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UT announces security, parking changes for Thursday game

By Ken Lay

For the first time since 1938 the University of Tennessee will have a Thursday night home game at Neyland Stadium.

Expectations are high for the Volunteers as Coach Butch Jones enters his fourth season on Rocky Top.

Tennessee will host Appalachian State on Thursday, Sept. 1. Kickoff for the game against the Mountaineers is scheduled for 7:30 p.m.

Downtown and the campus are always congested on game Saturdays but things could get a little tougher as the Vols

and Mountaineers will play on a regular work day for most fans and downtown merchants.

The University of Tennessee has canceled classes for the day but many downtown merchants will work and for government offices and professionals in the area, it will be business as

usual.

The construction on the Cumberland Avenue strip is still ongoing and that may add to the commuter headaches.

In an effort to minimize those headaches, UT and city officials have recommended that fans arrive early.

"The good news is that we have places to visit and good things to eat, both downtown and on the strip," University of Tennessee Police Chief David Rausch said. "We want the fans to come out early and enjoy the restaurants and stores in the downtown area.

"We'll have a few less

shuttles than usual and the wait might be a little longer but we want to make sure that we get fans to the game in time for the kickoff."

When Tennessee last had a midweek home game, its home stadium capacity was just over 41,000. Now

Continued on page 4

City OKs American Legion sale, Pryor Brown Garage deal

By Mike Steely
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It took some navigation of City meetings and some earnest effort, but on Tuesday evening the American Legion Post 2 finally got a tentative approval to rezone their headquarters so a buyer can operate an auction house there. The old school building, on South Ruggles Ferry Road just off Asheville Highway, has been zoned in a residential area but persistence paid off when City Council gave first reading approval to change the zone to C-4, Commercial, which is the only current zone that allows for auction businesses.

The change came after a planning commission hearing, then an appearance before a former city council meeting where the request was sent back to Metropolitan Planning Commission. The second MPC hearing saw the commission recommending an "Office" designation in a 9-5 split vote instead of a commercial designation.

Tuesday's council meeting saw the Legion members once again before the council and the MPC staff pushing for the Office zoning. Attorney Arthur Seymour, Jr. represented the veterans and explained that the building is ideal

for an auction house.

Proposed property buyer Don Coker said that auctions there would only be held about four times a year and the old school has bricked up windows and is great for storage.

The council voted to rezone the property C-4 but asked that some conditions be placed on it involving landscaping and limiting the use of the structure.

Councilman George Wallace suggested that the planning commission look at putting a historic designation on the abandoned school. Councilwoman Brenda Palmer said the building, that sits atop the hill overlooking the commercial strip on Asheville Highway, isn't practical for an office to be located and Councilman Nick Della Volpe said an auction house there would have very low impact on the residential area and would be an "unique use and not very intrusive."

Asked if there was any public opposition to the zoning change or the proposed auction house Seymour said, "Our only opposition is the MPC staff."

American Legion Post 2 wants to use the purchase funds to relocate closer to downtown Knoxville and has been looking for a facility to buy.



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY

The statue of the Rowing Man on Gay street looks out at the Pryor Brown Garage. The historic parking structure could become apartments and retail businesses in a proposal by Developer Rick Dover and a tax break for the \$ 10.5 million project was before both the city and county for approval last week.

The council also approved a tax break for developer Rick Dover to transform the Pryor Brown Garage to apartments and retail businesses. The thirty year tax increment agreement of \$2.5 million paves the way for the \$10 million investment plans. Deputy Mayor Bill Lyons said that the sale of the proposed apartments, estimated at going for \$500,000 each, would create tax revenue for the city.

"There's great value in that building, it's the best located property in downtown," Lyons said.

The approval came one day after the Knox County Commission approved the tax incentive.

In other business the request of Sam Furrow to open a car lot along Parkside Drive across from his new car dealership was postponed for two weeks. Residents of the Cogdill Road neighborhood are against the request to zone the vacant lot commercial.

Furrow spoke to the council and said he agreed to a 60 foot buffer between the proposed car lot and the houses.

"I don't want to see the residents and they don't want to see us," he said.

The council asked Furrow to return in two weeks with landscaping plans and he responded, "I'll be happy to do so."

"We've just outgrown," he said of his auto business.

Chris Barton and Steve McGee spoke against Furrow's proposal. Barton called the area "a hidden treasure" and McGee said he has lived there for 40 years and that the commercial zoning would set a precedent and increase commercial incursion.

The council also gave first reading approval for the construction of a hotel on Pratt Road just off Cedar Lane, changing the zoning for the lot from low-density residential to office. The site, just behind Ingles Market, is subject to a meeting between Tower Hill residents and the developer.

County Commission

Pryor Brown Garage, Visit Knoxville, BZA appointments

By Mike Steely
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After some discussion about the approval of the tax incentive financing for the Pryor Brown Garage the Knox County Commission voted last week to recommend to approve the proposal. Final approval may come tonight in their regular meeting.

At first it looked as if the proposal, a request from the city to give the tax break, might pass without a recommendation. A question arose on whether the commission was acting before it was approved by the city but Deputy Mayor Bill Lyons assured the commission that the approval was recommended and would not interfere with city council action.

Lyons thanked the commission for their former recommendation that the city hire a third-party to review the proposal, a \$2.5 tax incentive, and explained that the review came back favorably. Commissioner Ed Brantley said the review was "excellent" but, during the discussion, Commissioner Mike Brown said the county may be "stepping on the council's toes."

Developer Rick Dover spoke to the questions concerning the proposed \$10.5 million development, which would feature apartments, inside parking for residents, and retail space.

The commission also voted to consider two people's application to become an alternate member

of the Sheriff's Merit Board. The men want to fill the unexpired term of Jim Jennings. Jim Wright, Jr. and Cliff Beeler have applied for the appointment, which should be filled in today's meeting.

The reappointment of Cortney Piper to the Visit Knoxville Board of Directors ran into a bit of dissension. Initially Commissioner Jeff Ownby moved to pass it along to today's meeting without a recommendation. That motion failed in a 5-5 tie vote. The matter then passed to recommend Piper be reappointed with two "No" votes.

Chairman Dave Wright reminded the members that five appointments will need to be made in the Board of Zoning Appeals. The terms expire September 30th for

BZA members in Districts 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9. In the District 9, BZA Vice Chairman Carson Dailey must be replaced as he has been elected to the county commission. The question is whether the outgoing commission or the new commissioners, who will be sworn in September 1, should select the BZA members.

The commissioners voted to set their re-organization meeting to Thursday, September 8 starting with a breakfast, selection of officers, and an orientation for new members by the Law Director.

Commissioner Brown, who has spearheaded the campaign for creation of a Safety Center, will be leaving the commission and made it clear last week that he wants to

stay involved with his project.

"I intend to stay with the committee—if you have heartburn over that, get over it!" he said, adding that the Safety Center Committee "operates independent of the commission."

The commission agenda today calls for consideration of about 57 items including six rezoning requests. It will be the final meeting for Commissioners Amy Broyles, Sam McKenzie, Jeff Ownby, and Mike Brown. Each of the departing members will be honored along with departing members of the Knox County School Board.

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Two grounds for a divorce in Tennessee

With the 10th highest divorce rate in the United States (13 percent), chances are you or someone you know will go through the process of obtaining a divorce. And despite what you've seen on television or in the movies ("War of the Roses" comes to mind),



By **Jedidiah McKeenan**
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getting a divorce in Tennessee can be a simple process, as long as everyone is in agreement.

First, let's begin with the two grounds of divorce in Tennessee.

Tennessee offers both fault and no-fault divorces.

A no-fault ground for divorce means the couple agree to every statement in the petition and are asking the court to approve it. The couple typically state there are "irreconcilable

differences" within the marriage. In other words, the divorce is uncontested and no single party is at fault for the breakdown of the marriage.

A fault ground for divorce is used when the couple cannot agree on things and need to argue the terms and conditions in court. This can include disagreements over property and asset division, custody arrangements, spousal and/or child support, just to name a few.

The most common reason given for a fault divorce is "inappropriate marital conduct," which is a "catch all" phrase that could include anything, even something as simple as not taking out the trash. People often get worked up over the

term because they feel that they are being accused of or blamed for something, but again, it is a generic phrase used in this situation. It literally could mean anything and allows you to argue in front of a court.

I am often asked if you need to hire an attorney for a divorce, even for a no-fault divorce. Technically, you don't have to have an attorney to file for and secure a divorce, but it is highly recommended. A divorce is a lawsuit and things can quickly get serious if there is not someone there to watch your back and

give you advice about what terms you should and shouldn't agree to (especially when it comes to children).

Jedidiah McKeenan is an attorney practicing in Knox County and surrounding counties. He works in many areas, including criminal, personal injury, landlord-tenant, probate, and estate planning. Visit attorney-knoxville.com for more information about this legal issue and other legal issues.

Baby It's Hot Outside

Knox County experienced unusually warm weather during the first two weeks of school this year (or maybe KCS is just starting school in the middle of the summer now).



By **Sally Absher**
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Either way, a

number of area students and parents are hot under the collar about Board of Education Policy J-260, Dress Code.

What began quietly over the August 13 weekend quickly blew up last week into a full social media campaign. Farragut sophomore Hollie Sikes started a Change.org petition asking Interim Superintendent Buzz Thomas to "Improve Dress Code Restrictions for Female Students in the Knox County School District."

It started as a legitimate complaint about the silliness of the "fingertip rule" (which states that skirts, dresses, and shorts must be beyond fingertip length, completely ignoring the vast range of normal teenage builds and body types) and the requirement that shirts must have sleeves.

Sikes' petition, which has over 3,000 signatures, reads, "I have decided to start a petition in protest to the irrationally strict dress code rules in the Knox county school system.

The general guidelines for students, majorly females, and the clothes they can wear in this school system is shocking and, frankly, quite disappointing. We cannot ignore the simple truth that clothing stores do not sell a wide variety of shorts for girls that are below fingertip length, if any, so young women are forced to wear long pants and jeans in 90-100 degree weather simply to avoid suspension."

It then continues, "Not only does this present health risks, such as nausea, overheating and even fainting, but it promotes victim blaming in the (unfortunately, extremely prevalent) case of sexual harassment among students. In conversations with many teachers and male students I have been told time and time again

that shorts above fingertip length do not present a distraction in class, disproving the major theoretical excuse for why the fingertip rule is in use. Going off of this, are we as a county seriously willing to send a girl home and deprive her of her education simply because her shorts are 'too short'? Due to the aforementioned reasoning, you are prioritizing the sexualization of a woman's body over her right to learn and grow as a human being."

And concludes, "Therefore, I am approaching the county board of education peacefully and asking, on the behalf of all students, to please reform your thinking on what kind of clothing is appropriate. Be the change. Thank you for your time."

Whether or not one believes the dress code promotes victim blaming and prioritizing the sexualization of a woman's body over her right to learn and grow as a human being - perhaps the fashion industry deserves at least equal blame - there is clearly a stubborn lack of common sense regarding what is appropriate attire for school. In August. In the south.

While it is true that all KCS schools buildings are air conditioned (something many of us did not enjoy when we were in school), some buildings, and parts of some buildings, are simply better climate-controlled than others. And, students do not spend all day in an air-conditioned bubble. They wait for the bus, ride the bus (most are air conditioned, but not all) or walk between classes, outside.

And with the new state mandates for physical activity, students will be spending even more time outside - and that is a good thing. But what is not good is that some administrators are enforcing the dress code policy on clothing worn for PE. Who wants to sit next to the kid - male or female - who has just come in from running a mile while wearing jeans in 95 degree heat?

The dress code policy was reviewed by the Board of Education in two separate readings this summer (July and August). Although the agendas are posted in advance on the KCS website, along with the recommended policy changes, not a single student, parent, or

teacher spoke during either meeting. Admittedly, it was the dead of the summer. And the most contentious portions of the policy have remained unchanged since at least 2010.

Yet, for all the specifics enumerated in the policy, "The school administration reserves the right to determine whether the student's attire is within the limits of decency and modesty."

In the very next paragraph, the policy also states, for middle and high school, "The principal may allow exceptions in special circumstances or occasions... and may further prescribe dress in certain classes such as physical education..." Is it really asking too much to allow students to wear Nike shorts and a tank top for PE?

One of the biggest complaints is that the policy in not enforced equally at different schools. Some students returned to a new principal and found that the leniency the previous administrator gave them is gone. There are numerous reports of students being stopped in the halls, or forced to stand up in class, to determine if their shorts

or skirts are "below fingertip length". Unfortunately, the students in the vast majority of these instances are female.

There are also reports that the high school dress code is being applied across all grades, which is clearly not the intent as written. The most stringent requirements (dresses, skirts, and shorts below fingertips) apply only to middle and high school. For students in grades 3-5, the policy says only "short shorts," mini-skirts...are inappropriate attire." The requirements that shirts, blouses, and dresses must completely cover the abdomen, back, and shoulders...with no midriff visible applies to students in grades 3-12. There are no requirements specific to students in grades K-2.

This may not be the first challenge that the new Board of Education members expected when they were elected last month, but it promises to be an interesting meeting on September 7, as students and parents are already preparing their 5 minute speeches.

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Publisher's Position

Leftist Journalist Admits Bias & Agenda



By Steve Hunley, Publisher
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Over the years, readers will recall I have maintained there is an appalling bias in the media. This would not be so appalling were it not presented in the guise of "news." There is a place for opinion and commentary, which used to be in the editorial section. Now, virtually every news network has its own point of view and so do most of the Internet news outlets and newspapers. Perhaps the most appalling thing of all

is once-respectable newspapers skewing the news to support a pet cause or candidate; unfortunately that has become commonplace and occurs daily in our society.

Don't take just my word for it; journalist Glenn Greenwald gave an interview in Slate magazine and came right out and acknowledged the news media in our country has come together in an attempt to defeat Donald Trump. Greenwald was the journalist who first broke the Edward Snowden story about the extent of government surveillance in America. In the Slate interview, Greenwald was asked about Trump and news coverage of the businessman's presidential campaign; Greenwald replied, "So, literally the lead story in the New York Times today suggests, and other people have similarly suggested it, that Trump was literally

putting in a request to Putin for the Russians to cyber-attack the FBI, the United States government, or get Hillary Clinton's emails. That is such unmitigated (crap)."

Greenwald, who wrote for the Guardian newspaper in Great Britain, compared the attitude of many Americans with those of British citizens during the recent Brexit vote. Greenwald said in the Slate interview, "...I just want to submit to you that the mistake the U.K media and U. K. elites made with Brexit is the exact same one that the U. S. media and U. S. elites are making about Trump. U. K. elites were uniform, in their contempt for the Brexit case, other than the right-wing Murdochian tabloids. They all sat on Twitter all day long, from the left to the right, and all reinforced each other about how smart and how sophisticated they were in

scorning and [being snide] about UKIP and Boris Johnson and all of the Brexit leaders, and they were convinced that they had made their case. Everyone they were talking to - - - which is themselves - - - agreed with them. It was constant reinforcement, and anyone who raised even a peep of dissent or questioned the claims they were making was instantly castigated as somebody who was endangering the future of the U. K. because they were endorsing - - - or at least impeding - - - the effort to stop Brexit. This is what's happening now."

Glenn Greenwald went on to say most people supporting Donald Trump don't care what the mainstream media writes or reports on television. I suspect Mr. Greenwald is right. Certainly the last couple of election cycles have demonstrated voters are paying far less attention to local media.

Candidates supported by what good ol' Georgianina Vines calls "Knoxville's business community leaders", most all of whom had bulging campaign coffers, have gone down to disastrous defeat. Evidently more than a few folks are waking up to realizing the partnership between Knoxville business community leaders and the Knoxville News Sentinel. Never forget, the local television stations frequently take their cues from the News Sentinel, especially WBIR-TV.

The Sentinel has already editorialized the recent election is in the past and proceeded to tell the Board of Education what to look for in a new superintendent. Of course the Sentinel mildly tried to defend former Superintendent Jim McIntyre and did acknowledge the new seven-member majority on the Board had campaigned against

McIntyre. Yet the Sentinel failed to mention, that they along with the Chamber of Commerce and Knoxville's business community leaders, died in the trenches for McIntyre, down to the last man. Those folks supported everything and anything McIntyre wanted to do; none were friends of the taxpayers, teachers, or much of anybody save for McIntyre and his minions, who, apparently, could do no wrong.

At least Glenn Greenwald is honest and I have to respect him for that, just as I respect the people of Knox County who have refused to be commanded by Knoxville's elite. Folks don't need the media to tell them what to do or what to think. If the news remains skewed, eventually folks are going to simply stop paying attention to it. My guess is we're already half way there.

THE CHALK BOARD

Bits of News About Local Education

By Sally Absher
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ACT Retake Offered

The Tennessee Department of Education is offering a statewide ACT Senior Retake Opportunity that provides every eligible high school senior, meaning any public school student who took the ACT as a junior, the ability to retake the ACT free of charge on Saturday, Oct. 22, regardless of socioeconomic status.

The ACT is a national college admissions exam that consists of subject area tests in English, math, reading and science. A composite score of 21 is a requirement for the HOPE scholarship and the Tennessee Board of Education's goal is to bring the average score

in the state to 21.

There is always the option to take the test over, but for many households, the fee for the second test is prohibitive, ranging from about \$40 to more than \$100, depending on options and add-ons.

National ACT data indicate that students who retake the ACT typically increase their composite score by 1 to 3 points. This increase in ACT scores could translate into thousands more students meeting the composite score requirement of a 21 for the HOPE scholarship and avoiding remediation courses in college.

The vouchers and fee waivers for the retakes will be supplied by the high schools. Students will need

those codes to register and not be charged.

Laurie Driver, KCS Supervisor of Assessment, said she expects to have the vouchers available at KCS high schools this week. She emphasizes that the registration deadline for this national test date is September 16, and retake vouchers offered by the department will allow registration for the Saturday October 22 test date only.

For more information, go to <http://www.knox-schools.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=4351>.

Thomas Appoints KCS Public Affairs Director

Interim Superintendent Buzz Thomas has made his

first major administrative appointment after beginning the task of addressing what he termed "significant problems with transportation, public information and human resources" departments.

Carly Harrington will begin as Director of Public Affairs for KCS effective September 1, 2016.

According to the KCS website, "Ms. Harrington comes to us as a seasoned journalist having gained thirteen years of experience with the Knoxville News Sentinel (KNS) while serving as a business reporter and columnist, covering local business news and features. She also worked as their online producer, developing online content and managing stories on

the website."

"Prior to the KNS, Ms. Harrington worked as a general assignment and government reporter for the Tennessean in Nashville. She was most recently employed as the Director of Branded Content at Fletcher Marketing PR in Knoxville, TN where she was responsible for managing development of content, overseeing quality assurance of content, managing communication between clients and media outlets, planning and managing social media campaigns, and mentoring junior staff as writers and content creators."

"Ms. Harrington holds a B.S. in Journalism from the University of Tennessee and was managing editor

of the university's daily newspaper. She is also a board member of various local organizations such as Entrepreneurs of Knoxville, Project Help, and the Department of Student Publications with the University of Tennessee."

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UT announces security, parking changes for Thursday game

Cont. from page 1

Neyland Stadium seats 102,455 and most if not all of those seats will be filled.

The Vols are in the pre-season Top 10 and they are picked by most college football pundits to win the Southeastern Conference's Eastern Division.

"It's virtually a normal game day, except that it's on a Thursday and not a Saturday," said David Elliott, UT's assistant athletic director in charge of event management. "We always have fans who come early and the one thing that we would like to change is that we would

like to see our fans enter the stadium early.

"SEC Nation [an ESPN SEC Network Show] will have a small crew there and they'll be broadcasting on the field at noon."

Some other changes include limited Knoxville Area Transit Shuttle Service. There won't be shuttle service from Farragut or from Market Square. Parking garages will be open but may be filled by area workers.

Fans are encouraged to take KAT's regular bus service to campus. Game day parking rates will go into effect at 3 p.m. Regular trolley services will

also shut down at 3 p.m.

For other changes, fans are asked to visit www.katbus.com and www.knoxvilletn.gov.

The University of Tennessee will also implement a new clear bag security policy and fans are encouraged to visit www.utsports.com and look under the game day section for security protocol and pregame festivities.

Fans are encouraged to come early and be patient before the Volunteers open their season and their quest for an SEC Championship.

The Chalk Board

Cont. from page 3

Tennessee Educator Survey Results Released

Under the headline "Tennessee Educator Survey Highlights Positive School Cultures, Benefits of Evaluation," the state released the results of the 2016 Tennessee Educator Survey on August 16.

"Tennessee teachers feel increasingly supported, with 86 percent saying instructional time is protected by their administration—which improved for the third year in a row. Most teachers also view their colleagues in a positive light and say they hold each other and their students to high expectations. In addition, more teachers than ever—71 percent—said the

statewide evaluation system has led to improvements in their teaching, and two-thirds of all teachers said the evaluation process has led to improvements in student learning. Both of those statistics have improved every year since the survey began in 2011."

But digging into the actual survey results reveals some facts the department wasn't so eager to share. Less than half - 45% of KCS teachers participated in the survey. And TNReady was an epic fail, with between 50 and 56% of Knox County respondents, and similar numbers statewide indicating they disagreed or disagreed strongly with the following statements:

a. TNReady will provide a better assessment of

students' critical thinking ability than previous TCAP tests.

b. TNReady will provide more information about student postsecondary readiness than previous TCAP tests.

c. TNReady will provide a better assessment of students' real-world abilities than previous TCAP tests.

d. TNReady practice tools were adequate for introducing students to the content changes expected with the new standardized test.

e. TNReady practice tools were adequate for introducing students to new question types.

These insights and more can be seen on the 2016 survey website: <http://tn.gov/education/topic/educator-survey>.

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Our Neighborhoods

City plans to connect greenways

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

The First Creek Greenway in North Knoxville winds its way through the neighborhoods there but is divided into two sections that don't connect with each other. Just north of the greenway are two other greenways in Inskip and Fountain City. Neither of those connects with First Creek or with each other.

That's the problem around Knoxville. There are lots of greenways and trails but there's little connectivity between these popular walking and biking paths.

Recently the city unveiled plans to add 24 miles over the next twenty years, tripling the current 40 miles of paved walkways and 50 miles of dirt trails. Mayor Madeline Rogero has announced the \$45 million plan to answer the growing demand of walkers and bikers.

Eventually the city and county greenways will be connected with Blount County and Knox County residents could walk or bike, if they wish, from Knoxville to the Smoky

Mountain National Park. Rogero said future mayors can follow through with the plans, much as she did by continuing the South Waterfront greenway that began under the leadership of former Mayor Bill Haslam.

The First Creek Greenway connection between the two sections, supported by a state grant, has received bids and the city is reviewing the offers. It involves a little over one-half mile connection between Edgewood Park and Woodland Avenue. A quarter-mile stretch between Glenwood Avenue and Caswell Park is also being planned.

The city began hearings on the overall connections of various greenways recently during a public meeting. Tentative plans call for 24 connections to link 13 different greenways. Plans also call for creating or extending some existing greenways.

Among those connections being considered are extensions of the Sue Clancy Greenway from Adair Park to Old Broadway and a half-mile trail from



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY.

This footbridge along the First Creek Greenway gives a neighborhood access to one of the two sections of the North Knoxville path but the sections are not connected and neither is there a connection with the greenway to other city walking paths. The city is looking to add several connections and has budgeted \$3 million to begin long-term project.

the Mary Vestal Greenway to Ogle Avenue and Martin Mill Pike.

The Suttree Landing Park and River's Edge which include two new sections of the South Waterfront Riverwalk will be connected with a half-mile stretch.

The Neyland Greenway, in a partnership with KUB, will extend a section in front of the Kuwahee treatment facility to about one-third of a mile of Third Creek to

Joan Cronan Way.

Also in the plans is adding just over a half mile from the I-275 Business Park between Fifth and Baxter Avenue. The Williams Creek Greenway, partnering with the Tennessee Clean Water Network, will add one mile of soft-surface trail.

Greenway projects in the near future include the Northwest Connector with a pedestrian bridge over Western Avenue near Ball

Camp Pike and the city will build a new .75 mile trail connecting Victor Ashe Park and the bridge and continue that greenway 1.3 miles to Middlebrook Pike.

The James White Bridge will be used as a connection between the James White Greenway north of the river to the growing South Waterfront Riverwalk and from there to the Urban Wilderness area.

A half-mile extension of

the Fourth Creek Greenway is planned at Brookview Town Centre.

Partnering with the Knoxville Community Development Corp. the East Knoxville Greenway's extension of a 1.2 mile trail will link Williams Creek, Dr. Walker Harvey Park and the Five Points Community.

A path of almost a mile long is planned to link Doyle Park and Underwood Park.

The long range study was presented recently by Lori Goerlich, the City's Greenway Coordinator, in the first of the public hearings. The study is available online at www.knoxvilletn.gov/greenways.

Legacy Parks Foundation has an extensive guide to city and county parks and greenways, with maps, called "Get Out and Play." You can contact the foundation at (865)525-2585 or find them on the internet at www.legacyarks.org.

You can also find information on Knox and surrounding county greenways at www.outdoorknoxville.com.

Subdivision at Cavett Station postponed

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Residents and history buffs got a 30-day delay on a proposed 31-home subdivision development recently when the developer's attorney requested the postponement. Yellow-shirted homeowners attended the Metropolitan Planning Commission's meeting to protest plans for Bentley Fields on the east side of Broome Road near Chadwick Drive.

The opponents didn't have to wait long when Attorney Arthur Seymour, Jr., spoke to the MPC at the beginning of the meeting and asked for the second postponement of the concept plans. The 11.6-acre vacant tract is immediately beside the historic Cavett Station burial grounds, known locally as the Mars Hill Cemetery. The graveyard has numerous graves and some of the best known graves may be those of

the Cavett family who were massacred in a Chickamauga Cherokee attack in 1793. A ground penetrating survey of the proposed development grounds indicates there may even be several unmarked graves outside the boundary of the cemetery.

The graves could hold the Cavett massacre victims, slaves of later landowners or even of Native Americans. Although the MPC staff is recommending approval, several conditions are suggested and include a more thorough archeological survey, a minimum setback from the cemetery of 10 feet on two of the lots, public access to the historic graveyard, and a 50-foot setback from a large sinkhole.

The exact location of Cavett Station has not been located but the cemetery may date from the time of the massacre. The matter apparently comes back to the MPC in their October 8th meeting.

The MPC also voted, in a split vote, to require internal sidewalks for a subdivision on Yarnell Road despite a request from the developer, Eric Moseley. Seymour, representing Moseley, said that there are no street sidewalks near the subdivision and that the small development is only required to provide "voluntary" sidewalks and the subdivision is not within the parental responsibility zone.

Chairwoman Rebecca Longmire said that children in the subdivision would be walking to catch school buses on Yarnell Road and added, "I'm not happy."

Seymour countered saying there would be very little traffic internally and again said that under current regulations providing sidewalks is voluntary and not required.

One MPC member who voted against the sidewalk requirement suggested by the MPC Staff said that until the MPC approves

requiring sidewalks that no such restrictions should be required.

The commission also voted to approve final plans for the Hidden Meadows Phase II development on Gray Hendrix Road south of Garrison Drive. Neighboring subdivision homeowners objected to connecting the new development to their lots. The commission responded that they could only vote on what is submitted and approved the development of the new 54 home sites.

Also approved was a rezoning and a change to the Northwest Sector Plan to permit two homes per acre on a 107-acre vacant lot on the southwest side of Hardin Valley east of Marietta Church Road. The planning staff had recommended 1.5 homes per acre. The developer, Homestead Land Holdings, LLC, said that new homebuyers want smaller homes and lots. One commissioner urged the



In 1921 the Sons of the Revolution placed this small marker at the Mars Hill cemetery in memory of the defenders of Cavett Blockhouse. Now neighbors of the old cemetery are opposed to encroachment on possible graves there by a proposed subdivision.

developer to keep away from the steeper slopes there.

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Plans for grant to curb elder abuse announced

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

When District Attorney General Charme Allen took office in September of 2014 she said the office had no one designed to deal with elder abuse and she recognized that the growing number of cases involving senior citizens needed some special attention.

"It was evident immediately that we needed a specialized prosecutor and a unit that would deal with these types of problems," Allen said, adding, "The sad thing is that in just two years we have outgrown the one prosecutor."

She said two people are now working on elder abuse and her office may use part of their share of grant money to hire a third prosecutor.

Allen, speaking at a press conference last week, joined Mayor Madeline Rogero, Police Chief David Rausch and U. S. Attorney Nancy Harr in kicking off a new crime prevention program to raise awareness of the abuse of senior citizens. The District Attorney General's office will share in a special grant from the federal Justice Department's Office of Violence Against Women. Knoxville is only one of nine communities to receive the \$400,000 grant.

More than 483 investigations were conducted last year involving abuse of senior citizens in Knox County with 422 of those inside Knoxville. The cases involved charges of emotional abuse, financial exploitation, neglect,

and physical and sexual abuse. Most of those, 311, were allegations of neglect, followed by financial exploitation. The investigations, according to Allen, may be a small percentage of actual abuse cases because most go unreported.

"When I checked the cases this year we were already over 500 cases just for the half-a-year," she said. "I'm sure we'll be well over 1,000 cases by the end of the year," she added.

"What is great about this grant is that my prosecutors, along with law enforcement from the city and county, and local health care providers, will all be going together to be trained as a cohesive unit," she said, elaborating that they will then come back and train other law enforcement officers to deal with and identify elder abuse.

"Those abuses are different than other types of crimes. A lot of times it is financial, children preying upon their parents. A lot of times it is co-occurring, financial abuse and at the same time physical abuse," she said.

Allen said the state codes on elder abuse "have not been updated for quite some time" and the majority of elder abuse laws were written in the late 1970s. She said that her prosecutor is working with the Tennessee District Attorney General's Conference to update the laws and will pushing those changes after the first of next year.

Mayor Rogero, Chief



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY.

District Attorney Charme Allen speaks at the city's press conference last week with Chief David Rausch and Mayor Madeline Rogero looking on. The press announcement preceded a day-long work session and information training for local professionals dealing with senior citizen issues.

Rausch, and Attorney Nancy Harr also spoke during the conference which preceded a day-long training and information session at the O'Connor Senior Center. Several hundred people representing various agencies dealing with senior citizen issues attended. The event kicked off the joint city and county effort to raise awareness of the abuse problem.

Harr, the U. S. Attorney for the Eastern District, called the effort a "wonderful example of partnership" between the federal and local governments.

Mayor Rogero said that elderly abuse can also include the family, caregivers and even online scams.

"The problem is real and it is vital that all of us who serve the public know how to recognize the signs of abuse and know what resources are available. That's why our police department

applied for a grant from the U. S. Department of Justice," Rogero said. The mayor said the grant is being administered by the Knoxville-Knox County Community Action Commission's Office on Aging.

Chief Rausch said the older population in Knoxville has increased by 24% between 2008 and 2012 and that number continues to grow daily.

"Domestic violence victims over the age of 50 account for 45% over the past five years," the chief said.

"The program we're kicking off today will lay the groundwork to fight this epidemic," he said, adding, "All Knoxville Police and all Sheriff's Department Deputies will receive specialized training." He also said that the program will be working with all the Knoxville and Knox County Senior Centers.

Are you an Olympian?



Rosie's World

Did you watch the Olympics? I hope so. It is one way to applaud the athletes for all their hard work—for the years of dedication, determination, and hopes that

they displayed during the games and at the finals.

I had a granddaughter years ago who aspired to be in the Olympics at one time. She practiced and practiced and became quite good at it. She won several blue ribbons at small routine shows. When she turned sixteen the resolve left her. When I asked why, she said it took her whole life. She couldn't partake into anything else and she wanted to be able to do more. Mary Lou Retton, a gold medalist, opines that she never got to any of her proms because of her dedication to her goal of winning a gold medal.

For all the thousands of athletes that partake in the Olympics, there are thousands of stories. I'm going to jot just one of them down here, as an example. Simone Biles has won five gold medals. Only nineteen years old, born in Columbus, Ohio, she started training for gymnastics when she was six years old. Also at that age she was adopted by her grandparents due to her mother being addicted to drugs and alcohol. When she was ready to enter high school, her grandparents decided she should be home-schooled. No prom, no after-school activities, no hanging out with classmates. This allowed her to train for 32 hours a week instead of twenty. Because of hard work and determination she was able to garner five gold medals.

She wasn't able to continue her outstanding performance on the beam thus only earning a bronze medal. I know she was thankful that the years of dedication brought her to this memorable time in her life.

There are moments in our everyday life that might seem like an "Olympic" moment. We don't have to work long or hard for it but they present themselves when we least expect it. Perhaps when your children are born? Or when a good friend survives a debilitating illness? Or when scenes of majesty in nature confront our eyes? Instead of "senior" moments, let's have "Olympic" moments!

Thought for the day: On the heels of a job well done come the blessings of a lingering sense of satisfaction and a good night's sleep. Anonymous.

Send comments to: rosemerrie@att.net. Thank you.

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The 1948 Governor's Race in Tennessee

Pages from the Past



By Ray Hill
rayhill865@gmail.com

The 1948 election in Tennessee was a watershed political event. For two decades, the political partnership of senior United States senator Kenneth D. McKellar and Edward Hull Crump, leader of the Shelby County machine, had dominated Volunteer State elections. There had been numerous challenges to the McKellar - Crump alliance, but none had been remotely successful. Senator McKellar and Crump had thoroughly organized the state in 1938 when they drove Governor Gordon Browning out of office. McKellar had hand-picked A. T. "Tom" Stewart to run for the United States Senate that same year for the special election to fill the vacancy left by the death of Senator Nathan Bachman. Browning had appointed labor leader George L. Berry to serve until the next election, but by the time of the primary, the governor had tried as best he could to distance himself from his own appointee.

Gordon Browning had been humiliated in the 1938 election. A former six-term congressman, Browning had run a credible race against Senator Bachman inside the Democratic primary in 1934. Two years later, he campaigned for the gubernatorial nomination against Burgin Dossett, the candidate selected by Senator K. D. McKellar. Crump and McKellar had parted company when the Memphis Boss endorsed Browning. Many hoped and prayed the split between the two would be permanent. They were to be disappointed.

It was a decision Crump came to regret bitterly, as he and Governor Browning soon fell out. Worse still, Browning made an all-out assault against the Shelby County machine. The injured relations between Senator McKellar and Crump were soon healed when the Memphis Boss had to beg his friend for aid in the fight against Browning.

Jim Nance McCord had first been elected governor in 1944 while the McKellar - Crump alliance was at its peak. McCord had been elected to Congress in 1942 and had faced no opposition in either the Democratic primary or the general election. When he ran for governor in 1944, he faced only token opposition from W. Rex Manning and the eccentric Dr. John R. Neal who was a habitual candidate for office. Reelected in 1946, McCord had faced Gordon Browning, who allowed his name to be entered in the primary, but remained in Europe in the armed services.

By 1948, Gordon Browning had returned to his home in Huntingdon and his seat as Chancellor of the Eighth Judicial District. A veteran of some of Tennessee's bloodiest political wars, Browning realized McCord was vulnerable and he was running

in earnest.

Jim Nance McCord and Gordon Browning were different in temperament and style. McCord had been one of eleven children and had become a successful businessman and professional auctioneer. Governor McCord was often referred to as a "smooth talker" because of his voice, which had made him one of the most sought after auctioneers anywhere. McCord was also highly sought after as a speaker at events, dinners, and commencements. Sixty-nine years old in 1948, Jim McCord was balding, affable and yet dignified.

While he was dignified, McCord was somewhat informal. He was quick to point out his name was not "James", but rather "Jim."

"That's what I was christened --- after an old family friend --- and Jim it is," the governor said.

Both Gordon Browning and Jim McCord had been married for decades and neither had children. Vera McCord and Ida Browning were retiring women, quite content to leave politics to their respective husbands.

Few politicians enjoyed campaigning as much as Gordon Browning. The former governor relished the oratory, crowds, and mixing that came along with campaigning. Tending more toward an expanding waistline, Browning could easily devour several plates of fried fish, barbecued beef or pork or even raccoon. Frequently impetuous and oftentimes tempestuous, Gordon Browning began the 1948 with high name recognition and the strong support of the Nashville Tennessean.

Tennessean publisher Silliman Evans had been frustrated for years by the McKellar - Crump axis and his newspaper was usually the most critical voice in Tennessee against the senator and the Memphis Boss. Evans was supporting Browning and Congressman Estes Kefauver in his senatorial bid. Clearly, Evans liked the idea of replacing McKellar and Crump as the "kingmaker" in Tennessee politics.

Governor McCord had convinced the legislature to institute a two-cent sales tax, 70% of which was dedicated to education. Following the adoption of a state sales tax, school children in Tennessee would receive free textbooks. The benefits of the sales tax would become the centerpiece of McCord's campaign for a third two-year term.

70% of the sales tax revenue was earmarked for education; 12.5% was dedicated for municipalities in Tennessee; 10% for welfare; 5% was allocated to retire the debt of building bonds, with remaining 2.5% going to administration of state government.

During both his administrations, Governor Jim



Herbert S. "Hub" Walters (left), Governor Jim McCord (second from right) and Senator K. D. McKellar (right) in 1945.

McCord had steered much larger appropriations for schools, welfare and state agencies. The governor's biggest hurdle to overcome inside the state legislature was not the idea of imposing a sales tax, but beating back a strong bid by some rural legislators who wanted a 3% tax with the extra 1% to be allocated for Tennessee counties. McCord finally negotiated a compromise with the rural legislators, which gave counties 80% of revenue collected over a certain dollar amount.

Speculation had been rife all over the state about the candidates and the alliances between campaigns and candidates. For years, McKellar and Crump had offered a ticket to Tennessee voters, with the candidates running a "coalition" campaign. Crump's decision not to support Senator Tom Stewart for reelection ended coalition tickets. Newspapers were admitting even politically minded folks were confused. Ellis Binkley, a newspaper writer in Nashville, declared in an article published on January 13, 1948, "State Politics Appears In 'State of Confusion'."

Binkley reported newspaper editors and reporters gathering for their annual winter meeting were having difficulty understanding the political situation. Crump's decision to back an unknown Circuit Court judge for the United States Senate puzzled them. The fact Senator Stewart refused to step aside puzzled them even more. Congressman Kefauver's entry into the Senate race caused some to believe 1948 would be the year the McKellar - Crump domination of Tennessee politics would finally be broken. Another point of confusion for professional political observers was the fact Judge John A. Mitchell had evidently declared his own personal political support for Gordon Browning for governor. Both Senator McKellar and Crump were steadfastly supporting Governor McCord. The most logical alliance was one between Gordon Browning and Estes Kefauver, they concluded. And indeed it was. Both Browning and Kefauver would campaign as critics of E. H. Crump.

When asked if there was to be a coalition ticket,

McCord replied, "I am running for governor."

Governor McCord made his reelection bid official on April 24, 1948. The governor felt he could wage his campaign in sixty days, which he considered to be "ample time", yet McCord said he had been pressed by so many friends he felt it necessary to go ahead and announce his candidacy.

Alluding to the sales tax increase, McCord said, "Tennessee has inaugurated the most magnificent educational program in its history, and in the interest and for the protection of the school children of Tennessee I dedicate whatever ability I have to a program that will give Tennessee's children an opportunity equal or better than those of any other children of the 48 states."

The governor added, "To this end I shall advocate the retention of the two per cent sales tax that has made this program possible."

McCord had difficulty convincing Ed Crump to go along with instituting a sales tax in Tennessee. Governor Hill McAlister proposed a sales tax to help an ailing budget while Tennessee was mired in the Great Depression. Crump had bitterly objected, snarling that Governor McAlister had "kept the sales tax hidden in his stony heart and tried in a sneaking way to put it over us." McAlister, Crump declared, was Tennessee's "sorriest governor."

McCord was able to persuade the Memphis Boss to support the sales tax and it was clear Crump and the Shelby County machine intended to go all out for the governor.

Governor McCord promised to continue to administer state government as he had for the previous four years and from Memphis came the ringing endorsement of E. H. Crump.

"He'll bring home the pork chops," Crump crowed.

Governor McCord's announcement he would be a candidate was likely hastened by Gordon Browning's own declaration of candidacy. Browning announced on Sunday, March 21, 1948 that he would actively campaign for the Democratic nomination for governor.

As politicians always do, Browning insisted he was responding to "widespread and persistent urging that I make my political intentions

known."

The former governor pointedly said Tennesseans were profoundly "tired of domination from one source in Tennessee."

Browning, who had represented a West Tennessee district in Congress for twelve years and had always run well in Middle Tennessee, had selected an East Tennessean with a famous name as his statewide campaign manager. Robert L. Taylor, son of the late Republican governor Alf Taylor, of Johnson City, would run Browning's comeback bid. Taylor also happened to be the law partner of former Tennessee Supreme Court Justice Thad A. Cox, who was especially close to Senator McKellar.

Governor McCord quickly told reporters he had been quite pleased with the reaction to his own announcement. McCord said it was "very gratifying." The governor revealed his office had been flooded with telegrams, letters and telephone calls from those who were happy he was running again.

Another entrant joined the gubernatorial campaign, James N. Hardin of Greeneville. Hardin campaigned strenuously, especially in the last part of the gubernatorial campaign, but he was never a factor in the race. Hardin would carry only his native county of Greene in the Democratic primary.

Gordon Browning began touring the state and spared the Memphis Boss not at all. Speaking in Blountville, Browning invited his listeners to join him in his "great crusade to end dictatorship in Tennessee and move the capitol from Memphis back to Nashville, where it belongs."

Browning bragged on his achievements during his previous service as governor and belted, "I am willing to stand or fall on the record I made before."

The former governor scoffed that Jim McCord had tried to enlist him to join the administration.

"I refused to jump on his bandwagon," Browning snapped, "because I do not choose to ride a hearse. They are going in one direction --- I'm going in another."

Browning stressed his theme that Governor McCord was merely the puppet of Ed Crump.

"He can't draw a breath unless he gets permission from the dictator in Memphis," Browning huffed.

Gordon Browning described his tumultuous first administration in a far different light than most of Tennessee's press had depicted ten years earlier.

Browning said his administration had a solid record of "progress in human advancement and economic stability for the State of Tennessee."

The former governor did cite a real accomplishment in having reorganized Tennessee's debt, which he said ended the way the state was spending money in a haphazard fashion.

Browning expanded on McCord's funding of education, saying there should be a retirement system for teachers, more generous base pay and confessed educators had been virtually starved before the introduction of the sales tax.

Gordon Browning hit Governor McCord's road building program, snorting, "At the rate the present government in Tennessee is going, it will take 50 years before an all weather rural road system is completed in the state."

At the end of his speech, Mrs. Sidney Whitaker of Bristol, approached the former governor and presented Browning with a bouquet of roses. The veteran politician quickly thanked Mrs. Whitaker and loudly announced he wished the roses to be placed on the grave of a veteran who had sacrificed his life on a foreign battlefield. It would serve as a reminder, Browning said, of "the youth who gave up their lives to preserve the progress and growth of mankind."

Jim McCord had a real fight on his hands.

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The Knisley Family (Part 2)

Jeff and Orlena Knisley were parents to sixteen children, fourteen of whom survived into adulthood. I knew several of the Knisley siblings from my earliest memories at Fairview Baptist Church. They held leadership roles in many areas of the church.

Clifford Knisley worked in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. He started the Royal Ambassador mission program for boys at Fairview; and



By **Ralphine Major**
ralphine3@yahoo.com

his wife, Thelma, led the choir.

Sam Knisley taught school in Wartburg, Tennessee, and pastored several churches. He was married to Sallie who was our mother's Sunday School teacher, taught in Vacation Bible School, and was active in the Women's Missionary Union. Sam authored a book, "the Grace of God and Hard Work."

Annalee Knisley Bales was the Director of the Children's Primary

Sunday School Department and active in VBS and WMU. Though soft spoken, she could easily control a roomful of energetic children! Her husband, Clarence, was a deacon.

Ben Knisley was married to Fern and served on the Cemetery Committee along with Clarence Bales.

Lester Knisley and his family lived at the homeplace. He was a teacher at Gibbs High School.

Luther Knisley, the oldest sibling, was a preacher and associational missionary in Abingdon, Virginia.

Jennie Knisley Hackney was a nurse at the former East Tennessee Chest Disease Hospital on Tazewell Pike.

Woodrow (Woody) Knisley retired from the United States Army as a Captain in Georgia before moving to a Tennessee residence on Tazewell Pike.

Lucy Knisley married Elmore Dunkle, who passed away at a young age. She remarried and became an Adams. Her son, Rev. Dan Dunkel (spelling of last name changed), passed away last year at age 96.

Roxie Knisley became a nurse,

married a doctor, and settled in Idaho.

Dolly Knisley settled in Ohio. Kitty Knisley Simpson and her husband were farmers in Illinois.

Margaret Knisley married and settled in Athens.

Stella Knisley Tipton and her husband farmed and attended Graveston Baptist Church in Corryton. Many of the Knisley siblings are buried at Fairview Baptist Church Cemetery.

Special thanks to Deloris Bales, Carroll Bales, and Dan Dunkel for their help with this column.

Learning their places the hard way

Teenagers are a funny bunch, and freshman are always the most comical. Over my lifetime, I've been one and have watched many classes of them during 30 years as a

teacher. They arrive at high school "wet behind the ears" but act as if they are seasoned veterans. It doesn't take long before those new high school students learn the truth.

Always in a new class are at least a couple of goofballs. They draw attention to themselves by trying to be funny. Any laughter that their antics or comments generate comes as snickers about how moronic those goofballs



By **Joe Rector**
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are acting. Still, these attention seekers believe that even negative reinforcement is better than none at all.

Other new-to-high school males or females try to survive by acting tough. They strut and smirk and sneer. Little do they know that persons tougher than they are also walk the halls of the school. I vividly recall a freshman in my class all those years ago who brought his mean act and tough attitude to school. He displayed them one day in the smoking pit that was located in a corner next to the gym and in front of the shop class windows. He smarted off one to many

times. With lightning quickness, a senior put a halt to the freshman's cockiness as he punched him squarely in the eye. The impact sounds like two cinder blocks slamming together. The younger boy's face became a grotesque combination of swelling and blood. He retrieved his bent glasses and struggled to put them on his bruised face. From that time on, he exhibited a bit more humility in the smoke hole and didn't try to tangle with seniors who were much bigger and stronger than he was.

Only a handful of freshman boys dare to approach female upperclassmen. Doing so is considered an affront to the girl, something that senior boys are not about to let happen

without consequences. The older males step up to become the girl's champions and meet head-on the offending party. A group of senior boys swoop down on the freshman and escort him to some terrible fate. Sometimes it might entail the pushing of a penny with the nose down a long hallway. I've also heard of incidents where the ninth grader received a "swirly." That's when seniors hold him upside down, dunk his head in a toilet, and flush. At the old Karns High School, an especially egregious act lead to the boy being escorted to the banks of the creek. There he experienced the "Beaver Creek Plunge." The seniors grabbed his arms and legs, began swinging him, and on the count of

"3" let him go so that he splashed into the water. That dunking into the creek cooled the passionate heart and underscored to the underclassmen the limits he faced.

I was in yet another group. Like too many freshmen, I traded in studying habits that I'd developed in elementary school for a life of laziness that ignored classwork. Grades tumbled quickly, and I scrambled to come up with a good explanation on grade day. Too many other activities demanded my attention, and they were much more entertaining than studying algebra or science. Soon enough, reckoning day arrived, and a summer spent in school to erase failing grades replaced the freedom that loafers like

me craved so much. By the time midyear arrived, most freshman settled into the high school experience. They learned the unwritten rules of conduct in the large social setting and consequences for violating them. Freshmen began feeling comfortable in their own skins and with their own groups. They knew that in just a few months the harassment by upperclassmen would cease as a new class of "fresh meat" arrived for a new school year. In the blink of an eye, they became the seniors who enforce those rules by which first year students must abide. It's all part of new students learning their places high school during those tough teenage years.



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PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS

Seymour players take off to the other end of the field to meet with students for a post-game victory celebration. The Eagles opened their 2016 season with a 42-27 win over The King's Academy.

Workhorse Brewster leads Seymour past King's Academy, 42-27

By Steve Williams

If the rest of this season is anything like the start, Seymour High football fans may be calling the Eagles' No. 5 Austin Bruiser on Friday nights.

Seymour's public address announcer, Charlie Householder, was so impressed by Austin Brewster's first game performance, he honored him in the second half by putting special emphasis on the senior running back's last name... "Bruuuuuster on the carry."

It's sure to catch on, if Brewster keeps piling up the rushing yardage as he did in the Eagles' 42-27 win over The King's Academy Friday night at Benton Householder Stadium.

The 5-10, 195-pound workhorse carried the ball 38 times for 253 yards and two touchdowns to lead Seymour past the Lions in the second meeting ever in football between the two schools, which are separated only by Boyds Creek Highway and easily within walking distance of each other.

Householder even emphasized the close proximity in his pre-game introduction to the crowd on

hand - "From just across the hill, The King's Academy Lions are in the house! ... to take on your very own Seymour Eagles!"

Seymour defeated TKA 44-26 last year in the first Battle of Boyds Creek.

After this season's game, Seymour Athletic Director Gary Householder said the series between the two schools would probably not continue.

Seymour High is a Division 1 member (public school) of the TSSAA and The King's Academy is a Division 2 member (private school).

Seymour Coach Jerry Cooper was pleased with his offense's zero turnovers and explosive plays on an opening night.

"I want to give credit to our three senior backs," he said. "Brewster was the difference in the game. Those yards come because we have good linemen in front of him. Let's not forget the four senior linemen up front."

Clearing the way were senior right tackle Jacob Patterson, junior right guard Justin Isaacs, senior center Trey Grayson, senior left guard JC Cogan and senior left tackle Gavin Blythe.

Senior Devante Farmer's 84-yard run on a pitch left on the game's first play from scrimmage and Zack Ward's first of six PAT kicks gave Seymour a 7-0 lead.

Phillip Sellers' shifty 5-yard run, which capped TKA's 84-yard march in nine plays, and Nao Shimomura's kick tied it 7-7.

Seymour showed it could drive the ball too, answering with a 77-yard march in 13 plays. Brewster powered in from the 1 and the Eagles led 14-7 with 22.5 seconds left in the quarter.

The slippery Sellers returned the ensuing kickoff 46 yards to the Seymour 44. However, a first-down fumble on the exchange between quarterback Brandon Burgess and Sellers was gobbled up by the Eagles' Issac Miller.

Blythe recovered a fumble to keep a Seymour drive alive and on the next play senior Jacob Pierce ran a speed out route to the side and quarterback Tyler Cooper hit him for a 23-yard TD pass play as the Eagles took a 21-7 lead with 8:24 showing on the second quarter clock.

The King's Academy struck back quickly

as Sellers scored on an 86-yard kickoff return, cutting the deficit to 21-14. Sellers avoided the initial wave of defenders, found a lane and couldn't be caught.

Brewster carried the ball seven straight times to take Seymour 62 yards and its fourth TD. He started with back-to-back 14-yard rushes, showing his determination as he broke tackles on the second big gain. He tallied from the 2 and it was 28-14.

Isaiah Jeffers returned the ensuing kickoff 53 yards to the Seymour 27, but the Lions couldn't capitalize on the good field position. A snap over the quarterback's head lost seven yards. A hard hit by Pierce prevented wide receiver Jake Weekly from making a catch on second down. Shimomura tried to salvage a 38-yard field goal but missed wide left.

TKA threatened in the final minute before intermission, but a pass by Burgess was picked off by Farmer at the 2.

At the start of the second half, the Lions, taking advantage of two major Seymour penalties, had a second-and-goal at

Continued on page 2

Bearden to host elite soccer tournament

By Ken Lay

The girls high school soccer world will have its eyes on Knoxville this week as some of the state's top teams will compete in the Bearden Invitational.

The annual four-day event begins Thursday night and all games will be played on the Bearden High School campus in 2016. Matches will be played at both Bruce Allender Field (the soccer venue) and at the newly renovated Bill Young Field at the football stadium.

Action begins Thursday night as the host Lady Bulldogs take on the Catholic Lady Irish at 7 p.m. at Allender Field. Also at 7 p.m., McMinn County will tangle with Science Hill on the football field. The opening night wraps up when

Christ Presbyterian Academy plays Walker Valley on the soccer field.

Friday's games begin at 5 p.m. with Catholic playing Clarksville (at Bill Young Field) and Walker Valley taking on Lincoln County (on the soccer field). At 7, Science Hill will tangle with Maryville (at Allender Field) and Farragut will entertain CPA on Bill Young Field. At 8:30 the Lady Bulldogs will play Germantown-Houston on the soccer field.

Saturday, games begin at 1 p.m. on both fields. Matches will also be played at 3, 5 and 7 p.m.

The tournament concludes Sunday with five games as Hardin Valley, Farragut and Maryville will be among the local teams in action.

A LOOK AHEAD, A GLANCE BACK

Catholic No. 4 in state in preseason ratings

By Steve Williams

Six local teams were among the state's top 25 in Sonny Moore's preseason Computer Power Ratings of Tennessee high school football.

Ravenwood (158.87), which knocked off Maryville 26-17 in the 2015 Class 6A finals, topped the preseason overall ratings that included all eight classifications.

Catholic, defending Class 4A state champion, debuted at No. 4 with a 152.89 rating. Coach Steve Matthews' Fighting Irish were scheduled to open their season this past Saturday against Morristown West.

Maryville, which opened with a 44-6 win over Heritage Friday, was No. 5 with a 151.79 rating. Alcoa, the Class 3A defending state champion, checked in at No. 8 with a 145.41 rating. The Tornadoes blew down Webb School 38-13 in their first game Friday.

Fulton started at No. 10 with a 139.30 rating. The Falcons were slated to kick off their season Saturday

night against Morristown East. They'll host Maryville this coming Saturday night in an 8 o'clock showdown that will be televised on MyVLT.

Fourteenth rated Oak Ridge (136.44) should move up after its impressive 56-21 win at Clinton in last week's Thursday night TV opener. Dobyns-Bennett of Kingsport comes to the Atomic City this Friday night to test the Ridgers.

Farragut got the last spot in the top 25 with a 133.06 rating. The Admirals travel to Gibbs this week after opening with 55-6 win over Powell.

FAST START: Oak Ridge's Tee Higgins, one of the top rated wide receivers in the nation, burned Clinton on the Wildcats' first play from scrimmage, hauling in a 51-yard touchdown pass from new quarterback Johnny Stewart.

The Clemson commitment added a second TD grab and intercepted two passes as Oak Ridge

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Defensive Emphasis for Vols

By Alex Norman

4th and 14...

It was the down and distance that many Vols fans have forever burned into their psyche.

Making a stop on 4th and 14 against the Florida Gators last September not only would have snapped Tennessee's 10 game losing streak to their rivals, but would have given the Vols the SEC East title and a trip to Atlanta.

This year the Vols defense is hoping when the big play comes around, they'll be able to make it.

"If we stay together and play as one... keep that bond, that closeness... no one can beat us," said Tennessee defensive back Malik Foreman. "We are too talented. If we stay together, no one can beat us."

"We have a defensive line that is athletic, and that shows in how well you play in the back end," said Tennessee defensive backs coach Willie Martinez. "If they play well it gives us an opportunity... and we'll have a good chance of being special."

One difference on this year's defense as opposed to Tennessee defenses of the recent past is that there is finally depth to go with the talent. All across the defense, from tackles and ends, to linebackers and cornerbacks and safeties, there are players ready to step in when called upon.

"We have the perfect combination of veterans and young guys coming in," said Tennessee linebacker Darrin Kirkland Jr., now a sophomore. "Guys got a lot of experience last year, and that will help our defense be great overall."

"I think we are getting more talented guys every year," said Tennessee defensive

end Derek Barnett, who has accounted for a combined 20 sacks over the past two seasons. "Everyone has to understand their role and not do too much. Everyone needs to know their responsibility... if we do that we will have a great defense."

The big change for the Vols this off-season has been at the top of the defensive food chain. Penn State's Bob Shoop takes over for John Jancek as coordinator. Shoop is no stranger to the SEC, having served in the same role at Vanderbilt from 2011-2013.

"Both (Jancek and Shoop) are great defensive coordinators but Shoop is a little more aggressive," said Barnett. "(Shoop) is confident in what he does... he believes in his ball players and everyone has bought into that."

"He (Shoop) coaches the safeties a little bit and ultimately he is the leader of our defense," said Tennessee safety Todd Kelly Jr., entering his third year in the program out of Webb School. "He let us know three things that we needed to do. We needed to play as a team, play with toughness and play with passion. If we can put those three things together we can have a successful season on the defensive end."

"I don't like statistics... you know, can we be number one in the country," said Tennessee linebackers coach Tommy Thigpen. "I want us to get our offense 3-4 more possessions a game. Can we get off the field on 3rd down? Can we put our team in position to win? Regardless of the stats, if we give our offense 3-4 more possessions, regardless of where we stand statistically, we will be in position to win a lot of games."

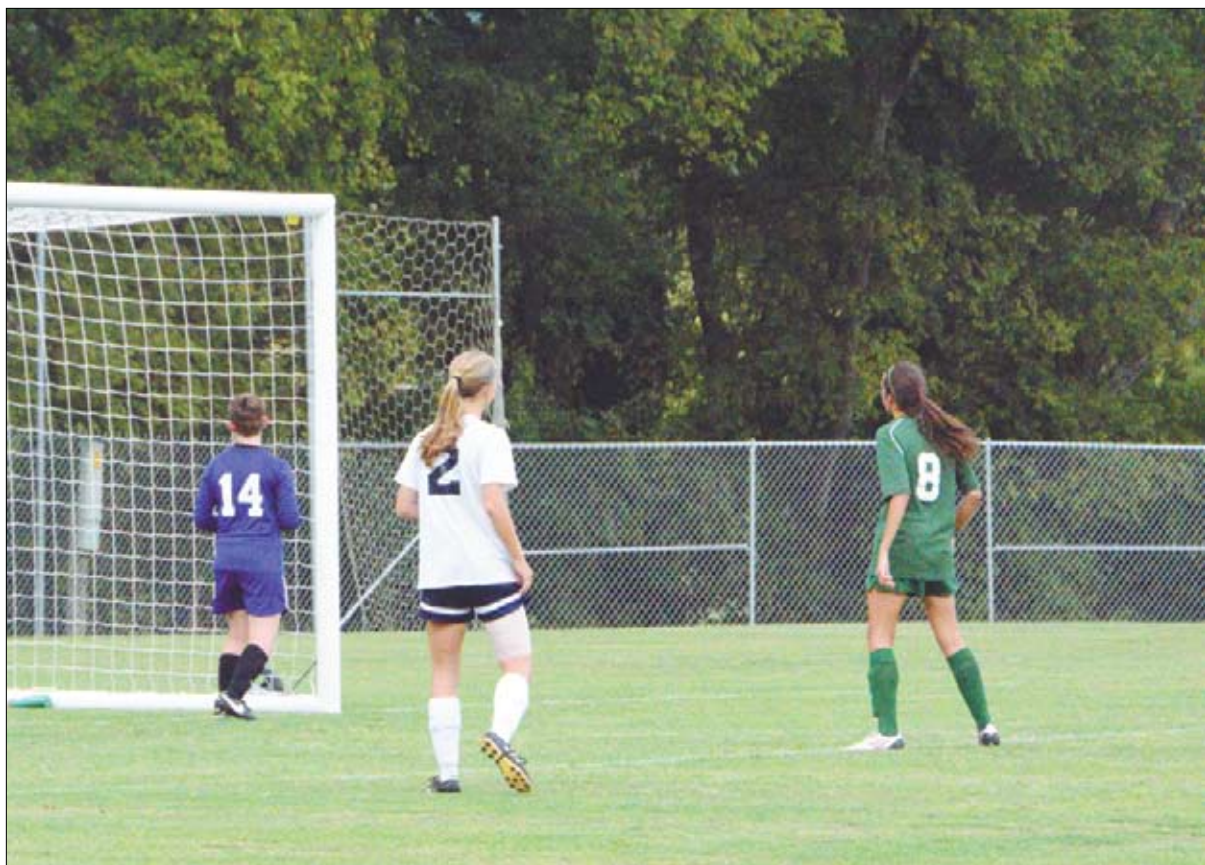


PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS.

Webb goalkeeper Madalyn Mead (14) watches along with Farragut's Emilie Guigou (2) and teammate Katherine Bullen as the ball sails over the net in the Lady Admirals 4-0 win over the Lady Spartans in the season opener early last week.

Farragut shuts out Lady Spartans in short soccer opener

By Ken Lay

Mother Nature, it seems, is the only force that can stop the potent offense of the Farragut High School girls soccer team.

The Lady Admirals had their District 4-AAA opener against defending champion Hardin Valley Academy postponed due to rain Thursday night.

Farragut and the Lady Hawks will play a makeup match Wednesday night at HVA.

The Lady Admirals (1-0) opened the 2016 campaign with a 4-0 victory over Webb School of Knoxville at Farragut Soccer Stadium on Monday, Aug. 15.

In that match, which was called due to lightning less than five minutes into the second half, Farragut scored four goals in the first 18 minutes.

The Lady Admirals made life miserable for the Lady Spartans and sophomore goalkeeper Madalyn Mead. Farragut started fast and repeatedly crashed the Webb net throughout the inaugural stages of the opening half.

Farragut scored in the first minute of the match when Amy Cloud took a corner kick from Megan MacLeod and promptly headed it past Mead and into the back of the Lady Spartans net.

And that was only the beginning.

Cloud added her second marker of the match in the fourth minute.

MacLeod added goals in the 16th and 18th minute respectively.

The Lady Spartans (0-1) managed just one shot on goal in the abbreviated match but Farragut sophomore goalkeeper Morgan Carbaugh, a three-sport athlete for the Lady Admirals who was making her first varsity soccer start, handled the attempt with relative ease.

Carbaugh also plays basketball and competes in the girls track program at Farragut.

The Lady Admirals will

have a busy second full week of the season. They will host Heritage in an early district tilt Tuesday night before traveling to HVA Wednesday. Kickoff for both matches is slated for 7 p.m.

Farragut will conclude the week at the Bearden Invitational where it will face three tough opponents in Christ Presbyterian Academy (Friday), Clarksville (Saturday) and Hendersonville on Sunday.

The Lady Spartans, meanwhile, will have their home opener against Anderson County before hitting the road for a match against South-Doyle Thursday night.

Workhorse Brewster leads Seymour past King's Academy, 42-27

Cont. from page 1

the 1. Sellers had the ball knocked out of his possession on his next carry, however, and the Eagles' Brandon Parrott came up with it at the 4. It was a huge turnover.

Seymour's offense went 96 yards in 16 plays and took all but 57 seconds off the third quarter clock to open up a 35-14 lead. After Brewster had carried the ball seven plays in a row, Farmer darted his way into the end zone from

seven yards out.

TKA wasted little time making up for its previous failed possession, scoring on a 54-yard double pass - Burgess to Jacob Hoffman to Thomas Coleman.

The Lions were still alive, but Pierce took a pitch right 63 yards to the house, escaping a final potential tackler around the 15-yard line. His big play extended the lead once again to 21 points (42-21).

Burgess scored from the

1 on a keeper with 2:37 left to make it 42-27.

"Congratulations to Seymour," said Matt Lowe, The King's Academy coach. "They did everything they needed to do to win the ball game. I'm extremely proud of our effort. We made too many mistakes and turnovers and couldn't get off the field defensively. Those are things we've got to improve on, if we want to win close ball games."

Catholic No. 4 in state in preseason ratings

Cont. from page 1

Sam Anderson's Roadrunners outscored Brentwood Academy 28-20 and Larry Kerr's Red Devils defeated Germantown 17-15. There were only three classifications in the state at that time and Class AAA was the largest.

These two programs square off this Thursday night at Halls. MyVLT will have the telecast starting at 7.

MEMORIES: Thirty years ago, Halls and Austin-East brought home Class AAA and Class AA state championships, respectively, from Nashville. It was 1986.

PERFECTION: Three

Maryville quarterbacks completed 14 of 14 passes in the Red Rebels' opening win at Heritage.

ROUGH RETURN: New Karns coach Brad Taylor returned to Bearden Friday and was handed a 59-7 loss by his former school. Taylor was Bearden's head coach for seven years before resigning after the 2013 season.

PREPS OF PAST: Fifty years ago, the 1966 high school football season opened on Sept. 2. Alcoa fullback Albert Davis, who was All-Southern in 1965, scored all four touchdowns to lead the Tornadoes past Loudon 25-7. Two of his Davis' TDs came on punt returns of 98 and 97 yards. He rushed for 127 yards on 18 attempts.



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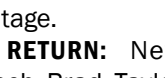
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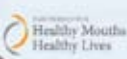
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West High's comeback nets Harig milestone win

By Ken Lay

The West High School football team helped its coach reach a milestone Friday night.

But early in the evening it didn't look like the Rebels and Coach Jeff Harig were going to be able to celebrate anything.

But West High scored 17 unanswered points en route to notching a 17-10 comeback victory over visiting Hardin Valley Academy before a near-capacity crowd at Bill Wilson Field.

The win was Harig's 100th in a career that started at Loudon High School. Harig was tapped to replace Scott Cummings in Marble City after the West graduate departed for Cleveland after guiding the Rebels (1-0) to the 2015 Class 5A State Championship.

"This is No. 100 for me and this one's big," Harig said after watching his team's offense sputter through a miserable first half that saw the Rebels lose a pair of fumbles. "We didn't do anything right in the first half and that's been the story of our preseason."

"But the program at West has a championship mentality."

That attitude was evident after halftime but the first 24 minutes belonged to the Hawks, who are hoping to take their program to new heights in 2016.

The Rebels took the ball first but Hardin Valley's defense was stout and forced West to go three-and-out and punt.

The Hawks had a short field as they took the ball at their own 42-yard line, after West was

flagged for a penalty, with 10 minutes, 47 seconds to play in the opening quarter of the season.

From there, HVA engineered a nine-play, 58-yard drive that ended when junior running back Aaron Dykes scored on a short touchdown plunge. Kicker Andrew Foster added the extra point to give the Hawks a 7-0 lead midway through the opening frame.

Foster, who missed a pair of field goals in the hard-fought contest, extended Hardin Valley's advantage to 10-0 with a 31-yard field goal early in the second frame.

He would misfire on another attempt before halftime and come up empty once after halftime.

For the Hawks, who have an open date this week, it was a long night marred by missed opportunity.

"We did the same thing that hurt us [against the Rebels in a 16-15 loss] last year," HVA Coach Wes Jones said. "We had chances in the red zone and we didn't execute."

"We're open next week and we just have to look at this film and go back to the drawing board. In the grand scheme of things, this doesn't mean anything. This doesn't have anything to do with our seeding in the playoffs after Week 11. This is disappointing. It's really disappointing but we have to get better and we have to get ready for our game against Bearden."

That will be the Region 1-6A opener for both schools. That game will be played Sept. 2 and will be the league opener for both schools.

The Rebels pulled to within 10-3 when their kicker, Logan Bowers booted a 29-yard field goal with 12 seconds remaining until halftime.

The two squads slugged through a scoreless third quarter before Harig made a change at quarterback. He replaced senior Zach Harshey with Drake Peer.

Peer responded by going 6-for-10 for 184 yards. He threw the game winning touchdown pass to Jermaine Buchannon, who rumbled 55 yards for the game winning score with seven minutes remaining in the game.

Buchannon, who had six receptions (111 yards), tied the game a short time earlier on 6-yard run on a reverse.

Tackling a head-on problem head on

Many years ago, when youth soccer started growing in popularity in this country, I wondered if soccer might someday replace football as the game played at Neyland Stadium and venues of other major universities.

In what I saw as a softer America, many parents of a new generation preferred their boys play a sport less physical than football.

Soccer continued to grow but never seriously became a threat to football. There was room for both sports.

Football, however, eventually became its own worst enemy. The contact sport turned into a collision sport. Fundamental tackling gave way to bigger and faster players using their bodies as missiles. Helmets and equipment couldn't always provide adequate safety from the blows.

I still remember the Vols' 2006 home opener against California when 6-5, 258-pound Craig Stevens, called by Cal coach Jeff Tedford his team's "toughest" player, was knocked out cold on the opening kickoff. UT fans went crazy.

It's plays like this that has made football the most popular sport in this country for years.

Plays like this also have the sport of football facing a new challenge today. Thanks to advancement in medicine and technology, we now know the long term effects of concussions and head injuries that can result from playing football. With this information has come a cause for alarm and the need to make the game safer. To accomplish this it will take a team effort from youth football all the way up to the NFL.

Concussions will never be eliminated from the sport but can be minimized with changes in how the game is played.

I dropped in unannounced on a 7 year-old team's practice last week and saw firsthand coaches working hard in taking steps in that



PHOTO BY STEVE WILLIAMS

Head Coach Shane Cox looks on as Assistant Coach Clarence Bennett works with a 7-year-old Falcons player on proper positioning to tackle safely at Christenberry ball field last week.

direction.

You may not recognize their names, but you should appreciate the efforts of Shane Cox and Clarence Bennett as much as those of Fulton High's Rob Black, UT's Butch Jones or Gary Kubiak of the Super Bowl champion Denver Broncos.

Cox is head coach of the Falcons' 7-year-old team and Bennett's a burly assistant who has a booming voice and a special way with his "babies."

The two of them, along with assistant coach James Parrott, worked up a good sweat before the sun went down last Tuesday at Christenberry ball field doing something very important. They were teaching a safe way to tackle.

"I've been studying the Seattle Seahawks," said Bennett. "We use their tackling drills and technique. It's a form of rugby tackling... keeping the head out of the tackle."

It's really a new way of doing something very old.

The rugby-type tackle was used when football was born and played without headgear and later when players wore leather helmets without facemasks.

As a high school football official for close to 20 years, I remember attending a preseason state rules meeting about five years ago and the TSSAA representative informing members of our association about procedures we should follow if we suspected a player having concussion symptoms.

Since that time, points of emphasis have been placed on illegal contact in the head area and against defenseless players. Violators are ejected for "targeting."

Bennett said they are teaching their players to use their shoulder pad to make first contact on an opponent's thigh, get their head to the outside and finish the tackle by "wrapping up" with their arms.

Being the coaches of the youngest team, Bennett said, "We're basically the foundation" of this teaching process that now is being used all the way up to the Seahawks and professional ranks.

Bennett pointed out this was the second year coaches in the Knox Metro Youth Football League went through the "Heads Up Football" program, which emphasizes the importance of a player "keeping his head up and out of the tackle."

Youth football teams down almost 30 percent since 2010

By Steve Williams

The number of teams playing youth football in Knox County is on the decline.

There are almost 30 percent fewer teams playing this season in the Knox Metro Youth Football League compared to the 2010 season, according to information provided Thursday by Aaron Browning, Deputy Director of the Knoxville Parks and Recreation Department.

The total number of teams has dropped from 142 in the 2010 season to 117 teams in 2015 to 102 teams this season.

The figures include teams in the divisions that play "tackle" football, which includes teams ages 7-and-under through 14-and-under.

The KMYFL started a 6-and-under "flag football" division

He said it is the first season he and the Falcon coaches have taught the rugby-type tackle.

The Falcons' youth teams also received instruction from Fulton High coaches in a three-day camp earlier this summer.

With news about the effects of concussions and the movie *Concussion*, the number of players is not as high this season in the Falcons' organization, which has been the most successful program from top to bottom locally for several years, said Cox, who added he's seen four concussions in 14 seasons with all of them involving players on the 11 to 14-year-old age teams.

"We've dropped a little bit because of all the negativity," said

in 2015 and had 15 teams. There are 24 teams playing flag football this year.

The City of Knoxville and Knox County joined to form the Knox Metro Youth Football League in 2001. No information for the number of teams was available for the 2001 through 2008 seasons or the 2011 season.

There were 134 total teams in the 2012 season, 123 in the 2013 season and 116 in 2014.

Below shows the number of "tackle" teams in the KMYFL per division for the 2010, 2015 and 2016 seasons.

Knox Metro Youth Football League Team Numbers Per Year Per Division			
Division	2010	2015	2016
7U	14	13	9
8U	21	19	17
9U	23	19	18
10U	26	19	16
11U	26	17	15
12U	15	15	13
14U	17	15	14
Total	142	117	102

Cox. "We have about 25 players per team in our program, while we used to have 30. We also used to have two teams for every other age group."

"It's not just here. We played in a tournament in Atlanta this past weekend and I saw fewer teams and players there than I have in the past."

The issues in the sport of football are real, but I can't see football fading away from the sports landscape like we've seen with heavy-weight boxing. Football is too big, too rich and too popular to fall.

Football will evolve to be as safe as it can be, but there will always be a risk-reward element for prospective players to weigh.

Gibbs starts fast in 2-2 draw at Loudon

By Ken Lay

LOUDON - Gibbs High School's girls soccer team learned a valuable lesson in its 2016 season opener Tuesday night.

The Lady Eagles darted out to a 2-0 lead only to see the host Lady Redskins storm back and salvage a 2-2 tie in the season opener for both schools at Loudon High School.

"We played really good in the first half," said Gibbs coach Jason French. "But we have a young team and we're going to have to learn to finish games off."

"We got up 2-0 but we couldn't finish them off."

We're going to have to learn to finish teams off."

The Lady Eagles got both of their goals from senior Mackenzie Criswell, who has led Gibbs in scoring in each of the last three seasons.

Criswell, a forward, had an unassisted goal and added another marker off an assist from sophomore Bekah Dugger.

Things might've been a little tough for the Lady Eagles (0-0-1) Tuesday night but French said that his team has plenty of young talent and some strong leadership from a small but savvy senior class.

"We have good athletes and we have good leadership and I'm hoping that maybe we can surprise some people," said French, who opened his fifth season as coach when Gibbs traveled to Loudon to play the Lady Redskins. "We have a girl back who has been our leading scorer for the last three years."

"But we are young. I only have four seniors."

Gibbs, with its youngsters, is hoping to make an impact in the District 3-AAA standings but Karns, Powell (which won the district tournament last year), Halls and Oak Ridge will have strong squads.

"I'm hoping that maybe somebody will overlook us. I think we could be in the middle of this thing. We could be in the mix. Oak Ridge will always be at or near the top and Powell has a very good senior class."

In addition to the four seniors on the Gibbs High roster, the Lady Eagles have 17 underclassmen (including nine sophomores and eight freshmen). They also have four juniors on the team.

Top returners include: Criswell (a senior forward and three-year starter who has led the team in scoring in each of the last three seasons); Cailey Griffin (a junior

defender, who will move to the back line after playing at a forward spot up top in previous season); Gracie French (junior, defender); Charly Ann Medley (a senior midfielder who also plays basketball but missed the 2015 soccer campaign while nursing a knee injury) and Aspen Satterfield (junior, midfielder/forward).

"Those girls will be our top returners," Coach French said. "We will also have a number of solid freshmen."

The coach said that he expects the midfield to be the backbone of the 2016 squad.

"Charly Ann is tough and she's good," Coach French said. "She's a leader. We'll be strong in the midfield."

Medley may be a natural leader. She's a guard on Coach Chris Bray's girls basketball team in Corryton.

Criswell will look to provide a big offensive punch for the Lady Eagles this season.

"We'll be good in the midfield and we have a forward back who has led us in scoring for each of the last three years," Coach French said.

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 TSD	OPEN	vs. Georgia	OPEN	vs. South Carolina	vs. Carolinas (ENCSD)	vs. South Carolina	vs. Mississippi	vs. Carolinas	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN
 Concord Class A, R1	vs. Grace Baptist L, 0-65	vs. Sale Creek	vs. Unaka	OPEN	vs. Cloudland	vs. Davidson Academy	vs. Hancock County	vs. King's Academy	OPEN	vs. Ezell-Harding	vs. Oakdale
 WEBB Class A, R2	vs. Alcoa L, 13-38	OPEN	vs. Mt. Juliet Christian	vs. CAK	vs. Friendship Christian	vs. Grace Christian	vs. DCA	vs. BGA	OPEN	vs. Oak Ridge	vs. King's Academy
 KING'S ACAD Class A, R2	vs. Seymour L, 27-42	vs. Boyd Buchanon	vs. Friendship Christian	vs. Oneida	vs. DCA	OPEN	vs. Lancaster Christian	vs. Concord Christian	vs. Mt Juliet Christian	vs. Lenoir City	vs. Knoxville Webb
 AUSTIN-EAST Class AA, R2	vs. Scott W 25-0	vs. Halls	vs. Tellico Plains	vs. Fulton	vs. Wartburg	OPEN	vs. Oliver Springs	vs. Union County	vs. Rockwood	vs. Sweetwater	vs. Grace Christian
 GCA Class AA, R2	vs. Jefferson County L, 14-31	vs. CAK	vs. Oliver Springs	vs. Campbell County	vs. Rockwood	vs. Knoxville Webb	OPEN	vs. Wartburg	vs. Sweetwater	vs. Tellico Plains	vs. Austin-East
 CAK Class AAA, R2	vs. Livingston Academy W, 25-7	vs. Grace Christian	vs. Scott	vs. Knoxville Webb	vs. Kingston	vs. DCA	vs. Loudon	vs. Clinton	vs. McMinn Central	OPEN	vs. Alcoa
 ALCOA Class AAA, R2	vs. Webb W, 38-13	vs. William Blount	vs. Loudon	vs. Maryville	vs. Scott	vs. Heritage	vs. McMinn Central	OPEN	vs. Kingston	vs. Red Bank	vs. CAK
 SEYMOUR Class 4A, R1	vs. King's Academy W 42-27	vs. Pigeon Forge	vs. Sullivan South	OPEN	vs. Sullivan Central	vs. Sullivan East	vs. Cherokee	vs. Scott	vs. Grainger	vs. Volunteer	vs. Greeneville
 ANDERSON COUNTY Class 4A, R2	vs. Greeneville L, 9-55	vs. Heritage	vs. Fulton	vs. Oak Ridge	vs. Union County	vs. Clinton	vs. Knoxville Catholic	OPEN	vs. Knoxville Central	vs. Morristown East	vs. Carter
 CARTER Class 4A, R2	vs. Halls L, 23-27	vs. Jefferson County	vs. Union County	vs. West	vs. Central	vs. South-Doyle	vs. Fulton	OPEN	vs. Knoxville Catholic	vs. Gibbs	vs. Anderson County
 CATHOLIC Class 4A, R2	vs. Morristown West L, forfeit	vs. CPA (@ Vanderbilt)	vs. Central	vs. Notre Dame	vs. Fulton	vs. Belfry	vs. Anderson County	OPEN	vs. Carter	vs. Cloudland	vs. Union County
 CENTRAL Class 4A, R2	vs. South Doyle W, 33-7	vs. Campbell County	vs. Knoxville Catholic	OPEN	vs. Carter	vs. Morristown West	vs. Union County	vs. Halls	vs. Anderson County	vs. Powell	vs. Fulton
 FULTON Class 4A, R2	vs. Morristown East W, 67-7	vs. Maryville	vs. Anderson County	vs. Austin-East	vs. Catholic	vs. Gibbs	vs. Carter	OPEN	vs. Union County	vs. West	vs. Central
 GIBBS Class 5A, R2	vs. Campbell County L, 14-48	vs. Farragut	vs. Powell	vs. Karns	vs. Heritage	vs. Fulton	vs. Halls	OPEN	vs. South-Doyle	vs. Carter	vs. West
 HALLS Class 5A, R2	vs. Carter W, 27-23	vs. Austin-East	vs. West	vs. Union County	vs. South-Doyle	OPEN	vs. Gibbs	vs. Central	vs. Powell	vs. Karns	vs. Heritage
 POWELL Class 5A, R2	vs. Farragut L, 6-55	vs. Bearden	vs. Gibbs	OPEN	vs. West	vs. Hardin Valley	vs. Heritage	vs. Karns	vs. Halls	vs. Central	vs. South-Doyle
 SOUTH DOYLE Class 5A, R2	vs. Central L, 7-33	vs. Karns	vs. Heritage	vs. Hardin Valley	vs. Halls	vs. Carter	vs. West	OPEN	vs. Gibbs	vs. Farragut	vs. Powell
 WEST Class 5A, R2	vs. HVA W, 17-10	vs. Sevier County	vs. Halls	vs. Carter	vs. Powell	OPEN	vs. South-Doyle	vs. Farragut	vs. Heritage	vs. Fulton	vs. Gibbs
 CLINTON Class 5A, R3	vs. Oak Ridge L, 21-56	vs. Morristown East	vs. Karns	vs. Rhea County	vs. Campbell County	vs. Anderson County	vs. Lenoir City	vs. CAK	OPEN	vs. Heritage	vs. Farragut
 FARRAGUT Class 5A, R3	vs. Powell W, 55-6	vs. Gibbs	vs. Oak Ridge	vs. Bearden	vs. Karns	OPEN	vs. Campbell County	vs. West	vs. Lenoir City	vs. South-Doyle	vs. Clinton
 KARNS Class 5A, R3	vs. Bearden L, 7-59	vs. South-Doyle	vs. Clinton	vs. Gibbs	vs. Farragut	OPEN	vs. Oak Ridge	vs. Powell	vs. Campbell County	vs. Halls	vs. Lenoir City
 HERITAGE Class 5A, R2	vs. Maryville L, 6-44	vs. Anderson County	vs. South-Doyle	vs. William Blount	vs. Gibbs	vs. Alcoa	vs. Powell	OPEN	vs. West	vs. Clinton	vs. Halls
 BEARDEN Class 6A, R1	vs. Karns W, 59-7	vs. Powell	vs. Hardin Valley	vs. Farragut	vs. William Blount	vs. Maryville	vs. Bradley Central	OPEN	vs. Dobyms-Bennett	vs. Science Hill	vs. Jefferson County
 HARDIN VALLEY Class 6A, R1	vs. West L, 10-17	OPEN	vs. Bearden	vs. South-Doyle	vs. Dobyms-Bennett	vs. Powell	vs. Science Hill	vs. Jefferson County	vs. Bradley Central	vs. William Blount	vs. Maryville
 W. BLOUNT Class 6A, R1	vs. Lenoir City W, 28-23	vs. Alcoa	vs. Dobyms-Bennett	vs. Heritage	vs. Bearden	OPEN	vs. Jefferson County	vs. Science Hill	vs. Maryville	vs. Hardin Valley	vs. Bradley Central
 MARYVILLE Class 6A, R1	vs. Heritage W, 44-6	vs. Fulton	vs. Jefferson County	vs. Alcoa	vs. Science Hill	vs. Bearden	vs. Dobyms-Bennett	OPEN	vs. William Blount	vs. Bradley Central	vs. Hardin Valley



The Doctor is in

a weekly column by
Dr. Jim Ferguson

Relationships

My minister recently preached a sermon entitled Who Are We? It seems best to change the pronoun to I and consider "Who am I?"

Reflection is inevitable for a contemplative like me, but is fundamental to everyone, at least to some degree. Wisdom teaches that humans are unique because we think, deeply and rationally - at least most of the time. My dog, Jack, thinks. He solves problems and he's learned a few silly tricks. But I'm sure Jack doesn't think deeply of his origin and purpose. Science continues to explore the integrated neural "circuitry" of the brain. Perhaps some other species are, like humans, more than just sentient.

My readers must know by now that I like movies. Some complain that cinema doesn't do justice to plot and character development like a book. However, the visual imagery in cinema,

coupled with evocative music, combines to tell a story that is unique. An example is the stunning depiction of Jean Valjean's spiritual conversion in the movie adaptation of Victor Hugo's "Les Miserables." His song, "Who am I" is poignant and spiritual.

Every week my notion of who I am is challenged as I participate in a Bible study group. It is also CME for me. No, I'm not referring to continuing medical education, but "continuing man education" because I'm now the lone male in a group of nine women. Not only is the timbre of the discussion higher than with male voices, the processing of information and stream of thought are also different. Men prefer to discuss one topic at a time. Women seem to prefer many subjects all at once with multiple simultaneous conversations. And a man's concept of conversational

segue is not a woman's - at least among the Fellowship sisterhood.

I guess you could say I am now semi-retired because I no longer practice medicine fifty plus hours a week. I do stay busy with my concierge medical practice, house calls, caring for my grandkids, teaching Sunday School, participation in two weekly study groups, gardening, wine making and writing a thousand word essay for the Focus each week. And on top of it all, Becky convinced me that we needed to "downsize," so I now find myself in the midst of a building project! I love my home which we built thirty-six years ago. I vowed I would never move, at least as long as I could walk. You should never say never. And you should never "retire" without a plan for active engagement.

Jack may not consider his origin and purpose, but these two fundamental questions resonate in humans. Science and religion have different perspectives on origin. I believe the real difference in these positions relates to time. The Creation occurred approximately six thousand years ago in the Biblical account. The scientific version holds that the universe came into being about 13.5 billion years ago. Can anyone

truly comprehend such vast swaths of time? If I could travel back in a time machine several thousand years, do you think I could explain to a person of Jesus' time an ever expanding universe, a planetary accretion disc or stars that shine from hydrogen fusion? I believe concepts are best understood within the context of knowledge of that time. Perhaps several thousand years from now humans will have different concepts/appreciation of origin than we have now.

Existentialism is the philosophy that the individual exists in an impersonal and uncaring universe. It holds that men have freewill and responsibility for their actions, but operate without the certainty of right or wrong. Science can take us back to the Genesis Point of the Big Bang, but cannot state that there is any purpose to the Creation. Religion maintains that there is a Creator who purposely caused the universe to occur, culminating in this present moment. Religion also defines what is right.

As a corollary to purpose, the Bible outlines the plan of the Creator from beginning to end. The vision of science is far less certain. Is the Biblical plan a general one or

does it specifically involve each of us? Many of the American Founders were Deists who held that God created the universe, but then retreated, entrusting the Earth to the purview of man. The Deist perspective seems as empty as existentialism and science alone.

There remains confusion in the media over the terms evangelical and fundamentalist Christianity. Fundamentalists believe in the inerrant word of the Bible, such as the Creation occurring in six days. Evangelicals believe that the Gospel message should be spread, but do not necessarily believe the Bible is a book of facts as much as it is a book of wisdom and truth. I am an evangelical Christian, but not a fundamentalist because I'm also a science guy who believes that the universe is unimaginably old and wondrously majestic.

Two of the greatest discoveries of the 20th century are quantum mechanics and relativity. Quantum mechanics defines how the world of subatomic particles functions. We use this physics to run our smartphones, TVs and the Internet. Einstein described special and then general relativity which explain

how the Cosmos operates. Humans inhabit the realm between subatomic quarks and cosmic quasars as massive as galaxies. I find an analogy between the general and special concepts of relativity and God's general plan of Creation. I just hope that the "special" aspects of His plan include me and thee.

Awareness of the destruction in our country and the world makes it more difficult for me to see God's overall plan and my place in the plan. Should I play it safe and keep quiet or should I speak out against perceived evil? Scripture describes the consequences of denying Jesus and truth. Denying God, embracing existentialism and trusting in man's knowledge alone must seem like falling from the top of a high building, and awaiting certain death from the onrushing ground.

I believe our country stands at the precipice. In November we will decide whether we step back from the edge or fall into enslavement on the government's plantation. Will we choose the arms of government or will we choose the "Everlasting Arms" and freedom?

You may email Dr. Ferguson at fergusonj@knoxfocus.com

National Dog Day 2016

Wow, a national holiday for dogs? Yes, there is a day that has gone to the dogs—National Dog Day celebrated on August 26th each year.



By Howard Baker, RN BSN

Although National Dog Day has not received official recognition it still gives us good reason to celebrate man's best friend and trusted companions, our dogs. Undoubtedly, Hobo the Wonder Dog is worthy of a day of celebration and August 26th is the day! National Dog Day is an annual pet holiday to celebrate dogs and encourage

dog adoptions according to their Facebook page. National Dog Day was organized and founded by Colleen Paige in 2004. This year marks twelve years of celebrating everything dogs. An example of how one community is celebrating is LifeLine Animal Project shelters in the Atlanta Georgia area; they are waiving all dog adoption fees on August 26th in celebration of the holiday. LifeLine's offer is a great deal valued at \$250 that

includes all vaccinations, microchipping, and spay or neutering—now that's a bargain! This is one example of how communities are getting involved in National Dog Day. Building enthusiasm and sharing the holiday with your friends and family not only creates awareness, but also helps dogs everywhere. Who knows maybe next year a shelter in your area may celebrate with incentives on dog adoptions.

Three Ways Hobo the Wonder Dog will celebrate National Dog Day:

1. Visit his veterinarian for fun and of course a weigh-in to make sure he

Continued on page 3



Hobo enjoys the lawn at the World's Fair Park.

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Taking a break

By Mark Brackney,
Minister of the Arlington Church
of Christ

I must admit, I find it hard to go without my phone for more than a few hours. I don't think I'm alone. When bored, we can find ourselves wandering aimlessly through cyberspace where time and thoughts are wasted. But we never feel good about it. We feel drained mentally and emotionally.

Paul told the Corinthians, "I have the right to do anything," you say—but not everything is beneficial. "I have the right to do anything"—but I will not be mastered by anything (I Cor. 6:12). The church in Corinth was engaged in all kinds of sinful actions. Paul reminded them that while they had the right to do anything, that doesn't mean you should do it. Paul reminds them that the power of Christ being in your life should be stronger than anything else in your life. We don't want to be mastered by anything, be it food, drugs, material things, sex, or technology. But it happens all the time.

As Christ followers, we choose not to be mastered by anything other than Him. And a good way not to be mastered by something is to take a break from it. We might say, "Give it a rest." God's rest is available for your soul (Hebrews 4:9-11). But we must enter that rest. We can rest in the finished work of Christ on the cross through our faith in Him. The great theologian Augustine said, "Because God has made us for Himself, our hearts are restless until they rest in Him."

Each of our souls needs something that can bring meaning, something that can give us purpose and

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significance. We need something to fill the God-shaped void within us. Jesus wants to give us what we crave: "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28). Do you feel tired and burdened?

Then you need to come to Jesus. God said, "Be still and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10). Learn to be still in the presence of God.

It is time for us to mute the phone or turn it off and do nothing but get still

before God. Quiet your soul before Him. You can do it. It will be awkward and difficult at first. Your mind will start unloading all the things you have been too busy to notice. But God says to be still and know that He is God.

David said, "I have calmed and quieted myself" (Psalm 131:2). David chose to do this. It is possible. It won't happen by itself. It will require practice. But you can do it.

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