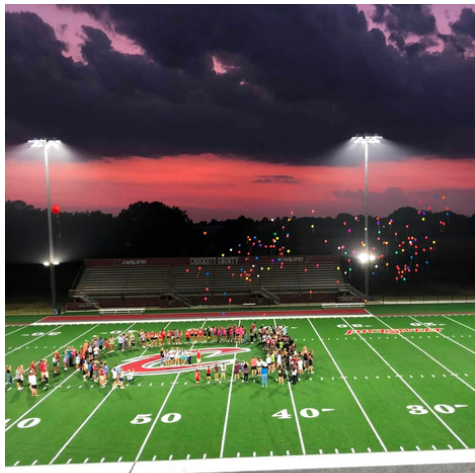


PARADE SETS TONE FOR HOMECOMING CLASH WITH OBION



Above: A balloon release in memory of Reese Barker, against a beautiful sunset sky, was a beautiful reminder to #LiveLikeReese.



Above: Football players were there as well.

By Ron Barry

Some amazingly creative “kids” go to Crockett County High School. The evidence was proudly displayed Thursday night at the annual Homecoming Parade, where the four class floats were full of artistic flair, function, and – most importantly – fun.

The freshmen took an agricultural turn with a “Wrangle the Rebels” theme, the Rebels being the Obion County Central football team that Crockett will host tonight at 7 p.m. The sophomores rollicked down the street with “Rock the Rebels,” sporting a live guitarist and look-alikes for Slash of Guns’n’Roses and several of the KISS crew.

The juniors – who constructed an impressive pirate ship aboard their flatbed, complete with two levels in the front and a rudder wheel in the back – chose “Wreck the Rebels.” The wizened seniors went with a Super Mario approach to express their intent to “Super Smash the Rebels.”

So... given the choice of wrangling, rocking, wrecking, or super-smashing the Rebels, what would football coach Kevin Ward select.

Probably none of the above at this point. He’s more concerned with STOPPING the Rebels.

Obion County will come into this matchup on a two-game losing streak, but those two games were against two of West Tennessee’s best teams: Haywood and Dresden. The Rebels actually hung 57 points on the Tomcats, but gave up 64 in one of the largest offensive onslaughts in recent memory. Against the Lions of Dresden, Obion fell 28-14.

Before those games, the Rebels had opened their season with wins over Lake County 42-14, Westview 14-13, Jackson North Side 35-25, and Fulton County (KY) 49-0. So they definitely pack some offensive punch.

“They have a really good quarterback,” Ward said Thursday evening before the parade. “They can definitely put points on the board. But they’ve given up some too, so we’ll have to be smart with the football and see what happens.” If the Cavaliers can be as smart with their plays as their fellow students were with their float designs, this Homecoming Week will go down as one to remember. The parade is always a highlight in Alamo, but this year’s classes outdid themselves with their creativity and colorful execution of their themes (as the photos that follow this article will show).

Following a route down Park Street to Bells Street and then to the court square, participants tossed candy to kids and just generally had a good time. Mixed among several emergency and first responder vehicles were the middle school cheerleaders, the high school band, homecoming court representatives, reading ambassadors from Save the Children handing out free books, the Crockett football team, and the class floats.

Once the sophomore float hit the main drag, the joint started jumping. With the students loudly singing “I Love Rock and Roll” by Joan Jett and the Blackhearts, with live guitar and a smoke machine, they didn’t miss a beat. When the juniors came through with their pirate ship, the crowd was buzzing about the intricate construction strong enough to hold the “pirates” who were on the upper level. The seniors followed with their giant super-smasher, shooting bubbles all around in addition to partying loudly as they rolled toward the square.

The night capped off with the annual class PowderPuff Football games at Cavalier Stadium, which included a touching balloon release in honor of the memory of Reese Barker, who continues to positively impact this community as #LiveLikeReese remains as the new bar for many associated with the Crockett County School District.



Above: Charity Greenhill, one of the senior homecoming court representatives, already has a fan club president.

Below: Cassie Pearson, one of the district's elementary reading ambassadors, was racing to give away books provided by Save the Children.



Below: Seniors were smiling all the way to the back of the float.



Above: Crockett's band was there to get some music flowing.

Below: The middle school cheerleaders were there to help get the crowd revved up.



Left: The sophs had the square rockin'.

Below: There were tiny cheerleaders too.



Above: The colors were amazing on all the float backs.



Above: The crowd was plenty revved by the time the sophomores cranked up "I Love Rock and Roll."



Above: Brooklyn Haynes prepares her five State Tournament serve.

Right: After a kill, Joy appears to be answering the question, "Who just did that?"



Above: Ready to super-smash it: the senior class stepped up.



Above: The juniors amazed the crowd with their pirate ship.

Below: The freshmen class float, while relatively calmer than the others due to its agricultural theme, still had some folks who were ready to wrangle.

