GOLF TEAM DOWNS SOUTH GIBSON & MADISON TO TEE OFF CROCKETT SPORTS YEAR



Above: Jack Shaver on Senior Picture Day on May 22nd, with a hard cast. (Photo courtesy of Maryanne Shaver).

Back on May 2nd, Crockett County senior-to-be Jack Shaver was re-gripping his 50-degree wedge when he almost took his own name too literally.

The Cavaliers' top golfer accidentally almost shaved off a couple of the knuckles on his left hand, partially cutting two tendons that forced him to spend his summer – when he thought he'd be playing junior tournaments to prepare for his final high school season of competition – simply trying to recover from the emergency room visit, a surgery, two hard casts, one custom bracing cast, and several weeks of rehab.

That took him to July 27th, when he was finally released by his physician, giving him basically barely 10 days to recapture the form that has placed him in Crockett's number one position since his first match as a freshman. And if you ask any number of golfers, they'll tell you 10 days is not enough time to offset three months of inactivity.

Adding to the inconvenience, the high school golf season starts before any of the other "fall" sports at the high school level, so Coach Pate Randall's Cavs were the first team out of the gate Thursday as the Crockett sports calendar officially began for the 2026-27 school year.

The Cavs took on South Gibson and Madison Academic at the Jackson Country Club – not the easiest course to play, and certainly not where you'd want to have to play your first competitive round after doing finger dexterity exercises in a physical therapy room for the last six weeks.

So how did "Shavernation" – the ironic name on the back of his senior picture day shirt – handle it?

The final scorecard shows a nine-hole stroke total of 36 – even par! – and good enough to be the low medalist as Crockett knocked off both the Hornets and Mustangs to begin the season with a major bang.

Randall's troops posted a team score of 159, besting South Gibson's 182 and Madison's 190. Shaver received more than adequate support from George Randall (38, good for second place), Max Woods (41, tied for third place), and Clay Kail (44, a score topped by only two opposing players). And while his round didn't factor in the final team score – only the top four are counted per team in a high school boys match) – Myles Perkins' 50 was highly competitive with the opponents.

"The boys did well today," Coach Randall said. "It was great to have Jack back after his injury. The kid literally got released last Monday to pick up a golf club, and he wins medalist in his first match. Awesome stuff."

South Gibson was led by Will Hendren with a 41 and Jack Tritt with a 45. Gage Dillion posted a 42 for Madison, with Trey Perkins contributing a 47.

On the girls' side of the match, the Lady Hornets rode the mastery of Marleigh Chicantek – who Randall thinks may be the best in the state this season – to an easy win. Chicantek fired a 33 and partnered with teammate Sophie Ingle (43) for a team total of 76. (in high school girls' golf, only the top two scorers per team are counted)

Madison – with Nora Manley shooting a 40 and Margaret Manley a 49 – was second with a total of 89. Rachel Crossnoe had Crockett's top score with a 45, followed by Alyssa Stricklin's 54, for a total of 99.

Crockett's golfers will be back in action Monday afternoon at Jackson's Woodland Hills, facing South Side.

Randall's rosters feature the following players for the 2026 season: Girls – Crossnoe (Sr), Stricklin (Jr), and Emmalynn Medlin (Jr). Boys – Shaver (Sr), Randall (Jr), Woods (Jr), Kail (Jr), Perkins (Jr), Cason Reynolds (Jr), Henry Haynes (So), Carson Craig (So), Kane Moore (So), Travis Vandiver (So), Andrew Austin (Fr), Colson Matlock (Fr), Landell Houge (Fr), and Lucas Moncier (Fr).