

CROCKETT DELEGATES LEARN GOVERNMENT AT GIRLS AND BOYS STATE PROGRAMS



Above: Luke Wilson and George Goldsby.

Program highlights include creating a mock government, with participants running for office, listening to speeches, learning to become informed voters, debate current issues, and practice engaging in civil discourse.

High school juniors are selected by local American Legion Posts and the high school to attend the program. In most cases, expenses associated with attending this program are paid by a sponsoring American Legion Post, a local business or another community-based organization.

Crockett's girls were Kylee Garrett, Sadie Hoover, Ella Cate Haynes, Izzy Yearwood, Chloe White, and Maddie Moore. Crockett's boys were George Goldsby and Luke Wilson.



Above: Sadie Hoover and Izzy Yearwood.

By Ron Barry

Eight rising seniors from Crockett County High School have spent the past week learning about the ways in which government functions, as delegates to programs sponsored by the American Legion.

Six Crockett girls went to Lipscomb University in Nashville for the American Legion Auxiliary Volunteer Girls State, and two boys traveled to Tennessee Tech University in Cookeville for the Tennessee American Legion Boys State.

Both programs are interactive educational programs of governmental instruction. The girls program has been in place since 1947, while the boys event dates back to 1935, when it was initiated in Illinois.

The student participants - called "citizens" - elect city, county, and state officials, engage in "party" politics (although the events are non-partisan), debate legislation, and collaborate in a host of fun team activities. Some of the activities include legislative sessions, court proceedings, law enforcement presentations, assemblies, chorus, and recreational programs.



Above: Maddie Moore and Ella Cate Haynes.

Left: Kylee Garrett and Chloe White.