

VOLLEYBALLERS DROP SOUTH GIBSON; GOLF TEAM SHINES AT PICKWICK; LADY CAV SOCCER ROLLS



Above: Senior setter Sadie Hoover is all smiles as the Lady Cavs head into the third set having won the first two handily. (Photo by Ron Barry)



Above: The joy on the face of Lydia Waddey (center) says it all after she set up a monstrous 30-yard shot by her younger sister Rebecka (right), who turns to celebrate the achievement while Stephanie Joyner (8) nods her approval. The shot was the highlight of Crockett's 4-0 win at Covington Tuesday night. (Photo by and courtesy of Robin Waddey)

By Ron Barry

The apparent athletic theme for August in West Tennessee is non-operating scoreboards.

Just days after the Crockett County football team opened its season struggling through a game at Jackson North Side without ever knowing the time situation, the Lady Cavalier volleyball squad worked its way through a three-set sweep at South Gibson County with a small portable scoreboard set on the scorer's table because the large ones in the gymnasium weren't working.

VOLLEYBALL: Coach Andrew Laman's volleyballers overcame the obstacle with a largely sharp performance Tuesday night, besting the Lady Hornets in straight sets 25-10, 25-20, and 25-23 after winning three out of five matches at the prestigious Memphis Spartan Tournament over the weekend.

"We played well for the most part," Laman said. "We had some strong hits to win most of our points. When you win the first set easily, sometimes it's hard to maintain your focus to close out the rest of the match. We've come out with our foot on the gas, just like we did in Memphis, but then somewhere along the line we take our foot off the pedal.

Once you let up, sometimes it's hard to get on that gas pedal again. We've got to learn how to sustain our attack."

Laman noted that he thought senior hitter Kylee Garrett played one of her best matches, scoring several points at the net, and he also thought his other main rotation hitters – Katherine West, Dee Cole, Keeton Holyfield, Jordyn Maddox, and Maddie Collins – all contributed strong hits at various times. Piper White, Sadie Hoover, Brennan Morris, and Halle Holyfield were the main contributors in the backcourt as the Lady Cavaliers improved their record to 7-2. In Memphis, they scored wins over First Assembly Christian School (FACS), Munford, and Germantown, while dropping matches to Center Hill of Olive Branch (MS) and Lawrence County. Crockett hosts Westview Thursday night.

GOLF: In his initial season as golf coach last year, Chris Eubanks expected rough going. The previous Crockett squad – all seniors – had been together throughout their high school careers, leaving no room for virtually anyone else to gain experience. The Cavs' most dependable player was freshman Jack Shaver, but he was learning on the fly.

This season, Shaver has the most experience, but his supporting cast – while young for the most part – is stronger. And the Cavs proved that point Monday at the Hardin County Invitational at Pickwick Landing near Savannah, tightly bunching their scores to finish seventh out of a field of 19 teams.

Shaver led the way with an 80 over the 18-hole course (good for 14th place overall), while George Randall shot an 82, Tyler Rathbun an 83, and Max Woods an 88. The 333 total trailed only Tullahoma (308), South Gibson County (317), Collierville (318), Briarcrest (319), Bolivar (321), and Bartlett (327). The Cavs finished ahead of Scotts Hill (341), McNairy Central (343), Lawrence County (347), Lexington (357), Covington (384), Hardin County (386), Brighton (393), Adamsville (399), Fayette Academy (417), Riverside (429), and Dyer County and Perry County (only three players each).

Crockett's female duo of Rachel Crossnoe (90) and Adalynn Dunn (111) combined for a score of 201, placing in a tie for sixth among 16 schools.

The Lady Cavs trailed Bartlett (174), Briarcrest (182), Perry County (184), Scotts Hill (193), and Riverside (194), and tied Dyer County (201), while finishing ahead of Lexington (206), Brighton (217), Fayette Academy (234), Hardin County (245), Covington (248), McNairy Central, Adamsville, Bolivar, and Tullahoma (only one player apiece). Crossnoe's score of 90 was good for seventh place individually.

The golf team plays at Jackson's Woodland Hills Golf Club Thursday afternoon against South Side.

GIRLS SOCCER: Coach Carli Branson's Lady Cavaliers survived 96-degree temperatures to post an impressive 4-0 triumph at Covington Thursday evening, getting goals from four different players and two assists from senior Lydia Waddey.

One of Waddey's assists set up her younger sister Rebecca, who drilled in a shot from 30 yards out. Lydia Waddey also assisted on the game's first goal by Emme Grace Martin. Dani Rios tallied Crockett's second goal on a penalty kick, following a Covington handball infraction in the box.

Rebecca Waddey's long boot made it 3-0, and Braniya Green capped the scoring after knifing through several Lady Charger players on her own. Lady Cav goalkeeper Amaria Walker made six saves for the clean sheet and displayed much improved punting as she continues to learn the game in her first year.

"This was our first true hard-fought game," Branson said. "We maintained possession for a majority of the game and kept high pressure throughout."

CCMS SOFTBALL: Emilee Chandler hit an inside-the-park home run and a triple, drove in three runs, and pitched a one-hit shutout over three innings as Crockett's Middle School mercy-ruled the Lady Eagles MS on Tuesday evening. Haley Leforgee added a single, double, and two RBIs for the winners, who improved their record to 5-3.

Marissa Hazelwood also doubled and drove in two runs for Coach Duke Kail's Lady Cavs, who have a rematch with the Lady Eagles on Thursday. Caroline Neal was 1-for-1 with a walk and a run driven in for Crockett as well.

CCMS FOOTBALL: Coach Jerry Williams and his Crockett Middle School footballers recorded their third straight win with a 48-0 shellacking of Gibson County on Tuesday evening at Cavalier Stadium.

Below: Crockett's libero Piper White delivers a pass to the front line for a kill in Tuesday night's 3-0 win at South Gibson. (Photo by Ron Barry)



Below: Junior hitter Dee Cole blasts a kill shot over a block attempt by South Gibson to score another Lady Cav point. Crockett's Halle Holyfield, Brennan Morris, and Maddie Collins are in the foreground. (Photo by Ron Barry)



Below: Katherine West goes high to tap a placement shot to an open area in the Lady Hornet court. West had a number of hard kills in the match as well. Lakyn Forsythe (34) watches her execute the shot. (Photo by Ron Barry)



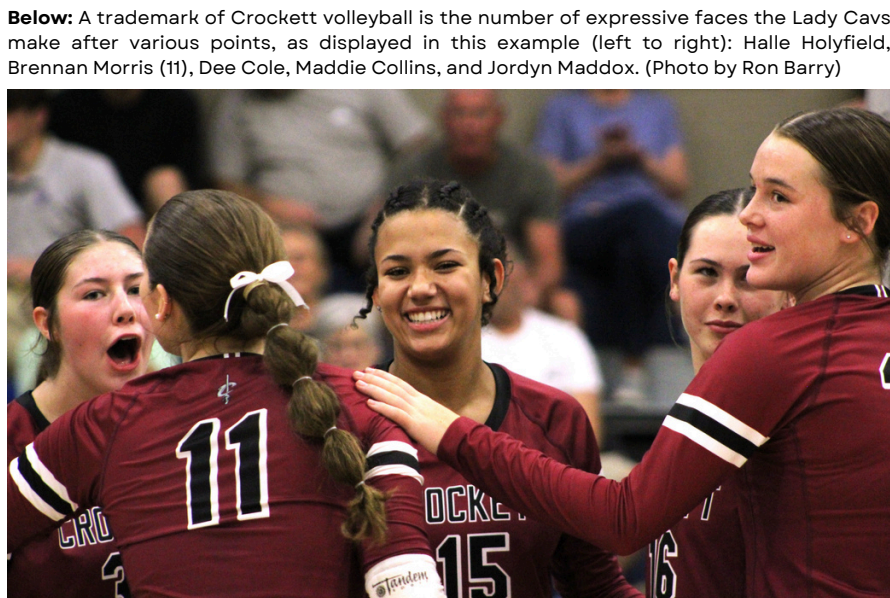
Above: Lily Riley maneuvers under a descending ball in preparation for a set to a teammate in Tuesday night's win over South Gibson. (Photo by Ron Barry)



Right: Jiorgia Elmore prepares to belt a serve in the third set victory for the Lady Cavs. (Photo by Ron Barry)



Above: Keeton Holyfield, with her back to the net, saves a point by hooking it back over the net to keep the rally alive. (Photo by Ron Barry)



Below: A trademark of Crockett volleyball is the number of expressive faces the Lady Cavs make after various points, as displayed in this example (left to right): Halle Holyfield, Brennan Morris (11), Dee Cole, Maddie Collins, and Jordyn Maddox. (Photo by Ron Barry)



Above: Kylee Garrett, who played one of the best matches of her career, winds up for a slam over the South Gibson defense ... (Photo by Ron Barry)

Below: ... and then displays her mock "monster" side at Sadie Hoover (1) before resuming the normal smile she has while she plays. (Photo by Ron Barry)



Left: Emilee Chandler knocked in three runs with a triple and an inside-the-park homer and also pitched a one-hit shutout as CCMS defeated the Lady Eagles 12-0 Tuesday evening. (Photo by Ron Barry)

Below: Emme Grace Martin (left), racing for the ball here in a recent game, scored the Lady Cavs' first goal Tuesday night against Covington on a Lydia Waddey assist. (Photo by Ron Barry)



Left: Jack Shaver (teeing off) and George Randall (looking on) were Crockett's top two scorers in the Hardin County Invitational at Pickwick Landing, shooting 80 and 82, respectively. The Cavs finished seventh out of 19 teams in the field. (Photo by Ron Barry)