

# THURSDAY SPORTS RECAP

## AUGUST 31ST



**Above:** Braniya Green (22) tallied her first goal of the season against the Lady Choctaws.

### Crockett Splits Matches with Dyer County

By Ron Barry

Thursday's Crockett County sports action found the girls soccer team winning its opening district game at Dyer County, the volleyball team suffering its first district loss while hosting Dyer County, and the middle school softball team blasting Martin 9-1 in its home opener.

**GIRLS SOCCER** – Kristin Lewis sandwiched two goals around one by Braniya Green as Crockett's Lady Cavaliers improved to 4-1-1 by winning its district opener on the road at Dyer County in Newbern.

Defenders Casey Thornton and Dani Rios contributed assists to the offensive cause and goaltender Hannah Johnson recorded her third consecutive clean sheet as Coach Stan Jamscek's club won its third straight contest.

The Lady Cavs are off until a September 7 home matchup with district foe Obion County Central.



**Above:** Senior Kristin Lewis (9) scored a pair of goals to pace Crockett's attack at Dyer County.

**"VOLLEYBALL** – The first set was all-out war. Sets 2-4 were more like collateral damage.

After becoming the first AA team all season to capture a set from defending district champion Dyer County, Coach Bobby Rawson's Lady Cavaliers dropped the next three to suffer their first league defeat after a 4-0 start.

Crockett won the first set 26-24 in an epic battle in which the lead changed hands several times and the Lady Cavs received exceptional front line play from Joy Evans and Deonna Cole.

It went quickly downhill from there, however, as the Lady Choctaws showed why they'll be favored to repeat again at district tournament time. Junior hitters Ava Huke and Teagan Reed stepped up after Set 1 and made the rest of the evening fairly miserable for Crockett, taking the final three sets 25-19, 25-12, and 25-16.

While he didn't think his team played poorly, Rawson didn't think it was hitting on all cylinders either.

"We have to get stronger net play and our passing needs to improve if we're going to challenge Dyer County," he said. "Our mistakes are magnified when we play a team as good as that. I thought our back line play was fairly solid, but we just kept giving Dyer County too many chances to put points away."

The Lady Cavs are now 14-5 overall and will next play September 5 in a home match with Milan.

**Below:** Dyer County players appear to be in stunned disbelief after Crockett won the first set in Thursday night's volleyball match 26-24. Jumping for joy on the Lady Cav side are Brennan Morris (11), Joy Evans (25), Deonna Cole (14), Kinleigh Lamb (5), and Lynden Cole (10).







**Left:** Brooklyn Haynes (1) prepares to smash a shot from the back line as Sarah Cherry (foreground) and Lynden Cole (10) watch, while Brennan Morris (11) hopes the ball goes over her head.



**Right:** Brennan Morris (11) returns a ball over her shoulders as teammate Kinleigh Lamb (5) looks on.



**Left:** Joy Evans (25) hammers a kill in the first set of Thursday's match with Dyer County.



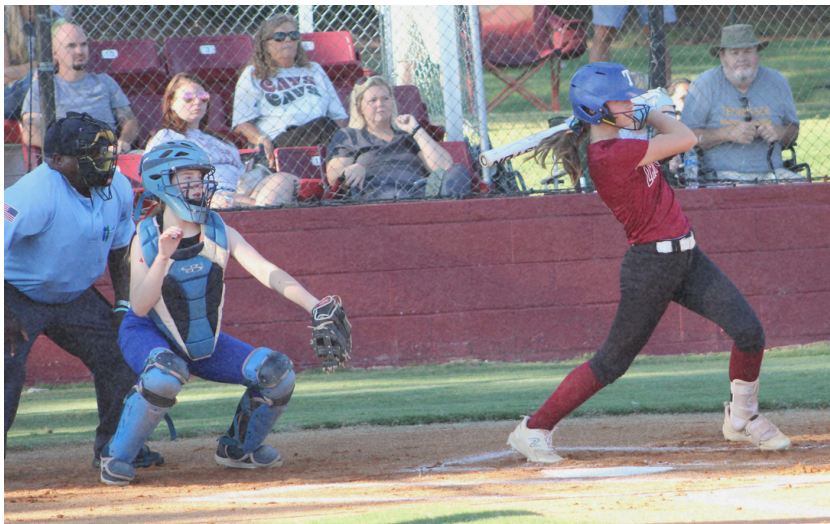
**MIDDLE SCHOOL SOFTBALL** – Wesley Thornton is on some kind of a run.

Crockett's shortstop went 3-for-3 from her leadoff spot and has now collected a hit in each of her last 10 official plate appearances to lead the Lady Cav middle schoolers past visiting Martin 9-1.

Just the day before, Thornton was 4-for-4, scored three times, and drove in two as Crockett squashed South Gibson County 15-1. In that contest, Madison Stitts drove in 5 runs with three hits and center fielder Fallon Beaird scored three times in a 3-for-3 hitting performance.

Emmalynn Medlin provided the pitching power in that one, holding the Lady Hornets to two hits and a run over four innings.

Thursday it was the hurling of Maddie Haynes, who limited Martin to four safeties while striking out five without issuing a walk. The victory pushed Crockett's season record to 7-2, with its next scheduled game a September 7 rematch at home with South Gibson.



**Above:** Crockett leadoff hitter Wesley Thornton collects the first of her three hits Thursday, giving her safeties in 10 consecutive official at-bats over her past three games.



**Right:** Ella Hayes beats out a base hit in the second inning of Crockett's win Thursday.



**Above:** Pitcher Maddie Haynes makes a throw to first after fielding a grounder as third baseman Madison Stitts backs up the play.

**Right:** Haley Leforgee (12) makes a backhand snare of a line drive as shortstop Wesley Thornton (left) and outfielder Jentry Maddox (center) follow its flight.

