



PHOTO BY KELLY KEARSE

The Catholic Fighting Irish enjoy the moment after capturing the TSSAA Class 5A state football championship with a 45-28 win over Beech Thursday night at Tennessee Tech in Cookeville. The story and more photos in Sports & Recreation, Section C.

County Commission

By Mike Steely
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Resentment over policies of the Metropolitan Planning Commission seems to be growing among some Knox County residents. The debate over requiring sidewalks in some new county subdivisions sparked questions about the power of the commission.

Commissioner Brad Anders, who has announced he may seek the office of Knox County mayor, asked pointedly in a meeting recently, "Do we need the planning commission?"

The real question is whether the county will maintain its membership in the MPC and, if not, how would the county form its own agency.

Scott Davis, a developer and former Knox County commissioner, told The Focus recently that something to be considered is a legal challenge to city appointees voting on county matters before the MPC.

Currently Knox County Mayor Tim Burchett appoints seven MPC members and Mayor Madeline Rogers appoints six members. Both city and county members consider all issues coming before the commission, elect their own chair and vice chair, and pass most of their decisions to the Knox County Commission or the Knoxville City Council.

Some issues, according to MPC Executive Director Nathan Green, are MPC only decisions and don't go beyond the planners or need