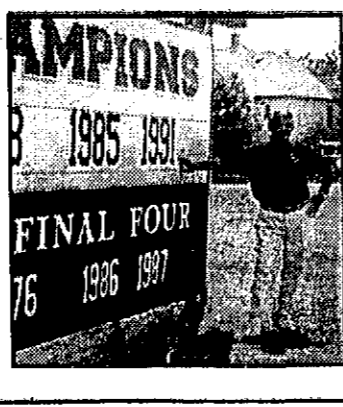


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**Fairchild Talks**  
 Retiring coach talks about his decision to retire after 35 years  
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# Constitution - Tribune

Serving Our Readers Since 1860 THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 1998 Three Sections-Thirty-Eight

## Living legend leaves

### Bob Fairchild announces retirement

*CHS football coach's decision a stunner*

By PAUL STURM  
 C-T City Editor

Bob Fairchild, Chillicothe High School's legendary football head coach, announced today (Thursday) that he is retiring from that post after 35 years.

Fairchild, in an exclusive interview with the *Constitution-Tribune* Wednesday before delivering his letter of resignation to school Superintendent Dr. Scott Huddleston, disclosed his decision to step down, ending an illustrious 38-year career which produced 307 victories.

"There was not any one reason why," he told the C-T during the lengthy visit. "I don't think a person leaves a job they've had for this many years just for one reason."

However, the 65-year-old state- and nationally-recognized coach said the toll of the years of devoted labor to the students of the school — he served for 22 years as assistant high school principal, as well as athletic director and football coach — and the weight of personal events in the past 18 months had finally caught up with him.

"You get tired eventually, even with something you really love," he related. "Fall is the best time of the year to enjoy life, I think, and (because of the demands of football coaching) I've never had a chance to do that for 50 years."

The loss of both his younger brother Rich to cancer recently and older brother Kenneth in April 1997 played roles in his decision to step down, he confirmed. Rich Fairchild was a longtime CHS basketball coach and was initially hired in 1974 on Bob's recommendation.

"That had something to do with it," he acknowledged. "That was hard to go through."

He also said being retired from day-to-day, year-round involvement with the students and not being able to carry out on his own initiative what he felt was needed for the football program's success after his retirement as a school administrator also factored into the decision, he said.

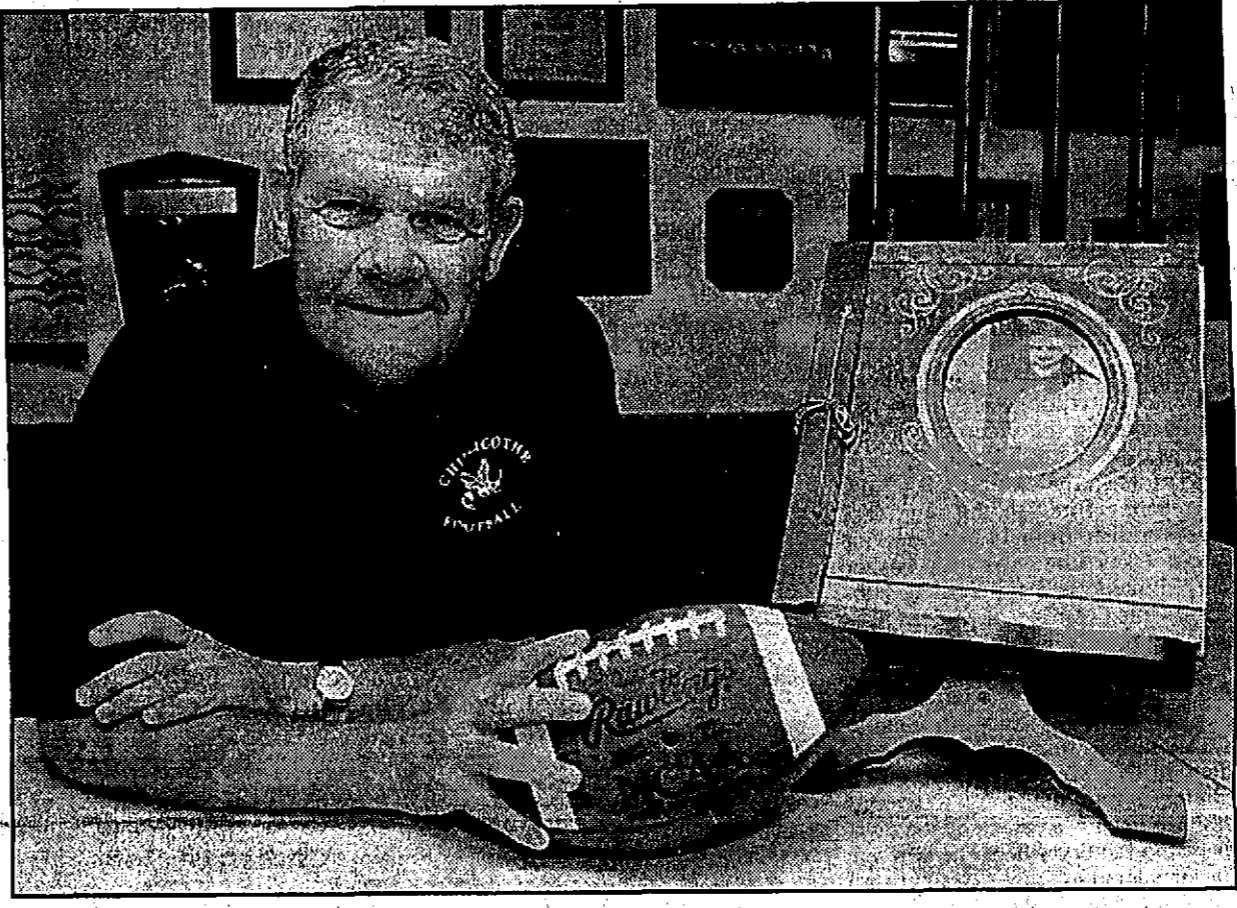
"Just about everybody I had talked to about this the past six weeks or so wanted me to stay on," he added. "My wife never asked me to quit, but whenever we'd talk about it, she wouldn't try to talk me out of it. She talked about the apprehension I would go through preparing for each year and whether I needed to keep going through that."

"But it was really my decision."

When did he actually make a final, irrevocable decision?

"When I walked into (the C-T) office and told you," he disclosed. "Until I actually came out and said it, it was probably still a case of 'I think this is what I'm going to do.'"

**School Officials Surprised**  
 Superintendent Huddleston, reached Wednesday afternoon for See FAIRCHILD, page 8



CHILICOTHE HIGH SCHOOL'S coaching legend, Bob Fairchild, has announced his retirement as head football coach and for the first time in his 35 years at CHS, will not be seen walking the grid-iron sidelines in the fall. Fairchild, who in his career racked-up 307 wins in 38 years of coaching football, was inducted in the Missouri High School Football Coaches' Association Hall of Fame in 1991. He took five Hornet teams to the state championships during his tenure. Chillicothe R-2 school officials report that Fairchild's successor will be picked from someone already on the R-2 staff. The decision is expected to be made within the next seven days. — C-T photo by Laura Riedel

**Man of impact at CHS — on, off field**

Fairchild has continued as football head coach since retiring as assistant principal and athletic director in 1991. He was assistant principal to college classmate Charles Meek from 1969 until Meek's retirement in 1990.

"He'll be missed," Meek told the C-T Wednesday night. "He was an institution."

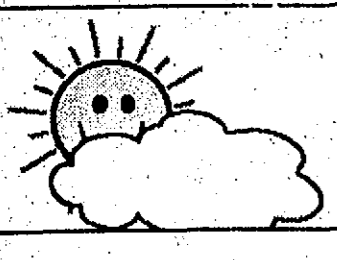
Meek says Fairchild had "a unique perspective" as a result of a sometimes difficult life as a youth on the needs of students who might be experiencing some type of trouble.

"On many occasions, I saw him work with kids struggling with their interest in attending class or with their studies, knowing how to reach them and help turn them around."

Meek added, "It was satisfying to see him come in as a young man, eager and excited, and, as he matured, develop more of a laid-back approach. But that competitive spirit was still there and I think still is."

See IMPACT, page 8

**Weather Outlook**



**Tonight** P. cloudy  
**Friday** High: 85  
 More weather details on page 5.

### Chillicothe's first citizens police academy to start in July

The Chillicothe Police Department is initiating its first Citizens Police Academy next month to heighten the community's understanding about the organization's operations.

The academy, open to any adult member of the community, starts in late July and applications are now being accepted. The course is a seven-week educational program to give participants a working knowledge about law enforcement, according to John Wolford, director of law enforcement services.

"There's always a great deal of interest in the law enforcement field and its functions," Wolford said. "The academy brings the community and police together."

The program consists of a series of classes and discussions taught by the local police department personnel and other members of the criminal justice community in the Chillicothe area.

Classes will be held at Grand River Technical School from 6:30 until 9 p.m. and will run seven consecutive Tuesdays ending in September. The final session will be a graduation dinner/buffet with a guest speaker and recognition for those completing the academy. One additional session may be offered on a Saturday morning during the seven-week period for introductory firearms training and police tactics, Wolford said.

Enrollment is limited to 20 members per session. The Chillicothe Police Department plans to hold at least one session per year. In addition, those selected to the academy will be asked to participate in at least one ride-along with an officer of the police department.

The classes will provide an in-depth view into various areas of law enforcement and the criminal justice system, Wolford said. It is an informative program that allows citizens the opportunity to learn about issues that affect their community and the law enforcement

officers in their area. Among topics that may be discussed are the philosophy, objectives and funding of the department, uniform patrol functions, traffic enforcement, radar and DWI enforcement, the 911 system, criminal law, court procedures, narcotics investigations, police tactics, police training, domestic violence, juvenile crime, and probation and parole.

Wolford, who became Chillicothe's first director of law enforcement services in January, said he has been involved in similar academy programs in Kinston, N.C., and

See ACADEMY, page 8

### Democrats blame GOP 'Freedom to Farm' for low farm prices

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republicans today defended their "Freedom to Farm" law, contending that poor trade policy and not the 1996 free-market reforms are to blame for low farm prices.

After meeting with 11 major farm organizations, GOP senators said they would press for passage of such issues as fast-track trade negotiating authority for the president, the \$18 billion International Monetary Fund bailout of faltering Asian economies and changes in U.S. economic sanctions that affect agriculture.

"It is important to keep 'Freedom to

Farm' on track," said Sen. Larry Craig, R-Idaho. "We cannot retreat into the past. The rest of the world is not going to retreat with us."

The session, which included Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., came a day after Democratic leaders blamed low commodity prices on the 1996 law that is gradually removing federal intervention in the farm economy. Democrats say government must step in to help farmers overcome the price declines.

Sen. Pat Roberts, R-Kan., said the Democrats were using agriculture's woes

for "partisanship in an even-numbered year" and that both sides would be better served to work toward real solutions instead of election-year bashing.

"I think we can get strong bipartisan support for some of these initiatives," Roberts said.

The Senate Republicans were heartened by news that House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., plans to schedule a vote on fast-track trade authority in the fall. They listed several other priority items, including reform of estate taxes, allowing loans on Freedom to Farm transition pay-

ments and special savings accounts for farmers.

Also today, the House Agriculture Committee planned to move a bill requiring congressional approval of economic sanctions that target agriculture and exempt wheat credits from sanctions imposed on Pakistan after its nuclear tests.

Democrats, however, said the GOP isn't focusing on the real problems.

The two Democratic leaders in Congress offered as evidence that wheat and corn prices that have been cut in half since the 1996 farm law was passed.

### Two die in travel-trailer fire

POLO, Mo. (AP) — Two people died in a travel-trailer fire early Wednesday, police said.

The fire occurred at the Hideaway Lake off Missouri 13 just south of Polo, about 40 miles northeast of Kansas City, the Caldwell County Sheriff's Department said.

The bodies of Kenny Harris, 63, and his wife Linda, 51, were found in the trailer. The couple lived in their trailer at the lake during summers and lived in Yuma, Ariz., in the winter.

Officials haven't determined the cause of the fire, which occurred about 4:50 a.m.

The fire is being investigated by the State Fire Marshal's Office, the sheriff's department said.

### Grand marshal named for Utica Fun Day celebration Saturday

Edgar Kohl not only has the distinction of being the oldest father residing in Utica, but this Saturday, he will have the honor of leading the parade for Utica Fun Day.

The community celebration starts with the parade at 1 p.m. with Kohl as the grand marshal. Kohl was the postmaster of Utica, being appointed in 1958. He retained that position for 22 years and retired in 1980. He has served on many organizational boards throughout the years. Some of those being the Mason's Utica City Council, Green Township Fire District and he has worked with the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program. He is deacon of the Utica Community Baptist Church.

Prizes will be awarded to parade entrants in areas of individual child,

float, motorized unit and most unique entry. All bikes, golf carts and all-terrain vehicles need to be decorated to enter the parade.

The parade starts a day-long celebration which includes a baby show, basketball, softball, crafts, various games and entertainment. Utica Fun Day returned last year after a 10-year absence.

A baby show will be at 3 p.m. with registration an hour before.

Also at 2 p.m. there will be 3-on-3 basketball played on the newly-installed 30-by-70 foot pad at the Utica ballpark. A co-ed softball game will be from 4 until 5 p.m.

Game booths include a basketball shoot, golf putting, coin toss, pop toss, dart game, balloon bags and a

See UTICA, page 8

### Lining-up for a Picnic

A barbecue was held Wednesday evening at Simpson Park for the 185 people attending the six-day, statewide agricultural conference. The 26th annual conference, Show Me Missouri Agriculture, was hosted by the National Farm and Ranch Business Management Education Association at Grand River Inn and concluded today.

The conference featured programs, presentations, and tours of area farms and businesses. Speakers who talked to the group included state agriculture director John Saunders, former state legislator Glen Kilpenstein; Abner Womack, co-director of the Food and Agricultural Policy Research Institute; and Dr. Freddie Barnard of Purdue University. — C-T Photo by Paul Sturm

