

The Citizen Builder

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Soggy Start to 89th AL Boys State

Baker Farnell



Yesterday's rain led to the cancellation of several sports events including: soccer, pickle ball, kick ball, and ultimate frisbee. Events such as spike ball and cornhole were also forced to relocate to inside venues. Despite the change in schedule however, reactions were widely positive. Many enjoyed the unexpected free time as an opportunity to prepare for their campaign. Among these were Cooper Matthews, who enjoyed the rest and opportunity to prepare

his speech in the busy schedule, and William Ellard who continued active campaigning and expanding his boys state hacky sack team. This cancellation didn't simply limit physical activity, allowing for unexpected chances for attendees such as Caleb Farris to play a couple recreational games of spike ball. Overall, and somewhat surprisingly, the adjustment in schedule was positively received, allowing for unexpected rest and new opportunities.

City of McCray Wins Basketball Thriller

Zak McCullar

On a day that saw several athletic events cancelled due to weather, it seemed that the sports entertainment would be a total washout. But then, in the final basketball game of the day, there was a fantastic finish. The City of McCray (3) defeated the City of Copland (4) in a thriller, with Caden Holderfield hitting the game winning shot in overtime to give his team a 32-30 victory.

"I feel great," said Holderfield. "Me and my team were up, and then we kind of choked it, but we won in the end, so it felt great." A half-court heave from the City of Copland at the buzzer rattled out as time expired, giving the City of McCray a victory that is sure to give them momentum for the rest of the week.



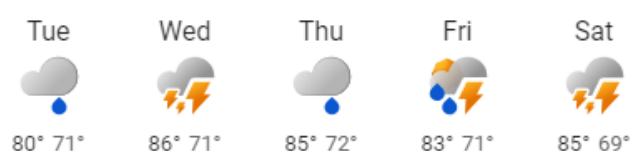
Day in the Life of a Senator

Jaiden Bloodworth

I met with Senator Cade from City 3 today at the recreational center for an interview about his daily activities. Discussion with the Senator led me to find that our senate has really been at work! As of today, the senate went over the parliamentary procedures that are designated by the Alabama Constitution. Additionally, they determined the senate members that would reside in each committee to represent the specific needs of their

constituents. Furthermore, they learned the functions of each committee and how it affects the people within their cities. The senators also began to discuss how they can effectively represent their delegates through representation and the proposal of legislation. They look forward to working together with one another to address and resolve the problems within their cities.

5-DAY WEATHER OUTLOOK



Two Candidates; One Key Contrast

Logan Johnson

On Monday May 25th I had the privilege of interviewing two great Federalist Governor candidates who each shared their experiences with me and told me about their policies.

While interviewing these two candidates, one thing became very clear: the importance of Education in Alabama. They both spoke on the underprivileged status of many Alabamians and both said that it was a very

important point in their campaigns.

Another thing that was clear was that they both were adamant on economic policies, though their beliefs were divided on the lottery system, one believing that it is a good policy with a good few drawbacks, the other believing it is overall a bad idea due to the increased pressure it could create on the lower class, seemingly predatory on already contributed tax

money.

Overall, the ideas from the Federalist Party Government Candidates seem to all try benefitting two things: Education and Prosperity. It was made clear they will do whatever it takes to make their visions come true.

What does your Activities Director do for You?

Seth Herring

Each city at Alabama Boys State has an Activities Director. These Directors are elected through popular vote among the citizens of the city. The job of the Activity Directors is to appoint which delegates will represent their city in each of the following sports and activities:

Academic Bowl, Basketball, Soccer, Drama Club, Corn Hole, Pickleball, Ultimate Frisbee, Kickball, Journalism, Band, and Spike-ball. Directors are also responsible for keeping scores of sporting events. Directors have a very difficult job because they are trying to make

everyone in their city happy, while working with a limited number of spots for each activity. Be sure to thank your City Activities Director for all they do!

Ray Gibson: A Prepared leader

Eian Strickland

Ray Gibson, 17, is the mayor of City 8 and hails from Charles Henderson High school. He has many leadership qualities and experiences. He has served in youth and national council. After being a member of these committees, Gibson developed a strong desire to make sure young Boys State representatives have opportunities to pursue what matters

most to them. "If someone is passionate about something, I want to help them get there," explained Gibson. "I'll do everything I can to make sure people get what they want and need."

Gibson has also served on the inaugural board for American Village, a historic educational site featuring full-scale replicas of important early American buildings, including

the Virginia courthouse in which the U.S. Constitution was debated. In that role, they worked with other students to provide ideas on improving the village and encouraging more young people to participate in educational programs.



Federalists Build Early Momentum

Coleman Waldrop & Mason Hunsinger

The Federalist Party has brought excitement, confidence, and nonstop energy to the 89th Alabama Boys State. The week began with the election of party chair Cal Messer after a highly competitive race, followed by Kingston Nelson being elected co-chair.

The Federalist Platform focuses on protecting the Constitutions of Alabama and the United States while promoting responsible government, economic growth, and public safety. It emphasizes improving education

and healthcare through expanded access, funding, and support for teachers, doctors, and rural communities, along with strengthening Alabama's economy and infrastructure through job creation, agriculture, balanced budgets, and long-term development.

Kingston Nelson, governor candidate, said he believes leadership is about service and truly listening to the people being led. Rico Chen, Secretary of State candidate, said he believes their platform is progressive and

includes bold, radical ideas. Lt. Governor candidate Adam Song said the platform is a strong foundation, but argued that education should be a higher priority due to Alabama's low ranking. Many members are submitting ideas to the platform committee for possible changes.

Overall, the Federalist Party has established a strong presence at the 89th Alabama Boys State through early leadership elections and active participation.