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Knox County Board of Health discusses public forum, mask mandate

By Mike Steely
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As some Knox County Commissioners consider removing Health Board members the board met again Wednesday to hear Deputy Knox County Law Director David Sanders tell them they must include a public forum at each meeting.

Mayor Glenn Jacobs has been pushing for public input and the board did have one Zoom meeting that included public comments. The board agreed to have a public forum portion once a month but Sanders said that they operate under the rules of the Knox County Commission and must have the public comments as part of

each meeting.

Sanders said he could look at adopting rules for Health Board meetings similar to the commission rules but omitting the public forum requirement. He said that without such adopted rules, the board must operate under the same rules as the commission. Several of the medical members of the board

noted they get input daily in letters, emails, telephone calls and in-person comments.

Mayor Jacobs then asked when the county-wide mask mandate will end. Dr. Jack Gotcher replied that the mask mandate might be reviewed when the cases come down to 5% and asked Dr. Martha Buchanan to look around

to see when the mandate might end. Buchanan said the local campaign of mask wearing and other safety measures are working and the declining case numbers are the result.

Maria Hurt noted that when restrictions are lifted "people get sicker."

"People are frustrated and tired but we've got to hold the line—it's the

prudent thing to do," Hurt said.

It was also suggested, due to public complaint, extending the 10 p.m. bar curfew to restaurants. The policy was mentioned as unfair to some businesses and it was noted that large crowds are migrating from directly to restaurants after the curfew closes the bars. Attorney Sanders said



PHOTO BY KEN LAY.

Knoxville City Mayor Indya Kincannon and other dignitaries cut the ribbon to signify the official opening of the Baker Creek Bike Park at Baker Creek Preserve, 3700 Lancaster Drive, in South Knoxville Thursday.

Elected county officials to take oath

By Mike Steely
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The newly elected and re-elected local officials will gather at the Tennessee Theater Tuesday at 9 a.m. for the swearing-in ceremony hosted by Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs. The winners of the August Knox County general election races will be taking their oaths. The 9 a.m. ceremonies include the following re-elected or newly elected officials: Criminal Court Judge Kyle Hixson, Law Director David Buuck, Public Defender Eric M. Lutton and Assessor of Property John R. Whitehead.

Commissioners to take the oath are Dasha Lundy, Courtney Durrett, Kyle Ward, John Schoonmaker, Terry Hill, Richie Beeler and Carson Dailey. School board members to be sworn in include Jennifer Owen, Daniel Watson, Susan Horn, Mike McMillan and student representative Abigail Lee.

Certification of the ballots was announced Tuesday morning after more than 75,600 people voted in the August 6th local general election and state and federal primary.

The new Knox County Commission will then meet in person or via Zoom at 4 p.m. to select their chair and vice chair. They will also select members for the Rules Committee, Court Subcommittee, Insolvency Board, Legislative Affairs Committee and various other committees and boards.

City celebrates opening of Baker Creek Bike Park

By Ken Lay

The City of Knoxville celebrated the opening of a South Knoxville bike park Thursday morning. The ribbon-cutting and opening ceremony culminated a project nearly two decades in the making.

The newly-opened Baker Creek Bike Park is the first new feature to be completed as part of the Urban Wilderness Gateway Park project.

Knoxville City Mayor Indya Kincannon said she was pleased to see the park opened. The property was first

purchased when Victor Ashe was city mayor 17 years ago and the groundbreaking happened back in 2014.

"I see Mayor Ashe and he was mayor when the city purchased the property. I want to acknowledge our other past leaders and all the people,

and the team that made this happen," Kincannon said. "This is a park unique to Knoxville. It is for the people of South Knoxville and it is for all Knoxville residents, but it's also for our visitors. This is for walkers, bike riders and hikers. It

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Can the Board of Health be replaced?

By Mike Steely
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The powers of the Knox County Board of Health were questioned again last week by several citizens during Public Forum at the Knox County Commission. The regular meeting was held via Zoom because of three commissioners were in self quarantine due to COVID-19.

Commissioner Richie Beeler, who had tested positive, took part in most of the Zoom meeting and left about halfway through the session. The two commissioners who sat next to him at the last in-person commission meeting, Carson Dailey

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Dave Wright speaks to Center City Republicans

By Ken Lay

When state Representative Dave Wright spoke to some local Republicans late last week, he spent much of his time lauding Elaine Davis, candidate for Tennessee State House District 13.

But Davis didn't hear his remarks because she was visiting with potential voters. She's running for the seat now held by Democrat Gloria Johnson in state House District 13.

Davis was scheduled to speak at the Center City Knox County Republican Club meeting on Thursday night at S&S Cafeteria, but was busy fulfilling campaign commitments.

"I was out going door-to-door tonight and it ran a little long," said Davis, who hung around to talk to the people who attended the meeting.

She was grateful for the support and she was also thankful for Dave Wright standing in for her and his kind words.

Davis said, "I've been out of public life for a while because both of my parents have recently passed away from cancer and I appreciate Dave and I appreciate those who have encouraged me and support me."

Davis said that she wanted the people to have a choice for District 13.

Her campaign slogan is "Your Choice for an Effective Voice" and she said that's exactly what she's hoping to give the voters in the district.

Wright, who represents District 19 in the Tennessee House of Representatives, urged those present to champion Davis' campaign as he has.

Even though the state legislature isn't in session at this time, Wright said he's busy planning for the next legislative session.

"We're planning for January," Wright said. "We're not in session right now,



PHOTO BY KEN LAY.

State Representative Dave Wright addressed members of the Center City Chapter of the Knox County Republican Club Thursday night.

but it's never too early to plan.

"Right now, I'm doing a lot over the phone and I'm having some Zoom meetings."

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Everything looks easy from a distance

From a distance



By John J. Duncan Jr.
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Everything looks easy from a distance. My friend, Ray Hill, who writes a great political history column for this newspaper, told me several years ago that I won the lottery with my parents. I had never thought of it in that way, but I really liked what he said, and I believe it is true. A long time ago, as a student at Holston High School, my English class was assigned to write a theme entitled "My Greatest Asset." I wrote that mine was my family. When my friend, Steve Hunley, asked me to write a weekly column for The Focus, he wanted me to entitle it "Washington Report" like my newsletter

that I sent to all my constituents during my 30 years in Congress. However, since I am no longer in Washington, I wanted to write many things in addition to occasional columns on national issues. Also, because my Dad once told me that everything looks easy from a distance, and I think this is especially true about sports and politics, I wanted to call my column "From A Distance." And I wanted this first column to be about my Father because he had such great influence on me and because most people of voting age today either know very little about his life and career or were not even alive when he died 32 years ago. Eight years ago, the News Sentinel had a nice article about me and my Dad. I described him as "the kindest, sweetest, toughest, hardest-working man" I ever knew. I got the nicest, handwritten note from Peyton Manning about that article.

He said he had flown out of Knoxville that day, had read the article, wanted to thank me for my service, and my comments made him think of the relationship he had with his Dad. Daddy grew up on a subsistence farm in Scott County. My grandparents were good people who had 10 children, little money, no car, never went on a vacation, and an outhouse was the toilet. Daddy hitchhiked into Knoxville in 1939 with \$5.00 in his pocket and worked his way through UT. He married my mother in 1942 and spent four years in the Army during World War II. After he got out, he wanted to go to law school, but he already had my mother and older sister to support and UT did not have summer law classes. So he went to Cumberland Law School in Lebanon where I was born in 1947. At Cumberland, a student could go year around and finish in two years. He returned to Knoxville, started a private practice,

and one week out of each three was a part time Assistant Attorney General for nine years. He became the City Law Director in 1956 and served until Mayor Jack Dance died in January of 1959. Daddy won three landslide elections as mayor: a special election in May of 1959; the election for a full four-year term in November of 1959; and another four-year term in 1963. The almost six years he served as mayor were probably the most progressive in the city's history, doubling the city in size through annexation, building the Civic Coliseum, Market Square Mall, many new fire stations and recreation centers, legalizing liquor, and leading the peaceful integration of Knoxville. Knoxville won the national Look Magazine's All American City Award midway through his years as mayor. He then served 23.5 years in Congress beginning in 1965. His service there would take another column, but I will close with



John J. Duncan Sr., wife, Lois, and son, Jimmy, outside the Capitol.

one Washington story. I met a retired Democratic Congressman from Pennsylvania named Fred Rooney during my first year in Congress. When he found out who I was, he said "Your Dad was the only man I ever knew who never had an enemy in this town."

Knox Co. Board of Health

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he will look into including restaurants in the curfew. He also advised the Board of Health to begin looking for a physical place to hold public meetings as the governor's emergency proclamation is due to end. He also said, however, he expects permission to hold Zoomed meetings to be renewed. The Knox County Health Department reported on an improving week with four of the benchmarks getting a "Green Light." The only "Caution Light" was the number of hospitalizations. It was reported

that even the number of hospitalized virus patients is trending down with about 40 to 43 out of 1,000 diagnosed cases requiring hospital care. The board expressed concerns about UT and Knox County Schools opening and plans to review the COVID-19 local results in two weeks. Buchanan spoke on the subject and said, "We need to wait and see." A request was made to the university and the Knox County School System to keep the board informed and possibly send a representative to meetings.

Baker Creek Bike Park

Cont. from page 1

has something for beginners and it has something for more advanced riders. I've seen people on roller blades and I've seen roller skaters. "I'd also like to thank (former Knoxville City) Mayor (Madeline) Rogero. I know that's she's a champion for our Urban Wilderness." The day was also special for Knoxville City Councilman Tommy Smith. "This is a special day and a special place for me," said Smith, who represents the 1st District on the council. "I grew up going to day-care at Sevier Heights and I remember coming here to play in these woods afterwards. And it's nice to know that kids will come here and play in these woods in a different way." The trail is built for bikers as it has trails for riders of varying skill levels. There is a trail for beginners and a trail for advanced riders. It

also features five jump and skill lines of varying difficulty levels. The Baker Creek Bike Park is one of the first amenities of the \$10 million Urban Wilderness Gateway Park project to be completed. The Urban Wilderness will feature greenways, parking, restroom facilities, connector roads, and utilities. It will also include picnic areas, playgrounds and other gathering spots. "We're not done," Kincaid said. "This is great for our mental well-being, our physical health and our mental well-being." "This park is unique to Knoxville. Knoxville used to be envious of other cities and we used to say that we needed flat ground. "But now, we're here. We're hilly and we've embraced our topography. We had a great team and we're always keeping our eyes on where we want to be and not where we are."

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Publisher's Positions



By Steve Hunley, Publisher
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Madison Cawthorne Is A Rising Star

One of the best performances during the Republican National Convention was from 25-year-old Madison Cawthorne. Cawthorne is the GOP nominee for the congressional seat vacated by White House Chief of Staff Mark Meadows. Meadows, the former congressman, was for some lady who was a good friend of his wife's for the Republican nomination, but she lost to Cawthorne. After watching him speak from his wheelchair—the strapping young man is confined to a wheelchair after a terrible car accident in 2014—I can see why he won.

Cawthorne made some great points in his speech, telling Americans to, "Be a radical for liberty and be a radical for our republic for which I stand, one nation under God, with liberty and justice for all." At that point, Madison Cawthorne arose from his wheelchair and stood behind a walker.

Apparently, that just flew all over Yamiche Alcindor, who poses as a journalist for PBS News. She also "contributes" to NBC and MSNBC, which should speak volumes as to her political views. To Yamiche's credit, she doesn't bother to hide her leftist bias. So, I suppose it shouldn't be surprising good ol' Yamiche posted a Tweet after hearing Cawthorne's speech.

Yamiche typed, "Madison Cawthorn made it a point to stand, suggesting that all Americans to should stand during the pledge of allegiance & national anthem.

"It was a direct rebuke of actions by ppl -- including black athletes who are currently sitting out games

-- protesting police brutality." Well, ok, Yamiche and so what? Has it occurred to you Madison Cawthorne has a different point of view? Of course not and what would it matter anyway. Yamiche is likely one of those who is only for free speech if it's her doing the talking.

Well, Yamiche's whining brought down a storm of protests, including a blistering retort from attorney Jeff Blehar, who wrote, "How could you possibly turn the rather moving act of a ... PARAPLEGIC rising for the national anthem into some weird BLM trip? My patience for takes like this has reached its limit."

Ok, that was my "me, too" moment. I've reached my limit for takes like that as well. Have you?

Media Bias So Apparent

There's nothing, not a single thing special about Yamiche Alcindor. In fact, she's typical of the usual character in the mainstream media impersonating a journalist these days. Nothing matters except pushing the narrative, least of all the truth or the facts. That matters not at all compared to the narrative. I can't compare it to anything other than media operating under an authoritarian government; those governments are hellbent on reporting narrative, not facts or the truth.

I've never seen anything like it in my lifetime. The news media—there's just no other way to put this—just LIES while covering events in our country. They lie to fit things into the context of their own narrative. One good example was the coverage of CNN by "news correspondent" Oscar

Jimenez covering the rioting in Kenosha, Wisconsin. Of course, the first clue is you're never going to hear these folks refer to rioting. You aren't going to hear the word "rioting" in mainstream media coverage of the "peaceful protesting" there, which has resulted in two car dealerships and other businesses being burned down to the ground.

Jimenez was filmed standing in front of a raging conflagration—a fire burning out of control—and beneath the alleged "reporter" was CNN's banner info, which read: 'FIERY BUT MOSTLY PEACEFUL PROTESTS AFTER POLICE SHOOTING.' Just so you don't claim that coverage was a freak accident, Ali Velshi of MSNBC prattled about things in other protests earlier, saying they were not "generally speaking unruly" while a building went up in flames behind him. It's just unbelievable, yet the mainstream news media expects you to believe every word of it; they expect you to believe them, which recalls the old joke by a comedian, who asked, "Who do you believe? Me or your lyin' eyes?"

Chicago mayor Laurie Lightfoot weighed in on the shooting in Kenosha, while there were 66 shootings in the Windy City that weekend and 5 of those shootings resulted in fatalities. Do you read a word about that? Was there a single protest for anyone of the five lives lost in Chicago? Nope. Nor was there a single word uttered about the shootings in Chicago to my knowledge by Mayor Lightfoot.

We currently have governors, mayors and district attorneys who are refusing to enforce the law, violating

their oaths of office. I don't know of a single city where these things are occurring that are run by Republican governors, mayors and city councils. These are blue cities and the mayors and district attorneys simply ignore rioters burning and destroying property. The governors refuse to call in the national guard. Evidently, the governors, mayors and council people find it easier to merely step aside, push along the narrative that the protests are all peaceful and refuse to protect anyone other than the protesters. And there is more than a little blame to the folks who voted these pinheads into office in the first place.

The situation is out of hand and the press feeding on narrative rather than truth is highly evident in the Jacob Blake case, which has just been a nightmare from beginning to end. The fact a 17-year-old young man has now been charged with first degree murder never would have happened if any of these elected officials had done their jobs. It never would have happened if law enforcement had been allowed to do their jobs and prevented rioting and destruction of property. Kyle Rittenhouse was trained as an EMT and gave medical attention to some of the rioters and was twice attacked. Then he was chased by a mob and fell to the ground before firing shots. I don't think that was a place for a 17-year-old to have been in the first place, but I wonder, if a leftist was being chased by an angry mob—after having been attacked twice—do you reckon he/she would fear for his/her life? Yet the media is going to jump to conclusions and it won't be long before the

usual narrative begins irrespective of the facts.

The notion it is peachy keen to burn down somebody's home or business to protest what someone tells you is racism is just wrong. It's an excuse and it's against the law and it costs everyone, except for those who refuse to work for a living, money. Insurance isn't some deep well of free money; it's money paid into a company by ratepayers and the carnage in our streets is going to cause insurance rates for all of us to go up. Do the protesters care? Absolutely not, they don't care.

The news media is clearly doing its best to enable lawlessness and that's the truth, not a narrative.

Interesting Polling Results

The Democracy Institute, a Washington, D.C. think-tank, commissioned a poll which had some interesting results. When given the choice to choose between two phrases that better described their own thinking, 71% favored the phrase "all lives matter" while 29% preferred "black lives matter."

77% of respondents said they did not consider Mount Rushmore—the iconic American display of four past presidents—to be "racist." 76% of those responding to the poll said it made no difference to them if Joe Biden selected a minority as his running mate.

Now that I think about it, all those results go against the mainstream media narrative.

August Election Review

By Mike Steely
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Knoxville businessman and founder of Honor Air, Eddie Mannis, was certified as the Republican nominee to the District 16 state House. Gina Oster had appealed to the Tennessee Republican Party, saying that Eddie Mannis was not a "bona fide" Republican. The final certified vote count was 3,470 for Mannis and 3,371 for Oster, a 99-vote margin. While Oster had a slight lead in early and election

day voting, Mannis captured 67% of the absentee vote.

Mannis will now face Democrat Virginia Couch in the November election.

Michele Carringer bested Patti Lou Bounds getting 58% for the Republican nomination to replace 16th District Representative Bill Dunn. She will face Democrat Elizabeth Rowland.

The state house race on the Democratic primary was a close one also, with Sam McKenzie edging out Michael Parks, 2,032 to 2007. Both received 39%

of the vote with incumbent Rick Staples getting only 21%. There is no Republican candidate so McKenzie will face Independent Terry B. Jones.

Democrat Renee Hoyos defeated Chance C. Brown to face Congressman Tim Burchett in November and Jane George defeated Sam Brown to face state Senator Becky Massey.

In the Knox County general election, Dasha Lundy defeated Reginald Jackson with 77% of the vote and Courtney Durrett defeated

Grant Rosenberg with 54% of the vote for seats on the county commission. Kyle Ward beat Todd Frommeyer with 53% and incumbent John Schoonmaker defeated Kimberly Peterson with 66% of the total votes for the other two open seats on that body.

Republican David Buuck defeated Independent Jackson Fenner with 63% of the vote for county law director.

Eric Lutton won his race against Sherif Guindi for public defender with 65% of the total votes in that race.

Hill's school board seat open for candidates

Terry Hill's election to the Knox County Commission's District 6 seat creates a vacancy on the Knox County Board of Education. Hill ran unopposed to fill the commission seat of Brad Anders, who was term limited.

Anyone interested in the vacant seat on the school board must qualify by Wednesday at noon with the Knox County Election Commission. Withdrawal deadline is September 12th at noon. The position will appear on the November 3rd General Election.

The Knox County Election Commission is located in the Old Knoxville Courthouse, Room 218, and the phone number is (865) 215-2480. The office is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.




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Hiring policy debated for sheriff's department

By Mike Steely
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Differences of opinion between hiring policies surfaced last week between the Knox County Sheriff's Department and the Merit System Council. A second and final reading of a proposal by the Merit Board would have changed the Knox County Code requiring the hiring of employees before administering physical and psychological testing. The thought behind this is

to save time and money by administering the testing to only those qualifying for the job, instead of testing every applicant regardless of qualification.

The proposed changes passed easily last month but when it came up for approval Sheriff Tom Spangler voiced a strong objection. He said the policy change would mean a future deputy or other employee would need to resign their prior position, be hired,

and if they fail the tests, would have to be fired.

Commissioner Larsen Jay at first moved to delay any decision for 60 days, putting the decision in the hands of the incoming commission which takes office in this week. Chairman Hugh Nystrom, who leaves office then, suggested an ad-hoc committee be established to look at the proposed change.

Randy Smith, the 3rd District Commissioner, asked what the Sheriff's

objections were. The response was that a "conditional offer of employment" followed by the physical and psychological testing would be followed by an official hiring.

"It needs a little time to work it out," Jay said. His 60-day delay failed in a 7-4 vote and the commission went back to the original ordinance change. Smith called on Deputy Law Director David Buuck for an opinion.

Buuck said that if

passed the change could lead to ADA or Civil Rights lawsuits. Asked why the motion was worded as proposed, Buuck said, "It's what the Merit Board wanted." He added that if passed without change the ordinance "will create a land mine for the sheriff's department to step on."

Chairman Nystrom suggested the ordinance remain unchanged but deferred for one month, saying the "words need

to be tweaked." He added that in the meantime the sheriff, merit council, and law director could work out the details. Changing the words of the proposal could cause the matter to go back to First Reading and reset the discussion.

The one-month delay passed 7-4 with Commissioners Justin Biggs, Evelyn Gill, Michele Carringer and Charles Busler voting "No."

Caution: Children Crossing

By Ralphine Major
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She wasn't really a school cop, but from a distance she looked like one. Dressed in uniform, she wore a white starched shirt, pressed trousers, bill cap, and white gloves. Her look was finished off with makeup and earrings. For years, I saw her every morning standing on the corner of Washington Pike and Whittle Springs and waving as the cars slowly passed through the school zone. I would wave back. Year after year, I exchanged waves with the school crossing guard at Belle Morris School.

It wasn't until many years later that I learned who she was. Her name was Grace. Grace Goforth. In conversation one day at church, Sandy Bolton mentioned that her mother was the school crossing guard near North Hills. The lady who had waved at me all those mornings was Grace. Later, I had the opportunity to finally meet the lady behind that friendly wave. Amazingly, Grace was a dedicated school crossing guard until she reached the age of 83! Sadly, Grace passed away several years ago.

With the beginning of a new school year, I think of Grace whenever I drive through the school zone. I can still "see" her standing there, tall and proud, on the corner where she helped to keep school children safe. I can still "see" her waving as I drive by. I almost wave back. Have a



Picture of Grace Goforth, courtesy of Sandy Bolton

great year and be safe!

Words of Faith: Beloved Psalm 23 (KJV), Grace's favorite Bible passage: "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."

Workmen's compensation

I'd just finished mowing the tee box and replacing the markers on Hole 7. My foot slipped off the step that raised me back to the seat, and my weight pitched me forward. Not being as young and agile as I

used to be, I struggle to twist and turn to keep from falling on the frame of the mower. That proved successful...until right before I hit the ground. The back of my knee landed on a rod that holds grass buckets on the reels. Without any detail, let's just say that the metal punctured my skin.

Just like that, my mowing season was over. It was no one's fault; it was an accident. Still, I spent half a day at the emergency room being evaluated and sewn up. That was a week ago. I'm still hobbled and unable to do anything other than sit on my behind and hurt. Luckily, I've been covered by workmen's compensation, which covers all costs associated with this accident. This isn't my first encounter with workmen's comp, however.

As a goofy high school student, I worked on a crew with Knoxville City Maintenance. We boys cut weeds,



By Joe Rector
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picked up trash and cleared lots all over the city. One morning, we stopped at the Krystal on Broadway for coffee. I stayed in the truck with some of the other boys. We all noticed the gorgeous girl that showed up, but my line of site was blocked. I climbed on the top of the old 1952 Chevrolet pick-up truck for a better look, and after the girl entered Krystal, I jumped back down. I landed on a thick branch that suddenly gave way. I never figured out if the snap I heard was that wood or my ankle. At any rate, I was writhing in pain.

Foxie, our crew leader, drove us to a doctor who dealt with cases for the city. They dumped me there, and after a humiliating, hours-long experience at that office, mother picked me up and took me home. I spent the rest of the summer in a cast, and the only mitigating factor was being paid weekly for the rest of the summer. Once again, workmen's comp came to the rescue, and I was grateful.

The third experience with compensation came when I was teaching. A student had wandered into trouble

during the day. I happened to be at the office when he was escorted to the assistant principal's office. Eventually, the boy was being walked out of the office and decided to run. The principal took off after him, as well as my brother, who was the band director. I joined in the chase, and we caught the teen. He put up a good fight with three old men, but we eventually restrained him. In the process the principal injured his shoulder, and I hurt my back.

I was sent to the doctor and checked for any serious conditions. A day off from work and physical therapy were recommended. Workmen's comp covered the situation so that healthcare bills were paid, and I didn't lose a day of PTO.

I suppose I've been at the wrong place at the wrong time too often. Thankfully, the employers with whom I've worked have been covered by workmen's compensation so that "accidents" haven't become financial burdens. I never have faked any injury for profit and never would take anything more than what was necessary to make me whole. Thanks to those companies and organizations for keeping me safe.

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OFFER EXPIRES SEPTEMBER 30TH

Can the Board of Health be replaced?

Cont. from page 1

and Charles Busler, were isolated at their homes as well.

The virtual appearances of the mask opponents calling for replacing the medical professionals on the Board of Health seemed oddly inappropriate during the meeting.

Only one person during Public Forum contrasted with the other speakers. Rich Roach was critical of citizens speaking in person before the commission without wearing masks. He also criticized Knoxville Mayor Glenn Jacobs for seldom wearing a mask.

Roach also said that county library and school employees were not informed of fellow workers who tested positively and said that notification policies were not being applied correctly.

Vernon Henry, Kevin Hill, Kim Gregg and Emily Houston spoke against the mask requirements and other policies of the Board of Health. Henry sited the financial harm caused by the restrictions, and said that some COVID-19 deaths were actually not caused by the virus and the mask

mandate doesn't work.

Hill said the Board of Health is guilty of "malfeasance" and their policies caused a rise in unemployment. He said that prolonged use of masks is harmful and asked the commission to remove every member of the board except Mayor Jacobs. Houston said the board's mandates are "wreaking havoc" and said she has been harassed for not wearing a mask. She believes the board has fostered "an irrational and illogical fear."

Gregg said the mask can cause facial sores and violates a person's liberty. She said the policies have caused an increase in suicides and anxiety disorders.

Commissioner Brad Anders asked the law department what would happen if the members are removed. Deputy Law Director David Sanders said the members can only be removed "for cause" that would involve them being accused of a crime while in office. He said the members are mandated by the state by profession and nominated by various local

professional associations.

Sanders went on to say that if the Board of Health was dissolved the county would then fall under the state or the governor's emergency powers.

Anders replied the discussion should be passed to the incoming commission. Chairman Hugh Nystrom noted the public would need to be notified of any hearing on the issue and that "there are lots of folks on the other side."

Michele Carringer, who leaves her commission seat to become a member of the state legislature, defended mask wearing precautions "until we have a vaccine."

"We'll get through this—it's a matter of respecting others," she said.

Busler was critical of the board, charging their policies have caused people to go out of business.

Dr. Martha Buchanan responded that the policies adopted by the Board of Health and Health Department are federal and state guidelines.

Commissioner Carson Dailey suggested adding a citizen or commissioner to board membership.

The 1964 Senate Races in Tennessee, IV

Pages from the Past



By Ray Hill
rayhill865@gmail.com

Once a reliably Democratic state, Tennessee was a battleground state in the 1964 election. Congressman Joe L. Evins of Tennessee's Fourth Congressional District was designated President Lyndon B. Johnson's campaign manager for the Volunteer State. At the time, there was hardly any congressional district in the state more Democratic than that of Joe L. Evins. Moreover, Evins had been in Congress since 1946 and thoroughly believed in the program being advanced by Lyndon Johnson. Joe L. Evins shared Lyndon Johnson's concern for those less fortunate.

Both President Johnson and his Republican opponent, Arizona U. S. senator Barry Goldwater, would visit Tennessee during 1964. For the first time in modern history, Tennessee Republicans were making serious bids to win both Volunteer State seats in the United States Senate. Albert Gore, first elected to the Senate in 1952, was running for a third term and was facing Dan Kuykendall, a young Memphis businessman who was a fire-breathing conservative. Congressman Ross Bass of Pulaski had defeated Governor Frank Clement for the Democratic nomination to serve out the last two years of the late Senator Estes Kefauver's term. Howard Baker, Jr., son of the late congressman from the Second Congressional district, was running hard.

Both Kuykendall (pronounced Kirk-en-doll) and Baker campaigned in towns and cities in Tennessee where voters could not recall having seen a Republican candidate for statewide office before. Speaking in Athens, Tennessee, Howard Baker said he thought civil rights, Medicare and agriculture had become political problems precisely because an overreaching federal government had "chipped away at individual freedom" by concentrating power in Washington, D. C. Baker spoke before the League of Women Voters and the local Lions Club. Later that day, Baker joined Dan Kuykendall and Congressman Bill Brock to celebrate the opening of the Bradley County Republican Party headquarters in Cleveland, Tennessee. Kuykendall, although a conservative, had been working hard to win votes from a surprising source for a Republican - members of organized labor. "The working man in Tennessee is realizing more and more that Sen. Albert Gore's attacks on industry are keeping jobs out of our state," Kuykendall thundered.

"Gore has had the mistaken idea that all he had to do to be popular

with labor is to attack management," Kuykendall explained. "He is finding, however, that all of industry is one big family and even when they have a family fuss, no member of the family wants to see the whole family destroyed."

Howard Baker did some explaining of his own. Baker said he believed in having a strong federal government, a position not unlike many Republicans who realized the importance of the Tennessee Valley Authority, as well as "the Atomic City" of Oak Ridge. What Baker objected to was Washington usurping power that had once belonged to state and local governments.

As Baker and Kuykendall campaigned across Tennessee during the first week of October in 1964, an announcement came that 1960 presidential nominee, Richard Nixon, would be joined by Congressman William Miller, the vice presidential running mate of Senator Barry Goldwater, in a five day sweep of the Volunteer State. Nixon had carried Tennessee by 75,000, a much greater margin than the highly popular Dwight D. Eisenhower had managed in 1952 and 1956. That same announcement revealed South Carolina senator Strom Thurmond would also campaign in Tennessee. Thurmond, who had been elected to the United States Senate in 1954 as a write-in candidate and had defeated the regular Democratic nominee. Thurmond had caucused with the Democrats, but had declared his support for Barry Goldwater's presidential campaign and switched political parties. Strom Thurmond would remain in the U. S. Senate until his retirement in 2003 at age 100.

Television was a relatively new medium for candidates for political office and Howard Baker especially thrived in that more intimate format. An ad appeared in the October 3, 1964 edition of the Nashville Tennessean, paid for by Frank Fletcher, announcing Howard Baker would be on Channel 5 at 5:25 p.m. that day. The day before, Baker was campaigning in Kingsport in upper East Tennessee at a local Kiwanis Club where he claimed "a majority of the people in Tennessee in both political parties are opposed to the direction of state socialism this country finds itself in today."

Baker thought an encroaching federal government was a very real danger to Tennesseans. "The danger is so great," Baker warned, "that it threatens to permanently alter our system of government without the people understanding the significance of what's happening to them." Baker went on to lambast



FROM THE AUTHOR'S PRIVATE COLLECTION

Portrait and autograph of Congressman Joe L. Evins of Tennessee's Fourth Congressional District, campaign manager for President Lyndon Johnson's campaign in the Volunteer State in 1964.

Ross Bass' voting record, insisting the congressman should "explain the depth and scope of his basic understanding of government." Baker growled "if Bass fails the people of Tennessee and refuses to explain his associations and political leanings, I promise you...I will do it for him."

Clearly the national Republican Party believed both Howard Baker and Dan Kuykendall had a good chance to be elected to the United States Senate, as evidenced by the resources the GOP poured into Tennessee, as well as the speakers from out-of-state being sent into Tennessee. Howard Baker left Kingsport for a rally in Sevierville with Senator Thruston Morton of Kentucky.

Campaigning in Tullahoma, once a bastion of the Democratic Party, Howard Baker charged he was taking the lead in the race for the U. S. Senate because "the people of this state fear the significance of the Americans for Democratic Action (ADA) philosophy of Ross Bass." Baker noted Bass was ranked by the ADA along with liberal Minnesota senator Hubert Humphrey and Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, a black New Yorker. "The ADA is the outfit which wants to immediately give recognition to Red China and bring her into the UN," Baker reminded his audience. "They are against prayers in public schools. They want to abolish the House UnAmerican Activities Committee. They are opposed to loyalty oaths. They want the minimum wage increased to \$2 an hour." Baker said it was hardly "any wonder" Tennesseans were "alarmed" by the candidacy of Congressman Ross Bass whose "voting record in the US House" was "consistently in favor of this left-wing radical group..." Baker said Ross Bass would be the most surprised man on earth come Election Day.

Another change in Tennessee politics was

the role of the wives of candidates. Nancy Kefauver, the Scottish-born red-headed wife of Estes Kefauver, had campaigned along-side her husband, especially in his presidential campaigns in 1952 and 1956. Pauline Gore was perhaps her husband Albert's most trusted advisor. The wives of Dan Kuykendall and Howard Baker were highly active in supporting their husbands in their respective senatorial campaigns. Joy Baker was especially vivacious and a seasoned campaigner as she was the daughter and only child of the most recognizable of congressional Republicans: Senator Everett Dirksen of Illinois. Dirksen, a renowned orator with a voice like golden honey, would enjoy a best-selling record album extolling American heroes. The Minority Leader of the United States Senate, it seemed only natural he would come to Tennessee to campaign for his son-in-law.

John Sherman Cooper, the senior U. S. senator from Kentucky, campaigned for the GOP candidates at a barbecue at Oneida High School. Cooper, an avid supporter of the Tennessee Valley Authority, gave the late Congressman Howard Baker credit for the "self-financing" legislation in 1959, which had greatly benefitted TVA. "The Democrats can't take credit for that bill," Cooper crowed, "for it was Republican legislation all the way." Cooper urged his audience to support the Goldwater - Miller ticket, as well as Howard Baker and Dan Kuykendall for the United States Senate, and John J. Duncan for Congress. Duncan, the mayor of Knoxville, had barely won a contentious GOP primary with Judge Frank Qualls of Roane County and was the Republican nominee for Congress from Tennessee's Second Congressional District to succeed Howard Baker, Jr.'s step-mother Irene, who had won a special election to succeed her late husband in the House of Representatives.

Howard Baker went on the attack once again while campaigning in Memphis. Baker chose to poke at a tender spot that Governor Frank Clement had probed during the fierce campaign for the Democratic nomination for the Senate. Baker said Congressman Ross Bass had answered only 10 of 85 rollcall votes in the House of Representatives in 1964. Three of the ten rollcall votes answered by Bass were motions to adjourn. Baker was speaking in the stead of his father-in-law Everett Dirksen at a \$25-a-plate fundraising luncheon. Baker joked the three votes Congressman Bass had cast to adjourn the House "were probably the best Ross Bass has done for Tennesseans." Dirksen had been delayed in visiting Tennessee due to being detained in Washington, D.C., ironically, to meet with President Johnson and other congressional leaders before departing for Nashville.

Baker pounded Bass for hurrying back to the Capitol to vote for Johnson's Civil Rights bill, a measure that did not receive the support of either Senator Albert Gore or Senator Herbert Walters. Howard Baker said Bass voted for the House version of the bill "which would have denied you and I the right of a jury trial by our neighbors in some civil rights cases." Baker also criticized Bass for returning to Washington to vote himself a pay raise, as well as increasing the salary of his wife, who had been employed on his staff since he had first been elected to Congress in 1954. "I have no quarrel with Mrs. Bass," Baker said, "she is a fine lady, and I am sure she came closer to earning the nearly \$100,000 she has received from the taxpayers than did her husband, Ross."

"But I want to assure you of one thing," Baker told his audience, "when you hire me to represent you in the US Senate, you hire my family without pay."

On October 21, 1964,


Howard Baker and Dan Kuykendall were in Knoxville to appear on a question and answer program sponsored by WBIR-TV; Senator Albert Gore and Congressman Ross Bass both opted not to appear.

Baker's father-in-law, Senator Everett Dirksen, finally able to leave behind his responsibilities in Washington, came to Tennessee to campaign. Third District Congressman William E. Brock joined Dan Kuykendall in traveling to Morristown where Senator Dirksen was campaigning for the GOP ticket. "Never before," Dirksen said in his dulcet tones, "have I been so proud to be a Republican as in 1964" due to the high quality of Republican candidates "from the Atlantic to the Pacific." The rally drew some 2500 people who filled the local high school auditorium. Dirksen had already regaled an audience of 700 folks at a fundraising luncheon at Chattanooga's Read House Hotel. The hotel manager speculated the crowd was the largest ever held in the Read House. The previous evening, Senator Dirksen had spoken to an audience of 800 in Nashville, the citadel of the Democratic Party in Tennessee.

While campaigning in Morristown, Dirksen praised GOP presidential nominee Barry Goldwater. "Barry Goldwater has the courage to stand in his place whatever it may cost," the Illinois senator said to "the delight of supporters" at the event.

An energized Howard Baker promised the gathered Republicans, "Barry Goldwater is going to carry Tennessee, Dan Kuykendall is going to be elected to the US Senate, Bill Brock is going to be reelected and I am going to beat Ross Bass."

In turn, Everett Dirksen praised his son-in-law, Dan Kuykendall, Congressman Bill Brock, and Barry Goldwater. After praising all the Tennessee Republicans, Dirksen tore apart the Johnson administration in particular and the Democrats in general. Senator Dirksen scoffed at the "Peace and Prosperity" campaign theme used by President Johnson and the Democratic Party. "Peace?" Dirksen bellowed. "Where? In the Congo? In Laos? In Vietnam? In Cambodia?" Nor was Dirksen impressed by the notion America was prosperous under Lyndon Johnson. "Prosperity?" Dirksen queried. "With the highest cost-of-living in history and the biggest national debt?" As to the "Let Us Continue" theme of Johnson's reelection campaign, Everett Dirksen thundered, "Continue where? On the uncertain road we have been traveling of fiscal irresponsibility?"


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Rezoning for crematorium postponed

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

The final approval of a rezoning request for a proposed crematorium within the New Gray Cemetery at 2724 Western Avenue was postponed for two weeks during the Knoxville City Council meeting Tuesday.

The request, which requires an amendment to the Central City Sector Plan, is from Alliance Funeral Group LLC and seeks to change the zoning there from Parks and Open Space to General Commercial. Wade Lovin, representative of architectural and

engineering firm MBI Companies, told the council the crematorium would be near the current cemetery office and at least 1,000 feet from the closest neighborhood there.

Councilwoman Seema Singh said she visited the site after feeling uncomfortable initially but now feels the facility will meet zoning requirements. Lovin said the crematorium will be a "top notch facility" that the community will be proud of. Knoxville-Knox County Planning's Amy Brooks said the plans were approved in a 14-0 vote and must pass a special use review meeting.

Vice Mayor Gwenn McKenzie asked if the applicant has met with local residents and Lovin said, "We haven't yet," adding any questions are welcome and promising to reach out to the two neighborhoods nearby. McKenzie said she has received several questions about the zoning change.

"Make that a priority—there's a union of churches there with some concerns," McKenzie said.

After remarks by the council attorney that it "might be better to hit the pause button now," Singh said she's comfortable with the proposal but would like

to see a community meeting.

Lovin agreed and added, "The technology that goes in now would ease the fears of the community might have."

Councilman Charles Thomas said he defers to Singh's opinion and she moved to postpone the request for two weeks.

In other action the council gave an 8-0 approval of changing the city code to add a Director of Human Resources. Councilwoman Amelia Parker was absent from the meeting.

The council also approved acquiring four tracts of property for the Texas

Avenue Sidewalk Project in Lonsdale for an estimated \$125,000. Mayor Indya Kincannon remarked that the sidewalk system there is "another example of the city working with the community." She noted it is part of a \$30 million renovation effort there.

Also approved were contributions to the Urban League's Workforce Development, the Community Development Corporation for Phase 4 of the Walter P. Taylor Homes, the CAC for its Youth WINS Homeless Prevention and Building Our Youth programs, and the East Tennessee Foundation

for management of the affordable housing trust funds.

Sam Maynard was appointed, at the request of Councilwoman Janet Testerman, to the Public Property Naming Committee and Jenae Anderson-East-erly to the Police Advisory and Review Committee on a nomination by Mayor Kincannon.

Also approved was the police department request to accept \$21,300 from Homeland Security to buy a License Plate Reader System.



Rosie's
World

A Peachy Time

August is a peachy time for preserving the stone fruit. It is a deciduous tree native to the region of Northwest China where it was domesticated and cultivated.

Spanish explorers took the peach to the New World and as early as 1600 it was found in Mexico. It was also introduced in Europe by Alexander the Great.

The peach develops from a single ovary that ripens into both a fleshy, juicy exterior that forms the edible part of the fruit and a hard interior, called the stone or pit that encloses the seed of the two ovules in the ovary. Usually one becomes fertilized and develops into seed.

That's enough about what a peach is, let's make a delicious cobbler.

EASY PEACH COBBLER

1/2 c. unsalted butter
1 c. all-purpose flour
2 c. sugar, divided
1 tab. baking powder
pinch of salt
1 c. milk
4 c. fresh peach slices
1 tab. lemon juice
ground cinnamon (optional)

How to make it: Melt butter in a 13x9" inch baking dish. Combine flour, 1 c. of sugar, baking powder and salt; Add milk, stirring just until dry ingredients are moistened. Pour batter over butter (do not stir). Bring remaining sugar, peach slices, and lemon juice to a boil over high heat, stirring constantly. Pour over batter (do not stir). Sprinkle with cinnamon if desired. Bake at 375° 40-45 min. or until golden brown. Serve cobbler warm or cool.

Thought for the day: If you don't find time to do something right, where are you going to find the time to fix it? Stephen King

Send comments to rose-merrie@att.net. Thank you.

What Does It Mean to Plead the Fifth?

During your life you may have been participating in a healthy eating diet with your spouse and you snuck out and had ice cream without telling them. And then, when they ask you about the ice cream stain on your shirt you blurt out, "I plead the Fifth!" You have no idea why you just said that, but it sounded good and you heard someone else say it somewhere in a similar situation. But what does it actually mean when someone, "pleads the Fifth."

First, the Fifth is a reference to the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution, which states, "No person... shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself."



By Jedidiah
McKeenan

attorneyknoxville@gmail.com

This means that the defendant in a criminal case cannot be forced to testify in a criminal case if they do not wish to do so.

The ability to use the Fifth Amendment to avoid testifying is a very limited protection. It does not apply during the police investigation of a matter or in a civil case. During the investigation portion, the defendant is entitled to their Miranda rights, which means they, "have the right to remain silent." That right is very similar to a defendant's Fifth amendment rights, but is technically different.

For example, in a domestic assault (criminal) case, the defendant cannot be made to testify unless they choose to do

so, but if there is an order of protection (civil) case against the defendant regarding the same set of facts, then the defendant can be made to testify about what occurred. There are nuances to how this occurs, but that is generally how it works.

So why is this right so important that this is one of the first laws ever made for our entire country? I do not know for certain, but I can make some guesses.

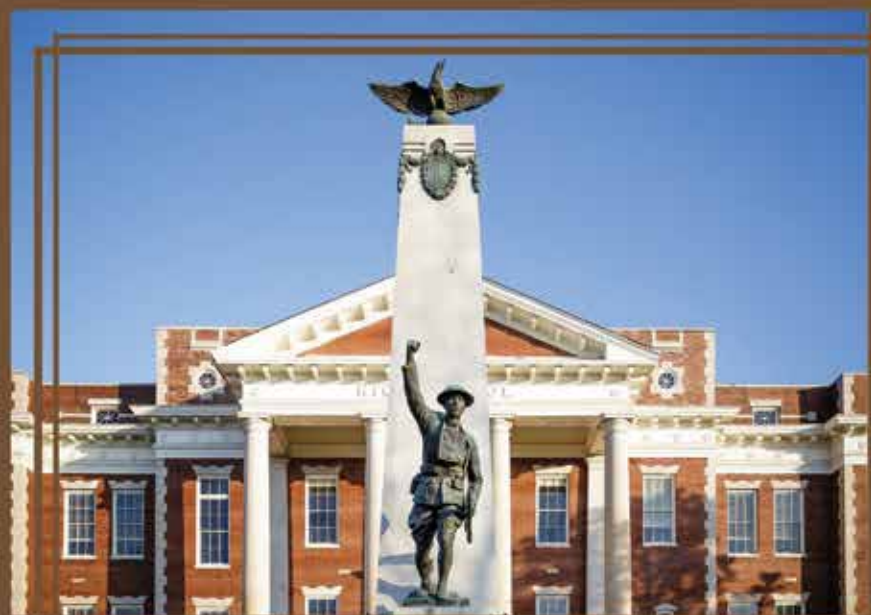
Witnesses testify after swearing they will tell the truth. If witnesses always told the truth (spoiler alert: many do not), and the prosecution could call the defendant as a witness and ask them, "did you kill, Mr. XYZ?" and the witness told the truth, then prosecuting cases would be the easiest thing ever.

Instead, the prosecution must obtain convictions of

defendants through the testimony of other witnesses to the crime. They cannot simply call the defendant to the stand in the case against them and interrogate them about whether they committed the crime with which they are charged.

The two important take-aways are: you cannot be made to testify in a criminal case in which you are the defendant, and you are probably going to get in trouble for that ice cream stain on your shirt.

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



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Cleveland 38, HVA 12
Gibbs 49, Seymour 25
TKA 39, G-P 13
Carter 24, Campbell Co. 13
Central 21, Fulton 9
GCA 15, South-Doyle 0
Halls 32, Karns 21
McCallie 55, Webb 0
Powell 31, Anderson Co. 29
Trinity Christian, Tex. 49, Catholic 14

Farragut at West (Saturday night)

WEEK 3 SCHEDULE

(Games start at 7:30 unless noted)

Friday
Austin-East at Kingston
Bearden at Dobyms-Bennett
Boyd Buchanan at Webb
Central at Sevier Co.
Fulton at Powell
GCA at Lakeway Christian
Halls at Clinton
HVA at Science Hill
Seymour at Carter
South-Doyle at Gibbs
West at Karns

Gibbs' multi-pronged rushing attack made the difference

By Bill Howard

Two sets of Region 2-5A high-school football Eagles coming off season-opening losses — Gibbs and Seymour — squared off Friday night at Ernest Whited Stadium.

Behind a fierce ground game—322 yards on 45 carries—Gibbs built a 21-6 lead, squandered two late first-half scoring chances, then pulled away in the fourth for a 49-25 win. Gibbs is now 1-1, both overall and in the region. Seymour fell to 0-2, 0-1 in the region.

"It's just great to be out here," said Gibbs head coach Brad Turner. "Our kids played great. You know, first half we left some

Continue on page 2



PHOTO BY JOHN VALENTINE

Central defenders Mark Adams Jr. (2), Isaiah Huff (3) and Gabe Neubert (62) swarm a Fulton ball carrier Friday night in Fountain City. The Bobcats won the Battle of Broadway 21-9.

High and dry Bobcats wallop Fulton 21-9

By Steve Williams

Laura didn't show up for the game after all. But boy did the Fortner brothers and Will Siaway. A physical Central team moved past mistake-riddled Fulton 21-9 Friday night in the 56th Battle of Broadway. Fountain City's Red and Black now lead the old North Knoxville rivalry 35-19-2 and have almost caught up (4-5) with the Falcons since the series was renewed in 2013.

A good turnout of fans showed up at Dan Y. Boring Stadium and Joel Helton Field despite a 50-50 threat of rain from the aftermath of Hurricane Laura in the forecast. It didn't rain a drop and the Bobcats didn't miss a beat.

Nick Craney, who picked up his second win as Central's new head coach, said he thought his team's "physicality" was the key to the victory.

"We talked in the pregame about being

physical and I thought defensively we were really physical up front and in the secondary too. Offensively, we were able to be physical in the run game and in the receiver screen game."

The two-time defending Class 5A state champion Bobcats will be looking to pick up their first region win Friday night at Sevier County.

"We made a ton of mistakes," said Fulton Coach Rob Black. "We blew coverages, missed tackles and missed a ton of blitz pickups and stuff that we worked on all week. We just didn't do a very good job of executing."

Fulton had a good start. Defensive tackle Bill Anderson made a jarring stop and the Falcons held Central to one first down to force a punt.

Daveon Shenault picked off Central quarterback Ryan Bolton's first pass in the Bobcats' second possession and the Falcons drove into Bobcat territory before a personal

foul backed them up and forced a punt.

Then Liam Fortner got Central going. He made a catch in front of the Fulton bench, broke tackles and gained 10 yards and a first down at the Falcon 47.

Two plays later, Liam caught a 45-yard slant pass from Bolton for a first-quarter touchdown. He also scored on a 3-yard run after his brother Kalib Fortner snagged a 28-yard pass from Bolton to set up a touchdown in the second quarter.

Fulton put together a 10-play drive at the start of the second half and pulled within 14-3 on Joseph Mojica's 32-yard field goal.

But junior Will Siaway quickly restored order for Central when he returned the ensuing kickoff 91 yards to paydirt. Koles Hughes tacked on his third PAT kick.

Siaway returned a punt to the Falcons' 29 in the fourth quarter, but the Bobcats couldn't cash in.

Things got a little heated late in the game with both teams being flagged for a personal foul. One Fulton player was ejected.

The Falcons' Adrian Roberson hauled in a 72-yard TD pass from Tommy Sweat as time expired on the last play of the contest, making the final score look a little more respectable.

"We've got to be a better football team than we've played the first two games and especially this one," said Coach Black. "We've just got to go back to work. The Fortner boys are good players and caused us a lot of problems on both sides of the ball. We didn't do a very good job containing them."

"It doesn't get any easier and nobody feels sorry for us," added Black, whose team will play at unbeaten Powell this week. "We're going to have to have a little attitude check and go to work this week. We've got to improve and in a hurry."

Grace Rams defense fuels win over South-Doyle

By David Klein

Defense wins championships. It's an old cliché, but it might be the right cliché for the Grace Christian Academy Rams this season. In a game moved to Thursday night because of storm concerns from Hurricane Laura, the Division II-AA Rams played outstanding defense against the Class 5A South-Doyle Cherokees. The Rams avenged last year's 61-7 loss, forcing four turnovers and limiting South-Doyle to 178 total yards to defeat the Cherokees 15-0.

"We've gone to a 3-3 defensively, and that's a tough defense to run into," GCA head coach Rusty Bradley said. "There's a lot of moving parts, lots of different looks you can give teams. We gave a different look out of our 3-3 than what we showed last week. Honestly, it comes down to just effort, toughness and competing. That's what I challenged our guys last Friday after the game with Stone Memorial. If we're going to be who we say we want to be, we got to compete against a team like South Doyle. To see them come out here and do this, is incredible."

"We don't have a lot of linemen," Bradley continued. "I've got about eight or nine linemen that we feel like we can play in a varsity game. We haven't practiced in pads more than 10 minutes since we started practice. Here we are 2-0."

What got the defensive momentum rolling was a bad quarterback snap on the first Cherokees' possession of the game. Jared Long recovered the fumble and gave the Rams a first-and-ten in South-Doyle territory. Art Knight kicked a 32-yard field goal to put the Rams up 3-0.

The stellar Grace defense continued on South-Doyle's next drive. Cherokees' quarterback Nick Martin threw

Continue on page 3

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GIBBS'S EAGLES FLY HIGH PAST SEYMOUR'S, 49-25

Gibbs' multi-pronged rushing attack made the difference

Cont. from page 1

points on the board. We ran the ball well and that was the key to the night. That's more like Gibbs football."

Gibbs went up 7-0 on the game's opening possession when, on fourth and five from Seymour's 37, quarterback Colton Qualls hit Bryson Shown for a touchdown. Seymour answered with a 12-play, 78-yard drive when bruising running back Brendon Harris scored from the one. A missed PAT left Gibbs up 7-6.

Gibbs struck back instantly when, on the ensuing kickoff, Syllas Williams fielded the kick on the 20 and galloped 80 yards for the score. Later, after a 41-yard punt return, Patrick Spears ran it in from the nine to make it 21-6 with 5:02 left in the half.

Gibbs then had two chances before half to score again, but failed both times. On third and goal from Seymour's one, they lost a fumble. They then forced a punt - badly shanked - and had the ball right back on Seymour's 16. They drove the ball to the three, but the halftime clock ran out, leaving the score 21-6 at half.

"I was furious at halftime because we don't do that,"



PHOTO BY JAMES SPEARS

Offensive lineman Zach Dyer clears a path for Keegan Katz in Gibbs' 49-25 win over Seymour Friday night.

said Turner. "You never know when that's gonna come back and get you."

It appeared those failures to score might very well come back to get Gibbs. Seymour took the second-half kick and drove 80 yards to make it 21-13. New quarterback D'Andre Sentell hit JD Kandel for 46 yards on the first play. Then, on first and goal from Gibbs's five, Harris

plowed in, and the score was 21-13.

"You don't wanna give up a touchdown first drive of the second half, especially when you just missed two scoring opportunities in a row," Turner said.

Gibbs answered with a 75-yard drive, going up 28-13 when, on first down from Seymour's 17, Nathan Butler took the handoff, ran to the three and fumbled.

Bryson Palmer came up with the ball in a mad scramble in the end zone.

A 90-yard ensuing kickoff return by Sentell gave Seymour a first-and-goal on the three. On third and five, Eli Funck - Seymour's third quarterback - hit Liam Luttrell for the touchdown, and Gibbs' lead was cut to 28-19. Sentell was hurt late in the third and had to leave the game.

Gibbs then put the game away, scoring on consecutive drives. A ten-yard run by Spears with 2:31 left in the third made it 35-19. After a Seymour punt, Gibbs took over Seymour's 47. Qualls kept first for 15, then for a 32-yard touchdown. The 42-19 lead with 11:36 left was now insurmountable.

"I felt like the fourth quarter we imposed our will a

little bit," Turner said. "I think the offensive line, that's where we hang our hat. I think those guys accepted the challenge because they were a little frustrated last week for not getting a good rushing attack."

Qualls led Gibbs's versatile ground game, gaining 87 yards on 11 carries. For the game, Gibbs outgained Seymour in total offense, 391 yards to 293.

"Our quarterback's doing a fantastic job," said Turner. "He's played defense for three years and this year he's finally getting to play (quarterback) and he throws it really well. He carried the ball really well and ran the option."

"I was trying to find something to provide a spark," said Seymour coach Scott Branton, of his decision to put Sentell in at quarterback. "He's probably our most dynamic player so we tried to move him around and give him the ball and put him in as many places as we can."

Both teams stay in the region Friday night. Gibbs hosts South-Doyle, while Seymour plays at Carter.

A GLANCE BACK AND A LOOK AHEAD

Carter coach expresses pride in team, staff after first win

By Steve Williams

Justin Pressley has notched his first win as Carter High's head football coach.

Pressley's Hornets did it on the road too, winning at Campbell County 24-13 Friday night in a non-region game.

In his comments on Saturday to The Focus, Pressley expressed his pride in the players and fellow

coaches after the first win.

"I'm very proud of our team and staff for the win," said Pressley. "Campbell County is a very well coached team and they jumped on us early. Our guys fought and overcame mistakes to control the second half."

"It's nice to get the first win of the season and learn how to finish. Excited to see this team continue to improve and grow as the year goes on."

Pressley said the key to the win "was our defense adjusting and shutting out a high-powered offense in the second half."

Carter, which lost 20-14 in overtime to traditionally strong Rhea County at home in Week 1, will return to Strawberry Plains this Friday to host Seymour in its Region 2-5A opener.

Another highlight of Week 2 saw The King's Academy topple Gatlinburg-Pittman 39-13.

Week 3's schedule will

include Bearden making its debut at Kingsport Dobyns-Bennett. The Bulldogs had to cancel their first two games of the season due to COVID-19 concerns.

SPECIAL WIN: The day after Grace Christian Academy stunned South-Doyle 15-0 Thursday night, Rams Head Coach Rusty Bradley said: "This win was one of the most special wins that I have ever had in my career."

Last season, GCA lost 61-7 at South-Doyle.

"I am proud of how hard our guys competed," added Bradley. "South-Doyle beat us badly last year and our guys were extremely motivated to play better this year. In my opinion, we won the game because we played with passion and effort."

ANXIOUS MOMENT: Central Coach Nick Craney admitted he was "nervous and then relieved" after



PHOTO BY JOHN VALENTINE

Two young Falcon fans and brothers have their own game on Joel Helton Field at halftime Friday.

seeing Bobcat standout Liam Fortner go down with 9:59 on the fourth quarter clock against Fulton Friday night.

What at first looked like a possible knee injury ended

up being a cramp.

Central already has lost one key player this season. Jaidin Horton, an All-State safety in 2019 who was expected to be a force on offense as well this year,

broke his collarbone in a preseason intrasquad scrimmage about a week before the season opener.

"It'll probably be about Week 6 or 7 before he'll be able to be back," said Craney. "I think by that point he'll be ready to roll 100 percent."

BETTER NEWS: Coach Craney's wife, Brooke, gave birth to their second daughter Monday, Aug. 24. Carolina Jane weighed in at 8 pounds, 7 ounces. Lilly Rey, who turns 4 years old today (Aug. 31), is now a big sister.

LEADING THE WAY: In this coronavirus pandemic year, Tennessee and Alabama high schools were the first to kick off the football season in the South on Aug. 20 and 21.

Louisiana teams will be the last to start playing in the South with openers slated for Oct. 8.

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CAK remains unbeaten with big win over Dragons on Senior Night

By Ken Lay

Christian Academy of Knoxville kept its perfect 2020 football season intact with a big victory at home last week. On a night when the Warriors honored their seniors, they nabbed a 45-13 victory over Clinton at Warrior Stadium.

CAK, which improved to 2-0 with the lopsided victory, overcame a pair of early turnovers to post a resounding win and the Warriors got plenty of contributions from some younger players on this night.

"It feels really good to be 2-0 and it's great for these kids, too," said Warriors' coach Travis Mozingo. "Every year, you have guys who come back from the year before, and you know to expect them to do big things."

"But tonight, we got a lot of contributions from some younger guys and that's good to see from some new guys."

Although the Warriors left the field with a big win, they sputtered a bit out of the gate. On CAK's first possession, it drove down to the Clinton 30-yard line before quarterback Ryan Degges threw an interception.

Two plays later, the Dragons' Trace Thackerson returned the favor when he was picked off by CAK's Chi McNeil Harrison. The Warriors would later turn that Clinton miscue into points as they engineered a drive that would culminate with the game's first score.

That came when Degges connected with Grant Sterchi on a 14-yard scoring strike. Ross Badgett's extra point would make the score 7-0 with 8 minutes, 56 seconds remaining in

the first quarter.

The Warriors would extend their advantage to 14-0 early in the second stanza when J.D. Dunn Jr. scored on a 32-yard touchdown scamper with 9:16 remaining until halftime.

Clinton (0-2) did enough to hang around during the first 24 minutes but after the break, the Warriors really took command of the contest as they scored three touchdowns in the third frame. One of those was a defensive score when Denzel Jackson returned a Clinton interception 34 yards for a touchdown.

Dunn's second touchdown, a 3-yard plunge, made the score 28-0. Dario Love would add another scoring run to make it 35-0 in the waning stages of the third frame.

The Dragons, however, would finally get on the board when backup quarterback Joshua Keith, scored on a 68-yard run with 11:14 left in the game.

Keith, the son of Clinton first-year head coach Darrell Keith, took over under center after Thackerson was injured and did not return to the game.

Badgett's 39-yard field goal a short time later would give the home team a 38-7 lead, and that would give Mozingo the chance to give some younger players some playing time. Those players came up big as well.

Eli Campbell threw a 67-yard scoring strike to Sloan Helton.

The Dragons closed the scoring with 18.4 seconds to go when Keith lofted a 27-yard scoring strike to Braylon Taylor.

It was Homecoming Day 1959, Nov. 7, in the years before directional schools



By Tom Mattingly

came to town to please the returning grads. LSU came to town undefeated and No. 1 in the country. It was the day of Billy Cannon, that season's Heisman Trophy winner. LSU was favored, but Vol fans somehow seemed to sense Tennessee would win.

The Vols had a 4-1-1 record and were ranked No. 13 heading into the game, and Vol fans thought the "glory days" of Tennessee football were back after a 4-6 season a year earlier. On this day, they were.

The game is fondly remembered, perhaps, for one play. However, the entirety of the game was in the best Tennessee tradition. The Vols had but two scoring opportunities and cashed both of them in. The team had some help from the ghosts of big plays and big games past, apparitions that seem to inhabit Neyland Stadium to this day.

Tennessee trailed 7-0 at the half and survived two major LSU opportunities that resulted in missed field goals. LSU was letting an underdog team hang around and would pay for it in a big way.

In the third quarter, the Vols exploded for 14 points at the north end. Vol head coach Bowden Wyatt was a disciple of Gen. Neyland and, in the best Tennessee tradition, preached the value of converting turnovers into points.

LSU was moving goalward before Jim Cartwright intercepted a Warren Rabb

THE STOP



Tennessee defenders Wayne Grubb (61), Charley Severance (14), and Bill Majors (44) combine for the stop of LSU Heisman Trophy winner Billy Cannon (22) early in the fourth quarter of the 1959 game, allowing the Vols to maintain a 14-13 lead and eventually defeat the nation's No. 1 team.

pass and took the pigskin 59 yards down the west sideline for a score that energized the crowd.

On the next series, Ken Sadler forced a fumble and Neyle Sollee scored on a 14-yard run. Just like that, it was 14-7, Tennessee.

LSU didn't become No. 1 in the country by folding when things were tough. The Tigers recovered a punt, one that struck Bill Majors in the shoulder, and found the pigskin at the Vol 2. It took three plays, but the Bengals wedged the ball in the end zone, closing the gap to 14-13.

LSU decided to go for two. The Tigers ran the pitch right to Cannon, a play that had been diagrammed in a Knoxville newspaper earlier in the week. It looked as if he would score easily, but

nothing came easy against the Vols, particularly on Shields-Watkins Field.

Many fans can recite what happened next. Three Tennesseans, No. 61 Wayne Grubb (Athens), No. 14 Charley Severance (Knoxville), and No. 44 Majors (Sewanee), were there and made the stop. It transpired at the northeast corner, right in front of Section A. Head linesman Bob King had the only vote that mattered and marked Cannon short of the end zone.

"We had looked at the LSU-Ole Miss game film all week, some 15-25 hours, to memorize everything they did and to be prepared to play the best game we had played," said Grubb.

One hero that day was youthful assistant coach

Ken Donahue, who would receive similar accolades for his role preparing Vol defenders in the 1986 Sugar Bowl.

"Ken Donahue had responsibility for the scout squad and, with his innate ability to understand offense and defense, was able to prepare Tennessee's defense to stop a much better football team," said Vol broadcaster George Mooney.

Cannon, the hero of the Tigers' win over Ole Miss a week earlier, was tight-lipped about the game's pivotal play. "If you fellows don't mind, I'd rather not say anything. I just don't feel up to it. I will go to my grave believing I was over."

The play didn't officially seal the verdict for the Vols, contrary to what many Vol fans have come to believe over the years. LSU still had three opportunities on Tennessee's end of the field to take the lead, but Vol defenders were resolute.

This would be Tennessee's last win in the 1950s. Hard times hit over the next three weeks, as the Vols lost to Ole Miss, Kentucky, and Vanderbilt.

The magic would dim for Wyatt over the next few years. The beloved single-wing was nearing the end of a long and glorious run. Wyatt stayed on through the 1962 season and into June 1963 before being released as head coach. He died June 21, 1969.

The Knoxville News-Sentinel reported the game's attendance at "more than 49,000." However, if everyone who said they were at the game had actually been there, the attendance might have been somewhere in the range of today's crowds.

That's the power of tradition.

Powell rallies to beat Anderson County 31-29

By Mark Nagi

Two games down. Two dramatic victories for the Powell Panthers.

One week after a last second victory over Beech, the Panthers converted on fourth and goal from the Anderson County 20-yard line in the final minutes, as they edged the Mavericks 31-29.

"Luckily right now we have a lot of competitive kid on our team," said Powell head coach Matt Lowe. "These kids are doing everything they can to try to win football games and so far through two games they have found a way to win."

The game itself couldn't have started any better for the visitors. Powell marched down the field with ease. Quarterback Jordyn Potts whipped a pass to receiver J.J. Foust, who then sprinted past the Maverick defense. The 47-yard hookup gave Powell a 6-0 lead, and the game was not even two minutes old.

Anderson County responded with a 10 play, 60-yard drive,

which ended as Mavericks quarterback Stone Hatmaker called his own number on a one-yard touchdown run to the left side. AC was on top 7-6.

The Panthers came right back with another big play. Potts threw deep to the right sideline. Sophomore wide receiver Ayden Greene made an adjustment to the ball, leaping to catch it at the AC 15-yard line before he was tackled at the 2 for a 46-yard pass play. On the very next snap, Jordan Brown powered his way into the end zone, giving Powell a 13-7 advantage.

"We were in a rhythm," said Lowe. "We got in a lot of man coverage and our guys were fresh. We got our guys the ball in space and let them do what they do."

Then the Powell defense got into the act. Hatmaker threw a pass into double coverage. Adarius Redmond, who received a scholarship offer from Penn State earlier in the week, stepped in front of the receiver at the Mavericks

42-yard line. No one was going to catch him. The pick 6 made it 19-7 Powell with 2:19 to go in the first quarter.

"Not only is he what everyone is looking for size-wise, but his ball skills are as good as I have seen in this area for a long time," said Lowe. "Whether it is offensively or defensively."

The Mavericks kicked a field goal to cut the deficit to 10. But that big-play Powell offense was really clicking at this point. A 45-yard pass play from Potts to Jayden Collins brought the Panthers down to the AC 35-yard line. A few plays later, Potts threw a pass to Redmond at the Mavericks six-yard line. He shook off a tackler, and ran into the end zone, and Powell was up 26-10.

But the Mavericks stormed back. They scored a touchdown to make 26-16 at the half. Eli Davis recovered a Potts fumble for Anderson County at the Powell 24-yard line. Five plays later, Hatmaker whipped a pass

on play action to Bryson Vowell, who made a leaping catch for a 10-yard score. Anderson County was only down 25-23 with 6:33 to go in the third quarter.

On the Mavericks' next drive, Gavin Noe bullied into the end zone on a nine-yard score. The two-point conversion made it 31-25 with less than three minutes to go in the third quarter. Twenty-one straight points for Anderson County and they had all the momentum.

In the fourth quarter the Panthers offense finally got going again. Potts hit Foust for a 27-yard gain on third-and-12 deep in their own territory. On fourth-and-4 at the AC 49, Potts and Foust hooked up again for a five-yard gain and conversion.

Then, on fourth-and-ten at the Mavericks 29, Potts found Greene on the sideline for a first down. He then ran and hurdled his way to the AC two-yard line. A Panthers score looked inevitable. But a false start penalty was followed

up by an incompleteness and two straight sacks. The second sack by Noe put Powell all the way back at the 20-yard line.

Then came the play of the game. Potts took the snap, scrambled all the way around the field. He then made sure to stay behind the line of scrimmage and threw it to Foust, who made a diving catch for the go ahead score. With 2:30 left, Powell was back in the lead 31-29.

"Bottom line, Jordyn Potts made one of the most amazing plays that I've ever seen a high school football player make," said Lowe. "His ability to avoid the rush, keep his head while avoiding that rush... it was an amazing play."

The Mavericks would turn the football over on downs in Powell territory, and Powell escaped with the win.

Powell looks to keep up their winning ways on Friday night when they host Fulton.

Grace Rams defense fuels win over South-Doyle

Cont. from page 1

an interception to the Rams' Devan Coffey. The Rams took over at the South-Doyle 34-yard line.

"Our defense is full of leaders and we have a lot of guys that came back from last year," Coffey said. "I think our guys just love to play ball. We worked so hard this summer. We followed all the guidelines (COVID-19). We did everything we had to. We want to do everything. We want to win. We want to get to state; that's our plan."

Grace took the interception and on third-and-goal from the 5-yard line, quarterback Cooper Riggs found sophomore Pierce Browning for a 5-yard touchdown pass. Grace mishandled the snap on the extra point and did not get the attempt off but still led 9-0 with 5:53 left in the first quarter.

"Pierce is a sophomore that reminds me of Josh Smith when I was at CAK," Bradley said. "He's just an incredible player. I've seen this in him since he was in seventh grade. He's just a

great kid and works so hard and he's fearless. He's small but he's fearless."

South-Doyle's biggest threat of the night came after the Cherokees intercepted a tipped pass. On second-and-ten from the Grace 26-yard line, Cherokees' running back Noah Myers took a pass and barreled toward the end zone. As he tried to reach the football across the goal line, Myers fumbled the football in the end zone, and Grace's Michael Feiden recovered the fumble for a touchback.

"Way too many mistakes," South-Doyle head coach Clark Duncan said. "We played hard, we just made way too many mistakes to have a chance to win. We had our opportunities; we just didn't take advantage of them."

GCA sealed the deal after the Cherokees' Curtis Young's fourth quarter fumble deep in Ram territory. The Rams took over and went 93 yards in 11 plays, sealing the win with a 3-yard touchdown run by Caleb Curcio to put the

Rams up 15-0 with 7:46 left in the fourth quarter. A key play on the drive was a first down pass conversion from Riggs to Michael Human on a fourth-and-nine.

GCA improved to 2-0 and plays a non-conference game at Lakeway Christian Academy in Morristown on Friday while South-Doyle fell to 1-1 and travels to Region 2-5A conference opponent Gibbs on Friday.

"It wasn't about necessarily revenge," Bradley said of the game against South Doyle. "It was about just

coming out and competing, because we didn't compete last year (in the South-Doyle game) and that's not who we are. Last year we were scared and we were intimidated and that's not who we are. That's not the kind of kids we are and that's not the program we have. It was about coming out and making a statement that that's not who we are and showing that we're not going to be afraid of anybody we play."

Three Ambassadors set to begin final cross country season

By Steve Williams

Three seniors will lead the Knoxville Ambassadors Homeschool boys' cross country team this fall and Coach Tracy Peevy already anticipates it will be hard to see Carter Rivera, Zimri Kuhn and Caleb Cook leave at the end of the season.

"I have coached them since their middle school days," she said after pre-season practice started in early August. "It will definitely be bittersweet to see them finish their running season this year since I have been with them so long."

Rivera and Kuhn led the Ambassadors to fourth place in the Homeschool Nationals last November at The Hermitage Course



Carter Rivera, a senior for the Knoxville Ambassadors, placed third in the Homeschool Nationals last fall.



Savannah Rivera won the Homeschool Nationals girls' cross country championship in 2019 as a freshman.

in Nashville, with Rivera finishing third individually and Kuhn ninth.

"All three of these guys have trained hard over the summer building up their weekly miles and are in

good shape to move to the next phase of training," said Peevy, who added sophomore Gabe Roberts also "should perform well" for the team.

The Ambassadors will

get their first test of the season Saturday in the Knoxville Youth Athletics' meet, which will be held at the Knoxville Livestock Center in Mascot.

"I expect our girls' team to be competitive this year," said Coach Peevy, who has sisters Savannah and Sadie Rivera returning.

Savannah captured the individual championship in the Homeschool Nationals last year as a freshman, covering the 5K distance in 18 minutes, 17 seconds. Sadie came in ninth as a sophomore as the Lady Ambassadors also brought the team championship back to Knoxville.

"Savannah has been training all summer with her brother Carter," said

Peevy. "She looks strong and confident. Sadie has struggled with some injuries, but is working through them and building up her fitness."

"Two other returnees – Faith Cooke and Emma Hodson – are solid runners and contribute to our scoring. One freshman, Megan Forstner, should be a contributing runner early on."

Cooke placed 13th at the Nationals as a freshman, while Hodson, a senior this year, was 20th.

Peevy thinks a strength of her teams is their self-discipline.

"We only practice together two days each week, so our runners have to complete the other four days of training on their own

(without a coach), following training plans that are given to them. It's a very devoted group of athletes."

The Ambassadors' coach said the coronavirus pandemic had not presented any issues so far.

"The parks have stayed open so our kids still have access to running locations. A few of them gather in small groups to run together throughout the week. As far as I know, all the kids have stayed healthy with no illnesses. We pray this continues."

"We are thankful to be able to proceed with a cross country season," added Coach Peevy. "Many states throughout the nation have already canceled their high school fall sports."

SPORTS NOTEBOOK

Knox Metro Youth Football League to start Sept. 12

By Steve Williams

Local youth football teams have received good news.

Despite the coronavirus pandemic, the Knox Metro Youth Football League plans to begin its season on Saturday, Sept. 12, Nathan Nease, Athletics Coordinator of the Knoxville Parks and Recreation Department, informed The Knoxville Focus Tuesday.

"We will be offering all divisions this fall, including Flag Football and Tackle Football," said Nease.

Practices officially began the week of Aug. 17 and teams were going to start practicing in full pads last week.

"We have implemented some new safety procedures for practices and the facilities at John Tarleton Park and Schumpert Park," added Nease. "These procedures somewhat mirror what TSSAA is doing. These two facilities are managed by Knox County Parks and Recreation."

Middle school football is in Week 3

The local middle school football league, also known as the MAC, is underway.

The start of the season originally was supposed to have been August 6, but the pandemic delayed opening play until Aug. 20 – the

same night the high school football season kicked off.

Week 3 games this Thursday include Alcoa at Farragut, Carter at Karns, West at Bearden and Gibbs at Halls. Hardin Valley has an open date this week.

Junior varsity games start at 6:30 and varsity games at 8.

Concord Christian recognizes Mee and Baxter

Madi Mee was a multi-sport varsity athlete, playing soccer, basketball and softball during her tenure at Concord Christian School.

Bryce Baxter finished his prep basketball career this past season as CCS's all-time leading scorer.

Both were recently recognized as Concord Christian's top student-athletes for 2019-20 and named the school's Miss Lion and Mr. Lion.

These awards are given annually to outstanding CCS athletes who also excel academically and in giving to the community.

Madi regularly led her team both on and off the field and court. Bryce was a member of the varsity basketball team for four years.

Athletic Director Shane Mynatt presented the awards and recognized the students, saying "these two athletes have been a foundational part of the athletic program at Concord."



Madi Mee was a three-sport standout for Concord Christian School.

Girls basketball coach Scott Graham recognized Madi as "an amazing athlete and a true leader," while boys basketball coach Mike Wilkins said that Bryce "led by example at school and in the community."

Careacter Star Athlete program has different format

Due to the coronavirus and a high school football season that is basically week to week because of the pandemic, the Careacter Star Athlete program has a new format in this its 20th year.

After consulting with coaches throughout the area, Dave Moore, founder of the Careacter Star program, said honorees will be announced at the end of the season instead of on a weekly basis.

"One hundred percent



Bryce Baxter ended his prep basketball career as CCS's all-time leading scorer.

of the coaches I talked to felt great about recognizing the players at the end of the season," said Moore, who started the program in 2000.

According to Moore, Eddie Courtney at Farragut said: "No doubt this would be best."

Lamar Brown at West said: "I agree with recognizing them at the end of the season. Who knows how many games we are going to get in?"

Brown's team, in fact, did not get to play its season opener due to Bearden having COVID-19 concerns and having to cancel its first two games.

The important thing, however, said Moore is the players will continue to be evaluated on their attitude, careacter, grades, community service and performance as a person throughout the season and those who stand out will be honored.

West stifles Halls in 2-1 soccer victory

By Ken Lay

West High School girls soccer coach Xandy van den Berg was pleased to see his Lady Rebels pick up an early-season road victory early last week. But his side's lack of ability to score left him a little concerned.

"I think the stats and the shots speak for themselves," Van den berg said after the Lady Rebels edged the Halls Lady Devils 2-1 Tuesday night at Halls Elementary School. "We did a good job keeping our shape but we're still having trouble with our finishing."

"We did a good job building up play, but we just didn't finish."

West certainly had its scoring chances but Halls goalkeeper Megan Biliter faced 12 shots on goal and made 10 saves in the match.

The Lady Devils controlled the tempo of the match and held the upper hand throughout the game. But all that didn't translate into scoring until late in the first half.

In the opening 40 minutes, the Lady Rebels outshot the host Lady Devils 9-0, but West High didn't get on the scoreboard until Nadia Johnson tallied her first marker of the season when she got the ball past Biliter and into the back of the Lady Devils' net in the 35th minute.

Phoebe Scott was credited with an assist on the game's first goal.

The Lady Rebels struck



PHOTO BY KEN LAY.

West High soccer player Mia Shields handles the ball while eluding a Halls defender Tuesday. The Lady Rebels notched a 2-1 victory on the road.

again in the final minute of the opening half when Allison Shuler scored just before halftime to give West the 2-0 advantage that enjoyed at halftime.

In the second half, the Lady Rebels' defense continued to keep Halls at bay. West also continued to control play and hold the upper hand. But Biliter made three more saves and the Lady Devils continued to post a solid defensive effort.

But the offense for the Lady Devils was truly anemic on this night.

Halls scored its lone goal of the night on its sole shot of the match.

That came in the 79th minute when Cierra Huff put the ball past Lady Rebels' netminder Carissa Carvella.

West (4-1) continued its winning ways Thursday night when it nabbed a 1-0 victory over Oak Ridge at Bill Wilson Field.

That match was the home opener for the Lady Rebels.



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Spiritual Entropy

"If men were angels, no government would be necessary."

James Madison from the Federalist Papers

I collect quotes, sometimes even my own! But then I also collect and memorize verses of scripture especially meaningful to me. Memorization was very important in antiquity. Traveling raconteurs would actually recite the Iliad from memory because so few people could read. Now, we've become a culture of headlines, soundbites and fast food.

One of my observations is, "There are very few things that haven't been thought before." Notable exceptions are the 20th century theories of relativity and quantum mechanics. However, some thoughts are presented so eloquently they should be savored.

I've decided to add

these pithy expressions of wisdom to the Doctor Is In column because they challenge me and I hope they will stimulate thought in others. And, this column must evolve or die. A friend of mine says, "You are either growing or you're dying." How true.

One of the fundamental properties of the universe is entropy. Simply stated, all energy systems dissipate. A clock runs down and a spinning top slows and falls over. Scientists have predicted that eventually our sun will cease to shine and even atoms will someday disintegrate. But don't hold your breath because the latter will not occur for 1080 years (that is 1 with 80 zeros)!

As our country is torn asunder, I've been asking myself how we arrived at such a state of affairs. But the internist in me asks the even deeper question,

why has this occurred? The answer is far more complex than the dystopian vision of Democrats or the positive message of the Republicans.

The best answer I have found lies in a sentinel book I read approximately a decade ago entitled "How Should We Then Live?" by Francis Schaeffer. You should read it. I plan to read it again as my choice for my egghead book club. And after the last two books we've read on Keynesian economic theory and moral law philosophy, I'm choosing a book that has pictures, beautiful pictures of art and architecture, along with a compelling explanation of western civilization's rise and fall.

Entropy is a principle of physics, but it is operative in spirituality as well. The SNL comedic duo of Hans and Franz once said, "You got to pump it up!" A tongue-in-cheek explanation is, "use it or lose it." Jesus' disciples once asked him how to pray, and he taught them what we recognize as the Lord's prayer. We are told to ask for daily bread. Like manna in the wilderness (Exodus 16) spiritual nourishment must be sought daily.

I've been thinking about spiritual entropy using the example of a sand filled hourglass. Remember the

hourglass used by the wicked Witch of the West to taunt Dorothy in the Wizard of Oz? The soap opera Days of Our Lives opened with this metaphor of life, "Like sand through the hourglass so are the days of our lives." I see the draining sand as a metaphor of spiritual life. Daily you must add "sand" to the hourglass of your spiritual life or it will dissipate.

Cardinal Timothy Dolan opened the Republican national convention with a moving prayer and repeatedly used the admonition, "Pray we must." He's right. C. S. Lewis wrote a wonderful book entitled "The Great Divorce." In the book he imagined souls on a journey where some grew in spiritual stature. Others, who chose their way instead of The Way, began to shrink, eventually disappearing from existence.

The echo chamber of the media never ceases to amaze me. They seem like a Greek chorus in a drama intoning the same talking-point mantra. There are numerous examples, but a notable one is the media's recent magic word "existential," as in existential threat.

Existentialism is actually a philosophical term which I doubt Chris Coumo, aka Fredo of CNN, could define.

The term describes the solitary individual's experience in an indifferent universe, where human existence is inexplicable. I feel sorry for souls who don't know where they came from or where they're going. I once wrote about Viktor Frankl's book "Man's Search for Meaning." So many seek ultimate meaning in politics, power, money, prestige, sex, drugs, etc. What a blighted existential existence and inevitable emotional freefall these idols produce.

Rarely have I watched political conventions of Republicans or Democrats. But this year was different for many reasons. Foremost, I wanted to make up my own mind instead of listening to dishonest media reports. (Admittedly, I have never watched a Libertarian party convention, once described by libertarian Neal Boortz as a Star Wars bar scene.)

After watching the Democrat and Republican virtual conventions, I suspect traditional conventions will never return. And good riddance.

(I feel the same way about the NBA.)

Though I once stayed in a Holiday Inn Express, I am not a political expert, nor am I a Democrat or a Republican. After suffering through the good and

bad speeches, my opinion is I do not see the dark, racist, dystopian America portrayed by the Democrats. I identify more with the Republican positive images of our great country where everyday citizens can overcome difficulties to prosper.

Last week Hallerin Hilton Hill asked his audience to list the three top challenges of America. In order of importance, my three are Progressive Democrat-socialist philosophies, COVID-19 and the economic crisis caused by the shutdown to deal with COVID-19. The latter two problems have solutions as presented by President Trump. I'm not sure there is a remedy for dysfunctional Democrats, their cities and their mobs.

Despite our challenges I remain optimistic. Americans are resourceful and we currently have good leadership. To quote Dr. King, "We shall overcome."

We live in a land of equal opportunity under law. We must reject the Siren's call of government mandated equal outcomes.

Be a part of the solution now and in November. Renounce evil's hatred, embrace the Spirit and vote your conscience.

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

Let's go hiking at Norris Dam *part one*

Norris Dam State Park may be a favorite of Knox County residents as it's nearby—only a short drive up Norris Freeway—and has lots of interesting things to

A Day Away



By Mike Steely

up there, and we do so a couple times each year, we take a lunch and picnic near the little office at the dam. We also walk the trail along the Clinch River below the dam, park-

ing at one end or the other, and enjoy seeing the wildlife, plants, fishing families and other visitors. Often we see deer and turkey along the way.

For those of you not originally from our area Norris Dam was the first of the TVA dams in the southeast to create lakes to prevent flooding and provide electricity. Since the federal government project began, which relied on Civilian Conservation Corp workers, the area around the dam has been under state control.

Camp Sam Trail is a great way to explore the CCC Camp. It's almost a mile long and is a step back to the era of President Roosevelt and the New Deal Projects. The camp stood from 1933 until 1943 and 200 men each year lived there and worked on the dam project.

The Hootin Hollow Trail is just a bit over a mile long and named for the barred owls that can be heard there as you hike in the evening above and along the Gaylor Hollow Fishing Cove.

Tennis Court Trail is less than one-half mile long, the

shortest in the park, and goes through the Deluxe Cabin grounds and Village Green Complex.

Harmon Loop is just less than 1/2 mile and is a quick and quiet stroll taken by many local residents.

Tall Timbers Trail is part of the CCC trail system and runs between the dam and Rustic Cabin #10.

Lakeside Loop is about 2.5 miles long, connects to the backside of Lake View Trail and has a pond that's only present during high lake levels. It features a variety of plants and trees as it crosses in and out of the forest.

Elkins Trail is 2.25 miles long and located at the park's highest point near the rim of the West Campground. The trail drops down to a cove in the lake



PHOTO BY LETTIE STEELY

You have to look closely to see deer that roam through Norris Dam State Park. The walking and hiking trails within the 2,473-acre park offer easy, moderate and strenuous ventures with lots of views, history and wildlife. Do you see one or two deer?

and then back up to the rim.

Chuckmore Trail is about the same length as Elkins Trail and ties Andrews Ridge Trail back to Marine

Railway. It starts at the top of a ridge and runs almost down to the lake and rises back to one of the highest points in the park before crossing the park entrance.

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