

## Senate flies by House in bill debate time

by Amanda Snyder  
Edwardsville

Bill flow is a very colorful topic at this year's Y&G.

As Cara Monaco from Edwardsville put it, "I'll flow your bill."

Senate bills have been moving so quickly that it is actually taking House bills before the House has time to debate them.

According to Maggie Mergen, a legislator from

Springfield Williamsville, "Governor Tompkins sent the Senate President a note saying 'Speed it up'"

Legislator Dana Iden from B.R. Ryall Wheaton Warrenville South said, "No one is debating [in the Senate]."

Gillian Losh, also from B.R. Ryall Wheaton Warrenville South, said, "The Senate gets through things a million times faster [than the House]. Our docket is

messed up. The House has a few key players who disagree with everything."

Delegates can put their finger on why the Senate has so little debate while the House ponders at a much slower speed.

Legislators are irritated, though. Lauren Flinner, a legislator from B.R. Ryall Wheaton Warrenville South, sums it up, "I'm suffering for America."

## How was mandatory fun night?

by Marissa Collier  
Springfield Williamsville

Last night, all delegates were required to attend the evening of fun and games that everyone has named "Mandatory Fun Night."

There were many delegates that thought the inflatable games and the dancing were a hit.

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# Delegates sound off about Y&G

by Tori Alexander  
Springfield Williamsville

As the big weekend has now come to an end, the delegates are beginning to gather their memories, good and bad, of the time spent in Springfield.

Many delegates share the same likes and dislikes.

A general consensus among legislators was that the passing of their bills was the best part of the weekend.

Lauren Flinner, a legislator from B.R. Ryall

Wheaton Warrenville South, said, "The passing of my bill was so exciting."

Along with the passing of bills, legislators liked the experience of actually being in the chambers of the Capitol and debating bills.

"My favorite was being in the House. It feels real, and you are not restricted. We got to use the microphones for speaking and the buttons for

voting," said Dan Essig, a legislator from Heritage Naperville North.

As for the dislikes, the Senate Chamber being unavailable due to remodeling was the biggest disappointment.

Dana Iden, a legislator from B.R. Ryall Wheaton Warrenville South, complained, "Not being able

**"Maybe we could just watch a movie in our rooms"**

to debate in the Senate chamber makes it kind of lame."

Some, like legislator Drew Hackman from Lake County Stevenson, thought that Y&G should ease up restrictions on mandatory fun night.

"I think we should not have to go to mandatory fun night. Maybe we could just watch a movie in our rooms," said Hackman.

Delegates overall were pleased with this year's weekend.

## Do the delegates know what the second in command actually does?

by Eliabeth Zavala  
Network Carl Sandburg

Who is this year's Y&G Lieutenant Governor?

Maria Trikolos, a committee chair from Network Carl Sandburg, voiced her guess, "Yeah, I know who the lieutenant governor is. Shoeman, right?"

Close guess, but not it.

"The fortune cookie guy," said Kelsey Smith, a

### Casper found in Capitol?

by Olivia Maslon

Heritage Waubonsie Valley

Built in the 1800's, the Illinois Capitol Building is full of history.

A rumor also roams through the halls of the Capitol that this building which houses the legislative bodies of the state of Illinois also provides residence to a ghost.

Just ask chairman of the Y&G board Andy Paul, who believes that weirdness resides in the Capitol.

The strangest event that Paul recalls occurred when

legislator from Springfield Williamsville.

Another good guess, but not right.

This year's Lt. governor is Robert Schumacher from B.R. Ryall Wheaton Warrenville South.

Schumacher was eager to hold a position this year as an elected official.

"I figured I wanted to run for something. [Our school] already had a candidate for governor. Lt. governor

Paul was on his night shift in the Governor's office.

Paul heard an alarm go off to inform him that someone had entered the Governor's office.

Since it was already after hours, Paul found a security guard, and the two men investigated.

After analyzing the scene, both men concluded that no one entered the office.

Paul also claims that Capitol security has told him about paintings falling and being moved along with bizarre noises, all of which happened after hours.

Delegates be aware.

## Court looks at judicial review

by Keira Stewart  
Edwardsville

Every year two bills with questionable constitutionality are brought before the Y&G Supreme Court for judicial review.

This year, those two bills are SB-O-01 and HB-O-15.

SB-O-01 is a Jefferson County West Frankfort bill

provided a good alternative," said Schumacher.

For the past two days, the Lt. governor has been busy helping the governor run the Y&G experience as smoothly as possible.

"I've been discussing with the governor on most controversial bills such as the legalization of marijuana and what to do if abortion bills come up. Also, I'm the chair of the special committee," said Schumacher.

The Lt. governor has also kept a good relationship with

Governor Tompkins.

"We have a deep mutual respect. It is very fortunate. We don't come from the same school, and it is terrific how things have worked out," said Schumacher.

Schumacher admits that his

job does not require the workload of the governor, but it is still an integral part of Y&G.

**"I figured I wanted to run for something. [Our school] already had a candidate for governor. Lt. governor provided a good alternative."**

## Delegates debate MFN

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Kelsey Smith, a legislator from Springfield Williamsville, claimed the highlight of her night was getting "freak nasty with the other delegates."

Others had their criticisms.

Eric Soni, a legislator from Lake County Stevenson, said, "There was no free food. What's up with that?"

Overall the night seemed to be a hit with all the fun.

There were the few delegates that would have rather the evening been optional, but most enjoyed partying their last night with their new friends.

Tomas Cabrera, a legislator from B.R. Ryall Wheaton Warrenville South, said "I'll always enjoy mandatory fun night. I never regret going."

authored by David Rhoads, Logan Oldani, and Emily Rich.

The bill states that all

Illinois schools that offer abstinence-only classes will be forced to replace the

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# Snow's Top Ten List for Y&G



**Lucas Snow**  
Editor

10. Breakfast at Stratton. Chicago accents
9. Comfy press room chairs
8. Writing whatever I want for my editorial (like this Top Ten List)
7. Eating a horseshoe
6. Homeless man investigating the Capitol
5. Staring at the rotunda
4. Hearing 600 people with
3. Getting 14 hours of sleep in 4 nights
2. 30 straight hours of techno music at the dance
1. Getting a stern talk from Allen Moore for being in a girl's room moments past curfew . . .we were talking about prom dresses.



Lucas Snow's #7 on his Top Ten List - the horseshoe sandwich (Image taken from Wikipedia)

## Candidates have gotten out of hand

I have been looking forward to Y&G for months now.

I highlighted it on my calendar and kept a countdown on my AIM profile.

I began packing a week ago and made a few campaign posters the night before I left.

But what I did not do was dump a truckload of fortune cookies over my campaign table or hire my friend to wear Batman capes with my name on them.

I didn't set up TV sets or organize guitar hero competitions to draw attention to myself.

I didn't give out leprechaun hats or offer kisses in exchange for guys' votes.

Some of the candidates take their campaigns for Y&G offices way too seriously.

They spend hundreds of dollars on an office they will only hold for two days.

Many of them turn their campaigns into one big popularity contest.

Sure campaigning is important, but what happened to the good, old-fashioned handshake?

Many of the campaigns this year were borderline insane.

Certain candidates' desperate pleas for attention were completely unnecessary.

If you paid attention this weekend, you would have noticed that the candidates who won were not the ones with the most extravagant campaigns.

The winners were those with the best speeches, who did not necessarily hand out free

five course meals but made a sincere effort to get to know the other delegates.

Candidates with overblown campaigns are often treated as jokes.

At the polls, they should not want to be remembered as "the girl who kissed strangers for votes" or "they guy with XBOX on his campaign table."

A winning candidate does not turn Y&G weekend into one big rendezvous.

He or she needs to project confidence and sincerity.



**Tania Karas**  
Asst. Editor

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## Delegates suggest improvements for next year's Y&G

by Nina Pesch and Ashton Oltmanns  
Springfield Williamsville

This year's Y&G big weekend went off with a bang, but what could have been done to make that bang a little bigger?

Besides sleep deprivation and a lack of edible food sources, mandatory fun night was a large topic for delegates.

Sarah Moir, a legislator from Heritage Naperville North, commented, "Mandatory fun night should be more fun. They should play better music."

Matthew Sensenbach, a senator from Jefferson County DuQuoin, agreed that he is not really into rap and techno music, the dominant genre of the night.

Some, like Robyn Szablewski who is bill flow clerk from Network Carl Sandburg, felt that Y&G should do more to get people together earlier in the weekend.

"We should have more social time the first night to get acquainted with delegates before working with them," said Szablewski.

Overall, however, delegates were very pleased with their Capitol experience.

## Candidate attempts new tactic

by Kristiana Duvniak  
Network Carl Sandburg

According to Network Stagg lobbyist Steven Petropulous, fellow lobbyist Jessica Slaviero from Network Carl Sandburg was "getting down in the dirt to get votes."

Devon Moon, Executive Director of Lobbyists from Heritage Naperville North, said that Slaviero told him that she stole votes from Moon by kissing potential

voters.

Slaviero, who was also running for the position of Executive Director, lost the election to Moon.

In her campaign speech, Slaviero said that "she had already done so much to get votes."

Some thought that this referenced the kisses she was distributing during her campaigning.

Petropulous experienced this campaign tactic firsthand. "We were all just talking,

and she just came out and said, 'I'll kiss you if you vote for me.' This is preposterous, but she was just doing what any other politician would," said Petropulous.

Petropulous added, "She is a great girl but might need to rethink her priorities."

Many delegates believe that kissing other delegates for votes was the most unprofessional campaign tactic she could have used.

Slaviero could not be reached for comment.

## Court looks at constitutionality of bills

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curriculum with a comprehensive sex education course.

One of the provisions in the bill is that a child may opt out of the course if he/she has a written notice from a parent or religious representative.

The Court is looking at whether the stigma created by opting out of the sex education course created by the new law violates the students' first amendment rights.

Senate sponsor Rhoads is intrigued by the attention his bill is receiving.

"While I am very curious as to how the constitutionality of my bill (now a law) can be in question, I am excited to

be able to learn about another part of the law-making process firsthand,

"I am excited about learning about the law-making process firsthand, and I am confident that my bill will stand as passed."

and I am confident that my bill will stand as passed. This is my last year in Y&G because I am a senior, and I

am glad to have this experience," said Rhoads.

HB-O-15, authored by Maria Trikolos, Kyle Looft, Lindsay Mabbot, and Alia Darwish from Network Carl Sandburg, would prohibit enrollment in any Illinois college or university without having an HIV test within a four month period prior to registration.

The court is investigating whether or not the requirement of an HIV test for prospective college students violates the students' fourth amendment protection against unreasonable search and seizures.

Representatives from the bill group declined an offer to be interviewed for this article.