09/11/2025 By Ron Barry

SOCCER, VOLLEYBALL SEEK DISTRICT WINS THURSDAY; FES INITIATES THE HOUSE SYSTEM FRIDAY



Above: Against Covington on Monday, it looked more like a rugby match than a soccer match. Crockett's Alivia Hale (6) will testify that it was rougher than a cross-country race. (Photo by Robin Waddey)

Crockett County's soccer team looks to start its district schedule on a high note Thursday when Coach Carli Branson's club hosts Obion County Central in a 6 p.m. match on the grass field next to Cavalier Stadium.

Some teams – after getting hammered 9-0 by an area team much longer on experience than they – would have hung their heads and perhaps just gone through the motions for the next couple of outings, trying to figure out which direction the season might be headed.

Instead, the Lady Cavs bounced back from Martin Westview's drubbing by solidly downing Covington 6-1 Monday as junior standout Rebecca Waddey stuck a career-high four shots into the netting and Emily Morales and Cristal Martinez scored their first goals of the season. Ruth Gourley, Braniya Green, and Waddey all had assists as Crockett improved its season record to 3-1-1.

www.crockettcavs.net

VOLLEYBALL: Coach Andrew Laman takes his volleyballers to Troy tonight to also do battle with Obion County, and his crew will be dealing with an unusual streak as they make the trip: three losses in a row.

Granted, the competition stepped up a notch as the Lady Cavs went 2-2 in a Saturday tournament in Oxford, Mississippi and then faced district powerhouse Dyer County Tuesday night, falling 3-1. Last season, Crockett was the only district squad to win so much as a set against the Lady Choctaws, and they matched that feat Tuesday.



Above: Crockett needs to continue receiving strong front row play from Madi Collins if it wants to lock up a beneficial seed for the district tournament. (Photo by Ron Barry)

In Oxford, the Lady Cavs faced four Mississippi schools, posting 2-1 victories over Lafayette and Hartfield Academy before falling 2-0 to both Madison-Ridgeland Academy and Northwest Rankin.

With a 13-5 overall record, getting back into the win column in this district match would be a significant stepping stone in staying in contention for a good seed when tournament time rolls around.

GOLF: In girls high school golf, two scores count toward the team total, which obviously means the second-best round is just as important as the top one.

Crockett's Rachel Crossnoe has been enjoying an outstanding season as the Lady Cavs' top player, and she was good again Tuesday in Dyersburg with a nine-hole round of 43 – three shots better than the Lady Trojans' Stella Madden for medalist honors. But it took a 58 by Alyssa Stricklin – paired with Crossnoe's effort – to give Crockett a 101 total and edge both Dyersburg and Dyer County by a single stroke.

On the boys side, Crockett posted a 181 to place third among a four-team field, falling to Dyer County (155) and Dyersburg (159) but defeating Trenton Peabody (202). Clay Kail, shooting his best score of the season, paced the Cavs with a 42, one shot better than Jack Shaver and George Randall. Max Woods had a 53 for Crockett's fourth counting score.

John David Morris of Dyersburg and David Thurman of Dyer County were the medalists with rounds of 35. Jarrett Harrison of the Choctaws was third with a 39.



Above: Kyndall Savage drove in six runs to pace the CCMS softball team to a 19-1 pounding of Gibson County Tuesday. (Photo by Ron Barry)



Above: Alyssa Stricklin teamed with Rachel Crossnoe to give Crockett a one-stroke victory Tuesday over both Dyersburg and Dyer County. (Photo by Ron Barry)

MIDDLE SCHOOL SOFTBALL: The high school soccer bounce-back wasn't the only notable reset of the week.

Coach Duke Kail's CCMS softballers had been no-hit by South Gibson last Thursday, and Kail was wondering how his struggling offense would respond in its next encounter. That occurred Tuesday – and Crockett clobbered Gibson County Middle School 19-1 to improve its record to 8-4.

The Lady Cavs scored six runs in the second inning and then hung a 13-spot on the hosts in the third, with the game ended by the mercy rule after the Lady Pioneers had batted in the bottom of the frame. Crockett bunched 10 hits with seven Gibson County errors to produce their rallies.

Kyndall Savage keyed the second-inning uprising with an inside-the-park grand-slam home run with two outs. Savage also doubled in a run in the third and forced in another tally when she was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded again. Addison Killen had two hits and two RBIs for the winners, and Addison Ward also collected a pair of safeties. Killen and Anna McCoy hit doubles for Crockett and Caroline Neal picked up the pitching victory, striking out six and allowing only an unearned run.

Crockett hosts USJ Thursday afternoon.

FRIENDSHIP ELEMENTARY SCHOOL INITIATIVE: Principal Leah Camp announced that Friendship Elementary School will be establishing the house system designed by the Ron Clark Academy on Friday at 2 p.m.

"The teachers and staff were sorted into houses this past Friday," Camp said, "and we'll do the kids this Friday. Everyone is very excited about it."

The house system is a dynamic, exciting, and proven way to create a positive climate and culture for students and staff. The Academy's methods are designed to help a school "confidently implement processes that build character, relationships, and school spirit," according to the RCA brand guidelines.

Camp provided information documenting that students and teachers where the House system has been put in place have raved about the impact it has had on the educational experience. Students have noted such things as how it has helped them to form friendships and create closer bonds with their peers, while teachers have noted that students perform at higher levels when points are assigned and their peers are cheering them on.

The program provides students with a culture of belonging. Throughout the year the houses compete against each other in a variety of competitions by accumulating House points. Individual students can also accumulate points for their house based on behavior and academic success.

The system features four original Houses, with unique properties such as their own color, symbols, nation of heritage, history, and more. Over time, each House starts to take on its own values and personality driven by the culture of the students and staff within it.

Altruismo is the "House of the Givers," with the power of empowering others. Its heritage is Brazil and its symbol is the snake. Amistad is the "House of Friendship," with the power of kindness of heart and strength of a true warrior. Its heritage is Mexico and its symbolic animal is the immortal peacock. Isibindi is the "House of Courage," whose power is the strength and courage of a lion, which is the symbolic animal along with a swan. Its heritage is South Africa. Rêveur is the "House of the Dreamers," with the power of confident, passionate dreamers, symbolized by the wolf. Its heritage is France.



Above: Wesley Thornton and her volleyball teammates will have their game faces on Thursday at Troy when they try to snap a three-match losing streak by facing Obion County on the road. (Photo by Ron Barry)



Above: Crockett's Cristal Martinez (1) appears to be the steamroller on this play. Martinez scored her first goal of the season Monday. (Photo by Beth Williams)

Below: Even teammates were dishing it out on each other. Here, goalie Hannah Wede and Chloe Campbell (24) almost get tangled up while trying to stop a Lady Charger attack. (Photo by Robin Waddey)





Above: Senior Emily Morales (9) cruises in toward the Covington goal to tally her first goal of the year on Senior Night Monday. (Photo by Robin Waddey)

Below: It was a popular score for Crockett, as Emily Morales is congratulated by Caroline Scruggs (5), Cristal Martinez (1), Ruth Gourley (4), and Rebecca Waddey (7). (Photo by Robin Waddey)





Right: Rebecca Waddey (7) found the net a career-high four times against Covington, and had an assist. Celebrating with her here are Cristal Martinez (1) and Litha Jones (20). (Photo by Robin Waddey)

Below: Freshmen Charlee Lewis (12) and Marley Thornton (10) fight to gain control of the ball against a Lady Charger defender. (Photo by Robin Waddey)





Above: Freshman Ruth Gourley unleashes a powerful shot. Gourley had an assist against Covington and will be on the Alamo pitch Thursday as the Lady Cavs host Obion County. (Photo by Robin Waddey)

Below: Clay Kail was Crockett's low scorer Tuesday with a 42 as the Cavaliers finished third in a four-way match. (Photo by Ron Barry)

