

## WHAT DOES A PARTY EPITOMIZE?

Bryce Troncone

The existence of the Democratic and Republican parties has caused worthy speculation over the validity of the two-party system. With this questioning of true beliefs, a conundrum has truly arrived for young people trying to find their destined position and sense of “constancy” in a world of never-ending change. When putting things into perspective, these two parties underwent a myriad of changes during their courses of existence. Meanwhile, the parties have consistently stood for the theory of similarity among their constituents within their affiliations.

Instances of the change include, over the course of time, unique contrasts amongst notable leadership of each party. For example, these can be seen in the Democratic party when reflecting on the bigoted viewpoints of Andrew Jackson to a progressive Civil Rights leader in Franklin D. Roosevelt. The same applies to the Republican party in the traditional and conservative Thomas Jefferson to radicalized Donald Trump.

The contradicting ideals and actions in a person's own party summons the question of, “What does the party as a whole stand for?” The disparity trickling through the presiding parties summons no right answer necessarily. Of course, hundreds of years of history between the parties can contribute to the cause, and legislation is always responding to the needs of the people at the present time.

With regularity, a collectivized party has transformed its policies into blurred lines, abandoning followers and even leaders to a distraught and hazed situation. And, while a party may be representing an idea in its entirety, it is vital for the independent and self-provoking mind to allow differences to shine between the involved members. The qualities of independent and free thought must never be forgotten and, in return, always be promoted. As a result, the need for a party-based government is put to debate. Therefore, the bipartisan system may just be an archaic and treasured labeling in an evolving country known as the United States...

## Today's Weather

Low of 60

High of 85

Rain: 10%

Wind: 12 mph

Partly cloudy

## REMINDER

Remember to wear sunblock despite the cloudy weather!

American Legion Jersey  
Boys State Social Media



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The Quote of the day is...

**"If you have the opportunity to play this game of life you need to appreciate every moment. A lot of people don't appreciate the moment until it's passed."**

- Kanye West

# Boys State News

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## MAKE TWITTER GREAT AGAIN?

Jared Fisch

Twitter. This social media platform is often seen as a tool for teenagers to interact online. Never before has the American population seen its president use this app in such an interesting way.

President Trump often shares his thoughts on matters he deals with daily via Twitter, giving users an inside look into the government. Many believe that Trump should focus on being the President rather than ranting on Twitter at three in the morning.

Trump's use of Twitter could be a danger to the United States because he risks leaking classified information for everyone to see. Twitter is a platform for people to connect with one another, not for the most powerful man on Earth to complain about talk show hosts.

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## IN CASE YOU MISSED IT...

Patrick Cao

Boys State recently had a seminar involving the studies of technology and working with computers called Careers in Information Technology.

The seminar discussed the fundamentals of learning and using and fixing issues involving computers. Delegates were honored to have Jeff Berliner and Brian Epstein of the Institute of Advanced Study and Bryce Liskovec of The College of New Jersey present what it takes to code, repair computer-related issues, and deal with frustrating customers.

As stated by Berliner, "The key to coming into a job such as mine is to start small and keep pushing through with what you want to. You may get frustrated with who you are working with or who you are working for." He then added, "But you must remember that you must stay calm since it's a situation in which the person you are dealing with does not know what it takes to do your job. It just takes patience."

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## TACTICAL RETREAT

Chris Melillo

Each evening, every Boys State delegate gathers on the main field to pay respect to our flag. Each city lines up in formation behind their respective guidon and reports to the Retreat Captain. Following each city's roll, "Taps" is played, the entire field salutes, and the American flag is retreated. This nightly ceremony is truly a special tribute to our country. And, with about 1,100 Boys State staff and statesmen gathered at once, one would reflect on the enormity of the Boys State program as a whole.



An unexpected rain shower disrupted ALJBS events Monday afternoon, resulting in the cancellation of all sporting events for the day.

# Opinion

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## ADAMS FEDS SHUT DOWN UNIONS, BOND OVER OPPOSITION

Matthew Walsh

As the first day comes to a close, so do the decisions on policy made by both the Federalist and Nationalist parties. All of the cities were given a unique situation in which the city's parties were to apply their political knowledge as well as their legal expertise. The Adams City Federalists came to an unexpected conclusion when it came to the problems their community faced.

Adams City was confronted with a very difficult issue in the healthcare category. Workers at a local hospital have recently gone on strike. Their absence crippled the hospital as the other workers attempted to heal the onslaught of injured and sick. The goal of the protesters is a better healthcare system in which they receive full coverage.

When the mob came to the Federalists of Adams City to negotiate, unions for the local fire department, police department, and teacher group all came forward with new demands to their employers. The Federalists, feeling very threatened, fired back on the unions that were not included in the hospital workers' protest. The Federalists met the demands of the hospital workers and scolded the outlying unions for their boldness. The unions representing the fire department, police department, and teacher's demanded that the employers pay each employee a \$1,200 increase in salary each year. The Adams City Federalists flat out denied the request, and the unions left empty handed except for the hospital workers who received full coverage.

The Adams City Federalists flexed their power over the unions but could potentially face another strike, which would most likely come from the unions that the Federalists turned down. Adams City Federalists now have a giant target on their back and should tread lightly in the future when dealing with such a hostile crowd. Adams City is bonding very quickly and should be a formidable force in the state elections and sports events in the upcoming week.

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# City News

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## THE DEMOCRACY OF SPORTS

Noah Roselli

To fully understand where we are today, one must be able to use hindsight both to recognize where we were that led to this moment and to have an innate sense of what is to come. This week, as Jersey Boys State delegates have heard how this program is to shape the future, we are called to make a conscious decision to get involved. For some, this is simply through participating in the election process, as two of us will become the next Governor and Lieutenant Governor, and or the others will attend Boys Nation as senators. For others, their voices will not be as apparent, but just as important, through their votes in their own cities, counties, and state. To capitalize on the true definition and purpose of this week—cooperation skills being high up on the list—one must first be able to work as a team. And what is a better way than actually joining a team?

The American hierarchy can be defined if one can first understand the democracy of sports, perhaps well explained in the following metaphor: each mayor is a quarterback, supported by each of the linemen. Though he may make the plays and each of the calls, there is no way to be able to execute the plays if not for the rest of the team; the wide receivers and running backs are all required for some part of their end goal. Although in some forms of city government types, the mayor has little to no control, there is still a centralized idea of an epicenter around which all other citizens revolve, same as the football metaphor.

Therefore, the democracy in sports explains the American democracy and the way that connections, progression, and ultimately success is obtained through working as a team. And the only way to do that is to get involved! I urge for all of you to get involved in sports if you have not already!

And, as a reminder, at the end of the week, Best City and Best County Award will be decided. And among the criteria that falls into each of the categories, sports involvement is considered.

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## WASHINGTON IN CRISIS, OH DEVILS!

Dylan Giacobbe

The New Jersey Devils, a gypsy moth infestation, and a tragic school shooting at a graduation: these are the issues facing the city of Washington, a small, suburban community less than an hour away from a much larger metropolitan city. Both Federalists and Nationalists have begun to discuss solutions to the problems that have been addressed by the mayor and the city council. Luckily for Washington, both parties have put forth similar solutions to the pressing issues.

With city elections concluded, Washington has elected a Federalist as its mayor and a split council of three Nationalists and three Federalists. Runner-up Nationalist mayor candidate, Seth Hanchett, noted the cooperation shown between the parties. "It's a positive thing," he explained, "because we'll be able to put together a lot of ideas."

Washington still has a long way to go in the process of solving these problems, but many citizens agree that with a united mind, both the Nationalists and the Federalists can fix the city together through cooperation, however long that may last.