

Little Things Count Big

It's the little things that count. The young Mulvane High School girls basketball squad has been reminded of that the last two games.

Both games have been losses. So, what do you suppose that says about the "little things?"

"We've gotten away from the things that made us successful earlier, we're not taking care of the little things that count the most," stressed Jayson Miller, the MHS girls cage coach. "We've been out-played twice in a row. I'm pretty disappointed, not in the girls but in how we have played. We haven't played up to our ability. I think the girls have played hard in those two losses but they haven't played smart at times."

Five victories in their first six games gave way to the reality that little things mean the most. The Wildcats lost their second in a row Friday night, Jan. 12, when they went to Andale to take on the Chisholm Trail League Division II perennial power. Andale won that game by a 51-45 score. The Cats were fresh from a 65-57 road loss at Goddard Tuesday night, Jan. 9.

"We realize we're playing some of the better teams around now but we should be able to win those games," said Miller. "It's the little things that are hurting us. We're not taking care of the ball. We're not playing good defense and we're not rebounding very good."

Two weeks ago, Miller had hoped to pull a win or two out of a meat grinder of a schedule. Playing Goddard and Andale on the road and Buhler in Mulvane is some kind of a sadistic stretch of games. Now, the Cats will have to handle Buhler, which is coming off its first loss of the year, Friday night, Jan. 19, in their next game before the opening of the 30th annual Mulvane Wildcat Girl Classic next week.

The Cats gave the Andale Indians fits in the first half, taking a two-point lead into the 3rd quarter. Andale picked up speed in the last half and stretched out a lead to win it.

"Andale is a great team and we knew they were going to make a run but they still took us out of our game in the second half," said Miller. "Offensively we just got pretty

Mulvane Wildcat Girls Classic Pairings

MONDAY, JAN. 22

Game 1 -- Mulvane (5-3) vs. Wellington (4-3), 6 p.m.
Game 2 -- Garden Plain (6-2) vs. Clearwater (1-6), 7:45

TUESDAY, JAN. 23

Game 3 -- Andale (6-3) vs. Arkansas City (4-5), 6 p.m.
Game 4 -- Campus (6-3) vs. Andover (2-5), 7:45

THURSDAY, JAN. 25

Game 5 -- losers of games 1 and 2, main gym, 4 p.m.
Game 6 -- losers of games 3 and 4, auxiliary gym, 4 p.m.
Game 7 -- winners of games 3 and 4, main gym, 6 p.m.
Game 8 -- winners of games 1 and 2, main gym, 7:45

SATURDAY, JAN. 27

Game 9 (Seventh Place)--losers of games 5 and 6, 2 p.m.
Game 10 (Fifth Place)--winners of games 5 and 6, 3:45
Game 11 (Third Place)--losers of games 7 and 8, 5:30
Game 12 (First Place)--winners of games 7 and 8, 7:30

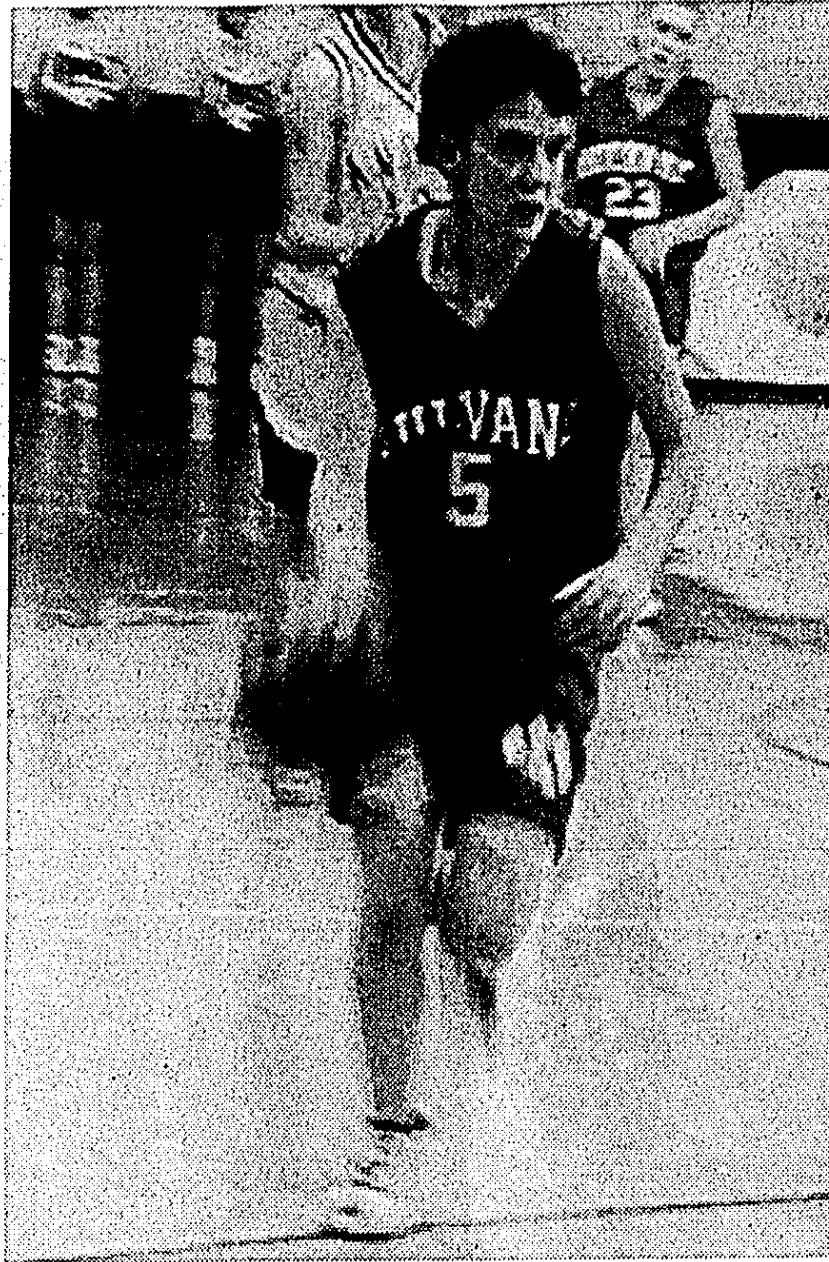
stagnant. You take Sami (Booth) out of the game and it's over early. She hit some big shots when we didn't have anybody else step up offensively. I think that led to us getting a little frustrated at the defensive end, too."

Booth finished with 16 points. Center LaShelle Parker also was in double digits, scoring 12. Senior Andrea Valerio scored six points and guard Melissa Doerfer scored five.

Miller also wasn't happy with the Wildcats not taking advantage of the Indians' poor free throwing down the stretch. Fouling and hoping for a miss is part of the late-game plan when you're behind. Andale helped the cause by going 10-for-25 at the stripe including a six-for-15 showing in the last quarter, but the Cats couldn't take advantage of the mis-fires.

"We were trying to get back in the game but we just lost our focus with some turnovers that last quarter," said Miller."

At Goddard, it wasn't much of a contest after the Lions roared out to a 47-27, half-time lead. Mulvane made it close with a late run but never got dangerously close.



Guard Melissa Doerfer makes a steal and heads for a lay up against A

"They ran all over us in the first half and that was the game," stated Miller. "We played very poorly in the first half. It was very obvious that we were rushing. Goddard got us to play their style of game. We need to play a slower pace. I just hope our girls learn from that experience. We know what type of team we have to be to be successful and we weren't being that type of team."

"About the only thing I was happy about with that game is that we never gave up and we kept coming at them," said Miller. "We just need to get back to the drawing board and do what makes us successful."

Parker scored 21 points against Goddard and had plenty of help from Doerfer's 11 points and eight apiece by Jackie Burkhart and Kris Lazar.

In the junior varsity games, the Wildcats were knocked down a couple notches. At Andale, the Indians roasted the Cats, 56-11, and at Goddard, the Lions punished Mulvane in the second half of a 42-25 setback.

Michelle Dinkel had eight points, Emily Turner scored seven and Shayna Duncan and Janie Wilkinson scored six and four, respectively, in the Cats' loss at Andale.

Top JV scorers for Mulvane at Goddard were Wilkinson and Duncan with eight apiece.

Varsity Girls

Mulvane	12	10	10	13-45
Andale	8	12	15	16-51
Mulvane—Jackie Burkhart 2, Melissa Doerfer 5, Sami Booth 16, Kris Lazar 4, LaShelle Parker 12, Andrea Valerio 6. FG 19 (0), FT 7-11, F 19.				
Andale—Kristin Faber 6, Dani Eck 2, Katie Gatlin 12, Tracy Patry 18, Jackie Regan 4, Julie Weber 5, Heidi Hein 2. FG 20 (1), FT 10-25, F 13.				

Junior Varsity Girls

Mulvane	6	8	6	11-31
Andale	19	15	12	9-56
Mulvane—Emily Turner 7, Cristen Richards 2, Janie Wilkinson 4, Lacie Leatherman 2, Kayla Linnebur 2, Michelle Dinkel 8, Shayna Duncan 6. FG 15 (0), FT 1-5, F 10.				
Andale--no scoring available.				
Mulvane	7	4	5	9-25
Goddard	9	6	11	15-42
Mulvane—Michelle Dinkel 2, Janie Wilkinson 8, Emily Turner 1, Shayna Duncan 8, Sami Booth 2. FG 11 (0), FT 3-7, F 12.				
Goddard—Henning 2, Greenwood 4, Gourley 5, Powers 3, Borchers 12, Linnens 2, Bahns 2, Bing 6, Morgan 2, Donovan 4. FG 19 (0), FT 4-10, F 15.				