

Sizzle At Line, Too

# Wildcat Girls Bring On Their Best Offense

The Mulvane High School basketball girls went from their worst game of the year to their best.

And it only took three days to get there.

The Wildcat gals were coming off their lowest offensive production of the 2004-05 season—26 points against El Dorado. It was a different story Friday night, Dec. 17, at home against Wellington. The Cats were clicking on all cylinders and racked up a 55-47.

That's more points in one game than the MHS girls have scored in the last 46 games dating back to their first game of the 2002-03 season when the Cats lost in overtime to Kingman, 65-62.

"That's the way we should play all the time," said Coach Dale Landes, who's team boosted its record to 2-4 heading into the holiday break. "We were pretty much up-tempo, our defense was more intense and our offense was patient when we didn't get shots off our fastbreak. Every aspect of our game improved from our last outing."

The Crusaders took the early lead but the Cats roared back in the 2nd and 3rd quarters. The 3rd quarter was pivotal as the Wildcats out-scored Wellington, 18-9, to build a 10-point lead.

"Our defense caused a few turnovers and our fastbreak helped widen the gap for us," said Landes. "Just the day before in practice, we put in a half-court trap and that seemed to throw them off just enough to get a few turnovers and scores to get some momentum going."

Balance was the big word for the Cats. On offense, seven players scored with guard Tara Roberts tossing in a game-high 17 points. Abby Sorensen finished with 14 for the Cats and Whitney Becker added eight. Laura Buchanan, Josey Gosch and Kristi Parker each chipped in four points, too.

"What that half-court trap allowed us to do was pressure them a little bit and make them take shots they were uncomfortable taking," said Landes. "Once we got into the late stages of the game with the lead, the girls knew what to do. We wanted to have Abby handling the ball as much as possible. She's a good free throw shooter and handles the ball. That made it tough for them to make up much ground on us."

And what's up at the free throw line? The Wildcats were 12 out of 13 from the stripe. The charity stripe has been a source of despair for Landes and the Wildcats in the last two ball games. The numbers for the last three games have been 6-for-17, 4-for-12 and 12-for-25. Friday night, however, the free throw line was user-friendly. "These girls can hit the free throws, it's just a matter of doing it game-in and game-out," said Landes.

"Our bench really did a tremendous job, too," added Coach Landes. "Kristi Parker came in there and gave us some great minutes and so did Keeper Thompson."

The Mulvane jayvee team hit 9 out of 13 free throws in the last quarter and rallied to a 36-32 triumph over Wellington's JV team. Megan Turner led the scoring for the Cats with 13 points but it was Whitney Sullivan at the stripe with seven 4th quarter free

## Girls Varsity

Wellington 47, Mulvane 55  
MHS: Abby Sorensen 14, Tara Roberts 17, Whitney Becker 8, Kristi Parker 4, Josey Gosch 4, Laura Buchanan 4, Keeper Thompson 4, Megan Turner 4, Whitney Sullivan 3, Kristi Parker 2, Abby Sorensen 2, Tara Roberts 2, El Dorado 26  
MHS: Whitney Becker 8, Tara Roberts 17, Abby Sorensen 14, Josey Gosch 4, Kristi Parker 4, Laura Buchanan 4, Keeper Thompson 4, Megan Turner 4, Whitney Sullivan 3, Kristi Parker 2, Abby Sorensen 2, Tara Roberts 2, El Dorado 26

## Junior Varsity Girls

Wellington 47, Mulvane 55  
Wellington: Mandi Zerk, Katie Johnson, Erica Kopp, Keri Kopp, Bryanna Turner, Whitney Turner, Kristi Turner, Abby Martin, Tara Roberts, El Dorado 26  
MHS: Kristi Parker 4, Tara Roberts 4, Megan McKee 4, Whitney Sullivan 3, Abby Sorensen 2, Whitney Becker 2, Josey Gosch 2, Kristi Parker 2, Abby Sorensen 2, Tara Roberts 2, El Dorado 26  
MHS: Whitney Sullivan 3, Abby Sorensen 2, Whitney Becker 2, Josey Gosch 2, Kristi Parker 2, Abby Sorensen 2, Tara Roberts 2, El Dorado 26

## Douglass JV Tournament

Mulvane 55, Wellington 47  
Wellington: Mandi Zerk, Erica Kopp, Keri Kopp, Bryanna Turner, Whitney Turner, Kristi Turner, Abby Martin, Tara Roberts, El Dorado 26  
MHS: Kristi Parker 4, Tara Roberts 4, Megan McKee 4, Whitney Sullivan 3, Abby Sorensen 2, Whitney Becker 2, Josey Gosch 2, Kristi Parker 2, Abby Sorensen 2, Tara Roberts 2, El Dorado 26

throws that kept the Cats on top. She finished with seven points. Jordan Martin also scored seven and Melinda McKee had five points for Mulvane.

After taking a few days off, the Mulvane girls will get back on the practice floor Monday, Dec. 27, to prepare for their next game, which will be Friday, Jan. 7, against Augusta.