

North Oldham boys aim for success

BY WYATT SPARKMAN

North Oldham Boys Golf will enter its second season under Eric Teyesen as its head coach. 2024 showed a lot of promise from a veteran group, and Teyesen will look to continue that with a new rotation this year.

Teyesen's relationship building after a year with his players is something that is important to him, and it allows him to build the trust of his players, making the program stable.

"That's going to be a big factor going into this year," Teyesen said. "I think my expectation is that we want the kids to just improve. We want to see them kind of overcome adversity and work through the challenging times that golf presents us but kind of see them grow and mature through the golf game and see how they bounce back from challenging holes or a round or whatever. I want to kind of see that kind of growth, not necessarily always in their scores. Obviously, we want to see good scores but how they mature through their ability to bounce back from a tough hole and everything is kind of what I want to see this year."

Teyesen learned a lot coaching junior varsity at South Oldham. He was able to gain an understanding of what makes a program successful and allows it to flourish. One of the cornerstones to that is great communication.

"I want to have the ability to just give my advice to the players when they're on the course and course management but



PHOTO BY Wyatt Sparkman

North Oldham senior Graham Schmidt hits the ball out of the sand during the 2024 Oldham Cup.

being a good representation to North, seeing that I'm a school teacher there and what I want to do in the community and this high network with the parents and want to have a smooth running machine is what my goal is as a coach," Teyesen said. "...I think that's the role of a varsity golf coach. These kids all have the networks and the abilities to get golf swing coaches and all this stuff. I'm more there to facilitate and make things run as smooth as possible."

The highest placed

golfer that Teyesen will have back is senior Tyler Duncan. Duncan finished two strokes out of making it to state. Teyesen sees Duncan as his number one golfer going into the season and has seen him be really consistent throughout the summer.

"I think he can get to that next level this year, because I think that's the chip on his shoulder missing that by a stroke last year," Teyesen said. "I think that's his MO. He's the leader. He's the new Graham [Schmidt] of the team this year. He's going to be the guy that's

going to be the number one every tournament... We have quite a few underclassmen that are playing good golf, that will be varsity players, but it's just nice to have a solid number one."

Duncan is the one returning player from the regional team last year. Teyesen has seen sophomores Luke Meredith, Jack Ballerstedt and John Greer and freshman Greyson Willey really come into their own this offseason, and he's looking to them to fill in spots for the regional team this year.

"I think the biggest transition is what are they like after the nine holes," Teyesen said. "A lot of kids have played nine holes as a JV that shoot good but playing 18 is different than playing nine. It's just more game to play and more chances to fail and all that. I'm really curious to see what they're going to be doing with the 18 in tournament time. That'll be kind of fun to watch."

Teyesen's goal for this team this season is to qualify as a team for the 2A State Championship,

get at least one golfer to the final round of state and try to get the team as a whole to the state finals.

"I think my team goals are a stretch because of the competition that I'm understanding that we're facing, but they can also fall down to the individual as well," Teyesen said. "If we don't reach those teams, I would like to see more individuals qualifying for 2A, winning the regional and qualifying as an individual for state. That's kind of what I'm looking forward to is playing your best golf when it matters."

Lake Jericho future uncertain after Watershed votes to lease bids

BY JOE DURBIN
HENRY COUNTY LOCAL CORRESPONDENT

The future of Lake Jericho, a 137-acre recreational lake located at 1317 Lake Access Road in Smithfield, is uncertain following a unanimous vote made by the Little Kentucky River Watershed Conservancy District Board at their packed monthly meeting held Thursday.

Board member Butch Foree made the motion stating, "The Watershed will advertise and accept sealed bids containing proposals to lease the campground and park facilities at Lake Jericho."

Over 20 full-time and seasonal residents were in attendance at the July 17 meeting and shared their concern about the decision.

Board chairman Tommy Webb was asked by the residents during the meeting if they could get a commitment to be able to stay during the winter.

"I can't do that right now," Webb responded. "Because I don't know what, if we have a bid that suits the board, then I don't know what's that's going to be."

A resident asked if they could have them keep the same dynamic. "I can't have them do anything," Webb said. "Once we're out of it, they can do whatever they want."

"I came to the lake last summer from Arizona. When they closed for the winter, I went back to Arizona," Thomas Gillies said after the meeting. "I came back in March of this year and was able to get into a permanent spot. I have grandkids that live in Crestwood. My granddaughter spends a lot of time with me in my motorhome."

"The lake is a great place and most of the people are very nice. Actually, I have the best neighbors that I have ever had in my life. I really am not happy about what the board



Photo by Joe Durbin

Full-time resident Thomas Gillies and several neighbors share concern over the uncertain future of the Lake Jericho campgrounds during the Watershed board meeting on July 17.

has done.

"I really hope that someone will take over the lake who is for community. I've met some great people here."

Webb confirmed to the Local that there are eight to 10 full-time families, and 25 to 30 seasonal families currently living at the Lake Jericho campgrounds.

According to the Henry County Fiscal Court website, recurring flooding damaged thousands of acres of cropland in Henry and Trimble Coun-

ties in the late 1950's. The town of Sulphur was under water, and many homes were lost. The Henry and Trimble County Conservation Districts worked with the fiscal courts in each county and the Soil Conservation Service to develop a project that would protect residents in this watershed from future damage. A board of directors was formed from landowners within the watershed to oversee the activities.

Under SCS's PL-566 program, five flood retarding

structures were installed throughout the watershed for a cost of \$1.7 million. One of those structures, Lake Jericho, was also designed as a recreation area.

Lake Jericho opened for business on July 25, 1969, and over the years has offered fishing, camping, shelters with bathrooms, outdoor picnic areas with grills and hiking trails.

An advertisement will be placed in the Henry County Local and the Trimble Banner

between 21 and seven days before the bidding process ends.

The Little Kentucky River Watershed Conservancy District Board is comprised of eight members, five from Henry County and three from Trimble County. The board is a sub-district of the local county conservation districts and meets monthly to review activities occurring within the watershed. All meetings are open to the public.

The next meeting of the board will be Aug. 21 at 7 p.m.

LOOKS

FROM **PAGE B2**

remaining spots for regionals. Meredith is getting his younger

golfers into tournaments to help improve their tournament play and trying not to put them in a position to fail.

"I'm trying to put them in some tournaments that I know they can play and

compete in and get them ready for the end of the season, and it'll happen," Meredith said. "They're going to play a lot of different tournaments. Even some of the smaller tournaments, I'll put them in

to get them experience of 18 holes and be able to play. I have a lot of confidence that they'll do well at that."

For Meredith, his expectation for his juniors and seniors this

year is to play in the state tournament.

"I want them to come out of regionals. I want them to go to state, and I want them to compete," Meredith said. "I have some younger guys that

can shoot some pretty good scores at times. It's putting them in the right position to do that and just let them grow, because they're going to grow. They're really, really solid for their ages."