

STALLINGS GEM HELPS LADY CAV SOFTBALLERS AVENGE DEFEAT; SOCCER TEAM ROLLS ON



Above: Capping the Lady Cavs' huge four-run rally in the bottom of the fifth was a two-run single by Sadie Hoover, who always seems to be smiling when she plays. (Photo by Ron Barry)

By Ron Barry

Back on March 26, Crockett County's softball team was leading Dyer County 2-0 in Newbern heading into the bottom of the seventh inning. After the leadoff girl for the Lady Choctaws was retired for the first out... BAM! Double. Double. Home run. Game over - Dyer wins.

That was probably the most painful defeat Coach David Barker's Lady Cavs have suffered this season. So on Tuesday evening in Alamo, with four innings in the books in the rematch between the two district foes, you could excuse the locals for feeling a little nervous after four innings were in the books - with Crockett again leading 2-0.

Anna Stallings was the Lady Cav pitcher in that first game, when her cruising experience was suddenly turned into the Titanic. Anna Stallings was the pitcher again in the rematch - and this time, she wasn't about to let history repeat itself.

So after getting out of a two-baserunner jam in the top of the fifth, nobody was happier to see a crooked number go up on the Crockett scoreboard in the bottom of the fifth.

That's when the Lady Cavs muscled up for a four-run rally that featured a run-scoring triple by Piper White, an RBI double by Destiny Foster, and - after two walks and the recording of the inning's second out - a ginormous line-drive, two-run single by Sadie Hoover which pushed the Crockett advantage to 6-0.

And when Stallings zipped through the final two frames without a hitch, the Lady Cavs had their revenge - and a big district win - in the form of a 6-0 triumph. As it turned out, all the scoring Crockett actually needed came in the bottom of the first inning, when senior catcher Lynden Cole - on a night when a full moon was rising out beyond the outfield fence - almost hit it with her ninth home run of the season, a majestic blast well beyond the left-field barrier.

In the bottom of the second, senior outfielder Brooklyn Haynes just missed another four-bagger when her rope to left-center clanked off the fence just a foot from going out, and the Lady Cavs had served notice that they'd be swinging the bats in this encounter. While Haynes was eventually left stranded on third, Crockett struck for its second tally in its half of the third when White, Cole, and Kinleigh Lamb strung a series of singles together.

After the four-run uprising in the fifth, the scoring was over. Crockett improved to 18-10-1 for the season, Dyer County dropped to 12-8, and the Lady Cavs stood at 5-3 in district play.

Stallings threw seven shutout frames, allowing just four hits and three walks while fanning seven Lady Choctaws. Cole and White each had two hits for the winners, and Hoover had the two big RBIs. No Dyer County player had more than one safety, and none managed an extra-base hit.

Crockett returns to action Thursday in a 5:00 home matchup with Lexington.

SOCCER: Another day, another victim.

Crockett's juggernaut soccer team hammered Ripley 9-1 Tuesday evening, with Luke Carter netting four goals for the third time this season and Christopher Cerda contributing a goal and three assists. It was Cerda's second straight match with three assists.

The Cavs improved to 11-0 on the season as four other players also scored one goal apiece: Eddy De La Rosa, Braulio Marquez, and two first-timers - Angel Martinez and Mason Wood. Three Crockett players recorded their first assists of the spring: Leo Arreola, Camden Martin, and Ossi Sanchez.

Coach Stan Jamscek's club got on the scoreboard within the game's first 40 seconds, and it was smooth sailing from there. Ripley's only goal came on a deflection from a penalty kick that was initially stopped by Cav goalie Noah Mayfield.

Crockett will begin play in the annual Best of the West event held at the University School of Jackson on Thursday. The Cavs will play the host Bruins on Thursday and then duel with Trinity Christian Academy on Friday.

Through their 11 victories this season, here are the statistical totals for Crockett players:

GOALS - Luke Carter 23, Christopher Cerda 12, Edgar Juarez 10, Eddy De La Rosa 7, Braulio Marquez 5, Angel Garcia 3, Leo Arreola 2, Angel Martinez 1, Jathen Young 1, Mason Wood 1;

ASSISTS - Edgar Juarez 12, Christopher Cerda 9, Braulio Marquez 7, Luke Carter 5, Angel Garcia 4, Eddy De La Rosa 4, Adrian Calderon 1, Santiago Santos 1, Leo Arreola 1, Eduardo Galvez 1, Camden Martin 1, Ossi Sanchez 1, Noah Mayfield 1.

BASEBALL: One day after being shut out over the final six innings of a 5-3 loss to South Gibson by sophomore fireballer Cade Allen, Crockett's baseball squad had it done to them for seven full frames by the Hornets' Jack Bradberry as SGC posted a 4-0 win in Alamo Tuesday evening.

Crockett managed just five hits - one single each by Brady Fronabarger, Reed Ingram, Callan Willis, Cade Freeman, and Landon Wicker - as Bradberry went the distance for the visitors, striking out six without issuing a walk.

Bradberry's effort caused Coach Brent Fronabarger's club to waste a solid hurling effort from its own Grayson Lambert, who yielded just one earned run, four hits, and a walk over six innings, fanning five Hornets in the process.

But an infield error and an ensuing walk allowed SGC to produce a two-run rally in the third that would be all the Hornets needed. A Tatum Crosser single plated the first run and a Landon Davis groundout created the second. South Gibson added a run in the fifth on a two-out hit batsman and a double by Gage Nesbitt. The Hornets closed the scoring when Tommy Baker tagged Cav reliever Joseph Gould for a solo homer in the seventh.

South Gibson improved to 15-5 with the victory, while Crockett dropped to 10-9. The Cavs will host Chester County Wednesday afternoon.



Above: As the moon rises beyond the center-field fence, Crockett's Hannah Carter prepares for a pitch in the final inning of the Lady Cavs' 6-0 conquest of Dyer County as the scoreboard tells the story. (Photo by Ron Barry)



Above: Senior catcher Lynden Cole, here perfectly framing a pitch for a first-inning strike, got the scoring started for the Lady Cavs with her ninth home run of the season in the bottom of the frame. (Photo by Ron Barry)



Left: In the third inning, this single by Kinleigh Lamb put Crockett up 2-0 ... (Photo by Ron Barry)

Below: Crockett's Brooklyn Haynes eyes Dyer County pitcher Maddie Wilkerson (foreground) while standing on third base after slamming a ball off the fence in left-center, missing a home run by a foot. (Photo by Ron Barry)



Below: ... as it chased home Piper White (11), who easily beat the throw from left field. White later tripled home a run in a four-run uprising in the fifth. (Photo by Ron Barry)

Right: But the biggest Crockett performance of the night came from pitcher Anna Stallings, seen here over the left shoulder of first baseman Jayden Maddox trying to psyche herself up to finish Dyer County off in the seventh. (Photo by Ron Barry)



Above: Luke Carter slips past the Ripley defense as he prepares to boot his fourth goal of the night into the net. It was the third four-goal game that Carter has posted this season as Crockett improved to 11-0. (Photo by Ron Barry)



Above: Following Eddy De La Rosa's goal late in the game against Ripley, Crockett's Angel Garcia carried him all the way back to midfield while Edgar Juarez (right) looks back to see if an enterprising photographer was catching it. (Photo by Ron Barry)



Left: Christopher Cerda (10), who always seems to know where his teammates are, races toward the Ripley goal ready to dish out one of the three assists he had for the second straight night. (Photo by Ron Barry)



Above: Camden Martin recorded his first assist of the season in the 9-1 rout of Ripley's Tigers, as did Leo Arreola and Ossi Sanchez. (Photo by Ron Barry)

Right: Cav second baseman Landon Wicker was one of five Crockett players to manage a hit off of South Gibson's Jack Bradberry, but the hosts could never string anything together to avoid the shutout. (Photo by Ron Barry)



Left: There weren't many highlights for Crockett baseballers in their 4-0 loss to South Gibson, but one was the pitching effort of Grayson Lambert, who yielded just one earned run in six innings of work. (Photo by Ron Barry)