

TENNESSEE AMERICAN LEGION

BOYS STATE

Vol. 79, No. 4, Wednesday, May 23, 2018
Tennessee Technological University, Cookeville, Tennessee

GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATES SPEAK TO DELEGATES

With elections scheduled Wednesday afternoon, the Jacksonian party chairman nominated of Jacob Alexander of Loring City for governor, while the Johnsonian party chairman nominated Daniel Gates of Roberts City for the office. Independent candidate Tristan Harwood of Kreider City also was placed into nomination. Each candidate gave a speech to the assembly.

Alexander serves as student body president at Gallatin High School and has many other leadership roles, including serving as Interact president. He is also a member of the Sons of the American Legion. His remarks focused on his passion for Boys State and commitment to the American Legion.

"It has been a passionate dream of mine for years now to become the Boys State governor," Alexander said. "In order to remain the best, we must all work together to overcome challenges that may come our way. We are all in this together." He then led the delegates in reciting the chorus of Lee Greenwood's "Proud to be an American."

Gates, who participates in six varsity sports teams at Dyersburg City School, crafted his remarks around the theme, "Strong Body, Strong Mind." He spoke about the value of team work and mentoring. "It's not about being strong, it's about thinking strong," he told delegates.

"You are what you think about, and you have to develop a culture." Gates ended his address with a physical performance of pushups.

Harwood told delegates that he would listen to their career interests and try to appoint them to positions that would help them in their future endeavors.

Candidates also were announced for three other state government races:

Supreme Court: (Jacksonians) Ben Austin, Will Hong, Trevor Horton, Dylan Jacobik, Hayden Keller (Johnsonians) Colt Chapman, Jake DiChiacchio, Jacob Feehan, Joshua Floyd, John Kerrigan

Court of Appeals: (Jacksonians) Seth Bucy, Aubrey Caster, Carl Conte, Will Engle, Sam Killebrew, Adam LaLance, Ben Mills, Hunter Storey, Andrew Taylor, Colton Teegarden, Whitt Williams (Johnsonians) Matthew Frazier, Alexander Hagerman, Cody Hodge

Court of Criminal Appeals: (Jacksonians) Clay Durham, John Herberman, Seth Jones, Jordan Lowrance, Mykal Manfred, Jacob Marsteller, Peyton Myers, Jacob Pettinger, Reed Stout, William Tipton, Dominic Tribo, Jon White (Johnsonian) Will Brackett, Hasadiah Coleman, Andrew Fish, Jalan Huffman, Nate Reese, Collin Robinson, Carson Vaughn

Lt. Gov. Randy McNally addresses delegates, conducts Q&A

Randy McNally, the 50th Lt. Governor of the State of Tennessee, addressed Boys Staters on Tuesday afternoon. McNally chose the occasion to give delegates encouragement and advice on the importance of being good citizens and the qualities it takes to lead others.

“Democracy is not a passive endeavor; citizens need to be informed and engaged,” McNally said. “Being a leader is not about you, it’s about the individuals you lead.”

McNally called on Boys Staters to be servant leaders. “Being a good citizen is important for you, your state and your nation. In Tennessee, we pride ourselves on creating good citizens.”

He said the legislature mandated a Tennessee history course be taught in every school in order to perpetuate the state’s story. “History and civics are the most important subjects for the health of our society,” McNally said.

McNally told delegates that it is a myth that political leadership is about how to manipulate people by tricking them. “They may seem successful at first, but it catches up with them.”

He shared his advice on what qualities a leader needs in order to serve. He said decisiveness is a desirable trait because if you wring your hands and take a long time to act, people begin to doubt even good decisions. He told delegates to remain calm and keep a positive outlook in order to lead well.

“People need to know your word is your bond. Build a team around you that you can trust, with people who have good judgment and who will tell you that you are headed in the wrong direction.

“You cannot control everything, but you must take responsibility for your actions.”

POINTS OF TECH PRIDE

- Tech is the **#1 public university** in Tennessee in Money magazine’s “Best Colleges for Your Money” listing (#3 overall)
- Almost 50 percent of Tech students graduate **debt free**
- 10,000+ students enrolled
- \$53,800 starting average graduate salary (Payscale.com)
- Voted **Top Public** University in Tennessee for Best Value (SmartAsset)
- Highest return on investment for a public university in Tennessee

Schedule a personal campus visit at tntech.edu/visit

Ready to become a Golden Eagle? tntech.edu/admissions 931-372-3888

Tug of War Results

Kreider took the 2018 Tug of War championship. McCollum finished second, and Cain City came in third.