

THE GIRLS STATES

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The Box of Lessons by Amy Puente, Parker City

Leslie Osborn came and spoke to the delegates on Tuesday, May 26th. Ms. Osborn was elected to a second term as state Labor Commissioner, and before that, she served ten years in the Oklahoma House of Representatives for District 47. She was the first woman to hold many positions and was a person who was always looked down on because she was a minority. But the message she left for delegates today was truly one to remember. With one of the first lessons being that, just because one opportunity doesn't happen or you are uprooted from life, it doesn't mean there isn't something else that is waiting for you. As one door closes, another one opens. A second lesson that Ms. Osborn spoke about was being united in a time of division. Speaking to others of different backgrounds, opinions, and political parties is so important for so many reasons. One of them is the fact that we all have the same end goal: helping our government become strong and helping the people grow.

What is government? That is a question that Ms. Osborn asked delegates. I'm sure everyone had different responses, but Ms. Osborn was very amazing, reminding delegates that the government should govern society and let its citizens flourish. Her strive to make this state better is heavily shared with the delegates. She left with a very strong quote, which is one of my favorites: "We are a d*mn good state, with d*mn good people!" And she would be right. One of the most important lessons Ms. Osborn left the delegates with was the fact that we all live in little boxes. With opinions and views we are surrounded by, like political views, food, and religion. The most important thing you can do is open your box. Whether it be a little door, or you leave the box completely. Always seek help from people outside your box to learn more and make sure your ambitions are reached. But while you leave the box yourself, pull others up with you and help them leave their box.



**The Great
Olympics** by
Evalyn Wolfe,
Demke City



Excitement and city spirit filled the field during tonight's Olympic Games at Girl State, as delegates came together for an evening of energetic competition and teamwork. With cheering crowds and nonstop encouragement from the sidelines, cities competed in a variety of relay-style events that tested coordination, communication, and speed.

The first game of the evening was the hula hoop relay, where teams of ten formed from each city, linked arms, and raced to pass the hoop down the line without unlocking arms and dropping the hoop. Another challenge required teammates to lie on their backs while carefully passing a ball between their legs from one person to the next without dropping it. The final event brought even more excitement as teams of six, who split into two groups of three, participated in jump rope with a pool noodle while racing across the field in a relay. The fast pace and constant movement kept both participants and Spectors engaged until the very end.

By the close of the games, we had a most spirited city and an overall winner of the games. The city that received the spirit stick was Harvey City, and the overall winner of the games was Engstrom City! By the end of the games, the night has become more than a competition. The Olympic Games strengthened city pride, encouraged teamwork, and created unforgettable memories that brought the Girl State delegates even closer together.





Diversity in Girls State

by Lexi Acuff, Akin City

Starting off early in the week, we have already seen reflections in Girls State to the outside world. I wanted to bring awareness to the fact that, despite our different religions or ethnicities, we are all here for a common purpose – to learn.

Tuesday, I took it upon myself to interview delegates who may have a different story than the majority. The first delegate I interviewed was a lovely young woman named Emilia. Emilia told me that she was the oldest child of many siblings, and that she was a part of a mixed family. Emilia strove to show me the importance of cultural significance and the importance of being culturally involved in her life.

The next person I interviewed was Jenweh, a kind person first and foremost. Jenweh was raised in New York City and moved here to Oklahoma last year. Jenweh told me that here in Oklahoma, she has gained many real relationships and has gained more support than she ever had in New York City. Jenweh explained to me that Oklahoma itself is a very culturally immersed state, and that we use our active resources available and eat off the land.

The last delegate I interviewed was Emma. Emma is a determined young woman who's culturally different from the majority. Emma goes to a private Catholic school. There, they are required to wear uniforms and have requirements pertaining to Catholicism. Emma herself is a part of the Catholic Church and has fallen in love with the Catholic religion.

All of these women are strong and independent. Yes, they may be a part of the majority due to a certain aspect of their lives, but they are just like any other person who may not be mixed or native to a different state. As a whole, we are all the same, and we all bleed the same blood, so be kind to your fellow human.

A Song of Legacy, a poem

by Lilli Moore, Green City

To remember a legacy
One that was carried with a pen
Showing you what you can be
Paving old ways, new ways, even then.

Widen your eyes, raise your hands
And exclaim for people from all stands
Make a point to remember the land
For our song should make you
understand.

The Oklahoma dirt
Soils that carries everyone's tough walk
It might get on your shirt
And the people will talk.

But all will be fine in the end
For the Okies are your greatest friend.

*Inspired by a quote from Leslie Blair.
"Remember, you can do it from here,
and put that exclamation point - on
Oklahoma." - Leslie Blair*

L.M.



A Day in the Life of a Delegate

by Royanna Berry, Reed City and Savanna Wyatt, Harvey City

Written by Royanna Berry, Reed City

We asked Elizabeth what her favorite part of the day was, and she responded, “My favorite part of the day was seeing all the brave people step up and give their campaign speeches today. It was inspiring to see the fellow women around me stand up and proudly declare their views and show the passion they have for their running positions.”

We also asked Josie what her favorite part of the day was, and this is what she had to say, “Hey! I really appreciate you asking me. My favorite part of Girls State today was getting the opportunity to give a speech in front of all the District Two boomers and then to see all the other speeches. Everyone was so supportive of each other!”

Written by Savanna Wyatt, Harvey City

Delegates who come to Girls State have different goals in mind. Some want to work on their public speaking skills, others want to learn to campaign, but I believe a majority of us are looking for friendships and relationships that we can continue to have beyond Girls State. Cecillyah, Harvey City, was one delegate who was looking to be more social with those around her here at Girls State. She found that Tuesday was a day that she was able to meet a ton of new people and learn more about them. “My favorite part of today was probably during the chill times, whenever everybody gets to kind of chill out and talk. I feel like whenever we do get to chill out and talk during meal times, I feel like we all kind of connect in a way, and we all kind of get to know each other more. With all the elections and stuff, we do not really get to talk. I mean, yes, we still get to know each other during the speeches, but I think the real time we get to know each other is dinner and hangout time. That is probably my favorite time of the day.”


THE DAILIES!

Empowered By Our Outfits

by Adyson Pfleider, Bonham City, and Zoye Gossen, Keene City

These past few days at Girls State has not only inspired our growth as leaders, it has also given us a sneak peek into the latest fashion trends for young professionals. The connection and common ground you can find in fashion while still keeping your individuality is truly inspiring! Fashion is not only a gateway to express your personality and unique sense of style, but it's also a statement into who you are and who you want to be. Fashion can be used as an exclamation mark to your life! Professional, artistic, vibrant, conservative, eclectic; These are all adjectives that can represent our sense of style and also our characters. Fashion is so much more than an after thought... It's a statement! Some of the most popular trends right now include polkadots, chunky jewelry, scarves, and even loafers! Keep it up Girls State!

Today, we saw some of our favorite trends being worn by some exceptional female leaders! Brooklyn from Akin City was poppin' in her polka dot blouse with an attached bow scarf. This look included not just one, but two hot trends! Girls State is living proof of "dressed up from head to toe". Ella from Chisolm City sported these white loafer sandals. It's a good thing these leaders have such cute support on our feet as we take powerful steps to make big differences!



Hi guys, we're Macy and Braylee, here with your totally professional weather report for Wednesday! Tomorrow's looking hotter than the school parking lot at dismissal, with a high of 85 and a low of 66. There's only a 20% chance of rain, so basically, the weather can't decide if it wants to shower or just sweat. So grab your sunglasses... and maybe an umbrella if you like to live dramatically. 🥵

Weather Or Not

by Macy Brown, Smith City
and Braylee Gramer, O'Leary

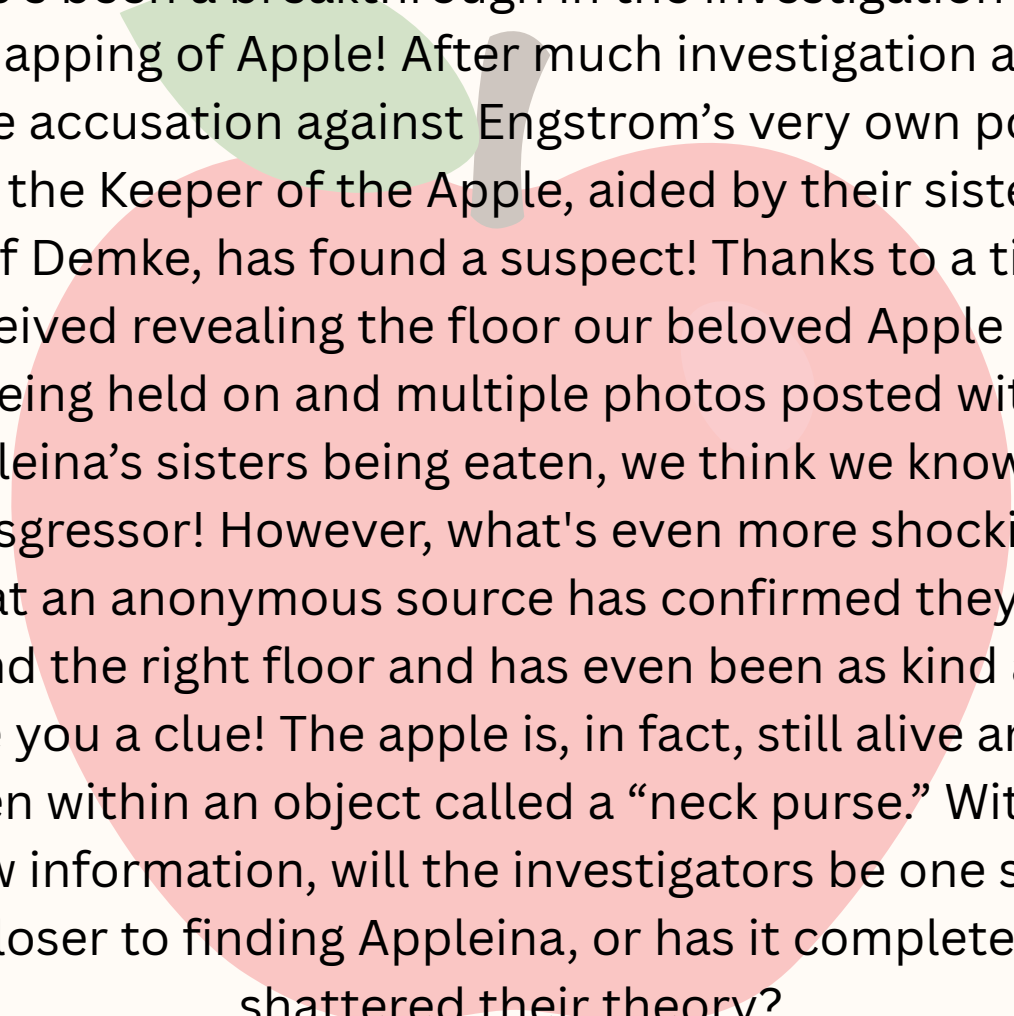


Daily Doodles
by Cora Harvey, Chisolm City



The Adventures of the Apple

by KatyAnn Fuerst, Engstrom City



There's been a breakthrough in the investigation of the kidnapping of Apple! After much investigation and a false accusation against Engstrom's very own police chief, the Keeper of the Apple, aided by their sister city of Demke, has found a suspect! Thanks to a tip received revealing the floor our beloved Apple was being held on and multiple photos posted with Appleina's sisters being eaten, we think we know our transgressor! However, what's even more shocking is that an anonymous source has confirmed they've found the right floor and has even been as kind as to give you a clue! The apple is, in fact, still alive and is hidden within an object called a "neck purse." With this new information, will the investigators be one step closer to finding Appleina, or has it completely shattered their theory?

