

Rocket Pressure Takes Toll;

Cat Girls Stumble In 1997

When Rose Hill turned up the heat, the Mulvane High School girls burned their fingers.

Rose Hill used its well-oiled pressure defense to force turnovers Tuesday night, Jan. 7, when the MHS girls visited Rose Hill and the hosts rolled to a 56-40 Chisholm Trail League triumph.

The loss was the second straight for the Cats in the league and left Dennis' troopers at 2-2 in the CTL and 3-4 overall. The game also gave Rose Hill sweet revenge for an upset the Wildcats pulled a year ago which gave Dennis her first victory as a Mulvane head coach.

There were no "high-fives" Tuesday night. "I am not pleased, it's pretty disgusting," admitted Dennis. "We had 15 turnovers in the first half and we probably ended up with about 30. We're just playing dumb basketball. Rose Hill is a team we should be able to compete with but when you don't play smart ball, you lose. That's pretty disappointing."

Dennis outlined several areas where the Cat girls played like they didn't think.

"We had Dannelle (Hughes) sitting inside with a hot hand," said Dennis. "She scores six points in the first half, then we quite trying to go inside. We start having trouble deciding what's a good pass. I think when the girls went down into the offensive end, they had no idea of what they wanted to do. We should have an idea of what we want to do every time down the court."

"Every time Dannelle touched the ball, we scored. She came on with eight in the third and six more in the fourth. Rose Hill played behind her but we couldn't seem to figure out how to pass the ball inside."

A second area was defensively. When

Mulvane pulled to within 10 points with about six minutes left, Rose Hill's Summer Pearson dropped through three straight three-pointers in to take the doubt out of the contest. "We sat back and let her hit one after the other," said Dennis. "I would think that after the first one, you would know where this girl was and get in her face. We didn't seem to want to stop her. Hey, this girl's killing you! What on earth is going through our minds?"

Hughes finished with a game-high 21 points but three other Wildcat starters were held without a point. "I don't know what happened to Lindsay (Kendrick), Crissy (Carpenter) and Michelle (Fowler)," said Dennis. "They had been pretty consistent until this game."

However, reserves Shelley Richards and Kassie Hargrove came through offensively. Richards scored nine points and Hargrove had six off the bench. Mulvane's other points came from Melissa Buchanan, who had four.

Fowler was starting in pace of senior Carrie Burkhart, who injured her knee in the Andale game three days earlier.

"It's pretty amazing," added Dennis. "We just keep making the same mistakes over and over again. It kind of gets old. With as many turnovers as we had, if we just cut that down by five, we would be in the game. You can't turn the ball over. Period. And we don't seem to understand that."

In the jayvee girls contest at Rose Hill, the Cats couldn't get an offense stirring in the second half and lost by a 37-25 count. Mulvane scored only eight points in the last half.

Kristen Buchanan led the scorers for

Mulvane with six points. Victoria Padilla scored four points and Heather Williams had five.

A sluggish first half gave Andale all the room it needed Friday night, Jan. 3, in Mulvane and the Indians coasted to a 54-40 verdict over the Wildcat girls in the first game of 1997.

The loss dropped the Cats to 3-3 overall and 2-1 in the league.

Mulvane stayed with Andale in the second half but never could make up for an 11-point deficit which occurred in the second quarter. And Mulvane's inside game never did get untracked, which helped keep Andale on top.

Top scorers for Coach Dennis' girls were sophomore guard Lindsay Kendrick and senior center Dannelle Hughes. Each scored eight points. Crissy Carpenter finished with six points, 9th grader Kassie Hargrove showed promise with five points, including the team's only three-pointer, and Kristen Buchanan finished with four.

"The second quarter was the difference, they scored and we couldn't score," said Dennis. "And they were so much more physical than we were. We were down only a couple points after the first quarter but we must have had nine or 10 turnovers in that quarter. The only thing that kept us in the game early was that we shot the ball so well."

Eventually, the turnovers mounted and the Wildcat shooting couldn't keep up. That led to Andale climbing to a 32-17 lead by intermission. "The turnovers and their ability to get second shots just killed us," said the MHS coach. "We gave them way too many second shots. I think they scored about 10 points off second shots, and we're not a good enough team to let someone do that to us and win it."

In the junior varsity girls' game, the Cats sprinted in the third quarter and never let up in a 47-36 victory, raising their record to 1-2 for the year.

Leading Coach Dale Landes' jayvee girls were Ashley McCoskey with 12 points, Kristen Buchanan with 10, Kassie Hargrove with six and guard Shiriah Craft with five.

The girls will be back in action Friday night, Jan. 10, when they entertain Clearwater in a Chisholm Trail League series.

	Varsity Girls			
Mulvane	11	7	12	10-40
Rose Hill	13	18	15	10-56

Mulvane—Dannelle Hughes 21, Kassie Hargrove 6, Melissa Buchanan 4, Shelley Richards 9, Crissy Carpenter 0. FG 16 (3), FT 5-7, F 18.

Rose Hill—Brandy Erdman 17, Summer Pearson 15, Lisa Brockmeier 7, Katie Woodrow 7, Chelsea Stancoff 6, Erica Schoenherr 3, Heather Savoy 1. FG 20 (4), FT 12-22, F 9.

	Junior Varsity Girls			
Mulvane	9	8	3	5-25
Rose Hill	7	4	14	12-37

Mulvane—Victoria Padilla 4, Rachel Rose 2, Andrea Hufford 2, Kassie Hargrove 2, Kristen Buchanan 6, Shiriah Craft 1, Krystal LaPlant 1, Heather Williams 5, Piper Roy 2. FG 9 (0), FT 7-16, F 16.

Rose Hill—Jessica Tracy 5, Jennifer Draper 2, Rachel Swanson 5, Katie Schofield 12, Regan Jacobson 2, Lori Manion 11. FG 16 (1), FT 4-14, F 17.

	Varsity Girls			
Andale	16	16	9	13-54
Mulvane	12	5	10	13-40

Andale—Emmy Horsch 3, Christine Gorges 16, Stacey Eck 6, Maggie Eck 6, Angie Strunk 4, Missi Eck 14, Betsy Eck 4, Julie Eck 1. FG 21 (0), FT 12-22, F 18.

Mulvane—Lindsay Kendrick 8, Carrie Burkhart 1, Crissy Carpenter 6, Dannelle Hughes 8, Melissa Buchanan 2, Kristen Buchanan 4, Shelley Richards 3, Kassie Hargrove 5, Jennifer McCoskey 1, Rachel Rose 1, Ashley McCoskey 1. FG 15 (1), FT 7-13, F 18.

	Junior Varsity Girls			
Andale	4	6	7	19-36
Mulvane	10	6	16	15-47

Andale—Betsy Eck 4, Susan Jones 1, Tammy Martin 3, Abby Ungles 2, Steph Lewick 7, Angie Strunk 1, Jenny Kampling 18. FG 12 (0), FT 12-24, F 21.

Mulvane—Victoria Padilla 3, Holly Baker 2, Ashley McCoskey 12, Rachel Rose 4, Kassie Hargrove 6, Kristen Buchanan 10, Shiriah Craft 5, Kristal LaPlant 2, Heather Williams 3. FG 18 (0), FT 11-22, F 22.