

# Arizona Girls State Independent



June 11, 2010 • Volume 4, Issue 5 • Tucson, Arizona

## Girls State citizens give back to the veterans

Mrs. Mead

Here at Arizona Girls State our girls have been collecting socks to give to the VA Medical Centers around the state as well as other centers for our veterans. That's right SOCKS!

This project makes a great community service. These ladies collected 1,054 pairs of new socks for the VA. We broke the 1,000 mark and we are so very proud of all of you for your participation.

The VA will use these socks for many of the homeless veterans as well as the blind centers and many other wonderful places.

It is so wonderful to see this many girls performing community service. It truly is magical.

So congratulations to all of you ladies for such a wonderful job well done. The staff here at Girls State are very, very proud.



## Glitter Ban!

LilySchleicher  
*Ocotillo City Reporter*

Many people wonder what the basis is for the glitter ban here in the 51st state of America. Years ago, Matilda McGullicutty, a normal, eager delegate such as yourself, was running for the position of Justice of the Peace. Her roommate and supposedly dear friend was also running for this position.

However, she had an uncommon allergy, that of Christmas colored glitter. One night as the two girls were preparing their campaign posters, glitter somehow infiltrated Matilda's respiratory system.

Normally, her reaction would involve hives and nothing more. Unfortunately due to the internal intake, this exposure was fatal. The cause of her death has been questioned as either first degree murder or an innocent accident.

This is all that may be disclosed at this time. Defense and prosecution will stand before Honorable Judge Ji Su King on Friday, June 11 at 1:15pm.

## Girls State hosts Arizona Governor

Heidilverson  
*Mesquite City Reporter*

Today we had the pleasant surprise of getting to listen to our Arizona State Governor, Janet Brewer. All the girls were so thrilled when they found out that pictures that were taken or who was sending texts or calls home rang across the halls.

Everyone was really pumped and the experience seemed to bring our already closely-knit groups even closer. The speaker seemed to be exactly what everyone is looking forward to in the future. Being that so many of them were intrigued by the state position, it's probably safe to say that Governor Brewer was an exciting activity.

All the girls feel really lucky that they got that opportunity. Everyone gives their thanks to the Governor for coming and to those people who helped set it up for us.

## Talent, talent and more talent

JiSuKang  
*Juniper City Reporter*

The talent show was yet another evidence of Girls State diversity and what can only be described, as poorly of a grammatical choice of words, as "Amazing-ness." Each and every single member of the talent show performers stunned and awed its viewers. Many "jaws were dropping" says a member of the viewers.

"There are so many great singers at Girls State," says Lin Weng, she herself also outdoing talent range by singing and dancing at the same time.

Who can dispute the magnitude of talent at Girls State? Not many and perhaps one day, all of America might get to see each act that took countless breaths and raised thunderous applause on the world stage.

# INSIDE

**Socks & Glitter Ban**  
..... page 1

**Good byes & Shoes**  
..... page 2

**Sparks & Music**  
..... page 3

**It's Official & City Spirit**  
..... page 4

# Arizona Girls State Independent



is published daily by  
American Legion Auxiliary  
Arizona Girls State  
Penny Maklary, Director  
Shannon Mead, Editor

**2010 Girls State Reporters**

- Sharyn Tom - Palo Verde
- Ashley Olsen - Palo Verde
- Ji Su Kang - Juniper
- Dana Dale - Juniper
- Morgan Brewster - Juniper
- Gabrielle Manns - Pinon
- Chelsey Schmid - Pinon
- Shirin Ahmadpour - Ocotillo
- Lilly Schleicher - Ocotillo
- Jackie Gerhart - Mimosa
- Jasel Baeza - Mimosa
- Brooke Finley - Cholla
- Claire Cambron - Cholla
- Dawn Ericsson - Manzanita
- Bree Rios - Manzanita
- Monique Trejo - Yucca
- Kelsey Blackman - Yucca
- Jennifer Ellis - Saguaro
- Heidi Iverson - Mesquite
- Melissa White - Mesquite
- Mary Ngugi - Sycamore
- Casandra Gill - Sycamore
- Kayla DeCant - Ironwood
- Katie Scates - Ironwood

© Copyright, 2010 Arizona Girls State

# A spark of inspiration

Shirin Ahmadpour  
*Ocotillo City Reporter*

There's nothing more delightful than one's hard work and perseverance paying off. The rewarding feeling of reaching success and earning life's greatness has never been so sweet at Girls State.

The program, which gathered nearly 300 of Arizona's most prestigious young ladies, has brought about speakers with more than impressive titles. Yet the most significant of all special guests was the one and only, Janet Brewer, Arizona State's 22nd Governor.

If there was anyone who was capable of igniting the spark in the eyes of so many girls, it was her. Star struck and adoring, the delegates were all curious to know how she had begun her journey in politics.

"My family set up a foundation cemented in love" and her mother always thought her the "value of action" stated Brewer.

She first found motivation and support, and as a

woman she upheld "Clear thinking and common sense." Similarly to all of the Girls State delegates, she too desired to make a difference.

In the 1970's her husband told her, "If you really want to make a difference, run for the Legislative." Far-fetched idea? Not for a strong minded, ambitious woman. Thus, she spent fourteen years on the State Legislature.

One may think that she achieved all her goals, but dreams never stop at the top. "We are always preparing to be called into service and when that call comes, never be pushed aside," Brewer declares.

The symbol of eloquence, the ideal role model, and inspiration who touched the hearts and minds of the delegates at Girls State. After being involved in the government for twenty-eight years, her advice to future politicians is to tell the truth and always do what you believe is right.

Her parting remarks and her mere presence lifted the spirits and ambitions of each young lady. The world should now prepare itself for the greatest amounts of initiative these delegates plan to take.



# Mood Swings Music to my ears

Brooke Finley  
*Cholla City Reporter*

As elections have been concluded, there have been a change in attitude around Girls State. No longer do people flutter around lunch tables, or flash beaming smiles at strangers. Quite frankly, it seems irrelevant now.

Yet, there is still a benevolent connection among girls. Cities have maintained their bonds, but now girls begin to create new ones.

Those who won their campaigns are engineering relationships with those they currently work with. Instead of being extensively bubbly and friends, the peak of which was seen in the casual, entertaining general election speeches, girls are now ready to begin completing their cities.

With deadlines approaching, girls are required by obligation to cease absolute dedication to meeting fellow attendees and are working to pursue commitment of excellence in their work. Now, a buzzed sense of objectivity fills Coronado.

Melissa White  
*Mesquite City Reporter*

What's that beautiful sound? It's not the symphony. It's not the choir or a band. It's here at U of A and it's Girls State. This week, we have been consumed in city plans and running for office, but in the midst of excitement and confusion is our meeting spot in the social sciences hall.

Through singing fun songs led by our Junior Counselors and suggested by girls and re-used from previous sessions of Girls State, we've had the chance to grow closer as friends. Junior Counselor Natalie Bouley said, "I hear a bunch of young women letting loose and finding out who they really are. It makes me feel honored - like I've done my job. It's a fulfillment that people have gone through a life changing week."

As goals and bonds strengthen through singing as a united state, they tighten, too. As personalized cheers sound from the lunch room they reveal raw, rowdy city pride.

# Girls State offers more

SharynTom  
*Palo Verde City Reporter*

Although Girls State creates abilities for everyone to get involved, some delegates manage to slip through the cracks. This is particularly disheartening for the minority of girls without a position.

Despite the disappointment of not receiving her dream position, Jasmine Khan Niazi said, "I'm having so much fun, I feel involved."

According to Khan Niazi, she stays informed of her city and county to make suggestions and make a difference.

Even after the loss of the general elections, many girls were only more motivated to get involved in their county.

"I still want to support everyone," said Corrin Nolin, "to make the book look awesome, I still have to do my

best."

Regardless of positions won or lost, Girls State provides a unique experience. Young women come to succeed, to be humbled, but most importantly to learn about citizenship and what it means to sacrifice for others. Delegates learn to step aside peacefully and let their fellow candidate rise and represent the same values.

According to Ruth Bushman, runner-up for governor, loosing was a let down. However, Bushman expresses nothing but the highest admiration for the current governor, Monique Trejo. Bushman has no regrets about her attendance at Girls State, rather she grew personally and gained beautiful relationships. One experience all at Girls State can relate to.

# Citizens Respond to Election Results

KaylaDeCant  
*Ironwood City Reporter*

On Thursday morning all of Girls State rounded up in the Social Sciences room to hear the results of the elections held the previous day. Some girls were very nervous, while others were really excited. Once the names were called for all the positions, every girl dealt with failure and loss in different ways while others celebrated and cheered.

Shivani Bhatt ran for Superintendent of Schools for Paiute county. "Even though I lost, I still feel as though I can contribute to the county in other ways. I am sure that the girl who won will do an amazing job."

Robin Cronbaugh ran for Clerk of the Superior Court for Paiute county. "I felt confident about the speech that I gave, but I was nervous to ding out the results. When I found out I won, I was excited to be a part of the mock trial."

Although most girls found out if they made the cut on

Thursday, many girls are still waiting in angst to hear who won the spots for Girls Nation. The winners will be announced Saturday morning at breakfast right before going home.

Jasmine Anglen was one of the girls running for this spot. You may know her as the band-aid girl who is here to help! "I think it is nice to be able to relax for the next two days and not have to campaign. But, I am anxious to see if I have achieved my goal after all of the hard work and long nights I put into it!"

Whatever the outcome was, it is always important to remember that half of the battle is just running for office. Be proud of yourself for stepping out of your comfort zone and trying something new. The greatest achievements are started with baby steps. As our former Secretary of State Victoria Placencia said, "When you fail you need to bounce back and stand right up. Do not focus on your failures, but instead remind yourself of your success."

## Finding a way that suits your style

AveryRobrock  
*Sycamore City Reporter*

With elections, igniting the flame of passion these last few days, we have witnessed a wave of originality, personality and charisma crash over our Girls State. The concept of normalcy has been redefined as the population of cowgirls, bumblebees and at one point even a banana costume overwhelmed the generic pants and shirt get-up.

It's with these shockingly hilarious tactics that our mythical 51st state has become an oasis for ingenious flare. Now whether it was Governor, Girls Nation or County Sheriff that was sought after, almost every girl had broken through the comfort barrier in order to exude leadership qualities.

No matter the outcome of the elections a mark has been made on every one of us. Aside from being able to leave with that impression, a whole new list of facebook friend requests and a new concept of consequences for loosing an item, is the revelation that there's a banana suit in every one of our closets if we just look hard enough.

## Saying our good byes

AshleyOlsen  
*Palo Verde City Reporter*

As the week comes to an end we prepare to say our good byes. As most of us are excited to be back in our own beds, eating our parents home cooked food, we also morn learning this new home we have made, Girl State.

For many of us, the bond that was formed with our roommates and even others in their cities is a relationship we can count on for many years to come.

Sharing bathrooms, food, clothes and even the long hot walks can really bring people close together! Although the week is coming to a close as we pack up our suitcases, clean up our rooms and take down our decorated doors, we keep in mind that it's not over yet.

We prepare for the pizza party, finding out who won the Samsung Scholarship and who made it to Girls Nation. We line it up for the last 24 hours we have with our new buddies.

## The art of shoes

DanaDale  
*Juniper City Reporter*

Many things surprised me when I first came to Girls State, the girls dedication, instant bonding and the lack of drama (thank you!) But what surprised me the most were the shoes. Yes, shoes. Here we are walking our feet off each day and some are wearing high heels, platforms, stilettos, etc. In the words of Courtney Foxx from Cocopah, "If you can wear heels, then more power to you."

Most who wear heels, wore them to look professional for the campaign. Jamie Riggs, owner of 44 pairs of shoes, believes that wearing heels is best for campaigning.

However, comfort does play a role in shoe wear. Shelby Burton, from Paiute County, loves wearing Egyptian Sandals because they are comfy.

After comfort comes preference for choosing shoe wear. Riggs loves classic vans for their versatility. Burton loves her Egyptian sandals because they show off her toe nails. I personally love my tennis shoes for their support. So with all the different personalities comes different shoes, some that still surprise me.

## Mesquite Shows off their City Spirit!

Heidilverson  
*Mesquite City Reporter*

The members of Mesquite City were lucky enough to receive not only their ID badges, but also some creative inside-city name tags that had cut nicknames for each of the citizens.

This imaginative idea came about during the first City Hall meeting of Mesquite City. This one individual insisted on making name tags herself and they've become another way for the citizens of Mesquite City to show off their pride!

All the girls of Mesquite City were really excited to receive their name tags and had a fabulous time coming up with their Mesquite Monster chant.



## An Uniformed Electorate

ChelseySchmid  
*Pinon City Reporter*

Elections are finally over and everyone is breathing a sigh of relief. The long race has been run, and it's now the time to relax, work in various positions, and make even more new friends.

As we get to know people better, though, some wish that the lead-up to the primary elections could have been different. In the primaries, no speeches were given, no platforms issued, and therefore, voters knew virtually nothing about many of the candidates from their first day of campaigning.

As a result, many qualified candidates slipped through the cracks. This, to me, represents the dangers of an electorate who is not well informed about candidates for office. As we go through our lives, we must always be sure to examine every aspect of a candidate before we grant him or her our votes.

## White N' Nerdy

BreeRios  
*Manzanita City Reporter*

The other evening there were a variety of speeches, one of which was given by Taylor Gath. From total geek to rapping sensation to singing superstar Taylor has won your vote for one of the three Supreme Court Justices. She has proved that she is a force to be reckoned with.

You may remember her for her checkered suspenders, fake glasses which many of you have tried to poke through, and the oddly placed underwear on the outside of her high water pants. Hopefully you'll continue to see her around and her geekiness will continue to make her day.

## Saying Goodbye

JaselBaeza & JackieGerhart  
*Mimosa City Reporters*

As the week comes to an end, it'll come time to say goodbye to our dearest friends here at Girls State. It'll be hard for us to come out of here with dried eyes. We have all been having such a great week and wow, who would have thought how quickly we would get close to each other. That is just amazing! So, as the week comes to an end keep in mind the amazing girls you have met. Take care girls and go make a difference!



## It's Official!

KelseyBlackman & MoniqueTrejo  
*Yucca City Reporter*

Yes, you've heard it over and over again, but this is different, we're making it official! First a huge honor goes out to every girl here for working so hard for the past four days and giving it their all. A difference has been made as every girl has introduced themselves to city, county and state representatives.

It's been a true honor to hear all of your ideas and beliefs. No matter if you won or lost, you are greatly appreciated by all. Congrats and good luck in both your positions here at Girls State and in your future. You all will be greatly successful and we will see everyone's name in lights one day. God Bless!

## House of Reps Hard at Work

ChelseySchmid  
*Pinon City Reporter*

On Thursday, the House of Representatives and the Senate met for the first time. After electing a Speaker of the House, a Chaplain, a Chief Clerk, and Sergeants at Arms were appointed.

Then came the nitty-gritty part: bill writing. This is one of the most challenging aspects of being a part of the legislature. It is a time consuming process that requires patience, resolve, and the ability to discuss seemingly minute details.

Whether or not a bill passes can come down to one overlooked detail, one unsatisfied representative. Every miniscule thing becomes crucial.