

Long Bombs Make For Short Sub-State

It's too bad the Mulvane High School girls couldn't have played just four players Tuesday night, March 1, in the first round of the Wellington Class 4A Sub-State.

The Wildcats were at Andover Central for the first round and beat the far out of four Central players, 53-30, but it was the fifth one that got 'em. The Jaguars' Kari Kincaid poured in 34 points and swept the Cats away in a stream of three-pointers as Central eliminated Mulvane, 64-53.

The loss ended the season for Coach Dale Landes' MHS Cats with a 7-14 mark and Central marched on to meet Kingman in the semifinals Friday night, March 4, in Wellington.

When you think about the numbers, it's amazing the Wildcats were as close as they were at the end, a tribute to a team that had battle in its heart. Kincaid buried six threes in a row and finished with 6-for-8 beyond the arc in the first half. She had 23 points by intermission.

"We knew by watching film and talking in practice that she was going to shoot from 25 feet out, a good five-to-six feet off the three-point line," pointed out Landes. "We just didn't do a very good job getting out on her."

Ironically, when the Cats switched to a zone, it seemed they did a better job of defending Kincaid. "We really played them tough in the second half, we just couldn't overcome that poor start defensively," said the Cat coach. "We just didn't stop a hot shooter. We knew it was coming but we didn't get it stopped."

The Wildcats heated up in the second half, making it interesting. Three of the four times this year when the Cat girls have

scored 53 or more points in a game, they've won. Not this time, though.

"Fifty-three points is going to win us a lot of games but what I was most proud of is that we didn't shut down in the second half," said Landes. "We made a few adjustments to get a little more motion in our motion offense and we did a good job of getting it close. In that second half, we played about as good as we can play. The girls never quit."

The girls had another good night at the stripe, too, making 12 of 19 tosses. Central was 6 for 7, though.

Senior Abby Sorensen closed out her high school career with 14 points, one of three Cats in double figures. Junior Tara Roberts scored 12 points and junior Josey Gosch had 10. Whitney Becker scored six. Laura Buchanan had five and Megan Turner scored four.

Landes' Cats saw their late season hot streak turn cold in the regular season finale Thursday night, Feb. 24, even though they were playing at home. Rose Hill ended Mulvane's modest two-game winning streak.

Using a quick start, the Rockets held off the Wildcats in a frantic last quarter drive to take a 53-49 victory.

It snapped a six game losing streak and was RH's first win in February.

"We came out tight and nervous and their pressure bothered us some in the first half but we did a much better job in the second half and got back in the ball game. Abby started penetrating and either drove to the rim or dished off. It made us a better team offensively because we scored 35

points in the second half."

That's after scoring a dismal 14 points in the first two quarters which left the Wildcats in a hole. The Cats actually cut the lead to only two points—several times—but never could grab the lead against the Rockets. "We couldn't get that one stop, that one basket that could have put us over the hump," said Landes.

"We did play with a lot more confidence in the second half. We did a good job offensively but we didn't do a very good job of keeping tabs on their shooters and recognizing where they were."

Landes said he felt the Cats came out anxious. "We were anxious because it is a rivalry game for these girls and they were just tight. We settled back at halftime and talked about what we needed to do to break their pressure. After intermission, we did a pretty good job of it, but we couldn't overcome that poor start. It's always tough playing uphill like that."

Mulvane made 15 of 19 free throws which helped close the gap as the Wildcats outscored the Rockets, 35-33, in the second half.

Sorensen finished with 16 points and Roberts scored 13. Becker dumped in nine points and both Tasha Parman and Buchanan had four points.

Mulvane rallied to victory in the junior varsity game against Rose Hill. After trailing 9-2 early, Mulvane rolled past the RH jayvees, 43-35, with Whitney Sullivan scoring 14 points, Kristi Parker hitting 10, Melinda McKee seven and Jordan Martin six.

In the JV game against Buhler, the Cats never could overcome a slow start, losing by a 43-33 count. McKee scored eight points and Martin and Katie Ybarra had six each.

Wellington Girls Class 4A Sub-State Results

FIRST ROUND

Mulvane	10	14	10	19-53
Andover Central	25	13	13	13-64
Mulvane--Josey Gosch 10, Tara Roberts 12, Abby Sorensen 14, Megan Turner 4, Laura Buchanan 5, Whitney Becker 6, Tasha Parman 2. FG 19 (3), FT 12-19, F 9.				
Andover Central--Anderson 3, Kari Kincaid 34, Gee 14, Reynolds 7, Porter 2, Snyder 4. FG 24 (10), FT 6-7, F 17.				

Clearwater	55	Rose Hill	49	
Wellington	48	Kingman	46	
Douglass	45	Belle Plaine	29	

Girls Varsity

Rose Hill	13	7	16	17-53
Mulvane	7	7	15	20-49
Rose Hill--Erica Rothweiler 8, Lacy Barnes 8, Deva Logsdon 11, Kristen Ozburn 3, Jenny Barnes 19, Leslie Parrish 4. FG 16 (4), FT 17-26, F 16.				
Mulvane--Tara Roberts 13, Whitney Becker 9, Tasha Parman 4, Abby Sorensen 16, Megan Turner 2, Laura Buchanan 4, Josey Gosch 1. FG 15 (4), FT 15-19, F 17.				

Junior Varsity Girls

Rose Hill	9	5	6	15-35
Mulvane	2	13	10	18-43
Rose Hill--Rebecca Sooter 2, Madison Lucas 4, Erica Herfman 20, Lyndsey Dewey 2, Nicole Dunphy 2, Courtney Campbell 5. FG 12 (1), FT 10-15, F 18.				
Mulvane--Whitney Sullivan 14, Jordan Martin 6, Caitlin Wise 2, Amanda Hagerman 3, Melinda McKee 7, Kristi Parker 10, Emily Stahl 1. FG 14 (4), FT 11-18, F 15.				
Buhler	9	14	11	8-42
Mulvane	2	14	6	11-33
Buhler--Feslen 4, Beardslee 2, Cikanek 14, Jones 2, Wirths 5, D. Reed 2, Bridges 2, Wilson 7, A. Reed 2, Esau 2. FG 18 (1), FT 5-13, F 17.				
Mulvane--Amanda Hagerman 2, Whitney Sullivan 3, Caitlin Wise 2, Tiffany Pudden 2, Melinda McKee 8, Jordan Martin 6, Katie Ybarra 6, Chandler Peterson 4. FG 11 (4), FT 7-13, F 14.				



Mulvane's Whitney Becker (23) gets ready to spring for a basket underneath against RH

AVCT League

Girls Basketball Standings

DIVISION III

Team	LEAGUE		OVERALL	
	W	L	W	L
El Dorado	8	2	13	8
Buhler	7	3	12	9
Wellington	5	5	10	11
Rose Hill	4	6	11	10
Augusta	3	7	8	13
Mulvane	3	7	7	14

DIVISION IV

Circle	9	1	19	2
Kingman	7	3	11	10
Andover Central	6	4	16	5
Andale	4	6	10	11
Clearwater	4	6	9	12
Andover	1	9	2	19

x-won league championship
Sub-State Sites
 At Wellington--Andover Central, Wellington, Clearwater
 At El Dorado--Andale, Circle
 At Clay Center--Buhler