

Girls State: Terri Williams and Cassie Foley.



counterparts. When they got off their chartered bus at Siena College in Albany, Jeff Cole, Kevin Bleiler, Joel Grover, Tom Strong, Wayne Pelchar, and Jeff Edwards were greeted by the U.S. Marine Corps. 'My first thought was-I'm in for a rough week', laughed Jeff Edwards. And rough it was. Not only were their political minds challenged, but also their bodies. By Saturday, doing a sit-up was as natural as taking a breath. Like the girls, the boys also set up a mock state government and

elected officials. Joel Grover thought that the best part was meeting a lot of people because 'being from so many parts of the state, everyone was so different from people at home.'

The memories and friendships made at Empire Girls' and Boys' State will last a lifetime. It was a unique experience that few had the opportunity to take advantage of. Those who did gained a knowledge of and respect for our government that better prepared them for the responsibilities of being an American.

Boys State: Tom Strong, Jeff Edwards, Wayne Pelchar, Kevin Bleiler. Not pictured: Jeff Cole, Joel Grover.



As members of Varsity O, Chrissie Starkweather and Debbie Stayer volunteer their time to help serve food during Basketball halftime.

VARSITY 'O'

When you saw someone wearing a maroon jacket with a white hood, you automatically knew that he or she was a member of Varsity 'O'. Those jackets were a symbol of the hard work and dedication an athlete put into his or her sport to earn a varsity letter and of his or her pride in being an Indian.

The Varsity 'O' advisor,

Mr Myers, said the purpose of Varsity 'O' was to . . . honor the Senior athletes; if we didn't have Varsity 'O', there would be nothing to honor the Seniors with'. Varsity 'O' sponsored all of the Senior nights for each team, buying the corsages for the Senior players and their parents. It also ran the concession stand at basketball games.

Without a doubt, Varsity 'O' was a very important club. Its members were the first to leave the stands to prepare the concession stand for hungry and thirsty spectators. But, they never left without first adding their share of the spirit.