

Mulvane Girls Scramble Back Into Thick Of Race

Hold your horses. There is a scramble for first place in the Chisholm Trail League Division II after all. The Mulvane High School Wildcat girls saw to that Tuesday night, Jan. 12, when they knocked off Circle, 41-40, in a CTL game at Circle.

The Wildcats, playing their best ball of the year, held off the Thunderbirds' rush at the end when Shelley Richards slipped behind Circle's pressure defense and took a pass for a lay-up, then about a minute later, she made one of two free throws for the

Varsity Girls

Mulvane	14	6	8	13	41
Circle	10	9	8	13	40

Mulvane: Lindsay Kendrick 7, Kristin Buchanan 6, Ann Leonard 6, Shiriah Craft 4, Jackie McCulpin 2, Shelley Richards 11, Kassie Hargrove 4, Natalie Jumer 2. FG 18 (0), FT 5 (1), F 20.

Circle: Danielle Hecker 4, Amber Laughlin 12, Allison Berry 10, Mica Hammer 4, Gina Hall 8, Jessa Avasmith 2. FG 14 (4), FT 8 (5), F 18.

Junior Varsity Girls

Mulvane	5	4	5	9	23
Circle	8	8	15	5	36

Mulvane: LaShelle Parker 7, Aubrey Benjamin 8, Jackie Burkhardt 1, Katie Bagby 2, Andrea Valerio 2, Danielle Vanderhoof 2, Cansa Ward 1. FG 8 (0), FT 7 (2), F 21.

Circle: Megan Carson 6, Cori Sullard 4, Heidi Wooderson 4, Melissa Wendell 2, Abby Davis 2, Sarah Mills 2, Kanna Lowmaster 2, Sandra Dugan 2, Michelle Todd 12. FG 12 (0), FT 12 (5), F 15.

final margin of victory.

The win boosted the Cats into second place in the league at 2-1 and 4-3 overall. Circle slipped to third with a 2-2 mark and a 6-2 record overall.

"What really won the game for us is that we did our best job in the rebounding department," said Jayson Miller, the Cat first-year coach. "Arin Leonard did a great job on the boards and that was the equalizer. It helped us control the boards, and when you're on the road, you have to go to the boards hard on both ends. We did that."

The MHS girls also had a full load ready for the first time this year. In an injury-stricken season, the Wildcats finally got play out of all their players. "The girls were really focused well for this game," said Miller. "And it was nice to have all our weapons available. We had our seniors step up very big for us. We hit some timely buckets. Circle made several runs at us but every time they did, it seemed like we always had the answer for them and somebody would step up and hit a big bucket."

The Cats held the lead much of the way but Circle made a mad dash at the finish line, making it 38-38 with less than two minutes remaining. As the T-Birds pressed

to get the ball, Richards slipped behind them and took a pass for a lay-up and a 40-38 lead but with less than a minute left, Circle tied it with a jumper. Richards answered that call with a free throw, and the Wildcats had another free throw with less than five seconds left but missed it. Circle could manage only a half-court shot.

Richards finished with a team-high 11 points but there were plenty of scoring accolades to go around. Guard Lindsay Kendrick scored seven points and frontliners Kristin Buchanan and Leonard pitched in six apiece. Shiriah Craft and Kassie Hargrove scored four points each.

Circle had too much for the Cats in the jayvee game, winning by a 36-23 count. Top scorer for Coach Dale Landes' MHS jayvees was Aubrey Benjamin with eight points. Freshman LaShelle Parker had her best game with seven points.