

# CROCKETT SOCCER AND SOFTBALL DECIDE TO CELEBRATE "BEAT DYERSBURG" NIGHT



**Above:** Red-hot-hitting freshman Wesley Thornton continued her scorching ways in Dyersburg Thursday night, going 3-for-4 with two doubles and four runs batted in in the 11-6 win over the Lady Trojans. (Photo by Ron Barry)

## By Ron Barry

While it wasn't officially declared, Thursday evening turned out to be "Beat Dyersburg Night" for the Cavalier sports program.

Crockett's soccer team knocked off the Trojans 5-1 in Alamo as Luke Carter hammered in four goals. The Lady Cavalier softball squad bounced back from a district loss to Dyer County the night before to defeat the Lady Trojans for the second time this season, with freshman Wesley Thornton sparking an 11-6 win.

**SOCCER:** Coach Joey Soriano's club improved to 8-3 on the season and picked up another big district triumph as Carter scored in a variety of ways and Max Utley and Josue Martinez anchored a solid back line defense that only allowed three shots on goal the entire night.

An unexpected highlight of the night – and one that had the large Crockett crowd breaking out in repeated cheers and applause – was the frequent dribbling exhibition put on by Brandon Carcamo, usually positioned in the back line or midfield area.

But on this night, Carcamo often controlled the ball for long stretches, weaving in and out of Dyersburg defenders, leaving them kicking at empty air as he changed direction and sped by them.

On the play that set up the Cavaliers' fourth goal, Carcamo took the ball at the 35-yard line on the defensive end of the field and proceeded to dribble it all the way down the left sideline, evading six or seven Trojans defenders with deft moves and sudden directional changes until he was finally fouled just yards away from the Dyersburg goal. Even Soriano was surprised by the skill displayed on the play.

"That was amazing," the first-year coach said. "We may have to find him more opportunities to play a wing position as the season moves on. There had to be at least six or seven guys who tried to stop him on that attack, and none of them could."

Carter scored the game's first goal on a penalty kick when a foul occurred inside the goal box on a play produced by Angel Garcia. Carter's successful boot came with 34:33 left in the opening half.

The junior speedster was at it again with 22:43 remaining when he headed a perfect cross from Adrian Calderon into the left side of the net to make it 2-0. Just before the intermission, Cam Martin punched in a short shot from the right side on a Carter pass to give the hosts a 3-0 margin at halftime.

Dyersburg kept things interesting by scoring on a short free kick – the only shot to get past Crockett goalkeeper Noah Mayfield all night – with 30:36 left in the match. But barely two minutes later, Carcamo staged his 75-yard dribble attack until he was tripped up just left of the net.

The sure-footed Carter took the ensuing penalty kick, but his shot was barely deflected by the goalie just enough to hit the left side post and bounce back toward the right, where Carter quickly rushed in and nailed the rebound for a 4-1 lead with 28:22 to play.

Carter wrapped things up a short time later by punching in an assist from Jathen Young, and the Cavs had their victory.

"This was a good night for us," Soriano said. "Our guys played well; we controlled the ball most of the night. We were able to get all of our players into the match, which is always good. Dyersburg is always talented, and they're always well-coached, so it's nice to get a win against them."

Next up for the Cavs is another district match Monday at Obion County at 5:30.

**SOFTBALL:** Crockett resilient Lady Cavaliers didn't hang their heads for long after Wednesday night's 9-1 defeat to powerhouse Dyer County. Although Coach Baron Jimmerson's club quickly fell behind 3-0 in the opening inning at Dyersburg, Crockett roared back with a four-run third and a five-run fourth to gain control as the season record improved to 18-5 (4-1 in the district).

Once again it was the hitting of first-year second baseman Thornton that sparked the win as she collected a single, two doubles, four runs batted in, two runs scored, and a stolen base. Senior outfielder Sadie Hoover knocked in two runs with two hits, and Hannah Carter – also a senior outfielder – had two hits, two walks, a stolen base, and three runs scored. Kiyra Liggins and Gabby Bursey also notched two hits, and Piper White also had two RBIs.

Burseley led off the Crockett third with a double and scored on a hit by White to ignite Crockett's first uprising. Carter reached on a bunt single before Thornton doubled them both home to tie the game, and Madison Stitts then plated Thornton with a groundout RBI.

In the fourth, Madison Solis got things started with a double to center. Chloe Adkisson entered as a courtesy runner and Bursey singled her to third. White knocked Adkisson in with a safety squeeze bunt before a walk to Carter. The Lady Trojans then tried to pick Bursey off third base, but the throw was mishandled, allowing Bursey to score and Carter to come all the way around to third - from where Thornton drove her in with a single to center, boosting the margin to 7-3.

After Thornton stole second, Stitts reached on an error and then stole second herself. Hoover then broke things open with a line-drive, two-run double to left.

Dyersburg crept back to within 9-5 in the bottom of the fourth and cut it to 9-6 in the following frame, but Thornton slammed another RBI double in the sixth after a Carter single and White generated the final run in the seventh with her speed, reaching second on a ground ball error and then scoring when the ball was again mishandled while she was stealing third.

Although starting pitcher Anna Stallings allowed 11 hits, she only walked one and retired six of the last seven batters she faced over the final two innings to protect the lead her teammates had given her.

The Lady Cavs travel to Florence for the Alabama Bash Tournament, beginning Friday evening and continuing on Saturday.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL SOCCER:** CCMS played its final regular season game Thursday night, and it turned out to be the perfect preparation for post-season play.

Coach Jonathan Grajeda's Cavs defeated Paris Inman 7-3 - and will now return to Paris Monday to face the same opponent in the opening round of the West Tennessee Soccer Regional Tournament.

On Thursday, Crockett spotted the hosts three goals in the match's first 10 minutes and then opened the offensive floodgates, netting the final seven goals to achieve the victory. The Cavs tied it by halftime on goals by Damian Marquez, Lucas Morales (on a Jacob Marquez assist), and Jaaziel Perez (on a Morales assist).

In the second half, Perez scored again (Jacob Marquez assisting) with 25:08 remaining. Then Jacob Marquez tallied (Morales assisting) at the 20:24 mark. Morales netted another shot with 13:33 to play, and Damian Marquez used his head to punch in a corner kick by Jacob Marquez to close out the scoring.

CCMS took just nine shots in the contest, but seven went for goals. Henry Mayfield posted four saves as the Cav goalkeeper, as Crockett hopes to keep the late-season momentum going in the Monday rematch.

**CCHS TENNIS:** Final results were not available at publication time, but Crockett hosted Munford Thursday evening for its tennis "Senior Night." Munford stepped in to replace South Gibson, which had to reschedule a rainout with district foe Dyer County. Photos from Thursday's match have been included here.



**Above:** Hannah Carter stroked two hits, drew two walks, and scored three times in the victory over Dyersburg. (Photo by Ron Barry)



**Left:** Sadie Hoover slugged a two-run double to conclude a five-run fourth and give Crockett a 9-3 lead at Dyersburg Thursday night. The Lady Cavs eventually won 11-6. (Photo by Ron Barry)

**Below:** Brandon Carcamo displays some of the dazzling footwork he used to dribble through numerous Dyersburg defenders on several occasions Thursday night. (Photo by Ron Barry)



**Left:** Aiden Markgraf hustled all over the offensive end of the pitch for Crockett Thursday night in the 5-1 triumph over Dyersburg. (Photo by Ron Barry)

**Below:** Max Utley (21) and Josue Martinez (right behind him) were defensive stalwarts in the back line for the Cavaliers Thursday night. (Photo by Ron Barry)



**Above:** Luke Carter rarely lets anybody stop him when he gets near an opponent's goal -- and Thursday night was no exception. (Photo by Ron Barry)

**Below:** Luke Carter's second goal of the game came when he headed in this perfectly placed crossing pass from Adrian Calderon. (Photo by Ron Barry)



**Below:** Santiago Santos works around this potential tripping attempt by a fallen Dyersburg player to push the ball into the offensive zone for the Cavaliers. (Photo by Ron Barry)



**Below:** Camden Martin (5) gets a congratulatory hug from Luke Carter -- soon to be joined by Mason Wood (7) -- after scoring Crockett's third goal just before halftime. (Photo by Ron Barry)



**Above:** The going sometimes gets rough once you get inside the goal box, but Crockett's Jathen Young shook off this shirt pull to record an assist on the Cavs' final goal. (Photo by Ron Barry)



**Above:** Culminating the most exciting play of the night, Crockett's Brandon Carcamo is tripped up and fouled inside the goal box after dribbling the ball 75 yards down the left sideline, weaving in and out of defenders all the way. (Photo by Ron Barry)

**Below:** Luke Carter (1) got his hat trick when he punched in the rebound from a deflection of his own penalty kick seconds before. The ball hit the left post and bounced back to where it is seen here, just before Carter kicked it into the net. (Photo by Ron Barry)



**Above:** The only shot that got past Crockett goalkeeper Noah Mayfield came on a short free kick in which his vision was significantly blocked and despite this gallant leap to try to deflect it. (Photo by Ron Barry)

**Below:** A big defensive play for Crockett occurred with 19:25 remaining in the first half when a short free kick was blocked by the middle of this wall of Cav defenders. In pursuit of the rebound are Eduardo Galvez (#4), Angel Garcia (#8), Josue Martinez (#12), Brandon Carcamo (14), Braulio Marquez (behind Garcia), Max Utley (#21), and Mason Wood (#7). (Photo by Ron Barry)



**Below:** Crockett's Izzy Yearwood rushes the net to chase down this drop shot in Thursday's windy match against Munford. Yearwood played a marathon match at girls #1 singles. (Photo by Ron Barry)



**Above:** A promising player to watch in the future for Crockett is freshman Cason Reynolds, who played at boys #2 singles Thursday. (Photo by Ron Barry)



**Above:** His face framed by his racket, the Cavs' Jack Sanders hammers a return in his #1 boys singles match against Munford Thursday. (Photo by Ron Barry)