



PHOTO BY KEN LAY

Graduating senior quarterback Dakota Fawver holds his state championship aloft as his fellow senior teammates examine their own rings. Former Central High School football coach Bryson Rosser makes a surprise visit to present the Bobcats with their 2019 Class 5A State Championship rings in a ceremony Thursday at Dan Y. Boring Stadium.

Central football team receives title rings, surprise visit at ceremony

By Ken Lay

The 2019 Central High School football team got its Class 5A State Championship rings Thursday at Dan Y. Boring Stadium. The rings were the jewels that culminated a second consecutive championship.

The ceremony, which was conducted with social distancing

protocols in place, was expected.

But the surprise guest who presented the players, coaches and support staff with their rings wasn't expected.

Former Bobcats' head coach Bryson Rosser returned to Knoxville to present the rings.

Rosser came down from Massachusetts for one last

hurrah with the 2019 'Cats. Rosser, who guided Central to a pair of consecutive state titles in 2018 and 2019, left earlier this year because his wife got a new job.

"People asked if I was going to be here and I told (athletic director) J.D. (Lambert) to tell everybody 'no' because I wanted

this to be a surprise," Rosser said.

But anyone who knows Rosser knows that he wouldn't have missed this ceremony for anything.

And he didn't.

He wanted to be there for his players, especially his seniors

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by taking leave. An attempt to have actions by the law director approved by the mayor was withdrawn after introduced by committee member James Cochran. It would have removed the authority to pursue or settle suits from the law director and any matter greater than \$50,000.

"The Knox County Law Director shall abide by the decisions of the Mayor or the Mayor's designee," the proposed charter change read.

Cochran withdrew the proposals after Law Director Richard (Bud) Armstrong said the changes would not pass legal challenges.

The Charter Committee is under a deadline to submit changes by August 15 to get suggested changes on the November ballot. Charter Chairman Brad Anders said all charter items are on the table for discussion given the time limits.

"I think we've taken care of the

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E-911 gets a one-time

Planning Commission allows