Mulvane Girls Reverse Outcome Against Rockets

It was just about a month ago when Rose Hill paddled the Mulvane High School girls on their way to claiming the championship of the Mulvane Early Season Tournament

There were a lot of things different when the two Chisholm Trail League teams met Friday night, Jan. 15, and the outcome left everybody wondering: "Is there that much difference in one month?"

The host Wildcats appeared to be a different team as they calmly pulled away from the Rockets for a 43-31 triumph. The victory boosted Mulvane into second place in Division II of the CTL

"That was a good one for us, the girls played hard all the way through, they stayed with it and were able to hit their free throws down the stretch to keep the lead in double digits," stressed Jayson Miller, the MHS girls coach "They are us up the first time we played a month ago, but we tried to come out with more intensity. I think it was something the girls had to prove to themselves. They wanted to show that they deserved to be on the floor and they did that"

High expectations at the start of the season turned into some head scratching after the Rockets romped the Cats, 50-24, in mid-December. There had to be a lot of head scratching after Friday's Mulvane victory, too, but it was all in the Rose Hill camp

"It's not hard to get up for a team that beat you by 26 the first time," said Miller "We were short on people in that first game because of injuries but I tried not to use that as an excuse for the girls. We just didn't play good basketball. I think it was probably our worst game of the season."

But how do you have a 38-point swing in less than one month? "We tried to do the same things we did earlier but just do them better," said Miller. "We did a much better job getting into our half-court offense and we did a fine job of controlling the tempo of the game. In that first game, we let them dictate the flow of the game. We took over Friday night and ran the game to our tempo and controlled things."

The Cats re-wrote the script in the second quarter after taking a one-point lead after one period. Mulvane out-scored Rose Hill, 14-4, to get the good lead, then held their own the rest of the way

Miller, whose Cats held RH to 31 after giving up 50 in the first meeting. "We tried to pick on the two girls who hart us in the fast game. We held one of them down but the other one got her points. Intensity was the big difference. In that first game, we weren't intense at all. The girls tried to do a better job of recognizing where their two big scorers were on the floor and to keep track of them."

On oftense, Miller's Wildcats put together a package of balance. Senior Shelley Richards topped the MHS scoring with 10 points. Senior Guard Lindsay Kendrick and junior Kassie Hargrove tossed in seven points apiece, senior Shiriah Craft scored six points followed by Kristin Buchanan with five.

"The girls did a good job spreading the offense around," emphasized Miller. "We got some good looks and we hit some timely shots. When they would made a run at us, we'd come down the floor and hit a shot. It always helps to hit your shots when the other team is trying to make a run."

Varsity Girls

Rose Hill 9 4 8 10 31 Mulvane 10 14 6 13 43

Rose Hill: Summer Peerson 5, Jessica Tracy 2 Martha Randall 5, Chelsea Stancoff 13, Kara Brockmeier 2 Rachel Swenson 2, Bonnie Addington 2 FG 13 (2), FT 3-6, F-16

Mulvane - Arin Leonard 4, Shiriah Craft 6, Kassie Hargrove 7, Kristig Buchanan 5, Shelley Richards 10, Lindsay Kendrick 7, Jackie McColpin 4, EG 16 (0), FT 11-15, F 9

Junior Varsity Girls

Rose Hill 9 15 1 8 33 Mulvane 4 6 5 2-17

Rose Hill: Karissa Thomas 5, Bonnie Addington 6, Natalie Hamlin 3, Andrea Dinkel 8, Lindsay Anthis 8, Stephams Hull 2, Dedna Decker 1, FG 14 (0), FT 5-13, F 9

Mulvane-- Aubrey Benjamin 4, LaShelle Parker 9, Kris Lazar 2, Jackie Burkhart 0, Andrea Valerio 2, FG 8 (0), FT 1-2, F 12

19th Annual Wildcat Girls Classic Pairings MONDAY, JAN. 25

Game I -- No. 4 Andover (5-3) vs. No. 5 Campus (6-5), 6 p.m.

Game 2 No. 1 Andale (8.2) vs. No. 8 Wellington (1.7), 7.45

TUESDAY, JAN. 26

Game 3. No. 3 Mulyane (5-3) vs. No. 6 Arkansas City (2-7), 6 p.m.

Game 4 -- No. 2 Garden Plain (7-2) vs. No. 7 Clearwater (1-7), 7-45

THURSDAY, JAN. 28

Game 5 losers of games 1 and 2, main gym, 4 p.m... Game 6 losers of games 3 and 4, auxiliary gym, 4

Game 7 winners of games 3 and 4, 6

Game 8 - winners of games 1 and 2, 7.45

SATURDAY, JAN. 30

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 (Championship)—winners of games 7 and 8, 30.
30.

Miller's girls improved their record—to 5-3 with their third consecutive victory—"I was happy with our effort," he added—"It was a good win for the girls, and I'm especially happy for the seniors. They wanted Rose Hill pretty badly. We talked about that last game and they didn't want Rose Hill to leave their court with a good impression."

In the junior varsity game, Rose Hill busted loose early, out-scoring the Cat JVs, 24-10, in the first half, then coasted to a 33-17 decision.

Freshman LaShelle Parker powered the Mulvane offense with nine points. Aubrey Benjamin had four points.

The girls will have a big test Friday, Jan. 22, when they go to Andale to tackle the league-leading Indians. Mulvane will host seven other schools in the 19th annual Wildcat Girls Classic which opens Monday, Jan. 25th.