

DYERSBURG AVENGES REGULAR SEASON FINALE LOSS TO CAVS; WINS TOURNAMENT SEMIFINAL



Above: Andre Garduno takes a bump from Dyersburg's Cam Rhines as he attempts to launch a shot in Saturday's battle. (Photo by Ron Barry)

Less than a week ago – in the basketball regular season finale in Alamo – Crockett County's boys stunned District 13-AAA's top team, using a magical stretch spanning parts of the first and second quarters to defeat Dyersburg 68-50.

The teams met again Saturday night in the District 13-AAA Tournament semifinal, and no such similar magical stretch appeared for the Cavaliers.

The top-seeded Trojans were off and running early, leading 25-11 with 4:30 to play in the second quarter and building a 33-18 halftime advantage. The produced an eventual 66-51 conquest of the Cavs, who doggedly tried to make a game of it in the fading minutes but could get no closer than nine points on a couple of occasions.

Dyersburg's quickness and rebounding prowess posed the greatest challenges for Coach Spencer Bursey's crew, which was also hampered by foul trouble with leading scorer Kevin Pledge. He had roasted the Trojans for 27 points in the previous meeting Monday night; Saturday, he was held to 10. Despite the intense press the Trojans employed throughout the game, they shot 33 free throws to only 13 for Crockett.

Meanwhile, Jace Ward and Cam Rhines were taking turns tormenting the Cavs, with each netting 19 points. Many of their baskets came on putbacks from misses by their teammates, as Dyersburg dominated the rebounding throughout the contest. The Trojans improved to 17-7 and head into Tuesday night's championship game against host South Gibson. Crockett dropped to 15-14 with the loss.

Cortland Reddick connected on four three-pointers and paced the Cavalier offense with 16 points. Andre Garduno had a big second half to contribute 11. In addition to Pledge's 10, Jayden Frye and Corey Savage had nine apiece.

Crockett's girls return to action Monday night in the tournament consolation game against Haywood at 6:00. The boys will play in Tuesday's consolation matchup against Obion County. Both of those games determine the third and fourth seeds for next week's Region 7-AAA Tournament.

CCHS Boys GM 29: Feb 21 at Medina

District 13-AAA Semifinal

Crockett 9 9 15 18 – 51

Dyersburg 14 19 12 21 – 66

Crockett – Cortland Reddick 16, Andre Garduno 11, Kevin Pledge 10, Jayden Frye 5, Corey Savage 5, Karson Kail 2, Jameson Bushart 2, Brelin Dunigan 0, Squirt Pickens 0, Jeremiah Young 0. 2-Pt FG: 12. 3-Pt FG: 6 (Reddick 4, Frye, Savage). FT: 9-13. Record: 15-14.

Dyersburg – Jace Ward 19, Cam Rhines 19, Jayce Ellerbrook 9, KB Parr 8, Peyton Hill 4, Isaiah Thomas 4, Rell Johnson 2, Tylen Thomas 1, Frank Barringer 0, Toookie Ragland 0. 2-Pt FG: 19. 3-Pt FG: 3 (Ward, Rhines, Ellerbrook). FT: 19-33. Record: 17-7.



Above: Cortland Reddick drilled four three-balls and led Crockett's scoring with 16 points. (Photo by Ron Barry)



Above: Crockett's Eva Burselson shares a smile with one of her cheer teammates during Saturday night's duel with Dyersburg. (Photo by Ron Barry)



Below: Dyersburg's constant pressure is evident here as a double-team forces Cortland Reddick (2) to leap in an effort to get the ball to Kevin Pledge (4) or Karson Kail (22). (Photo by Ron Barry)

Left: Kevin Pledge tries to get a shot off against a Trojan double-team. (Photo by Ron Barry)

Below: Jayden Frye takes a second to catch his breath during a teammate's free throw attempt in Saturday's semifinal. (Photo by Ron Barry)



Right: Gabby Dobbelaire is using a "Crockett" sign to keep the crowd into the game -- which was certainly not hard to do Saturday night. (Photo by Ron Barry)

Below: Dyersburg's Jace Ward (0) gets off a tough shot, contested strongly by Crockett's Karson Kail. (Photo by Ron Barry)



Below: Jameson Bushart tries to slip a little floater over a Trojan double-team in the second half of Saturday's contest. (Photo by Ron Barry)



Above: Andre Garduno scored 11 points for the Cavs and had a big second half to help Crockett trim the margin to single digits a couple of times. (Photo by Ron Barry)



Left: Squirt Pickens waits for the offense to set up before attempting to run a play against the sturdy Dyersburg defense. (Photo by Ron Barry)