

# TENNESSEE AMERICAN LEGION

# BOYS STATE

Vol. 76, No. 6, Friday, May 29, 2015  
Tennessee Technological University, Cookeville, Tennessee

## DELEGATES VIE FOR BOYS NATION

At the conclusion of Boys State, two delegates will be selected to represent Tennessee as Boys' Nation senators in Washington, D.C., later this summer. A select 100 delegates from Boys' State programs across the nation will travel to Marymount University in Arlington, Va., to learn how the federal government operates. The two delegates will be privileged to participate in a number of events including a special memorial service at Arlington National Cemetery, a visit to the Pentagon complete with a briefing with the Joint Chiefs of Staff, a day on Capitol Hill with lunch in the Senate dining room and a visit to the White House. Traditionally, the President has been available to greet Boys Nation delegates. The trip also offers an excellent opportunity for delegates interested in the U.S. service academies to meet and talk with representatives.

Joseph Riley, the 2008 Tennessee Boys State governor, was the first Tennessee delegate to be elected president of Boys Nation. The following candidates are competing for the opportunity to represent their state and the chance to become the next Boys Nation president from Tennessee: Shane Feeney, Cain City; Cody Innis, Hammer City; Brad Sells, Kreider City; Jacob Baehman, Lahiere City; C.J. Hale, Levi City; Patrick Latham, Loring City; Jack Nichols, Maddux City; Thomas Morris, McCollum City; Samuel VanHook, Reel City; Griffin Dodd, Roberts City; Kendall Mehling, Summitt City; John McKissack, Young City.

**SATURDAY'S EVENTS.** . . . Tennessee Secretary of State Tre Hargett will speak at the final day of Boys State during the inauguration ceremony for Boys State Governor-elect Zavior Phillips. The names of the Boys' Nation delegates and the results of the city competition will be announced. The finalist for the Samsung American Legion scholarship award will also be announced. Samsung established the scholarship in honor of those who served in the Korean War. Only descendants of U.S. veterans who served during wartime are eligible. The winner will join other state finalists, each of whom receives a \$1,000 scholarship, in competition for 12 \$20,000 national scholarships.

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**BOYS STATE HAS GOT TALENT:** Some of the most memorable moments of the week happen at the Thursday night talent show and this year was no exception. The variety of performances included hilarious efforts and unbelievable talent. Kreider City won this year's competition, followed by Roberts in second, Summitt in third, McCollum in fourth and Hammer in fifth.

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## **Max Haston shares experiences in National Guard**

Brigadier General Terry M. "Max" Haston, Tennessee's 75th Adjutant General, spoke to delegates Thursday evening.

He has served in numerous command and leadership positions within the National Guard, including Armor Company Commander, Squadron and Regimental Training Officer, and Squadron Commander. In 2001, Haston assumed command as the seventh Colonel of the 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment, headquartered in Knoxville. Following command of the 278th, he was assigned as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and J-3, Joint Forces Headquarters, Tennessee. He is a graduate of the U.S. Army War College at Carlisle Barracks, Penn.

In May 2005, Haston mobilized and deployed as the Chief of Reserve Components, Multi-National Corps Iraq (XVIII Airborne Corps). Upon completion of his tour in the Middle East, he returned as the J-3, JFHQ TN. He was appointed the Assistant Adjutant General, Army, on May 6, 2008.

The Tennessee Army and Air National Guard stands at almost 17,000 officers and enlisted personnel. The Military Department oversees a total budget, including state and federal funds of over \$400 million. The Adjutant General, a constitutional officer of the state appointed by the Governor, is responsible for the leadership and command of the Tennessee Army and Air National Guard, the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency and the Bureau of War Records.

Since 1911, the Tennessee National Guard has deployed 30,000 troops. Tennessee has lost 22 soldiers in combat, six others in training. "We are blessed we have not lost more due to the type of missions we have," Haston said.

### **Q: What is Paychecks for Patriots?**

A: A lot of young men and women never had a job or quit or lost a job during deployment. With Dollar General as a partner, we hold a job fair twice a year with only employers who have immediate jobs to offer. We've helped put over 3,000 guardsman or family members in a career.

### **Q: What was your most memorable mission?**

A: In 2002 I commanded over 5,000 soldiers at the national training center in the Mojave Desert. It was the largest deployment since Korean War. I had a bunch of Tennesseans who were like Davy Crockett and smarter then the average bear. We won almost all of the battles.

### **Q: Is the well-regulated militia in the 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment the Army National Guard?**

A: Yes, I carry a constitution wherever I go, and it calls for the United States to fund a navy and a militia. The National Guard is 378 years old. Somebody in your family served in the militia most likely. The militia is allowed to go overseas.

### **Q: What do you think of the state of the world today?**

A: I think we are in a second cold war. The towns that I fought for in Iraq that were secure are no longer secure. ISIS is now in those areas. There is also trouble in Yeman and Korea. We have to watch very carefully. I feel the world is unsecure. I encourage each one of you to get in the habit of reading newspapers or the Economist every day. Don't read rags or unreliable sources. Read good data and learn to sort out the truth.



