

# Crusaders Too Athletic For MHS Girls' Game

Buhler's Crusaders presented a quandary for Mulvane High School girls basketball coach Dale Landes and his Wildcats.

And it quickly became a quagmire.

The Cats hosted Buhler Tuesday, Jan. 8, and the match-ups were too much for the Cat girls to handle. The Crusaders walked away with a 63-43 conquest on the road in Ark Valley Chisholm Trail League Division III play.

The victory landed the Cats 2-7 record overall as they gear up for the 28th Mulvane Wildcat Girls Classic which opens Monday night, Jan. 21.

Pairings were not announced by press time but Mulvane is expected to play on Tuesday night, Jan. 22. The No. 1 seed should be Garden Plain at 9-1 followed by Rose Hill at 8-1 and Clearwater at 7-1. Other teams entered are Wichita Southeast, Arkansas City, Campus and Wellington.

Mulvane's last tune-up before the tourney will be a home game Friday night, Jan. 18, against Andale.

The MHS girls were just in a tight spot against Buhler. "They were too athletic for us and it caused us problems at both ends of the floor," noted Landes. "From a defensive standpoint, if we tried to take their drive away, they shot the three. If we took away the three ball, they penetrated. For the most part, I liked our effort. It was better than I've seen in the past but we just had a hard time being able to match up with them."

The Crusaders, who lead the league with a 5-0 AVCTL slate, made quick work of the Wildcats, taking a 20-10 lead after only one quarter.

From an offensive standpoint, it wasn't that bad. The 43 points is more than the Wildcats have scored in each of the last games.

"Offensively, we scored some points," said Landes. "We knew they were going to press us so we made some minor changes and really, their pressure wasn't that effective. We're most effective when we can spread the floor. The only downside is that we didn't get it into the post very good."

That's reflected in the shooting as Wildcats didn't hit a great percentage, only 32% from the field. And another factor in Mulvane's downfall was at the free throw stripe where MHS hit only 10-for-22. "We missed a lot of opportunities there," said Landes. "It would have been nice to be shooting better."

On a good note, Coach Landes reported his best inside player, sophomore Taylor Parsons started to work out this past week and Landes said he plans to have her playing some minutes Friday night against Andale.

## Varsity Girls

Buhler 30 11 15 17-63  
Mulvane 10 11 12 10-43

Buhler—Bridgers 8, Wier 2, Friesen 15, Franz 13, Lovett 7, Cikanek 10, Wedel 1, Dick 1, Scott 4, Hoss 4. FG 21 (2), FT 19-26, F 22.

Mulvane—Stephanie Wilson 16, Middle Wier 3, Melinda McKee 7, Courtney Becker 3, Haylee Smith 4, Kayla Morton 4, Taylor Bell 2, Katie Ybars 4. FG 16 (1), FT 10-22, F 30.



Sophomore Taylor Bell looks to pass the ball inside

Mulvane's best scoring punch against the Crusaders came from sophomore Stephanie Wilson, who connected for a career-high 16 points. Senior Melinda McKee scored seven points and sophomore Haylee Smith and reserve Kayla Morton scored four points each.

## 28th Mulvane Wildcat Girls Classic Timetable

### MONDAY, JAN. 21

Game 1 -- 6 p.m.

Game 2 -- 7:30

### TUESDAY, JAN. 22

Game 3 -- 6 p.m.

Game 4 -- 7:30 p.m.

### THURSDAY, JAN. 24

Game 5 -- losers of games 1 and 2, 4:30 p.m.

Game 6 -- winners of games 1 and 2, 6:15 (auxiliary gym)

Game 7 -- losers of games 3 and 4, 6:15 (main gym)

Game 8 -- winners of games 3 and 4, 8

### SATURDAY, JAN. 26

2 p.m. -- Seventh Place

3:45 -- Fifth Place

5:30 -- Third Place

7:30 -- Championship Game