

# CAVALIER BALLERS GAIN DISTRICT DOUBLEHEADER SPLIT AT OBION COUNTY



**Above:** Cortland Reddick gave Crockett several solid minutes as the Cavs made their second-half comeback before the Rebels regained their shooting touch in the fading minutes. (Photo by Ron Barry)

## By Ron Barry

As exciting as sports can be, sometimes there's a night when "nondescript" is the most appropriate adjective.

Such was the case in Troy Tuesday night, when the Crockett County basketball teams took on host Obion County in a district twin bill. The girls game was basically over after the Lady Cavaliers raced to an 8-0 lead in the first few minutes, and the boys game was bereft of drama after Obion's Rebels scored the first 14 points of the nightcap.

Crockett's girls won 48-26; the Cavalier boys lost 72-49. Both games will be easily forgotten in time.

That's not to say there weren't bright spots. One especially encouraging sign for the Lady Cavs was that sophomore point guard Gabby Bursey buried a trio of three-pointers and made her last six free throws to be Crockett's leading scorer with 15 points. The boys received some good minutes from reserve Cortland Reddick when they briefly staged a second-half comeback, also buoyed by three treys from Zay Jones in the fourth quarter.

But the girls were never seriously threatened, and the guys never came closer than 12 points after the initial Obion run to open the game.

Coach Kayla Irvin's Lady Cavs, now 15-4 on the season, picked up their second district win by holding the Lady Rebels to an 11-point first half, the same limit they hung on Dyersburg last Friday night. While the Crockett offense wasn't cooking as well Tuesday as it was against the Lady Trojans, it still produced enough firepower to maintain a steadily growing margin throughout the night, especially with the defense holding Obion to single digits in all four quarters.

While the lead was only 11 (22-11) at halftime, Bursey scored 13 of her 15 points after the intermission and her teammates produced balanced support as Jordyn Maddox netted nine, Amaria Walker eight, and Karlee Castellaw seven. Keeton Holyfield added four, freshman Wesley Thornton nailed her first career three-pointer, and Halle Holyfield had two tallies to close out the scorebook. Keltia Campbell led Obion with 14 and Emeri Lee contributed five.

In the boys contest, a lackluster defensive performance in the opening period doomed Crockett. Coach Rick Rudesill yanked his starters at the 2:41 mark of the opening frame after they had fallen behind 17-2 by allowing several easy penetration baskets.

While the second unit performed a little better, the Cavs still trailed 35-12 at the break. A 22-point third period brought the visitors back within shouting distance, with a much stronger defensive effort keying the comeback. By the 4:52 mark of the final stanza, a Cade Freeman triple brought Crockett within 58-46. However, despite the late flurry by Jones, they'd get no closer.

Freeman topped the Cav scoring with 14 points, one more than Jones. But no one else had more than six, while Obion's starting lineup threw an amazingly balanced attack the Crockett. All five finished in double figures: Aiden McBride had 15, Aiden Lee 14, Grady Wilkins and Jetlynn Mosley 13 apiece, and Tanner Richard 10. The Cavs fell to 6-13 with the defeat and have dropped all three of their district games.

Both Crockett teams go non-district Thursday night when they will host Milan for the annual basketball Homecoming festivities.

## GIRLS GAME #19 – JANUARY 21

**Crockett (48)** – Gabby Bursey 15, Jordyn Maddox 9, Amaria Walker 8, Karlee Castellaw 7, Keeton Holyfield 4, Wesley Thornton 3, Halle Holyfield 2, Kira Bray 0, Ellie Henderson 0, Chloe Adkisson 0, Nyah Cathey 0, Audrey Whitby 0, Baylee Griggs 0, TEAM 16 FG, 10-14 FT. 3-Pointers: Bursey 3, Maddox 1, Castellaw 1, Thornton 1. Record: 15-4.

**Obion County (26)** – Keltia Campbell 14, Emeri Lee 5, Reagan Armour 3, Harlee Johnson 2, Preslee Johnson 2, Katy Frazier 0, Hannah Taylor 0, Klice Campbell 0, Colee Forrester 0, LK Johnson 0, Avery Coffey 0, TEAM 6 FG, 12-14 FT. 3-Pointers: Keltia Campbell 2. Record: 10-10.

## BOYS GAME #19 – JANUARY 21

**Crockett (49)** – Cade Freeman 14, Zay Jones 13, Kevin Pledge 6, Squirt Pickens 3, Preston Lambert 3, DK Woods 2, Reed Leforgee 2, Grayson Lambert 2, Cortland Reddick 2, Jayden Frye 2, Andre Garduno 0, TEAM 15 FG, 12-16 FT. 3-Pointers – Jones 3, Freeman 2, Pickens 1, P Lambert 1. Record: 6-13.

**Obion County (72)** – Aiden McBride 15, Aiden Lee 14, Grady Wilkins 13, Jetlynn Mosley 13, Tanner Richard 10, Levi Hendrix 7, Parker Clark 0, Austin Cook 0, Carsen Jones 0, TEAM 26 FG, 12-16 FT. 3-Pointers – McBride 2, Wilkins 2, Lee 2, Hendrix 1. Record: 13-7.



**Above:** Ellie Henderson blocks out an Obion rebounder on a Lady Rebel shot attempt in the first half of Tuesday night's 48-26 Crockett victory. (Photo by Ron Barry)





**Above:** Sophomore point guard Gabby Bursey (4) is all smiles as she breaks toward the basket after a steal, trailed by teammate Karlee Castellaw and chased by a couple of Obion County players. Bursey led Crockett with 15 points Tuesday. (Photo by Ashley Owens)

**Below:** Amaria Walker moves in for an easy layup after taking a perfect lob pass from Jordyn Maddox, seen here in the right background. Walker scored eight points in the 48-26 district win. (Photo by Ron Barry)



**Below:** Karlee Castellaw peers around the outstretched arm of Obion defender Emeri Lee as she looks for a cutter toward the Crockett basket. Castellaw netted seven points for the Lady Cavs Tuesday night in Troy. (Photo by Ron Barry)



**Above:** Illustrative of the defensive effort the Lady Cavs displayed Tuesday night is this block of Harlee Johnson by Jordyn Maddox, who swats the shot harmlessly away. (Photo by Ashley Owens)

**Left:** Somehow the basketball got behind Crockett's Keeton Holyfield as she fights for it with teammates Jordyn Maddox and Amaria Walker against Obion's players. And somehow Holyfield came up with it anyway and kicked it out to Maddox, who had risen to her feet by then. (Photo by Ron Barry)





**Above:** Halle Holyfield looks to whip a quick pass around Obion's Katy Frazier in Tuesday night's Lady Cav triumph, their second straight district win. (Photo by Ron Barry)

**Below:** Wesley Thornton gets a fast break going with teammate Nyah Cathey right behind her. Freshman Thornton netted her first career three-pointer shortly after this race to the frontcourt. (Photo by Ashley Owens)



**Below:** Lady Cav post player Amaria Walker got down on the floor to gain possession of this loose ball like a linebacker recovering a fumble. (Photo by Ron Barry)



**Above:** Crockett's Gabby Bursey got inside the lane to draw a foul from Obion's Preslee Johnson (31) on her way to making six consecutive free throws in the contest Tuesday night. (Photo by Ashley Owens)



**Right:** Karlee Castellaw drives past Obion's Kevia Campbell in third-quarter action from Tuesday night's 48-26 Lady Cavalier triumph in Troy. (Photo by Ron Barry)





**Above:** Crockett opened up a quick 8-0 lead on this bucket by Jordyn Maddox (13) early in the first quarter. (Photo by Ron Barry)

**Below:** Cade Freeman (13) looks between a couple of Obion County defenders as he tries to find an open teammate. Freeman led Cavalier scorers with 14 points Tuesday night in Crockett's 72-49 defeat. (Photo by Ron Barry)



**Right:** Crockett's Zay Jones (25) applies defensive pressure to Obion's Jetlynn Mosley (2) in Tuesday's district game. Jones had three three-pointers in the fourth period, but it wasn't enough for the Cavs. (Photo by Ron Barry)

**Below:** Zoey Burleson is atop the shoulders of her younger sister Eva as they join Crockett's other cheerleaders during a timeout in trying to keep the second-half comeback going. (Photo by Ron Barry)



**Above:** Grayson Lambert tries to contain this drive by Obion's Tanner Richard in Tuesday night's opening half. (Photo by Ron Barry)

