

AUGUST 22, 2023

SPORTS RECAP



Above: Joy Evans (25) and Deonna Cole (14) go high to block a Brighton shot.

By Ron Barry

VOLLEYBALL: Focus, focus, focus. Sometimes that's hard to do in sports when an opponent isn't putting up quite the battle you expected. But if you lose focus, sometimes you're asking for trouble.

Such was the case Tuesday night in Bill Emerson Memorial Gymnasium when Crockett County's volleyball team, expecting a heavyweight bout against a talented Brighton team, waltzed right past the visitors in the first two sets without breaking much of a sweat.

But after holding Brighton to a single-digit score in the second-set victory, the Lady Cavaliers took the floor for set three amidst a lot of joking and laughter. It wasn't long before they were down 14-6, and though they rallied at the end, they never quite dug of the hole, dropping the game 25-22 to force a fourth set.

Fortunately for Crockett, Coach Bobby Rawson knows when (and how) to make his points known to his players, and he managed to snap them back into focus mode. Once they did, game four was no contest as Brennan Morris, Brooklyn Haynes, and Lynden Cole contributed good service runs and the hosts quickly built an insurmountable lead in clinching the match 3-1 and pushing their season record to 8-2 heading into a district clash Thursday at Dyersburg.

Right: Brooklyn Haynes (1) is celebrated by Lynden Cole (10), Katherine West (3), Bailey Ann Whitby (13), and Brennan Morris (11) after serving an ace.



Above: Kinleigh Lamb (5) goes to the floor to keep a ball in play for teammates Deonna Cole, Brooklyn Haynes, and Katherine West.

For the second straight night, the Lady Cavs received solid front-line play from Katherine West, Joy Evans, Sarah Cherry, and Deonna Cole, along with solid blocking by Bailey Ann Whitby. Haynes, Lynden Cole, and Kinleigh Lamb each made a number of key digs from the backcourt in helping propel Crockett to the triumph.



Above: Lynden Cole is all smiles after the Lady Cavs turned things around in set four vs. Brighton.



Left: Rebecca Waddey races Munford's captain for possession.

GIRLS SOCCER: Playing in near-100-degree heat against a visiting Munford team that controlled the ball almost the entire game, Crockett County allowed only one goal to the relentless Cougars, but that solitary second-half tally held up as Brighton escaped with the 1-0 triumph.

Crockett goaltender Hannah Johnson was a beehive of activity, making diving saves, seeing other Munford shots clank off the posts, and rushing forward to eliminate breakaway shots before they could be taken. But the Cougars managed to slip one through in the final 40-minute period as the Lady Cavs fell to 1-1-1 for the season. Crockett had a Monday game at Gibson County canceled because of the heat.

Coach Stan Jamscek's squad is next scheduled to play at Jackson North Side Thursday evening, barring another heat-related cancellation.



Above: Avery Thornton (13) moves the ball upfield to try to start a Lady Cav attack.



Above: Crystal Martinez (1) battles for the ball.

Left: Crockett goaltender Hannah Johnson makes a diving save on a first-half Munford breakaway.