

# Girls Get Physical; 3rd In Own Tourney

The Mulvane High School girls' basketball team rebounded from a tough semifinal loss to finish third in their own tournament.

The Wildcats, seeded third, used a tough defensive effort to cruise past Clearwater, 51-27, in the third-place game of the Mulvane Lady Wildcat Classic Saturday, Jan. 28. Mulvane improved to 7-6 overall on the season.

"We played a physical defensive game, especially inside," said MHS head coach Dale Landes. "On offense, we had our post players like Laura Buchanan, Josey Gosch, and Kristi Parker step out closer to the free-throw line because Clearwater was packing their defense in. Fortunately, we've got post players who can step out and make that shot from up to 15 feet."

The Wildcats trailed Clearwater 6-2 early in the game, but it was all Mulvane after that. By the end of the first quarter, Mulvane led 15-7. The 'Cat defense was even better in the second quarter, holding the Indians to four points and extending their lead to 27-11 by halftime. The Mulvane 'D' continued to do its job in the second half. For the game, Clearwater finished 1-for-18 from three-point range and 4-for-17 from the free-throw line.

Nine different Wildcats scored against Clearwater, led by senior forward Laura Buchanan with 12 points. Josey Gosch and Tara Roberts each added nine points. Mulvane also got five points apiece from Maddie Wise and Katie Ybarra, four each from Kristi Parker and Amanda Hagerman, two from Megan Turner, and one from Caitlin Wise. The Wildcats made five three-pointers and were 6-for-9 from the line.

The Wildcats slipped to the consolation game after losing their semifinal game, 70-56, to Wichita East Thursday night, Jan. 26.

Mulvane hung with the second-seeded Blue Aces for about 12 1/2 minutes. Mulvane led 17-15 after one quarter of play, and the score was tied at 25-25 with 3:28 remaining in the half. Then, the Wildcat offense went cold. Mulvane went without a field goal for the next 5 1/2 minutes, eventually falling behind 38-26 early in the third quarter.

"We had a defensive breakdown late in the first half," said Landes. "Early in the game, we were pushing the ball up the court, we shot well, and we weren't giving up many second chances. Late in the half, though, East got hot and we got cold. That one stretch was really the difference in the game."

Later in the third period, the 'Cats cut the lead back to 44-36, but that was as close as they got. Every time Mulvane scored in the fourth quarter, East seemed to have an answer. East shot over 50% (27-for-53) from the floor, making three three-pointers, and were also 13-for-18 from the line, with most of them coming down the stretch.

"East has a tough combination of quick guards and inside strength," said Landes. "Our interior defense was not very good against their big girls inside. Our girls played hard the whole game, but once we fell behind by double figures, it was just too much to make up against a team like East."

Buchanan led Mulvane with 18 points while Roberts added 17, including all four of Mulvane's three-pointers, three of them coming in the fourth quarter. The Wildcats got eight points from Gosch, four from Turner, three from Melinda McKee, and two each from Maddie Wise, Ybarra, and Parker. The 'Cats finished 14-for-20 from the line.

Incidentally, East's first-year head coach is Susan Woolf, the former Andover High star who is still the all-time Kansas high-school girls' career scoring leader. Woolf still also holds the Lady Wildcat Classic single-season (102 in 1994) and career (379) tournament scoring records.

East went on to defeat top seed Garden Plain, 60-58, in Saturday's championship game to win their second straight Lady Wildcat Classic title. In Saturday's other games, Arkansas City defeated Campus for fifth place, 62-34, and Wellington defeated Wichita Angels Academy for seventh place, 79-23.

Buchanan and Roberts were among the 10 players selected to this year's All-Tournament Team. Wichita East also had two selections (Christine Elliott and Tarita Gordon) while Garden Plain had three (Kim Kerschen, Anna Perry, and Michelle Hilger). Rounding out the All-Tournament Team were Clearwater's Melissa Brockleman, Arkansas City's Kashilia Young, and Wellington's Courtney Goodrum.

The Outstanding Coach Award went to Clearwater's Chuck Reiterberger. Wichita Angels Academy was given the Sportsmanship Award.

This year's C.V. Hartung Award went to Clearwater's Jessica Frischenmeyer.

The Wildcats return to action Friday night, Feb. 3, at Clearwater, starting at 6 p.m.



## Lady Wildcat Classic

### THIRD PLACE

Clearwater	7	4	8	8-27
Mulvane	15	12	17	7-51

Clearwater—Jordan Mills 6, Jenna Mellen 2, Melissa Brockleman 10, Jessica Frischenmeyer 2, Abbee Widler 3, Melanie Brockleman 4. FG 11 (1), FT 4-17.

Mulvane—Megan Turner 2, Laura Buchanan 12, Josey Gosch 9, Tara Roberts 9, Maddie Wise 5, Kristi Parker 4, Katie Ybarra 5, Caitlin Wise 1, Amanda Hagerman 4. FG 20 (5), FT 6-9.

### CHAMPIONSHIP

Wichita East 60, Garden Plain 58

### FIFTH PLACE

Arkansas City 62, Campus 34

### SEVENTH PLACE

Wellington 79, Wichita Angels Academy 23

### SEMIFINALS

Mulvane	17	9	10	20-56
Wichita East	15	19	14	22-70

Mulvane—Tara Roberts 17, Megan Turner 4, Josey Gosch 8, Laura Buchanan 18, Maddie Wise 2, Melinda McKee 3, Kristi Parker 2, Katie Ybarra 2. FG 19 (4), FT 14-20.

Wichita East—Robertson Olunya 4, Cecilia Louis 15, Christine Elliott 16, Patience Carter 3, Tarita Gordon 23, Tiara Gary 7, Teshya Hurd 2. FG 27 (3), FT 13-18.

Garden Plain 55, Clearwater 43

### CONSOLATION

Arkansas City 40, Wellington 37 (OT)  
Campus 56, Wichita Angels Academy 4

### FIRST ROUND

Mulvane 83, Wichita Angels Academy 17  
Wichita East 67, Campus 27  
Garden Plain 63, Wellington 56  
Clearwater 34, Arkansas City 33

## Lady Wildcat Classic All-Tournament Team

Tarita Gordon, Jr., Wichita East; Michelle Hilger, Sr., Garden Plain; Laura Buchanan, Sr., Mulvane; Melissa Brockleman, Jr., Clearwater; Kashilia Young, Jr., Arkansas City; Courtney Goodrum, Jr., Wellington; Christine Elliott, Soph., Wichita East; Anna Perry, Sr., Garden Plain; Tara Roberts, Sr., Mulvane; Kim Kerschen, Soph., Garden Plain.

Outstanding Coach—Chuck Reiterberger, Clearwater.

Sportsmanship Award—Wichita Angels Academy.  
C.V. Hartung Award—Jessica Frischenmeyer, Sr., Clearwater.