SOFTBALLERS & BASEBALLERS ROUT DISTRICT FOES; CCMS SOCCER CLINCHES #1 SEED



Above: Nataly Amador is on first base with her third hit of the day in Crockett's 17-1 softball drubbing of Dyersburg Tuesday in Alamo. (Photo by Ron Barry)

Crockett County High School's softball and baseball teams improved their combined season record to 45-6 by hammering district opponents Tuesday, and the Middle School soccer team clinched the top seed and the host role for the upcoming West Tennessee Regional Tournament by edging Obion County 2-0 to highlight a busy sports day.

SOFTBALL: Gabby Bursey drove in four runs with a pair of hits and Macie Teel went 2-for-2 with three RBIs as Coach Baron Jimmerson's Lady Cavaliers took advantage of nine Dyersburg errors to rout the Lady Trojans 17-1. Thirteen of Crockett's runs were unearned, although the lineup produced 13 hits, including three by Nataly Amador.

The Lady Cavs improved their season record to 21-4 with the district victory and are now scheduled to face Obion County Wednesday at 5:30 in a game moved forward from its original Thursday start.

Crockett jumped on Dyersburg for 10 runs in the bottom of the first inning as Madison Stitts singled in a run, Emilee Chandler socked a three-run double, Teel singled home a couple more, Amador singled in another, and Bursey doubled home another pair. Several Lady Trojan errors accounted for the accumulation of baserunners during the rally.

Crockett added three more tallies in the second after two were out. Piper Smith beat out an infield hit and came around to score on a double to center by Teel. Fallon Beaird entered to courtesy run for catcher Teel and scored when Wesley Thornton's ground ball to first was mishandled. Thornton then stole second and raced home on another Amador hit.

A sacrifice fly by Stitts and a Chandler fly ball that was misplayed in the outfield gave the Lady Cavs two more runs in the third. The game ended by the run rule in the fourth when Bursey smacked a two-RBI single.

Emmalynn Medlin recorded the pitching victory for Crockett, hurling three-hit ball over four frames and striking out four. Six different Lady Cavs scored twice in the contest, and Amador crossed the plate three times for the winners.

BASEBALL: Sophomore Landry Fronabarger drove in four runs and four different Crockett players – Carson Webb, Jameson Bushart, Myles Perkins, and Luke Beaird – recorded their first varsity hits of the season as Coach Brad Smith's sizzling Cavaliers won their twenty-first consecutive game with a 15-2 pounding of Haywood in Brownsville.

Crockett improved to 24-2 in a matchup in which the Cavs broke open a 4-1 game with a six-run rally in the top of the fourth, adding five more with a sixth-inning uprising as Smith used his entire roster.

Fronabarger delivered a two-run single with two outs in the first after a Haywood error put a pair of runners in scoring position. He cracked another one in the third after a hit batsman and a walk, giving the visitors a 4-1 lead.

After Cav reliever Rylan Redding struck out the Tomcat side in the bottom of the third, Sam Proctor ignited the Crockett offense with a one-out triple to deep center in the fourth. Callan Willis singled home courtesy runner Brody Parlow to make it 5-1 before Nash Kilburn drew a walk. Brady Fronabarger – who extended his amazing on-base streak to 21 consecutive at-bats during the game – ripped a double to left to plate Kilburn after Willis had scored on a wild throw as he was stealing third base.

After another hit batsman and a walk, Brady Fronabarger scored on a passed ball and Jaxon Moore delivered a two-run single to make it a 10-1 Cav advantage.

In the sixth, Karson Kail led off with a single, stole second and third, and scored on a single to center by Perkins, who then stole second and went to third after tagging on a flyout. Mason Ray singled him home to boost the margin to 12-1 before Beaird singled and Parlow walked to load the bases. Webb singled in a run and then Bushart walked to bring home courtesy runner Davis Porter, and the final Crockett tally scored on a groundout by Cole Summar, his first varsity RBI.

Smith used four pitchers to post the district win, getting an inning apiece from Carter Winders, Ray, and Redding before George Randall threw the final three frames to get the save.

Brady Fronabarger collected two hits and was hit by a pitch and has now been to the plate 21 straight times without being retired by the opposition, one of the rarest feats in baseball. The streak has boosted his season batting average to a robust .541.

The Cavaliers, who will head into next week's showdown with South Gibson as the only team with an unbeaten district record, will travel to Lexington Thursday for a 6:45 matchup and then to Lakeland Prep Friday for a 7:00 encounter.

MIDDLE SCHOOL SOCCER: After a scoreless first half in which CCMS was heading into a brisk wind offensively, the tide turned when the Cavs got the wind at their back for the final period and netted a pair of goals to down a stubborn Obion squad.

In what assistant coach Graham Mayfield described as "a sluggish game for us that we had to grit out and find a way to win," Crockett put eight shots on goal in the opening half but couldn't get one into the net. But in the second period, the Cavs finally broke the deadlock when – at the 28:20 mark – Lucas Morales went after a shot that had been deflected by the Rebel goalkeeper but stayed on the end line right next to the goalpost. While other players thought the ball was going to roll over the line to bring about a corner kick, Morales raced over and punched it into the back of the net for the go-ahead goal.

Nearly five minutes later, Crockett's Caleb Ferguson was fouled inside the box, and Damian Marquez successfully converted the ensuing penalty kick to up the Cavs' lead to 2-0. Crockett then fought off a tough last-ditch effort by Obion, including an indirect kick for the Rebels from inside the Cav 18. Henry Mayfield and Andy Aguirre each made a save for the winners, who are now 10-0.

The victory gives Crockett the number one seed for the regional tournament which begins next week, and the Cavs will host the first round. Before that, though, they'll host a rematch with Northeast Friday afternoon at 4:30 for the CCMS Eighth-Grade Night.



Left: Landry Fronabarger hit two-run singles in both the first and third innings to key Crockett's 15-2 baseball win over Haywood Tuesday, its twenty-first straight victory. (Photo by Ron Barry)

Below: Brady Fronabarger -- with two more hits and a hit-by-pitch in three at-bats -- has now come to the plate 21 consecutive times without being retired by the opposition. (Photo by Ron Barry)





Above: Emilee Chandler came up with the bases loaded in the first inning and cleared them all with this double in the Lady Cavs' softball win. (Photo by Ron Barry)



Right: Macie Teel was 2-for-2 with three RBIs, including this long double to right-center, to help Crockett down Dyersburg Tuesday. (Photo by Ron Barry)



Above: Piper Smith had a busy day at second base for the Lady Cavs Tuesday, first making this play off a hot grounder ... (Photo by Ron Barry)

Below: ... and backhanding it to shortstop Wesley Thornton to try to turn a double play, ... (Photo by Ron Barry)





Above: ... which might have been more achievable if Dyersburg wonder-athlete Chelby Jordan (1) hadn't been bearing down on Thornton at the bag. (Photo by Ron Barry)

Below: Still, Wesley Thornton gave it a gallant effort, positioning herself for the throw to first ... (Photo by Ron Barry)



Right: ... but the toss to first was just a split-second late, although Chelby Jordan was out at second base. (Photo by Ron Barry)



Left: Next, Piper Smith had to battle the sun on this high pop-up near the right-field grass, and the ball tried to slip out of her glove ... (Photo by Ron Barry)

Below: ... but Smith was able to secure it with her right hand to make the catch for the out. (Photo by Ron Barry)





Left: Piper Smith then had to hurry on a soft grounder between second and first, but nipped the runner for the out by making this quick flip toss to Emilee Chandler. (Photo by Ron Barry)





Above: Gabby Bursey, throwing this ball back into the infield after a base hit to center by the Lady Trojans, drove in four runs against Dyersburg. (Photo by Ron Barry)

Right: Right fielder Haley Leforgee has her defense ready for the upcoming pitch as she focuses on the Dyersburg hitter. (Photo by Ron Barry)

Below: Myles Perkins was one of the Cavaliers who posted his first varsity hit in Crockett's baseball win over Haywood Tuesday. (Photo by Ron Barry)



Left: Emmalynn Medlin -- Crockett's winning hurler Tuesday -- delivers a pitch as first baseman Emilee Chandler readies her defense in the foreground. (Photo by Ron Barry)

Below: Kiyra Liggins rips one of her two hits Tuesday in the lopsided win over Dyersburg. (Photo by Ron Barry)









Above: Third baseman Madison Stitts made the play on this ground ball and fired it over to Emilee Chandler on first for the out. (Photo by Ron Barry)