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Gabriel wins Class A Cross Country title



Class A State Champion - Tom Gabriel

Nicholas Fiscal Court agrees to handle funds for Tourism

By Tim Jones
 The Carlsle Mercury Staff

CARLSLE — The Nicholas County Fiscal Court discussed several questions in its meeting Monday morning.

The court spent several minutes listening to Gladys Shroat of Nicholas County Tourism, Inc.

Shroat was before the court to ask if the court would handle the old jail restoration account Nicholas County Tourism has.

Shroat said Nicholas County Tourism would save \$1200 a year in taxes if the fiscal court handled the account. The fiscal court owns the old county jail building.

Nicholas County Tourism leaves the building from the court.

County Judge Executive Reese Smoot said he thought the court would have to handle the account since they owned the building.

Magistrate Floyd Bassell said he saw nothing wrong with handling the account. The court passed the motion unanimously.

The court also approved entering a contract with the Rowan County Detention Center. The contract is for housing juvenile offenders.

County Judge Executive Smoot told the court Rowan County would house the juveniles for \$22 a day.

This is the cheapest and the safest place around, Smoot said. It's hard to find somebody who will do this.

The court granted unanimous approval of the contract. Another question the court dealt with Monday concerned the straightening of a curve on Bald Hill Road.

The court had obtained the right of way to straighten the curve some time ago, Smoot said. A problem has developed in moving the underground telephone cable.

South Central Bell wants \$2,000 to move the line, Smoot told the court. The labor's \$1,000 and the material is \$500.

Magistrate Daryl Stacy said the court had no choice but to pay to move the cable.

This is something we have to have done, Stacy mentioned. It may not be important to some people but to the one's who live and work down this road it is.

Smoot agreed. This is a

had curve, the county judge said, and I'm worried a schoolbus will meet a big truck in there and have a wreck.

The court unanimously approved the money for the work.

In other business the court granted the Property Valuation Authority's request for \$1500. The money was allotted to the PVA in the county budget.

Received and filed the quarterly report which ended on September 30, 1990.

Passed a motion to pay the county's monthly bills.

Passed a motion regarding all bids for the solid waste plan. The bids were given at the October meeting. Smoot suggested the court turn down the bids based on advice he had received at an area development meeting.

We hope to get some cheaper prices, Smoot said.

By Tim Jones
 The Carlsle Mercury Staff

CARLSLE — Nicholas County High School's Tom Gabriel blew past all opposition last Saturday and won the Kentucky State Class A Cross-Country meet at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington.

Gabriel led the race from mile to mile and won by over 80 yards. His time of 16:35 over the 3.1 mile course was the third fastest time for all three classes and was faster than the time for the 2A winner.

I was surprised by the distance I won by, the thin, freckled redhead stated. It felt pretty good to win, he added.

Gabriel, the lone cross-country runner at Nicholas County High, said he didn't know he had the race won until the last 100 yards.

I didn't look back until the last 100 yards, the senior said. I looked back then and saw no one so I sprinted the

last 100 yards. My form wasn't too good but it was effortless, he said.

Gabriel, who trains with the help of his father, John, said he was comfortable for most of the race.

I ran comfortably until the last three-quarters of a mile, Gabriel explained. The last three-quarters was a long, gradual uphill and it really hurt going up it.

Gabriel credited his father for helping him at this crucial stage of the race.

I told my dad to 'hustle me on the crest to fast hill but he was waiting on the last hill and it helped me a lot, Gabriel said.

A cameraman also came in handy for the Bluejacket runner.

I went by a cameraman I knew on the hill and he said he would yell when the others came by, the senior said. I never heard him yell.

The senior said he felt like he lost all signs of energy at the beginning of the long hill.

I gave it all I had there

and it really hurt. But I was able to put a bit of distance between myself and the two guys chasing me on the hill. I got pretty far ahead and they kind of quit," Gabriel noted.

The cross-country runner credited two different things for the victory.

First, Gabriel said his raising spikes helped. I usually wear my running shoes but I wore spikes, Saturday and they are about half the weight of my running shoes.

Secondly, Gabriel felt his strategy of getting an early lead paid off.

I took an early lead and its the first time I've ever done that, Gabriel said. It helped a lot because I'm usually a very late starter.

Gabriel is the fifth Nicholas County athlete to win a state title.

Couch Ben Humphrey called rio last Saturday night and told me I was the fifth one he knew of, Gabriel said. Gabriel added that the rest had

been won in track and field. Next Saturday Gabriel will run in Frankfort for a spot on the Kentucky Cross-Country team. The Kentucky Team, as it is called, will run in the Midwest Nationals in Dayton, Ohio in two weeks against teams from Indiana, Ohio, Michigan and Pennsylvania.

I'll run in the junior/senior division, Gabriel noted, and the top 10 runners make the team. I think I have a good chance and I would like to try to win it.

All three classes will run together in Frankfort and Gabriel said the competition will be tough.

Some of the juniors are better than we seniors are, Gabriel noted.

Gabriel said the win at the state meet made all the hard work worthwhile. And hard work is what won the state title for the slim senior.

I tried the hardest I ever had, Gabriel said.

Vaughn retires from Mathers Health Care

By Kern Road
 The Carlsle Mercury Staff

CARLSLE — Tommy Vaughn said there will probably be a tear in his eye on Friday.

Vaughn is retiring Friday, after 11 years of work, as Maintenance Supervisor of Johnson Mathers Health Care, the Nicholas County Hospital and Nursing Home.

My last day will be sad, there's no use saying it won't be, Vaughn said he told his fellow employees he doesn't want any kind of going away party but he thinks there will probably be one.

He said he will miss every one with whom he has worked. Im going to miss everyone. There are an awfully good bunch of people here, it's like one big family.

Vaughn said he will miss the patients in the nursing home the most.

They're like family to me. I'll probably be here once a week to visit them.

Vaughn, 60, said he is responsible for the general maintenance of the hospital and nursing home.

He said the biggest area of work for him is with the boiler which controls power, heat and water temperature.

Vaughn has been the only person authorized to deal with maintenance problems until eight months ago when John Price was hired.

Price will be taking Vaughn's place next week.

Price has been training Vaughn for the job since Price started.

He said he isn't sure if Price will have an assistant.

He needs one. There is too much work here for one person.

Vaughn said his employment with Johnson Mathers started when plans began for the health care center.

He was originally the building inspector when con-

struction of the facility started in June, 1979.

Vaughn said before that time he worked for himself as a building contractor.

He said he retired from his own business 14 years ago.

I retired to be the inspector for the new building here and I've been here ever since.

He said he was on call to the hospital seven days a week, 24 hours a day for several years.



Tommy Vaughn

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Nicholas County Fire Department responded to a call on Upper Jacktown Road Saturday afternoon. The property is owned by Wallace Edwards. Nicholas County Police Chief Mark Hughes said the fire started when the owner was burning the remains of a house on the property. He said the fire spread to the grass to an out building. Hughes said it took the department about 45 minutes to control the fire.