

LADY CAVS MUCH MORE COMPETITIVE, BUT ARLINGTON SOFTBALL DOWNS CROCKETT AGAIN



Above: First baseman Jayden Maddox had two hits and a run batted in Friday for the Lady Cavs, who travel to Covington Monday for their next game. (Photo by Ron Barry)

By Ron Barry

At least the game was much more competitive this time.

Back on March 20 – before a Lady Cavalier even had a chance to chew on a sunflower seed – the Arlington Lady Tigers had hung a sixspot on Crockett County in the top of the first inning on their way to a 15-6 pounding. Arlington came out swinging the bats early and often, with Kendall Wilkie leading the charge with two doubles and a triple.

Friday evening in Arlington was the rematch, and while the Lady Tigers again struck early – with a four-run first – they didn't get much after that, but still hung on to defeat the Lady Cavs 5-2.

Wilkie hammered a home run this time in that big first inning, when Arlington collected three of its hits. But Crockett pitcher Anna Stallings limited them to just three more over the final five frames, as Coach David Barker's squad put up a respectable battle against the powerful group from the Memphis region, which now boasts a 19-3 season record.

The Lady Cavs actually outit Arlington for the game, accumulating nine safeties. But Lady Tiger pitcher Brittanie Layton kept them scattered enough that Crockett managed just single runs in two of the middle innings.

Piper White's double and a two-out single by Lynden Cole produced the first Lady Cav tally in the top of the third, cutting Arlington's lead to 4-1. Crockett made it 4-2 in the fourth when Brooklyn Haynes was hit by a pitch and moved all the way to third when Sadie Hoover's bunt was misplayed for an error, although Hoover was thrown out at second. Jayden Maddox singled Haynes home, and the Lady Cavs loaded the bases when Karly Pigue singled and White drew a walk, but Layton escaped the jam with a strikeout. Arlington stretched the margin to its final 5-2 in the fifth when Addie Graham tripled and scored on a groundout.

Crockett had two baserunners in the sixth on singles by Madison Solis and Maddox, but couldn't take advantage. Two more Lady Cavs reached in the seventh, but Layton again wriggled out of trouble.

White and Maddox each collected two hits for Crockett, with Maddox and Cole adding an RBI apiece. Graham went 3-for-3 and scored twice to spark the Lady Tigers.

Crockett is now 14-6-1 for the season and travels to Covington Monday at 5:00 for its next outing before returning home Tuesday for a big district game with Dyersburg

Below: Shortstop Piper White went 2-for-3 with a walk and a run scored in Crockett's 5-2 loss to powerful Arlington Friday evening. (Photo by Ron Barry)

