

WINDERS SHUTS DOWN MILAN BATS; CAVALIERS DOWN BULLDOGS 9-0



Above: Callan Willis drilled a triple and forced in runs with a pair of bases-loaded walks as Crockett defeated Milan 9-0. (Photo by Ron Barry)

Carter Winders is showing everybody that he can be as impressive from in front of home plate as from behind it.

Crockett County fans recognize the Cavalier senior as one of the best high school catchers in West Tennessee, if not the entire state. And while he's been an effective pitcher in past seasons, he's begun his final year looking like a right-handed Tarik Skubal.

In the Cavs' season opener a week ago, Winders threw four scoreless innings of one-hit ball against Chester County, striking out eight. Monday night in Milan, he tossed six more scoreless frames against the Bulldogs, fanning 11 and yielding just three hits as Coach Brad Smith's club pounded the hosts 9-0.

Winders also smacked a single, a double, and a sacrifice fly for good measure, driving in two runs to help his own cause. He received plenty of help from his teammates on the offensive side, including a two-run homer to center field from Brady Fronabarger and a triple, two walks, and two RBIs from Callan Willis – who also closed out the ballgame with a perfect inning of relief work.

Crockett posted the only tallies it would eventually need with a two-run rally in the top of the second inning. Winders led off with a single and advanced to second on another one by Landry Fronabarger.

Aiden Austin followed with a third straight hit to load the bases before George Randall worked a walk, forcing in a run. Two strikeouts later, Willis drew another base on balls, giving the visitors a 2-0 lead.

Winders struck out five of the next six Milan hitters before the Cavaliers struck again in the top of the fourth. Willis belted a two-out triple to right field and Nash Kilburn drew a walk and promptly stole second. On a 2-0 count to Brady Fronabarger, Milan's Alex Nelson uncorked a wild pitch that chased Willis home, making it a 3-0 edge for Crockett.

In the top of the sixth, following an infield hit by Kilburn, Fronabarger crushed a 3-1 offering over the center-field fence for his second homer of the young season to boost the Cav margin to 5-0. Winders completed his pitching stint in the bottom of the frame when shortstop Mason Ray turned a double play to end the inning.

The Cavs then poured it on with a four-spot in the top of the seventh. Randall lined a single to center, Ray reached on an infield error, and catcher Sam Proctor was hit by a pitch to load the bases. Willis drew another walk to force in a run and Fronabarger walked to force in another. Winders brought one home with a sac fly, and the final tally scored on the relay throw.

Winders struck out two of the three Bulldogs he faced to end the contest, improving Crockett's season record to 3-1.

Weather permitting, the Cavs are scheduled to host Trinity Christian Academy Tuesday night at 7:00. Crockett's scheduled softball game at Chester County Monday was canceled due to rain. The Lady Cavs will host Arlington at 5:00 Tuesday.

PIPER'S IN THE BOOKS: CCHS graduate and Texas A&M freshman Piper White notched her first collegiate hit in her very first plate appearance for the Aggies in a 15-2 romp over Tarleton State (TX) Friday. White, who has been used exclusively as a pinch-runner in previous games, batted for starting second baseman Tallen Edwards in the fourth inning and ripped a single up the middle, taking second on the throw to another base. It was her lone at-bat of the contest. White has appeared in nine games for the Aggies, has scored three runs, and was successful on her only stolen base attempt thus far.



Above: Carter Winders is now unscored upon in his first 10 innings of senior-year work on the mound for Crockett. (Photo by Ron Barry)



Above: Swings like this one have produced two home runs for Brady Fronabarger in his first four games in 2026. (Photo by Ron Barry)



Above: Former CCHS star Piper White posted her first hit as a Texas A&M Aggie Friday against Tarleton State. (Photo by Ron Barry)