

Late Spurt By Rose Hill Bad News For Cat Girls

The Mulvane High School girls' basketball team started play at the Andale Early-Season Tournament Tuesday, Dec. 6, and came up just short in a tight defensive struggle against AVCTL III rival Rose Hill.

A 14-6 third-quarter deficit proved to be too much to overcome as the Wildcats dropped a 41-34 decision in their tournament opener. The Wildcats are now 1-1.

The 'Cats fell behind early, trailing 12-6 after one quarter, but Mulvane rebounded to outscore the Rockets 10-4 in the second period, tying the game at 16-16 by halftime. Rose Hill went on a run in the third quarter, leading by as much as 10, but a Laura Buchanan put-back brought the margin to 30-22 by the end of the quarter. Mulvane cut the lead to four points, thanks to back-to-back three-pointers by Tara Roberts, but they got no closer.

Roberts was the only Wildcat in double figures, scoring 16 points to lead her team in scoring for the second straight game. Mulvane also got eight points from

Andale Early-Season Tournament FIRST ROUND

Mulvane	6	10	6	12-34
Rose Hill	12	4	14	11-41

Mulvane—Katie Ybarra 1, Melinda McKee 2, Laura Buchanan 8, Josey Gosch 7, Tara Roberts 16. FG 15 (2), FT 2-3.

Rose Hill—Dava Logsdon 10, Bekah Sooter 3, Erica Herman 7, Kristen Ozbun 11, Emily Jones 2, Madison Lucas 8. FG 17 (1), FT 6-9.

Varsity Girls

Mulvane	15	16	15	10-56
Winfield	9	14	11	10-44

Mulvane—Maddie Wise 2, Megan Turner 3, Whitney Sullivan 2, Melinda McKee 2, Caitlin Wise 2, Laura Buchanan 13, Kristi Parker 2, Josey Gosch 12, Tara Roberts 18. FG 22 (4), FT 8-12.

Winfield—Johnson 1, Roth 3, See 3, Jauregui 10, Jackett 4, Waite 2, German 3, Watson 18. FG 16 (2), FT 10-17.

Junior Varsity Girls

Mulvane	5	5	14	12-36
Winfield	12	7	7	11-37

Mulvane—Maddie Wise 6, Amanda Hagerman 4, Whitney Sullivan 1, Kaitlin Lanzrath 2, Lexi Linnebur 4, Emily Stahl 9, Kristen Lervik 2, Caitlin Wise 3, Jordan Martin 5. FG 11 (1), FT 13-24.

Winfield—Miller 12, Jackson 8, Soto 3, Johnson 4, Legalo 5, Branseum 1, Jackson 3, Young 1. FG 12 (1), FT 12-28.

Andale Early Season Tournament Girls Pairings

TONIGHT (DEC. 8)

4 p.m.—Rose Hill girls vs. Douglass girls

7:30 — Mulvane girls vs. Andale girls

FRIDAY, DEC. 9

4 p.m.—Mulvane girls vs. Douglass girls

7:30 — Rose Hill girls vs. Andale girls

Buchanan, seven from Josey Gosch, two from Melinda McKee, and one from Katie Ybarra. Rose Hill got 11 points from Kristen Ozbun and 10 from Dava Logsdon.

The Wildcats' season opener at Winfield Friday night, Dec. 2, was all about a good start. Not just to the game, but to the season.

They got it.

Mulvane grabbed an early lead and kept it, defeating the host Vikings, 56-44. "The biggest key to winning was starting quickly," said MHS head coach Dale Landes. "It was something we talked about the last few days of practice. Last season, we had some really bad starts to some games, and we struggled to come back. We shot the ball well, we took pretty good care of the ball, and we made some key plays when we had to."

The Wildcats jumped out to a 15-9 lead after one quarter. They extended the margin to eight by halftime and 12 by the end of the third quarter. Mulvane shot 46% from the floor and were 8-of-12 from the free-throw line. They out-rebounded the Vikings, 25-21, and forced 18 turnovers while committing 14.

"Defensively, we did some good things, but we also showed weakness at times," said Landes. "The three things we try to stress defensively are contesting each shot, not giving up second chances, and limiting our opponents' drives to the basket. We did fairly well in those areas, but we know we'll have to get better as the season goes on."

Roberts was 4-for-6 from three-point range and finished with a game-high-tying 18 points. Roberts was joined in double figures by Buchanan with 13 points and Gosch with 12. Gosch also led Mulvane with seven rebounds while Buchanan added five. Senior 5-10 guard Megan Turner led the 'Cats with seven assists.



Melinda McKee (24) drives past a Rose Hill defender in a 1st round game

"Tara's shooting early in the game set up our post players later," said Landes. "Josey and Laura both got good looks underneath, especially in the second half. We showed a lot of balance on offense. Our guard play was pretty good, particularly Megan, Katie Ybarra, and Maddie Wise. Katie and Maddie both handled the ball well, and Megan was getting out on the break and setting up her teammates very well with her passing."

The Mulvane junior varsity rallied late

but lost a tough 37-36 decision at Winfield. Nine different Wildcats scored, led by Emily Stahl with nine points, Maddie Wise with six, and Jordan Martin with five.

The Andale tournament continues tonight (Dec. 8), with Mulvane meeting host Andale at 7:30 p.m. The 'Cats will play Douglass to wrap up the tournament Friday, Dec. 9, at 4 p.m. The Wildcats play their home opener Tuesday night, Dec. 13, against El Dorado at 6 p.m.