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Tennessee Technological University, Cookeville, Tennessee

FIGGINS ELECTED GOVERNOR, APPOINTS CABINET

Kevin Figgins Jr., a Jacksonian from Lahiere City, won the governor's seat in the general election held Wednesday at Boys' State.

This morning, Figgins announced his cabinet appointments: Kaleb Stephens, Agriculture; Ronald Higdon, Children's Services; Jackson Vaught, Commerce and Insurance; Xavier Brown, Correction; John Hatfield, Economic and Community Development; Nathaniel Perryman, Education; Trevor Hopper, Environment and Conservation; Holt Linde, Finance and Administration; Adam Martin, Financial Institutions; Jesse Bunch, General Services; Jared South, Health; Seth Tillman, Human Resources; Joseph Pullium, Human Services; Jacob Gentry, Labor and Workforce Development; Trevor Smith, Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities; Caleb Huddleston, Revenue; CJ Jackson, Safety and Homeland Security; Jared Carkuff, Tourist Development; Nathan Simpson, Transportation; and Rob Bond, Veterans Affairs.

Governor-elect Figgins also announced the following appointments: Mark Colbert, adjutant general; Logan Terheggen, deputy to the governor; Cody Bancroft, senior advisor for legislation and policy; Delvakio Brown, communication director; Michael Campbell, special assistant to the governor for projects; Jace Green, senior advisor to the governor.

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR GOVERNOR

Kevin Figgins Jr. will unassumingly take his oath of office this Saturday because that's just the kind of guy he is—a self-proclaimed normal guy. His demeanor resonated with delegates this week, so much so that members of his city and county insisted he run for the governor's office.

“Running for election has been hard, but rewarding,” he said. “I wanted to step out from the norm.”

His appeal as a leader has been rooted in others seeing his leadership qualities through his service efforts. A rising senior at Murfreesboro's Oakland High School, he recently won the YMCA Youth Leadership Scholarship for Rutherford County. Kevin visits hospitals and regularly participates in church mission work. He helped victims after last May's flood and conducted canned food drives. He also was recently appointed as a leader in STARS, Students Taking A Right Stand, which focuses on violence and drug prevention.

Kevin plays baritone in his high school band and is a member of Interact and Future Business Leaders of America. He is also a member of the National Honor Society. Kevin says he didn't know much about Boys' State or its election process before he arrived this week. He says he believes delegates saw unique qualities in him and just saw him as a normal person.

“I sincerely thank the many people who have been behind me and pushed me to be a leader and stand up this week,” he said. “Without them, I wouldn't be here.”

STATE ELECTION RESULTS

Supreme Court

Tyler Dunaway, Preston Jutte, Phillip Lundy, Tor Voorhees, Christopher Wilson

Court of Appeals

Caleb Corona, James Gass, Tucker Green, Alex Hill, Jesse Hixson, William Huddleston, Cory Love, Paten Pruitt, Gabriel Rader, Justin Sandefur, Brandon Shepard, Dillon Sloan

Court of Criminal Appeals

Ian Bates, James Bosanko, Samuel Boyette, Mac Britton, John Cary, Christopher Coleman, Jared Davis, Dalton Delk, Tanner Dunn, Robert Hibbett, Andrew Holztrager, James Jordan

LEARN MORE ABOUT LOTTERY SCHOLARSHIPS, COLLEGE ADMISSION

On Thursday morning, Jim Gray, TTU's associate director of admissions, fielded questions and gave advice on college admission. Gray recommended collegepaystn.com as a source of information and guidance.

Gray explained the general guidelines for The HOPE scholarship. "If you graduate from a Tennessee high school and have a 3.0 GPA or 21 ACT, you get \$4,000 per year toward any accredited university in the state." You can also receive a HOPE Aspire (\$1,500) or HOPE Merit scholarship (\$1,000). To be eligible for the HOPE lottery scholarship, students must fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). "Even if you have a perfect ACT score, you will not receive a lottery scholarship unless you fill out the FAFSA."

Gray encouraged delegates to search for scholarships, grants, loans and work opportunities. He advised staying in touch with your high school counselor and checking community organizations and churches that offer scholarship money. He also warned students not to slack academically during their senior year because many students each year lose eligibility for HOPE scholarship money when their grades fall before graduation.

Make a List of What's Important to You

Start with your major and find schools with excellent reputations and accreditation in your field. Ask yourself what are you looking for in these areas: location, size of institution, financial aid and scholarship offerings, and social atmosphere. Visit each campus that meets your criteria and ask good questions about alumni placement and satisfaction, graduation rates and test scores, faculty/student ratios and student satisfaction. You can visit the College Navigator web site at <http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>.

Know the Deadlines

You can sabotage your best plans by missing a filing deadline. Check with each school about financial aid and scholarship application deadlines; deadlines vary among colleges. The scholarship deadline at TTU is Dec. 15. Fill out the FAFSA. Your application will be processed 2-4 weeks faster if you file on the Internet at www.fafsa.ed.gov/.

Tennessee Tech University is one of the nation's 50 "Best Value" public colleges and universities according to *The Princeton Review*. TTU was one of only three public universities in Tennessee and the only TBR institution on the 2011 list. TTU has been named one of America's 100 Best College Buys, earning designation several years in a row as one of the nation's best college educations for the cost. *USNews & World Report* has chosen TTU as one of the Top Public Schools in the South on multiple occasions, and the University has been chosen as a "Best Southeastern College" by The Princeton Review for several years. These accolades are a reflection of the commitment our university has toward the lifelong success of our students.

Jacksonians basketball team reigns supreme on the court

