

TOTO, WE'RE NOT IN....THE YMCA ANYMORE

By Margaret Wang, Stillwater HS

Youth and Government (YAG) is an ingenious program with many opportunities to utilize and advance a potpourri of skills. However, it is not only a weekend of hectic schedules. To tone down the busy agenda, entertaining nights are scheduled for relaxing and just some fun! YMCA, the parent organization of YAG, is usually the host of entertaining night on Friday night.

This year, however, the Friday night of entertainment will be held at Sheraton Hotel, the residence of all delegates. The change happened for several reasons. According to Stan Barton, the YAG Oklahoma director, the officers were ready for a change, to "try something new." Staying at Sheraton for night activities will be more convenient. In the past, many had to walk to YMCA, exposing delegates to the cold weather. Now, the hotel, having larger conference rooms, is perfect for the new game introduced, Casino Night, and other interactive activities going on tonight. There is also a quiet room, where delegates can improve their case or just have a calm, relaxing time.

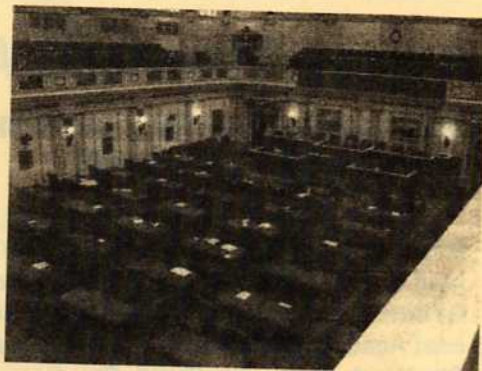
No longer will the delegates be braving the cold. Instead they will be participating in exciting activities such as singing Karaoke, movie viewing and socializing at the dance, all at the Sheraton Hotel. Although YMCA activities such as basketball and other sports are not available at the Sheraton, and will be sorely missed, the variety of activities tonight is bound to be a blast!

YAG IDOL

We've been hosting Youth and Government Idol tryouts. Many delegates as well as advisors have shown off their interesting vocal skills. Now, whether it was harmful to our ears or not, it has truly become another YAG story!

Every contestant has given their all and we appreciate their efforts. However, there can be only one YAG Idol. The winner of YAG Idol will be left to you! Only your vote will help determine the results. Voting ballots will be given during the broadcasting slide tonight, so make sure you place your votes! Let your voice be heard by listening to these lovely voices of the YAG Idol candidates!

The House of Representatives waits to be filled.



"We must not, in trying to think about how we can make a difference, ignore the small daily differences we can make, which, over time, add up to big differences we cannot oversee."—Marian Wright Edelman

"Our greatest glory is not in never failing, but in rising every time we fall."—Confucius

"Failure is the opportunity to begin again more intelligently."—Henry Ford

YOUTH COMMISSION OVERVIEW

By Molly Miller, Charles Page HS

Most people know the three main branches of the Youth and Government program: Legislative, Judicial, and News Media. However, there is also a smaller and lesser-known branch of the program called Youth Commission.

Youth Commission is a combination of the Judicial and Legislative branches of Youth and Government. Its purpose is to give the youngest delegates an opportunity to find out which branch of Youth and Government they will most enjoy.

Youth Commission also gives young delegates the opportunity to meet new people before actually having to choose one of the three major branches next year. Shayla Musselman, a freshman with the Weatherford YMCA club says, "I think that meeting people who are going in the same branch I am will make legislature easier next year."

Another benefit of Youth Commission is that it gets younger members excited about being in Youth and Government. "I think that Youth and Government teaches good morals and that I have a responsibility in government," said Shanice Holmes, a freshman from Edmond Memorial High School.

Youth Commission is a great opportunity for young delegates who aren't sure what they want to do next year to figure that out and get more excited about being in the club.