Being

the activities director, I was happy to see how city four performed in all of our events,” Max said after winning their first game 3-1. The only event city 4 lost was spike ball. Other teams that did not find as much success are still somewhat optimistic about the opening night. I talked to Reagan Lawson and Carson Heupel, basketball players from city 5. “Proud of our team… we came up short but we will come back and be

better,” Reagan commented. His teammate Carson said, “we couldn’t rebound and we shot bad in the 2nd half but we are gonna do better.” City 5’s basketball team barely came up short losing 40-36. The first day of sports did not disappoint as each team performed well and will only become more competitive as the week progresses.