

# Arizona Girls State Independent



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## New City, New Friends

**April Fischer  
& Morgan Carstensen**  
*Juniper City Reporters*

The Juniper Jellyfish are jumping for joy because of all the friends they've made and jubilant faces they've met.

With the beginning of Girls State, hundreds of anxious girls with outstanding leadership potential were introduced to a new mythological city and quickly became friends.

One such example of the tight bond formed between fellow members is seen in the city of Juniper in Cocopah County.

"It's been an enlightening experience," said Diana Loya. "I feel that the friendships I make now will help me to be a stronger person in my future."

Certainly this is only the beginning and come Saturday, leaving these friends will be difficult. The sisterhood formed between fellow girls will not only help

the Girls State citizens become stronger women but will allow them to become more in-tune with their surroundings and will be useful for the rest of their lives even if politics is not a main part of their lives.

Though the Juniper girls adventure under the sea will come to a tidal wave of a close at the end of the week, the friendships for most will be as everlasting as a deep-sea pearl.



## Life in the Fast Lane

**Cassie Brucci**  
*Mimosa City Reporter*

Yesterday was an eventful day for the city of Mimosa. Between new elections, meetings, and activities, there was definitely something for everyone.

At around 8:00 a.m., Kelsey Ham (N), Sally Wilder (N), Amanda Giles (N), Lindsay Komlos (F), Melissa Crandall (F) and Kim Sherro (F) were chosen as our

Precinct Committeemen.

As the day went on, the elections kept rolling. At 9:05 a.m. primary elections took place for mayor and city councilmen, and by 2:54 p.m., Amy Forker (N) was announced mayor, along with Juliana Manzanarez, Brittany Neil, Mallory Orme and Jesse Stapes as city councilmen. With little time to waste, the newly elected mayor and her city councilmen went straight to work assigning city offi-

cialists who ran from meeting to meeting until 9:30 p.m.

In addition to elections, door decorations were in full force as Mimosians worked diligently on their mascot themed decorations. Mimosa also got the chance to have some fun with their sister city, Pinon. During the meeting gifts and laughs were exchanged. It's just another day in the life of a citizen of Mimosa.

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# Arizona Girls State Independent



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### 2008 Girls State Reporters

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Morgan Ostwinkle – Ocotillo  
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Cassandra Bell – Cholla  
Lainie Vinikoor – Manzanita  
Hanna Jones – Yucca  
Micaela Encinas – Saguaro  
Alexis Easlick – Mesquite  
Victoria Yerkovich – Sycamore

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# Pinon Picks Marysol!

**Lindsey Forry**

*Pinon City Reporter*

Marysol Pino, hailing from Phoenix, Arizona, was elected as Piñon's Mayor for the 2008 session of Arizona Girls State.

Marysol attends Cortez High School where she participates in the school marching band, for which she is the clarinet section leader, and is on the school basketball team. She is also the Vice

President of the National Honor Society on the Cortez campus, as well as a member of the writing club. In her spare time, Mayor Marysol enjoys writing and drawing.

Mayor Marysol Pino hopes to lead Pinon towards becoming a more prosperous and well-rounded city. She states "Leaders are meant to serve the community, and I want to guide Piñon towards greatness." Her philosophy on leadership and civics are sure to lead the Piñon Pirates towards success.

# Got Milk?

**Alexis Easlick**

*Mesquite City Reporter*

Ideas were flowing yesterday as the city of Mesquite elected its mayor, city council, and precinct committeemen. Alexis Easlick was elected Mayor, with her council of Laura Pickens, Melody Low, Christie Gallo and Alexandria Funk.

The first voting of the day resulted in the precincts committeemen. For the Federalists we have Jayni Hasler, Jamie Allen and Katie Fout and for the Nationalists we have Shannon Walsh, Leah Swanson and Tiffany Quinlan

As a new upcoming city, Mesquite had a lot to discuss and decide. A theme was chosen and we are the new "Mesquite Milk Maids."

Leah Swanson, one of the leaders of the Milk Maids, said "Moo Moo"

As for the rest of the city, they are hard at work, decorating and proving that we can run an awesome city all by ourselves.



# can you guess who this is?



# Yucca News!

**Hanna Jones**

*Yucca City Reporter*

Yucca has adopted a new mascot, which is the one and only Yoshi! The city is very excited for this new addition!

On a sadder note California dropped off and now gave Arizona beach front property.

In Yucca's recent elections the city has acquired a new Mayor which is Casey Moore. Also Yucca's new city council consists of Kelsey Carlson, Kelsey Cozzolino, Elizabeth and Stephanie.

The city is looking forward to new changes and bigger and brighter opportunities.

# Say Hello to the Saguaro Spices

**Micaela Encinas**  
*Saguaro City Reporter*

What did I get myself into?  
Will my roommate and I get along?  
Why is registration taking forever?  
What if I don't like this?  
It sounds like another year of Girls State and that means another week of hard work, unforgettable memories and the ever nerve wrecking "Breaking the Ice" with all of the girls.

The Saguaro Spices immediately wel-

comed and bonded with each of its fifteen members and we have all become a small, tight knit circle.

Together, in the first voting process, we elected Christen Brown (Chairman), Cassandra Isme and Micaela Encinas as the National Precinct Committeemen. Raine Allen (Chairman), Stephanie Butkowski and Tracey Reyes make up the Federalist Precinct Committeemen.

As for our Mayor, our lovely Daleina Hartman stepped up to the responsibility.

Despite all our sweat being poured

into the numerous activities, there are times of immense fun! We all laughed and watched in amazement as Cassandra downed twenty drops of Tabasco sauce in order to get it back. We sincerely enjoy our talks and games at meals and getting together in the halls to share ideas and practice our different chants.

Take the trek up to the third floor and you're greeted with a hall decked out in chili decor and friendly personalities.

Who's Hot? The Saguaro Spices!

## Ocotillo Love

**Morgan Ostwinkle**  
*Ocotillo City Reporter*

Creative energy swells though the halls that form the exquisite city of Ocotillo. At the start of only the second day, creativity proves to be the ultimate strength.

The newest, most original mascot in Arizona Girls State history is introduced, "The Okapotter." This is a hybrid cross between the native rainforest animal, the Okapi, and

the familiar Otter.

Soon after this creating, each door is uniquely costumed to portray a city dwelling that contributes to Ocotillo's success. Most importantly, Ocotillo City has managed to discover its strength and apply it to give back! Creating gifts to spread the "Ocotillo Love" for our kind, hard-working volunteer staff and JC's (which were delivered in stylish hot pink hats).

With five days still remaining, there's no telling what to expect from the Ocotillo Okapotters.

# Manzanita is Expecting Nothing Less Than the Best

**Lainie Vinikoor**  
*Manzanita City Reporter*

The Manzanita Girls have checked in, unpacked and are ready to take Capitol City. Manzanita is comprised of 22 girls from everywhere in Arizona. "People are getting along here so well. Better than I have seen at my school," said Manzanita citizen, Julie Fiveash.

The Manzanita Senoritas have already decorated their city with a fiesta theme. One peek down the Manzanita City Hall and you'll feel like you just crossed the boarder into a colorfully decorated Mexican city. "Decorating the halls was amazing because it gave me a chance to bond with the other girls," said Manzanita citizen, Deni Sharp.

Decorations aren't the only way the Senoritas are showing their spirit. Yesterday at Lunch, the Girls of Manzanita, made their grand entrance with a chant pressuring other cities to respond with their own city spirit. "Our mad skills were shown as we demonstrated our fantastic ability to represent our amazing city and how we have come together in a single day," said Chief of Police Kelsi Long.

After only a day city offices were filled. Manzanita elected Brittany Abeln, as the City Mayor and Crystal Trejo, Jennifer Ibarra, Nourie Boraie, and Lainie Vinikoor were all elected as the City Councilmen. The first steps the new mayor, Brittany Abeln took was appointing people to city offices includ-

ing treasurer, planning and zoning, chief of police, among other offices. "It was really cool being able to appoint all the girls to certain positions. Everyone has such different abilities and we are able to coordinate them so they are all working together and all contributing to the better of Manzanita," said Councilwoman Crystal Trejo.

The Manzanita girls are just getting started here at Girls State and plan on being the best city possible. The Senoritas have set their hopes high, wanting to take Capital City. Mayor Brittany Abeln says it best, "I know that Manzanita has the potential to go far and I am very excited to help lead Manzanita to a bright future and victory with taking the Capitol."

# First Day for Ironwood Citizens

**JessicaDuran**  
*Ironwood City Reporter*

Once their first long, information-packed day at Arizona Girls State came to a close, the young ladies of the city of Ironwood retreated to their small, musky dorm rooms to unwind with new friends.

Girls were so interested in getting to know each other that they disregarded Mrs. Andrews' "Lights Out" call and continued to talk and giggle throughout the night. Hours later, the exhausted girls of Ironwood were awoken by the thunderous sound of Kayla Luis' voice as she roamed through the dorm shouting, "Wake Up!"

Once everyone was up and ready, Ironwood started its day by displaying great patriotism and respect at the Advancement of Colors, which took place at Placita de la Luna at 7:45 a.m. After that, the city met at Ironwood City Hall to elect six Precinct Committeemen (Kayla Luis, Erin Doyle, Danielle Grijalva, Jessica Lawler,

Chesney Carter, and Elizabeth Norton) a Chairman (Erin Doyle), a Mayor (Alexandra Krechel), and four City Councilmen (Sarah Kelly, Amanda Roberts, Annmarie Estes, and Madeline Brewer).

Once the officials were elected, both the Nationalist and Federalist Precinct Committeemen met with their party advisors. Meanwhile, the rest of Ironwood took advantage of some much needed down time. Many girls explored the Girls State Store and purchased items such as Girls State T-shirts, shorts and bags. Some citizens of Ironwood scored candy from the vending machine or took naps.

After the break, Ironwood made its way to the Park Student Union building for pizza and cookies. After that the city focused on its officials and infrastructure. Citizens who were interested in taking on an extra-curricular activity left their city to join Glee Club with Mrs. Laughlin.

Later at dinner, Ironwood feasted upon a Mexican dinner that included a chimi-

changa, rice, beans and pastel colored cake. As cities filed out of the Park Student Union building they encountered the jovial scene of "Here We Go" created by the City of Ironwood.

With their spirits high, Ironwood joined its sister city, Juniper at 8:30 p.m. to engage in sisterly bonding. The two cities exchanged gifts and mingled in the Placita de la Luna. A game of "Sally Walker" was started, but was quickly overcome the catchy beat of Ironwood's "Here We Go."

The last activity of the night was a meeting for either Federalists or Nationalists. Girls of all cities were introduced to their party officials and taught party chants. This was the second day of a full week that each girl will spend at Arizona Girls State. If at any time you feel overwhelmed, tired or frustrated, remember the words of Kayla Luis of Ironwood, "The world can't weigh you down if you are standing on top of it."



# Cholla Captains commence construction of city

**CassandraBell**  
& **DanielleTorres**  
*Cholla City Reporters*

The City of Cholla, located on the western border of Arizona in Supai County, elected their peers to fill city government positions.

After requesting a comment from the Mayor of Cholla, Haley McInnis, she offered a quote of inspiration to encourage Cholla's voters- "The only difference between extraordinary and ordinary is a little extra." Meaning that all delegates should try their hardest and put in the "extra" effort!"

The Captains are eager to develop nautical-based businesses to accommodate the recently occurred disaster along the

border of Arizona. Businesses recently constructed include a seafood restaurant, scuba instruction and supplies, a candy store with saltwater taffy, military base, clothing store, a school, a hospital, and

other industries.

The citizens of Cholla are looking forward to many changes, especially uniting with their fellow countymen, Yucca and Palo Verde.

The following delegates will now represent the city of Cholla:

**Mayor**  
Haley McInnis (Federalist)  
**Councilmen**  
Geraldine Miranda  
Danielle Torres  
Chandni Patel  
Margaret Hurst

**Precinct Committeemen**  
(Nationalist Party)  
Danielle Torres  
Megan Bahls  
Kelsey Bland (Chairman)  
(Federalist Party)  
Samantha Highland (Chairman)  
Ashley Reynolds  
Margaret Hurst