

# MIDDLE SCHOOL BOYS END SEASON IN MURFREESBORO TOURNAMENT



**Above:** Max Woods was Crockett's leading scorer with eight in its season-ending game in Murfreesboro.

In the end, it was Baird's overall balance that made the difference. Three Baird players finished in double figures in the scoring column, and none of its members netted more than five points in any single quarter. The 26-11 second-half run was characterized by a few points from almost all the regular Baird rotation.

Crockett actually led after the first period, 11-9, and Baird prevailed in the second quarter by a single basket, 12-10. But the halftime tie was broken with a third-quarter burst of 11-4 for the Lebanon squad, which then put the game away in the fourth stanza with a 15-7 edge.

Max Woods was the Cavs' top scorer in the contest with eight points. Daniel Morgan, who kept Crockett in position to be tied at the half by tossing in a pair of triples, was next with six points. Carson Webb added five and Carter Wren and George Randall contributed four apiece.

Elliott Greer and Kaden Young sparked Baird with 11 points each, one more than Romel Anderson. Each team made four three-pointers in the game.

"I will always try my best to expose our players to new things outside the norm," Gadlen said. "The goal is to win a state championship at the high school level in all sports, and at the middle school level we want to prepare them for that. It's bigger than basketball. Wins and losses come, but we want them to win and be successful in life, and that's all that matters."

Crockett's Lady Cavs will be competing in the girls side of the same tournament next weekend. They'll face Community Middle School at 4:30 Saturday at Middle Tennessee Christian School in Murfreesboro.

## Saturday, Jan. 13 at Murfreesboro James C. Haile State Tournament

**CC Boys (32):** Max Woods 8, Daniel Morgan 6, Carson Webb 5, George Randall 4, Carter Wren 4, Chance Johnson 3, Ittai Fry 2, Cason Reynolds 0, Jett Johnson 0, Will Dodds 0, DJ Forrest 0, Taby Lewis 0, Trevor Willis 0, Davis Porter 0, **Team: 11 6-14 32. 3-Ptrs:** Morgan 2, C. Johnson 1, Randall 1. **Record: 7-14.**

**Walter J. Baird (47):** Elliott Greer 11, Kaden Young 11, Romel Anderson 10, Max Anglin 5, Tyler Auth 3, D. Adams 3, Chad Lanning 2, Mar Anglin 2, **Team: 21 1-2 47. 3-Ptrs:** Greer 1, Max Anglin 1, Adams 1, Young 1.

## By Ron Barry

After battling the more local team to a 21-21 first-half deadlock, the Crockett County Middle School boys experienced a scoring drought the rest of the way as Walter J. Baird Middle School of Lebanon outlasted the Cavaliers 47-32 in the opening round of the James C. Haile State Basketball Tournament in Murfreesboro Saturday.

The Lebanon team, whose school is just 25 miles from Murfreesboro, toughened up its defense and rebounding over the final two quarters in bringing Crockett's hoops year to its conclusion with a 7-14 record.

"It was a tough loss to end our season," said Coach Tyler Gadlen. "I hate the outcome, but we gave ourselves a chance to win in the biggest tournament we've ever been to against a tough team. We've had our ups and downs this season, but I am proud of this team."



**Above:** Daniel Morgan tossed in a couple of three-pointers in the second quarter to help CCMS gain a 21-21 halftime tie with Walter J. Baird Middle School of Lebanon at the Haile State Tournament in Murfreesboro.